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### VOL. 18 NO. 5 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 FEBRUARY 3, 2022 \$1.00

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • The Olive Jar Carol La Monda Pg 6 • The Scene Too Jane Harrison Pg 11 Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 52

### **Parents for Parents Support Group**



One of the participants of the Parents for Parents Support Group at Action Toward Independence off her winter holiday creation.

MONTICELLO, NY - Parents who are raising children with Autism, emotional, behavioral or learning challenges may face problems coping in the best of times. During a period of heightened anxiety, such as the world has been going through during a pandemic, the demands on parents and caregivers are greatly increased.

Action Toward Independence of Sullivan and Orange Counties offers a free twice-monthly support group called Parents for Parents. It's designed to help families cope and understand the challenges they face in a non-judgmental setting. Program facilitators share their knowledge and personal experiences, and provide support and learning opportunities to assist with the challenges of raising children with disabilities of all types.

During the gatherings, parents can share their own experiences, feelings and coping strategies, offering support to others as well as reducing stress and promoting self-empowerment for themselves. Light refreshments will be served, and each get-together will include a discussion and an activity such as painting, crafting, book chats and guest speakers.

Parents for Parents will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month beginning on February 9, 2022. The group will meet from 5 to 7 p.m. in a safe, socially distanced manner at the main office of Action Toward Independence in Monticello. (Contd. Pg. 4)

### **Local Students Create Valentines to Thank Veterans**

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency will once again mount a "Valentines for Vets" exhibit in the lobby of the County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello.

The Valentine's Day cards will be on display from Tuesday, February 8 through Tuesday, February 15 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The program is part of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week.

"Every year, local students create special Valentine cards to brighten the lives of our veterans," affirmed Veterans Director John Crotty. "Last year, thanks to the efforts of teachers and students, more than 1,500 Valentines were delivered to our hospitalized veterans at the VA Medical Centers in Castle Point and Albany."

For further information, please contact the Veterans Service Agency at 845-807-0233.



#### YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE TOWN OF DENNING AND

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

1. ALL submissions should be typewritten or in Microsoft Word.

2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words and must be typewritten. They may be emailed as Microsoft Word documents.

3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.

4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.

5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the Gnome Home Inc. office. Telephone numbers will not be published.

6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted. 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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Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### **ON THE FRONT BURNER**:

If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. Matthew 18:15

at

long

### **OBITUARY**

Froehlich of Annamay Grahamsville, NY a retired administra-



was 54. The daughter of the late Arnold F. and Wanda E. Vona Froehlich, she was born March 22, 1967 in Liberty, NY.

Annamay had been a Girl Scout Leader for many years in the "Heart of the Hudson"; she enjoyed crafting, reading and baking.

Survivors include her daughter, Lexie Kloss of Hurleyville, NY; her companion, Paul N. Kranz of Grahamsville, NY; two sisters, Loraine Sanfeliz and her husband Angel of Woodridge, NY and Mary Cole of VA; four brothers, Gene Froehlich and his wife Carol of Willowemoc, NY, John Froehlich and his wife Shirley of NC, Paul Froehlich of FL and Edward Froehlich and his wife Pat of PA; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by one brother, Roy Froehlich.

A memorial visitation will be Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 11 AM to 1 PM in the Harris Funeral Home, West St. at Buckley, Liberty, NY.

Memorial contributions in Annamay's name may be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

John Edward Constable, age 70, passed away January 26, 2022. He was the loving husband of Qingmei Luo Constable.

Born April 11, 1951, he was the son of Violet and Jesse Doyle Constable of Deposit, NY. He later moved to Liberty and then Ellenville with his family. Owner of local business, Constable Custodial Services, John was passionate about his work. His expertise and devotion to helping others led to many contributions and lasting friendships throughout the Tri-State area and even as far as China.

Always active in and devoted to his local community, there was little in which John did not have a hand. He was active in multiple county commerce committees throughout Sullivan, Ulster, and Orange counties. He was also a celebrated member and past master of the Masons Wawarsing Lodge 582, as well as a member of the Shriners, Scottish Rite, Knights Templar, Royal Arch, Elks and many more organizations.

When he wasn't working, John enjoyed traveling, fishing, hiking, and being surrounded by loved ones. Whatever adventure he was on, he always valued including his family and friends in these experiences, hoping to share his knowledge and perspective with others.

Above all, John will be remembered as a loving husband, father, brother, grandfather, son, and friend. He is survived by his wife, Qingmei Luo; his ex-wives Justina and Clara; his sons Shane, Jason, Ian, and Sebastian; his daughters-in-law Melissa, Annie, and Alicia; his step-son JiaFu; his brother David (and wife Sylvia) and sister Maria (and husband Dick); and his nine grandchildren Aiden, Tristan, Issac, Alyssa, Dominic, Lily, Sophia, Aria, and Hendrix John due in March.

John was predeceased by his ex-wife Lynda and his daughter Jessica Constable.

A viewing will be held on Friday, February 4, 2022 from 2-4pm and 7-9pm at Loucks Funeral Home in Ellenville, NY. The funeral will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2022 beginning at 11am. A procession from Loucks Funeral Home to the Wawarsing Masonic Lodge and a reception will follow. Memorial donations in lieu of flowers may be made to Wawarsing Masonic Lodge 582, PO Box 655, Ellenville, NY 12428.

### DAYS OF YORE..... **Today's History**

#### January 30, 1952

When Mrs. Mary Ann Many of Grahamsville took a peak at her sixtyfourth great-grandchild last week and announced that it was getting hard to keep track, that statement became the most highly publicized of the year. The story appeared in the New York Herald Tribune, Albany papers and practically every paper and radio station within a radius of several hundred miles. Her living descendants include 8 children, forty grandchildren and sixty four great-Grandchildren. (Contd. Pg. 3)

### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

#### DAYS OF YORE.....

#### Today's History (From Pg. 2)

Floyd Gorton, a life resident of this vicinity, was fatally stricken with a heart attack while fishing through the ice near Narrowsburg on Thursday, January 17th. Mr. Gorton, who was 66 years old, was born in Ulster Heights on September 12, 1885, the son of William and Katherine Rampe Gorton. A carpenter, he had lived at Ulster Heights most of his life.

#### January 31, 1962

Ira Rubenzahl of Neversink was among 356 high school seniors chosen as the nation's "most promising young scientists" in the 21st annual Westinghouse science talent search. Ira, a senior at Tri Valley Central School, was the only student from Sullivan County to place in the talent search.

Mrs. William VanWagner has announced the engagement of her daughter, Patricia Elaine, to George L. Stubblebine, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Stubblebine of Lackawack. Miss VanWagner is a graduate of Tri Valley Central School and is employed at the Ellenville branch of the New York Telephone Company. Mr. Stubblebine is a graduate of Ellenville Central School and is presently with the Army Reserves at Fort Eustis, Virginia. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. Eugene W. Osterhout of Divine Corners, died on Saturday at Middletown after a long illness. He was 74. He was born May 16, 1887 in Yaegerville, N.Y. He was married January 6, 1909 in Liberty to Alva Krump. He lived in Divin

#### February 2, 1972

Peter Hepburn, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Hepburn of Yaegerville Rd. has been accepted at Ulster County Community College. He plans to major in data processing.

Edward Knapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knapp of Bradley, has received word of his acceptance at Ulster County Community College for the police science program.

Pamela Strangeway, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Strangeway, has been accepted at the Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill. Pamela will be enrolled in the nursery education program.

Six-year old Darcia Ackerley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ackerley of Grahamsville, was crowned Regional Heart Fund Princess for 1972 at a luncheon held in D's Restaurant in Monticello. Darcia successfully underwent heart surgery two years ago.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wood, 10 years on Feb. 3rd; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Kortright, 18 years on the 4th; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mickelson, 13 years on the 7th; and to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hasbrouck, 14 years on the 8th.

#### February 4, 1982

Harold Wells, of Ulster Heights died Friday in the Ellenville Community Hospital after a short illness. He was 71. He was a retired truck driver for the Ulster Co. Dept. of Transportation and a lifelong area resident. The son of the late Harmond and Augusta Foster Wells, he was born January 27, 1911 in Arden. Survivors include his wife, Beatrice Moshier Wells, at home; a son, Bill Wells of Ulster Heights, six grandchildren and several cousins.63

Virginia Mehr of Neversink and Raymond W. Mehr Jr. of Phoenix, AZ announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Marie to Robert Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roberts of Woodbourne. Miss Mehr is a senior at Tri-Valley and will attend SCCC upon graduation. Her fiancé is a 1979 graduate of Tri-Valley and is completing his second year at SCCC. Miss Mehr and Mr. Roberts are planning a spring, 1983 wedding.

#### Household Hint:

#### **Keep Cheese Fresh**

Storing cheese? Keep it fresh longer by wrapping it in a vinegarsoaked cloth and keeping it in a sealed container in the refrigerator. **Nature Column** - A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman Ladies that we have loved so much and lost... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill, Joyce Lockhart, Jean Helthaler, Karen Curry, Barbara Slater and Shirley Davis.

### Fish on the Menu for a Winter Guest

With the temperature down to near zero in Sundown this

past weekend, we were surprised to see a Blue Heron wading in the freezing water in the Benekill in our front yard! Thinking maybe this bird was left behind while the others went south, I decided to do some research on what Blue Herons do during the winter.



Many migrate as far south as the Carribean. However, as long as there is food, some do choose to stay in the Catskills and I suppose the Benekill in the front yard, and the Rondout Creek in the back provide in

Creek in the back provide just what this bird wanted.

Great Blue Herons are large, gray-blue birds with long brownish or green legs and long "S"-shaped necks. They measure 38-54 inches in height with a wingspan between 66 inches and 79 inches. An adult Great Blue Heron can weigh between 4 1/2 to 5 pounds. They have a white forehead with a black stripe that extends above the eye and a white front neck streaked with black. The bill is thick and yellowish and they also have yellow eyes. During the breeding season, adults have ornate plumes on their head, neck, and back. The bill of non-breeding adults is more yellow. Both male and female birds are similar. Their young have a black crown without the ornate plumes.

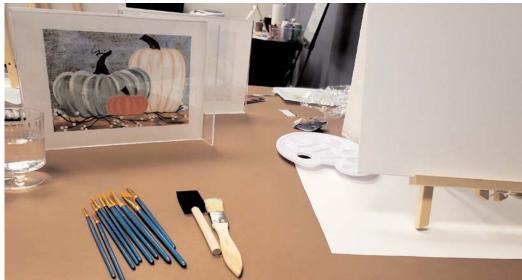
Great Blue Herons typically nest in colonies, known as heronries or rookeries, but can also be solitary nesters. Nests vary in size from 19 inches across to 3-4 feet across. They build their nest out of sticks and line the shallow depression with fine twigs, moss, pine needles, or grass. The birds continue to add materials to the nest during incubation through rearing their young. Nests are usually 25-100 feet off the ground. Eggs are a dull, pale blue and the clutch size is typically 2-6 eggs.

It isn't unusual to see a Great Blue Heron in New York year-round, however they are more abundant during their breeding season from mid-April through the end of July. They can be found near areas with open water. Winter distribution is more restricted than during other seasons and varies from year to year depending on the severity of the winter weather and availability of open water.

A great blue heron will stand over little pockets of water, wherever they can be located. A little stream of water can keep a small pocket of open water open during the winter. Great blue herons will remain at even a tiny crack in the ice for hours if necessary in order to capture a fish. If a little crack in ice can lure a Great Blue Heron, no wonder the Benekill, that doesn't freeze in winter, was on this bird's venue for year 'round dining in the Catskills !

While doing research on our winter guest revealed the Great Blue Heron call is a deep, hoarse croak ("frahnk, frahnk, frahnk"). So when we heard our guest call, "Frank, Frank," perhaps he was letting Frank know he wanted dessert, too!

# THE TOWNSMANFEBParents for Parents Support Group



All set up for a painting session, just one of the many activities held at the Parents for Parents Support Group.

(From Pg. 1) Covid protocols will be observed and will include masks and capacity limits. Safe, supervised childcare will be available, and transportation can be arranged if necessary. If you are unable to attend in person, a Zoom option is available for those with a computer and internet access, and materials can be picked up in person before the meeting.

Parents for Parents Support Group to meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

For more information about the Parents for Parents Support Group contact the Family Peer Advocate at Action Toward Independence. Call 845-794-4228 or email: info@atitoday.org

### Rubin Pollack Education Center Recognize Students of the Month

LIBERTY - Each month, students are chosen from the Alternative and Special Education programs at Sullivan BOCES to celebrate their accomplishments. As part of the recognition, their names are placed on a bulletin board in the main hallway of the Rubin Pollack Education Center for their classmates, teachers, and visitors to see. The students also attended a Principal's lunch to celebrate and honor their achievements. The following students were selected during the first quarter of the school year based on their academic achievements, character, attitude, respect for others, and attendance.

#### Month of December:

- Delyla Alger (Roscoe CSD)
- Joshua Jennings (Ellenville CSD)
- Nicholas Di'Chiara (Liberty CSD)
- Gaibrul VanAken (Monticello CSD)
- Daniel Edmonds (Monticello CSD)
- Brennan Young (Monticello CSD)
- Thorin Chandler (Sullivan West CSD)
  - Sincere Martin (Monticello CSD)
  - Leah Talmadge (Monticello CSD)
  - Daniel Popet (Sullivan West CSD)
- Yadiel Toribio-Torres (Monticello CSD)
  - Jayden Quick (Monticello CSD)
  - Elias Bonilla (Monticello CSD)
  - Carter Feeney (Roscoe CSD)
  - Samuel Rakin (Liberty CSD)
  - Daniel Ronellio (Monticello CSD)
  - Jadin Suarez (Minisink CSD)
  - Nicole Heins (Liberty CSD)
  - Jesse Guara (Monticello CSD)
  - Iliana Marrero (Fallsburg CSD)

### **Local School Bus Accident**

On Tuesday, January 25th, a school bus with nearly 18 high school students was hit head-on by an oncoming 2021 Jeep Cherokee that was traveling east on State Route 55. The vehicle apparently struck a guide rail that caused it to veer into the opposite lane and strike the bus that was traveling west. The bus was on the way from Tri-Valley to BOCES in Liberty.

All passengers on the bus were transported to Garnet Medical Center in Harris for evaluation. No one on the bus, including the driver, suffered any serious injuries, according to what we understand. The operator of the Jeep Cherokee was transported to Westchester Medical Center via medivac with multiple fractures.

State Route 55 was closed for approximately 2 hours. The investigation into the crash is ongoing.

### Woodbourne Man Charged with Murder of a Two Year Old

On Wednesday, January 26, Brian Owinski of Woodbourne was arrested for murder of two-year old Amara Campbell. It was alleged that Owinski inflicted injuries on the toddler that ultimately killed her.

The two-year old was reported as unresponsive by police and EMTs after a 911 call to 14 Phoenix Lane, Woodbourne. The toddler was transported to Garnet Health Medical Center where she was pronounced dead.

Following a joint investigation conducted by Fallsburg Police, State Police, and the staff of Sullivan County District Attorney Meagan Galligan, Owinski initially was charged with felonious assault was also charged with murder after an autopsy of Amara Campbell.

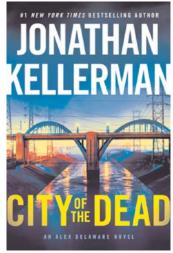
Owsinski was arraigned in Fallsburg Justice Court and remanded to the Sullivan County Jail without bail.



### City of the Dead Mysterious Book Report No. 475 by John Dwaine Mc Kenna

*City of the Dead,* (Ballantine, \$28.99, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-525-61858-4), by Jonathan Kellerman is his 37th book featuring the duo of LAPD consulting psychologist Alex Delaware and Los Angeles Police Department Detective Milo Sturgis —now a Lieutenant, and an openly gay homicide investigator —whose solve rate is "close to 100 percent."

The novel opens with the body of a naked and very dead man who's been hit by a moving van in the Westwood section of the city near the UCLA campus. Then, just as the reader begins to focus on the mystery of the naked man, the first of a series of plot twists . . . and a trail of blood droplets . . . lead the cops to a second body in a nearby house; it's a woman named Cordelia Gannett, who's been stabbed to death,

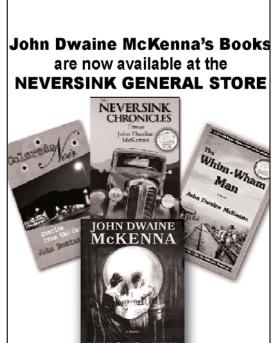


whom Delaware recognizes from a child custody case he testified in two years previous. Gannett claimed to be a psychologist, but was exposed as a fraud. Now, she's been selling herself on the web as a "relationship expert." As Lt. Sturgis and Alex Delaware try to identify the nude man and look into Gannett's activities, a number of other crimes and fascinating characters begin to emerge in this entertaining whodunnit. The insights of Mr. Kellerman, who's an actual trained psychologist, are always spot-on, educational and enlightening as he digs into the minds of his interesting, but damaged human beings. Reading this novel however, was like slipping into an old flannel shirt and a comfortable chair, then spending the evening conversing with two old friends. Interesting and familiar . . . but not much in the way of drama and excitement.

