PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

Ye Olde Tri TOWNSMAN Valley

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VOL. 23 NO. 14 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 APRIL 2, 2026

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SCCO to Perform Mendelssohn and Dvorák

The Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra performs selections by Dvorák (left) and Mendelssohn on April 12th in White Lake.

(White Lake, NY) The Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra (SCCO) Presents: The Pulse of Romanticism, a performance exploring the dual nature of the Romantic era: the sophisticated brilliance of Felix Mendelssohn and the rustic, earth-bound energy of Antonín Dvorák. The concert is Sunday, April 12th at 3 p.m. at the Reformed Presbyterian Church of White Lake, 6 Mattison Road, White Lake, NY. Tickets are a suggested donation of $25 payable at the door, or, reserve online by visiting https://linktr.ee/nesinculturalarts.

The concert features a distinguished roster of artists, led by SCCO Co-Founders Akiko Hosoi (violin) and Andrew Trombley (double bass). Joining them are violinist Naho Parrini, violist Chiu-Chen Liu and cellist Luke Krafka.

The program opens with Mendelssohn's String Quartet Op. 44, No. 2. Written during the composer's honeymoon, it captures a "restless elegance", balancing a shimmering, agitated opening in E minor with a Scherzo that flies with the effortless grace for which Mendelssohn is legendary.

Following the intermission, the ensemble expands as Artistic Director Andrew Trombley joins on the double bass for Dvorák's String Quintet in G Major, Op. 77. Originally premiered with five movements, this work is celebrated for its symphonic scale. The addition of the double bass allows the upper strings a new melodic freedom, soaring over the syncopated rhythms and folk-inspired dances of Dvorák's homeland. Together, these five musicians highlight a shared lineage: the transformation of traditional forms into deeply personal, rhythmic and melodic journeys.

This program is made possible in part by funding from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathleen Courtney Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Sullivan County Youth Bureau and Episcopal Charities.

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

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

On the Front Burner: Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Luke 24:5

OBITUARY

Mica (Mieczyslawa Pielecha) Trela, 83, was called home to the Lord on March 11th, 2026. She had passed peacefully in her home after battling a long illness.

She was born in Straczków, Poland, on November 24th, 1942, to Stanislaw and Wladyslawa Pielecha. Mica began her adult life as a biology teacher in Poland. In 1976, she made the courageous journey with her daughter to America, eventually settling in Phillipsport in 1979.

Her innate desire to care for others led her to a career as a Nurse's Aide, where she dedicated herself to the service of the infirm and the elderly.

Mica was a pillar of her community, active in the St. Mary's & St. Andrew's Church, the Phillipsport Community Center, and the Mamakating Historical Society.

She will forever be remembered as the "Pierogi Lady" for her legendary, handmade pierogi. An avid gardener with the greenest of thumbs, Mica could nurture any plant back to life, transforming even the smallest cutting into a lush display of her talent-beauty she frequently shared with friends and neighbors.

Above all, she was as fierce as a lioness, living for and protecting her family, friends, and her beloved cats.

Mica is survived by her children, Agnieszka (Suvicha) Howie and Stanley Thomas Trela, and her cherished grandchildren, George and Juliana Trela.

She was predeceased by her brother, Gustaw Pielecha; her sister, Irena (Pielecha) Warecki; and her former spouse, Adam Trela.

Visitation was on Monday, March 16th, 2026, at Loucks Funeral Home, , Ellenville, NY . A Funeral Mass followed on March 18th, 2026, at St. Mary's & St. Andrew's Church,139 South Main Street, Ellenville, NY 12428.

Valerie Jo Manthorne (Stanton) of Liberty New York passed away surrounded by her loving family on Tuesday March 24, 2026.

Born to Irving and Marie Stanton in Liberty on June 28, 1962 she was affectionately known as Josie. Josie had a feisty personality and an amazing laugh that took over a room. Her sense of adventure led her to Syracuse, New York where she started a family eventually, bringing her children back to the mountains that she called home. Josie's determination and strong will helped her through life's challenges and both are characteristics that her children Michael and Monica carry on as her legacy. She loved fiercely and her departure has left an unimaginable loss to those who she leaves behind.

Josie is survived by a large and loving family. Her children Michael (Jessica) Rendino, Monica Bahamundi, and Matthew Rendino. Grandchildren Silas, Hailey, Meya, Matthew, Michael, Meredith, and Juliana and great grandson Dominic. Her loving partner Tony Urquiza, to whom we are eternally grateful for giving her the love she always wanted and for caring for her through her illness. Siblings; Vincent (Rebecca) Stanton, Laura (Leroy) Stewart, Elaine (George) Saenz, Preston Stanton, Chester Stanton, and Belinda Vangordon. As well as many nieces and nephews.

Josie was proceeded in death by her parents Irving and Marie as well as siblings Leo Stanton, Eva Egusiza, and Evelyn Forshay and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial to celebrate Josie's life will be held in June.

Funeral arrangements under the direction of Loucks Funeral Home, Ellenville, NY.

DAYS OF YORE….

Today's History March 28, 1956 -

First prize winner in a kitchen contest sponsored by Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corp. at T.V.S. was won by Ila Mae Brooks of Lows Corners. Second prize of $6 was awarded to Patricia Van Wagner of Claryville, and a third prize of $4 went to June Hasbrouck of Grahamsville. Honorable mention went to Hulda Brackman of Grahamsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Zanetti of South Hill are the proud parents of a second son, Jeffrey, born at the Hamilton Ave. Hospital in Monticello, Saturday, March 24th. He weighed in at 5 lbs. 12 oz. Their other boy, Jason, is staying at the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Zanetti.

March 30, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Garcia are the parents of a daughter, Jennifer, born last week. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Hall of Grahamsville are the parents of a son, also born last week.

Anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cross who have been married twenty-nine years on March 28th.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Oland Erath, 21 years on the 2nd; to Mr. and Mrs. E. Velie, 13 years on the 5th; Mr. and Mrs. Andy DuBois Jr., 8 years on the; Mr. and Mrs. William Horton, 13 years on the 4th.

April 7, 1976

Troop 187 of Grahamsville will hold an Eagle Court of Honor for John Roberts on April 8, 1976. The ceremony will be held at the Tri-Valley Elementary School. All scouts, former scouts and friends of scouting are invited to attend.

Received a report of a 33 _ inch trout, weighing in at a little over 14 lbs., that was caught in the Rondout Reservoir on Saturday. Charlie Cross hooked four trout on opening day and Danny McNamara caught five on Saturday..

April 10, 1986

Airman Andrew M. Knox, son of George M. and Rose Ann Knox of Neversink, N.Y. has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He is a 1985 graduate of Tri-Valley High School.

Thelma H. Raymond of Grahamsville, a 12-year area resident, died Monday, March 31st at Community General Hospital, Harris after a long illness. She was 51. The daughter of the late Alfred and Sophie Johnson Wahl, she was born July 25, 1934 in Hackensack, N.J. She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Liberty. Survivors include her husband, Walter Raymond at home; two sons, Bruce Raymond of Grahamsville and Scott Raymond at home; two daughters, Nancy and Tracy Raymond, at home; one brother

Household Hint:

Stop Static Cling

Fabric softener or dryer sheets are commonly used to reduce static cling. To remove static cling that plagues you after you're already dressed, rub a dryer sheet directly onto your legs, socks, or tights to remove static cling and stop skirts from riding up your legs.

Nature Column - *L. Comando*

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

Easter Lilies Apostles of Hope

A symbol of purity and grace throughout the ages, the regal white lily is a fitting sign of the greater meaning of Easter.

The Easter lily (Latin name Lilium longiflorum) is native to the southern islands of Japan. During the 1880's, the lily began to becultivated in Bermuda.

During the 1880s Lily bulbs were shipped to this country from Bermuda where they were successfully culitivated. However, by the turn of the century Japan took the lead in growing and exporting Easter Lilies to the United States and dominated the market until the start of World War II.

Most Easter Lilies that we will enjoy this holiday season can be traced back to a soldier named Louis Hougton, who filled a suitcase with hybrid lily bulbs and brought them to the south coast of Oregon in 1919.

Upon his return to Oregon, Houghton distributed the bulbs among his friends and neighbors. By the time the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, and the Japanese source of bulbs was abruptly cut off, the value of lily bulbs increased rapidly and many who grew the lilies for pleasure and a hobby decided to go into business. They referred to Easter Lily bulbs as “White Gold” with over 1,200 growers along the Pacific coast casing in on their crop.

Growing Easter Lilies required skill and effort as there was a specific science to the climate requirements. The number of Easter Lilly growers dwindled down to ten farms between Oregon and the border of California. This region – the Easter Lily Capital of the World – still produces nearly all of the bulbs for the blooming potted Easter Lily market.

Every fall the bulbs are harvested. The commercial-sized bulbs are dug up, cleaned, graded, packaged and shipped to greenhouse growers throughout the United States and Canada who force the plants under controlled conditions, a delicate task, that will ultimately produce flowers in time for Easter.

As Easter falls on a different day each year, dependent upon when the first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox occurs –any time between March 22 and April 25.

From the fields to the greenhouse to your home, the Easter Lily remains the traditional, time-honored flower of Easter. Symbolic of a resurrection -– a mark of purity and grace throughout the ages, the regal white lily is a fitting symbol of the greater meaning of Easter. Gracing millions of homes and churches, the flowers personify joy, hope and life. Whether given as a gift or enjoyed in your own home, the Easter Lily serves as a beautiful reminder that Easter is a time for rejoicing and celebrating.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published April 19, 1996

Robins on our lawns, a sunny reminder that Spring is truly here.

Some of my happiest memories of the good old days are closely tied to Spring. Warm days meant freedom from galoshes and mittens and even scarves.

This long cold winter just past brings back memories of a winter long ago when my children were small and we were living way on top of Red Hill, not far from the tower. A bad winter storm brought us so much snow that no one could get up there with a car. Bobbie Garafolo was our school teacher and his transportation was snowshoes, but he made it every morning. He tells us of a day on the first day of Spring in 1938 when he and his brother Ed were returning home to Claryville from Monticello. Several miles from Grahamsville they noticed a wisp of smoke on the horizon. When they arrived there, Porter's Store building was on fire. Flames and smoke were breaking through the roof near the chimney. Porter's Store was on the far side of the road diagonally across from Martha Briggs' funeral home. The spectators who gathered were either elderly people or children. Ed organized a bucket brigade and Robert commandeered a 20-foot or more ladder and axe. He broke through the other windows and chopped into the burning timbers. By then, some able-bodied men had arrived, and they soon had a steady flow of buckets of water. Eventually they were able to subdue the flames.

If that building had been allowed to bum, the wind would have carried the flames through Chestnut Valley and leveled every structure to Ray Erath's bakery and beyond. Bobby is wondering if anybody recalls this fire. Ed passed away a few years ago, and Robert is living in Florida along with his family.

Sullivan County PK-12 Art Show Showcases Student Talent at Bethel Woods

Bethel: The Sullivan County PK-12 Art Show will present the work of students from the County's seven school districts and Sullivan BOCES at the Event's Gallery at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts from April 10 to April 12.

On Friday, April 10, 2026, the show will hold a Public Opening and Reception from 2:00 - 6:00 pm. If you are unable to attend the public opening, the Art Show will also be on display on April 11 & 12 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

During the show, you can view student artwork from the ten media categories of Ceramics & Glass, Digital Art, Design, Black & White Drawing, Color Drawing, Mixed Media, Painting, Black & White Photography, Color Photography, Film & Animation, and Sculpture.

The Sullivan County PK-12 Art Show is one of the many programs offered through the Arts In Education Program at Sullivan BOCES. Dedicated to raising visual and aesthetic literacy standards and levels while strengthening and supporting learning in all curriculum areas, the Arts In Education Program supports the Arts and arts-integrated learning experiences for K-12 students and teachers.

For more information about the Arts In Education Program at Sullivan BOCES, visit scboces.org.

College Scholarships Available for Volunteer Efforts

Volunteer with a Sullivan 180 Project to be Eligible

[LIBERTY, NY] - The 2026 Sullivan 180 Scholarship application is now available. The scholarship program recognizes volunteer efforts in projects that support the Sullivan 180 mission to build a healthy community through people, places, and policy; with an intentional focus on prevention and empowering a healthier generation. Communities and organizations participating in the 2026 Sullivan 180 grant program welcome volunteer assistance in various activities, including but not limited to gardening, beautification, caring for public spaces, project documentation, outreach, or fundraising.

The Community Foundation of Orange, Sullivan and Rockland, through a donor-advised fund established by Sullivan 180, offers a limited number of scholarships to Sullivan County residents who volunteer in a significant way with a Sullivan 180 project.

William Cooper of Rock Hill, a 2025 Sullivan 180 Scholarship recipient, shared about his volunteer experience, “Seeing the garden transform into a functional space for students and teachers was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.”

Applications are due by August 25, 2026, and must be completed electronically via the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan's Online Portal. Applicants should submit a personal essay explaining the volunteer experience and how it impacted them personally, a letter of recommendation from the Sullivan 180 project leader, a letter of recommendation from a member of the community or other non-relative and photos from the volunteer experience. Visit Sullivan180.org for directions and links for applying.

Scholarships are announced in September; and are applied toward the 2027 spring semester at an undergraduate college of one's choice.

For more information on the scholarship program or how to get involved in a Sullivan 180 project, contact Anne-Louise Scandariato, Director of Community Engagement at 845-295-2405 or Anne-Louise@Sullivan180.org.

Sullivan 180 is working to build a healthy community, one degree at a time, through people, places and policy with support from Bold Gold Media Group, Manor Ink, The River Reporter, The Sullivan County Democrat and WJFF Radio Catskill. Learn more at Sullivan180.org or Facebook.com/Sullivan180inc.

Spring is trying its darndest to get here! And now that the warmer temperatures are almost here the Neversink-Rondout Antique Machinery Association-or NRAMA for short-is gearing up for the 2026 events.

Before I go into our 2026 plans, I must pay tribute on behalf of NRAMA to club members that have recently passed away. Last year we lost Ray Denman. Ray and his wife Dorothy were original members of the club and Ray served as club president for several years. Tony Fairbairn was yet another long-time club member we lost this year. Tony was part of the club until 2022 when he moved to Florida. Tony and his partner, Patty McDermott, always ran the pedal tractors and kids' area at our annual show. Tony is now together with Patty, who passed last spring.

This month we lost our long-time member Jim Richardson. Jim was an avid club member, participating in our tractor runs and shows. He was a staple at our annual show, proudly displaying his war memorabilia and sharing stories with all who stopped by his booth. Jim was proud to be an American and at our club meetings always led us in the pledge of allegiance. At our shows, he was there to help raise our flag in honor of this country. Jim will be greatly missed by his NRAMA family.

We know that Jim and Tony would want us to continue with our efforts to improve our annual tractor show, increase our club membership and strive to ensure the tractor club heritage prospers.

So how do you become a member of the NRAMA tractor club? And what are the benefits of becoming a member? NRAMA always welcomes new members. Anyone can join; you do not need to own an antique tractor. Membership is $15 annually for single membership and $20 annually for family membership which includes the spouse and any children under the age of 18. Being a member provides several benefits. You can participate in various shows, tractor runs and parades. As a member, if you participate in any show or event either sponsored (i.e., sanctioned) by our association or mentioned at our club meeting and documented in our meeting minutes, you are covered by NRAMA insurance. NRAMA meetings are a great means for networking and sharing information with folks that know about tractors and other antique machinery, know how to go about fixing the machinery, know what resources are available to assist with any issue/problems, etc. At the meetings, information is shared on upcoming shows in New York and Pennsylvania. You can learn about items for sale and share items you want to sell with the members who may be able to point you to buyers. You can participate in the various poker runs we have throughout the year, which are always fun and scenic events. You can help with the planning of these events; help identify new events and help us with our goal to continually improve on our annual tractor show. And, most importantly, you will be helping to preserve and educate on the machinery, old and new, used in farming and tending the land. Don't know if you want to join? Come to one of our meetings and check it out. If you decide you do want to join, then reach out Paul Kelly, club president at 845-985-0081 (leave message if no answer-Paul is often out working on or with his tractors!).

You may be asking when and where the meetings are. NRAMA club meets on the third Wednesday each month beginning in April and ending in December with our first meeting of the year scheduled for April 15. The meetings are being held at the Grahamsville Fire Department, located in Grahamsville NY, starting at 7:30 pm and ending with refreshments. Meetings are open to the public; you do not have to be a member to attend. We welcome new members, young and old, to help us carry out our mission as the Neversink Rondout Antique Machinery Association.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Wings & Wheels for Warriors event in Ellenville on May 16, 2026. NRAMA has participated in this event for several years and this year is no exception. Club members are invited to bring their “wheels” (tractors) to display. It's a fun day for everyone, all for a great cause.

Two other events that club members always participate in are the Ellenville 4th of July Parade and the Montgomery (Skip Chambers) Tractor parade which is held in late August. We are also planning poker runs for this year. More info on these events will be forthcoming in future articles.

And of course, we have our Annual Tractor Show which will be held on September 19th. The show committee is working hard on the plans for this year's show and already have some great things planned. The Ulster Heights Rod and Gun Club are looking for vendors for their Sportsman Vendor's Barn. If you are a vendor selling Sportsman & Outdoor equipment or if you want to offer sportsman or outdoor demonstrations please contact Ryan Bollin at 845-399-6703, Eric Akerley at 845-707-1483 or Sean Miller at 845-706-6538 and will provide you with all the information you need. We are also looking for vendors and yard sale folks for the show. If you are interested in a space at the show, please contact me at cherwoehl@gmail.com or 845-985-2401. And if you have any suggestions or ideas for us to consider for this year's show, you can also direct them to me.

I will continue providing updates on NRAMA and the tractor show in our Townsman. And you can obtain information on our Neversink Rondout Antique Machinery Association (NRAMA) Facebook page.

Thanks everyone---Be safe, stay healthy and be happy.

Cher Woehl, NRAMA Communications Specialist

ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB
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MARCH 18, 2026

THE ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB WAS FORMED IN 2010 WITH THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING TOGETHER CAR ENTHUSIASTS AND THE COMMUNITY. WE ARE A 501-C7 NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH THE GOAL OF DONATING PROFITS OF OUR EVENTS TO LOCAL CHARITIES AND PROJECTS.

ANYONE CAN JOIN THE CLUB. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO OWN A SHOW VEHICLE, JUST HAVE A LOVE FOR CARS AND TRUCKS. WE DO NOT CATER TO ANY ONE MANUFACTURER, OR ANY GIVEN YEARS. OUR MOTTO IS PRESERVING THE PAST AND INCLUDING THE PRESENT AND FUTURE. WE ARE OPEN TO ALL TYPES OF WHEELED VEHICLES, INCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES AND BICYCLES.

