



SULLIVAN COUNTY
Democrat

WEEKENDER EDITION

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024 \$1.50

VALENTINES: Celebrate your loved ones this Valentine's Day! **9A**

LEGEND LOST: Singer Mickey Barnett was a vintage country performer. **1B**

RETROSPECT: Historian John Conway celebrates Black History Month. **10A**

Sullivan County Head Start relinquishes its grant

Gov. officials working hard to fill void

BY ALEX KIELAR

WOODBOURNE — U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19) has been one of the leading government officials to look into the sudden closure of the Sullivan County Head Start Program.

Molinaro said he has been engaging with county and Federal partners since last Friday evening to figure out what went wrong and working to identify a backup facility.

Molinaro said Wednesday that the Office of Head Start (OHS) had informed him that Sullivan County Head Start has decided to relinquish its Head Start grant.

"In relinquishing its grant, OHS will now be able to transition Sullivan County's Head Start program to an interim service provider," Molinaro said. "A timeline for this transfer has not yet been set by OHS, but we are continuing to push them to get this resolved immediately. Having kids without childcare and providers without a job for this amount of time is unacceptable."

Sullivan County Commissioner of Health and Human Services John Liddle said yesterday, "It is about a month turnaround for an interim agency to come in but they are working hard to accelerate the timeframe."

Sullivan County Head Start was located at 393 State Route 52 Woodbourne since 1989 and runs Head Start and Early Head Start programs in the county. They also have two facilities in Monticello that are also currently closed.

"I just want to emphasize that this decision to temporarily suspend services or to temporarily cease operation was a decision that was made solely by Sullivan County Head Start's program leadership," Director of the Office of Head Start at the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Khari Garvin said. "It is not or was not an action that was either required or initiated by the [Federal] Office of Head Start."

Available Childcare

Healthy Kids reached out to the **Democrat** and said that if any Sullivan County families who were impacted by the closure of Head Start

are in need of childcare slots, they have them. Healthy Kids has two licensed Childcare Centers, one at 518 Broadway in Monticello and another at 68 State Street in Liberty.

Healthy Kids is a part of Healthy Kids Programs, which has been providing Before and After School, Summer Camp and Remote Learning Programs throughout the Northeast for over 16 years. They also have their Healthy Kids Early Learning program which focuses on Toddler, Preschool and Pre-K programs.

"We are converting all available spaces to open more classrooms and should

be able to open five new Preschool classrooms within the next two weeks," said Heather Lynn, Chief Marketing and Registration Officer of Healthy Kids. "The tuition is parent pay and we accept Childcare Assistance from the Department of Social Services. We even offer a four-week grace period where no tuition is paid while families apply for assistance."

More information on Healthy Kids can be found on their website, www.HealthyKidsPrograms.com, and families can email elcregistration@healthykidsprograms.com or call 845-330-0200 to learn more.

Proposed White Lake Estates draws opposition by residents

STORY AND PHOTO BY JACQUELINE HERMAN

BETHEL — The Bethel Planning Board held a public hearing Monday, February 5, about the construction of White Lake Estates, a hotel on a six-acre, two-lot parcel at the intersection of State Route 17B and Mattison Road.

Residents of Smallwood, White Lake, the Chapin Estate, the Town of Bethel at-large and the Smart Bethel Steering Committee voiced concerns and submitted letters opposing the project.

A presentation detailed by project attorney Jacob Billig consisted of three alternative exterior versions, the results of a traffic study, dimensions, amenities, parking, entrances, water treatment and studies on its effects on the watershed.

Engineers and an architect demonstrated how the project is compliant with relevant codes set by zoning, the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH), NYS Energy Re-



There was much information presented and debate had over the proposed White Lake Estates. At left, Bruce Johnson of Smallwood, voices concerns about the hotel project while attorney for the project, Jacob Billig, right, described the layout of the hotel property to the board and audience.

search and Development Authority (NYSERDA), NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The six-acre area will contain a three-story hotel on a 2.1 acre lot, with 35 suites (each with a dining area and kitchenette), a mikva,

synagogue and 54 parking spaces.

The rest of the parcel is intended for recreational use, yet to be defined. The main entrance will be on Mattison Road, with parking in the rear, and the height has been redesigned to meet zoning guidelines of 35 feet.

There will be 2 wells for

hotel use and a connection to the town sewer.

All water outflow will be treated and runoff will flow to a retention basin. A hydro-geologist acknowledged that the property border overlaps the White Lake Watershed and conducted a six

PLEASE SEE WHITE LAKE, PAGE 3A



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

School Scene!
 A look at activities in the Tri-Valley School District

Mamakating hears energy presentations

BY VINCENT KURZROCK

MAMAKATING — The Town Board of Mamakating saw two presenters propose projects before the board in their Work Session during their regular meeting on February 6.

The first of the presenters was Eleanor Peck, Program Manager for Mid-Hudson Clean Energy Communities, who spoke to the town about the Clean-Energy Community designation.

She said that this is a designation from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to show that the town is participating in programs.

She talked of the Hudson Valley Regional Council, of which she works for. She said she works under areas such as Economic Development and Water Quality. Peck said that the community is welcome to reach out to them regarding these topics and more.

Regarding the Clean Energy Communities program, Peck stated that there are almost 900 communities statewide participating in the program.

According to Peck, this program is designed to help lower utility bills, provide funding for clean energy projects and to start opening jobs.

In her presentation, she displayed a chart which shows 'ranks' in the program and participation in the program. Peck explained that points are earned for each action and destination levels are reached.

It was clarified that more information on the actions that can be taking and the points that would be awarded can be found on the NYSERDA website (www.nyserdera.ny.gov/All-Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities).

According to their website, the Town of Mamakating currently accrued 200 points and completed the Energy Code Enforcement Training - Leadership Round.

Real Term Energy

Steve Harriman, Senior Director of Business Development at Real Term Energy, also presented before the board. Harriman had previously spoke in July of 2022 about replacing the current street lamps in the area with LED ones.

Harriman told the board that the town would buy the streetlights from Orange and Rockland and his company would convert those lights to LED technology.

Regarding the last time the proposal was presented, the concern was recalled in how

this would affect cellular service for WiFi. When asked if anything has changed, Harriman stated that a company would come out and do a test on whether the cell signal is good enough. If it is sufficient, they would give advice if Smart Controls would be a good idea.

Harriman emphasized that implementing LED Lights with Smart Plugs would be both cost and energy-saving.

"Think of it this way: if you buy your streetlights from Orange and Rockland, [for] over 7 years, the first year you would get nothing at all," Harriman explained. "You'd be paying the same as you are paying now. The second year you would be ahead by over \$5,000."

"Over the seven-year term, you be ahead by almost \$44,000 because the energy savings are that considerable," she said.

Budget Modifications

Additionally, the Mamakating Town Board re-allocated money to fund various projects and factors within the town. The projects seeing a bump in funding includes:

- Trooper Barracks Addition
- Part-time Dog Control Officer
- Parks (for the D&H Canal Project)
- Youth activities
- Buildings and grounds
- APPA building renovations

Public Comment

Resident Chris Leser spoke before the board about an invitation on a newspaper clipping that invites the reader to a Public Information Session.

According to Leser, this he attended discussed plans for Route 17 between exit 113 and all the way to the Thruway.

Leser used this meeting as an example for why he was 'livid' over the concept behind Public Information Sessions.

He stressed that there are talks of what should be cut, what should be scrapped, what should be added, as an example. Leser said he has never seen 'such undemocratic stuff' in his life.

"I was here before the quickway was here, I don't see the need for it," said Leser.

"We have no say in a damn thing. This town here has pages and books of things we can't do. I'd like to see something we can do without paying for it."

Town Supervisor Michael Robbins said that due to the nature of public comment, the Town does not have any response on Leser's comments at this time.

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MEETINGS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency, Monthly Meeting, 11 a.m., Legislative Hearing Room, Sull. Co. Government Center, 100 North St., Monticello.
Town of Fallsburg, Town Board, Meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall, Court Room, 19 Railroad Plaza, South Fallsburg.
Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District, Monthly Board of Directors Meeting, 6 p.m., Cornell Cooperative Extension Center, 64 Ferndale-Loomis Rd., Liberty.
Cochecton Fire District, Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m., Lake Huntington Firehouse, County Rd. 116, Lake Huntington.
Town of Forestburgh, Zoning Board, Meeting, 7 p.m., 332 King Rd., Forestburgh.
Liberty Joint Fire District, Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m., Liberty Firehouse, 256 Sprague Ave., Liberty.
Rock Hill Fire District, Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m., Rock Hill Firehouse, 61 Glen Wild Rd., Rock Hill.

Yulan Firefighters come to blows in Highland

BY DEREK KIRK

HIGHLAND – Former Highland Town Supervisor Donald Jeff Haas and current Town Board member Tom Migliorino were involved in a physical altercation before a Yulan Volunteer Fire Department drill at the firehouse on January 25.

Both men are volunteers in the fire service and Republicans and had to be separated by fellow firefighters. The former Town Supervisor noted there were roughly 20 other firefighters present at the meeting. He also confirmed that both men remain in the fire service.

As a result of the altercation, both parties have reportedly filed charges against one another. The counter charges filed by Migliorino names

Haas and his son, president of the fire department. Haas told the **Democrat** that he did not know why his son was also named in the charges, and that he was “sucker-punched.”

When asked what discussions led up to the physical incident, he noted there were personal talks between him and Migliorino regarding “life choices” and “local [town] politics.”

As for what sparked the escalation, the two men have both refuted the accusations of being the aggressor in the moments leading up to the incident. In an article published by Mid-Hudson News on February 3, Haas quoted Migliorino as being the aggressor, to which the Town Board member called “an absolute lie.”

“This was a strictly personal matter that should have been handled between two men and then left alone. I had no choice but to file counter charges against both Jeff Sr. and Jr. I will not elaborate on the details of the incident at this time,” Migliorino said.

Migliorino noted that “the incident had nothing to do with any of the valued volunteers besides D. Jeff Haas and should not reflect negatively on either of these organizations.”

Haas also told the **Democrat** that the altercation had nothing to do with the fire department and its internal

politics, and that the incident only happened to take place there.

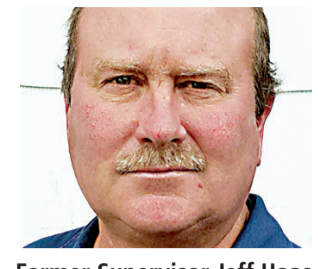
“20 feet over and we would’ve been [off the property],” Haas said.

Migliorino said in the statement that he is apologetic to the Yulan Fire Department and Highland Ambulance Squad for “allowing [the altercation] to happen on the premises.”

Further information regarding specifics of the charges both filed by and against him were withheld pending the potential progression of the charges in court.



Town Board member Tom Migliorino



Former Supervisor Jeff Haas

Open access to services return

LIBERTY — Sullivan County’s Department of Community Services is pleased to announce the resumption of walk-in service for those seeking mental health, substance use and/or other therapeutic assistance, starting in mid-February.

“We were forced by the COVID-19 pandemic to go to appointments only, but since that crisis has passed and our staffing levels have risen sufficiently, we are very glad to welcome people back who can’t or don’t want to wait for an appointment,” said Deputy Health and Human Services Commissioner Melissa Stickle. “Starting February 13, Community Services will remain open three more hours every Tuesday evening, till 8 p.m.,

no appointments needed. And starting February 15, our Mental Health Clinic will accept walk-ins every Thursday between 9 a.m. and noon.”

The Department of Community Services offers the following:

- Individual Psychotherapy
- Marital & Family Counseling
- Group Therapy (not offered during extended Tuesday hours)
- Medication Therapy
- Crisis Intervention/Outreach
- Court Evaluations
- Consultation & Education
- Case Management
- Anger Management
- Coordinated Children’s Services Initiative SPOA

(Single Point of Access)

“These are crucial services for our residents, and I am thrilled we’re extending the hours and opening up access to folks who otherwise face barriers to receiving the support they very much need,” noted District 5 Legislator Cat Scott, chair of the Legislature’s Health and Human Services Committee. “Our team is dedicated to helping anyone who needs assistance, and I encourage people to take full advantage of these services. There is nothing wrong – and everything right – in seeking out help when life gets tough.”

For more information, contact Program Manager Katherine Johnson at 845-292-0100 or Katherine.johnson@sullivanny.us.

Town of Callicoon, Town Board, Meeting, 7:30 p.m. 19 Legion St., Jeffersonville.
Town of Lumberland Planning Board, Workshop 7 p.m., reg. mtg. 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall, 1052 Proctor Road, Glen Spey.
Western Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees, Meeting, 5:30 p.m., 19 Center St, Jeffersonville.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Town of Tusten, Town Board, Meeting, 6:30 p.m., 210 Bridge St., Narrowsburg.
Town of Thompson, Zoning Board, Work Session, 6:30 p.m., Meeting, 7 p.m., 4052 Route 42, Monticello.
Kauneonga Lake Fire District, Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m., Kauneonga Lake Firehouse, 3574 NYS Route 55, Kauneonga Lake.
Town of Highland, Town Board, Meeting, 7 p.m., Eldred Town Hall, 4 Proctor Rd., Eldred.
Village of Monticello, Planning Board, Meeting, 6 p.m., 2 Pleasant St., Monticello.
Workforce Development Board of

Sullivan Inc., Meeting, 8 a.m., 162 Bridgeville Road, Monticello. Contact Sharon Ferber at 845-807-0593 for more information.