Like the review? Let your friends know, *You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report*, because the greatest compliment you can give is to share our work with others. Check it out. It's free, open to everyone and has all of our past reviews available for viewing.

We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

#### http://Johndwainemckenna.com or http://Mysteriousbookreport.com



#### February 6th Comment Period Deadline for Proposed Fishing Regulation Changes

DEC is proposing to amend sportfishing regulations that include a multitude of changes to clarify, simplify and clean up fisheries regulations based on public feedback and fishery expert review of the regulations associated with management of the State's fisheries.

#### Highlights of the proposals include:

Creating distinct regulations for Brook Trout versus Brown and Rainbow Trout in ponded waters, which consolidates 143 waterbody and 33 county-wide special regulations into the new proposed statewide regulations (PDF).

Removing the statewide closed season restriction on lake trout (PDF) and Atlantic salmon (PDF).

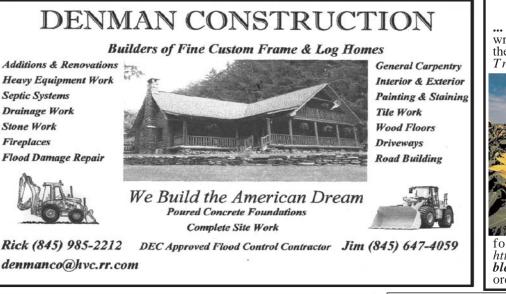
Simplifying ice fishing regulations in most of the state.

Changing opening dates for selected warmwater and coolwater species fishing seasons from Saturdays to hard numerical dates.

Regulation adjustments, deletions and additions for individual water bodies are also included. Visit DEC's website for more information on all of the proposals.

DEC is seeking public input on the proposed changes. Comments on the proposals should be submitted via e-mail to regulations.fish@dec.ny.gov or via mail to the Inland Fisheries Section, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4753; subject line "Fishing Regulations Proposal Comments." Comments will be accepted through February 6, 2022.

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**



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#### The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift! *Prosilio* is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book

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#### Aunt Georgia's Rice Pudding

I am feeling more capable in the kitchen using just a cane, so I might try a special recipe that came from my Aunt Georgia. One cannot help but think of the amazing woman who taught me to make her famous Greek diner rice pudding.

My grandfather Aristomenes and two brothers, Peter and Gregory, came over from Greece and worked their way from Coney Island hogdog sellers to restaurant owners in the Bronx and Brooklyn. One of their acquaintances, another restaurant owner from Chicago, asked my Uncle Gregory to meet the ship that was bringing his fiancee from Greece. Uncle Gregory met the ship bringing Georgia to her betrothed. It was love at first sight. My Aunt Georgia never made it to Chicago.

It is hard to imagine the youthful version of the large-bosomed woman who always wore her gray and black-streaked hair pulled straight back in a bun. This severe style accented her ski-jump nose that held her tiny round spectacles a good distance from her eyes that looked like Greek Kalamata olives embedded in her high cheeks. The Aunt Georgia I knew always wore an apron, a dress that looked like all her other black dresses, thick stockings and black shoes I called "YIYIa" shoes that laced and took on the shape of her bunions and fallen arches.

Î don't think I saw her in any rooms of the farmhouse except the kitchen, dining room, or the big screened-in porch where she would prepare the veg-

etables in the summer's heat. I could never imagine her as an irresistible girl with two handsome, rich men vying for her attention. Perhaps what attracted them to her was her even-temper good nature. She was always the hostess saying, "Come. Sit down. Let me bring you a little something to eat." That litbut tle something would turn into a four-course dinner that always had olives, feta cheese, fruit, and some goody straight from the bakery. Her refrigerator

could produce such delights. The best dish was her rice pudding which is translated below. Aunt Georgia never measured; instead she used coffee cups and Mason Jars to proportion the ingredients.

Place milk, water, rice and butter in a large

Ingredients: 1 and 1/2 cups uncooked rice 2 quarts milk 2 cups water 1 and 1/2 cups sugar	1 T butter 3 beaten eggs 2 teaspoons vanilla 1 teaspoon almond flavoring cinnamon
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saucepan. Boil and simmer 30 minutes, stirring constantly until the rice is tender and mixture is thicker. Then add, mixed together, 3 beaten eggs, sugar, vanilla and almond flavor. Bring to a boil once, remove and cool. Pour into a bowl and sprinkle cinnamon on the surface. Refrigerate covered. Makes a lot. Enjoy.l

#### PAGE 7

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**





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### **3G Service Coming to an End Cell Signal Providers Focusing on 4G and 5G**

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County, including its Office for the Aging, is alerting citizens to the fact that their 3G cellphones and other devices may no longer work in the coming months as technology companies transition to supporting only the 4G and the new 5G signals.

"We're particularly concerned about our senior citizens, who might only use their 3G cellphones for emergencies. The loss of a 3G signal means they won't even be able to call 911, according to the FCC," related Office for the Aging Director Lise-Anne Deoul.

The FCC posted a notice stating that 3G networks are slated to be shut down completely at various points this year, depending on the carrier:

• "AT&T announced that it will finish shutting down its 3G network by February 2022."

• "Verizon announced that it will finish shutting down its 3G network by December 31, 2022."

• T-Mobile announced that it will finish shutting down Sprint's 3G CDMA network by March 31, 2022 and ... T-Mobile's 3G UMTS network by July 1, 2022."

• Other carriers, like Cricket and Straight Talk, utilize these networks as well.

Sullivan County and the FCC encourage 3G users (or those who are unsure of the signal type their device uses) to contact their service provider for more detailed

information. Some are even offering free upgraded equipment.

- AT&T: https://www.att.com/offers/network/3g-network-sunset/
  - Verizon: https://www.verizon.com/support/knowledge-base-218813/
- o T-Mobile: https://www.t-mobile.com/support/coverage/t-mobile-network-evolution

"People should be aware too that more than cellphones could be affected," Deoul noted. "The FCC has cautioned that certain medical devices, tablets, smartwatches, vehicle SOS services and home security systems may be impacted. The best option for unsure users is to get in touch with their service provider."

Additionally, the FCC offers these resources:

• The Lifeline Program, which assists eligible consumers in obtaining phone and Internet services at a discount: https://www.fcc.gov/general/lifeline-program-low-income-consumers

• The Affordable Connectivity Program, which provides a discount of up to \$50 a month for broadband Internet service to eligible households: https://www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program



#### Snow Plowing Woodie Cyr

Grahamsville, NY And Surrounding Areas

Cell: (845) 943-0024 Home: (845) 985-2003

10th plowing 50% off



### **DEC Wilderness Rescue**

On Jan. 22 at approximately 2:30 p.m., Central Dispatch contacted Ranger Fox about an exhausted and



hypothermic subject on the Escarpment Trail near Burnt Knob in the town of Windham. Rangers Fox. Mitchell. and Skudlarek responded. At p.m., 6:45 Rangers reached 24-year-old the from Milford and his hiking companion approximately 1.5 miles from the trailhead. The hiker was unable to walk. Ranger Mitchell

built a warming fire and Rangers provided the subject with food, hot drinks, and dry gear. More resources were requested in the event the subject was unable to hike out on his own and Rangers Jackson and Martin also responded. The subject's condition improved so Rangers provided lighter snowshoes and trekking poles and carried the hiker's pack to help him make it back to the trailhead. The subject declined further medical care and was given a ride home by his family. Resources were clear at 8:30 p.m.



http://wwwbloominggreenlawnandlandscape.com "If it grows by day, have it cut & split by Knight"

### Senior Recognition for Fallsburg High School Varsity Indoor Track Team of 2021-2022

Administration Members attending the ceremony in the school lobby were Athletic Director and Emcee Suzanne Lendzian, Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz and High School Principal Kyle Roddey



Left to right, are Ceci Mancia, Josie Galeas, Coach Danielle Halikias, Anna Dell'Aquila, and Dante Baker. Unavailable for the photo was Olga Flores Bonilla

### Warming Up to Valentine's Day

Last Wednesday was National Spouses Day. Think of it as a warmup to Valentine's Day. Married or not today's a day to do something to spoil your other half. Here's an idea. Set aside some quiet time today and plan a visit to our Sullivan Catskills where lovers, families, and friends celebrate lovingly good times.

If you've ever romanticized the idea of riding on a horse, here's your chance. Bridle Hill Farm in Jeffersonville- a fullservice solar powered equestrian facility- offer year-round trail rides, seven days a week for all ages. A winter trail ride is invigorating, fun and a great way to see our winter beauty in all its splendor. Rolling Stone Ranch in Bethel also offers trail rides, lessons, boarding and pony parties for the kiddos.

Beer lovers: head over to Roscoe on Saturday ... for the Roscoe Beer Winterfest. This 7th Annual event is a great way to get out and enjoy the winter scenery. There will be fun for the whole family with great food, craft beer, games, ice carvers, horse drawn carriage rides, and a large bonfire and hot cocoa to keep you warm. Across the street, at their winter park you can ice skate and snowshoe. Far Beyond Gone supplies the music from 12-4pm. The party continues with even more live music inside starting at 4pm.

If you enjoy sipping on the craft beer at Roscoe Brewing Company consider our Good Taste Beverage Trail on which you can sample our award-winning wines, brews, ciders and distilled spirits. There are over a dozen locations sprinkled NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE

Creative atering for your Trip Down the Aisle!

> Executive Chef Jaime Stankevicius brings his culinary creativity to any occasion. Catering with an emphasis on American Contemporary Cuisine. Menu options include Neversink's famous hickory smoked meats.

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throughout our Sullivan Catskills and the brewers, vintners, cider makers and distillers love to tell you about their craft, so plan accordingly, drink responsibly and designate a driver.

Winter sports are plentiful here, too. You can snowshoe (rent your shoes at Fortress Bikes or Morgan Outdoors), cross country or downhill ski, ice-skate, ice fish or hike. And January or February are the best time to go eagle watching to catch a glimpse of our nesting and migrating bald eagle population. Or go find the 60 hand-painted dove sculptures on the Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail.

Spend a weekend, or longer. (Hey, you can work remotely.) Our hoteliers have some unique accommodations and dining experiences you must try. Check these Winter Specials and book one for you and your love. Speaking of dining, the creativity of our Catskill-icious chefs is worth exploring, too. Try the Activated Charcoal Bagel from Grizzly Bagels in Callicoon (it's good for your digestion!); the Polenta Cake with roasted veggies, basil pesto, and grilled red pepper sauce at Barryville General; the Forage and Gather's English Egg- a boiled egg wrapped in a potato and then fried and served with salsa and cilantro; or the Hickory Smoked Brisket at Neversink General Store. Try a Peppermint Mocha at the Forestburgh General Store, or oooh indulge in a made-from-scratch Tiramisu at Hurleyville General Store. (Contd. Pg. 10)

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### Warming Up to Valentine's Day

(From Pg. 9) After a good meal, you'll be fortified for some shopping. Home goods, pottery, wine, antiques, linens, jewelry and more.

Now as to Valentine's Day. Well, plan it together right now. Here are just a few ideas:

Valentine's Weekend at Eldred Preserve, Valentines' Day Dinner at Bernie's Holiday Restaurant, Conover Club at Callicoon Hills, The Arnold House, or Kenoza Hall. Be sure to check SullivanCatskills.com, Instagram and Facebook feeds, too, for the most up-to-date happenings!

Pack your bags and your facemask and bring your honey. You'll feel safe and confident- we're following our Catskills Confidence program to help keep us all safe and healthy.

We're just a 90-minute drive from Manhattan. Close. Clean. Confident and there's always something fun brewing.

Roberta Byron-Lockwood President/CEO Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

### The Scene Too -Jane Harrison

I've spent a lot of time inside this past week. The socks are coming along nicely and are in the home stretch (meaning the leg



portion). I've had a lot of help with these. Missy Mags was the best helper with Lefty being content to come up under the yarn so it decorated him. There was even





a sighting of the elusive, camera shy Terwilliger who just came out to see what the fuss was about.

Even though the new case numbers have been dropping, venues with live music have been struggling. RAFTERS in Callicoon has some interesting things coming up, in particular

DAVID MILNER on February 4rd at 7pm. The first time I saw him was at THE PICKLED OWL in Hurleyville where his guitar amp went out, but David didn't miss a beat. He unplugged and continued on acoustically, wandering through the audience in troubadour fashion. That was impressive. Also impressive is his vast repertoire of known and originals and how comfortably he takes to a stage and how much he seems to enjoy being there in front of an audience.

Also, just saw a blurb about DeFILLIP'S BAKERY in Monticello continuing DAVID ROSENBURG'S immensely popular Sunday brunch time Open Mic, but I can't say for sure whether this is intermittent or whether this is on a regular basis again.

CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville is also forging on with Open Mic on Wednesday nights hosted by CASWYN MOON, and CABAROKE on Thursday nights. There also have been movie nights and football nights leading up to the Super Bowl.

My friend JESSE POLLACK in New Jersey, wrote a true crime book released in 2019 called THE ACID KING picked up and published by Simon and Schuster. (You may remember my telling you about this at the time.) You can catch THE ACID KING documentary on the VUDU Channel, the ROKU channel and if you stay through the credits, you will see my name as 'Associate Producer'. I am extremely proud to be associated with the production and with Jesse. Next will be a rerelease of his first book, DEATH ON DEVILS TEETH, an unsolved death in New Jersey where most of the evidence and police files seemingly vanished. In a conversation with Jesse, he was so excited about the flood of new information and files that came to him after the book came out. Enough new to rework the prior book. He doesn't have a release date yet, but I will keep you posted. There will also be an audio book of the reworked book, that on

a lark, Jesse auditioned to narrate. Yes, he will be reading his own book!!!

Closer to home, I have been helping a lovely woman, KATHA-RINA, with her knitting over the past year. What made this truly interesting for me is that she is Swiss and all her pattern books were written in German, Italian and French! It was kind of fun, really, and resulted in her completing two wonderful sweaters. She is an artist in her own right, being a most marvelous and well



known quilter here in the states and abroad. She surprised me at



Christmas, gifting me one of her fabulous pieces. A picture doesn't do it justice and all these weeks later, I'm still speechless every time I look at it. I have no patience for quilting or sewing in general but that's the beauty

of the arts, though. Whether potters, musicians or the soft arts, true appreciation of other's talents is a given and can only inspire in one's chosen field.

Why is it whenever I sit down at a computer, a furry thing decides they want something? This time it was Lefty looking for his midday snack.

But that's pretty much how the week has gone. I was just getting over a head cold (negative for CoVid) when I found out on Friday that a place that I had been in had not one, not two, but three people of their small staff test positive. Now I remained masked the whole time but still, it was very disconcerting particularly since one of these I encountered in a small space where they had their mask pulled down under their chin. Still, I felt I was OK. Until I explained this to my doctor's office by phone, who rescheduled my late day appointment and suggested I get tested. OK, this is fun. And that's where everything stands right now. So far, no symptoms, but test yet again, I will.

Stay well, stay safe and for goodness sake STAY MASKED. Until next time......



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http://tothepointgraphics.50megs.com



#### Ten Mile River Scout Museum to host Free Webinars discussing Sullivan County History

**Sullivan County History** Museum Chairman Michael Drilinger will moderate a question and answer session that will be available on the Museum's YouTube channel.

The initial webinars will be hosted by Glenn Pontier, codirector of the TMR Scout Museum since 2019. A history major in college, he was previously the director of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum in Livingston Manor, executive director of Sullivan Renaissance in Ferndale, public information officer for the County of Sullivan in Monticello, news director for WVOS Radio in Liberty, and long-time editor of The River Reporter in Narrowsburg. He lives along the Delaware in Minisink Ford.

Upcoming webinars

Tues., Feb. 15, 7 pm EST: "Tales of the Raftsmen"

Authentic (and inauthentic) tales of the rafters who took the logs from the region down the Delaware to be sold in Philadelphia, Camden and Easton. Particularly: "Boney Quillan and the Night 1000 Men Were Stranded in Narrowsburg" and "Zeal Ross and the False Teeth."

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsd-6trDwoHtzvIhB3SWXw64EpvLcZfPAI

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Tues., March 1, 7 pm EST: "Delaware River and the Catskills Mountain Streams"

This region supplies NYC with 800 million gallons of water each day AND is considered the birthplace of American dry fly fishing. Here's the story of how the Delaware was protected from proposals to build up to 27 dams along its shores. Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsd-6trDwoHtzvIhB3SWXw64EpvLcZfPAI

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Wed., March 23, 7 pm EDT "High Points in Sullivan County History"

From the Lenape to Woodstock with Murder Incorporated, a Revolutionary War battle, a Civil War train wreck, Stephen Crane, Zane Grey and Yoko Ono along the way. A brief look at topics worthy of a more serious pursuit on one's own.

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUuf-2rqTIjEtQepShTuCLeIzSdBx-EIIAu

aq After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Others are being planned. Information will be posted on our website, Facebook and Twitter feeds.