WHEN THE CLUB FIRST STARTED WE DID NOT HOLD ANY JUDGED SHOWS, YOU JUST CAME WITH YOUR VEHICLE AND ENJOYED THE DAY AND THE COMPANY OF OTHER CAR LOVERS. CRUISING TO INTERESTING PLACES AS A GROUP WAS THE NORM.

AFTER THE FORMIDABLE YEARS WE STARTED TO HAVE ONE ACTUAL JUDGED CAR SHOW A YEAR. THEN AFTER THAT, WE STARTED TO GET REQUESTS FROM PEOPLE TO STAGE OTHER SHOWS FOR THEM. WE NOW RUN FOUR MAJOR EVENTS EACH YEAR. THIS REQUIRES US TO PROVIDE EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO MAKE THE SHOWS ENJOYABLE.

THREE YEARS AGO THE CLUB PURCHASED A FOURTEEN FOOT ENCLOSED CARGO TRAILER AND OUTFITTED IT WITH ALL THE ITEMS NEEDED TO DO THIS. WE CARRY: TABLES AND CHAIRS, TENTS, SIGNAGE, AND A BATTERY POWERED SOUND SYSTEM TO SET UP WHEN WE ARRIVE AT THE SHOW SITE.

WE WERE FORCED TO "SHUT DOWN" IN 2021 FOR COVID, BUT BOUNCED BACK INTO ACTION IN 2023 AND 2024 DOING FOUR SHOWS A YEAR AGAIN.

IN 2023 WE STARTED A SCHOLARSHIP FUND, OPEN TO GRADUATING SENIORS IN ALL OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN GOING INTO THE AUTOMOTIVE TRADE. WE NOW GIVE $750.00 FOR THAT.

OUR SHOWS WERE ORIGINALLY ONLY HELD LOCALLY, BUT IN 2024 WE EXPANDED OUR SHOW AREA TO INCLUDE ULSTER COUNTY.

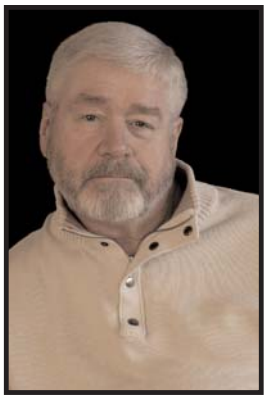
INCLUDING MONIES RAISED IN 2025, THE CLUB HAS DONATED TO CHARITIES SINCE IT'S BEGINNING, OVER $34,275.00.

OUR SHOW LINE UP FOR 2026 WILL BE: THE OUTPOST BBQ SHOW ON RTE 209 IN KERHONKSON, NY JUNE 6, WITH RAIN DATE FOR JUNE 7, LIBERTY STREET FAIR ON JULY 4TH, WURTSBORO STREET FAIR ON JULY 11TH , MONTICELLO BAGELFEST SHOW AUGUST 9TH.

OUR CLUB MEETS AT THE MUNSON DINER IN LIBERTY, NY ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30PM TO EAT, WITH THE MEETING STARTING AT 6:30PM. PLEASE COME JOIN UP IF YOU LOVE CARS AND GOOD FRIENDSHIPS. DUES ARE $15.00 PER YEAR.

OUR CLUB IS ALSO AFFILIATED WITH THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN CLASSIC CAR CLUB IN BIG INDIAN, NY. AND WITH WINGS AND WHEELS FOR WARRIOR'S IN ELLENVILLE, NY. THAT SHOW IS MAY 16TH AT THE AIRPORT IN ELLENVILLE, NY.
THIS IS A GREAT SHOW AND DRAWS LOTS OF VEHICLES!!!!!

FOR MORE CLUB INFORMATION YOU CAN CONTACT:
TOM MATTHEWS, PRESIDENT 845-985-7162
GLENN VANDENBERG TREASURER 845-985-2943



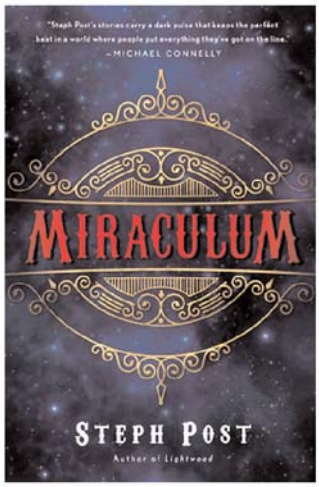
Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 174

Miraculum

Mysterious Book Report No. 391

by John Dwaine McKenna

PublishedApril 2, 2020

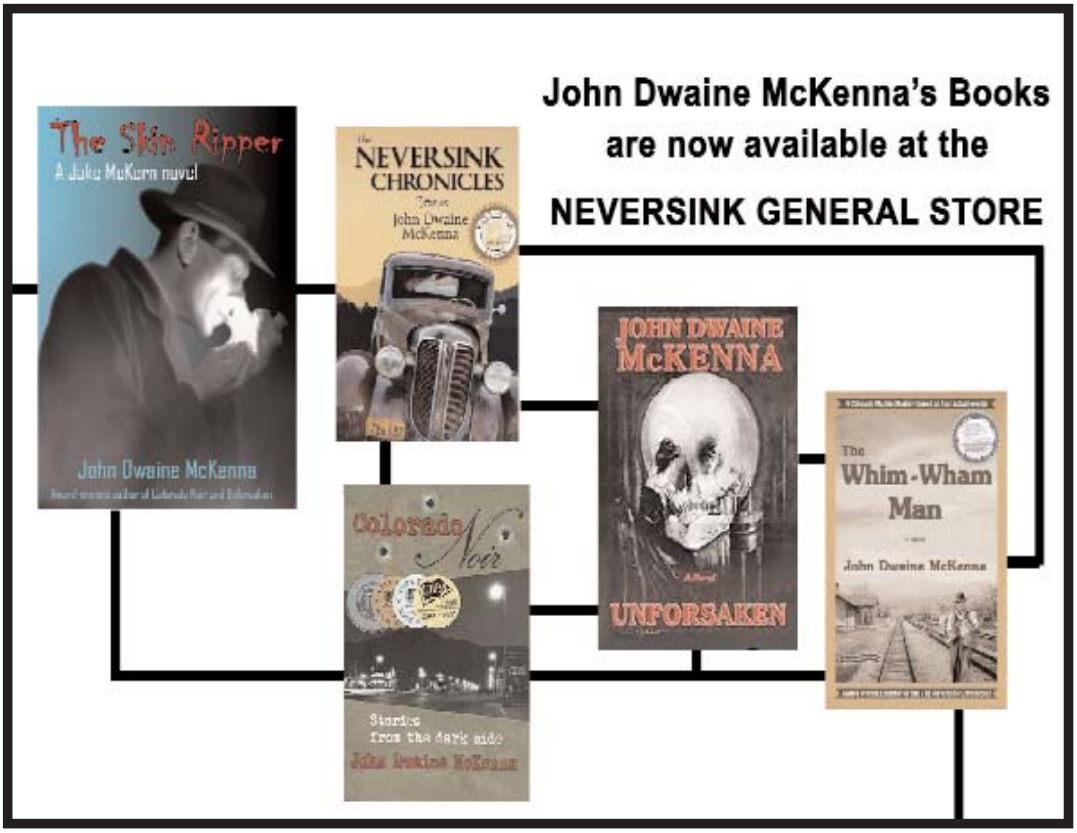


We humans all have one thing in common . . . we are endlessly curious. We've just gotta know how and why things happen, as well as where, when and what. We are compelled as a species to look through the window, open the door, or peek around the corner to see what we haven't seen and learn what we don't know. Add in a smidgen of the illicit, tawdry, mysterious, risqué, or unbelievable . . . and the urge to investigate becomes an almost irresistible itch for most of us. It's an itch we have to scratch. Hell, we'll even pay an admission fee.

Such is the premise behind Pontilliar's Spectacular Star Light Miraculum, and the basis for a richly imagined, well crafted and brilliantly executed novel that locks the forces of good and evil into a struggle for survival, as the normal battles the paranormal in a fight over what it means to be human.

Miraculum, (Polis Books, $26.00, 336 pages, ISBN 978-1-947993-41-9) by Steph Post, begins in 1922, out near Texas-Louisiana border where Mr. Pontilliar's carnival has just set up for a three day run before moving on to the big city of Baton Rouge. The crowds are mediocre, the heat almost unbearable and boredom oppressive one starlit summer night, when Ruby, the tattooed snake charmer, first notices the strange man standing in the crowd, lighting a cigarette. He's unusually good-looking, cool and collected despite the heat and the fact that he's wearing a black suit and tie which cost more than the entire carnival is worth. The outlander's name is Daniel. He's charming, mercurial, and charismatic when he joins the carnival as a geek . . . a performer who bites live chickens for entertainment. There's something off about Daniel, something that hints of malice, maybe evil, and controversy seems to swirl about him. Odd things occur whenever he's around . . . then tragic deaths happen to a couple of performers, and the usually collegial, tight-knit community of carneys starts unraveling as a horrified Ruby and her lover, a roughneck named Hayden, try to fight back against a widening tide of darkness in this terrific paranormal yarn that will linger in the reader's mind long after the last page is read.

Look out Peter Straub. Step aside, Stephen King and John Connolly. There's a hot new writer on the scene, and damn, she's good! Her name is Steph Post



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The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

In Charge

I am not sure when they held the special election, but I managed to be appointed to be IN CHARGE of certain household chores.

Why am I the only one who deposes of the "toot-toot" empty toilet paper tubes and replaces them with fresh rolls?

Am I the only one who can empty the dishwasher of its clean contents and put dishes and silverware back in the cupboards?

Doesn't anyone notice that the milk expired two weeks ago? One does not need special permission to throw out the carton when the milk pours out in chunks. Do not put it back in the fridge.

Sometime, decades ago, Santa enlisted me to be present buying, wrapper, and exchanger. I am now officially one of at the octogenarian elves on his staff.

I am head of the junk mail sorter. One does not need a degree to decide to throw away ads for new windows, hearing aids, or extended auto warranty coverage.

I am also the official "griever." I keep a supply of sympathy cards to send on behalf of my family. In fact, I am in charge of all correspondence unless a bill comes in someone's specific name. Then I am off the hook.

I also get to make all complaint phone calls or nuisance calls because no one else likes to do them. Neither do !.

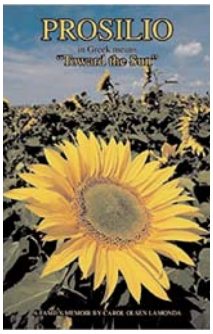
I know I am the only one who sees the webbing forming on ceiling corners and window panes. I know I am the only one that uses the triangle/mop thing on a pole to clean the ceiling fans.

I also am the seasonal decorator and holiday traditionalist. Because I was in the hospital, the Christmas tree lights on the porch were on until March first. I guess I was in charge. Valentine's Day came and went without me buying chocolate hearts at fifty percent off on February 15!

I really do not mind being in charge of these minor chores, but I do wonder how the honors were bestowed upon me. I wonder if I quit, how long would it take before anyone notices that I am no longer in charge. I am guessing that the last empty "toot-toot" roll might be the first thing they notice.

The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



April Showers Bring… Programs to the DPL!

By Lisa Carroll

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GRAHAMSVILLE-While Spring comes in drips and drabs, it seems, the DPL is in full seasonal mode with a robust April schedule.

Our Seed Library Exchange program is up and running. Stop by the library if you are in need of a few vegetable, herb, fruit or flower seeds and get your garden off to a great start. If you have extra seeds, feel free to donate them. We have forms and envelopes ready! While here, check out (figuratively and literally!) our vast collection of gardening books.

Our Spring Children's Programs will kick off April 6. If you have a Tri-Valley CSD eligible youngster, please consider signing them up for one of our three age-appropriate programs. Each one is 8 weeks long and is designed with the child in mind-focusing on developing literacy and social skills. It's a great morning out for both the child(ren) and parents/caretakers, filled with activities and social time, and is a great place (especially for new parents) to meet other children and their parents who will likely be in the same classes at Tri-Valley throughout their educational career.

There are just a few spots available for our popular Pocketbook Bingo game on Friday, April 10, 2026. For more information, stop by the library!

National Library Week runs Monday, April 20-Friday, April 25 this year. Celebrate with us by checking out the library. Whether you're a regular or new to our area, our library has a lot more to offer than just books…though, books are certainly a great place to start. If you don't have a library card (and live in the Tri-Valley CSD area) stop by and we'll set you up with one. If you live around here, but not within the school district, you can still utilize the DPL. Just stop by your home library, get a card with them (like Ellenville, Liberty, Monticello, etc.) and then you can check out books and other materials from us. Easy-Peasy!

Have you retired recently (or have been enjoying it for a while)? Come to the DPL Senior Social on Tuesday, April 21 at 1PM. The Senior Social is open to all community retirees and senior patrons and is rapidly growing in popularity! Join the group for an afternoon of conversation and light refreshments.

And then, at the end of the month, on Thursday, April 30 from 6-7:30PM we're holding a craft program for teens and adults. Printmakers is a hands-on art workshop led by special guest, Keeley. Teens and adults will learn how to design and carve their own custom linoleum stamp. Attendees will explore simple carving techniques, experiment with ink and color and leave with a personalized stamp you can use again and again. Knowing all that, this workshop might bet a bit messy as you'll be utilizing permanent ink and carving tools, so please dress accordingly. Please feel free to bring along a design idea or a few images for inspiration too. While no experience is needed and all supplies will be provided, there is limited seating available (and only open to Tri-Valley residents) so register early (through our website, www.danielpiercelibrary.org) to secure your spot.

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CONNECTING WATER, PEOPLE AND THE CATSKILLS

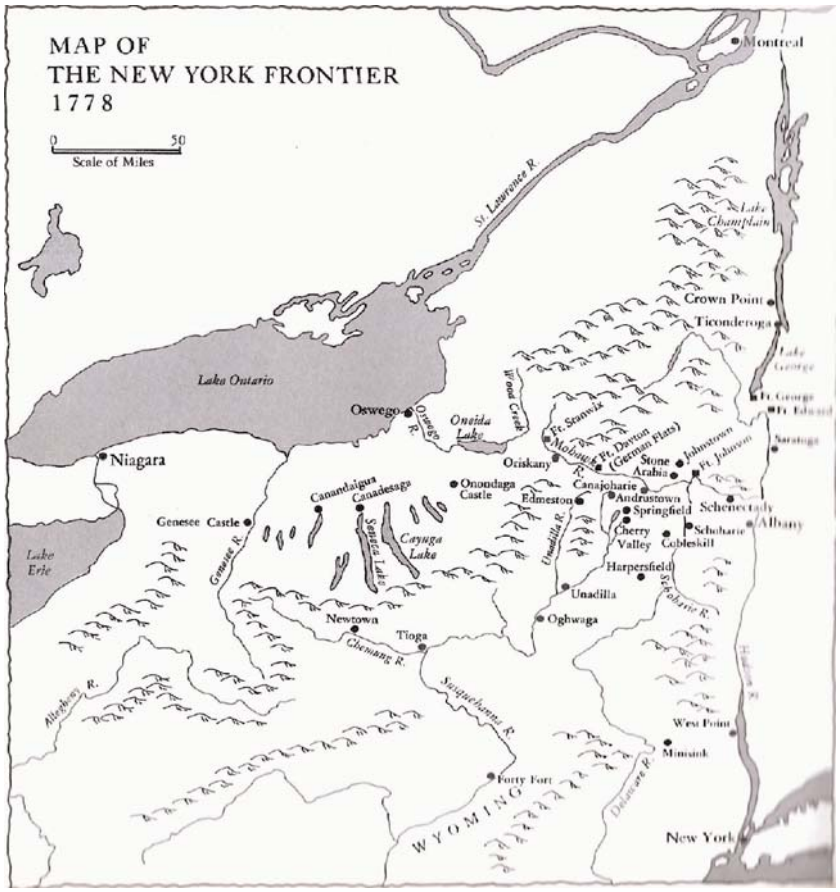
News From Time & the Valleys Museum #8

Did you know there were two Nathan Hales that fought for the American side during the Revolution? I did not until starting research for our upcoming exhibit at Time and the Valleys Museum. In elementary school I had learned of the hero school teacher turned spy, who before he was hanged in New York City in September of 1776, was supposed to have said that he only regretted that he had but one life to lose for his country. Another Nathan Hale, not related, served as a colonel under General St. Clair in the defense of Fort Ticonderoga in 1777. There were no questions about Nathan the spy asked of Colonel Hale at the time, because he did not become famous until a number of years after the war.

Other names were more confusing to those in the fight in New York at the time because they were names on opposing sides. There were three General Clintons, two Americans - Brigadier General George and his brother Brigadier General James and British general Sir Henry Clinton (whose father was also a George). Even more confusing were four military commanders named Butler engaged in the frontier war, two on each side!

The shared name that may have been the most consequential to the outcome of the war was Clinton. A deception that was used in 1780 resulted in the capture and hanging of the most famous British spy, Major John Andre. He was trying to make his way back to the safety of New York City behind the British lines after meeting Benedict Arnold to arrange the surrender of West Point. If Andre had not been deceived by three men he met near Tarrytown, Arnold may have gotten away with his treason. The fortunes of the Americans would have changed dramatically with the Hudson corridor closed to the Patriots and the colonies divided from each other, perhaps leading to British victory in the Revolution.

Andre was led to think that the men he encountered near Tarrytown were working for his commanding general Sir Henry Clinton, and first identified himself as a British officer. Those men may have deliberately kept the identity of the Clinton they worked for to themselves until they were sure who they had stopped so close to British lines. They were in reality Americans and their General Clinton was Governor George. The participants in the war freely used confusing names to deceive those they wished to defeat.



Locations impacted by Hales, Clintons and Butlers

To tell the story of frontier warfare in New York we at Time and the Valleys have had to learn about those who had the name Butler. The name may have been confusing to 18th century soldiers and is still to those who try to understand the events that took place. There were Colonel John and Captain Walter Butler, Loyalist father and son who were involved along with their Native allies in brutal attacks on the frontier settlements of the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania and Cherry Valley just south of the Mohawk River. There were also two continental officers, Colonels William and Zebulon Butler.