Upcoming Board of Trustees meeting for Mamakating Library

WURTSBORO — The Mamakating Library Board of Trustees will have a regular meeting at 6 pm on Tuesday, February 13th. The public is welcome to attend at the library, 128 Sullivan Street, Wurtsboro, NY. Please contact the library director at mam@rcls.org with any questions. Meeting documents will be available on the library website at mamakatinglibrary.org.

POLICE NOTE

Car accident reported on Old Liberty Road

SULLIVAN COUNTY — On Monday, February 5 at approximately 3:05 PM, the Sullivan County Sheriff’s Office responded to a collision between a car and a small school bus in the vicinity of 907 Old Liberty Road in the Town of Thompson.

Deputies found that a 2023 Kia Forte driven by Shyla Carlson, 43, of Hurleyville was travelling southbound when it swerved into the path of the school bus, hitting it head on. The bus, which belonged to Bus Student Company of Spring Valley, NY was transporting 6 students of various ages to the Center for Discovery. No injuries were reported on the bus. The

driver of the KIA was transported to Garnet Catskills for treatment of a hand injury. The Sheriff’s Office was assisted at the scene by Hurleyville Fire Dept, Mobile Medic, Rock Hill Ambulance, Hatzolah Ambulance, Bethel Ambulance, SC EMS – 1, SC EMS-2 and the state police. The accident remains under investigation and charges are pending.



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Date: February 14, 2024
Times: 8:45am – 10:15am & 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Location: New Hope Community Center
 5512 Route 55
 Liberty, NY 12754

For more information, please contact:
Carl Santos, New Hope Community Director of Program Services
845-434-8300, ext. 239

WHITE LAKE: Residents, business owners turn out to listen to housing project presentation

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
month test using pressure transducers to record water pressure. He found a rapid rise in levels after August 7 (peak usage) and stated, "We are willing to monitor off-site wells." His studies were conducted with the oversight of the Planning Board and involvement of the DEC and DOH.

The project "is a hotel geared to the Orthodox Jewish community" and is following the NYS Environmental Review Act. There has been a lot of detail in looking at traffic, sewer, and grading, and in order to mitigate traffic there is a stipulation that facilities are available only to hotel guests.

The developer's consultant engineers conducted a traffic study on the dates of June 30, 2023, and July 2, 2023, at three intersections on 17B near the project. Assuming a two percent growth rate and peak season use, the assessment was that the intersections will continue to operate without impact on traffic flow.

Critical correspondence

In a letter addressed to Chairman Gettel and The Planning Board, the Smart Bethel Steering Committee pointed out inaccuracies and insufficient data in tests conducted, and omissions in applications by the developers. Concerns are: the

wetlands, stormwater, room size, building height, traffic impact, and incorrect filing of the Environmental Assessment Form.

It calls for examination of their request for a special use permit and a response to the question — "How will the project serve local residents if it is a gated facility, doesn't serve women, will put stress upon the White Lake Watershed, and do further damage to already compromised Mountain Lake in Smallwood?"

The lake is the major source of drinking water to the seasonal Smallwood community.

The letter stated that the town must "ensure the proper balance between natural resources and the need to accommodate... population growth."

The correspondence asked for a more comprehensive traffic study at peak times (concerts, vacationers, and inflow of second homeowners).

There is confusion about the size of the land to be subdivided, and mysteries surrounding the intended use of a 1500 square feet storage space, a dining room with a capacity greater than the maximum number of guests, a male-only mikvah, and the possibility of its intended use as a boys/men's school or as a residential apartment complex.



It also cites a basement beneath half of the building, which alters actual height, and asks the Planning Board to justify the granting of a special use permit if it doesn't serve the residents of Bethel.

Pushback on the project

Approximately 15 individuals voiced concerns about the preservation of the rural character of Bethel; the inability of White Lake Brook and Mountain Lake to handle more runoff, threatening safe sources of water; and

the stress placed upon narrow Mattison Road in handling the arrival of busloads and cars. The parking lot and other pavement is an impervious surface whereby runoff will deposit phosphorous and nitrogen into nearby, already eutrophic waters. In addition, there are discrepancies in the site's actual border which overlaps the wetlands.

Local resident Clay Ruede stated, "This area cannot sustain this development."

Joyce Caracci of the Smallwood Civic Association brought up the prior existence of a service station on the site, of which there was an oil leak which contaminated the property, affecting area wells. She said that this issue may not have been properly remedied. She called for a "full environmental study and soil test."

Bruce Johnson of New Jersey and Smallwood said, "The project doesn't fit the location. It's not a pedestrian friendly area."

He projects potential use as housing if the hotel isn't successful, since the suites contain eating areas.

Local resident Barbara Lerner found indications that primary use may be something different than as a hotel, as there are 7900

square feet of amenities, with no facilities for women, and that there are actually 39 suites.

Andrew Klebanow, President of the Lake Association of White Lake, brought up the inclusion of the lake in NYS Law, Article 42 titled "Waterfront Revitalization of Coastal Areas and Inland Waterways."

The law was created in response to strains by development and promotes formation of Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs (LWRP) by localities. White Lake is the only waterway in Sullivan County to be included.

Through these programs, grants are available for various enhancement projects which are competitive and which wouldn't be available if there was no LWRP in place. Since the grants are received through processes best coordinated with Comprehensive Plans, there are efforts to put the LWRP into the current revision of Bethel's Comprehensive Plan. The benefits to the town in receiving grants which enhance recreational use of the lake are important to understand. The project at hand will most likely disrupt the preservation and enhancement of the health of the

lake and watershed.

What's next?

There were several requests to hold off approval until the Town Comprehensive Plan is finalized, and not to overly rely on the developer's team. The value of White Lake as a NYS Designated Waterway was asserted and it was suggested that escrow funds, provided by the developer, be used to engage professionals to properly assess the cumulative impact of the project.

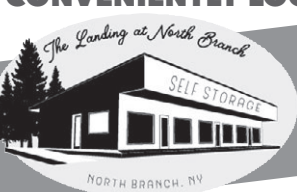
Bethel was compared to nearby Callicoon and Hurleyville, where development is balanced and harmonious with the natural environment, and useful to local residents.

Town Attorney John Cappello said the Board will gather information to "concentrate on the issues raised" and to make sure that "everyone has the same info."

It will be assessed whether guests will be "transient" in nature to determine whether the project is in fact a hotel. Dan Gettel said "We need the opportunity to go over public comments and address concerns."

The public hearing was adjourned until the first Monday in April.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

A listing of regular weekly church or synagogue services and schools. For information on rates, and to place your listing, please call 887-5200 or write the Democrat, Callicoon, N.Y. 12723.

BIBLE MINISTRIES
Kauneonga Lake - Bethel Bible Ministries Sunday Worship and Sunday School at 10 a.m. Pastor Paul Minton, 701-0545.

CATHOLIC
Callicoon - Holy Cross - Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm, Sunday Mass: 11:00 am.
Jeffersonville - St. George's, Saturday Vigil Mass, 4 p.m. Sunday Mass 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Long Eddy - St. Patrick's Church - Sunday Mass: 8:30 am.
Oberburg - St. Mary's Church. Saturday Vigil Mass 4 p.m. Sunday Mass 8 & 9:30 a.m. Confessions Saturday 3:30 to 3:50 p.m. Father George E. Baker or call 845-482-5541.
Youngsville - St. Francis, Sunday Mass 9 a.m.
Pond Eddy - Sacred Heart - Sunday Mass 7:30 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL
Eldred - Eldred Congregational Church, founded 1799. Pastor Susan M. Storms - 845-856-6760. All are welcome for worship every Sunday at 11 a.m. 8 Proctor Road (near intersection of Rt. 55, opposite Peck's).

EPISCOPAL
Callicoon - St. James Episcopal Church, 17B. Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 845-887-3145.
Monticello - St. John's Episcopal Church, 15 St. John St. - Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 845-303-0535.

FOR FAITH PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
Bethel - 1972 Route 17B, Services held at Lake Huntington 9:30 a.m.
Hortonville - 14 County Rt. 131 - Services held at Hortonville 11:00 a.m.
Lake Huntington - 55 County Road 116. Services held at 9:30 a.m.
Roscoe - 1955 Old Route 17. Worship at 11:15 a.m.

Everyone is welcome at any of our services. Virginia Bossley, Outreach. 607-637-5548

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
Damascus, Pa. - First Baptist Church of Damascus. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Youth Groups 7:00 p.m. Phone (570) 224-4929.

JEWISH
Monticello - Temple Shalom of Monticello. A reform synagogue with services every Friday evening. Please contact us at 845-794-8731 or on Facebook for details.

LUTHERAN
Ellenville - Christ Lutheran Church, 105 Center St. - Sunday Worship Service 11:15, Holy Communion twice a month. Pastor Paul Johsen 845-647-9054
Liberty - St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 24 Chestnut St. Worship Schedule - Sunday morning worship with Holy Communion at 9 a.m. Food Pantry/Toiletries - Last Wednesday of each month at 5:15 p.m.

North Branch - Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 999 Cty Rt 95. Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Narrowsburg - NY & PA. St. Paul's, 31 Erie Ave. Services: Babies & Toddlers welcome! Sun. Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. 845-252-3919. stpaulsnarrowsburg@gmail.com facebook.com/stpauls.narrowsburg

METHODIST (FREE)
Liberty - Vine and Branch Free Methodist Church. A family friendly bible church! Liberty - 2535 Route 52 - 845-292-5227 Sunday School for all ages at 9 am. In person and Live Stream



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Liberty native performs at Performing Arts Center during national tour

Musician 1st Class Sean Carmichael, from Liberty, New York, performs at the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Visual and Performing Arts Center as part of the Concert Band's 2024 national tour. The Navy Band will travel 2500 ground miles over 18 days to 7 states, giving 12 public concerts as well as 5 performances for students in schools.

Worship Service at 10:30 am. Pastors Ed and Robin Sostak, www.vineandbranchchurch.org Like us on Facebook.
Livingston Manor - Cornerstone Community Church, 2 Grooville Road. Sunday School for all 10:10 am. Worship Service 11:00 am Sundays. Various Community Bible Studies during the week. Call Pastor Paul at 201-396-6395 for information or prayer.

METHODIST (UNITED)
Barryville - 3405 Route 97, Barryville. Worship 9 am. 557-6216.bumccoprte@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/BUMCNY.
Callicoon - The Riverside United Methodist Church, Callicoon, will be having only zoom services from Jan. 7 to March

17 at 9 am. Zoom ID# 917-417-1539, Password 758844. If on phone call 1-646-558-6856, then add ID and password
Fosterdale - Rt. 17B near Hwy. 52. Worship 10 a.m. Pastor Bill Hagerty, 845-866-6757.
Jeffersonville - Maple Ave. Sunday Worship service 10:30 a.m. Linda Simmons, CLM 845-707-9925.
Kenosha Lake - Old Taylor Rd across from fire dept. Worship & Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Pastor Joycelynn Jordan and Joseph (Bud) LeConey, CLM, 845-313-1204.

Liberty - 170 N. Main St. Sunday morning Worship 9 a.m. Holy Communion 3rd Sunday of each month. Fellowship Coffee Hour 8:30 am. Come and

Special concert to be hosted by the Liberty United Methodist Church on Feb. 25

LIBERTY — The Liberty United Methodist Church will host a special spoken word concert on Saturday, February 25th in celebration of Black History Month. Members of the Central High School speech team from Newark, New Jersey will headline the event, performing a menu of poetry and prose readings, dramatic interpretations and renditions of famous orations. Music will be provided by local musician Harrison Killian performing related songs on the church's 100-year-old pipe organ. The program will highlight the spiritually and morality of the struggles to advance the equality of dignity of all people.

The Central High School speech team, is regionally and nationally acclaimed, winning numerous top honors in state, regional and

national competitions. The team coach is a professional actor and playwright as well as an accomplished teacher. Harrison Killian, a Liberty NY native, is an internationally awarded film artist and an accomplished musician on 11 different instruments. In 2023 he helped raise funds to restore the church's pipe organ, performing a 2-hour innovative musical journey linking Bach and The Doors.

The church's Black History Month celebration will be held on February 25 from 4 pm to 6 pm in its sanctuary at 170 North Main Street. Admission is \$5 per person and \$10 per family and proceeds will be donated to the church sponsored food pantry. The event is appropriate for all ages and all people. Join us for an evening of uplifting and joyful spoken word and song.

Worship with us. Handicapped accessible. Pastor Joycelyn Jordan. 292-6243.

White Sulphur Springs - On Rte 52 Sunday Worship at 10 am - Also Virtual Worship is available on U-tube or Googling WSS UMC. 10 am Pastor Joycelyn Jordan, Communion 1st Sunday of month and Sunday School at 9 am on Sundays.