#### About the TMR Scout Museum

The Ten Mile River Scout Museum exists to preserve and promote the spirit and heritage of New York City Scouting at the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and selected venues through the creation of historical archives, displays, exhibits of photos, memorabilia, documents and tangible items in both indoor and outdoor settings. We also recognize the local history in the vicinity of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps.

It is located in the Sullivan County Catskills in New York State, near Monticello and Narrowsburg. Towns and villages in this region include but are not limited to Bethel, Callicoon, Cochecton, Delaware, Fallsburg, Forestburgh, Fremont, Highland, Liberty, Lumberland, Mamakating, Neversink, Rockland, Thompson and Tusten.

### Greenport Emporium -Time-Tested Treasures for Your Valentine!

#### Story by Dave Channon

Just beyond the well-worn warrens of Hudson's Warren Street, Valentine hunters will discover treasures that have "withstood the test of time" - as owner Annette McConnell



likes to say - at 94 Suite Fairview Plaza right next to Planet Fitness, east iust of Hudson. off Route 9. It's the everything under one roof shop of whatnots and whooda-thunkits.

Co-owner Frank Marquit reminds us that these mnemonic artifacts "bring back happy memories of childhood". It happily happened to me when I stumbled on a rounded yellow plastic VHS box still in its original cellophane -Beatles The classic animated

movie "Yellow Submarine". Next shelf up was a weathered but lovingly preserved illustrated book of " M o t h e r Goose" stories! There are racks of vintage clothing that some would say are back in style and ancient sewing machines your grandmother could probably still use to take them in - or let them



out! Boxed sets of railroad trains alongside a gloriously glossy detailed globe on swiveling gimbals. For your sweetheart, Frank's romantic rainbow of jewelry runs from fine



silver to costume bling, pearl necklaces to semi-precious stones. Take 20% off any silver or costume jewelry (over \$10) every Monday! He has a fine collection of old silver coins, too.

Row after row of classy glassware - green, red, maroon, and dazzling commemorative plates. Once you have found what you didn't even know you were looking for, you'll likely need a cabinet to display it on. There are nifty pieces of furniture for sale, for just that purpose. And if you don't find what you are looking for, Frank assures you he will do his darnedest to find it for you.

There are glass paperweights for the literary, ceramic mushrooms for the mycologist, gilded mirrors for the introspective, songbooks for the golden throats, vinyl LPs for the creaky-throated, tableware and fancy place settings for the budding Julia Childs among us. Even an unusual porcelain stein in Wedgewood style whose translucent ivory articulations allow the blue background to subtly glow through. And old brown jugs for a "behind the woodshed" thirst.

Take a peek at Greenport Emporium online at www.GreenportEmporium.com, or email Frank@GreenportEmporium.com. Call Frank at (518) or Annette McConnell at (518) 992-0860. The hours are 11AM to 5PM Mondays and Tuesday through Saturday 11AM to 6PM. You Indiana-Jonesing for Valentine gift treasure hunters will find the Greenport Emporium at 160 Fairview Avenue at the Fairview Plaza, Suite 94, just off Route 9.

#### SC Warming Centers Open During Arctic Blasts

A comprehensive and interactive map of these locations is available on the Sullivan County website at www.sullivanny.us/Departments/RealProperty/GISData. Click on the "Warming and Cooling Center Locator" app button at the bottom of the page.

In addition, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) - which can provide funds for fuel and heating system repair/replacement - continues Countywide, including aid for emergency heating situations. For more information, call 845-807-0142.

During the daytime hours (12-1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, except holidays), the Federation for the Homeless at 9 Monticello Street in Monticello offers takeout food, and afterhours emergency food requests can be made to the Federation at 845-798-8774. The Federation's pantry is open to all (no documentation required) from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. every Friday, as well.



Come join us for the

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Town of Neversink Winterfest

On Saturday, February 12th

(blizzard date-February 19th)

From noon till 7 pm.

At the Grahamsville Fairgrounds

We will have lots of vendors selling crafts and food.

Your school and sports organizations will be there selling snacks and other items.

We will have the Beer Garden, music and Ice Carving demostrations. And we will have lots of fun things to do. If there is snow, bring your sleds, saucers and tubes for sledding. If there is no-snow, don't worry we have lots of other things to do. The ICE RINK WILL BE OPEN FOR THE EVENT. And there is NO ENTRY FEE for the event!

Check our Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Facebook page for updates. Any questions please contact Parks and Recreation at <u>cwparksandrec@gmail.com</u>



Winter in the Catskills - L. Comando

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#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

#### Slow Cooker Bread **Pudding** with **Bourbon Sauce**

3 large eggs 1-1/4 cups milk 1/2 cup sugar 3 teaspoons vanilla extract 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg 1/8 teaspoon salt 4-1/2 cups day-old cubed brioche or egg bread 1-1/4 cups raisins

#### **Bourbon Sauce:**

1/4 cup butter, cubed 1/2 cup sugar 1/4 cup light corn syrup 3 tablespoons bourbon

In a large bowl, whisk together first seven ingredients; stir in bread and raisins. Transfer to a greased 4-qt. slow cooker. Cook, covered, on low 3 hours. (To avoid scorching, rotate slow cooker insert one-half turn midway through cooking, lifting carefully with oven mitts.)

For sauce, place butter, sugar and corn syrup in a small saucepan; bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Cook and stir until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat; stir in bourbon. Serve warm with bread pudding.

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Answer on page 23

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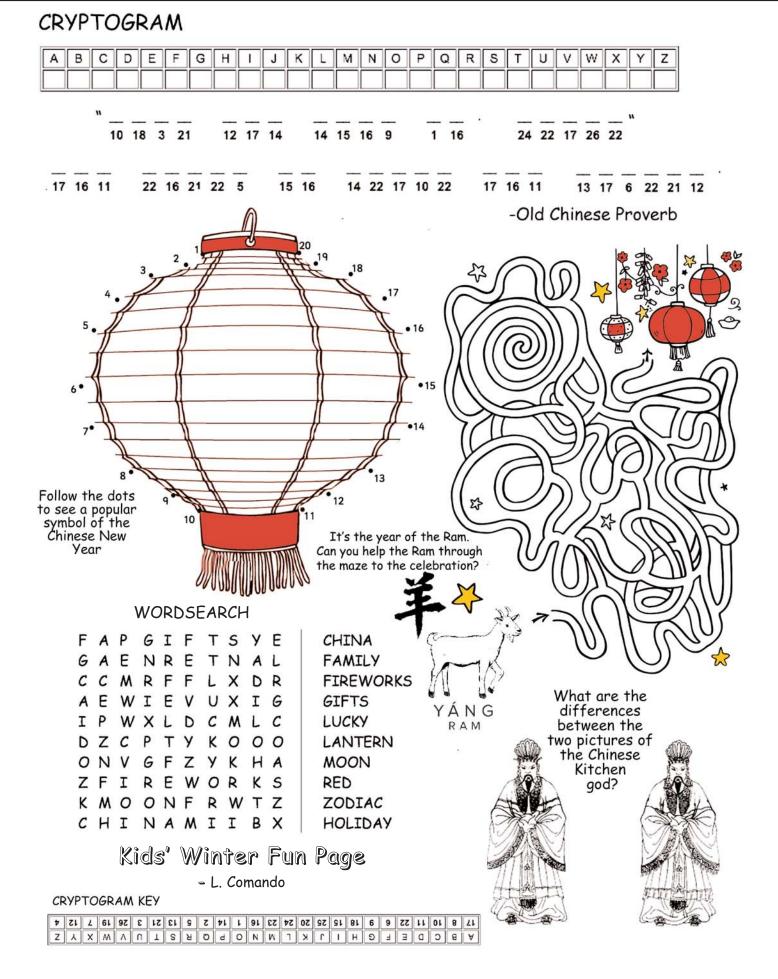
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Era 23 Expression of human creative skill 26 Muted 29 The African Queen screenplay writer 32 Part of the human mind 33 Sarcasm 34 Oueen married to Prince Albert 37 Substructure 38 Intense feeling of affection 39 Trap 41 Long metal rod 44 Island where Napolean lived in exile 46 Edible legume 47 Natural logarithm 49 Rhode Island 53 Specific form of something 55 Registered Nurse

57 Dry 59 Social standing of someone denoting something already mentioned 63 Used to separate hours from minutes 64 Join securely 66 A small forest 67 Einsteinium (chem) 68 Thirteenth letter of the Greek alphabet 70 Group who makes decisions 71 Learning Disabled 73 Speak in a disrespectable way 75 Care 77 Wager 79 Past tense of sit 80 One who secretly col-

lects information 81 Affir-61 Adjective mative 83 Indo-European 84 Private soldier of the US Army



### Sullivan Democrats speak out on Department of Health Move

Sullivan County, NY- January 29, 2022 - At its General Committee meeting on January 27, 2022, the Sullivan County Democratic Committee unanimously passed a resolution to send letters to the Governor and other state officials regarding the removal of the New York State Department of Health Office from Sullivan County. The resolution was introduced by Dr. Larysa Dyrszka, retired pediatrician, Bethel Committeewoman and NYS Assembly District 100 representative to the State Democratic Party. She said: "This move of the District Office from Monticello to Orange County is ill-advised and a disservice to residents of Sullivan County who already carry significant health burdens. We count on Governor Hochul to rescind this decision." The Resolution is as follows:

#### RESOLUTION ON THE REMOVAL OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OFFICE FROM SULLIVAN COUNTY

**WHEREAS,** the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) approved a contract to move the NYS DOH's Environmental Health Monticello District Office to Orange County from its current location in Monticello, and

**WHEREAS**, State DOH District Offices carry out environmental health protection programs in the 21 counties that do not deliver environmental health services through county or city health departments, and ensuring that suitable water, food, housing and recreational facilities are provided to the public, and

**WHEREAS,** Sullivan County is one of the counties that has only a partial service health department, and does not have its own environmental services, and

**WHEREAS,** Orange County, as well as the other counties in the Metropolitan Area Region (of which SC is a part) all have fullservice health departments and do not need the environmental services of the DOH District Office, and

**WHEREAS,** Sullivan County is ranked 61st of 62 counties in health outcomes, now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that a letter be sent to Governor Hochul and others objecting to this move, and requesting that the contract be rescinded.

### News from SC Chamber of Commerce

#### Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions Webinar Series

The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council (MHREDC) has put together a webinar series for organizations to learn about workforce best practices and resources to help retain and attract talent. Register to attend any of the webinars below!

1/27, 2pm-2:30pm - Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions: Open Hiring - Greyston's Model for Talent Attraction

2/4, 9am-10am - Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions: NYS Workforce Development Funding

2/11, 8:30am-9am - Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions: Child Care Resources for Employers

2/16, 9am-9:45am - Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions: NYS

Department of Labor Recruitment Resources

New: Office of Cannabis Management officially invites you to attend Cannabis Conversations

A series of 11 regional discussions across the state about cannabis legalization - including one in Spanish

The Office of Cannabis Management will start the conversation to inform people about the legalization law, health and safety, and goals to build an inclusive, equitable new industry

The Office of Cannabis Management will be responding to questions

The registration link is on the flyer, available here

Questions can be submitted in advance when you sign-up and will be answered live during the Conversation

Go to cannabis.ny.gov for the latest information

You can also sign up for updates from the Office here

#### New: NYS Career Center Events & Recruitments

New York's Career Centers offer a variety of classes, workshops, job fairs, job clubs including virtual career fairs and virtual workshops, including informational sessions on a variety of topics

They also offer recruitments for numerous companies. Discover what is being offered in your area and take advantage of what your local Career Center has to offer to help you prepare for your next career

Select your Labor Market Region or your local Career Center from the filters on the left to find events and recruitments in your area

If you have any questions about attending any of these events or recruitments, be sure to contact your local Career Center Looking to get more exposure for your business?

Advertise with the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce in our weekly newsletter or on our website.

Contact the Chamber for Information at 845-791-4200 Join The Chamber!

Member Referral Program • Annual Investors Programs Are Now Available!

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#### With Small Business in Dire Need of Assistance, Gillibrand Calls on IRS to Expedite Unprocessed Employee Retention Credit Refunds

As Tax Season Kicks Off, The IRS Is Facing At Least 10 Million Unprocessed Returns From 2021 Alone; ERC Payments Would Deliver Direct Relief In Form of a Payroll Credit For Businesses To Offset Lost Revenue and Increased Costs During the Pandemic

WASHINGTON D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is calling on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Commissioner Charles P. Rettig to expedite and clear the backlog of unprocessed Employee Retention Credit (ERC) payments that were passed and guaranteed in the CARES Act in March of 2020. The ERC credit was created to help struggling businesses in urgent need of assistance due to economic disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, disbursement of the ERC credit would ensure businesses receive funding in the form of a payroll credit to encourage businesses owners to retain employees and help offset the cost of lost revenue and rising inflation. These payments are especially needed for small and mid-sized businesses that have suffered massive financial losses due to reduced demand and supply chain disruptions. (Contd. Pg. 20)

#### **LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**

The Fallsburg Central School District Board of Education is accepting letters of interest and resumes for the vacancy on the Board of Education created by the resignation of Katherine Rappaport. This term of office will expire on May 17, 2022.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send a letter of interest and resume to:

> Fallsburg Central School District Sarah Satz, School District Clerk 115 Brickman Rd PO Box 124 Fallsburg NY 12733

Letters of interest and resumes must be submitted by February 11, 2022; interviews will be conducted at a special meeting of the Board of Education on February 24, 2022. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Satz at the District Office. (845) 434-6800 x 1215. **Please Take Notice:** 

### **Covid-19 Home Test Kits**

are available at Town of Denning Town Hall 1567 Denning Road Claryville, NY Mondays through Thursdays 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM until they are gone.

Call (845) 985-2411 for more information. Full Time Residents Only Proof of Denning residency required <u>ONE</u> kit per household (2 tests) Signature required

Ulster County is tracking distribution

Fallsburg CSD Board of Education February Meetings

**Next meetings** 

February 2, 2022

February 16, 2022

### Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting

Regular Meeting #15 **Thursday, February 3, 2022 -**- Anticipated Proposed Executive Session - 6:00 p.m. -Secondary School Library Upper Level;

Regular Meeting resumes approximately 7:00 p.m. -Secondary School Library Lower Level.

All Board Meetings will be broadcast on our YouTube Live Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkl224vKQ8nAWhR6NVa o24w/live

#### Thursday, February 17, 2022

Meeting Opening Call to Order - 6:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Lower Level, Anticipated Proposed Executive Session - 6:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Upper Level, Regular Meeting #16 resumes approximately 7:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Lower Level.

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### Calls on IRS to Expedite Unprocessed Employee Retention Credit Refunds

(From Pg. 17) Gillibrand is also calling for the IRS to clear the significant backlog of individual income tax returns so that individuals and families can receive their Child Tax Credit, UI related refunds, Earned Income Tax Credit, and other payments in a timely manner.

"I have heard from constituents across New York and the message is clear - after two years of grappling with financial hardship caused by the pandemic, businesses are in dire need of this assistance through the ERC credit. We did our part in Congress, now it's time for the IRS to deliver," said Senator Gillibrand. "When Congress passed this funding as part of the CARES Act, businesses were assured they would receive immediate and direct assistance in the form of a payroll credit to help keep Americans employed and operations running during this difficult time. I'm calling on the IRS to hear the needs of these business owners and to do everything in their power to deliver this already-passed money swiftly and efficiently."

"The Employee Retention Credit is money that has already been funded by Congress. The problem is small businesses are waiting many months for these refunds to be disbursed by the IRS," said Rosina Rubin, CFO of Attitude New York chauffeured transportation. "This money is vital to struggling small businesses that are trying to rebuild and create good jobs, and I applaud Senator Gillibrand for her efforts to assist New Yorkers at this critical time."

"Restaurants in New York City and around the country have been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the federal government's Employee Retention Credit was intended to provide critical relief to struggling small businesses. Unfortunately, too many restaurants and bars have been waiting way too long to receive the employee retention credit they're owed by the IRS, which is posing significant financial burdens because they were relying on this money help to pay rent, keep people employed and to help keep their doors open. We thank Senator Gillibrand for her support, and we look forward to working with her and the IRS to expedite sending these checks to businesses that are desperately in need," said Andrew Rigie, Executive Director, NYC Hospitality Alliance

"Tax preparers are commonly seeing refund timelines of 24 - 26 weeks due to delays in IRS processing of amended payroll tax filings claiming the employee retention credit. In addition, IRS guidance suggests taxpayers should reduce their income tax deduction for wages by the amount of employee retention credits and this adjustment should be made in the year the wages were paid. Because this adjustment essentially raises taxable income in the year wages were paid it results in many taxpayers effectively paying tax on the amount of the credit before their tax refunds have even been received by the IRS. For example, if a taxpayer claimed employee retention credits for 2021 Quarter 3 of \$50,000, current guidance suggests the \$50,000 would lower the taxpayer's wage deduction for tax year 2021. Many taxpayers are still waiting to receive their tax refunds related to 2021 Quarter 3 employee retention credits due to the extended

refund timelines. Several clients have point out that reporting taxable income, and paying tax, related to this required wage adjustment before receipt of the actual employee retention credits is not fair," said Andrew L. Moore, CPA, Gettry Marcus

For the full letter is below.