The year 1778 was when a battle of the Revolution first came to Sullivan County along the famous Sun Trail in what is now the township of Neversink. The battle of Chestnut Woods, late in the day on September 5, took place during a particularly violent year of frontier attacks. The most catastrophic involved Butlers on both sides. In early July, Colonel John Butler, Loyalist commander of Butler's Rangers with his Native allies attacked the fertile Wyoming Valley settlements on the Susquehanna River to defend Loyalists in that place who felt unfairly treated by Connecticut settlers. Forty Fort, one of four forts in the valley, was defended by a small force of regulars and militia under Continental Colonel Zebulon Butler, home on leave. The Loyalists and Natives defeated the militia and a great number of soldiers and settlers were killed, wounded or captured. The frightening news travelled to the Ulster County frontier, causing the militia there to react aggressively against any incursions. The attack at Pinebush near Kerhonkson at sunrise on September 5, sent the militia under Lt. John Graham to the Chestnut Woods where they met Natives and Loyalists later that day in the only battle in Neversink. The fourth Butler, Lt. Colonel William, commander of the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Army, was sent to forts in the Schoharie Valley in the same year. From there his troops launched an expedition to the Susquehanna River Native settlements of Unadilla and Oghwaga (Quaga), destroying them, in hopes of ending raids on the Ulster and Albany County frontier settlements.

These are but a few examples of name confusion. There were probably many more that are unknown to me, but the story of the American Revolution in New York was certainly impacted mightily by the names of Hale, Clinton and Butler.

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What's Up with Those Ducks?

Those crazy duckies are at it again! What could they be up to? Can't they sleep?? Can't they let their neighbors sleep???

Early to bed….early to rise. It seems that Maddie McDucky has been up at the crack of dawn these days pushing her progeny to get more exercise in preparation for the upcoming BIG EVENT!!. They are out and about at the crack of dawn each day doing push-ups, squats, flapping their wings and running in place……making all kinds of racket and waking the neighbors with their quacking.

If they just could have been quieter! Now the entire neighborhood has figured it out…….and not wanting to be left behind, they are busy preparing to catch up with the McDuckys in the exercise department. Good thing the weather is starting to warm up and the ice is thawing off the stream. It means good days ahead for the swimming exercise they will all need to be ready for the BIG EVENT!

Watch for more updates on the BIG EVENT from Maddie McDucky, exercise guru extraordinaire, coming soon!

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"Shorts & Sweets for April Fools" coming to Roscoe

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

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

Laure Valentine is a resident of Livingston Manor who currently works at the Monticello Central School District as a Speech/Language Pathologist. She has appeared on screen in the pilot for "The Manor." Laure loves performing for Big Sky Productions, which is where she met her honey Mike nearly 30 years ago during their production of "On Golden Pond"!

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

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

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Upgrade Our Air Defense Systems

Iran retaliated against our recent air strikes by launching missiles and drones against our military bases in the Middle East. They hit on and near our U.S. Navy base in Bahrain, which is the headquarters for our Fifth Fleet. Iran also hit a U.S. base in Kuwait with drones that killed six and wounded a number of our military members. The dozen destroyers prepositioned in the region were able to shoot down some of the missiles and drones. Looking to the future, U.S. Navy warships are typically scattered over the world's oceans. They would not be available to quickly concentrate to counter a surprise attack.

It appears some of our military bases in the Middle East are targets for missile and drone attacks that are designed to overwhelm our air defense systems with huge numbers of incoming missiles and drones. We need to increase the number of Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and Patriot systems available at our bases to counter the missile attacks. Larger quantities of interceptors are also needed. Unfortunately, these systems are very expensive and take time to produce.

I ran, Russia, China and other adversarial countries have huge quantities of drones available due to the low cost to produce these weapons. Large numbers of attacking drones fired in rapid succession from many locations can overwhelm air defense systems. Apparently, Ukraine has shown that these slow-moving drones can be shot down by high caliber machine guns. Machine guns and ammunition can be mass produced at relatively low cost.

We should consider the implementation of multiple high caliber machine gun systems at some of our military bases.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH

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WCAA Gallery Opens Two New Exhibits on April 9th

"HOME AND AWAY" (April 9 through May 16)

"TREE TOO" (April 9 through May 23)

An opening reception for both exhibits will be on April 10, 2026 - 5-8pm at the Wayne County Arts Alliance Gallery, 959 Main Street, Honesdale PA

The Gallery is open Thursdays through Sundays 11am-4pm.

"HOME AND AWAY" is the WCAA Gallery's first all photography exhibition, and represents the work of two regional photographers, Paul Gelsobello and Nadine Kloss-Gannon. The exhibit combines images taken by Gelsobello here at "home", and Kloss-Gannon's work taken far "away", and gives viewers the opportunity to make connections about form, composition and color, seen through two unique artists' lenses.

Artist Bios:

Paul Gelsobello has been taking photos professionally for 50 years. Since 1983, he's been based in NYC in the heart of Chelsea, welcoming art directors, designers, publishers, and other creatives seeking images to elevate their products & publications. Beyond the studio, he's an experienced location photographer, traveling nationwide and abroad to capture compelling photos on-site. He resides part time in Lakeville, PA.

Nadine Kloss-Gannon picked up her first camera at the age of fourteen, quickly discovering that photography allowed her to express her thoughts and emotions in ways words could not. Her images became her way of communicating with the world around her.

Nadine has been a flight attendant for United Airlines for the past twenty-eight years, a role that has allowed her to see places she might never have otherwise encountered. Her travels have exposed her to diverse cultures and landscapes, which continually inspire her photographic work. She lives in Lake Wallenpaupack, PA.

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"A tree is a passage between earth and sky."
- Richard Powers, "The Overstory"

"TREE TOO" is the WCAA Gallery's first group members show of 2026, and represents work by 41 member artists. The exhibit reflects artists' investigations into trees as subject matter, through drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, photography, sculpture, fiber art, and mixed media, and was inspired by "TREE", our 2026 Student Exhibition. Participating artists are: Barbara Carpenito, Barbara Morcerf, Barbara Zweig, Bill Westmoreland, Colleen Campbell, Dale Emmart, David Soete, Dean and Krista Scharf, Diane Stout, Elizabeth McAllister, Gail Tuchman, Geoffrey Fowler, George Peterson, George Penyak, Hana Marritz, Hillary Fontana, James Frost, Jami Taback, Jane Biron, Joan Polishook, Keith Helwig, Linda Murphy, Lindsay George, Marguerite Fuller, Marie Kramer, Marjorie Morrow, Mary Ardan, Monique Milleson, Nancy Palubniak, Naomi Teppich, Norma Bernstock, Patricia Blauth, Phyllis Chekenian, Rachel Caudell, Rich Klein, Rocky Pinciotti, Sandy Schoenholtz, Scott Sternback, Susan Cottle, Tom Biron, Tom Holmes.

For more information about the Wayne County Arts Alliance and our Gallery & Artisan Shop, please visit our website www.waynecountyartsalliance.org

Shorts & Sweets
for April Fools

Short Stories, Jokes, and Anecdotes

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

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

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

Friday, April 10th
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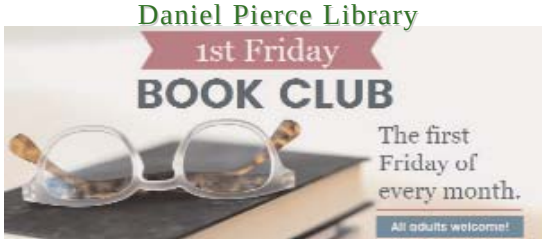
Studio Artists Group

at the Daniel Pierce Library

Wednesdays from 9:30 - 12:30
Come paint with us!
Join this collaborative group as we create and inspire each other. Please bring any art supplies that you plan to work with to create your piece. Adults only.

Daniel Pierce Library



Daniel Pierce Library 1st Friday Book Club

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

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Neversink Fire District
2026 Pool Staff Posting

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

Dana Vogler, Secretary

1/15 -RTF

Neversink Fire District
Notice of Special Meeting

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

Appropriate footwear is encouraged.

3/26; 4/2; 4/9

Notice of Resolutions Adopted Subject to Permissive Referendum

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District at a meeting held on March 10, 2026, adopted the following Resolutions, subject to a permissive referendum:

Be it resolved that a sum of $6,000.00 will be expended from Equipment Reserve for new truck repairs.

Be it resolved that the sum of $11,300.00 will be expended from Equipment Reserve for alarm systems.

Be it resolved that $1,000.00 will be expended from Equipment Reserves for additional SAR gear.

Resolutions are adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided in the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners
of the Claryville Fire District,
Claryville, NY 12725
Anne-Marie Kremer/Secretary Claryville Fire District

4/2

The Village of Monticello is looking for a **Full-Time Code Enforcement Officer** & a Pa**rt-Time Account Clerk.** Salary is commensurate with experience. Please contact the Village Manager, Mr. Snowden at 845-794-6130 x307 or stop in and fill out an employment application. The Village of Monticello is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

Zoning Board of Appeals Workshop

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

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

There will be no other business before the Board.

By Order of
Joy Monforte
ZBA Chairperson
March 23, 2026

3/26; 4/2

Time for Spring Cleaning, Sullivan County!

Annual Litter Pluck Returns April 1, Runs through October 31

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

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

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

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

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

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING,
ANNUAL MEETING,
BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION

TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Grahamsville, Town of Neversink
County of Sullivan, New York

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Budget Hearing of the residents of the Tri-Valley Central School District, Sullivan County, New York, will be held at the Tri-Valley Secondary School Collaboration Center, Grahamsville, New York, on:

Thursday, May 7, 2026
7:00 P.M. (Eastern Standard Time)

For the purpose of presenting the school budget proposed by the Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to Section 1716 of the Education Law, a copy of the budget statement showing the amount of money that will be required for the following year for school purposes, exclusive of public funds, may be obtained at the Office of the Superintendent, Tri-Valley Central School, Grahamsville, New York and any school building, by any resident in the District between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on each day except Saturday, Sunday or holidays, during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting and Election. A copy of the detailed statement of estimated expenditures will also be made available at the Budget Hearing to be held on May 7, 2026 and on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election to be held on May 19, 2026.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Annual Meeting and Election, including the VOTE upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for school purposes for the 2026-2027 school year budget and the VOTING for members of the Board of Education, and any other business that may legally come before this meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, at the Secondary School Lower Level Gymnasium of the Tri-Valley Secondary School Building, in Grahamsville, New York.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any qualified voter who desires to submit a proposition to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting and Election, except as to a question or proposition required by law to be stated in the published or posted notice of meeting, shall file with the Board of Education a petition setting forth such proposition, not less than thirty (30) days (by no later than 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on Monday, April 20, 2025) prior to the

Annual Meeting and Election and such petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, or two percent (2%) of the voters who voted in the previous Annual Meeting and Election, whichever is greater.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that petitions nominating candidates for the office of members of the Board of Education will be available beginning on March 9, 2026, from the District Clerk at her office in the Administration Building and shall be filed with the District Clerk at her office in the Administration Building during regular office hours between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, no later than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting Election (Monday, April 20, 2026). Nominating petitions shall be directed to the District Clerk; must be signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the District or two percent (2%) of the voters who voted in the previous Annual Meeting and Election, whichever is greater; must state the name and residence address of each signer; and must state the name and residence address of the candidate. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at-large. For 2026, there are three (3) Board seats available which are three-year terms, commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029, for seats currently held by the following Board of Education members:

Mr. Patrick Kelly

Ms. Tammi Chaboty

Vacant Seat

Candidates whose names will appear on the ballot will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the public at the Annual Budget Hearing on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7:00 PM Eastern Standard Time in the Secondary School Lower Level Collaboration Center.

At-Large Voting: the three candidates with the highest amount of votes will fill the three vacant positions.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the following proposition will appear on the ballot:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the following resolution be approved?

BE IT RESOLVED .... that the Board of Education of the Tri-Valley Central School District, Sullivan County, be authorized to make the expenditures shown in the budget presented by the Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to a prior resolution of the District, personal voter registration is in effect. No person shall be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting and Election to be held on May 19, 2026, whose name does not appear on the register of the District or who does not register as hereinafter provided, except a person who is otherwise qualified to vote and is registered under the provisions of Article 5 of the Election Law. The dates for personal voter registration have been set for Wednesday, May 13th, 2026, and Thursday, May 14th, 2026, in the Administration Building between the hours of 4:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, and any person shall be shall be entitled to have that person's name placed upon such register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration, that person is known or proven to the satisfaction of the Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the school meeting or election for which such register is prepared. Voters may also register at the Office of the District Clerk on any business day through Thursday, May 14th, 2025, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time. Residents are reminded that their registration is valid if they have voted at any school or general election held within the four (4) calendar year periods prior to May 19, 2026. If a voter is eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law and is registered with the Sullivan or Ulster County Board of Elections, they are also eligible to vote at this election. The register of voters prepared pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law shall be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk by any qualified voter of the District on each of the five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting and Election during regular office hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, except Sunday (Saturday by appointment only), and at the polling place during the hours of the Annual Meeting and Election.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that consistent with Section 2018-a of the N.Y. Education Law, applications for ABSENTEE BALLOTS may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk. Absentee ballots must be applied for unless the voter's registration is marked "permanently disabled" by the County Board of Elections. Such applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the Annual Meeting and Election if the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter (Tuesday, May 12th, 2026) OR the day before the Annual Meeting and Election (Monday, May 18th , 2026), if the ballot is to be picked up personally by the voter or their agent. Absentee ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued shall be available for public inspection during regular office hours (8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time) in the District Office on each of the five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting and Election, except Sunday (Saturday by appointment only), and at the polling place during the hours of the Annual Meeting and Election. Any qualified voter may, upon examination of such list, file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge. Such written challenge will be transmitted by the District Clerk to the inspectors of the election on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the District. Military voters who are qualified voters of the District may apply for a MILITARY BALLOT. A military voter may designate a preference to receive a military voter registration, military ballot application, or military ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail in their request for such registration, ballot application, or ballot. Applications for military ballots will be obtainable between the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday, except holidays, from the District Clerk. Completed military voter registration applications and military ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on Thursday, April 23, 2026, the twenty-sixth day before the Annual Meeting and Election. Military ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. A list of persons to whom military ballots are issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk on and after May 14, 2026 between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on weekdays prior to Annual Meeting and Election and on at the polling place during the hours of the Annual Meeting and Election. Any qualified voter may, upon examination of such list, file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge. Such written challenge will be transmitted by the District Clerk to the inspectors of the election on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that consistent with Section 2018-e of the N.Y. Education Law, applications for EARLY MAIL BALLOTS may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk. Such applications must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting and Election (Sunday, April 19, 2026) and at least seven (7) days before the Annual Meeting and Election if the Early Mail Ballot is to be mailed to the voter (Tuesday, May 12, 2026) OR the day before the Annual Meeting and Election (Monday, May 18, 2026) if the ballot is to be picked up personally by the voter or their agent. Early Mail Ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election. A list of all persons to whom Early Mail Ballots shall have been issued will be available for public inspection during regular office hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, in the District Office on each of the five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting and Election, except Sunday (Saturday by appointment only), and at the polling place during the hours of the Annual Meeting and Election. Any qualified voter may, upon examination of such list, file a written challenge of the qualifications as a voter of any person whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for such challenge. A challenge to an early mail voter may not be made on the basis that the voter should have applied for an absentee ballot. Such written challenge will be transmitted by the District Clerk to the inspectors of the election on the day of the Annual Meeting and Election.

By order of the Board of Education,
HeatherBonnell, District Clerk
Dated: February 12th, 2026

Open Mic

Every Sunday:

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

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

Tri-Valley Lions Chocolate Easter Bunnies have arrived!

They are available right now in Milk Chocolate, Dark Chocolate or White Chocolate.
The milk and dark chocolate bunnies weigh in at 6.2 oz, and the white chocolate at 2.8 oz.
Cost is $5 to $6 per bunny.
You can get them from
any Lion,
at the Daniel Pierce Library,
The Neversink General Store or
The Trading Post in Liberty

Sun Trail Storage

Sun Trail is a local family-owned business

God Bless America

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

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

Please call for availability first

Help your local business grow

Advertise locally in *The Townsman!*

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

Display Ads

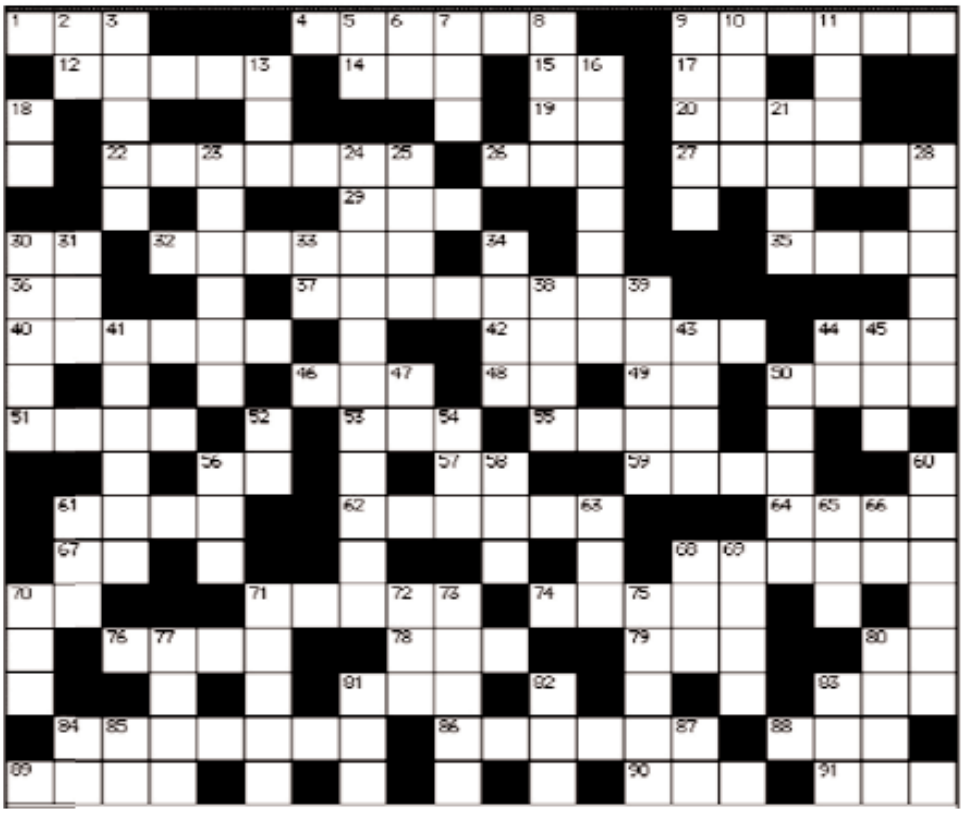
1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-
$7.50 per week
Business card ad (2" x 3")
- $15.00 per week
(3" x 4") - $30.00 per week
(3" x 6") - $45.00 per week
1/4 pg (4" x 5") -$50.00 per week
1/2 pg (4"x8") -$80.00 per week
Full Page - 8" x 10" - $100.00 per week
Digital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - $100.00/week
Sign up for weekly ads with quarterly billing and get a 20% discount

•• **Full Page Flyer for Local Municipalities** and **Organizations** -
one time fee- **$20.00**
(once the flyer is inserted
we will publish it each week
through the week of the event)

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

Low Rates
High Visibility!