Woodridge - Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. Reverend Walter Haff Pastor and Reverend Jorge Lopez Pastor 796-3833. Open Communion first Sunday. Handicap Accessible.

PRESBYTERIAN (USA)
Jeffersonville - Next to Firehall. Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Thrift Shop - Open Wed 9:30 am to 1:30 pm Thurs noon to 2pm Sat 11 am to 1pm. All Welcome 482-5549 Handicap accessible.
Liberty - 81 So. Main St., Liberty. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. The Friendly and Welcoming Church, All Welcomed 292-

7834.
Livingston Manor - Livingston Manor Presbyterian Church, 568 Old Rt. 17. Sunday worship service 9:30 a.m. Handicap accessible. 845-439-4410.

Monticello - First Church of Monticello next to the Courthouse. Sunday worship and Sunday school 11 a.m. Communion first Sunday of each month. Rev. Johanna K. Andritz. 845-794- 5783. All are welcome.

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN White Lake - Join us for Church School at 9:45 a.m. We have classes for all ages. Our Worship Service is at 11 a.m. We have youth programs and study groups throughout the week. Our handicap-accessible facilities are located on Rt. 17B across from Bethel Medical Center in White Lake. For more information call 583-7082, or visit our web page at www.whitelakechurch.com.

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February 9 – The Cutting Garden says it is time to think Spring and order your plants! Late winter hours are Saturday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. They have added some determinate tomato varieties this year. Determinate varieties tend to produce most of their fruit at about the same time. Indeterminate varieties tend to grow and produce fruit throughout the season.

All the tomatoes listed are indeterminate unless specifically marked otherwise. Call and they will email you the list. Please Pre-Order by March 1. You can either stop into the shop with your list, or email it to them at cuttinggarden@hotmail.com. No need to pay in advance, but if you do not receive confirmation by email, please call to make sure they received the order. FMI: 845-482-3333. Plant pickup around Memorial Day weekend.

Friday, February 23rd from 4-7 p.m. the White Sulphur Springs United Methodist Church and the WSS Fire Department are hosting a "Fish Fry" at the WSS Fire House! Eat in or take out with a delicious meal of fried Haddock, baked potato, coleslaw, dinner roll and a brownie for \$15. Get your Pre-Sale tickets from the WSS Church or Fire Department member.

The Western Sullivan Public Library is holding a "Let's Play!" fun time at the Jeffersonville branch on Tuesday, February 27th at 10:00 a.m. This playgroup is intended for the more active child and children under 3. There will be a healthy blend of open play, structured games, and activities – a loose structure that will allow them to fluidly spend time socializing together while learning through play. FMI: 845-482-4350.

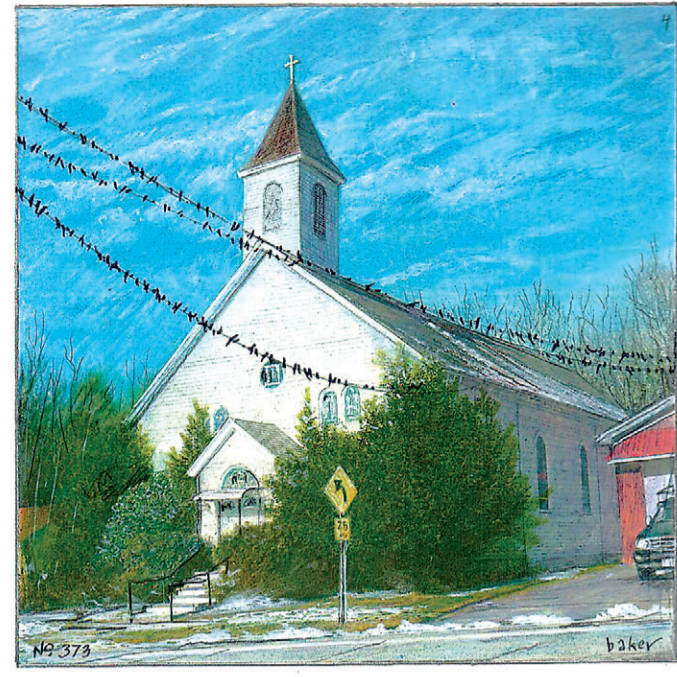
Save the Date! The Sullivan West Musical Production Club is presenting "Guys and Dolls" at the SW High school auditorium in Lake Huntington on Friday, March 8th and Saturday the 9th at 7 p.m. and Sunday the 10th at 2 p.m. A musical fable made possible through special arrangements with Music Theatre International with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser. Tickets: Adults \$10, Students \$6, Seniors (62+) free and Sunday Special – 4 pack \$25 and 5 pack \$30.

Time to get rid of the "Winter Blues" by pampering yourself! "Stunning Styles" is a great place to pamper yourself and easy to find on Main Street (located at 4882 State Route, Jeffersonville). Melissa Hahl is the proud owner/operator of this family salon that provides all types of hair

ON THE ROAD WITH ROGER BAKER

Where are we? No. 373

Where are we this week (drawing at right)? If you know, please email editor@sc-democrat.com by 5 p.m. next Wednesday, February 14. Please include your name and mailing address with your entry, and your phone number. The winner of last week's quiz was Matt Johnstone who knew this was Hamill's Antiques alongside Flowers by Lynn in Wurtsboro. Good luck this week!



services for women, children, and men, specializing in hair color and in special occasion styles! The salon is so busy two new specialists have joined Melissa. Alexis (Lexi) Harnish, a graduate from the Cosmetology program at Ulster BOCES, also provides amazing hair styles & color and offers special occasion /bridal hair & makeup too. Lexi also is a brand representative for NuSkin.

When she has "spare time" she helps to run her fiancé's property maintenance business. Both Melissa and Lexi may be

reached for appointments at 845-482-4259. "Kylee" is an independent and talented gel nail artist that studied and graduated from the Aesthetic Science Institute in Albany.

She offers gel polish manicures and gel builder (a natural overlay that adds strength and durability) and gel X, (a full coverage extension). To make an appointment, email her a kyleedoesnails@gmail.com. And her Instagram is kyleedoesnails. A fantastic salon that has everything you need to treat yourself – getting ready for Spring.

Liberty Winter Festival begins February 24

LIBERTY — Local organizations and community members are invited to take part in the All Things Liberty Winter Festival, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Middle and High School.

"The collaboration between schools and the community is essential for the overall development and success of our students," Community Schools Coordinator Stacy Feasel said.

Partners are invited to set up informational tables, create games for children to play, or become a sponsor. Craft vendors are also welcome for a \$35 fee.

Planned activities include games, karaoke, a mini maker faire, and sled riding. Food will also be available.

For more information or to register an organization, contact Stacy Feasel at sfeasel@libertyk12.org or 845-292-5400, ext. 2332, by Feb. 15.

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EDITORIAL

Walk on right in

When it comes to necessary services that benefit the mental and physical health of the community, accessibility is extremely vital. With the recent announcement that the Sullivan County Department of Community Services are resuming walk-in services for mental health and substance use in Mid February, the shine seems to shine a little brighter in these cold days.

Removing the roadblock of needing to schedule an appointment that was put in after the Covid-19 pandemic shuttered the world as we once knew it only elevates what can be done to answer the calls of our people who seek help.

“This is a great sign of recovery, restabalization and resilience... there is hope!”

The return of walk-ins is also due to an increase in staffing in the department, which is another fantastic sign. We applaud those who have answered the call to help anyone and everyone of Sullivan County with their diligence to bettering the community.

Starting February 13, Community Services is keeping its doors open until 8 p.m. every Tuesday evening, giving an extra three hour window for those in distress to seek assistance. The good news doesn't stop there though, as the start date for accepting walk-ins for the Mental Health Clinic is set for February 15, which will be open every Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.

The services offered include individual psychotherapy, marital and family counseling, group therapy, medication therapy, crisis intervention and outreach, court evaluations and more. For the complete list of services, please see page 2A of this edition.

This is the work of real-life superheroes made available to so many more people. Those with questions should contact Program Manager Catherine Johnson at (845)-292-0100 or Catherine.johnson@sullivanny.us.

This is a great sign of recovery, restabalization and resilience, and we hope that the expanded accessibility of these services empower those who need them to seek those same qualities within themselves – there is hope!



The Best of Nellie

Reprinted from February 21, 1957

This month we celebrate birthdays of two of our greatest presidents. Both of them knew great tragedy in their lives. Lincoln's whole life seems to have been made up of disappointments and great loss. The romantic tale of Anne Rutledge and her early death affected his young manhood but before that he had known, at the early age of nine, the greatest tragedy of all, the loss of his mother. That his father's second marriage brought him a wonderful and understanding step-mother was one of the bright spots in the life of this man. Much has been written of his life after his marriage to Mary Todd and most of it in his favor. Being a woman, I was interested in this wife of a great man and read a book a few years ago entitled "Mr. Lincoln's Wife." The author had searched through history and presented Mary Todd's side of the story. She loved this man enough to give up a life of wealth and ease to become his wife and the mother of his children. She went through all the failures he endured. She cared for the children and reared them almost alone since he was always busy away from home on his various ventures. The loss of all of their children except Robert brought them closer together and much of his greatness is due to this faithful wife who stood by him and encouraged him to try and try again.

Washington, too, knew great disappointments in his life. He was the father of his country but he was never a real father. But history tells us of his great love for children and how he adopted and treated as his own the children of the widow who became his wife. He especially showered his love on Miss Pat, a sickly little girl who died in young womanhood leaving him as much bereaved as though he were her own father. He never knew the many set-backs that were typical of Lincoln but he had his troubles too. Perhaps it was because of these trials in life that these men became great. There can be no question about the fact that such happenings strengthen character and certainly these two men reached the heights of greatness, so much so that our great country has set aside their birthdays as national holidays.

-N.C.S.



DEREK KIRK | DEMOCRAT

Unshakeable mountain

Along the trail at the Stone Arch Bridge Park rests a healthy green grove of Mountain laurel trees, also known as calico bush and/or spoonwood. It retains its shape thick with blade-like leaves and unmitigable twisty, thick trunks. They are the Pennsylvania State Flower and prefer to settle down in areas near water, like rivers and streams.

What really makes these plants pop in the wintertime is their unshakeable desire to hold onto their leaves, unlike their other neighbors of the forest. As the leaves eventually begin to return, the sun will be blocked out before it can pass through the near-translucent laurel leaves.

Hunting mistletoe

LIFELINES

KATHY WERNER

I nearly forgot to clear up one little mystery about our Christmas cruise from Vienna to Budapest that I teased in my first article about this trip.

While we were driving into Vienna from the airport, I noticed that there seemed to be big green balls of some kind of vegetation in many of the otherwise leafless trees we passed. Puzzling. It was definitely not a bird nest—too green. And not a squirrel dray (nest) either, unless European squirrels hire interior designers to decorate their digs.

While we were having lunch aboard our ship one day on the Danube, I again spotted these green balls in the trees on shore and asked our waiter what they were. He told us it was a bird's nest. Feeling pretty sure that he was incorrect, I went up the cultural food chain for what I hoped was more accurate information.

Wandering upstairs from the dining room after lunch, I inquired of our esteemed Cruise Director Valentin to identify the green plants growing high in the barren branches of the trees. "Ah," he replied, "that is mistletoe!"

He explained that mistletoe is a parasite that grows in trees. Who knew? Not I! As I passed this fascinating information along to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trees in Austria and Hungary filled with balls of mistletoe.

my shipmates, I discovered that some of them already knew! It grows in trees all over Europe. One woman told me she had been given the mistletoe talk on her trip through Poland. Another person said that mistletoe also grows in trees down South in the good old USA, and locals use rifles to shoot it out of the trees to harvest it for the Christmas season. They have down-home mistletoe hunts. Who knew?

Mistletoe can also be gathered by pruning and it often is, so that it doesn't harm the tree by stealing all its nutrients. However, it is often so high up in these old-growth trees that shooting makes more sense unless you're one of those daredevil squirrels I see leaping from branch to branch in my backyard. By the way, a group of squirrels is called a scurry, and I am not a fan.

Birds like mistletoe because it offers them cover to build their nests (so I may have to give our waiter partial credit, I guess). The birds also use its white berries for food, but the plant is toxic to humans and pets.

What can I say? The wonderful world of mistletoe, heretofore unknown to me, is endlessly fascinating.

I must say that the green leaves of mistletoe give a cheerful look to the drab trees of winter and I'm glad I got to see it on my Christmas Market tour.

The photos I took on the trip give you an idea of the potential harvest awaiting the Mistletoe Hunters of the Danube. Quite impressive.

KATHY WERNER is a three-time National Newspaper Association Award winner for the Democrat, and a true member of the family.

Game day Chipotle Lime dip

COOKING IN THE COUNTRY

CLAIRE BURNS

Chips and dip is hands down my favorite snack of all time. With the superbowl just around the corner, there really is nothing better than a bowl of kettle cooked chips and a hearty dip while watching your favorite sports team.