#### Dear Commissioner Rettig,

I write today to urge the Internal Revenue Service to take immediate action towards clearing the backlog of unprocessed Employee Retention Credit (ERC) payments. I have recently heard from constituents that have yet to receive credit refunds for claims filed in March of 2021 for wages paid in 2020. ERC was created as a payroll credit to ensure that the benefit could be delivered quickly and it is important that ERC refunds are sent out with similar urgency.

I understand that the processing delay is caused in part because the 941-X form, which some taxpayers must file in order to claim this refund after overpaying estimated payroll taxes, must be submitted manually rather than electronically. This requirement to file paper forms to receive an ERC refund is particularly disappointing given the fact that paper returns are generally subject to longer processing times than electronic returns.[1]

I realize the challenge the COVID-19 pandemic has presented to your agency, both with staffing shortages and additional work brought on by new provisions like the ERC. I am aware that there is also a significant backlog of individual income tax returns that need to be processed, and it is important that clearing that backlog remains a priority so that individuals and families can receive their Child Tax Credit, UI related refunds, Earned Income Tax Credit, and other payments in a timely manner. I hope the IRS can also take steps to support employers by taking action to clear the ERC refund backlog and getting checks into the hands of business owners in New York and across the country.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your immediate action.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Gillibrand

### Statement from Governor Hochul on Mask Regulation Ruling Stay

"As Governor, my top priority is protecting the people of this state. These measures are critical tools to prevent the spread of COVID-19, make schools and businesses safe, and save lives. I commend the Attorney General for her defense of the health and safety of New Yorkers, and applaud the Appellate Division, Second Department for siding with common sense and granting an interim stay to keep the state's important masking regulations in place. We will not stop fighting to protect New Yorkers, and we are confident we will continue to prevail."



# Take Your Child to the Library Day Saturday, February 5th 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come and visit the library on "Take Your Child to the Library Day" and you will ignite your child's imagination! Face-coverings are required to be worn by all ages 2 and up.

A love of reading and books starts with pictures, stories, and rhymes. Our beautiful children's floor has easy access to picture books and comfortable seating to relax and read. Older children may enjoy using the computers or WI-FI, borrowing DVD's, while finding latest books to check out.



Stop by and make your own ocean snow globe. Try completing a puzzle or two! Remember our beloved doll houses and amazing train set, they'll be set up as well.

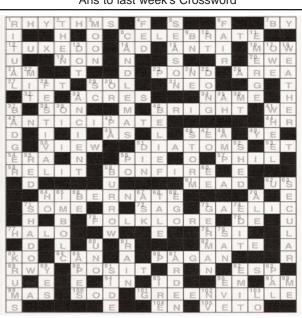
Register your child with Miss Deirdre for our Spring Children's Programs- Mother Goose, Toddler Time, and Story Hour!

In case of inclement weather, please check our FB page for library hours.



Ans to last week's Crossword

#### THE TOWNSMAN





SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU

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

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* 

### Grahamsville United Methodist Church

The GUMC held their final 2021 Thrift Sale on November 6th. Even when we are closed we want the community to know that, by appointment, our Thrift items are always available to anyone in case of an emergency by calling 845-985-2283. Because of storage space we are **NOT ABLE** to receive items again until next spring. Please help us by storing your treasures at your house until then.

### FCSD Hosts Winter Ice Skating Event Mark the date of Saturday, February 5, 2022, when Fallsburg Central School

Mark the date of Saturday, February 5, 2022, when Fallsburg Central School District presents a day of ice skating with free skates provided; snowshoeing; prizes/raffles, including a state-of-the art mountain bicycle; free food and refreshments from a Food Truck with gluten free Arepas and fully loaded Nachos; warm coats and hats for children that need them; and hot chocolate to keep everyone cozy. The location is Benjamin Cosor Elementary School, 15 Old Falls Road, Fallsburg, NY, where a portable ice rink will be set up. . All this fun is curtesy of FCSD, the Wellness Committee, My Brother's Keeper, the SGA Club, and Sullivan 180. For contact information: Please call (845) 434-6800, extension 1223.

### Tri-Valley Little Leage Registration Dates

### All Registration dates will be at the Grahamsville First Aid/Ambulance Building

Feb. 2, 5 pm -8pm Feb. 5, 11 am-3pm Feb. 16, 5 pm- 8pm Feb. 19, 11am -3pm Feb. 26, 11am -3pm

Volunteer and Opening Day Informational meeting immediately following the last registration.

Cost Tball - \$25 Minor/Major 1 child \$75 2 children \$100

3 children \$125

You can also register online at tvlleague.org All minor and major registrations include raffle tickets. If you register online please make sure you contact us to get your tickets. Questions or concerns send us an email trivalleylleague@gmail.com or call Larry Whipple at 914-799-1490

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

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

#### PAGE 24

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2/1/22 Claryville Fire District Meeting 6:30 pm
- 2/2/22 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2/8/22 Denning Town Board Meetings 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
- 2/9/22 Neversink Town Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 2/15/22 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 2/27/22 Town of Denning Planning Board 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
- 2/20/22 Claryville Fire Department All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast 8 am 12 noon
- 3/2/22 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting

### To all Local Municipalities, Civic Organizations, Churches, etc.

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2022** so that we may continue to post your meetings and events throu out the coming year. You may email them to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or

USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740

or Drop them in the Drop Box at the Grahamsville 1st Aid Building

#### 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>

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

During these uncertain times - PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION for updates & changes

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

### Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update January 31 - February 4, 2022

#### Monday, January 31

o No Meetings

#### **Tuesday, February 1**

o 5:15 PM - Public Works, Capital Projects, & Transportation Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 842 6503 5678, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

o 6:30 PM (or immediately following the Public Works, Capital Projects, & Transportation Committee) - Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts, & Agriculture Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 823 5708 0963, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

#### Wednesday, February 2

o 5:30 PM - Health, Human Services, & Housing Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 892 1908 3247, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656 o 7:00 PM - Ulster County Planning Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Webinar ID: 875 6300 3273 Pw: 834223, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

#### Thursday, February 3

o 5:15 PM - Law Enforcement, & Public Safety Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 812 4611 9309, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656 o 5:30 PM - Human Rights Commission, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 301 339 6875, By Phone Dial (929) 205-6099

o 6:30 PM (or immediately following the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee) - Energy, Environment, & Sustainability Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 837 4489 7489, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Friday, February 4

o No Meetings

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

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

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$6.00 per week Business card ad ( 2" x 3") \$12.00 per week

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

(3" × 6") - \$36.00 per week

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

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

1/2 pg (4"×8") -\$64.00 per week (6" × 8") - \$96.00 per week

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

•• Full Page Flyer for Local Municipalities and Organizations - one time fee- \$20.00 (once the flyer is inserted we will publish it each week through to the week of the event) As in the past, there is no fee for advertising for our local churches.

Low Rates High Visibility! AG James' Statement on Judge's Decision to Temporarily Allow Enforcement of NY's Mask Mandate

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today released the following statement after a New York Supreme Court Appellate Judge granted her office's motion to stay a decision Monday night striking down the state's mask mandate:

"Nearly three years into the COVID-19 pandemic, we know that wearing a mask saves lives. This mandate and today's decision are critical in helping to stop the spread of this virus and protect individuals young and old. We will continue to do everything in our power to prioritize the health and wellbeing of all New Yorkers."

Under this order, the mask mandate will stay in effect until the Appellate court takes further action.

### Financial Assistance for Homeowners is Here

The New York State Homeowner Assistance Fund is dedicated to helping NY homeowners affected by the pandemic stay in their homes. How do you apply?

Visit http:// www.nyhomeown-

# DMV at the Neversink Town Hall on 2/3/2022. \*<u>This is a date change</u>\*



You MUST go on the DMV Website to make a reservation.

Search sullivancountydmvscheduling

\* SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY \*\*

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

### Now doing business at SIX locations:

Monticello Govt Center - 100 North Street, Monticello, NY (M-F 9-12, 1-4:30pm) \*\*\*Neversink Town Hall - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)\*\*\* Callicoon Town Hall - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule) Rockland Town Hall - 95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule) Delaware Town Hall - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule) Mamakating Town Hall - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)

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

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

ONLY THE PERSON COMPLETING THE TRANSACTION WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE DMV

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

For further information please contact us at: 845-794-3872

We reserve the right to cancel multiple appointments or appointments to out of county residents.

*erfund.org* or call: 1-844-77-NYHAF (844-776-9423) (Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm) for information on how and when to apply. *https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=598b6652-f947-47c4-ab98-034a263b5e59* 

### **Financial Assisatance for Landlords is Available**

The Landlord Assistance Program (LAP) can provide grant funds of up to \$15,000 per unit to assist with qualified repairs, fiscal distress, and back rent for eligible rental units in Orange, Ulster, Sullivan, and Greene Counties. To learn more go to:

https://rupco.org/financial-assistance-for-landlords-available/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=598b6652-f947-47c4-ab98-034a263b5e59

To download an application go to:

https://rupco.org/wp-content/uploads/RUPCO-NYSLAP-Application2021-1.pdf?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=598b6652-f947-47c4-ab98-034a263b5e59

### Gillibrand, Colleagues Urge Biden Administration to Require Medicare to Pay for Rapid Covid Tests Expanding Federal Guidance Would Ensure Access To Testing For Over 3.6 Million New Yorkers Enrolled in Medicare

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined 18 of her Senate colleagues in urging the Biden administration to require Medicare to pay for rapid COVID tests. The letter follows the administration's recent guidance requiring private insurance companies to cover the cost of up to 8 rapid over-the-counter COVID tests per month. Extending this requirement to Medicare would ensure that an additional 61 million Americans enrolled in Medicare and Medicare Advantage, including those at highest risk of severe illness, have equal access to testing amidst a surge in COVID cases and hospitalizations across the country.

"Right now, millions of New Yorkers enrolled in Medicare can't get coverage for rapid COVID tests," said Senator Gillibrand. "As cities and towns across the state continue to battle the Omicron variant, we must ensure that everyone has free and easy access to testing - not just those with private insurance. I urge the Biden administration to immediately expand its guidance to require Medicare to cover the cost of over-the-counter COVID tests for all beneficiaries."

The letter was also signed by Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Jack Reed (D-RI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Michael Bennet (D-CO), Bob Casey (D-PA), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Angus King (I-ME), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Mark Warner (D-VA), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Tina Smith (D-MN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).

The full text of the letter can be found below:

Dear Secretary Becerra and Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

Thank you for all your work to increase access to free COVID-19 tests around the country, including your recent guidance requiring most insurance companies to cover the cost of up to eight over-the-counter at-home tests per person per month. We strongly encourage you to extend coverage to Medicare, ensuring access for the 61 million Americans enrolled in the program.

### **DROP BOX NOW**

### AVAILABLE AT NEVERSINK TOWN HALL

A drop box has been installed in the front of the Town Hall. It is to the left of the door, under the window. Please feel free to use this box for tax payments, dog license renewals and any other Town Clerk business. PLEASE <u>DO NOT</u> PUT CASH IN THE DROP BOX.

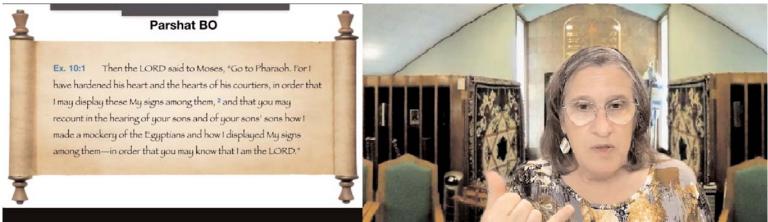
Along with vaccination, the widespread availability of free tests will help us defeat this pandemic. That is why we strongly support the Administration's work over the past year to increase the testing supply and lower costs. A year ago, there were no at-home rapid tests on the market. Today, there are hundreds of millions being distributed around the US, including the Administration's purchase of 500 million tests with funding included in the American Rescue Plan, and the planned purchase of 500 million more.

Required coverage of testing ordered by a physician, expansion of free testing sites through pharmacies and community health centers, and free at-home rapid tests available through COVIDTests.gov or 1-800-232-0233 are big steps forward, including for seniors. Recent CMS guidance requiring coverage of eight over-the-counter at-home tests per person per month will significantly expand access to millions of Americans with commercial health insurance. However, those enrolled in original Medicare and private Medicare Advantage plans do not have this same access. Seniors and people with disabilities enrolled in Medicare are at the highest risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and people over 65 account for nearly three-quarters of all deaths from the virus. The current policy leaves them on the hook for potentially significant out-of-pocket costs.

We share your commitment to making sure Medicare enrollees receive the highest quality health care, including access to free at-home rapid COVID-19 testing, and look forward to working with you to address this issue.

### **Rabbi Michele Medwin to Retire After 17 Years**

Rabbi Michele Medwin of Temple Sholom of Monticello will retire at the end of June. Her creativity on Zoom has kept her congregation active and connected during the covid epidemic. For 17 years as spiritual leader of Sullivan County's only Reform Jewish congregation, she often filled her services with beautiful imagery. Her talent with Power Point allowed her to transition easily to Zoom presentations, using videos and music to put together exciting and inspiring services week after week during the covid pandemic. Rabbi Medwin had already experimented with Zoom the winter before the pandemic, though Zoom back then in its infancy and was harder to deploy successfully than it is today.



Rabbi Michele Medwin amplifies a point from the weekly Torah readin

#### Computer geeks surround her

Rabbi Medwin's family helped her with the technology. Her son, Rabbi Dan Medwin, is the creator of a platform that lets a prayer leader incorporate visual images and music into prayer services. The rabbi also got technical help from her husband, Steve Medwin, an engineer. Her husband co-hosts Zoom services so she can focus on the prayers.

When covid let up a bit, some congregants came to the temple for services, but others preferred to zoom in on their computers. Steve navigated the complicated technology of hybrid services, balancing the sound in the sanctuary with the sound on Zoom, connecting those on Zoom with those in the sanctuary, and using several computers at the same time to display the rabbi and simultaneously to manage the sound, images, and muting.



For Temple Sholom's "hybrid" services, congregants can attend either in person at the temple with social distancing or on Zoom.

Because the congregation is Reform, members are not subject to the constraints against using electronic devices on the Sabbath, which have prevented Orthodox synagogues and many Conservative synagogues from turning to Zoom for Shabbat services. Though the rabbi uses a picture of the sanctuary as a Zoom background, she said, "it does not substitute for being in the sanctuary in front of the ark with the Torahs." However, zooming has some advantages. Rabbi Medwin feels that the half-hour "schmooze" before services brings the congregants closer together as they chat and share news. With labels below the pictures, attendees can learn everybody's name. But Medwin concedes that some temple members are uncomfortable with technology, and members who don't use email can't get the Zoom link.

#### Medwin has followed several paths

Rabbi Medwin started out as an optometrist. She then completed rabbinical studies at Hebrew Union College in New York. In May she will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from that college in acknowledgement of her 25 years as a rabbi. Medwin also worked as a chaplain at a residential school for "at risk" teens. Intrigued by counseling, she returned to Hebrew Union College for a Doctor of Ministry degree in Clinical and Pastoral Counseling and earned her counseling license. She now manages to do counseling part time by limiting her work as a rabbi to two very packed days a week. She says that "my counseling experience comes in handy as I help our members get through the pandemic and try to remain optimistic and feel safe."

Rabbi Medwin prepares and leads Shabbat weekly services and teaches adult education classes from home. Congregants often ask her to officiate at baby namings, bar and bat mitzvahs, weddings, and funerals. She says that, "Life cycle events are the most satisfying moments as a rabbi. I am there with people at their most joyous moments and with them at the most vulnerable times in their lives -- severe illness, loss, and death. No other profession enables you to touch people in such a way."

For medical reasons, Medwin plans to retire on June 30. She generously will offer her "ready-made" Zoom segments for use by whoever fills her position, though she cautions that all her work was done on a Mac, so compatibility could be an issue.

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

### Don't Forget to Recertify Your Handgun Permit County Clerk Puts Reminder on New Licenses

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County Clerk Russell Reeves reminds handgun owners that they may need to recertify their permits soon.

"The New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013, commonly known as the NY SAFE Act, requires the holders of handgun permits to be recertified every five years," he explains. "If your permit was issued on or after January 15, 2013, the deadline to recertify is five years after the date the permit was issued. If your permit was issued before January 15, 2013 your recertification will be coming due again within the next year."

Don't rely on being notified by the State, he adds.

"As a permit holder, it is your responsibility to recertify your permit whether you receive a notification letter or not," Reeves says. "Check your recertification status at https://firearms.troopers.ny.gov."

Recertification can be done online - at no cost - at https://firearms.troopers.ny.gov, or by mail. The form is available for download and printout a:

t www.troopers.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/12/ppb-2.pdf. The form is also available at the County Clerk's Office in the Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello.

As a helpful reminder, the County Clerk's Office has begun putting recertification due dates on the back of newly issued handgun licenses. For a nominal fee, existing permit holders can apply for an amendment change to get a new license card with the recertification date listed.