Hopping Down the Bunny Trail... - L. Comando



ACROSS
1 Common sense
4 Unleavened bread
9 Evening meal
12 What you will see on the side of many barns in Neversink when you take a Sunday drive
14 Fruit-filled pastry
15 Used to link alternatives
17 Printer's measure
19 The person speaking
20 Ten cents
22 Motivate
26 Reverend
27 Mass departure
29 Self-pride
30 Referring to that man
32 Employing
35 Dutch cheese
36 Extraterrestrial
37 Spring festival commemorating the liberation of the Israelites from Eqyptian bondge
40 Popular Easter animal
42 Something done again
44 One and one
46 Inquire
48 Mountain
49 Bachelor of Arts
50 Simmer
51 Waistband
53 Securities Exchange Commission
55 Tread water
56 Fourth note of the major scale
57 Indefinite article
59 Bright fluorescent color
61 Cause to become healthy again
62 Collective phenomena of the physical world
64 Character in 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
67 Preposition
68 Full of happiness
70 After noon
71 Shout for joy
74 Month of Passover 2024
76 Small jumping insect
78 By way of
79 Era
80 Mile (abbrev)
81 Risk something
83 Spasmodic contraction of a muscle
84 A day of festivity
86 Oldest festival of the Christian church
88 In accordance with
89 Horse of a small breed
90 Neversink or Merriman
91 Snaring trap

DOWN
2 Intelligent quotient
3 Bulbous spring flower
5 Associated Press
6 7th note of major scale
7 Japanese school of Mahayana Buddhism
8 Abode
9 Passover meal
10 Type of Gnome computer system
11 Having two or more different colors
13 Pointed end of something
16 Restore life
18 Depart
21 Fault in a person that is less serious than the fault of the one criticizing
23 Non-physical part of a person
24 Reawake-ing
25 Symbols of new life
28 Something that stands for something else
30 Part of the Seder Plate
31 Seventh letter of the Greek alphabet
33 Internet Protocol
34 What the early bird will catch
38 People who served in the military
39 A popular spring bird
41 A container made from cane
43 Moniker
44 In the direction of
45 Triumph
47 Kinetic energy
50 He hides the Easter eggs
52 Los Angeles
54 Feline
56 Move through the air
58 An edible kernel
60 Relating to the univers
61 Meat traditionally served at Easter dinner
63 Extrasensory perception
65 Long period of time
66 Twelfth star in a constellation
68 Lively dance
69 Margarine
70 Cooking utensil
71 Sweet sugary food
72 Night before an event
73 Solemn acts
75 Speak with great enthusiasm
77 Fragrant Easter flower
80 Swamp
81 Short for goodbye
82 Distinct ideology
83 Cardinal number
84 Expression of surprise
85 Not off
87 Egyptian sun god

Good Friday Italian Spinach Calzone

2 (6 Ounce) balls pizza dough, –homemade or store bought; divide into r 6 smaller balls
5 oz frozen chopped spinach, thawed & squeezed well to remove excess water
1 cup ricotta cheese
1/2 Cup Grated Mozzarella Cheese
1/4 Cup Grated Parmesan Cheese
6 whole anchovies
1 Egg

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. oil and lightly dust a baking sheet with cornmeal. On a lightly floured surface, roll out each ball of dough into an eight to nine inch circle. In a bowl, mix together the spinach, ricotta, mozzarella, parmesan, and salt, pepper Take half the filling and place on half of each of the dough circles leaving a 3/4 inch border around the edge. Place an anchovie over the spinach mix. Fold the other half of the dough over the filling lining up the edges and pinch to seal. Place each calzone on the prepared baking sheet. Crack the egg into a small bowl, add a tablespoon of water, and beat with a fork until blended. Brush the egg wash over each of the calzone Bake the calzone for 20 to 25 minutes or until puffy and golden brown. Serves 6.

数字は単数に限る

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

Answer on page 23

Kids' Easter Fun Page

- L. Comando

Cryptogram

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

10 21 22 25 21 25 10 13 8 17 16 13 13 8 5 4 7 26 25 21 13 8

17 1 25 26 25 1 23 26 16 17 4 14 8 13 8 21 3 3 8 21 13 21 25 5 8

26 2 4 14 8 20 7 19 14 4 7 17 4 14 8 17 21 23 8 21 17 4 14 8

Follow the dots then color the picture of the Easter Bunny and his basket

Happy Easter!

Help the Easter Bunny find the basket

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

BASKET
BUNNY
CARROTS
CHICKS
DYE
EGGS
FIND
FLOWERS
HIDE
HOP
PEEP
RABBIT

Easter Wordsearch

Find 10 differences

Cryptogram Key

ST. MARK'S UMC
68 Clinton St
Napanoch NY

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone!

COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

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

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

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

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

Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish
May 2, 2026
5:30 pm
Sundown Church Hall

To be announced soon

2026 Indoor Yard Sales!

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

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

Mass Times

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

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

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

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

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

Confessions: Saturdays –3:15 to 3:45 pm
Or by appoinment.
Call the rectory at (845) 434-7643.

Parochial Viccar: Father Thomas

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

1st Thrift Sale of the Year!

Apr. 4, 2026
9 am - 12 Noon

Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches

Come and Join us for in person Worship on Sundays.

Sundown UMC 8:30 am
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown

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

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

Claryville Reformed Church
Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

Worship Services @ 10:15 am

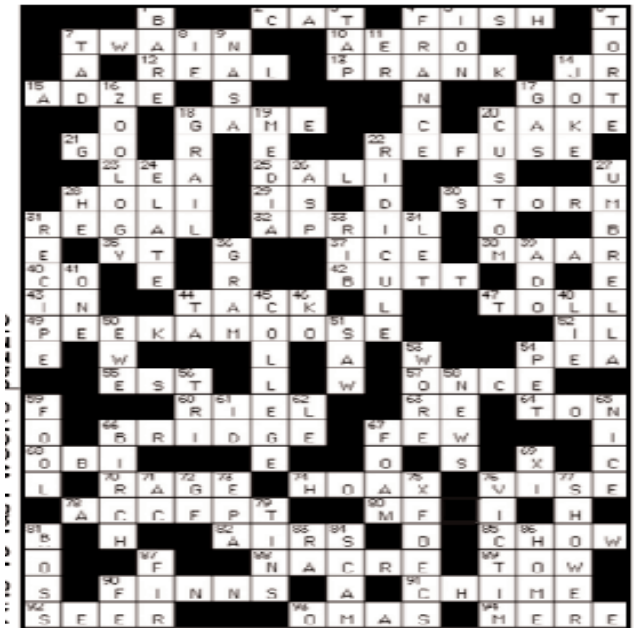
Church Hall available for rent
Call - 845-985-2041 for information

Loucks Funeral Home

Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"
79 North Main Street
Ellenville, New York
(845) 647-4343

St . Augustine's Chapel
Watson Hollow Rd .• West Shokan, NY
Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month
Rev. Thomas P. Kiely, **Pastor**

Ans to last week's Crossword



To learn more about
Neurofibromatosis Type 1 (NF1)
or to make a donation
please go to:
https://www.nfxdetroit.org/

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

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

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

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

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
answer

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

Daniel Pierce Library Hours

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

$17.5 BILLION in Lost Money

Every day New York State returns $1.5 million to those who file claims here. Is any yours? To find out, go to:
https://osc.state.ny.us/ouf or https://ouf.osc.state.ny.us/ouf
Many have checked, and sure enough after following the directions and filing a claim, have received a check from the NYS Comptroller's Office. It only takes a few minutes to find

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

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

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4/3/2026	**Town of Neversink Holiday - GOOD FRIDAY**
4/1/2026	**Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm**
4/8/2026	Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting
4/14/2026	Town of Denning Business Meeting 1:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/14/2026	Denning Town Board Meeting - 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/16/2026	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting–6:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/16/2026	Neversink Fire Commissioners' Meeting 7 pm
4/21/2026	Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals -7 pm (Application Submission Due Date 4/10/2026)
5/6/2026	Town of Neversink Planning Board -7 pm (Application Submission Due Date 4/24/2026)

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS *ARE AS FOLLOWS:*
Unless otherwise noted, all **Town Board meetings** are held at the Town Meeting Hall, Bostock Road, Shokan at **7:00 pm.** Town Board Meetings are the **second Tuesday of each month** with the **audit/workshop meetings** being held the **Monday preceding the second Tuesday.**
Town of Olive Planning Board meets the **first and third Tuesdays of each month.** Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY. You can contact the Town Building & Zoning Department to confirm a meeting date if you would like to attend at 657-2015. If there is nothing on their agenda, they will cancel meetings.

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

Weekly Update For The Week Of March 30, 2026 - April 3, 2026

Monday, March 30

- **3:00 PM - Ulster Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation Board of Directors Meeting,** in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

Tuesday, March 31

No Meetings

Wednesday, April 1

- **6:00 PM - Ulster County Human Rights Commission,** at the Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston

Thursday, April 2

No Meetings

-

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

Print out this form
Fill out it out
Mail it along with a check for the **Annual Rate –$40.00**
payable to **The Townsman**

The Townsman
P O Box 232
Grahamsville, NY.

NAME_____
EMAIL _____
PHONE_____

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: **$40.00 PER YEAR**

NEW_____ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. _____
Check #_____

or

Save $5.00

Sign up on line with **Paypal**

Go to our website:
http://thetownsman.com

and follow the link to Paypal

Thank you for your continued support.

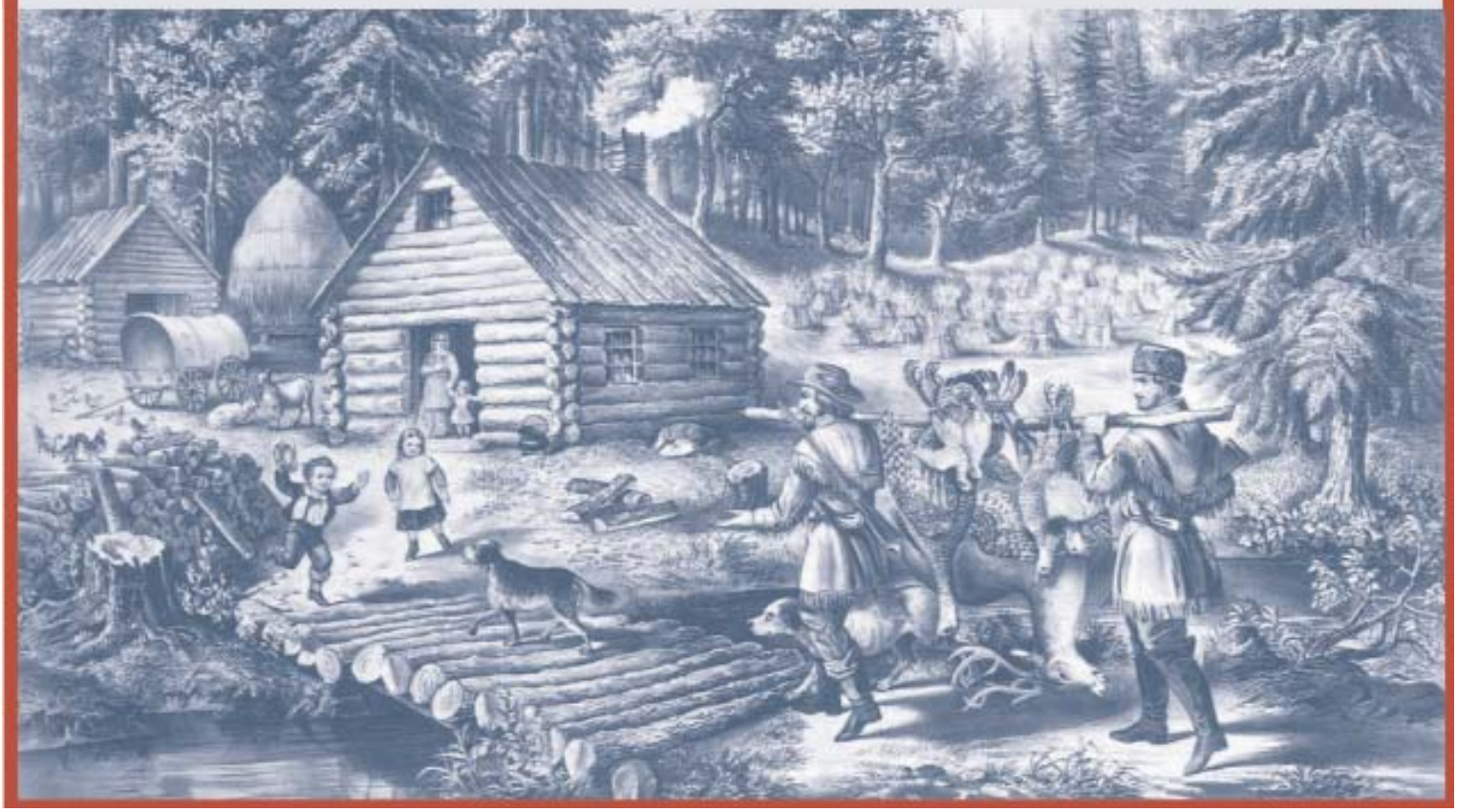
1700s Frontier Exhibit Opening in May & We Need Your Help!

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

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

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

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



Clip & Save

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

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

Thrift Sale Schedule 2026

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

April – 4th and 18th
May – 2nd and 16th
June – 6th and 20th
July – 4th and 18th
August – 1st and 15th
Sept – 5th and 19th
October – 3rd and 17th
Nov – 7th and 21st
Dec – 5th Holiday Craft Fair

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COME WALK WITH US!

Refreshments will be served before and after the walk.

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

Thank you.

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

Pledge Rules

1. Anyone under 18 years of age must have the signature of parent or guardian on the form.

2. Each participant should encourage as many sponsors as possible. Sponsors may pledge as much as they wish.

3. The Sponsor Pledge Form must be returned by 8:30 am on the day of the event.

4. Pledges must be collected from your Sponsors and turned in at Registration or no later than June 1 to any Lion.

5. The Journey For Sight will begin at 9:00 am. Participants must sign in between 8:30 am and 9:00 am at the GRAHAMSVILLE FIRST AID BUILDING (where the walk will begin and end). Refreshments will be available during this time.

6. The event will be held rain or shine.

7. All food and drinks given before, during, and after the event are free.

8. Neither Tri-Valley Lions, nor Lions International will be responsible for injuries incurred during the event.

9. It is suggested that Participants without pledges offer a donation of $30.

TRI-VALLEY LIONS JOURNEY FOR SIGHT WALK & TAG DAY

Saturday, May 2, 2026

In memory of our beloved departed Lions

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

School, Firm, Organization, if non-Lion _____

Waiver

In consideration of your acceptance of this form, I hereby for myself, my administrators, my heirs, and assigns, waive and release all rights and claims for damages I have against the organizers of this event, their associates and representatives. I also agree to obey all traffic laws, exercise all safety precautions, avoid littering and respect the property of others. **PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST SIGN IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER 18.**

Signed _____

Parent or Guardian _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND COLLECT YOUR PLEDGES BEFORE OR PROMPTLY AFTER JOURNEY.

SPONSOR'S NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	PLEDGE AMT	SIGNATURE

Signed _____ Date _____

All donations are appreciated even if you do not walk. This will enable us to continue to support our missions, community, organizations, and local families. Please make donation checks out to The Tri-Valley Lions. Please join us for coffee and continental breakfast.

Bake Sale Fundraiser
Sunday, April 26th
9am - Noon
Grahamsville Firehouse
Hosted by the Neversink Track Club to support the Tri-Valley Track & Field and Cross Country programs
Supporting Tri-Valley Track & Field and Cross Country Program
Contact: neversinktrackclub@gmail.com

Child Care Providers Needed

If you have considered working with or teaching young children, there is no better time to start! Sullivan County needs childcare throughout the county!

According to The U.S. Census Bureau, the population estimate as of July 1, 2023, is 79,920 people in Sullivan County. 6.1% of the county's population are children under the age of 5 (US Census Bureau, 2010). Making the under 5 population in Sullivan County, 4795 children. The current number of infant / toddler childcare spots available in Sullivan County is 1129. The bottom line is Sullivan County children and current providers NEED your assistance as childcare is filled with waiting lists.

Consider working from home and teaching children. You can run your own small business from home while contributing to and supporting the working families in Sullivan County!

If you're worried about start-up cost, we may be able to assist in supply costs through our Infant/Toddler program. Most training courses through our agency are FREE for Sullivan County providers!!! Please contact the Sullivan County Child Care Council for step-by-step assistance with the application process, business aspect of your program, as well as the programs and resources available when your program is established.

The Sullivan County Child Care Council, Inc. has determined an immediate need for Infant and Toddler childcare based on our referral services:

o County wide - of 44 inquiries 31 were for Infant and Toddler care

o Requests for Infant and Toddler care through our agency have been made mainly for Fallsburg, Liberty and Monticello

o Most of our providers have no infant or toddler spots available

For more information please visit our website: scchildcare.com, The Office of Children and Family Services at https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/becomeaprovider.asp , or give our office a call at (845) 292-7166.

US Census Bureau, 2010.

Retrieved on 5/07/2019:

https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sullivancountynewyork/AGE135217#AGE135217

Sullivan Accepting Ag District Applications
30-Day Window to Apply Starts April 1, Ends April 30

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

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

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

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

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

Applications will be reviewed by the Sullivan County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who will then make recommendations to the County Legislature regarding property to be added to the districts this year. The County Legislature will hold a public hearing and then vote on the approval of each recommended addition. Subsequent to County approval, an updated district map with a report showing the new parcels for inclusion in the districts will be submitted to the State Department of Agriculture and Markets for State approval. Upon approval by Agriculture and Markets, each property owner will be notified by mail and the real property tax records for each parcel will be updated. Applicants will receive notification by the winter.

More information on the benefits of agricultural districts, as well as access to maps of Sullivan County's agricultural districts, is available at www.sullivancce.org/agriculture/farmland-protection-ag-districts-vs-assessments.

Holy Week Services and Easter Masses 2026

Immaculate Conception Church

Woodbourne, NY

Reconciliation Monday March 30th
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Holy Thursday April 2nd at 7:30 pm
Service and Adoration

Good Friday Service: April 3rd
Stations of the Cross at 2:30 pm
Service at 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday April 4th at 12:00 pm
Blessing of the Food Baskets

Easter Masses:

Saturday, April 4th at 6:00 pm
Sunday, April 5th at 9:00 am

Sunown United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday Worship Service 8:30 am

The community is invited to Easter Breakfast following Easter Sunday Worship Service

Breakfast will begin

approximatey 9:15-9:30 am in the

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

(Intersection of Sundown Rd. Peekamoose Rd. & Greenville Rd., Sundown, NY 12740

Fallsburg Central School District to Induct Three to Hall of Fame

FALLSBURG - The Fallsburg Central School District is excited to announce their Class of 2026 Hall of Fame inductees: Joseph Goldstein, James Minarsky, and Albert White.