One of my dearest friends is Chef JP Medina. If you are a local, you are probably well aware of who he is. He has taken the restaurant industry by storm... first at the Conover Club at Callicoon Hills and now at his most recent location, The DeBruce (which has recently been nominated for a James Beard award!). JP cooked the food for my wedding at the Callicoon Hills and we find ourselves so fortunate to have him as a close friend.

One day I cornered him and gently coerced him to disclose the dip recipes he created for the

teaspoons of cayenne powder)
2 1/2 teaspoons garlic powder
2/3 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup lime juice
1 3/4 teaspoons Tajin seasoning

Callicoon Hills (I told him I needed it for all of you!) This week's recipe is his famous chipotle lime dip, often served as accompaniment to his deep-fried cheese curds. It is literally the best - and if you've ever had it before, I know it's been on your mind since first introduction. Serve this with crudite, hearty chips, or your favorite air fried snack...this dip will make everything better.

Ingredients:
1 1/4 cup sour cream
2/3 cup mayo
3 1/2 teaspoon chipotle powder
(I couldn't find this so I added 2

Just mix it all together and serve! The longer it chills, the better it will become; I would recommend at least 2 hours before serving. I plan on making this in the morning and serving it later on in the day for the Superbowl. Have a safe and great weekend.

CLAIRE BURNS is an accomplished cook who loves to try new recipes. While she does enjoy eating at restaurants, she also loves to whip up a good meal at home. Claire gets some of her cooking inspiration from her grandfather and grandmother, Fred and Shirley Stabbert as well as Great Grandmother Nellie. Claire can be reached at cmh08343@gmail.com.

Scholastic Art and Writing contest memories

To the editor:
I wish to personally congratulate Tri-Valley Central School Students Samantha Mentnech (age 17) and Devyn Callahan (age 17) for receiving Regional Awards in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, and both also winning Gold Key Awards and Devyn also winning an American Visions Award. (Please see Tri-Valley School Scene in this issue).

I graduated from Tri-Valley Central School way back in 1958 when it was one building (not three like now) and the school was open only 2 years.
In 1957 I was a 17-year-old when my English teacher Edward Condon "ordered" me to enter the Sullivan County Veterans of Foreign Wars essay contest "American Crusade for Free Men's Rights" (1,000 words). At that time, I used to write local news for the Townsman.
It was during the cold winter evenings with no

television when I started writing. It just flowed and I finished the day before the deadline, and pecked away at the typewriter that evening until my mother took over typing so I could get some sleep. I turned in the paper the next day to Mr. Condon and the only class entrant.

A few weeks later, Mr. Condon told me of the big fight. He submitted my essay to the few members of the Town of Neversink Veterans of Foreign Wars, who entered it in the County wide contest. I won first prize. The Fallsburg School District was furious. For the past several years, Fallsburg always won first prize (consisting of a hand printed award and a \$15.00 check.) Tri-Valley teachers and students were so proud, as we are so proud of Samantha Mentnech and Devyn Callahan. Good luck at the Hudson Valley Regents Scholastic Awards.

**William Brenner
Grahamsville**

People often ask me how I come up with ideas for my column. I reply by saying that my "Random Thoughts" come to me by listening and observing the world around me. For example, I participate every Thursday morning in a call-in segment of Paul Ciliberto's celebrated local radio show. He gives me an opportunity to talk about my column that will be in "The Sullivan County Democrat" the next day.

A few weeks ago, he jokingly said he was waiting with "bated breath" to hear about my column. Well, my ears instantly sent that phrase to the hahathalamas section of my brain that creates comedic retorts. In a nanosecond it recognized the homophone pair of bate and bait. Then it associated bait with the smell of fish. Seconds later I said, "you should gargle with Lavoris for that breath."

As everybody laughed, I wondered why, with all the available mouthwash brands on the market, my brain selected Lavoris, a brand I never have used. And just like that, a random thought led to this column about the history of mouthwash and in particular, Lavoris.
Historians trace the first

RANDOM THOUGHTS

HUDSON COOPER | HUDSONCOOPER4U@GMAIL.COM

Bated breath

use of mouthwash back to the Roman and Greek periods. However, I imagine it goes back to the dawn of man. When Og brought home a brontosaurus tail for the family dinner, I imagine that night Mrs. Og told him "And don't even think about kissing me with that dinosaur breath. Rinse your mouth."

Eventually later civilizations used some sort of concoction to rinse their mouths. Over 1,800 years ago according to the Talmud, Hebrews cleansed their mouths with a mixture of olive oil and water squeezed from freshly made dough. Chinese people gargled with salt water, wine and tea believing in the healing properties of that mixture.

Now let us delve into that mouthwash called Lavoris. Beginning in the 20th Century, the Lavoris Chemical Company began making their main product, Lavoris Mouthwash. Sales were slow because the word "Chemical" in their name drove customers away. So, in 1932, they altered the name

to the Lavoris Company and people began using the mouthwash.

In 1958, the company was acquired by the Vick Chemical Company. I guess since their Vick's VapoRub was successful as a topical ointment, why not try to conquer the oral hygiene market. When it was owned by Lavoris, the only way to purchase it was by mail order! They had no salespeople and no sales force. The Vick's Company started selling the mouthwash in stores.

The company name, Lavoris, is derived from a mixture of ancient languages. Unlike Ford, Listerine and Hewlett-Packard, there never was a Mr. Lavoris. The name Lavoris can be traced back to Latin roots that connote "work" or "labor."

The name was chosen to reflect the company's reliance on hard work and dedication. Too bad ancient languages did not have a word for marketing or sales

force. It might have saved the company from having to sell to Vick's.

Although Lavoris is difficult to find in local stores and pharmacies it does exist. You know that company where you could find almost anything from an aardvark to zzzQuil? That's right, you could buy those items as well as Lavoris on Amazon. Amazon does not sell live aardvarks, but they have stuffed toy ones for about five bucks. Lavoris, although not as popular in the United States is available on Amazon in its tongue-numbing cinnamon-flavored taste.

Lavoris does a big business in Italy and in France. So, if you are dining in Paris, you can rid your mouth of the stench of frog legs with a swish of Lavoris. In Italy, you can attempt to wash away the results of trying a piece of puzzone di moena cheese with a post prandial swig of Lavoris. But as they say in Milan, "buona fortuna." Suffice it to say that in English "puzzone" means stinky.

Hudson Cooper is a resident of Sullivan County, a writer, comedian and actor.

Reading of The Road to Jerusalem to benefit Shadowland Stages

ELLENVILLE — Shadowland Stages is thrilled to announce a special staged reading of "The Road to Jerusalem," written by Nicky Glossman. This exclusive event, featuring esteemed actors Tony Shalhoub, David Strathairn, and Jay O. Sanders, is scheduled for Saturday, February 17, at 7 pm at Shadowland's MainStage Theatre, located at 157 Canal Street in Ellenville.

All proceeds from the evening will support Shadowland Stages, a symbol of artistic excellence in the Hudson Valley for 39 years.

"The Road to Jerusalem" follows seven interconnected stories surrounding the

small town of Jerusalem, Arizona in 1889.

Together, they explore the twisted series of hopes and hungers that manifested a harsh destiny in the American West, all in the service of making a new world from the old. Salvation or damnation, each must find their own way to walk on the Road to Jerusalem.

Joining the cast are Tony Shalhoub, David Strathairn and Jay O. Sanders. Shalhoub, a Tony Award-winning actor, made his Broadway debut in "The Odd Couple," and has subsequently starred in "The Heidi Chronicles," "Conversations with My Father," "Lend Me a Tenor," "Golden Boy," "Act One," "The Price" and "The Band's Visit."

With notable roles in "The Bourne Ultimatum" and "Lincoln," David Strathairn is an Emmy-winning and Oscar-nominated actor. His extensive theatre Tickets for this one-night-only reading are available for a suggested donation of \$40.

To secure your seats, you can purchase tickets through the Shadowland Stages box office. For reservations, please contact (845) 647-5511, or conveniently reserve your seats online at shadowlandstages.org.

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COMING UP

In this space: special free listings of events to occur in the next few days. In the Early Bird Edition: notices for Tuesday through to the following Friday inclusive. In the Weekender Edition: notices for Friday through to the following Tuesday inclusive.

We must receive information on events to be listed in this section at the Callicoon editorial offices no later than noon Friday for Tuesday's Earlybird Democrat and noon Wednesday for Friday's Weekender Democrat.

Email Calendar@sc-democrat.com to submit an event.

Friday, February 9

The Livingston Manor Library invites kids through age 5 and their siblings for Musical Storytime, every Friday morning, at 11:00 a.m. Located at 92 Main Street, Livingston Manor.

Join us for A Murder Mystery Dinner: Marriage Can Be Murder — the perfect early Valentine's Day celebration. Includes three-course dinner + show at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Location: The Eldred Preserve, 1040 State Route 55, Eldred, NY 12732. Cost: \$100 per person (excludes tax + gratuity).

Damascus Manor United Methodist Church is hosting their annual cookie pick for mission from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Located at the Dime Bank at 1679 Cocheton Turnpike (Route 371), Damascus. \$7 per pound of cookies.

Saturday, February 10

The Livingston Manor Library invites neurodiverse kids aged 3-10 and their families for a one-of-a-kind Sensory Play Series, at 10:30 a.m. Each month we'll play with a new sense! Sign up at www.livingstonmanorlibrary.org/programsignup. Located at 92 Main Street, Livingston Manor.

Damascus Manor United Methodist Church is hosting their annual cookie pick for mission from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. Located at the Dime Bank at 1679 Cocheton Turnpike (Route 371), Damascus. \$7 per pound of cookies.

Join us for a fabulous Galentine's Sip and Paint at HPAC! Indulge in creativity with a guided painting project, glass of wine, a delicious cupcake pairing, and a flower - all are included with your ticket. Cash wine bar available for extra sips! This will take place from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Located at 219 Main Street, Hurleyville.

Sunday, February 11

Rev. Laurie Stuart will touch on large issues like climate change, geopolitical division, and seemingly unsurmountable challenges, weaving a multi-media journey around a central paradox: "With nothing to do, everything is possible" in her remarks to the Upper Delaware U.U. Fellowship at 10:15 AM. Services are presently being held on Zoom only, with a resumption to in-person regular services planned in coming months. The public is invited. To request the Zoom link, email uduuf2022@gmail.com.

Liberty Public Library to host adventure talk

LIBERTY — On Saturday, February 17th at 2 pm the Liberty Public Library will host an adventure talk and presentation by Callicoon Center resident Doug Woods entitled "Riding Rough: How One Man Survived the TransAmerica Trail."

In the summer of 2022, Woods rode his Honda CRF 300 Rally, across the United States. Logging 5343 miles, he and his riding buddy stayed off the pavement and used the TransAmerica Trail. The TAT tested him mentally and physically. Averaging about

200 miles a day, he crossed the Continental Divide and rode along narrow trails. Woods will show a short film of the trip along with sharing some of his most interesting and harrowing experiences. This is an event any adventure lover won't want to miss!

This free presentation will be held at the Liberty Public Library at 189 North Main Street, Liberty, NY 12754. For more information, please call the library at (845) 292-6070, email lib@rcls.org or visit libertypubliclibrary.org.

HURLEYVILLE — Main Street Hurleyville continues to grow with its newest addition, a cafe and market. Forage and Gather Market opened their flagship location May, 2020 in Mountandale, NY to great success and now expansion. With their soft opening in November 2023, Forage Hurleyville has received much support and excitement from the community.

"Rising tides raise all ships, and Hurleyville is rising!" says Cat Wilson, owner of both locations as well as Decant Wine & Spirits just two doors down. "We knew Hurleyville would be the perfect little town to grow into and we are so happy to be here"

The cafe offers specialty groceries, grab-n-go meals made daily, a la carte sandwiches, and of course, gourmet coffee featuring espresso, drip and pour overs made from beans produced by local roaster 2

Queens out of Narrowsburg, NY.

Forage Hurleyville is open seven days a week and will soon add beer and wine to its offerings. They host a weekly open mic on Fridays from 5-8 and plan to offer their space to the community for more future events. Their Grand Opening celebration is TBD for spring 2024. For more information visit www.ForageCatskills.com or stop in to 234 Main Street, Hurleyville, NY.



The Forage and Gather Cafe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Free weekend performances at DVAA 2024 Salon Series

NARROWSBURG — Presented each year amidst the winter months, the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance's Salon Series offers audiences the opportunity to experience intimate performances and creative events in Krause Recital Hall. The weekend afternoon events take place from mid-February to early April and are free and open to the public.

Join us as DVAA takes audiences on an exploration of the creative process, featuring exciting new voices from within our community and beyond. Attendees are invited to get up close and personal with various works ranging from play readings to poetry, live music, experimental art to movement and meditation.

Saturday, February 17th, 2 PM
Love Letters with Act Underground

The 2024 Salon Series launches with a special Valentine themed event. Join us for a reading of ARGurney's Love Letters directed and performed by members of the Act Underground Theatre Company. The play chronicles the relationship between Andy Makepeace Ladd III, a staid, dutiful lawyer and Melissa Gardner, a lively, unstable artist, through their lifelong correspondence,

told entirely through their notes, invitations and letters exchanged from second grade through high school, college and adulthood. Tracing the story of their bittersweet relationship, Love Letters unfolds through what is written—and what is left unsaid—in their letters over their lives. Featuring Lisa Gonsalves and Gregg Triggs, the performance is directed by Kyoshin Lohr.