#### DEC Announces Falconry, Wildlife Rehabilitator, and Leashed Tracking Dog Examinations Exams Online April 1;

#### **Registration Deadline March 25**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced that examinations for individuals seeking a license to practice the sport of falconry, become a volunteer wildlife rehabilitator, or use leashed tracking dogs to find wounded or injured big game animals are scheduled for Friday, April 1. The registration deadline for these free exams is Friday, March 25. To provide broad access to these examinations, DEC is offering them exclusively online.

To register for any of these exams, visit the NYSDEC Special Licenses Unit webpage. The link to the registration website is provided on each of the individual license webpages, along with directions on how to register. An email acknowledgment of registration will be sent to applicants along with an additional onetime link to access the website on the day of the exam.

#### **Apprentice Falconry License**

Falconry has a rich history throughout the world and requires a significant commitment of time and effort. Apprentices are limited to possessing one bird, either an American kestrel or a redtailed hawk. A falconry study guide and examination manual are available at no cost from DEC. The cost of a five-year falconry license is \$40. To qualify for the Apprentice Falconry license, applicants must: score 80 percent or higher on the written exam; be at least 14 years of age; possess a valid New York State hunting license; maintain DEC-approved facilities for housing falconry raptors; and be a resident of New York State.

#### Wildlife Rehabilitator License

Wildlife rehabilitators provide for the care of injured, sick, and orphaned wild animals for the purpose of returning rehabilitated animals to the wild. Prospective applicants are encouraged to gain experience by serving as an assistant to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. A wildlife rehabilitator study guide and examination manual are available at no cost from DEC. There is no cost for the five-year wildlife rehabilitation license.

To qualify for the Wildlife Rehabilitator License, applicants must: score 80 percent or higher on the written exam; be at least 16 years of age; be interviewed by DEC Regional wildlife staff; and be a resident of New York State.

#### Leashed Tracking Dog Handler

Leashed tracking dog handlers use their dogs to track and recover dead, wounded, or injured big game. Leashed tracking dog handlers provide a valuable service by helping hunters locate wounded big game that otherwise may go unrecovered. A leashed tracking dog study guide s available at no cost from DEC. There is a \$50 license fee for the five-year leashed tracking dog license and a \$25 non-refundable application fee.

To qualify for a Leashed Tracking Dog Handler License, applicants must: score 80 percent or higher on the written exam; and possess a valid New York State hunting license.

For questions or assistance, please contact the Special Licenses Unit by mail (NYS DEC Special Licenses Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4752), phone (518-402-8985), fax (518-402-8925), or email SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov.



season based on weather, volunteer availability or usage.

### TROUT UNLIMITED Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter

#### Blue Mountain Trout News January 2022

Welcome to the January 2022 edition of Blue Mountain Trout News! I'd like to start with a huge thank you to Ed Ostapczuk, who has been producing the chapter newsletter for about as long as I can remember. Actually, I used to handle the newsletter until my son was born about 9 years ago when Ed kindly took over the duty while I took a leave of absence from the board. Ed's enduring (and inspirational) commitment to the Esopus Creek as a fishery, the history and stories of fly fishing in the Catskills, and a desire to share his experiences with our community of anglers has been an enormously formative part of my own personal journey with the sport. I'm confident my sentiment is shared by many of you. For those of you not yet convinced, know that Ed's passion for angling and protecting the trout of this fishery began over 50 years ago. He has volunteered more time fighting the good fight than many of us have spent angling and his impacts on both policy and the strong community of anglers that we all count ourselves a part of is truly immesurable. This month we not only lose Ed's voice in this newsletter, but we've also lost him as a board member. I'm saddened by this, but know that Ed's commitment to this watershed does not end even though we won't see his face at monthly board meetings. We wish you all the best, Ed! Thank you for all that you've done. Tight lines and may you always find what you're looking for... 'round the bend! - Todd Spire

#### Fly Tying is Back!

We will be pushing ahead with fly tying again this year! It's exciting to say the least & we'll be as careful as we possibly can. Special thanks to the Olive Library for hosting us. Classes will be held on Saturdays from February 12th through March 12th.

Proof of vaccination required; Mandatory mask wearing; Option to cancel if covid contagion worsens beyond our control

APWC-TU will provide vises and materials - bring your own vise if you have one

Class is limited to eight students (all are invited to join us and tie)

Join us this Wednesday evening for a special presentation of Steve Cultan's Wet Flies 2.0. The long-awaited follow-up to Wet Flies 101, Wet Flies 2.0 takes a deeper dive into wet flies and wet fly fishing. Starting with the essential wet fly tackle and toolbox, Wet Flies 2.0 explores topics like matching hatches with wet flies (from caddis to mayflies to midges to stoneflies to terrestrials); searching tactics with wet flies; presentation and rigging options to match conditions and situations; fishing wet flies as nymphs or dry flies; wet flies on small streams; and much more!

Mac Francis: 1940-2021

Austin 'Mac' Francis was one of a very small number of writers to truly encapsulate the history of fly fishing in the Catskills. His writing is eloquent, and Mac's ability to breathe life and palpable detail into these histories sets his prose apart. From his work with Harry Darbee on 'Catskills Flytier', to his quintessential 'Catskills Rivers', and the photographic chronicle 'Land of Little Rivers', Francis's work is a necessary anchor to any angling library. We mourn the loss of this Catskills giant. His images and words will live on for generations to come.



#### Work on the Portal is Complete

On January 6, 2022 the Shandaken Tunnel was brought back online after years of work on a new intake valve designed to help conserve the cold water resources of the Schoharie Reservoir. Additionally, the new intake valve will allow DEP to better regulate the amount of turbidity entering the Esopus Creek during releases. The limited releases that we've enjoyed for the last few years of work have become a new benchmark for release strategies. The slow and steady approach has worked out well for both the city's need for water and the betterment of the fishery as a whole. Here's to hoping those successes are recognized by all and will be considered as an ongoing approach to release management protocols.

> Acid Rain December 2021 Measurable Storms: 8 Sleet & Snow (Inches): 2.5 Liquid Amount (Inches): 3.07 Weighted Average pH: 5.9

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Jody Hoyt reports as of the end of January the chapter had \$15,250.25, with \$13,952.57 in the General Operating Fund and \$937.68 in the Conservation Fund.

A Special Letter from the Board

To our Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter of Trout Unlimited members and friends:

The events of the past 18 months have disrupted almost every part of normal life for individuals and organizations, and the Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed chapter of Trout Unlimited has been no exception. APWC-TU recognizes the challenge of maintaining our mission to conserve, protect, and restore our native trout populations; for almost two years now, we have also been challenged with conserving, protecting and restoring our membership.

For our regular monthly membership meetings, we have eschewed in-person events in favor of virtual meetings with remote speakers. In spite of these obstacles, the APWC-TU Board of Directors has continued to meet monthly, either in person or via Zoom, and we continue to meet our stated goals and the ongoing challenges of our mission.

We continue to face life threatening obstacles to in-person meetings, our conservation field work, policy advocacy, fundraising, and all the core activities that Trout Unlimited is known for. Even under trying circumstances, we count a number of recent accomplishments: (Contd. Pg. 30)

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

#### **Blue Mountain Trout News**

(From Pg. 29) As an organization we responded to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application for the construction of a "pumped storage" hydroelectric generating plant which called for damming and flooding either the historic Stony Clove Valley, Woodland Valley, or Bushkill Valley. This project would have flooded many miles of pristine aquatic habitat and massive acreage of wild forest lands, plus disrupted the water quality of NYC's Ashokan Reservoir while impacting the Esopus Creek trout fishery directly. This proposal resulted in the FERC receiving the largest negative public response they have every received to any application. The proposal was withdrawn, and TU's voice has been widely credited with influencing what we believe is a positive outcome.

-For the first time in 65 years the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has updated its trout management and fishing regulations. The most significant change for our membership, and for all anglers, is that there is now a year-round open season for inland stream trout fishing across New York State, with catch-and-release only from October 16th to March 31st. Specific changes to the Esopus include reversion to management as a "Wild-Quality" stream, which means that the Esopus will no longer be stocked with brown trout. Additionally, the end of the regular season has been shortened from November 30th to October 15th in an effort to protect spawning brown trout. This policy change was made in response to a sentiment within the angling community that fishing over wild trout populations was as important to angling satisfaction as maximizing catch rate. TU members served on the Advisory Board assembled by the NYS-DEC. Our chapter wholeheartedly lobbied for and endorses these changes which will result in the Esopus transitioning into a completely wild trout fishery.

During October/November, in lieu of our usual holiday gettogether and in-person fundraising activities, APWC-TU held an online auction. This was our first fund raising effort in over 18 months, and resulted in more than \$4000 in auction purchases and donations for our chapter. Thanks to BOD member and Esopus Creel owner, Todd Spire for organizing and executing the auction and thanks to everyone who supported and donated to the cause.

### Governor Hochul Announces Additional Support from Federal Government to Provide Military Medical Teams to Upstate Hospitals

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced additional resources from the federal government will arrive in New York State as early as February 7 providing additional relief to hospitals during the COVID-19 winter surge, which will assist over stressed hospital staff and systems over the coming weeks. Strong Memorial Hospital (URMC) in Rochester and SUNY Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse are both set to receive assistance from two U.S. Department of Defense Military Medical Teams (MMT) beginning in February. SUNY Upstate was previously supported by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Disaster Medical Assistance Teams up until January 26. The new teams are estimated to have 20 members each, including physicians, nurses, respiratory technicians and command staff. They will assist in offsetting patient capacity and be mobilized for approximately 30 days. In addition to the new teams set to arrive, Governor Hochul also announced a 30-day extension of the existing MMT deployment at Erie County Medical Center, which will now last through March 10.

"We are grateful to President Biden for honoring our request for additional help to upstate hospitals, which are under pressure due to the current COVID winter surge," Governor Hochul said. "These teams will go a long way to bolster our healthcare systems, with teams supporting hospitals in Western New York, Central New York and now the Finger Lakes. I'll continue working with President Biden and our partners in the federal government to bring more resources to New York to get us through this phase of the winter surge."

The resources announced today build upon existing assets from the federal government already deployed in New York State, including Military Medical Teams at Erie County Medical Center, one at North Central Bronx and one at Coney Island in New York City.

### UC Executive Pat Ryan Announces Additional Drive-Through COVID-19 Test Kit Distribution Events

#### Open only to Ulster County residents, Ulster County will be holding three more FREE drive-through test kit distribution events in Saugerties, Highland, and Ellenville

KINGSTON, N.Y. - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today that the County will hold a FREE drivethrough at-home test kit distribution events at the Cantine Field in Saugerties on Friday, January 28th, from 3-5pm, at Highland High School in Highland on Monday, January 31st, from 4-6pm, and at the Ellenville High School in Ellenville on Thursday, February 3rd, from 5-7pm. Each event will have 2,000 at-home test kits available to Ulster County residents, with one kit per car.

"Our first two distribution events allowed us to deliver over 50,000 at-home COVID-19 test kits to the community at a time when it is critical to make informed decisions to safeguard our families," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "As we see positive case counts finally begin to taper, we know that testing, wearing a mask, and getting your booster shot are working to keep our community safe and our schools and businesses open."

"Through the distribution of testing kits, masks, and communication with the public, Ulster County has continued to work proactively to blunt the most recent surge in COVID-19 cases," Chairwoman of the Ulster County Legislature Tracey Bartels said. "By working together at all levels of government, we are keeping our communities safe and our schools and businesses open."

Thursday, February 3rd 5 pm - 7 pm Ellenville High School 28 Maple Avenue, Ellenville, NY 12428

Additionally, County Executive Ryan announced that Ulster County will once again partner with local municipalities for at-home test kit distribution. Residents are encouraged to contact their municipality for additional details on how to obtain test kits.

Last week, County Executive Ryan announced that in addition to regular COVID-19 vaccination PODs at the former Best Buy at the Hudson Valley Mall, Ulster County is engaging in a second round of Vax to School PODs at area elementary, middle, and high schools, where residents can receive pediatric, 1st, and booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments are recommended for the County's vaccination PODs, although walk-ins will be accommodated as capacity allows. Sign up for an appointment and find the schedule at VaccinateUlster.com.

### Governor's Office and Sullivan County Open COVID-19 Testing Site at SUNY Sullivan

Loch Sheldrake, NY - In coordination with the Governor's Office and Quadrant Biosciences, SUNY Sullivan has opened a community COVID-19 testing site on campus. Located in The Paul Gerry Field House Upper Lobby, the testing site is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm. The PCR test is an oral, saliva-based test. Appointments are strongly encouraged. Limited walk-in appointments are available. Appointments can be scheduled here.

For more information, call 315-614-2325. SUNY Sullivan is located at 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake NY 12579. For a link with test site information, click here.

"SUNY Sullivan is so pleased to again play a role in getting out of this pandemic and back to normal here in Sullivan County by working with our state and local partners," said SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance. "We encourage residents to again take advantage of our central location and be tested. Getting vaccinated and boosted, while continuing to test and wear a mask in public, are the best ways to put the pandemic behind us."

"We are pleased that the Governor has chosen SUNY Sullivan as a free public testing site as an option for residents," said Sullivan County Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. "Testing resources have been limited in Sullivan County throughout the pandemic, and this provides a convenient option that will also take the testing burden off of the emergency room and local health care provider offices, so they can get back to caring for those with urgent medical needs."

In 2021, SUNY Sullivan's Gerry Field House served as a Point-of-Distribution (POD) vaccine clinic for Sullivan County. Over 4,000 people received the vaccine at the College's POD. The SUNY Sullivan testing site is one of numerous testing sites open on SUNY and community college campuses across New York State.

"Through our winter surge plan, we are building on our ongoing efforts to make testing more widely available, and that includes utilizing our SUNY campus facilities that are equipped to distribute more tests to New Yorkers," Governor Kathy Hochul said. "Expanded access to testing will ensure those who are positive with the virus can isolate to limit spread and keep others in their communities well. We're turning the corner on this winter surge but we're not through this yet, so let's continue to use the tools that will help stop the spread: Wear a mask, wash your hands, get your vaccine, your second dose, and your booster. Get tested and stay home if you are sick - we are not powerless."

# Please Wear a Face Mask

Help Stop the Spread

### Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.

When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect my neighbors.

When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect nurses and doctors.

When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect other people.

We all need to show respect to one another in difficult times.

Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask.

### COVID-19 TESTING SITE AT SUNY SULLIVAN <u>CLOSED</u> UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Loch Sheldrake, NY -SUNY Sullivan's community COVID-19 testing site on campus is CLOSED until further notice due to a vendor (laboratory) staffing issue. The College apologizes for any inconvenience to the community and will send further updates if and when the testing site reopens.

#### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

### Public Health Announces Changesin Reporting of COVID-19 Data Dashboard Being Revised to Reflect Most Up-to-Date, Relevant Information

Liberty, NY - The continually evolving response to COVID-19 is bringing about changes to the COVID-19 dashboard displayed for public use, Sullivan County Public Health Director Nancy McGraw noted today.

"The changes are in part due to the availability of self-attestations and increased use of at-home test kits, and also coincide with the shift in contact tracing and case investigation to New York State," she explained. "In order to best inform the public with the most accurate data available, Sullivan County Public Health Services will focus on vaccination efforts and prevention education, as well as investigating severe disease, hospitalizations, and deaths related to COVID-19. We will continue to report those data points moving forward."

In addition to tracking and encouraging vaccination, Public Health is staying closely connected to Garnet Catskill and medical providers to ensure all possible aid is provided to ease pressure as case counts ebb and flow. The changes in the dashboard are designed to complement that effort by empowering the public with useful, actionable information.

The following changes will go into effect Tuesday, February 1: • The dashboard will no longer report the number of active cases, since not all positive at-home test results are reported.

Dashboard updates will be provided on Tuesdays and Fridays, which will include the rolling data from 3-4 days prior.
The dashboard will not include a combined isolation/quarantine number, as contacts are no longer being collected in all situations (contact-tracing continues for vulnerable congregate settings).

o The dashboard will continue to show the number of total cases since the beginning of the pandemic (March 2020), the number of Sullivan County resident deaths due directly from COVID-19 complications since the beginning of the pandemic, as well as a breakdown of hospitalized cases at Garnet Catskills Medical Center, including out-of-county residents.

o The dashboard will include links to the NYS Department of Health's vaccine tracker.

o The dashboard will no longer give a township breakdown of cases on a map, as this does not reflect current positivity rates.

"While our priorities in responding to the pandemic have transitioned recently, our commitment to monitoring the severity of disease and hospitalization in our community has not changed," McGraw affirmed. "Our daily data reports have given a snapshot to the community about the status of disease, but we recognize that the real-time accuracy of this data is decreasing due to the changes in guidance and our increased understanding of the disease. We acknowledge that with the increased availability and reliability of self-tests, Sullivan County Public Health Services no longer receives notice of all positive test results. We encourage residents to continue using our self-test reporting portal at

www.sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/Coronavirus/Atte station, but many may choose to also use the State affirmation forms. The self-test number serves as a data point, but by no means captures the total positive cases in our community." NYS has the capacity to interview all lab-reported positive cases through a telephone call, regardless of age, to screen for any needs during isolation and risk of severe illness. All positive cases are referred to the County or NYS self-affirmation forms, which serve as the person's isolation order, release, and documentation for school or work.