After graduating as salutatorian from Fallsburg High School in 1961, Joseph Goldstein studied philosophy at Columbia University. Upon graduation, he joined the Peace Corps, teaching English in Bangkok, Thailand, where he first became interested in Buddhism. After completing his Peace Corps service, he spent most of the next seven years in India studying and practicing Buddhist meditation. In Bodh Gaya, India, Goldstein studied under the guidance of Anagarika Sri Munindra and S. N. Goenka, and later with renowned Burmese and Tibetan teachers. What began as a Peace Corps assignment became a lifelong journey of meditation and teaching.

In 1974, Goldstein returned to the United States to become one of the first instructors at the newly founded Naropa Institute in Boulder, Colorado, one of the first Buddhist-inspired universities in the United States. After teaching there and leading retreats throughout North America and Europe, Goldstein joined fellow teachers Jack Kornfield and Sharon Salzberg in envisioning a retreat center dedicated to insight meditation. In 1976, they co-founded the Insight Meditation Society (IMS) in Barre, Massachusetts, which has grown into an internationally recognized meditation retreat center. In 1989, Goldstein helped establish the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies, and in 1993, the Forest Refuge, a center for long-term personal retreats.

Joseph Goldstein has become one of the most respected and influential teachers in the Insight Meditation community. He is widely credited with helping introduce insight meditation and mindfulness-rooted in the early teachings of the Buddha-to the West. He has written numerous internationally beloved books, many regarded as foundational introductions to meditation and the Buddha's teachings. Colleagues and students alike hold him in high regard for his clarity, humility, and warm sense of humor.

James “Jim” Minarsky, a 1958 Fallsburg graduate, left behind a remarkable legacy as a dedicated servant to his community. Early in his adult life, he started working for the Fallsburg Gas Company as a propane mechanic alongside serving as a volunteer firefighter for the Fallsburg Fire Department. He later joined the Grahamsville Fire Department after nine years of service, where he was eventually elected to Chief.

Soon after serving his term as Chief, he was appointed Deputy Fire Coordinator for the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire. Some notable accomplishments include consolidating the county's emergency services into one dispatch center, providing new radio systems and fresh gear for firemen, and ensuring that all Sullivan County Fire Departments submit their reports to the State.

His decades-long service earned him tremendous respect within the community and beyond. He was named honorary Chief of the Hurleyville and Fallsburg Fire Departments, became a lifelong member of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firefighter's Association, and served on the Fireman of the Year committee.

He also led a highly fulfilling career at the Fallsburg Gas Company, earning the moniker of “Master Propane Mechanic”. People looked to him for his expertise on propane safety and propane-related fire emergencies.

James passed away on June 15, 2020. However, his impact on the community will endure for many years to come.

When it comes to Fallsburg sports figures, one name stands out among the rest: Albert White. His most notable accomplishment, as a member of the school's track and field team, was being crowned New York State champion in the 100m in 1997, and the 200m in 1998. He was also a two-time State Runner-Up and eight-time Section IX champion in track and field. His school records in the 100m, 200m, and the high jump, remain unbroken.

In addition to competing in track and field, he was also a member of the school's soccer and basketball teams. He helped lead his basketball team to the OCL Championship and earned a spot as one of fifteen players on the Times Herald-Record All-Star team

After graduating in 1998, he attended the University of Rhode Island on a track and field scholarship. He competed in the 55m, 4x100, 4x400, and 200m races throughout his collegiate career. He was awarded Atlantic-10 All-Conference and All-New England honors.

After many years as a leader on the field, he is now a leader in his own community. He has worked for New Hope Community since 2005, serving as a Staffing Specialist. He has transformed the lives of countless residents of Sullivan County by providing stable employment and mentorship. He also continues to carry his passion for sports by volunteering to coach youth sports programs.

The Hall of Fame ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 27 at 6pm at the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School cafeteria.

Covered Dish Supper

Bring a covered dish to share
Enjoy good food and fellowship

Saturday
May 2, 2026
5:30 pm

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall
(Intersection of Sundown Rd. Peekamoose Rd. & Greenville Rd., Sundown, NY 12740

Be sure to check out the tables with a variety of collectibles, household items and more that will be available for sale

Time and the Valley Museum's

Community Takeout Chicken BBQ

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

Museum and Library Parking Lot
332 Main Street, Grahamsville

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

Name: _____

Address:

Amount Enclosed: # of Meals:

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please send this form with your check to: Time and the Valleys Museum P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville NY 12740 or call 845 985-7700 with credit card

NEW!
Sullivan County in the Revolution
Traveling Exhibit

George Washington
takes your students on a tour of the American Revolution in Sullivan County!

Includes:

- Engaging information on the Sullivan County battles of Minisink and Chestnut Woods, Loyalists, Patriots, Sullivan County's evolution, General John Sullivan, settler life & more.
- Comprehensive Teacher's Guide which takes a deeper look into the topics and includes activities and student worksheets
- Interactive learning components including matching games, a 1779 Code Book spy activity and Revolutionary War reproduction items
- Video - meaning behind the words in Yankee Doodle!

Easy Set Up-Take Down
full size 15' x 6'
(with extra space needed for viewing)

Breaks down to the size of three folding tables and two file folder boxes for transport

Borrow for up to 3 weeks

Email:
education
@timeandthevalleysmuseum.org
or call 845 985-7700
for more information
or to reserve

Funded by a Sullivan County Discretionary Grant sponsored by Legislator Brian McPhillips and grant from Stewart's Shops

Time and the Valleys Museum P.O. Box 254 Grahamsville NY 12740
info@timeandthevalleysmuseum.org 845 985-7700

DEC Announces Start of Trout Fishing Season on April 1

Rich Angling Opportunities for New Yorkers to 'Get Offline, Get Outside'

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Amanda Lefton today announced the April 1 start of the spring trout fishing season, which provides excellent angling opportunities for wild and stocked trout.

"New York's season opener is a welcome sign of spring for trout anglers," Commissioner Lefton said. "I encourage anglers to introduce someone new to recreational fishing this year and enjoy Getting Offline and Getting Outside to experience some of the greatest freshwater fishing opportunities in the nation."

Spring Trout Stocking

DEC trout stocking is in full swing with more than 1.7 million catchable-size brook, brown, and rainbow trout stocked in waters across the state from mid-March through early June.

Drought conditions at Catskill Fish Hatchery during the late summer and autumn of 2025 reduced the water supply to a level that inhibited brown trout growth. Therefore, on average, yearling trout from this facility will be shorter than the 9-inch target size at stocking. Growth rates can be expected to recover at Catskill Fish Hatchery with normal rainfall.

Stocked-Extended streams, specified in the Inland Trout Streams Regulations section of the Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide, will receive fish every other week for two months to provide season-long opportunities for angler success. Most stream stockings include larger trout (12 inches or more) as 10% of the total number. Spring trout stocking lists, including the scheduled week of stocking for trout streams, can be found on DEC's website.

Trout Stream Fishing Opportunities

The popular Trout Stream Fishing Map on DECinfo Locator allows anglers to view trout stream reaches, color-coded by management category, as well as fishing access associated with those reaches. Links to the Trout Stream Fishing Map and a User Guide_are available on DEC's website.

Anglers can also use their smart phones to find trout fishing opportunities around the state by accessing the Tackle Box feature in DEC's HuntFishNY app. The Tackle Box provides one-stop-shopping for information on access sites, stocking, regulations and more. Information on how to download the app can be found on DEC's website. Anglers are encouraged to check out these valuable resources when planning their next fishing trip.

Recreational fishing supports Governor Hochul's_"Get Offline, Get Outside" initiative promoting physical and mental health by encouraging New York's children and families to put down their phones and computers, take a break from social media, and enjoy recreation and outdoor social gatherings. One of the ways teens and youth can find ideas to get offline is through_DEC's Get Offline, Get Outside Challenge, which offers 50 fun and interesting activities for youth to complete by the age of 19.

To help make fishing more affordable and help inspire the next generation of anglers, DEC has also partnered with libraries across the state to provide a Fishing Rod Lending Program. While borrowing a book, library patrons can sign out a fishing rod. This program offers an opportunity for people to try fishing before deciding to purchase their own gear. For more information and a list of the more than 80 participating libraries, visit_DEC's website.

Safe Fish Consumption

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) provides advice to anglers about what fish are safe to eat and how often._Visit DOH's website to search by waterbody location.
https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/fish/health_advisories/additional_information.htm

2026 Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide and Buying a License

A_digital version of the new guide is available to download_on the DEC website. Hard copies of the guide are available wherever sporting licenses are sold. For_locations visit the DEC website.
https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/regulations

Renewing or buying a fishing license for the first time is easier than ever. Anglers can call, go online, or visit their nearest license issuing agent. When purchasing a license, anglers can also consider purchasing a Habitat & Access Stamp for just $5. This small donation directly supports habitat restoration projects and recreational access to New York's public lands.
https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/decals

JIM YORK
163 Krumville Road, CR2A
Olive Bridge, N.Y. 12461

State and Federally Licensed
(845) 657-6330 (Ph.)
(845) 657-7031 (Fax)
Email: jyork@hvc.rr.com

JIM'S GUNSMITHING, INC.
www.Jimsgunsmithing.com

CUSTOM STOCK, METAL WORK, BLUEING,
GENERAL REPAIRS, SIGHTWORK, ETC.
BUY - SELL - TRADE - TRANSFERS

Start at Route 28 and Reservoir Rd in Shokan	1.7 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road	
Continue onto NY-28A West	1.8 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto NY-213	1.1 Miles
→ Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
Gun Shop on LEFT	
Start at Route 209 and 213 in Stone Ridge -Going Towards Olivebridge	7.5 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto The Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
Gun Shop on LEFT	

Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge
Every Tuesday at 7 PM
46 North Street in Monticello
For information
contact Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell
at (845) 701-0695

ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB

BOX 25
CLARYVILLE, NEW YORK 12725
PHONE 845-985-2943 or 845-985 7162
EMAIL bungst01@gmail.com GLENN
EMAIL tmatthewsm88@gmail.com TOM

2026 SHOW DATES

SATURDAY 6/6/26 OUTPOST BBQ. SHOW RAIN DATE SUNDAY 6/7/26
6611 ROUTE 209 KERHONKSON, NY IN LARGE FIELD BEHIND BBQ BUILDING.
OPEN TO ALL TYPES & YEARS OF WHEELED VEHICLES.
SHOW TIME 10:00 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM JUDGING 12:30 PM TROPHIES GIVEN OUT 4:00 PM
PRICE PER VEHICLE $15.00 TROPHIES WILL BE: TOP 2 RACE VEHICLES; TOP 5 2006 & NEWER; TOP 20 2005 & OLDER; KIDS CHOICE; JUST BECAUSE; CLUB PICK; OUTPOST BBQ CHOICE AND BEST OF SHOW. **DASH PLAQUES FIRST 30 VEHICLES**

SATURDAY 7/4/26: LIBERTY RISING STREET FAIR
ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB SHOW, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FRONT PARKING LOT, NORTH MAIN STREET, LIBERTY, NY 12754. **OPEN TO ALL TYPES & YEARS OF WHEELED VEHICLES.**
SHOW TIME 9:00 AM TILL 3:00 PM JUDGING 12:30 PM TROPHIES GIVEN OUT AT 3:00 PM PARADE 12:00 NOON. **DASH PLAQUES FOR THE FIRST 30 VEHICLES.**
PRICE $15.00 PER VEHICLE TROPHIES WILL BE; TOP 3 2006 & NEWER, TOP 12 2005 & OLDER, KIDS CHOICE; JUST BECAUSE; CLUB PICK; CHAMBER CHOICE AND BEST OF SHOW. **RAIN OR SHINE.**

SATURDAY 7/11/26 WURTSBORO FOUNDERS DAY
ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB SHOW, SULLIVAN STREET WURTSBORO, NY 12790
OPEN TO ALL TYPES & YEARS OF WHEELED VEHICLES. DASH PLAQUES FOR THE FIRST 30 VEHICLES. SHOW TIME 10:00 AM TILL 5:00 PM JUDGING 1:00 PM TROPHIES GIVEN OUT AT 4:00 PM **PRICE $15.00 PER VEHICLE** TROPHIES WILL BE TOP 3 2006 & NEWER TOP 12 2005 & OLDER; KIDS CHOICE; JUST BECAUSE; BOARD OF TRADE CHOICE; CLUB PICK AND BEST OF SHOW. **RAIN OR SHINE.**

SUNDAY 8/9/26 MONTICELLO BAGEL FEST
ANY MAKE ANY MODEL CAR CLUB SHOW, BROADWAY MONTICELLO, NY 12701 **ENTER FROM RTE. 17 EXIT 105 TO PLEASANT ST. MAKE RIGHT TURN ONTO BROADWAY.**
OPEN TO ALL TYPES & YEARS OF WHEELED VEHICLES.
SHOW TIME 9:00 AM TILL 4:00 PM JUDGING 12:30 PM TROPHIES GIVEN OUT 3:30 PM
PRICE $15.00 PER VEHICLE TROPHIES WILL BE: TOP 5 2006 AND NEWER; TOP 35 2005 AND OLDER; KIDS CHOICE; JUST BECAUSE; CLUB PICK; CHAMBER CHOICE; BEST FIRE TRUCK; BEST OF SHOW
DASH PLAQUES FOR FIRST 40 VEHICLES. RAIN OR SHINE

SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAMBER of Commerce

BETHEL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

ARE TEAMING UP FOR

NETWORKING in BLOOM

EARTH DAY CHAMBER MIXER

The **Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce, Bethel Business Association & Bethel Sanitation** invite you to come together with our vibrant business community to network and celebrate **Earth Day** with fun, energy, and plenty of community spirit.

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22, 2026
5-7 PM
BENJI & JAKES

5 HORSESHOE LAKE RD. KAUNEONGA LAKE, NY

CHAMBER MEMBERS, FUTURE MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS ARE ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS EVENT.

FREE TO ATTEND – REGISTRATION IS RECOMMENDED
VISIT CATSKILLS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE EVENING WILL FEATURE

5-7 PM Networking & Chamber Introductions

Bethel SANITATION
TALKIN' TRASH SINCE '86

5:30 PM Ribbon Cutting Celebrating Bethel Sanitation

Bethel Sanitation is a family owned business serving Sullivan County for over 25 years. They provide reliable residential and commercial trash pickup with a strong focus on community and service.

- Voted the "Best Trash Service in Sullivan County" in The River Reporter's 2026 Best of Guide
- Will be featured in the 2026 SC Democrat Men at Work edition

Enjoy a specially curated Benji & Jake's menu, with playful signature cocktails available for purchase.

Official Kick-Off and Sign-ups for the Town of Bethel Litter Pluck on Saturday, April 25. Volunteers can adopt a road and help keep our community shining.

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

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

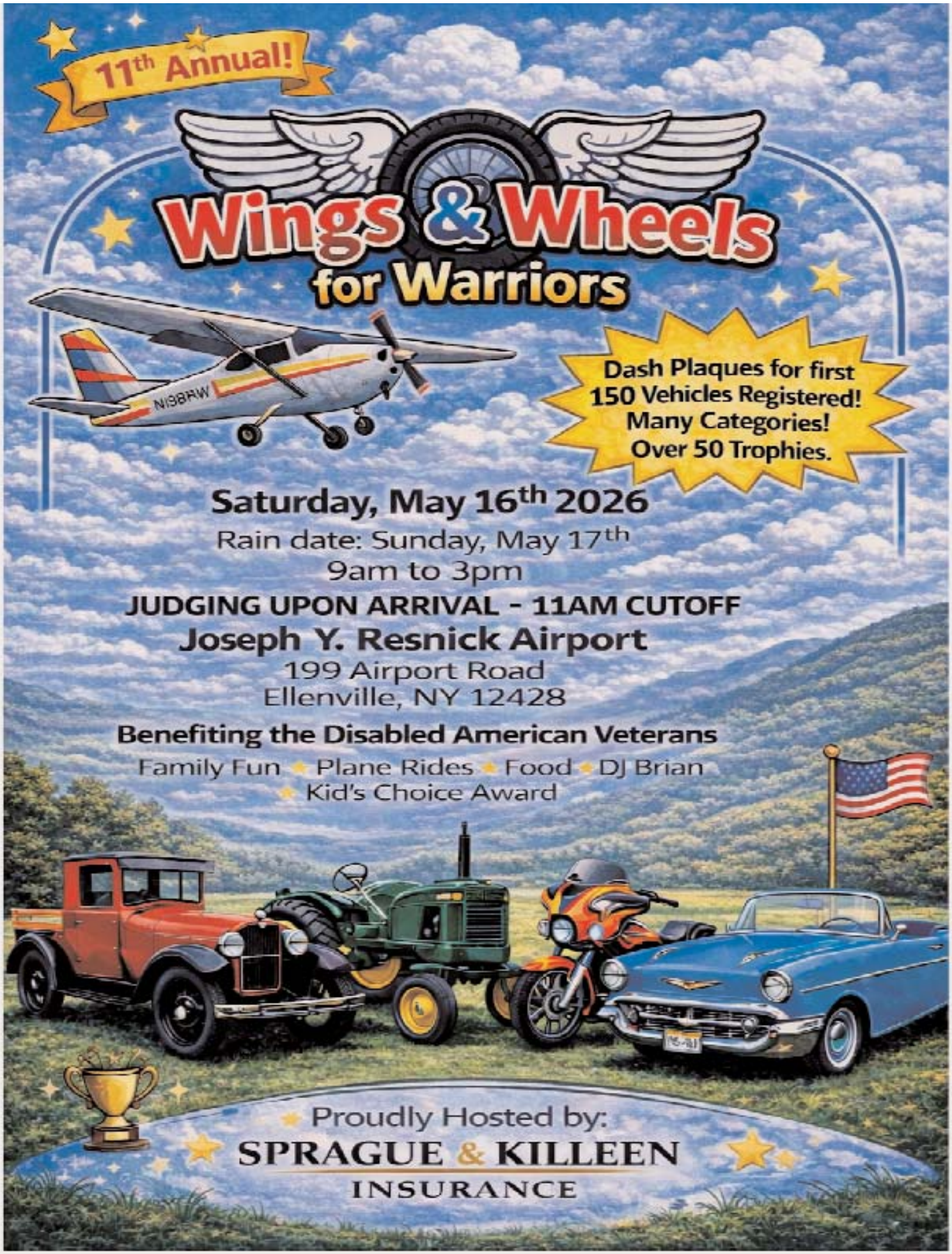
Celebrate With Us – Become a Museum Member – It's Easy!