Saturday, February 24th, 2 PM

"Langston Hughes' Poetry" with G. Oliver King

Honoring Black History Month, DVAA welcomes actor G. Oliver King to perform a selection of poetry as the author, Langston Hughes. King's approach as an actor and performer allows him to embody the persona of the literary giant of the Harlem Renaissance. King has previously performed as Frederick Douglass and MLK's iconic "I Have a Dream" speech throughout the region.

Saturday, March 9th, 2 PM
"Live Loop Painting" with Seth Faergolzia

Hear the colors, see the music! Antifolk avant-rock artist, Seth Faergolzia, performs wildly imaginative, improvised paintings with feedback sound loops in a synesthetic spectacle. Faergolzia, known for his

avant-garde musical style has toured globally and continues to innovate in the realm of performance art.

Sunday, March 17th, 2 PM
"SCCO: Evolution of the Double Bass" with Andrew Trombley

Andrew Trombley, a renowned double bassist and Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra's Artistic Director, will perform a unique program exploring the development of the double bass from the 18th to the 20th centuries. With pieces by Beethoven, Pergolesi and Lee Hoiby, the performance will demonstrate the technical and vocal capabilities that make the double bass one of the most remarkable instruments in Western classical music.

Saturday, March 30th, 2 PM

"Chair Yoga for Artists" with Liza Laird & Steve Werner*

Whether you're a painter, sculptor, writer, or any other creator, repetitive motions can strain both body and mind. Liza Laird will lead us in a Chair Yoga session tailored to alleviate the physical toll of artistic endeavors and ignite your creative spark through movement and meditation. No prior yoga experience is necessary! The session will be accompanied by percussionist Steve Werner

with the ethereal sounds of the handpan, creating an immersive sound bath for participants. Laird is a fiber artist and certified yoga teacher. She teaches knitting and mindfulness classes and hosts retreats online and worldwide. Her book, Yoga of Yarn, is the go-to guide for knitters who want to take a spiritual journey with their craft.

*space is limited; advance registration recommended.

Saturday, April 6th, 2 PM
Richard Hoehler's "E"

Blending elements of memoir and tribute, this one-person show promises to be a memorable experience. "E," written and performed by Richard Hoehler, is directed by Leigh Strimbeck. The performance is a poignant exploration of the remarkable friendship between Hoehler and the much older Edith Speziali. With irreverent wit and candid storytelling, the actor shares the experiences, triumphs, and unconventional dynamics of their relationship. Hoehler is a playwright, actor, and advocate. He is the founder of Acting Out, a pioneering theatre company for the formerly incarcerated based at HB Studio. His upcoming book, Acting Out: How a Prison Theatre Workshop Broke Free, will be released in the fall of 2024.

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Bromeliads

So Punxsutawney Phil says we are going to have an early spring and they weather we have right now doesn't feel like a typical February. I worry that if I start planning for an early spring though, that we will end up getting dumped on with snow in March or April. So I'm keeping my focus on indoor plants like bromeliads that can brighten your day and don't require a ton of attention. There are many different types of bromeliads and some are not suitable for indoor growth so you need to do some research before purchasing. The typical "air plant", tillandsia, is the easiest bromeliad to grow indoors. These plants have almost no root system and absorb water and nutrients directly through the leaves (fronds) of the plant. They can grow on bark, in a pot of ceramic beads or even just hanging from the ceiling on a string. Although they do flower, unfortunately indoors, up north this will probably not happen. But there are hundreds of other bromeliads as well that can be grown indoors. Here are some of the basics you need to know.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Guzmania bromeliad.

Bromeliads don't have a large root system, so plant them in small, well-draining pots that won't collect a lot of water. Planting them in large pots without a lot of drainage can lead to rot. Bromeliads are relatively slow-growing plants that take up to three years to mature into flowering plants. Most bromeliads need bright, indirect sunlight or dappled shade when outside, but indoors they can be placed in direct sun. Bromeliads are non-toxic plants, so they are safe for pets or young children in the home. Bromeliads prefer temperatures between 60 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit, so a living room at around 70 degrees is perfect. Bromeliads are not heavy feeders. During the growing season, use a liquid fertilizer, like orchid food or Foxfarm Grow Big, diluted at half strength. Avoid feeding mature plants in winter or when the plant begins to flower.

Propagating bromeliads from shoots is preferred over the less common and difficult way of growing the plant from seeds. Bromeliads multiply by sending up offsets, or pups, similar to hens and chicks. In a natural growth cycle, a mature plant will send up a flower spike that includes small, sometimes insignificant flowers surrounded by showy bracts. It's really the bracts that are most appealing in these plants. The bracts are often long-lasting, sometimes for months. After the flower dies, the plant also begins to die over the

next few months. However, the parent plant will send out one or several smaller pups at its base. When these pups reach about one-third the size of the parent plant, they can be carefully cut off with a sterile, sharp knife and potted individually in their own containers. The pups typically have a few roots, but if not, they will form roots once potted in their new containers. Okay, so now I'm going to tell you some Bill Nye the Science Guy stuff on how to get your bromeliads to bloom and it is pretty cool.

While it can be difficult to accurately replicate the conditions any particular bromeliad needs to bloom, some research has shown the plants can be forced to bloom by exposure to ethylene gas. Here is how you do it. So if you want to force your plant to spike, place it in a tightly sealed, clear plastic bag for up to 10 days with a ripe apple. The apple will give off ethylene gas as it decomposes. After that period, throw the apple away and your bromeliad may start a flower spike within a week or so. Don't worry if it doesn't happen, like I said earlier, it is difficult to get them to bloom indoors, up north. But they are fun to grow and great at brightening a room. Next week I think we can start talking about seed starting as the time is getting closer.



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RETROSPECT

JOHN CONWAY

Harden's Forestview Lodge

For decades, Fannie Harden worked alongside her husband William to build the Forestview Lodge near Swan Lake into a successful business, carrying on alone after his death. When she passed away, the hotel went into decline and closed in 1955. That is the story of many Sullivan County hotels, and in myriad ways, the story of the Forestview Lodge is quite typical. One important difference, however, is that the Hardens were African Americans. Much of what is known today about the Hardens and their hotel is known because of the efforts of Dr. Lewis Howard, who

formalized their story for a 1985 booklet published by the Sullivan County Chapter of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History to celebrate Black History Month.

With the help of William and Fannie Harden's children, Dr. Howard put together a brief history of the family's life in Sullivan County, dating back to the Civil War.

The story begins with William Harden's uncle, Sam Brown, who "had come from Boston with a well-to-do New England family who had purchased 64 acres of Catskill Mountains in Stevensville, in the town of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
William and Fannie Harden.

William attended the Methodist Church in Stevensville with his uncle, and some years later a young African American woman named Fannie Glover, who had moved to Sullivan County from Virginia to cure her typhoid fever, began to attend, as well. In 1898, William Harden and Fannie Glover were married in the church, with Sam Brown a member of the wedding party.

When Sam Brown died shortly thereafter, William and Fannie inherited the property and it became known as the Harden Farm.

"The inherited farm was productive and prosperous," Dr. Howard writes. "There were fields of buckwheat, rye, corn and gardens of every variety of vegetables. Two horses were in the barn and the fenced yards were filled with hundreds of chickens, providing eggs and food for the family and the market. There were also pigs and cows for home and commercial use. Apple trees were heavily laden with choice fruits. The fields were filled with grapes and berries.

"Hard work produced enough food for family consumption and the market. There was a profit. There were savings."

In those days, many working farms in Sullivan County were taking in boarders to help make ends meet, and before long, the Hardens were, too. By the 1920s, they had added four or five bungalows and they could accommodate up to 50 guests.

"They proudly named it Harden's Forestview Lodge," Dr. Howard writes. "And in no time it took its place among the most desirable tourist establishments in the

county." The Harden men—William, and sons Samuel and Clifford—kept up the facility, emphasizing the natural beauty of the property, and Fannie's cooking and hospitality brought tourists back year after year. With her daughter Bessie, who lived virtually all of her adult life at home, Fannie made sure the guests were well fed.

"While no food was sold to non-residents, the Harden women were well-known in that time for their culinary expertise," Dr. Howard notes. "Fannie bringing Old Virginia seasoning ideas to the chops, roasts, fried chicken, as well as to the garden vegetables and the baking of cakes and pies."

The Lodge survived the Great Depression and World War II "without any real setbacks or failures" and not even the growing "competition from newly developed tourist places hampered their progress."

Interestingly, Dr. Howard notes, although William and Fannie had made numerous contacts in the African American communities in Middletown, Newburgh, and Poughkeepsie, among other places, "no Blacks sought accommodations in the Harden's Forestview Lodge."

William's health began to decline in 1943, and he discontinued the farming operation, although the Lodge continued to entertain guests. William died in 1945, and Fannie was left to operate the hotel with the help of her children.

Fannie kept the business going, despite heart trouble, but she suffered a severe setback when daughter Bessie died unexpectedly in 1953. Fannie never recovered from the shock of losing her closest daughter, and passed away less than a year later.

"With the passing of Fannie, Harden's Forestview Lodge began to decline. The business was closed in 1955," Dr. Howard wrote.

John Conway is the Sullivan County Historian and a founder and president of The Delaware Company. Email him at jconway52@hotmail.com.

unitedsullivan.com to learn more

Bethel," Dr. Howard writes. "Sam had come with the family in 1859, the family having decided to re-settle from Boston to Stevensville for health reasons."

When the last member of that New England family died in 1870, the property passed to Sam Brown, who had been farming it for them. Around 1878 or 1879, Sam Brown returned to Boston to get his 13-year old nephew, William Harden to help him work the farm.

William entered the one-room Bushville school in the fall of 1879, walking three miles each way to attend class. Needless to say, he was the only African American student.

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BRIEF

White Sulphur Springs Methodist Church happenings

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS — The White Sulphur Springs United Methodist Church is happy to announce its plans for a busy Lenten season. Our Ash Wednesday service will be held at 12pm on February 14th. Pastor Jordan will be leading a Lenten Bible study via Zoom at 9 a.m. starting on February 21. A Lenten study for children will be held on March 16th from 10 a.m. to noon to include a movie and snacks. Anyone interested in these studies is encouraged to reach out to Pastor Jordan at PastorJoycalyn@gmail.com. The Church along with the White Sulphur Springs Fire Department will be having a Fish Fry dinner fundraiser on Friday, February 23rd at 4 p.m. at the White Sulphur Springs Fire Department Hall. Tickets can be purchased through Sue at (845) 807-8934 or a WSSFD member. All are welcome at the weekly Sunday service, held at 10:30 and young people can join our Sunday School at any time (held at 9:30 a.m. on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays). Our weekly service is live streamed via YouTube link found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3HBdtEYmHIjP4d4-WPF5NQ. For general inquiries please call 292-8269. The White Sulphur Springs United Methodist Church is located at 3318 Route 52 in White Sulphur Springs.



Legendary local singer Mickey Barnett passes at 82



Local performer Mickey Barnett, whose music focused on vintage country tunes, passed away at 82.

the Sullivan County Historical Society noted.

The singer started the Audrey Meadows fan club when he was younger. By doing this, a strong bond with, Meadows, an American actress, would be established. He was able to perform on *The Honeymooners* as a result of this as well.

Barnett launched his singing career at the age of seventeen, beginning to mold his own legacy — going on to record songs like “Gone,” “Just a Memory” and “Don’t You Believe Her,” which rose to the top ten playlists on various radio stations.

Thanks to the success of the song, Barnett was able to secure a record contract with De-Lite Records and go on to achieve more success under the guidance of seasoned producer Clyde Otis.

In his career, he contributed to fifteen albums for that Pickwick International Records and as a result of that endeavor, songwriter Doc Pomus got in touch with him to collaborate on studio sessions and record a number of unique demos for Elvis Presley.

In addition, Barnett was well-known in the Borscht Belt hotel business such as the Paramount Hotel in Parksville. He would also perform in a number of Catskills theaters as well.

Barnett would go on to help coordinate Roy Clarke’s appearances at the Monticello Raceway. This would also result in a good friendship that brought him to Nashville where the collab-



Singer Mickey Barnett, left, performed last February for Tom and Lillian Hendrickson.

DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

BY VINCENT KURZROCK

BETHEL — Local legendary singer and performer Mickey Barnett, who spent well over fifty years in the entertainment industry, passed away January 31 at the age of 82.

Barnett was well-known for his covers of some vintage, timeless country songs from the 1960s and 1970s, as well as rockabilly hits by Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Elvis Presely, and Carl Perkins.

Throughout his career, he created a strong legacy within Sullivan County. He worked as a record artist, songwriter, record producer, radio host, music publisher, and executive for record companies.

Barnett first gained fame at a very young age by appearing in small roles on network television shows,

orations he would participate in gained an entryway into additional country stars performing in the Sullivan County area, such as Willie Nelson, Jerry Lee Lewis, Mickey Gilley, and Buck Owens.