For detailed information on what to do if you test positive or are exposed to COVID-19, please visit http://www.sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/Coronavirus, or the NYS Department of Health's website on Isolation and Quarantine at https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-statecontact-tracing.

McGraw continued, "Our best tools to prevent spread, severe illness, and hospitalization continue to be vaccination, masking, and knowing what to do if you test positive or if you have been exposed to someone who is positive for COVID. I encourage you to refer to our website for more information about steps to take if you test positive. Over the past few weeks, our efforts have focused on vaccinating our young people and providing booster doses to those who are eligible. The Community Assistance Center has been distributing self-tests and masks throughout the County as we receive shipments, and we thank our community partners for assisting in this effort."



**ROURKELAW.COM** 

845.292.2000

#### DEC Now Accepting Applications for Annual Pheasant Release Program Applications for Cooperative Program Due

March 25, 2022 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos

Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced that applications are now available for DEC's cooperative Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program, which allows people to participate in raising and releasing pheasants to enhance the State's fall hunting opportunities. The program is provided through DEC's partnership with hunters, 4-H youth, and interested landowners.

"Pheasant hunting has a long history in New York and remains popular among hunters," Commissioner Seggos said. "The Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program is a great way to experience the outdoors and raise pheasants while providing hunters with the opportunity to learn about animal husbandry."

The Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program began in the early 1900s when the State Conservation Department (precursor to DEC) distributed pheasant eggs and chicks to farmers and rural youth, a tradition that continues to this day. Day-old chicks are available at no cost to participants who can provide a brooding facility, covered outdoor rearing pen, and an adequate release site. Approved applicants will receive the day-old chicks in April, May, or June. No chicks obtained through the Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program can be released on private shooting preserves and all release sites must be approved in advance by DEC and be open for public pheasant hunting opportunities.

Applicants are required to provide daily care to the rapidly growing chicks, monitor the birds' health, and ensure the chicks have adequate feed and water. The pheasants may be released beginning when they are eight weeks old and must be 

 Image: Constant of the state of the sta

released no later than Dec. 1. The program is funded through the State Conservation Fund from license fees paid by hunters, trappers, and anglers.

In 2021, DEC distributed more than 34,500 day-old pheasant chicks to qualified applicants. This year marks a new chapter for the program as DEC transitions to an online application process. The application can be found on the Day-old Pheasant Chicks webpage, along with a "Pheasant Rearing Guide (PDF)." People without internet access or who encounter technical difficulties with the online application are advised to contact their regional wildlife office to apply. Applications must be submitted by March 25. For questions about the program or eligibility, email wildlife@dec.ny.gov or call 607-273-2768.



TED STAT

IR FORCE

# VET 2 VET

Vet 2 Vet is a peer networking program for veterans, by Veterans in Sullivan County. Vet 2 Vet offers Veterans an opportunity to participate in programs and a safe, anonymous, and non-judgmental environment. We also offer advocacy and assistance with navigating the VA System and other services.

### **CORE SERVICES PROVIDED:**

Veteran Peer Support Advocacy Benefit Advisement Peer Counseling Finanical Literacy Mental Health Support

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### For more information contact:

Ryan Fuller at (845) 794–4228 Kevin Coates at (845) 794–4228

Visit our website at atitoday.org





## SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



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

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

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

### More about our warrior Nick....

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

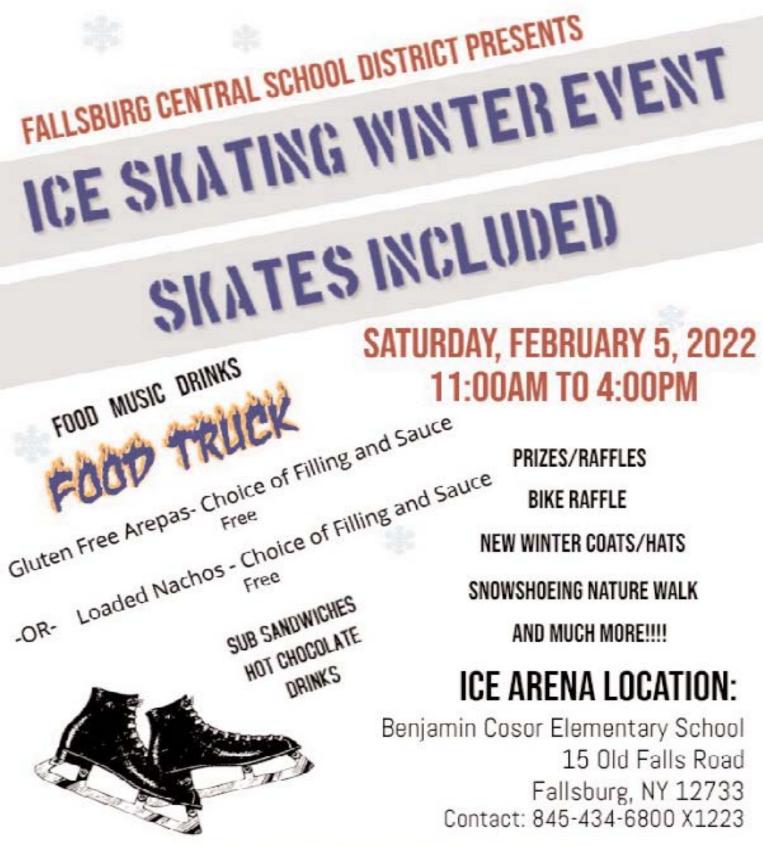
Nick has such a big heart and is loved by so many in our community. We all want Nick to have the best quality of life and going through dialysis does not provide that quality. We hope and pray a kidney comes to us and that Nick will be able to live a happy and healthy life doing what he loves and that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

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



For any other questions 845.798.2077 nickneedsokidney@gmail.com

ALL FREE!



ALL SMALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Sponsored in part by Sullivan 180

## UC NOW TRENDING... February 2022

#### CELEBRATING THE LEGACY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH FEBRUARY 2022 Opening TBD New Paltz Black History Museur

**New OpeningTBD** New Paltz Black History Museum and Cultural Center: Saved from demolition. 1885. Built by Jacob Wynkoop, a black carpenter. Ann Oliver House, 5 Broadhead Avenue, New Paltz.

**Ongoing ONLINE EXHIBITION** - "Never was a Slave: Jacob Wynkoop, Free and Black in 19th-Century New Paltz:" Jacob Wynkoop was born in the rural community of New Paltz in 1829, two years after slavery was legally abolished in the state. Jacob was among the first African Americans to buy land in the community, Wynkoop built a series of homes that today still define a neighborhood in New Paltz. Exhibition: omeka.hrvh.org/exhibits/show/jacob-wynkoop/introduction Historic Huguenot Street, 845-255-1660; huguenotstreet.org

**Ongoing "Jacob Wynkoop: Building a Free Black Neighborhood:"** Walking tour narrated by Chaundre Hall-Broomfield, a performer known for his dual roles as Hercules Mulligan and James Madison in the national tour of "Hamilton." This new addition to the Historic Huguenot Street app takes visitors on a guided tour of the Broadhead-Church-Mulberry neighborhood of New Paltz, highlighting the houses built by 19thcentury Black carpenter and Civil War veteran Jacob Wynkoop. Historic Huguenot Street, 81 Huguenot Street, New Paltz. 845-255-1660; huguenotstreet.org

**Ongoing ONLINE EVENT - Jane Deyo Wynkoop:** Born to an enslaved woman and one of the first African Americans to buy land in New Paltz.. Despite harsh beginnings, Jane's diligence and determination resulted in a productive, inspiring life that included marriage and raising a family. As a result of her hard work and planning, Jane's purchase of land was the first step toward opening the door for her sons' acquiring the right to vote. Through original archival documents, the exhibit Jane Deyo Wynkoop explores her story from birth in 1803 to death in 1876, at age 73. Historic Huguenot Street, 845-255-1660; huguenotstreet.org

**1-28 Ulster County Sojourner Truth Exhibit:** In collaboration with the Ulster County Clerk's Office, the Ulster County Surrogate's Court unveils a new exhibit celebrating the life of the iconic abolitionist and feminist, Sojourner Truth. Ground floor of the Ulster County Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 845-340-3288; clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/archives

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

**Feb. 4 Saugerties First Friday:** Every month in the village of Saugerties, businesses stay open late and offer special activities and discounts to visitors. 5-8 p.m. Partition, Market and Main streets, Saugerties; facebook.com/saugertiesscene

**Feb 5 Anniversary Black History Month Kingston Kick-Off**: 3-7 p.m. Enjoy a fantastic day of celebration for the entire fam-

ily. Attend the official Kick-Off Event for BHMK. Performances, MyKingstonKids dance party, dance, poetry, singing, activities, vendors, special appearances and more. Visit BHMK website or download the App for details. Organized by MyKingstonKids and Harambee Kingston. Free. Event location: YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County, 507 Broadway, Kingston. 845-282-0182; *BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org* 

Feb. 5-July 17 The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz - "Mary Frank: The Observing Heart:" A retrospective exhibition of Mary Frank's powerful artwork that spans her career of more than six decades. Centered on the twin themes of social justice and the preservation of the natural world. "Museum hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Anderson Gallery and Howard Greenberg Family Gallery, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz. 845-257-3844; newpaltz.edu/museum

**Feb. 6 Hans Karl Breslauer's "City Without Jews:"** Conceived as a dark satire, 'City Without Jews' is based on the book by Hugo Bettauer. Silent film (1924) with live accompaniment by Marta Waterman. 2 p.m. The Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main Street, Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

Feb 6 ONLINE EVENT - Remembering Great Grandma Sojourner Truth: YMCA Farm Project hosts Barbara M. Allen (Sojourner Truth's great granddaughter) who will read from her book "Remembering Great Grandma - Sojourner Truth." Q & A follows this very special event. 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Visit BHMK website for link. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org Feb. 6 Esopus Fire Department Breakfast: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Cost: donations requested. Pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, home fries. Coffee, O.J., tea. The Esopus Fire House, 1142 Broadway, Esopus. 845-384-6575; Facebook: Espopusfire

**Feb. 8 Watergrasshill Workshops: Hands-On Cooking Class:** One Pot Wonders-These one pot meals will become your weeknight dinner favorites. 6-8:30 p.m. 105 Phillies Bridge Road, New Paltz. 845-419-2661; watergrasshillny.com

Feb. 9 Inaugural Ulster County Black Business Achievement Awards and Mixer: In recognition of Black History Month, the Ulster Chamber, in partnership with Ulster County Tourism, is hosting this inaugural event. 5-8 p.m. Complimentary refreshments provided by several Black-owned Ulster County restaurants and caterers. Public is invited to attend. Admission is free; space is limited. Advance registration is recommended. Ulster Savings Bank, 180 Schwenk Drive, Kingston. 845-338-5200; business.ulsterchamber.org DATE January and February 2022 Calendar of Events ulstercountyalive.com

**Feb. 12 Red-K Reading Lounge w/ Kingston Ceramics:** MyKingstonKids and Kingston Ceramics will be reading "In Her Hands: The story of Sculptor Augusta Savage" by Alan Schroeder. After the reading there will be time to discuss the book. Children will participate in a pottery workshop with an item they can take home along with a Red-K Apparel t-shirt and a copy of the book in their Red-K swag bag. Only 20 spots available. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. Visit BHMK website. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 16 ONLINE EVENT - 8X8: Black Culture in American Cinema**: Join us for a fun evening at the movies. Filmmaker and historian Stephen Blauweiss will present a wide range of scenes from important lesser-known feature films, prefaced with a brief description of each. DATE February 2022 Calendar of Events – Celebrating the Legacy: Black History Month Anyone who enjoys movies will be happy to discover these unique films. Visit BHMK website for link. Free. 7-8:30 p.m. RSVP. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 17 ONLINE EVENT** - "Deeper than the Skin:" Performance and discussion on race with musicians Greg Greenway and Reggie Harris. 7- 8:30 p.m. (Contd. Pg. 38)

## UC NOW TRENDING... February 2022

### (From Pg. 37)

Contact: megan@huguenotstreet.org. General Admission \$8; Discounted Admission \$5. 845-255-1660; huguenotstreet.org/calendar-of-events/deeper-skin

**Feb. 19 Third Annual Sojourner Truth Life Walk:** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Port Ewen to Ulster County Courthouse. Relive the life highlights of legendary abolitionist as we acknowledge parts of her life including her escape route to freedom. Includes brief stops along the way. Free bus will be available at Dietz Stadium for pick-up. Visit BHMK website for details. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 18-21** Presidents Day Weekend: With our cross-country ski trails, ice skating rink, snow tube run, and snowshoe trails (weather permitting) your family will experience an idyllic winter weekend. Ice fishing on Lake Cole, broomball on Reflection Pond, and guided nature hikes to High Falls and other scenic vistas. Indoors: climbing gym, archery range or arts and crafts programs. Snow tubes, snowshoes, and cross-country skis are provided. Frost Valley YMCA, 2000 Frost Valley Road, Claryville. 845-985-2291 x450; frostvalley.org

**Feb. 19** Sojourner Truth Life Walk 2022: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sponsored by Black History Month Kingston. Details forthcoming. This event is produced by My Kingston Kids. Contact Frank Waters: fwaters@mykingstonkids.com blackhistorymonthkingston.org

**Feb. 19, 20** Hot Chocolate Holiday at Nancy's Artisanal Creamery: Artisanal ice cream/coffee shop and café with homemade ice cream, decadent coffee drinks and pastries. Vegan options, pies and cakes too. Enjoy hot chocolate creations, hot chocolate bombs, Italian hot chocolate and more. (closed December 20-Jan 6.) 297 Tinker Street. 845-684-5329; nancysartisanal.com

**Feb.** 20 O+ BHMK Mural Tour: 10-11:30 a.m. Free guided walking tour highlighting O+ murals in celebration of Black History Month. Learn about the artists and explore the imagery behind a selection of O+ murals found around Midtown Kingston. Visit BHMK website or download the app for details. Meet at Black Lives Matter Mural located at 695 Broadway at Liberty St. in Kingston. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

Feb. 22 Maple Sugaring: A Hands on Demonstration and Discussion: 2:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Join us in celebrating the sugar maple tree: learn to identify a maple tree, participate in tapping a tree, sample sap and syrup and learn the cultural history of this regional forest phenomenon. Visit BHMK website for details. African Roots Center, 43 Gill St, Kingston. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 22 Breaking the Cycle with Antwan Wakely:** 6-7 p.m. Free. Participate in this very special event and learn about how an at-risk youth turned his life around. Antwan was in and out of prison, caught up in the recidivism cycle. He currently serves as a mentor to at-risk youth and is excited to share his story with our Kingston community. In person or Zoom. Visit BHMK website or download the app for details and registration. Restorative Justice Center, 733 Broadway Kingston. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 23 ONLINE EVENT** - **Turning the Tables Healthy Cooking Class:** 6-7 p.m. RSVP. Free. Turning the Tables means making easy, delicious homemade food from scratch using the Turning the Tables Creamy Soup Master Recipe. Forrest Lahens will show us how he uses the same technique to make his

Haitian-inflected spicy winter squash soup. Learn new dishes using ingredients on hand - hearty, healthy and inexpensive. Visit BHMK website or download the app for details and registration. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 24 ONLINE EVENT - Black Cultural History of Ulster County:** 7-8:30 p.m. A Multimedia Presentation with the Ellenville Library. Filmmaker and historian Stephen Blauweiss will present an evening about the lesser-known history of Ulster County through a wide range of short films and rare photographs about the arts, music, dance and broader black culture, including some never-before-seen interviews. Visit BHMK website for details and registration. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 25** SUNY Ulster Celebrates Black History Month: Expo-style drop-in event that showcases Black history and culture in Kingston and beyond. Visit BHMK website for details and registration. SUNY Ulster, 94 Mary's Ave, Kingston. 845-282-0182;

BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 25 Bernard McClinton's Gospel Celebration:** 7 p.m. Special Guests: The Fabulous Rainbow Singers. Other guests to be announced. The Falcon, 1348 Route 9W, Marlboro. 845-236-7970; liveatthefalcon.com

**Feb. 25** "Akeelah and the Bee:" Film. A girl strives to become a spelling champ. 7:30 p.m. Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC), 601 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

**Feb. 26 First Annual Stephen Jones Awards:** Includes 10 Hudson Valley Artists, five visual artists and five performing artists. Artists will present short clips of their work that night while the audience votes. Two artists will be selected, one from each discipline with a winning check of \$500. Visit BHMK website for details and ticket info. Mariner's Harbor, 1 Broadway, Kingston. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston org

BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

**Feb. 26 25th Annual Chili Bowl Fest:** Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale upcoming annual Chili Bowl Fest, a fundraiser which is scheduled to take place online and in-person in the dining hall at SUNY Ulster, 91 Cottekill Road, Stone Ridge. 845-658-9133; wsworkshop.org

**Feb. 26 Bearsville Theater Presents comedian Pete Correale:** Pete Correale is a professional stand-up comedian originally from New York. His comedy is reflective of his life and the experiences he's been through. Being married for almost twenty years and having a young daughter, Pete's never at a loss for material. 291 Tinker Street, Woodstock. 845-684-7133; bearsvilletheater.com

**Feb. 27 Third Annual Black Experience:** In honor and celebration of Black History, Center for Creative Education (CCE) presents "The Black Experience." Singing, dancing, spoken word, comedy and more. Limited in-person seating available; unlimited virtual access. Visit BHMK website for details and registration. CCE, 16 Cedar St, Kingston. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

SAVE THE DATE: April 16 Harambee presents The Fifth Annual Black History Month Kingston Gala: Join us in the celebration of five years of tribute to the African-American heritage of the Kingston area. Engage in a night of musical performances, dancing and more. You can also participate in our auction including a variety of amazing community gifts. Theme: "Coming To America," in which we ask that you consider arriving in African garb or accessory. Visit BHMK website for details and ticket info. La Mirage Restaurant & Catering, 423 Broadway, Ulster Park. 845-282-0182; BlackHistoryMonthKingston.org

## PAGE 39

## **RSVP Is Recruiting New Volunteers!** Join a Group Making a Real Difference Locally

Monticello, NY - "There's no better time than NOW to make a difference in your community by volunteering your time," encourages Martha Tully, Sullivan County's RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) Coordinator. "With RSVP you can use and share your skills, talents and life experiences or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities in your community!" The RSVP of Sullivan County Americorps Seniors program is entering its 49th year of helping local communities, and it's con-

stantly looking for adults aged 55 and over to volunteer a few hours each week to help neighbors throughout Sullivan County.