Membership is only $25 for a FULL YEAR

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

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

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


11th Annual!
Wings & Wheels
for Warriors
N98RW
Dash Plaques for first
150 Vehicles Registered!
Many Categories!
Over 50 Trophies.
Saturday, May 16th 2026
Rain date: Sunday, May 17th
9am to 3pm
JUDGING UPON ARRIVAL - 11AM CUTOFF
Joseph Y. Resnick Airport
199 Airport Road
Ellenville, NY 12428
Benefiting the Disabled American Veterans
Family Fun • Plane Rides • Food • DJ Brian
• Kid's Choice Award
Proudly Hosted by:
SPRAGUE & KILLEEN
INSURANCE

SPRAGUE & KILLEEN INC
Innovation Integrity Insurance
116 Canal Street • PO Box 506, Ellenville New York 12428-0506 • 845.647.9100 Fax 845.647.8660

February 2026

Dear Friends of Disabled American Veterans,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

With sincere gratitude,

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

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

11th Annual

Wings & Wheels for Warriors

Co-Sponsor Levels

BRONZE – $100 – 11" x 17" Sign

SILVER – $250 – 18" x 24" Sign

GOLD – $500 – 2.5' x 4' Banner

PLATINUM – $1000 – 4' x 6' Banner

DIAMOND – $5000 – 4' x 8' Banner

All proceeds go to Disabled American Veterans!

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

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

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

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

We look forward to seeing you there!

Name: _____

Business (if any): _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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

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

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

CLARYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
SPRING
CRAFT FAIR
Saturday May 2nd
(Blizzard Date: Sunday, May 3, 2026)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Claryville Fire Department
1500 Denning Road
Claryville, NY 12725
Shop Local Vendors
Food for Sale: Soups, Chili, Sandwiches & More!
Free Admission • Family Friendly Event
Made with PosterMyWall.com

ERHNY
Ellenville Regional Hospital
Auxiliary

Ellenville Regional Hospital
Auxiliary Gift Shop

FEATURING A ONE OF A KIND

ESTATE JEWELRY COLLECTION

FIND A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10
10:00AM - 4:00PM

ELLENVILLE REGIONAL
HOSPITAL MAIN LOBBY

10 Healthy Way, Ellenville, NY
845.647.6400 | ERHNY.org

Give the Gift of Membership

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

Individual **$25**

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

Double **$40**

All the above benefits extended to an additional adult.

Family **$50**

All the above benefits extended to children residing in the household under age 18.

Patron **$100**

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

Patron Silver **$200**

All of the above benefits **plus** a private tour of the new Museum and a set of special Museum note cards.

Patron Gold **$500**

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

Name of Recipient: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Membership Level: _____

Your Name and Address:

Gift Message: _____

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

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

Mail your check to: **Time and the Valleys Museum** P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740
or go to: https://www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org/support/membership 845-985-7700
Donations and membership fees are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law

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

Time and the Valleys
MUSEUM
& Lost Catskills Farm

The Daniel Pierce Library

Spring Children's Programs 2026

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

Calling all caregivers and their little ones (ages 12 months to 4 years) in the Tri-Valley Central School District.
We've got exciting programs designed just for you!
Our spring session begins the week of April 6th and runs for eight fun-filled weeks. These programs are offered at no cost, thanks to the support of our amazing community. Registration is required.
We can't wait to learn, play and grow together!

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

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

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

Universal Pre-Kindergarten Story Hour
Our "Story Hour on the Road" program visits the three UPK classes at Tri-Valley Central School.
Children will be registered at school.

Register Today!

Click Here to Register your Child
https://www.danielpiercelibrary.org/pages/index/229635/spring-childrens-programs

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

Caregiver Resource Center

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

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

Caregiver Cafe' Support Group Jan-June 2026

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

1st Monday of each month
10 am-11 am

Registration Required:

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

Take a break while you:

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

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

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

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

Maybe you're a student looking for some volunteer hours, a retiree looking to use your skills and passion to help others, or maybe you just LOVE your library and have an extra hour or two each week!
Whoever you are, we appreciate your interest!
To apply for volunteer opportunities at the DPL, please complete a volunteer application.

Thank You!

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

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

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

Tri-Valley Elementary School
"INSPIRE SUCCESS TOGETHER"

GO BEARS!

Tri-Valley Elementary School

UPK REGISTRATION

If you have a child that will be 4 years old by December 1, 2026 please call us at

845-985-2296 ext. 5405

Or send an email to:

registration@trivalleycsd.org

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

UC Awarded $75,000 DEC Grant to Advance Watershed Protection and Community Education

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County has been awarded $75,000 through the New York State Department oW Environmental Conservation°òs (DEC) Hudson River Estuary Grants Programto
strengthen watershedmanagement and expand community engagement in the Wallkill River and Rondout Creek watersheds. The award is part oW nearly $1million in grants announced by DEC Wor 14 projects that saWeguard water resources and enhance environmental education across Hudson River communities.

Ulster County°òs project, °∞Ulster County Watersheds Coordinator Support to Local Alliances,°± will help implement watershedmanagement plans Wor the Wallkill River and Rondout Creek.

The Wunding will support education and outreach eaorts, riparian buaer plantings, and public communication on proper sewer systemuse -key strategies Wor improving water quality and protecting the Hudson River Estuary. These activities will help accelerate priority actions identiWied by local watershed groups and strengthen community participation in watershed stewardship. In addition to this planning and outreach work, Ulster County will also provide direct technical assistance to watershed groups to help advance on-the-ground projects and improve water-quality outcomes.

The initiative builds on needs assessments conducted with the Wallkill River Watershed Alliance (WRWA) and the Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance (RCWA), both oW which have strong Woundational plans but limited resources Wor implementation. The project will help strengthen these alliances by developing annual work plans, creating systems to track progress on watershed goals, supporting RCWA in deWining its organizational structure, and coordinating public outreach campaigns and events in each watershed. At least one riparian
buaer planting will be completed in both the Wallkill and Rondout watersheds.

These eaorts directly support the Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda by increasing riparian buaers, expanding public engagement, and improving access to healthy waterways. They also complement Ulster County°òs broader work to improve water quality, strengthen climate resilience, and support community-driven environmental initiatives.

°∞This award WromDEC is an important investment in the health oW the Wallkill and Rondout watersheds and the communities that depend on them,°± said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. °∞By strengthening our local watershed alliances and expanding education and outreach, we can accelerate on-the-ground improvements that protect water quality and build long-termresilience. We are grateWul to Commissioner Lefon and the DEC Wor supporting
this work and Wor their continued commitment to the Hudson River Estuary.°±

°∞This Wunding will help Ulster County and our partners takemeaningWul steps toward implementing watershed plans that have been years in themaking,°± said Deputy County
Executive Amanda LaValle. °∞By supporting education, riparian restoration, and stronger coordination among local groups, this project will advance practical, community-driven
solutions to improve water quality. We appreciate DEC°òs partnership and look Worward to the progress ahead.°±

°∞Building the capacity oW community groups working on the Rondout Creek and Wallkill River is a great way to jumpstart water quality in Ulster County,°± said Andy Bicking, Director of the Ulster County Department of the Environment. °∞Fostering collaboration and providing technical support are two ways the Department oW the Environment can help create the conditions Wor local success. We are grateWul to the State°òs Hudson River Estuary ProgramWor this important Wunding opportunity.°±

The Hudson River Estuary Grants Programis Wunded through New York State°òs Environmental Protection Fund and supports priorities outlined in the Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda 2021-2025.

Sullivan Accepting Ag District Applications 30-Day Window to Apply Starts April 1, Ends April 30

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

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

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

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

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

Applications will be reviewed by the Sullivan County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who will then make recommendations to the County Legislature regarding property to be added to the districts this year. The County Legislature will hold a public hearing and then vote on the approval of each recommended addition. Subsequent to County approval, an updated district map with a report showing the new parcels for inclusion in the districts will be submitted to the State Department of Agriculture and Markets for State approval. Upon approval by Agriculture and Markets, each property owner will be notified by mail and the real property tax records for each parcel will be updated. Applicants will receive notification by the winter.

More information on the benefits of agricultural districts, as well as access to maps of Sullivan County's agricultural districts, is available at www.sullivancce.org/agriculture/farmland-protection-ag-districts-vs-assessments.

Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger Proposes Local Law to Establish Common-Sense Identification Standards for Law Enforcement

Law Aims to Ensure Safety, Transparency and Accountability

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger today announced the introduction of a new local law that would establish clear, Countywide standards for law enforcement identifiability during public facing operations. The legislation, titled the "Baseline Standards for Law Enforcement Identifiability Law," is co sponsored by Legislature Chair Peter Criswell and Legislators Debra Clinton and Eric Stewart, who chair the Public Safety and Health, Human Services and Human Rights Committees, respectively.

The proposed administrative law is designed to establish a clear, consistent expectation that during public facing encounters, members of the public can readily identify both the agency and the individual officer exercising authority.

Under the proposal, officers engaged in public facing law enforcement activity - including those serving on federal, state, local, and multi agency task forces - would be required to display visible identification, such as a last name, badge number, or unique identifying number, and to provide that information verbally upon request. The law also establishes a presumption against the use of facial concealing masks unless there is a specific operational necessity, such as undercover work, emergency protective equipment, or other narrowly defined circumstances.

"Public trust is the foundation of public safety. When someone is stopped, questioned, or directed by law enforcement, they should be able to clearly identify who is exercising authority over them," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "This law establishes a common sense standard that will protect the public and officers, alike, by reducing confusion, preventing impersonation, and strengthening transparency. Officers should not be masked or concealing their identities as a standard practice, which runs counter to public safety and to the level of transparency and accountability we expect in a democracy."

"Anonymity undermines oversight and transparency," said Ulster County Sheriff Juan Figueroa. "While masking can be justified in confidential investigations, it is unnecessary in routine operations. Public trust diminishes when law enforcement creates fear rather than communicating with common sense transparency."

"Communities across the country are having this conversation about law enforcement identifiability and accountability," said Peter Criswell, Chair of the Ulster County Legislature. "This law establishes clear standards that protect constitutional rights while supporting effective law enforcement. Ulster County is showing how local government can lead with proactive policy that ensures transparency, accountability, and public trust. I look forward to moving it through the legislative process."

"This proposed law strengthens trust on all sides. When people know who is giving an order, interactions are safer and more accountable for everyone," said Legislator Debra Clinton, Chair of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee. "These are practical, common-sense standards that support good policing and a stronger relationship between law enforcement and the community."

"This legislation is about clarity and trust," said Legislator Eric Stewart, Chair of the Health, Human Services and Human Rights Committee. "When officers are identifiable, interactions are safer, tensions are lower, and the public can be confident that those exercising authority are who they say they are. These are basic expectations in a healthy democracy, and I want to thank County Executive Metzger for introducing this legislation. I'm proud to support this measure."

The legislation does not mandate how agencies conduct operations; instead, it sets a baseline public safety standard that ensures transparency, prevents impersonation, and protects the public's Constitutional right to seek accountability.

If an officer or agency fails to comply with the law, the matter would be reviewed through an administrative process. All complaints will be handled by the Ulster County Human Rights Department, and any necessary funding to administer the process will come from the department's budget. If the law moves forward, Ulster County will contract with two independent attorneys - one to serve as administrative counsel and one to serve as the hearing officer - to ensure a fair, impartial review of any alleged violations. These attorneys would determine whether a violation occurred and whether a warning, corrective order, or civil penalty is appropriate.

The law includes clearly defined exceptions, including undercover operations, emergency protective equipment, hazard related masking, protective services details, exigent circumstances, and situations where compliance would conflict with federal or state law.

If approved to move forward at the Legislature's April session, the proposed law will proceed to a public hearing in May.

The proposed law is grounded in longstanding state and federal policies prohibiting law enforcement impersonation and is designed to support public safety, de escalation, and Constitutional rights. It affirms the County's home rule authority to enact generally applicable public safety regulations governing conduct in shared public spaces - similar to traffic rules, emergency vehicle lighting requirements, and other standards that apply to all agencies operating within the County.

As we welcome the arrival of spring, the New York State Legislature continues its work in Albany as budget negotiations move forward. Both the Senate and Assembly released their One-House Budget proposals and I'm continuing to fight for you, especially at a time when many simply cannot afford it.

Affordability remains one of the top concerns I hear from constituents across our district, impacting everything from everyday expenses to access to prescription drugs -- famillies should not have to choose between keeping their lights on and life-saving necessary medications.

Energy policy also remains a key topic of discussion. As the state moves forward with the implementation of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), I often hear from small businesses and community organizations about the challenges associated with current timelines and requirements. It is essential that we take a balanced and practical approach that works for all regions of the state, especially rural communities like ours.

At the same time, utility rates continue to skyrocket. I hear every day from constituents who are struggling to keep up with their monthly bills-costs that have become overwhelming and, in many cases, unsustainable.

That is why I have introduced the Utility Ratepayer Bill of Rights, a comprehensive legislative package designed to increase transparency, strengthen accountability, and provide real protections for consumers. These bills aim to ensure that ratepayers come first-not bureaucracies.

As budget negotiations continue, I remain committed to being a strong voice for our district -- advocating for policies that address affordability, push back against additional financial burdens, and ensure that upstate and rural New York are not overlooked.

I encourage you to make your voice heard. Please contact the Governor's Office and the Chair of the Senate Energy Committee and urge them to take action on this critical legislation.

Be sure to read through the rest of this newsletter for additional updates and resources available to you and your family.

As always, thank you for your continued support and outreach. If my office can be of any assistance, don't hesitate to call (518) 455-3131 or email me at Oberacker@nysenate.gov.

THE UTILITY RATEPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS

I introduced legislation to establish the Utility Ratepayer Bill of Rights, a comprehensive plan to hold utility companies accountable and guarantee protections for every New Yorker.

For too long, utility companies have operated in a system that favors profits over people. This plan takes control from the utility companies and puts it where it belongs - back in the hands of the ratepayers!

If you're tired of being treated as nothing more than a bottom line for their foreign overseas parent companies then sign our petition to support the Utility Ratepayer Bill of Rights.
SIGN HERE
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsHy9CZEI3EK7qRdjFSb-iKVf-xjUDyPNBIWNPMGoTR6Az_A/viewform

What's Going On in Albany...

Kathy Hochul just called New Yorkers “stupid” for expecting her to lower utility prices.

Upstate families and businesses are struggling to pay their energy bills. Meanwhile, the only thing the governor is offering is insults.

I'm calling for the passage of my Utility Ratepayer Bill of Rights and an immediate utility tax holiday to bring down these sky-high costs.

We *can* actually lower bills and make life more affordable for struggling New Yorkers - and there's nothing “stupid” about that.

I voted NO on S.4408 because I believe we can pursue renewable energy without sacrificing our state forests and reforestation lands.

These lands were set aside to be protected not opened up for development through leases and easements. We must find a better balance that respects both our environmental goals and our responsibility to preserve open space.

I will continue to stand up for our communities and the long-term protection of New York's natural resources.

Farm Tour: Bison Island Ranch

Kicking things off at Bison Island Ranch in Sharon Springs with Dr. Susan Golembeski-raising grass-fed bison and practicing regenerative agriculture right here in our district.

Our farmers are the backbone of New York, and I'll always support those who keep our communities fed and thriving.
Learn more about Bison Island Ranch here:
https://bisonislandranch.com

Looking forward to visiting more farms across the district-have one I should check out? Email me suggestions!

Senator Oberacker in the 51st
Partaking in the Schenevus CSD Career Fair!

It was an honor to attend the Schenevus CSD Career Fair and talk a little about what it's like to serve as a State Senator.

A big shoutout to all the other participants who took the time to share their career journeys with the students!

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Delhi!
Céad míle fáilte!

We had a blast at the Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade with Assemblyman Chris Tague saying "Hello" to our Delaware County friends and neighbors.

On this “mornin' in spring,” you just know those Irish eyes were smiling __
Visiting Vet2Vet in Ulster County!

Vet2Vet of Ulster County is doing great things for our Veterans, and it was inspiring to learn more about their programs and new vision!

To stay up to date on their events, follow Vet2Vet of Ulster County on Facebook.
Senator Oberacker expresses concerns with Kathy Hochul's CLCPA mandates WATCH HERE
https://www.instagram.com/reel/DVUj2GRDULA/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRlODBiNWFlZA%3D%3D

Senator Oberacker in the News

Opioids are devastating communities across New York, but Narcan saves lives by reversing overdoses in minutes and giving people a second chance.

I'm proud our bill requiring life-saving overdose medication in public places just passed the Senate.

This is a big win for New Yorkers. More access means more lives saved, more recoveries, and stronger communities.
READ HERE https://www.dailyfreeman.com/2026/03/17/state-senate-oks-opioid-overdose-antidote-availability-bill-co-sponsored-by-oberacker/

Referring Potential 501(c)(3) Violations to IRS for Investigation

Recent reporting uncovered deeply concerning evidence that hundreds of nonprofit organizations in New York may have violated federal law by engaging in partisan political activity. A Times Union investigation found more than 1,000 political contributions totaling over $400,000 from at least 650 nonprofits that are legally prohibited from supporting candidates or participating in campaigns. Even more troubling, many of these organizations certified to the IRS under penalty of perjury that they were not involved in political activity. This is not a minor technical violation. It is a widespread breakdown in enforcement that undermines trust in our elections and allows taxpayer-subsidized organizations to influence the political process in ways that are clearly prohibited under federal law.

In response, I took immediate action and formally referred this matter to the Internal Revenue Service, calling for a full investigation and enforcement of the law. Federal law is clear: 501(c)(3) organizations cannot engage in partisan political activity, and those that do must be held accountable, including revocation of their tax-exempt status where appropriate. The integrity of our elections depends on a level playing field, and when organizations that benefit from taxpayer support secretly pour money into campaigns, it corrupts that process. As Chair of the Election Integrity Caucus, I will continue working to ensure our laws are enforced and that no one is allowed to exploit the system at the expense of the American people.

Introducing Legislation to Establish a Permanent Full Risk ACO Program in Medicare

Alongside Rep. Brad Schneider (IL-10), we introduced bipartisan legislation to establish a permanent full risk Accountable Care Organization (ACO) program within Medicare, building on a model that is already delivering real results for patients and taxpayers. Today, more than 14 million seniors receive care through ACOs, which have improved outcomes and generated billions in savings by focusing on prevention, coordination, and managing chronic conditions. However, these programs have remained stuck in temporary pilot phases, limiting long-term investment and access. This legislation creates a permanent pathway for providers to take full accountability for both the cost and quality of care, with dedicated tracks for broader populations and high-need patients. The goal is simple: move away from one-size-fits-all care and toward a system that delivers better outcomes, lowers costs, and strengthens Medicare for the future.