His funeral was held February 5th at the Colonial-Ramsay Funeral Home. The family requested that in lieu of flowers, donations

can be made to the Sullivan County Historical Society.

Barnett was predeceased by his close friend Naomi McCormick and his sister Doris Drost, and is survived by his brothers, Jack Pelepako (Jane) of Mahopac, NY, and Bob Pelepako (Martha) of North Carolina, as well as his daughter Karen Torres of White Plains, NY, his godson Gary Grund (Mi-

chelle) of Slate Hill, NY, and his grandchildren, Thomas Eckes and Janine Eckes.

Throughout his life, Barnett won numerous honors from various music business associations, including Entertainer of the Year, Band of the Year, and Male Vocalist of the Year. These honors are on display in his office and recording studio in the town of Bethel.

In October of 2021, the Sullivan County Historical Society (SCHS) named Barnett the recipient of the SCHS Maker Award attributed “for his contributions to the entertainment world through originality and influence producing and performing music and having a significant impact on the arts, music and culture of Sullivan County, New York.”

T&C Salon finds new home in Rock Hill

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY VINCENT KURZROCK

ROCK HILL – The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting and open house event for T&C Salon’s new location on Saturday, February 3.

The grand opening invited guests to tour the brand-new salon, located at 27 Sheeley Lane in Rock Hill, and meet with the staff members of the salon. The business was formerly on Broadway in Monticello.

Co-owners Christine and Theresa Nietzel realized that they needed more space to accommodate the other woman-owned businesses that do business at T&C Salon. These include Bliss Salon & Spa, which is owned and operated by cosmetologist and nail technician Jaimie Velazquez; Lotus Aesthetic Corporation, which is owned and operated by nurse practitioner injector

Jessica Picard; TRL Society, which is owned and operated by cosmetologist Malvina Lumci; A & I Salon, which is owned and operated by cosmetologist Silvana Lumci; and their licensed massage therapist Diane Lorino.

Theresa Nietzel thanked her father, Earle Nietzel, for every day he has been supporting her and her sister.

“He’s the mastermind telling us what to do, when to do, and how to do it. Without him we couldn’t have done it,” Nietzel told the crowd.

“I also want to say thank you to Denis and Dolores Sheeley who, when we approached them about buying their property, with no hesitation wanted us to start a new career here in this building...today is about us beginning our journey with them [the women from different salons and spas] inside these walls that we put together with all of our family and friends.”



Many talented women-owned business owners and family showed up to celebrate the momentous occasion. From left to right: Jessica Picard (Registered Nurse Injector, Owner of Lotus Aesthetics Corp.), Jamie Velazquez (Nail Specialist/Cosmetologist,

Bliss Salon and Spa), Theresa Nietzel, Christine Nietzel, Silvana Lumci (Cosmetologist, A & I Salon LLC), Malvina Lumci, and Diane Lorino (Licensed Massage Therapist).

US Congressman Marc Molinaro’s (NY-19) Office representative Alex Horton was also present at the event to congratulate the staff. He bestowed a certificate from the Congressman himself, and by extension, the House of Representatives, congratulating the salon on their successful opening. Horton also noted that the certificate was also to thank them for investing in NY-19, keeping their business in the district.

“It’s not easy maintaining a business here in upstate New York,” Horton told the

co-owners. “We’re happy to be your partner and [be able to] help you every step of the way.”

T&C is a full-service salon and spa with over eighteen years of experience. Nineteen years ago, the two women discussed opening their very first business together, which started out as a tanning salon. The following year, Christine would graduate from Cosmetology School which allowed the services offered by the Salon to expand. The two co-owners humbly acknowledge their father, Earl Nietzel, for

his dedicated support and hard work. He oversaw the construction and development of all the locations the salon was located at.

The two noted that without their father, they “could not have created such an amazing place.”

The services offered by T&C Salon include hair, nails, waxing, massage, facials, make-up, eyelashes and aesthetic services. For the full list of prices, you can visit www.t&cсалon.org.

With the move to a new location, hours will remain the same:

- Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sunday - closed

Theresa & Christine Nietzel thank the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce for putting this ribbon-cutting event together, and expressed gratitude to all of their family and friends who helped make the day possible. They emphasized that it is wonderful feeling to share the special event with so many amazing supporters.



Nietzel sisters, Theresa, left, and Christina, have been in business for 18 years and are continuing their success in Rock Hill.

Geraldine Sattinger

March 21, 1943 ~ February 1, 2024

Geraldine "Jerry" A. Sattinger, age 80, passed away suddenly and peacefully on February 1st at her home in Minneapolis, MN.

Jerry was born and raised in the Mt. Washington neighborhood of Pittsburgh, PA. While working on her BS degree in Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, she met Stan Sattinger, and they were married in 1969. Jerry and Stan welcomed their daughter Julia in 1975 and their daughter Allison in 1977. Jerry was a wonderful mother and served as PTA President at Washington Elementary School in Mt. Lebanon. Jerry earned her MSW in community organizing, also at Pitt, after her daughters were finished with elementary school in 1991. She worked as a volunteer coordinator at Southwest Services and Turtle Creek Valley MH/MR, and later as a bereavement coordinator at HospiceCare of Pittsburgh and Odyssey Healthcare, helping many people through grief and loss.



Geraldine Sattinger

Jerry and Stan moved to Minnesota in 2010 to be close to their elder daughter and became grandparents in 2012 with the birth of their younger daughter's son, Orion.

Jerry will be remembered for her zeal, her sense of humor and infectious laugh, her love of cats, dogs, all things nature, books, travel, motorcycles, long discussions, dancing, blues music, gardening, her love of family, friends and even strangers. She will be remembered and celebrated by her husband Stan, daughters Julie Rose (Brian) and Allison (Anthony Schmill), grandson Orion and a lot of folks she mothered and encouraged along the way. As she would say to all of us, "Blessings for the journey!"

A Celebration of Her Life will be held at The Cremation Society of Minnesota at 4343 Nicollet Avenue South in Minneapolis on Monday, February 19th at 4 PM. A Celebration of Life will be held also in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at a later date TBA. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jerry's name will be welcomed with gratitude at Sunnyhill UU Church in Mt Lebanon PA (<https://www.sunnyhill.org>) and Animal Friends of Pittsburgh. (<https://www.thinkingoutsidethecage.org>).

A SENSE OF DIRECTION

JUNE DONOHUE

Willy

To continue with my story about my friends the Orrs, I will be writing about Willy who was a boy they took in from the fresh add fund and continued to do so throughout the years. When Willy grew older he secured a job with UPS and had the misfortune of falling off the back of one of their trucks, hitting his head on the pavement. As a result, Willy developed amnesia, forgetting portions of his life, which was very confusing to him. He did however remember

how to fix a truck. He was at one time a mechanic so that somehow made sense.

The choices he made in his new life were not necessarily ones that he would make now. I found all of this fascinating. I wonder if he ever regained part of his memory. The missing years were from his teens into his twenties. One of Maria's sons still keeps in touch with Willy. I will contact Peter and furnish you readers with an update.

Hot Chocolate Fest at Ashokan Center on February 17

OLIVEBRIDGE—February here can be rough—but nothing smooths its edges like a good cup of hot chocolate, and the Ashokan Center is heating up the kettle.

Hot Chocolate Fest is Feb. 17 and 18, and it's exactly what it sounds like, and a little more: a family festival dedicated to everyone's favorite winter beverage—hot chocolate.

The weekend is a chance to slow down, sip a cup of chocolate cheer and drink in the beauty of the Catskills. And this isn't some ordinary, run-of-the-mill hot chocolate. You can choose from eight flavors of hot chocolate: peppermint, raspberry, banana, coffee, spicy, coconut, orange and salted caramel.

As with most Ashokan Center events, there will be live music—acts to be announced. There will be guided trail hikes with Del Orloske on these 385 stunning acres. There will be juggling. There will be demonstrations in the blacksmithing shop, and for \$20 each, you can make and keep your own heart-shaped trivet, plant hanger or fire poker.

And there will be food available—from tasty hot breakfast sandwiches to hot dogs to vegan chili—for sale in the Ashokan Center's dining hall.

Advanced tickets are \$10 per day, tickets at the gate are \$12 per day, and there's no admission cost for kids 5 and under. The first two cups of hot chocolate are

included with admission. Additional cups are \$3 each.

Bring the whole family for a winter hike and hands-on blacksmithing, and then warm with beautiful music and eight flavors of hot chocolate.

You can also make a weekend of it by staying on-site in one of the Ashokan Center's lodges. If you book an overnight stay, your Hot Chocolate Fest admission is included.

Learn more at <https://ashokancenter.org/product/hot-chocolate-fest-2024/>.

Event proceeds support the Ashokan Center's ongoing work to inspire learning and build community through shared experiences in nature, history, music and art.

NYSEG and RG&E reminds customers to manage energy bills

BINGHAMTON — New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) and Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E) are reminding customers of available resources to help manage their energy bills. The Companies build and maintain a safe, reliable system to deliver electricity or natural gas to your home or business.

New York State opened the State's electric and natural gas industries to competition in the 1990s. Changes in the markets provided an opportunity for consumers to choose who provides their energy supply; either their utility or a third-party supplier known as an Energy Services Company or ESCO.

Customers can purchase energy supply from the utility or choose another energy supplier. A customer's delivery charges, made up of a basic service charge, delivery charge, transition charge and other surcharges are billed by NYSEG or RG&E regardless of a customer's energy supplier. These charges are what customers pay NYSEG or RG&E to transport energy.

A customer's supply charges, made up of a variable supply and a merchant function charge, is what customers pay to their energy supplier for the energy they use. NYSEG and RG&E's supply prices are variable based on market prices and passed through to customers without profit or markup. Some suppliers may offer a fixed price.

"It's important to note that the price of electricity and natural gas change each month, as market prices fluctuate," said Senior Director of NY Energy Services for NYSEG and RG&E, Pat Fox. "Part of NYSEG and RG&E's commitment to our customers is ensuring we are always there for them by informing them of their options so they can make the best choice for their households or businesses."

Customers can go to dps.ny.gov and select Power to Choose—Energy Competition under tools to find available supplier pricing by zip code.

There may also be community choice energy programs that customers are auto enrolled in by their municipality. To learn more about those programs and how they work, visit: [Community Choice Aggregation | Department of Public Service \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov).

There are a number of additional resources that can help customers understand and manage their monthly bills. The companies offer energy-saving tips and programs that can help lower energy use and control costs, as well as payment plans and assistance programs to manage energy costs. Budget Billing can help spread seasonal energy costs from cooling or heating evenly over 12 months. While it's not a savings plan and is adjusted based on customer's energy use, it can help customers balance their bills throughout the year. Customers can learn more by visiting nyseg.com/UnderstandYourUsage or rge.com/UnderstandYourUsage. Hot Chocolate Fest at Ashokan Center on February 17



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants included, standing from the left, Woodbourne FD Chief James Tavormina, Workforce Solutions Trainer Zachary Hottel, Workforce Solutions Trainer Jill Holland, Sullivan County 911 and EMS Coordinator Alex Rau, Lake Huntington FD Commissioner/Firefighter Jenna Sayers, Woodbourne FD Captain Jesse Payne, Neversink FD EMS Captain Ann Bivins, Lehigh County (PA) Emergency Management Agency Special Operations Coordinator Kevin Krotzer, Loch Sheldrake FD Firefighter Arron Wizwer, Workforce Solutions Trainer Chis Barron, and Kauneonga Lake FD Firefighter Nicole Blais; and kneeling, Sullivan County Deputy Public Safety Commissioner and Fire Coordinator John Hauschild.

Ongoing County training focuses on building up First Responders' ranks

MONTICELLO — As January closed out, the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire hosted a Recruitment & Retention Coordinators' Workshop at the Emergency Training Center in Swan Lake.

The workshop was grant-funded by the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Workforce Solutions, and instructors from around the country and locally shared ideas about the skills necessary to bring in and keep quality volunteers.

"Participants were

able to come away with a plan – specific to their department – to recruit and retain members, which is a crucial activity for all of our volunteer agencies," said Deputy Public Safety Commissioner and Sullivan County Fire Coordinator John Hauschild, himself a firefighter and longtime member of the Jeffersonville FD.

Attendees included members from Sullivan County Bureau of Fire, Sullivan County Bureau of EMS, EMS agencies,

fire departments and even Pennsylvania first-responders.

The Bureau of Fire will be hosting another workshop February 24-25, called "Helping Members Find Their Spark Through Mentoring." If you are a member of a fire department or EMS squad and would like to attend, you can find information on registering at <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Fire/Training>.

Astor counseling services opens in Liberty

SULLIVAN COUNTY — Astor Services, a leading provider of quality mental and behavioral health and education services for children, young adults and their families, has officially unveiled its Liberty, New York counseling center, which provides services for individuals from birth to age 26. In an effort to meet the increased mental health needs it is currently seeing, the nonprofit organization, which has an over 70-year history of providing services, has expanded its reach to this Sullivan County location, situated within the county building at 20 Community Lane.

A discounted/sliding fee schedule is available based on family size and income. True to Astor's mission, no individual will be denied access to services due to

their inability to pay.