"Volunteers choose how, where, and when they want to serve, with comitments ranging from a few hours to 40 hours per week," Tully explains. "We can definitely find an opportunity that fits you with one of our 60 participating not-for-profit partners."

RSVP volunteers enjoy many benefits, including:

• Opportunities to meet new people in the community while making a significant difference in the lives of others

• Sharing talents and experiences with one or more of the participating non-profit partners

- Special recognition events
- Flexible placements with regard to time commitments
- The satisfaction of making a difference in the community
- Help to transition into retirement

• Partial mileage reimbursement (full mileage reimbursement for medical transportation and home delivered meals)

• Supplemental excess accident medical coverage for medical treatment and hospitalization, excess volunteer liability insurance and excess automobile liability insurance.

Current RSVP opportunities include distributing home-delivered meals to homebound seniors in the community; preparing taxes for senior citizens and low-income families; providing tele-



phone reassurance to isolated seniors to ensure their wellbeing; providing medical transportation to important doctor's appointments and specialty services throughout Sullivan and Orange Counties; hospice care; helping out at local museums and historical societies; and much more.

"Our volunteers themselves report better health and longevity having served in their community," Tully notes with a smile. "There is research that demonstrates the mental and physical health benefits associated with volunteering, including lower mortality rates, increased strength and energy, decreased rates of depression and fewer physical limitations. We even have two 100-yearyoung active volunteers!"

If you are interested in joining RSVP of Sullivan County Americorps, please contact RSVP Coordinator Martha Tully at (845) 807-0255 or Martha.Tully@sullivanny.us.

## **Celebrate at Daniel Pierce Library**

MARDI GRAS DONUTS coming March 1, 2022!

Pre-order today.

Did you enjoy our delicious donuts last fall at the Pumpkin Party? Here is your chance to order a dozen or two in time for Mardi Gras. Pre-orders only. Choose between plain or cinnamon sugar donuts. Orders are by the dozen. Cost is \$6 per dozen. In order to have donuts ready all orders must be submitted by February 22, 2022. Payment instructions are included with the order form. If you need help contact us at 985-7233.

## TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY!

**February 5, 2022** 

Last, we are doing Valentine's Day Cards Due February 11th at Daniel Pierce Library. You can make homemade cards along with the Daniel Pierce Library for our local nursing home residents at the Care Center!

## **Catskill Park Trail Conditions**

Always know what to expect. Conditions are posted every Thursday for your weekend adventures. Visit the website for this weekend's trail conditions in the Catskill Park.

https://catskillsvisitorcenter.org/hiking-and-camping/trail-conditions/?mc\_cid=8902c7040b&mc\_eid=741885eb1c



**Tenney Calls for President Biden's Impeachment** 

READ MORE: Biden encourages massive illegal immigration and tries to hide it with secret flights. Read more-go to: https://nypost.com/2022/01/27/biden-is-hiding-illegal-immigration-with-secret-flights/

President Biden has refused to enforce our nation's immigration laws. Even worse, he has violated the public trust by secretly moving migrants around our country, hiding these covert actions from Congress and the American people. Failing to enforce our laws and working in secret to actively violate them are serious offenses, and they must be investigated. There must be accountability.

This is why I have called for the House of Representatives to begin impeachment proceedings immediately. This is not something I take lightly and it was something I had hoped to avoid. For months congressional Republicans have been trying to work with this Administration to secure our border and enforce our laws, but President Biden has refused to take action.

Last year under President Biden, there were two million illegal border crossings - this is roughly the populations of New Mexico or Nebraska. President Biden's failed open-border policies have turned every state into a border state. We are now at an unprecedented point in time where an American President is openly refusing to enforce immigration laws and is now allegedly going so far as to break them in the dead of night by moving illegal immigrants across the country without any transparency or oversight. Congress must act now to restore order.

## It is Time to Unmask our Children

On Monday, the New York State Supreme Court struck down Governor Hochul's school mask mandate. The facts of the case were clear from the beginning: Governor Hochul and the Department of Health do not have any power to enact this unconstitutional mandate. Unfortunately, the Courts stayed this ruling upon appeal, effectively putting the mandate back into place for now.

As Governor Hochul and the New York State Department of Health fight to overturn this ruling and take power away from parents, I am not backing down. Some young children have spent a third of their lives behind masks, never seeing the faces of their friends or teachers. Extreme measures like this are now posing a greater risk to our students' learning and development than the virus itself. We are only beginning to understand the full extent of the damage that has been done to them. Several medical professionals recently published an opinion piece in The Washington Post arguing that school mask mandates are no longer needed and can pose a risk to student development. I fully agree.

These restrictive, anti-science mandates should end and students should return safely to the classroom without masks and out from behind a computer screen. Their learning and development must be the priority. I will continue fighting for the rights of parents and children. New York students should not suffer one more day because of political edicts that have nothing do with science.

## We Must Fix New York's Disastrous Bail Reform Law

New York has seen a drastic increase in crime over the past two years. While politicians in Albany want to blame the problem on a lack of gun control, we know that is not really the answer, especially since New York has some of the strictest gun control laws in the country already. That's why I teamed up with members of the New York Congressional Delegation this week in calling on Governor Hochul to fix New York's disastrous bail reform law, which is among the main drivers of this crisis and has resulted in thousands of avoidable crimes.

New York's bail reform law eliminated cash bail for most offenses. This has largely removed judges' discretion to limit the release of individuals who pose a threat to our communities. Sadly, this failed attempt at justice and equity has torn our communities apart and made our streets less safe. We have seen the results right in our own backyards, in places like Utica and Binghamton. Just this week, as New York City laid to rest a courageous NYPD officer, a violent perpetrator who had previously shot at police in a separate incident was released on bail!

The Governor and New York's State legislature must immediately repeal this dangerous law. Families should never be scared to call New York home.

#### Honoring a Heroic NYS Trooper from the Southern Tier -Tenney Recognizes Hero NYS Trooper Draudt

I recently delivered remarks on the House Floor recognizing New York State Trooper David Draudt of the Southern Tier, who saved the life of an unresponsive two-year-old boy on November 29, 2021.

The two-year-old boy choked on a pancake and fell unconscious before Trooper Draudt swooped in to save the day. We are so lucky to have well-trained first responders who are ready to put their extensive training to the test in service to our community. I applaud Trooper David Draudt, along with all who serve!

## **Rest in Peace Officer Rivera**

This week we laid NYPD Officer Jason Rivera to rest. At 22, Officer Rivera demonstrated the courage, honor, and integrity we all aspire to. He is a hero who leaves behind a loving family as well as a grateful city, state, and nation. Please join me in praying for Officer Rivera's family. #BacktheBlue

#### Meeting with First Responders and Frontline Workers

On Wednesday, I launched a tour across the 22nd District to meet with and thank frontline workers and first responders for their tremendous service and contributions over the last two years. While visiting with these heroes, I also distributed athome COVID-19 tests received from New York State.

Our first responders and frontline workers are the unsung heroes of this pandemic. They have served our community with distinction from the darkest days of the pandemic to now. It was an honor to meet with so many of them this week to not only thank them, but also to talk with them about their work and to distribute at-home tests as we strive to ensure they remain open and continue serving the most vulnerable in our community. In Congress:

In Congress, as a member of the Small Business Committee, I will continue to fight back against overreaching mandates with bills like the Health Freedom for All Act and the Keep Vaccines Voluntary Act. I also will work to bring back our critical manufacturing sectors through the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act and the Make It In America to Sell It In America Act. Our small businesses need our full support and I will not stop fighting in Congress!

## Governor Hochul Announces New Resources to Aid Workers with Long-Haul COVID-19 Workers' Compensation Claims

New York State Workers' Compensation Board Launches Free Webinar Series and Webpage to Educate Workers on Their Rights, Will Assist With Filing Claims

#### Filing Deadline Approaching for Those Infected Early in the Pandemic

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that New York State is offering new, online educational opportunities to help workers who believe they contracted COVID-19 due to an exposure at work, especially those suffering from ongoing long-haul symptoms. A new series of webinars - offered through the New York State Workers' Compensation Board - will provide information on workers' rights when it comes to filing a workers' compensation claim and the cash and/or medical benefits they may be eligible to receive.

"It has been nearly two years after the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in our state, and many hardworking New Yorkers are still experiencing long-haul COVID-19 symptoms that are adversely impacting their health, wellbeing, and ability to support themselves and their families," Governor Hochul said. "Those still suffering from the lasting effects of this horrible virus deserve to understand their rights and to have access to assistance with filing workers' compensation claims. By launching these new online resources, we can ensure that those who had to work despite the risk can secure both the adequate medical treatment and lost wage benefits that they deserve."

Those with a work-related injury or illness have two years from the date of becoming injured or ill to file a workers' compensation claim, so the deadline is approaching for workers who contracted COVID-19 due to their employment in the early days of the pandemic. Filing a claim is important because workers' compensation benefits in an established claim include lifetime medical care for the treatment of the work-related injury or illness. Even workers who have had a good outcome after COVID-19 can file a claim to protect their future rights to these medical benefits, should they ever need them. Workers should know that while not all claims will be accepted, there is no risk or harm in filing a claim, even if it ends up getting denied.

- o February 23, 2022: Noon 1 p.m.
- o March 9, 2022: Noon 1 p.m.
- o April 13, 2022: Noon 1 p.m.

These webinars are free and open to the public. Participants do not need to register in advance, and can join the sessions via the links above, which will also be accessible through the Board's dedicated COVID-19 webpage at wcb.ny.gov/covid-19.

While the online sessions are targeted toward workers who have lost time from work, have ongoing medical problems and/or fall into the category of "long haulers," the information is relevant to anyone who believes they may have contracted COVID-19 due to an exposure at work.

Information on the webinars, along with new fact sheets and other COVID-19 resources for workers, employers, and insurance carriers is available on the Board's dedicated COVID-19 webpage. In addition, information and assistance with filing a claim for COVID-19 is available by calling the NYS Workers' Compensation Board at (877) 632-4996.

Injured or ill workers are encouraged to let the Board know if they face resistance or obstacles to getting information about the claims process or are discouraged from filing a claim. Such workers can send an email to: AdvInjWkr@wcb.ny.gov for assistance.



Names

Phone #:\_\_\_

# of copies: \_

Total enclosed:

Shipping Address:

## NEW HERITAGE BAKING BOOK JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

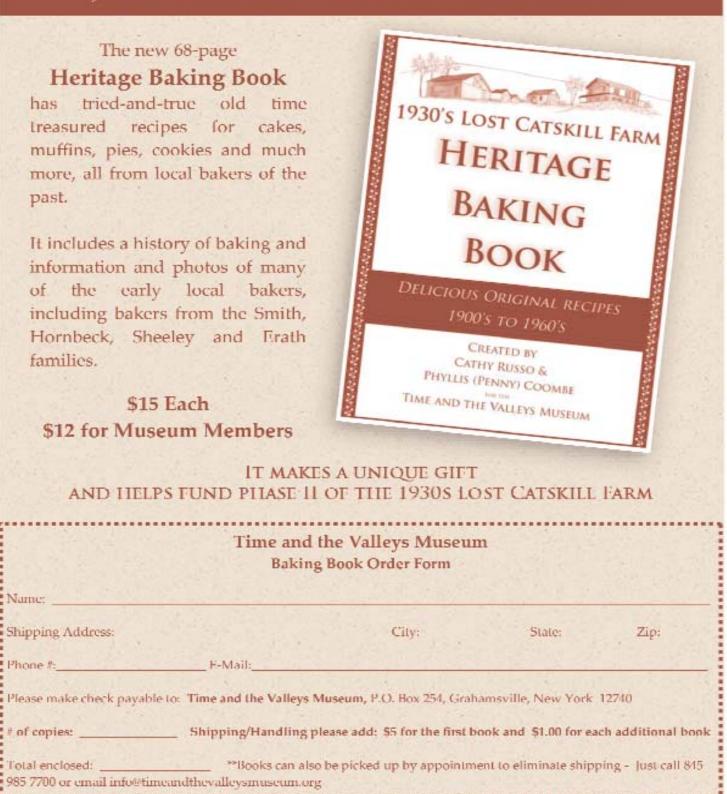
## The new 68-page **Heritage Baking Book**

has tried-and-true old time treasured recipes for cakes. muffins, pies, cookies and much more, all from local bakers of the past.

It includes a history of baking and information and photos of many of the early local bakers, including bakers from the Smith, Hornbeck, Sheeley and Erath families.

## \$15 Each \$12 for Museum Members

E-Mail:



ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.TIMEANDTHEVALLEYSMUSEUM.ORG/SHOP MEMBERS USE TATVM20 FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

## CONGRESSMAN

## ANTONIO DELGADO

## Congressman Delgado Weekly Recap

After a great week in the district, I wanted to give you an update on how I've been serving you.

Joining the Bipartisan effort to Prevent Insider Trading by Members of Congress

This week, I joined the bipartisan Transparent Representation Upholding Service and Trust (TRUST) in Congress Act as a cosponsor. The TRUST in Congress Act aims to prevent insider trading by Members of Congress and increase transparency and accountability in government.

Public service and representing a community should never be about turning a profit. This bipartisan, now-bicameral effort to prevent insider trading by Members of Congress will increase transparency and accountability for constituents - two of my core values since day one. I am proud to cosponsor this bill and work on a bipartisan basis to clean up the corruption in Washington.

#### COVID-19 Test kit & Mask Distribution Events

This week, I visited four different counties in our district to help local officials hand out COVID-19 test kits and masks. Recently, it's been difficult to find at-home tests or well-fitting masks, so I was glad to work with local officials to ensure upstate folks could access these items.

I started the week off in Sullivan County. I joined Senator Mike Martucci, Chairman Doherty, Legislator Luis Alvarez, Commissioner of Community Resources Laura Quigley, a representative from Assembly Member Gunther's office, as well as volunteers from the Sullivan County Office of Aging to hand out tests and masks.

On Tuesday, I headed to Montgomery County and the Ames Volunteer Fire Department to help Montgomery County Treasurer and Ames Fire Chief Shawn Bowerman and the County Sheriff's Office hand out supplies. On Wednesday, we went over to the Cairo Public Library in Greene County and had a great event with the local officials who came out, including Sheriff Kusminsky, County Legislators Harry Lennon, Ed Bloomer and Sherry True, and Town Supervisor Jason Watts.

I finished up the week at the North Chatham Free Library in Columbia County helping Town Supervisor Collins, Library Director Wills, and President of the Board and Town Council Member Werwaiss hand out tests and masks. It was great to see so many people come out this week, get supplies, and help protect themselves and their community.

## **Ulster Chamber Breakfast**

On Wednesday, I had the honor of joining the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce for their Breakfast Meeting. It was great to see familiar faces and give folks an update on my work for small businesses, some of the bipartisan issues I'm working on, and some of my goals for 2022.

## Valentines for Veterans

This week, I also announced my fourth year of the Valentines for Veterans program. The Valentines for Veterans program is all about sending love to our local veterans.

I invite all NY-19 residents to mail Valentines in an unsealed envelope to my Kingston office, care of "Valentines for Veterans," 256 Clinton Ave, Kingston, NY 12401. Valentines will be accepted until February 11th, then distributed to local Veterans

Please call 845-443-2930 with any questions.