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

H.R. 5518, the Integrated Cross-Border Law Enforcement Operations Expansion Act: This bill would strengthen cross-border law enforcement cooperation between the United States and neighboring countries to address transnational crime, including drug trafficking, human smuggling, and other criminal activities that cross international borders. Transnational criminal organizations exploit jurisdictional gaps to evade enforcement, underscoring the need for coordinated law enforcement efforts to safeguard the public. This legislation enhances law enforcement capabilities and improves collaboration to combat cross-border threats and keep our communities safe.

H.R. 5462, the Michelle Alyssa Go Act: This bill would expand federal support for mental health outreach and intervention programs for individuals experiencing severe mental illness, including those who may pose a risk to themselves or others. Specifically, it would provide grants to support community-based treatment, crisis response services, and coordination between mental health providers and local authorities. Untreated severe mental illness can have serious consequences for individuals and pose threats to public safety. H.R. 5462 helps strengthen early intervention efforts and improve access to care, helps reduce risks, and supports individuals in crisis.

H.R. 563, the No Retaining Every Gun In a System That Restricts Your Rights Act: This bill would prohibit the federal government from creating or maintaining a registry of firearms, firearm owners, or firearm transactions. Federal entities have no business maintaining a digital, searchable database of law-abiding gun owners that could be used for future gun confiscation that would harm individual privacy and law-abiding citizens' Second Amendment rights. This legislation reinforces these protections by ensuring that lawful firearm ownership is not subject to centralized tracking or monitoring.

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

To read more about my votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House, please click here.

Tuesday, March 24

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 6422, the American Water Stewardship Act. This bill reauthorizes funding at current funding levels for several EPA programs aimed at improving water quality and carrying out ecosystem restoration projects across the country. (Contd. Pg. 57)

This Week with Claudia (From Pg. 56)

Additionally, this bill contains provisions directing the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to Congress on ways the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of these programs. Clean water is vital to communities and helps residents, farmers, and businesses thrive. This program ensures common-sense accountability and efficiency in protecting clean water and ecosystems. This bill passed the House by a vote of 378-32.

Wednesday, March 25

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5103, Make the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful Act. This bill establishes a program under the Department of the Interior Secretary to beautify the District of Columbia, including removing graffiti and restoring public property. Additionally, this bill establishes a D.C. Safe and Beautiful Commission comprised of federal and D.C. government officials to enable coordination and full enforcement of federal and local laws within the District. Radical left-wing policies turned our Nation's capital into one of the most dangerous cities in our country and the world, allowing vandalism and property destruction throughout the city. Upstate New Yorkers who visit our Nation's capital should never feel unsafe or be threatened by violent criminals. This will support the Trump administration's efforts to preserve our historical sites, keep every American safe, and enhance cooperation with law enforcement. This bill passed the House by a vote of 218-206.

Thursday, March 26

I voted "Yes" on H. Res. 1128, Expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the Department of Homeland Security. This resolution recognizes the importance of fully funding all components of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and emphasizes that withholding funding of individual DHS components would create uncertainty in an increasingly heightened threat environment. DHS plays a crucial role in protecting our nation across multiple fronts, including securing our borders, ensuring airport safety, and defending critical infrastructure. Their work is fundamental to maintaining the security and resilience of our nation, and it is important to recognize the good work that these brave men and women do to protect our communities. It is vital that we fully fund this department. This bill passed by a bipartisan vote of 225-187, with 13 members voting present.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 8029, the Pay Our Homeland Defenders Act. This legislation provides full funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and restores operational capacity across its agencies, including Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Coast Guard, TSA, FEMA, and the Secret Service. DHS plays a central role in protecting the United States from terrorism, cyber threats, illegal border crossings, and other national security challenges. In recent weeks, operational disruptions have limited several DHS components to performing only essential functions, raising concerns about preparedness amid heightened global threats. The House passed the bill to ensure these critical agencies have the resources they need to protect the American people and maintain national security readiness. With threats around the world escalating and national security on the line, the United States cannot afford to allow the continued Democrat shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security. DHS protects our borders, secures our airports, defends our critical infrastructure, and responds to emergencies nationwide. The House has once again done its job and passed legislation to fund these essential missions. Now Senate Democrats must stop playing political games, pass this bill immediately, and fully reopen the government. Weakening homeland security at a time of rising threats is simply unacceptable, and the American people deserve better. This bill passed by a bipartisan vote of 218-206.

Friday, March 27

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 7084, the Defending American Property Abroad Act of 2026. This bill authorizes the President to prohibit vessels from entering or operating in U.S. waters if the vessel has called at ports, harbors, or marine terminals that were controlled by a U.S. person and have been nationalized or expropriated by a government agency or official of a Western Hemisphere trading partner. Ensuring the safety of investments by American companies is vital to our economy and national security. This legislation holds nations accountable for unlawfully seizing American assets, safeguarding American businesses from foreign interference. This bill passed the House by a vote of 247-164.

I voted "Yes" on H. Res 1142, a resolution agreeing to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7147, the Homeland Security and Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026. House Republicans have repeatedly voted for a clean FY26 Homeland Security appropriations bill to fully fund all of the Department's vital work to keep Americans safe. This includes all 10 agencies under DHS, including Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Coast Guard, TSA, FEMA, and the Secret Service. Unfortunately, Congressional Democrats have dragged their feet and put Americans' lives in danger due to their refusal to support commonsense border security policies. Disappointingly, the Senate caved to the Democrats' demands and sent the House a bill that would fund all of DHS except ICE and CBP. This is unacceptable. Congress must fund the entirety of DHS to keep our nation safe, not allow law enforcement to be defunded in the dead of night. That is why the House has further amended this bill to be a 60-day continuing resolution for all of DHS. This bill keeps funding at FY26 spending levels, reopens DHS, pays our TSA employees, and funds ICE. The House has done its job once again and passed legislation to fully fund DHS. Now, the Senate must pass this funding bill and allow DHS to return to the critical work of defending the home front. Weakening homeland security is simply unacceptable, and the American people deserve better. This resolution passed the House by a vote of 213-203.

Celebrating NYS Outstanding Teachers: Governor Hochul Announces Applications are Open for Master Teacher Program

New Application Round for K-12 STEM Teachers and K-12 Counselors Now Open

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced applications are open for the Master Teacher Program and Master Counselors, which recognizes more than 1,600 outstanding public school teachers and counselors throughout the state. Those selected for the program serve as mentors for students and early-career teachers and counselors. New York State's teachers may apply at suny.edu/masterteacher and the deadline to apply is May 21, 2026.

"I am grateful to our state's exceptional teachers and counselors who dedicate their careers to inspiring and educating the next generation of New Yorkers," said Governor Kathy Hochul. "By promoting these outstanding individuals through the Master Teachers and Master Counselors Program, I hope more New Yorkers will celebrate the teachers from every corner of our state who have stepped up and excelled in their roles as educators and mentors."

The Master Teacher Program is hosted at nine State University of New York (SUNY) campuses to leverage the expertise of SUNY faculty and existing educator preparation programs. Additionally, SUNY faculty and staff regularly collaborate with local STEM career and industry experts.

SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. said,_"As the largest educator of teachers in the state, SUNY is proud to support Governor Hochul's efforts to provide robust support for educators and counselors shaping the next generation in the classroom and beyond. Throughout its history, the program has recognized the most effective education leaders, and we look forward to welcoming a class of new esteemed members."_

The SUNY Board of Trustees said, "The Master Teacher and Master Counselor program honors the brightest minds in K-12 education, and we applaud Governor Hochul for shining a spotlight on these outstanding New Yorkers. We are proud to support this program and help educators receive the resources they need to support New York's students at every phase - from kindergarten to high school graduation."

Master Teachers support students from kindergarten through high school (K-12) in the areas of science, technology, computer science, robotics, coding, engineering, math, integrated STEM and agricultural education. Many new Master Teacher and Master Counselor members have been recognized by their local school districts and community organizations for their work with students.

Master Counselors are active members of their professional associations, serving in leadership roles and regularly engaging with local industries to help students chart a path to success. The counselors serve in various district-level and state-level roles, joining the program as experienced leaders dedicated to developing and sharing best practices. More than 50 percent of the Master Counselors hold additional certificates or NYS trainings, including Disability Services and National Board. In addition, New York State counselors are instrumental in helping high school seniors complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To date, 55.4% of the estimated class of 2026 in New York has completed a FAFSA.

Throughout their four-year participation in the program, Master Teachers and Master Counselors will receive a $15,000 stipend annually; engage in peer mentoring and intensive content-oriented professional development opportunities throughout the academic year; work closely with pre-service and early career teachers and counselors to foster a supportive environment for the next generation of STEM teachers and counselors; and attend required regional meetings to participate in and lead professional development sessions each year.

The program is part of Governor Hochul's broad agenda to support New York State's Teaching Workforce. In addition to this longstanding recognition, in January, Governor Hochul announced that SUNY is updating expectations for all educator preparation programs to align with the "Science of Reading," which is a set of evidence-based principles for providing literacy instruction. SUNY's effort to support "Science of Reading" implementation includes a free microcredential certification program for current teachers through the Science of Reading Center at SUNY New Paltz. Furthermore, last fall Governor Hochul allocated $14.4 million in Workforce Development Awards to the Upskilling Paraprofessionals Program and the Alternative Teacher Certification Program, which supports New Yorkers interested in becoming educators in critical areas.

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 country's oldest school of maritime, the state's only college of optometry, 12 Educational Opportunity Centers, more than 30 ATTAIN digital literacy labs, and manages one US Department of Energy National Laboratory. In total, SUNY serves about 1.7 million students across its portfolio of credit- and non-credit-bearing courses and programs, continuing education, and community outreach programs. SUNY oversees nearly a quarter of academic research in New York. Research expenditures systemwide are nearly $1.5 billion in fiscal year 2025, including significant contributions from students and faculty. There are more than three million SUNY alumni worldwide, and annually one in three New Yorkers who earn a college degree is a SUNY alum. To learn more about how SUNY creates opportunities, visit suny.edu.

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

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The Skin Ripper

A novel

John Dwaine McKenna

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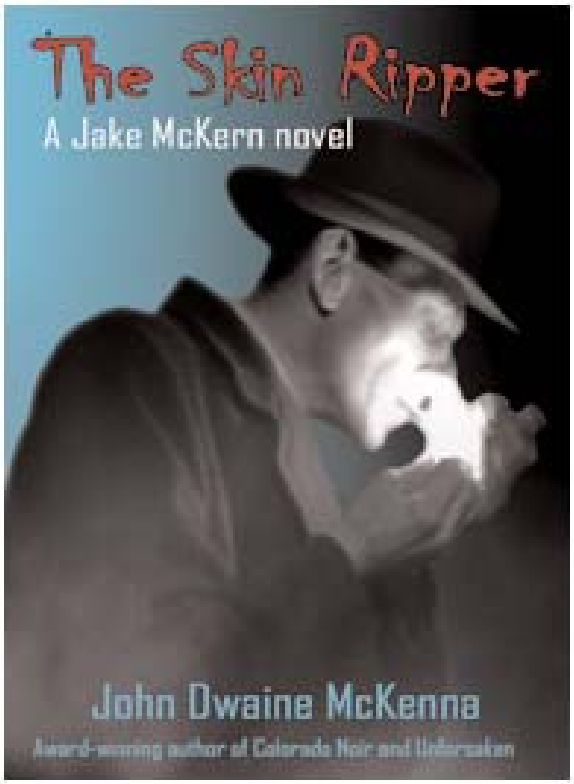

Recently promoted and just out of the hospital after a long recuperation from injuries he received while battling Lee Roy Morgan gang as they were trying to rob Colorado Commercial Bank, Colorado Springs homicide detective Jake McKern is on his first case . . . the double murder of an elderly couple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

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Friday, April 10, 2026

(Snow date Saturday, April 11th)

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Calling begins at 7:00 p.m.

$40 per Person

(Fundraiser, final sale)

Includes 7 games, door prize entry & light refreshments

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One winner per game

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alpana bawa

MARCH 14 – MAY 2, 2026

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Judith HOYT
Sophi KRAVITZ
Seán NIXON
Debra RAPOPORT
STIEFELwerk

meet. make. wear. hands-on workshop:
saturday april 4, 2:30 – 4 pm

artists' talk:
saturday may 2, 3:30 – 5 pm

stiefelwerk | anne marika

Curated by **Seán Nixon**

judith hoyt

sophi kravitz

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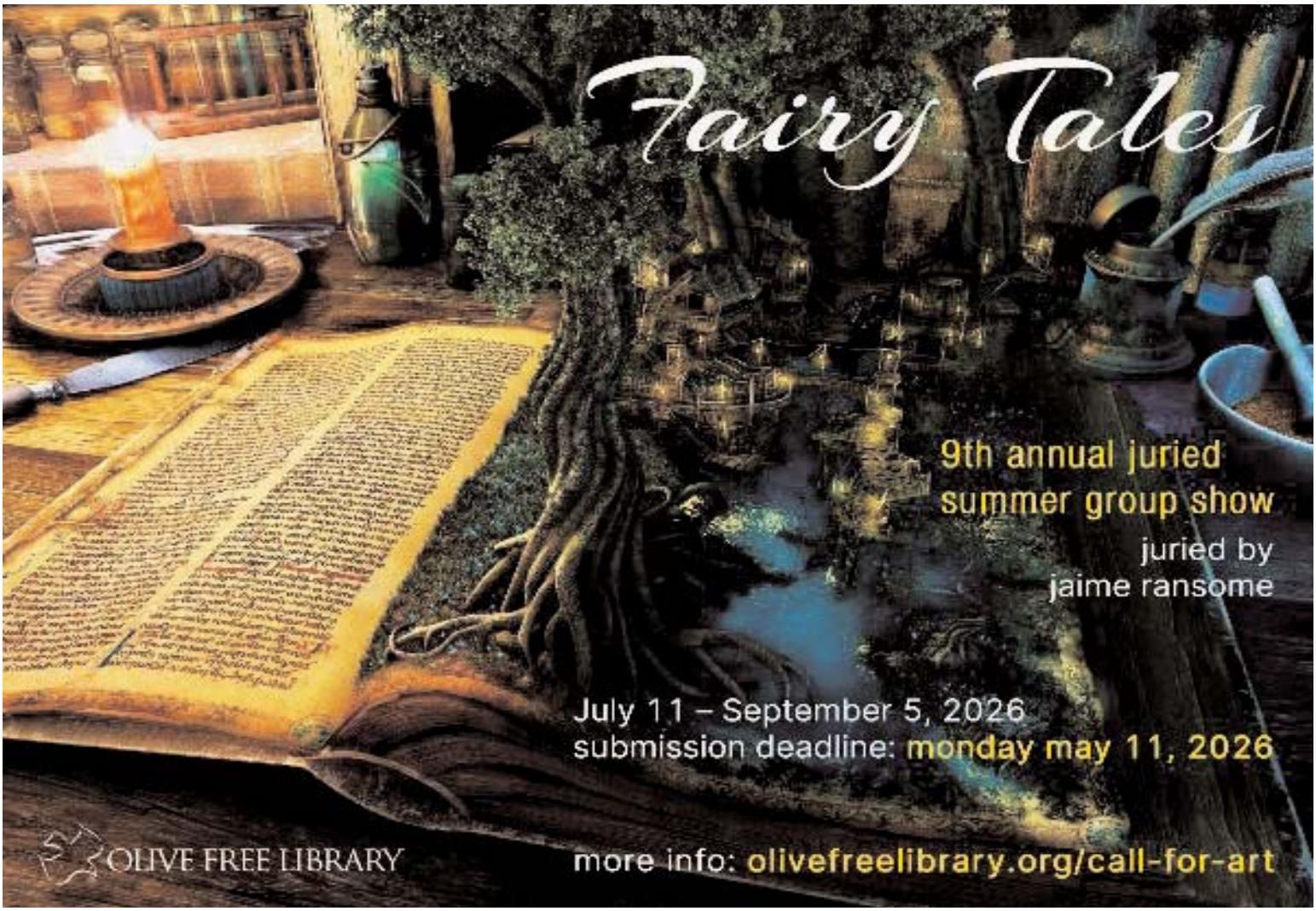

OLIVE SENIORS

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

Where: American Legion Hall*

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

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

** 26-28 Mountain Road, Shokan, NY, handicap accessible, bathrooms on site*
*** follows Onteora School District calendar and is cancelled when Onteora schools cancel due to a weather event*

Greetings again from Kinderhook,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,
Chris Gibson

A Special Sullivan Chamber Networking Breakfast Worth the Trip

The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce and Industry is taking our popular Monthly Networking Breakfast on the road for a unique and meaningful visit to the Regional Food Bank Hudson Valley in Montgomery, NY.

While the event takes place just outside Sullivan County, the work happening there reaches deep into our community every day. The Regional Food Bank is a not-for-profit organization that collects donated food from the food industry and distributes it to more than 1,000 partner agencies and programs feeding our neighbors in need throughout 23 counties of northeastern New York. The food provided by the Regional Food Bank helps to feed over 350,000 people each month. In 2025, the Food Bank distributed in Sullivan County more than 2.1 million pounds of food (enough for over 1.8 million meals) to our neighbors in need. Our vision is that all people have the nutritious food they need to thrive.

We are proud to recognize our presentation sponsor SERVPRO Team Johnson. SERVPRO Team Johnson is a locally owned and operated, family-run restoration company proudly serving our community for over 40 years. Specializing in both residential and commercial restoration services, our team is dedicated to helping homeowners and businesses recover from fire, water, mold, storm, and other property damage quickly and efficiently.

With decades of experience and a commitment to exceptional service, SERVPRO Team Johnson combines industry-leading training, advanced equipment, and a strong local presence to respond when our community needs us most. As a family business built on trust and reliability, we take pride in helping our neighbors restore their homes, businesses, and peace of mind, making it “Like it never even happened.”

Join us for a morning of networking, learning, and community connection. The short trip to Montgomery will be well worth it.

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

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

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

American Red Cross

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Donate Blood. Help Save Lives.

Daniel Pierce Library Community Blood Drive

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Walk-Ins Welcome - Appointments Preferred!

Olive Free Library

SENIOR ART GROUP

Meets at the American Legion Hall on Mountain Road, Shokan, Monday 10-noon

A chatty, friendly group of seniors meet each Monday. At least monthly, we have a guest artist come for a workshop. There is no cost. We have a limited supply of watercolors, oil pastels, water soluble oil paints, paper and canvas. Brushes, too. Our crafty folk might paint or sew or knit or crochet or just hang out with friends. Our guest instructors have been Mia Fink and Sue De Sanna. Linda Schultz and Linda Champanier have been added to our possible guest instructors. MaryAnn Shultis has led us in sewing workshops to make bags and runners, and Donna Kopf has taught us quilt square patterns. We also stuff dolls for a project called MY FRIEND RAGDOLL that sends sweet dolls to Children's hospitals.

Come join us!