"Astor Services continuously assesses the needs in communities we serve, and we are determined to provide a spectrum of services to respond to those needs," said Yvette Bairan, chief executive officer of Astor Services. "Our interdisciplinary team includes child psychiatrists, child psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, social workers, family advocates and other professionals prepared to support youth and their families. Children struggling with mental health concerns that impact their ability to function in daily life, or families struggling with issues such as communication, boundary and limit-setting and other concerns may benefit from family, individual or group

therapy and we want to ensure those supports are readily accessible to them."

According to Carley Andrews Otero, project manager for Astor Services, "The program is licensed by the New York State Office of Mental Health and the new location will allow for continued collaboration between Astor and county staff.

Additional opportunities for expansion are being discussed with Sullivan County leaders on an ongoing basis."

To learn more about the new center in Sullivan County, or to access support, visit <https://www.astorservices.org/program/hudson-valley-counseling-centers/> or call 845-516-7799.

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
TOWN OF FORESTBURGH
COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, STATE OF NEW YORK**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Forestburgh, Sullivan County, New York will receive sealed bids for the following:

- No.2 FUEL OIL
- PROPANE (BULK) GAS
- DIESEL FUEL & GASOLINE

Bids will be received at the Town Clerk's Office, 332 King Road, Forestburgh, New York 12777 until 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at which date and hour all bids will be opened publicly.

Bid forms, including specifications, may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the above address and all bids are subject to the terms and conditions set forth. All bids must be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked. The Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

By Order of the Town Board of the Town of Forestburgh.
Dated: February 6, 2024
Teresa Collins, Town Clerk

With Heartfelt Thanks!

The family of Philip and Carolyn Coombe would like to thank all who visited with family and joined in celebrating Carolyn's life Saturday, January 27. We especially want to thank those who made the day so special including Anthony and Jennifer Perito, Pastor Kenneth Ronk, Kevin Giroux for playing the music, the staff, volunteers and board members of the Daniel Pierce Library for assisting with serving food and cleaning up, and Erik Risher and his staff for making the main dishes. We thank all who provided other food items and the many, many delicious desserts!

Carolyn was able to enjoy her last months right at her home thanks to the friends who supported her and her family. We could not have made this journey without the kind assistance of Betty Botsford, Sally Estes, Phyllis Gillette and many dear friends who visited, dropped off food, called and sent cards. We are blessed to live in a most generous and caring community.

With Gratitude,
Philip Coombe Jr. and Family

CLASSIFIEDS

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024

3B

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16	17	18
19	20	21

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Help Wanted Town of Bethel

Account Clerk Part-Time/Full-Time

Good knowledge of the basic structure and function of the town government; ability to understand and follow complex and oral written directions; strong clerical aptitude and computer skills including Word, Excel, QuickBooks, Billing, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, payroll liabilities. Work is performed under the direct supervision of the Town Supervisor. Includes performance of clerical duties involving but not limited to personnel records and reports. Salary commensurate with experience. Employment applications are available on the town website at www.townofbethel.ny.us under Forms/Town Clerk/Applications or at the Town Hall, 3454 Route 55, White Lake, NY 12786. Submit completed application and resume by email to: bethelsupervisor@libertybiz.rr.com or by US Mail to: Town of Bethel, Attn: Daniel Sturm, Town Supervisor, P.O. Box 300, White Lake, NY 12786. Deadline to apply March 1, 2024

EOE/AE 120250

APARTMENTS

PATHSTONE: Accepting Applications for 1 2 & 3 Bdrm. units at Hemlock Ridge Apts., 27 Arts Blvd, Livingston Manor, NY for their Sec. 8 Project – Based Program. Applications available only at Pathstone 457 Broadway, Suite 9, Monticello, NY Between 8:30AM & 4:30PM. 845-794-4880 Hemlock Ridge EHO

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A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN FERNDAL, NY IS SEEKING SEALED BIDS FOR CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS AND EQUIPMENT. BID SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS CAN BE ATTAINED BY CONTACTING BENGAMLACHARITY@GMAIL.COM. BIDS ARE DUE BY 2/15/2024. SELECTION CRITERIA IS BASED ON PROPOSED SOLUTION EFFECTIVENESS, PRICING, QUALIFICATIONS, ADHERANCE TO PROJECT SCHEDULE, CLEAR & DETAILED PAPERWORK AND RESPONSIVENESS.

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Read the Classifieds!

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A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN FERNDAL, NY IS SEEKING SEALED BIDS FOR SECURITY CCTV AND SECURITY ALARMS. BID SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS CAN BE ATTAINED BY CONTACTING BENGAMLACHARITY@GMAIL.COM. BIDS ARE DUE BY 2/15/2024. SELECTION CRITERIA IS BASED ON PROPOSED SOLUTION EFFECTIVENESS, PRICING, QUALIFICATIONS, ADHERANCE TO PROJECT SCHEDULE, CLEAR & DETAILED PAPERWORK AND RESPONSIVENESS.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN FERNDAL, NY IS SEEKING SEALED BIDS FOR CYBER SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS. BID SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS CAN BE ATTAINED BY CONTACTING AHA-VATHIS@GMAIL.COM. BIDS ARE DUE BY 2/16/2024. SELECTION CRITERIA IS BASED ON PROPOSED SOLUTION EFFECTIVENESS, COST, ADHERANCE TO PROJECT SCHEDULE, CLEAR & DETAILED PAPERWORK AND RESPONSIVENESS. INTERESTED FIRMS SHALL CONTACT THE ORGANIZATION FOR RFP PACKET.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE CARR ROAD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/12/2024. Office loc: Sullivan County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Avedis Duvenjian, 255-01 Northern Blvd, Little Neck, NY 11362. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 119815

Read the Legal Notices!

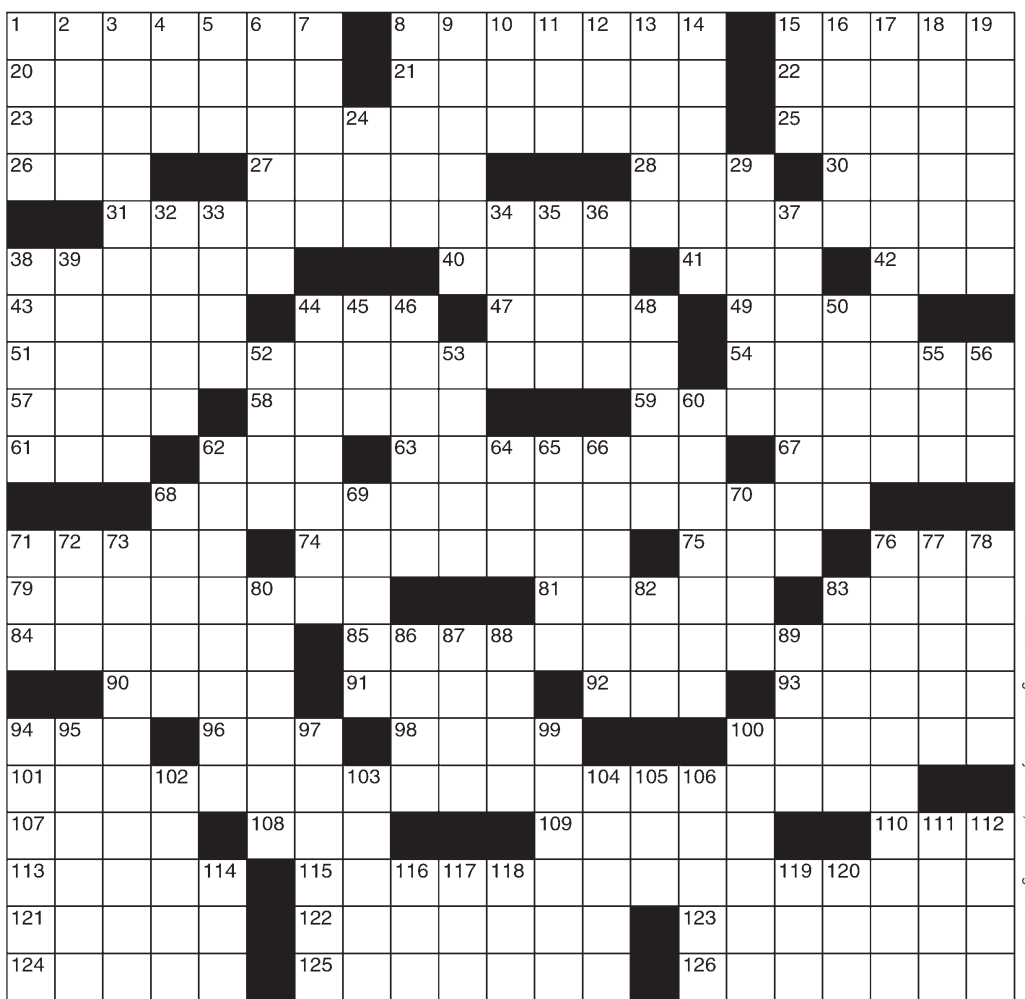
Solution to Today's Crossword



Democrat's Challenge Crossword

Super Crossword

STORYBOOK SENTIMENT



- ACROSS**
- 1 Auxiliary professor
 - 8 Nickname for baseball great Ruth
 - 15 Cultural value system
 - 20 High-fashion clothing
 - 21 Knows someone at the company, say
 - 22 Reluctant (to)
 - 23 "Wait, my rant isn't finished ..."
 - 25 Private, as desires
 - 26 Agnus — (lamb figure)
 - 27 "Cool beans!"
 - 28 Down dinner
 - 30 Look lewdly
 - 31 2018 war documentary directed by Peter Jackson
 - 38 Composer — Sebastian Bach
 - 40 Hamilton/Burr confrontation
 - 41 Era upon era
 - 42 Turndowns
 - 43 Stati — (America, in Italian)
 - 44 Stage design
 - 47 La — Tar Pits
 - 49 Gp. opposed to leather
 - 51 Made a habit of taking risks
 - 54 Actress Cuthbert
 - 57 French for "summers"
 - 58 Bible book after Micah
 - 59 Dwell at
 - 61 —Ops (CIA mind games)
 - 62 Coffee holder
 - 63 In love
 - 67 Big name in candy wafers
 - 68 2011-13 Fran Drescher sitcom
 - 71 Give it — (try)
 - 74 Paris' Champs —
 - 75 Certain scanning device: Abbr.
 - 76 St. crossers
 - 79 First book section
 - 81 Former U.N. chief Boutros Boutros —
 - 83 Stool or pew
 - 84 Milk container
 - 85 Just a tiny bit
 - 90 Op-ed writer Maureen
 - 91 Art of Erté
 - 92 Once existed
 - 93 Eldritch
 - 94 Linds gp.
 - 96 Canon camera brand
 - 98 — part (role-play)
 - 100 1996-2002 sports sitcom
 - 101 Song phrase following "See you later, alligator"
 - 107 Amazes
 - 108 Daddy's boy
 - 109 Prague citizen
 - 110 Victor's hand gesture
 - 113 Prefix with type or plasm
 - 115 What's spelled out by the stars of six answers in this puzzle
 - 121 Lot units
 - 122 Countering an attack by missile, e.g.
 - 123 Pundit
 - 124 Hockey feints
 - 125 Fill with more inventory
 - 126 Like soon-to-be-unveiled tech
 - 3 She won a Tony for "Hurlyburly"
 - 4 Stage actress Hagen
 - 5 Pious sister
 - 6 Actor Hume of "Cocoon"
 - 7 Heads, to Henriette
 - 8 Iota preceder
 - 9 Novelist Robbins
 - 10 N.Y. hours
 - 11 Cranky cry
 - 12 Singer DiFranco
 - 13 Stanford — test
 - 14 Occupy
 - 15 — Lilly & Co.
 - 16 "Until this time"
 - 17 "Just one moment"
 - 18 Verdi opera
 - 19 Tears to bits
 - 24 "Told ya so!"
 - 29 Recurring themes
 - 32 Detests
 - 33 Author Blyton
 - 34 Oil, informally
 - 35 Dweeb's kin
 - 36 Cassini of 20-Across
 - 37 Quick quip
 - 38 Minty Kentucky Derby drink
 - 39 — last legs (about to collapse)
 - 44 Biting turtle
 - 45 Ordinal suffix
 - 46 Like so, informally
 - 48 Correo — (Spanish airmail)
 - 50 — over (satisfied for the moment)
 - 52 "Movin' —" (sitcom theme song)
 - 53 Tube prizes
 - 55 Brand of fruit drinks
 - 56 Year, in Brazil
 - 60 Signs up
 - 62 Multilevel structure for Fluffy
 - 64 Suffix with chlor- or fluor-
 - 65 Model Cheryl
 - 66 "ER" or "CSI"
 - 68 Get a move on
 - 69 Lead-in to "So sue me!"
 - 70 Caesar's 202
 - 71 N.C. State's NCAA div.
 - 72 "— Na Na"
 - 73 Toiling away
 - 76 Fetching
 - 77 Certain surrealist paintings
 - 78 Eye maladies
 - 80 Funds
 - 82 Sly — fox
 - 83 Tortoise's top
 - 86 Calf product
 - 87 Caesar's "Behold!"
 - 88 Campus mil. program
 - 89 Singer Halliwell
 - 94 Underside of a dog's foot
 - 95 Liftoff stress
 - 97 Hebrew horn
 - 99 With
 - 106-Down, North Pole surrounder
 - 100 Cling (to)
 - 102 Perfumer Lauder
 - 103 Absurd
 - 104 Missouri's — Mountains
 - 105 Town pic
 - 106 See 99-Down
 - 111 Kin of -ette
 - 112 Novelist Jennifer
 - 114 Pre-CIA gp.
 - 116 "— a girl!"
 - 117 Fabric dye brand
 - 118 Retired NBAer Ming
 - 119 Vote down
 - 120 "True —" ("Indeedy")

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119691

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119701

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120400

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

Proposals for the following will be received by the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Central Services at the Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello, New York 12701, (845) 807-0515, until 1:00 P.M. on Friday, February 23, 2024:

1. Psychologist Services in Support of the Child Advocacy Center (R-24-09)
2. Caregiver Resource Center Services for Sullivan County (R-24-10)

Specifications may be obtained from the Director at the above address.