#### **Resources for Residents**

FY 2021 Fire and Safety (FP&S) Grants

Start planning your FY 2021 Fire and Safety (FP&S) grant appli-

cations now by reviewing the announcement and application guidance materials.

The application period opened Tuesday, January 18, at 8 a.m. Click the link below for more information:

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards/documents

#### **IRS Child Tax Credit Letters**

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

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

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

## Covid booster infographic

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Information:**

Kids ages 5 - 11 are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, children 5 - 11 with certain immunocompromising conditions who received their Pfizer-BioNTech initial vaccine series at least 28 days ago are eligible for an additional dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

New Yorkers 12 years and older who received their Pfizer-BioNTech initial vaccine series at least five months ago are eligible for the Pfizer-BioNTech booster.

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective, and will protect New York's children and adolescents from the virus.

#### **COVID-19 Booster Information:**

If you received Pfizer-BioNTech: Everyone 12 years and older can get their booster at least 5 months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most\* situations. Teens 12-17 years old may only get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster.

If you received Moderna: Adults 18 years and older can get their booster shot at least 6 months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most\* situations If you received Johnson & Johnson's Janssen\*: Adults 18 years and older can get their booster at least 2 months after receiving your J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccination. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most\* situations

\*Although mRNA vaccines are preferred, J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may be considered in some situations. Learn more at CDC.gov or COVID-19 Vaccine | COVID-19 Vaccine (ny.gov)

#### Get Covered

The New York State of Health's Open Enrollment Period for 2022 is NOW going on. Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, which I voted to pass, New Yorkers will be able to browse more plan options from more insurance companies and continue to benefit from lower healthcare costs.

#### Staying Healthy & Safe

Cold and flu season is upon us, make sure you keep yourself and your loved ones safe by getting your flu shot. Find out more about where to get the shot and what you should know about the flu in New York State below.

https://www.health.ny.gov/

As always, it's an honor to represent you in Congress.

Sincerely, Antonio

## **PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE**



## Each single serve meal ticket includes: Fish <u>OR</u> Chicken and Chips, Dessert. For advanced tickets contact: Neil Terwilliger at (845) 798-3328 Bernie Lange at (845) 532-7607 Proceeds Benefit Boy Scout Neversink Troop 97



## Important Announcement from OverDrive



The OverDrive App is going away in February!



But that's okay!



The Libby App will replace the OverDrive app.

# Get the Libby app today!

In February 2022, the OverDrive app will be removed from the Apple App Store, Google Play, and Microsoft Store. Then, only the Libby app will be available for download.

The OverDrive website will still be available; just not the mobile app.

- Kindle Fire Users -Until OverDrive and Amazon reach an agreement about Libby and Kindle Fire tablets, only the OverDrive app will be available at the Amazon App store. Scan the QR code to go to your App Store



Download Libby today!

New to Libby?

http://help.libbyapp.com

# Daniel Pierce Library Patron WINTER READING "AlphaBOOKbet" CHALLENGE

## December 1st - March 1st

Read (or listen) to a book--26 actually--with titles that start with every letter of the alphabet. Fill in the reading log provided after each book, return the completed log to the library by March 1st, and receive a book to keep!

Visit the library to pickup a reading log

or go to our website to print it. https://danielpiercellbrary.org

ARC

WIN PRIZE BOOKS | ALL AGES WELCOME TO READ

## **FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

## Governor Hochul Announces SUNY Board Ends Practice of Withholding Transcripts from Students with Outstanding Balances

In 2022 State of the State, Governor Announced Plan to Stop Transcript Withholding at All Colleges and Universities Following Governor's Directive, SUNY Ends Practice Effective Immediately FY 2023 Budget Includes Legislation to End Punitive Debt-Collection Practice at All Higher Education Institutions

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that the State University of New York Board of Trustees has ended the practice of withholding transcripts from students with outstanding balances, effective immediately. This follows Governor Hochul's plan to eliminate the practice across the State as part of the 2022 State of the State - including directing public colleges and universities to immediately stop withholding transcripts and proposing legislation for all higher education institutions in the State.

"Education is key to unlocking opportunity and to help New Yorkers succeed, we need to eliminate punitive barriers to opportunity like transcript withholding," Governor Hochul said. "This is a matter of common sense. New Yorkers will not be able to climb the ladder of success and get out of debt if their financial challenges prevent them from accessing those opportunities. While I am proud that SUNY students will no longer have their transcripts held hostage, all students deserve the same protections. We must pass legislation to end this unjust practice for all New York students once and for all."

Each year, about 50 percent of SUNY students graduate from college debt-free. However, other students graduate with an outstanding balance of about \$3,500, on average, and as of 2020 about 19,000 students still owed their SUNY campus. With today's Board action, now those students may receive their transcript, thereby enabling them to re-enroll in a campus, transfer credits, complete their degree, and obtain jobs that could help pay down their unpaid balance. CUNY announced a temporary hold on the practice last August.

As part of the resolution, the Board of Trustees also authorized the SUNY Chancellor, or a designee, to review all debt collection practices and make any appropriate policy changes, rulemaking, and other modifications in line with today's action. SUNY follows State Finance Law, as well as State Division of the Budget guidance, SUNY Regulations and Policy, and a Memorandum of Understanding between SUNY and the New York Attorney General.

**SUNY Interim Chancellor Deborah F. Stanley** said, "Students come to SUNY for an excellent and affordable college education, often making personal sacrifices along the way in order to reach the career of their dreams. To come so far only to be held back by unpaid fees and fines is simply unfair to our students. My thanks for Governor Hochul for shining light on this oversight that has been common place throughout higher education, and for bringing further equity to our economically disadvantaged students, who have worked hard to earn their degree."

## About The State University of New York

The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive system of higher education in the United States, and more than 95 percent of all New Yorkers live within 30 miles of any one of SUNY's 64 colleges and universities. Across the system, SUNY has four academic health centers, five hospitals, four medical schools, two dental schools, a law school, the state's only college of optometry, and manages one US Department of Energy National Laboratory. In total, SUNY serves about 1.3 million students in credit-bearing courses and programs, continuing education, and community outreach programs. SUNY oversees nearly a quarter of academic research in New York. Research expenditures system-wide are nearly \$1.1 billion in fiscal year 2021, including significant contributions from students and faculty. There are more than three million SUNY alumni worldwide, and one in three New Yorkers with a college degree is a SUNY alum. Learn more about how SUNY creates opportunity at: https://www.suny.edu/

## Governor Hochul Announces \$70 Million in Federal Funding to Address Child Care Deserts • Funding Will Support New Child Care Programs

## in Areas Without Sufficient Child Care Slots • Applications Open Mid-April 2022

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that \$70 million in grant funding will be available to newly licensed, registered or permitted child care programs in areas of the state without sufficient child care slots, known as child care deserts. The funds, which are part of the \$100 million child care desert initiative approved in the 2021 Enacted Budget, are being made available through the American Rescue Plan Act and will be administered by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. The grants will help new child care providers in underserved areas build their program, cover start-up and personnel costs, recruit, train, and retain staff, and support staff in accessing COVID-19 vaccines. Grant applications will open in mid-April and run through May 19, 2022with award announcements slated for June.

"Child care is one of the most critical engines to build back New York stronger from the pandemic, and it will provide countless opportunities for working parents," Governor Hochul said. "These federal funds will go a long way towards ensuring that no New Yorkers will be without child care. New York will always remain committed to eradicating the problems of child care deserts and will work tirelessly to ensure all parents have access to this vital lifeline."

For this funding opportunity, child care deserts are defined as census tracts where there are three or more children younger than five for each available child care slot, or there are no available child care slots in the tract. Based on this criteria, more than 60% of New York State is considered a child care desert. All census tracts in New York State have been mapped depending on the number of available slots, and potential child care providers can review the child care desert map to discern appropriate locales. Additional details on eligibility and requirements of the grant can be found in the RFA.

All applicants must complete the OCFS online orientation before applying for the grant. Please visit the OCFS website for more information. Programs applying to become a NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center must attend a pre-permit orientation before applying for a new permit.

Applicants needing assistance with starting child care programs can contact their county's OCFS Regional Office or their local child care resource and referral agency (CCR&R), which can help with the licensing process.

## ADULT EDUCATION SURVEY

The start of another semester means that it is also time for the Tri-Valley Adult Education Survey. If you are interested in participating in the Adult Education Program, please take some time to complete this survey and return it. The classes listed below are perennial favorites and will be offered again, if enough people register (and attend weekly) for the class. There is a required minimum of 10 participants per activity. Attendance will be monitored weekly. If you are interested in a class that is not listed or would be willing to instruct a class, please be sure to include all information below. Unless otherwise noted, Adult Education Spring Session classes will begin the week of February 14, 2022 and will end April 17, 2022.

Hall Walking (7:00-8:00PM, Monday through Thursday) – Meet at front desk in Main Lobby Weight Room (5:30-8:30PM, Tuesday and Thursday) Men's Basketball (7:00-9:00PM, Mondays) –Lower Gym Secondary School Woodworking (6:00-8:00PM, Mondays) – Room #14, Secondary School Quilting (7:00-9:00PM, Tuesdays) – Lower Level Library Secondary School Stamping and Paper Crafts (6:00-8:00PM, Wednesdays) –Lower Level Library Secondary School Yoga (6:00-7:15PM, Wednesdays) – Secondary School Media Center Zumba (6:00-7:00PM, Thursdays) – Secondary School Cafeteria

RESS:	
RESS:	
EPHONE:	

I am interested in teaching the following Adult Education course/courses at Tri-Valley. My qualifications are as follows:

All Adult Education courses must have a minimum of ten (10) participants before we can start a class. If you have not expressed your interest in attending one or more of the courses, please do so no later than February 10, 2022. Once classes have begun, all are welcome to join those classes simply by coming to the class whenever it is held.

#### \*\*MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING\*\*

All Adult Education participants must be out of school and at least 18 years of age. For residents or graduates of the Tri-Valley Central District, there is no charge: The only cost to participate will be for supplies and materials. However, there will be a \$15.00 per session charge for out-of-district attendees. If school is not in session, Adult Education classes **will not** be held. If due to inclement weather, all student after school activities have been cancelled. Adult Education classes **will not** be held. All survey forms should be sent to the address or email below.

Lori Thayer

Tri-Valley CSD 34 Moore Hill Road Grahamsville, NY 12740 985-2296 Extension #5534 to enroll or email at: lorithayer@trivalleycsd.org Greetings Tri-Valley Community,

## Your input is crucial to the success of our school

The Tri-Valley Superintendent search is on! Please Register now for the community input forum on February 10th at 7pm in the school auditorium. Contact Ms. Jean Hewlett of Sullivan BOCES to register - (845) 295-4016. We are looking for input from students, parents, grandparents, local community members and local business owners on ideal qualities of a Superintendent.

Now more than ever we need a Superintendent who aligns with the values and standards of our community, and who will focus on key issues such as rebuilding academics, pride, and safety in our school district.

## Did you know that Tri-Valley academics are on a steep decline?

• Tri-Valley was ranked LAST of 32 public schools in Sullivan, Ulster, and Orange Counties by U.S. News & World Report in 2019 based on college readiness, math and reading proficiency, math and reading performance, under-served student performance, college curriculum breadth and graduation rate. (Source: Times Herald Record, Friday May 24th, 2019)

• TVCS grades 3-8 students are 35% proficient in ELA and 37% proficient in Math. (Source: data.nysed.gov; 2019)

• TVCS 4-year graduation rate is 76% (a 12% decrease since 2014-2015). NYS average is 83%. (Source: data.nysed.gov; 2019)

• TVCS dropout rate is 14% (a 7% increase since 2014-2015 and 13% increase since 2009-2010). NYS average is 6%. (Source: data.nysed.gov; 2019)

• TVCS current student body population is approximately 900 students, which is a decline from 1,207 students in 2006-2007. (Source: data.nysed.gov)

## Did you know that student health and well-being concerns exist?

• Vaping and bullying in school bathrooms is a regular occurrence.

• A guest speaker presented to a Tri-Valley Secondary School virtual class on the health benefits of marijuana use. We are not aware that there was a counter-presentation made on the negative effects of the use of marijuana.

• Tri-Valley Secondary School students spend lunch period at their desks; no recess time is allotted during the school day, yet mental health is a major concern in our school and for all students across the nation.

## Did you know that greater transparency is necessary from our school Board of Education?

• There is little to no dialogue or communication from or among board members during public school board meetings.

• At the request of the community, the school board agreed in December 2021 to hold a Community Town Hall style meeting, however this promise was rescinded.

• Events such as the 2020 school board election have raised concerns over transparency and legality of board operations, and voter suppression. The 2020 school board election, which was conducted solely by mail-in ballot due to the pandemic environment, was not conducted in accordance with the May 5th, 2020 Public Notice as required by law. The official Public Notice defined a "registered voter" as someone who had voted in any school or general election within the 4-calendar year period within Sullivan and Ulster County. This voter criteria was changed 10 days prior to the vote without issuing a legal notice to the public, to include only those who had voted at the school within the last 2 years. This change substantially reduced the number of voters in the district who received a ballot to vote, and proper justification was not provided.

## Your opinions matter. How your tax dollars are spent matters. Please attend the upcoming meetings to let your voices be heard:

Feb 10th at 7pm in Auditorium - Superintendent community discussion; Registration required Feb 3rd at 7pm in downstairs Library - Regular BOE meeting Feb 17th at 7pm in downstairs Library - Regular BOE meeting

All BOE meetings are recorded and posted on YouTube for viewing at a later time. Go to: http://www.youtube.com and search for the Tri-Valley Central School District channel.

Sincerely,

Tri-Valley Families for Inspiring Success Together (845) 418-6037

Curbside

Pick-up

## Daniel Pierce Library Mardi Gras Donuts Same delicious Pumpkin Party Donuts!



Tuesday, March 1st 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Donuts available: Cinnamon Sugar and Plain \$6.00 per dozen

Orders must be received by February 22, 2022. Please order online or call 985-7233.

Thank you for your continued support!



## Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268 Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233 www.danielpiercelibrary.org • HAPPY

## Want to make your heart smile too?

alentine's Day Card Event for ALL ages

You can, by making homemade cards along with the Daniel Pierce Library for our local nursing home residents at the Care Center!



DIY Valentine's Day cards will be available (while supplies last) at the library for pick-up starting Friday, February 4th through Thursday, February 10th during current operating hours.

Please return cards to the red box in the library foyer by 3 p.m. Friday, February 11th for our special delivery.



## Daniel Pierce Library 328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268 Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233 www.danielpiercelibrary.org

Thank You!

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## THE TOWNSMAN

**FEBRUARY 3, 2022** 

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE I ON AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX,

DOUBLE

**INDEMNITY** 

(1944 / Crime / Murder / Rated - TV-14 / 2hr)



## RENTALS

Apartment for rent: 2 Bedrooms in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

## FOR SALE

Sundown Camp and Bait Shop! Thank you all for your many years of support for Sundown Camp and Bait!!

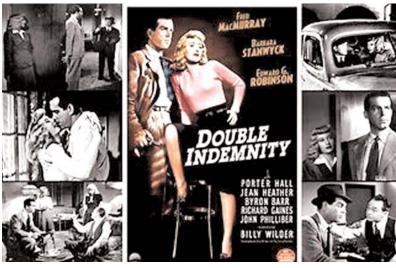
> We will continue to have firewood for sale

## **HELP WANTED**

**HELP WANTED: Typist** (knows computers) Work in Grahamsville law Office. Full/Part Time (845) 985-7411







An insurance investigator, played by Fred MacMurray is beside himself with fear and the grief. He is inflected by the great mental pain he created upon himself when he was duped into a murder, by listening to the mistakes of his passions, rather then his good judgment of his mind and experience as an insurance investigator.



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**KNARF'S** (From Pg. 52) CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK II ON AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX,

DILLINGER (1945 / B/W / 1hr 15min / Crime/Drama / TV-PG)



John Dillinger, the last of the real desperado bank robbers of the old school *-the get the money shoot and run mode* of bank robberies. Dillinger was mad about women, as the real tough guy bank robber of the old days was expected to be. Gangsters of the probation era *-*the days of Dillinger, Baby Face Nelson, Roger "The Terrible" Touhy, Machine Gun Kelly, Alvin "Creepy" Karpis, the Ma Barker Gang, Bonnie & Clyde whose activities included robbing banks, kidnapping, and high jacking mail trucks, armored cars, trains.



**KNARF'S** CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK III ON AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX,

## AL CAPONE

(1959 / B/W / 2hr / Crime/Drama / TV-PG)



ROD STEIGER AS AL CAPONE PUBLIC ENEMY #1!



CAPONE MURDERED IN WHOLESALE LOTS SUCH AS THE THE NOTORIOUS ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE, AND THE MURDER OF AN INNO-CENT MAN, A BI-STANDER.

ADDING TO HIS CALLOUSNESS, CAPONE THEN SLEPT WITH THE MURDERED MAN'S WIFE. AL LIVED BY THE GUN, THE KNIFE, AND AN OCCA-SIONAL BASEBALL BAT. BROUGHT HIM TO HIS FINAL REWARD.

> Stay safe and stay well, Knarf Odnamoc Gnome