Conversations With Death

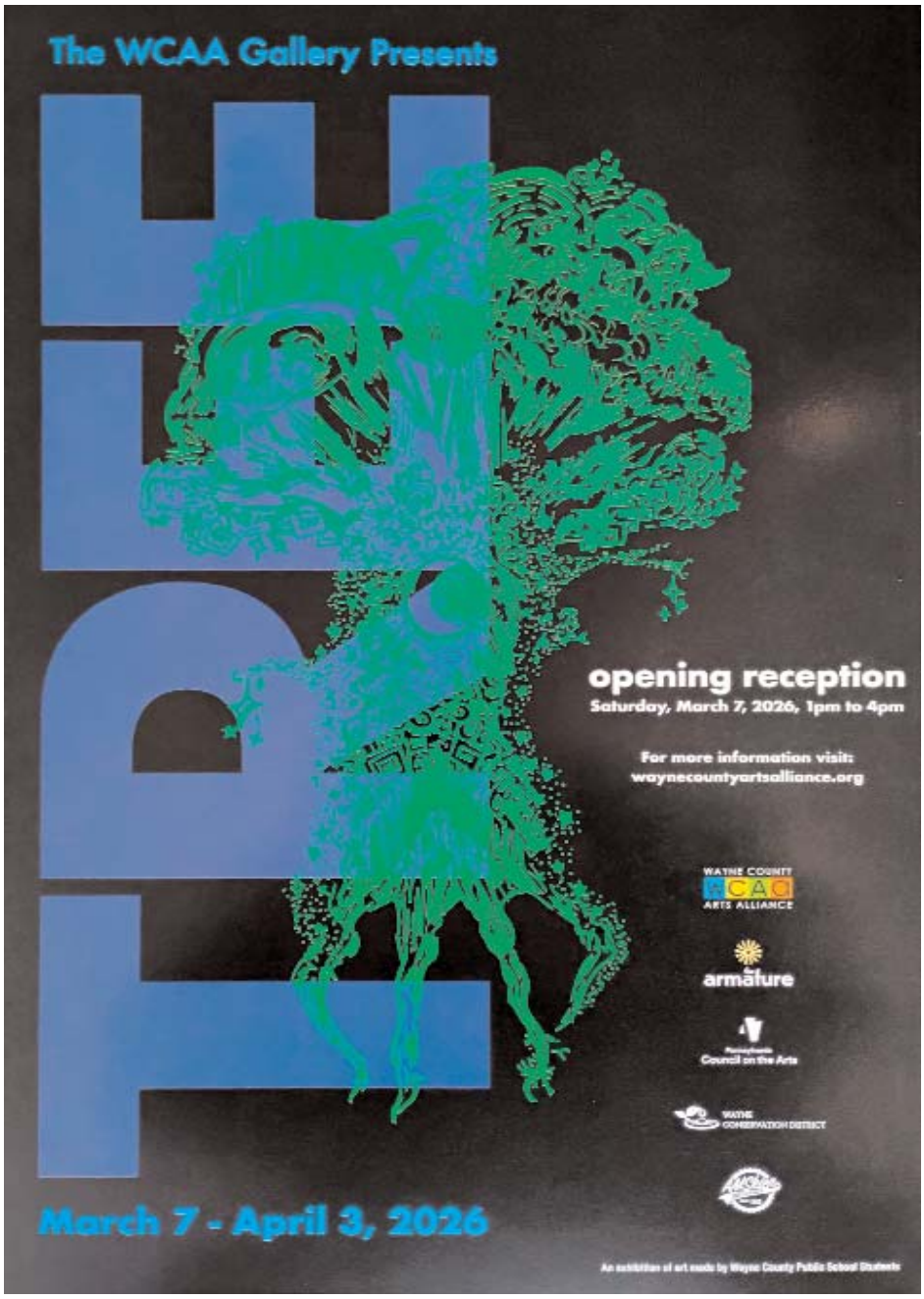
First Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Starting Saturday, January 3

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

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

Facilitated by Cory Smith, Jennifer Muir-Braunstein and Kirby Lee



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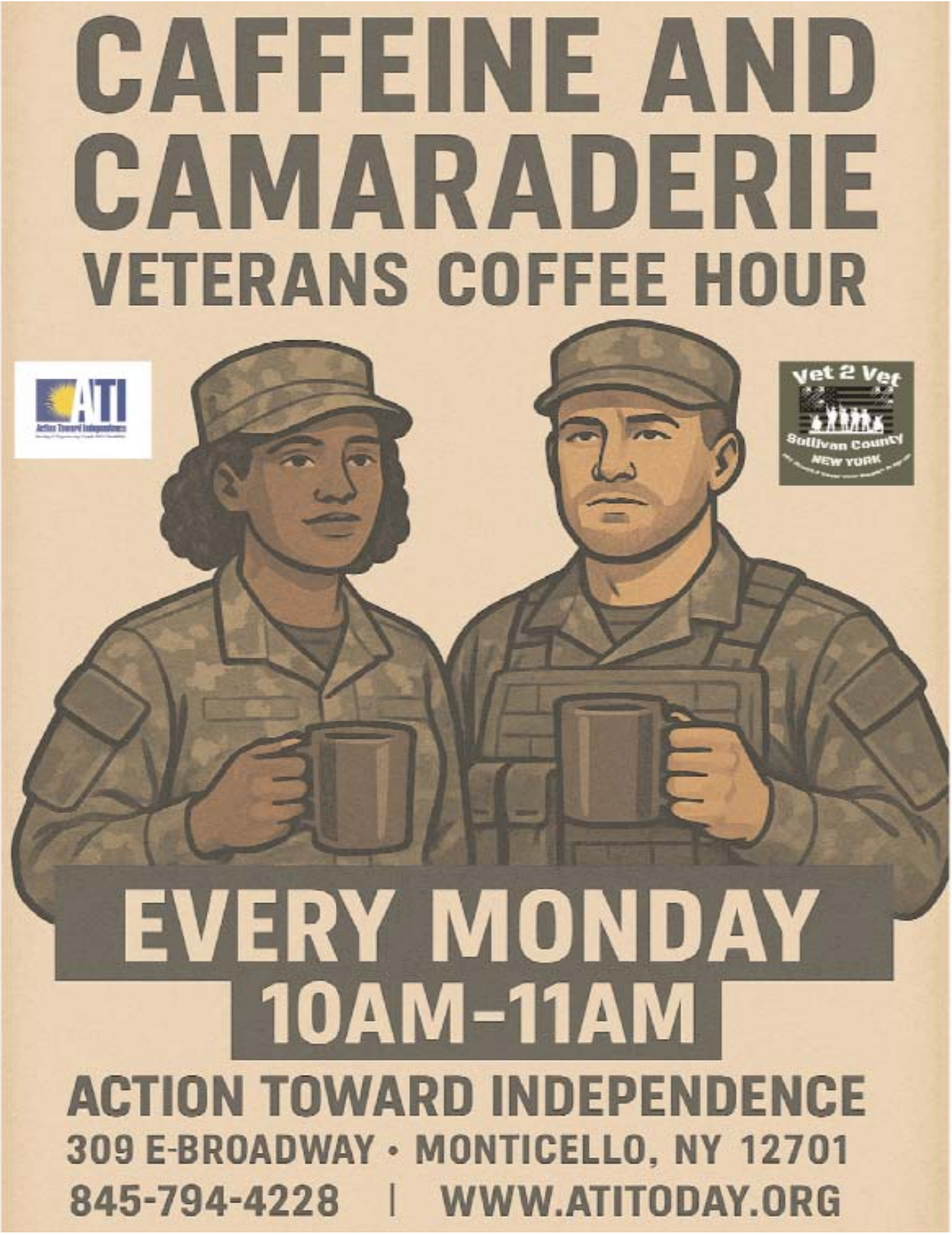
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Homeschooling

Calling All Homeschooling Families!

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Beginning September 23rd

4th Tuesday of each month

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Connect with other families to:

- Share lessons and ideas
- Plan field trips and activities
- Enjoy guest speakers and special programs
- Build a supportive homeschool network

While you're here, don't forget — with an RCLS library card, you can also:

- Borrow books and DVDs
- Access the internet and online research databases
- Use comfortable library spaces for learning and collaboration

HOME SCHOOL

Please join in, the possibilities are endless!

Text or call Dana for more information: 845 707 - 2489

Daniel Pierce Library

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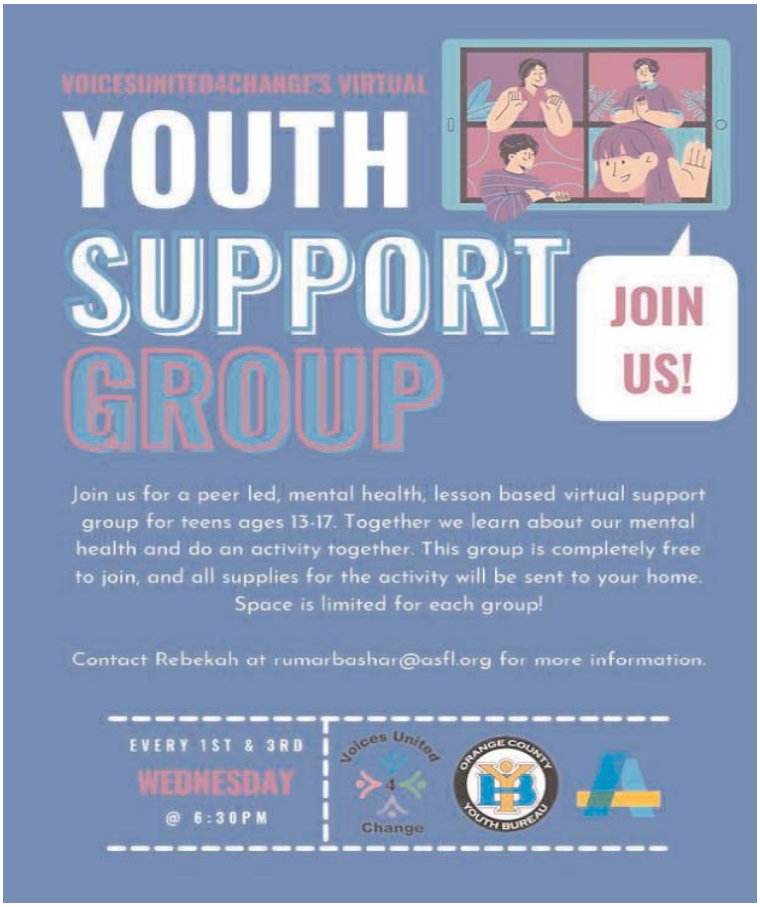
VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL
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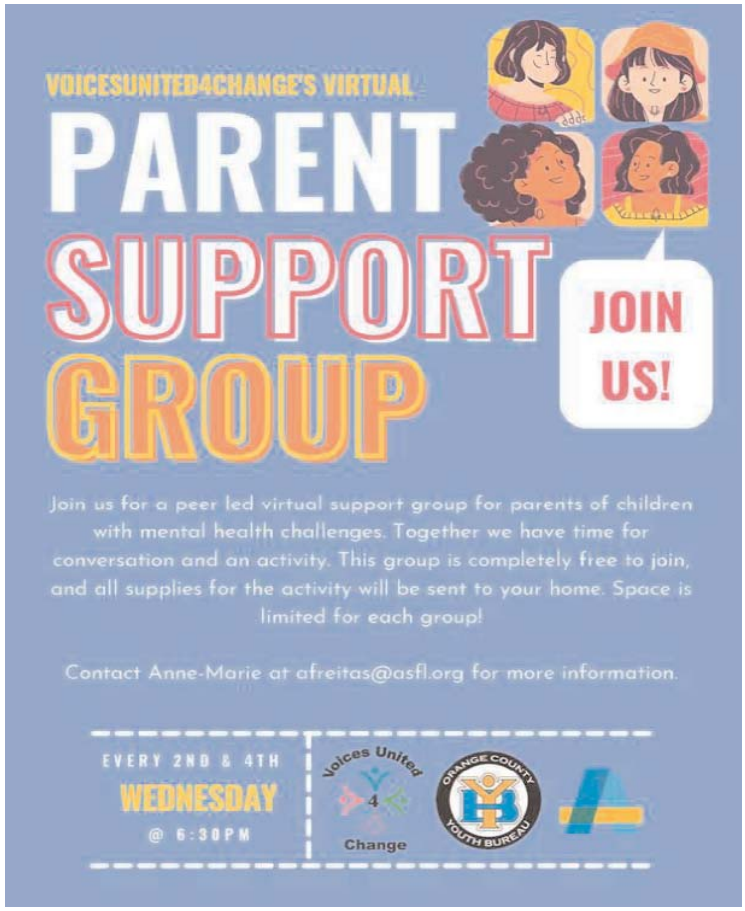
JOIN US!
Join us for a peer led, mental health, lesson based virtual support group for teens ages 13-17. Together we learn about our mental health and do an activity together. This group is completely free to join, and all supplies for the activity will be sent to your home. Space is limited for each group!
Contact Rebekah at rumarbashar@asfl.org for more information.
EVERY 1ST & 3RD
WEDNESDAY
@ 6:30PM
Voices United 4 Change
ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU


VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL
PARENT SUPPORT GROUP
JOIN US!
Join us for a peer led virtual support group for parents of children with mental health challenges. Together we have time for conversation and an activity. This group is completely free to join, and all supplies for the activity will be sent to your home. Space is limited for each group!
Contact Anne-Marie at afreitas@asfl.org for more information.
EVERY 2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAY
@ 6:30PM
Voices United 4 Change
ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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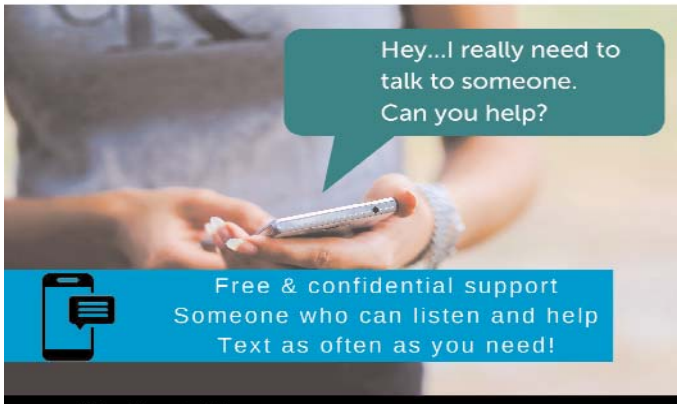
Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

Sullivan County Text For Teens

Monday - Friday 4pm-10pm
Saturday & Sunday 5pm-12am



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Text for Teens is supported by a Grant of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation

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¿A quien protegerás?

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FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!

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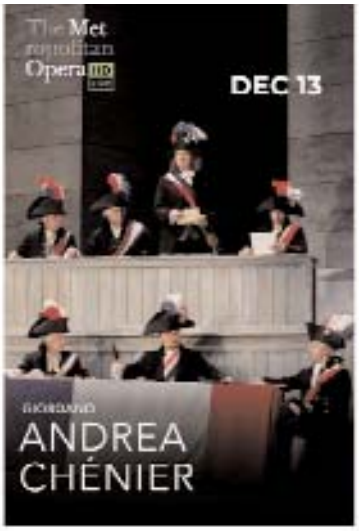

at SUNY Sullivan's Seelig Theatre

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KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE

The Ten Commandments

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Jesus of Nazareth

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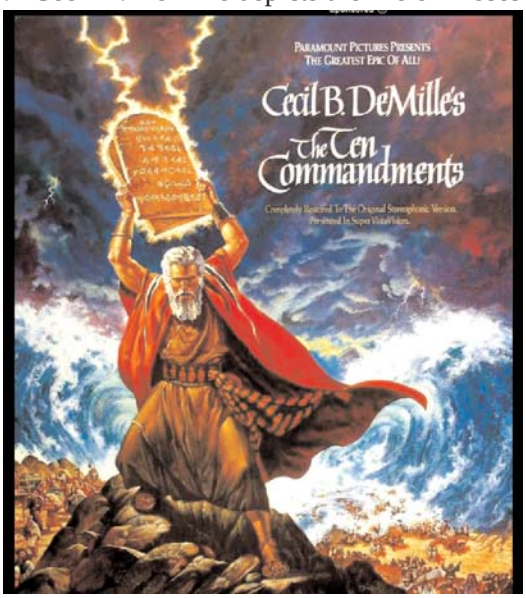
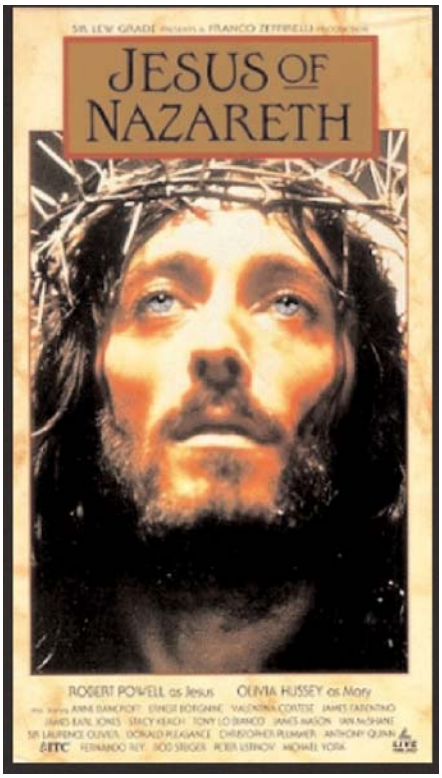
"***The Ten Commandments*** is a holiday special in every way. Cecil B. DeMille depicts the life of Moses from his birth to slavery to Mt. Sinai in grandiose, reverential style where he enjoys a life of ease in the court of Egypt's pharaoh, Moses (Charlton Heston) discovers his Heb-rew heritage and, lat-er, what God's expects him to br. Moses dedicates his life to freeing his people from captivit. Through divine intervention and plagues, Moses manages to lead them out of Egypt and across the Red Sea. A greater challenge then comes in the form of the golden calf idol. It takes an unforgettable visitation by God on Mount Sinai for Moses' triumph.



Charlton Heston gives an excellent performance as Moses, Edward G Robinson is suitably nefarious as Dathan, and there's great performances all round from Anne Baxter and Yul Brynner.



Jesus of Nazareth (Italian: Gesù di Nazareth) is a 1977 epic television drama serial directed by Franco Zeffirelli and co-written by Anthony Burgess and Suso Cecchi d'Amico, ***Jesus of Nazareth*** dramatizes the birth, life, ministry, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. It stars Robert Powell as Jesus, and features an all-star cast of actors, including seven who had won or would go on to win Academy Awards.

Wishing all
Happy Easter and
Happy Passover

Knarf Odnamoc
Gnome

Answer to last week's Knarf's Trivia Question:
Regarding Henry

This weeks' Trivia question: How old is the Cadbury Creme Egg?