Dated: February 9, 2024 120433

LEGAL NOTICE COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

Sealed bids for the following will be received by the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Central Services at the Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello, New York 12701, (845) 807-0515, until 1:00 P.M. on Friday, February 23rd, 2024 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

1. Pile Driving Installation for Two County Bridges: County Bridge 261 and County Bridge 296 (B-24-10)
2. 2024 Pavement Marking Installation on Approximately 75 Miles of Various County Roads (B-24-11)

Bid Forms, including specifications, may be obtained from the Director at the above address, and all bids are subject to the terms and conditions therein set forth.

Dated: February 9th, 2024 120434

LEGAL NOTICE COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC). The name of the LLC is: Ally's Hairway To Heaven LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) office on: 11/11/2023. The County in which the Office is to be located: Sullivan

The SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to P.O. Box 494, Downsville, New York 13755. Purpose: to engage in any and all lawful act or activity. 120066

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Grese Productions LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 12/14/23. Office location: Sullivan County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: P.O. Box 964, Liberty, NY 12754. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 119557

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

M U L L A L L Y ROLL-OFF LLC filed Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on the 17th of JANUARY 2024. Office located

LEGAL NOTICE

PORSCHE COX CONSULTING LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/23/24. Office: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 22 Welsea Court, Glen Spey, NY 12737. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 120071

LEGAL NOTICE

The annual meeting for the plot owners of the Greenhill Cemetery Corporation will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 2:00 p.m., at the home of James Dirie, 7 Hard- enburgh Road, Livingston Manor, NY. James Dirie, Greenhill Cemetery Corporation President 120328

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICE
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PH: 845.561.3179

Project Information
Sullivan County BOCES
AG Mech Building - Welding Lab
52 Ferndale-Loomis Road
Liberty, New York 12754

The Owner, the School Board of Sullivan County BOCES, will receive sealed bids to furnish materials and labor to complete the Welding Lab Renovations at the AG Mech Building. Each bid shall be on a stipulated sum basis for the following contracts:

- Contract No. 1-01 – General Construction (GC)
- Contract No. 1-02 – Mechanical Construction (MC)
- Contract No. 1-03 – Plumbing Construction (PC)
- Contract No. 1-04 – Electrical Construction (EC)

Sealed bids will be received until **2:00pm Eastern Standard Time on February 26, 2024** at the Sullivan County BOCES District Offices located at 15 Sullivan Avenue, Suite 1W, Liberty, New York, 12754. Bids shall be addressed and delivered attention: Susan A. Schmidt, Deputy Superintendent. Bids received after this time will not be accepted and returned to the Bidder unopened. Bids will be opened and read aloud after specified receipt time. An abstract of Bids received will be made available via www.csarchplanroom.com

Bidding Documents, Drawings, and Specifications may be examined on and after **February 12, 2024** free of charge by appointment only, at the following locations:

CSArch
19 Front Street
Newburgh, New York 12550
845-561-3179

It is the intention of this Project to be both environmentally and fiscally conscious of paper use and consumption. Therefore, documents will be distributed as digital sets. Bidding Documents, Drawings and Specifications, may be viewed online free of charge beginning **February 12, 2024**, at www.csarchplanroom.com under "public projects," or electronically downloaded for a non-refundable charge of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Complete sets of Bidding Documents, Drawings and Specifications, on compact disc (CD) or USB flash drive may be obtained from *Rev. 28 Church Street, Warwick, New York 10990 Tel: 845-651-3845*, upon depositing the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each combined set of documents. Checks or money orders shall be made payable to Sullivan County BOCES.

Bidder must provide Bid Security in the amount and form per the conditions provided in Section Instructions to Bidders. All Bids will remain subject to acceptance for forty-five (45) days after the Bid opening. The Owner may, in its sole discretion, release any Bid and return Bid Security prior to that date.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the AG Mech Building Welding Lab located on Sullivan County BOCES' main campus (52 Ferndale-Loomis Road, Liberty, New York, 12754). The Pre-Bid Conference will begin at **11:00am Eastern Standard Time on February 16, 2024**. Bidders shall meet at the Ruben Pollack Education Center, convening at the Security Desk/Main Entrance. Attendance of this meeting is recommended as the Owner, Construction Manager, Architect and/or consultants will be present to discuss the Project. Attendees should anticipate a 30-minute walkthrough and Q & A session.

Bids shall not include New York State sales and compensating use taxes on materials and supplies incorporated into the Work, as the Owner being exempt therefrom. Bidders must comply with New York State Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule and conditions of employment.

The School Board of Sullivan County BOCES reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the Bids received, and/or to reject all Bids without explanation.

By Order Of: Sullivan County BOCES

120477

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS—SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF SULLIVAN – US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, Plaintiff, -against- RAYE ELLEN COOKE AND DALE SANDRA MILLER, AS HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE DECEDENT EVELYN MILLER; ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF THE LATE EVELYN MILLER, IF LIVJNG, AND IF ANY BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS WHO ARE SPOUSES, WIDOWS, GRANTEES, MORTGAGEES, LIENORS, HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF SUCH OF THEM AS MAY BE DEAD, AND THEIR SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES AND MORTGAGED PREMISES: SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, NEW YORK, HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, INC. OBO THE OFFICE OF THE MEDICAID INSPECTOR GENERAL AND SULLIVAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, and JOHN DOE, Defendants - Index No. E2018-2082 Plaintiff Designates Sullivan County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Sullivan County. To the above named Defendants—YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Supplemental Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated January 9, 2023. NOTICE—YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Meagan K. Galligan, J.S.C. Dated: January 9, 2023 Filed: January 10, 2024. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage covering the premises known as 122 Revonah Hill Road, Liberty, NY 12754. Dated: January 19, 2024. Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Richard F. Komosinski, Esq., 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523 P: (914) 345-3020

120013

LEGAL NOTICE

The annual meeting of Lot owners of the United Methodist Church of Fosterdale Cemetery, Inc. will be held February 24, 2024, 7:00 PM at Dan Snedeker's residence, Fosterdale, 120563

LEGAL NOTICE

NY, hereby invites the submission of sealed Bids for furnishing student transportation services in the Sullivan West Central School District for a five-year period (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2029) Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. on February 26, 2024 at the Sullivan West Central School District Business Office located at 33 Schoolhouse

LEGAL NOTICE

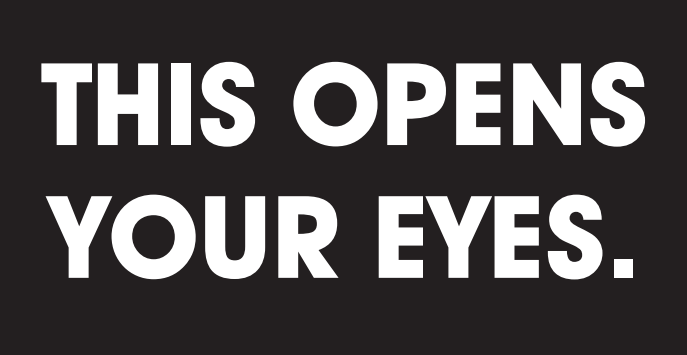
Notice of Formation of Red Dogs Youth Football Organization LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: PO Box 381, Jeffersonville, NY 12748 . Purpose: any lawful purpose. 120533

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Red Dogs Youth Football Organi-



SCD WakeUp_HouseAd_2020



SULLIVAN COUNTY Democrat

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF FORESTBURGH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Board of the Town of Forestburgh ("Town"), County of Sullivan, State of New York will hold a PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUATION at the Forestburgh Town Hall, 332 King Road, Forestburgh, New York on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to receive public comment on the Site Plan Application of NY Forestburgh I, LLC for the Route 42 Solar Project on property owned by JG Forestburgh, LLC, currently leased to NY Forestburgh I, LLC. Parcel is located at 2380 State Route 42, Forestburgh, New York, identified as Town of Forestburgh parcel Section 30., Block 2, Lot 1.2.

The Application for Site Plan Approval and site plans are on file and may be inspected at the Town Code Enforcement Office, 332 King Road, Forestburgh, New York prior to the Public Hearing.

Dated: January 29, 2024

By Order of the
Town of Forestburgh Planning Board
Richard Robbins, Chairman

120355

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST VI-A, Plaintiff, vs. STATEWIDE REAL PROPERTY LLC, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on May 19, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Lawrence H. Cooke Sullivan County Courthouse, 414 Broadway, Monticello, NY 12701 on February 21, 2024 at 11:00 a.m., premises known as 6359 NYS Route 97, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Tusten, County of Sullivan and State of New York, Section 14, Block 1 and Lot 25. Approximate amount of judgment is \$161,207.04 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #E2019-2695. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale.

Maria O. Zeno, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No. 213243-1

119816

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN BOARD MEETING – DATE CHANGE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, February 20, 2024, which was originally cancelled is hereby rescheduled due to The Association of Towns of the State of New York Annual Conference.

The rescheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 4:30 P.M. located at the Town Hall, 4052 State Route 42, Monticello, New York.

The meeting will also be held remotely by video-conference. The public may participate via video-conference at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83032452642> - Meeting ID: 830 3245 2642, Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York), in accordance with State Legislation.

By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Thompson

Dated: February 06, 2024
Marilee J. Calhoun
Town Clerk

120578

zation LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 01/24/2024. Office location: Sullivan County, Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom

process against it may be served and shall mail process to: PO Box 381, Jeffersonville, NY 12748 . Purpose: any lawful purpose. 120533

Stay updated on your local government, read the Legal Notices!

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Village of Liberty, Sullivan County NY
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services
RFQ#2024-1/ Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2
UpgradeEnhanced
Sludge Handling/ATAD Process

The Village of Liberty, Sullivan County, NY is requesting proposals from engineering firms to provide professional services for design through construction for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2 Upgrade-Enhanced Sludge Handling/A TAD Process. The upgrade will include a new Enhanced Sludge Handling/ Autothermal Thermophilic Aerobic Digestion (ATAD) Process, Septage Receiving, and other minor improvements. The project has qualified for funding through the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL).

Proposals will be reviewed and selected according to a competitive review process based on technical skills, relevant project experience and knowledge of grant/loan funded projects. Interested parties should contact Judy Zurawski, Village Clerk for a complete copy of the RFQ at 845-292-2250 x113 or libertvillageclerk@verizon.net.

Proposals will be accepted until 3:00 pm on Friday March 8th, 2024. The proposal package should be clearly labeled Village of Liberty Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2 Upgrade- Response to RFQ and mailed to: Judy Zurawski, Village Clerk, 167 North Main Street, Liberty, NY 12754. Please include 8 bound copies of the Proposals.

Minority and women-owned businesses are encouraged to submit responses to the RFQ.

120450

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, LIMOSA, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. COLLEEN RODRIGUEZ, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and Amending Caption duly entered on January 30, 2019 and an Order Extending Time to Set Sale duly entered on November 29, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Lawrence H. Cooke Sullivan County Courthouse, 414 Broadway, Monticello, NY 12701 on February 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., premises known as 44 Wierck Avenue, Liberty, NY 12754. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Village of Liberty, County of Sullivan and State of New York, Section 114, Block 5 and Lot 4. Approximate amount of judgment is \$75,310.30 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # E2014-2128. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale.

Scott Russell, Esq., Referee
Valley Law PLLC, 6851 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 165, Syosset, New York 11791, Attorneys for Plaintiff

119668

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Thompson will receive bids in accordance with specifications prepared therefore which may be obtained without charge at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Thompson, Town Hall, 4052 State Route 42, Monticello, New York for the following item:

ONE (1) OR MORE 2025 OR NEWER FREIGHTLINER MODEL 108SD 4X4 DIESEL TRUCK CHASSIS OR APPROVED EQUAL – FOR DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND PARTICIPATION BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Said bids shall be mailed or delivered so that they shall be received at the office of the said Town Clerk on or before 2:00 o'clock P.M., Prevailing Time; on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at which date and hour all bids shall be publicly opened and read.

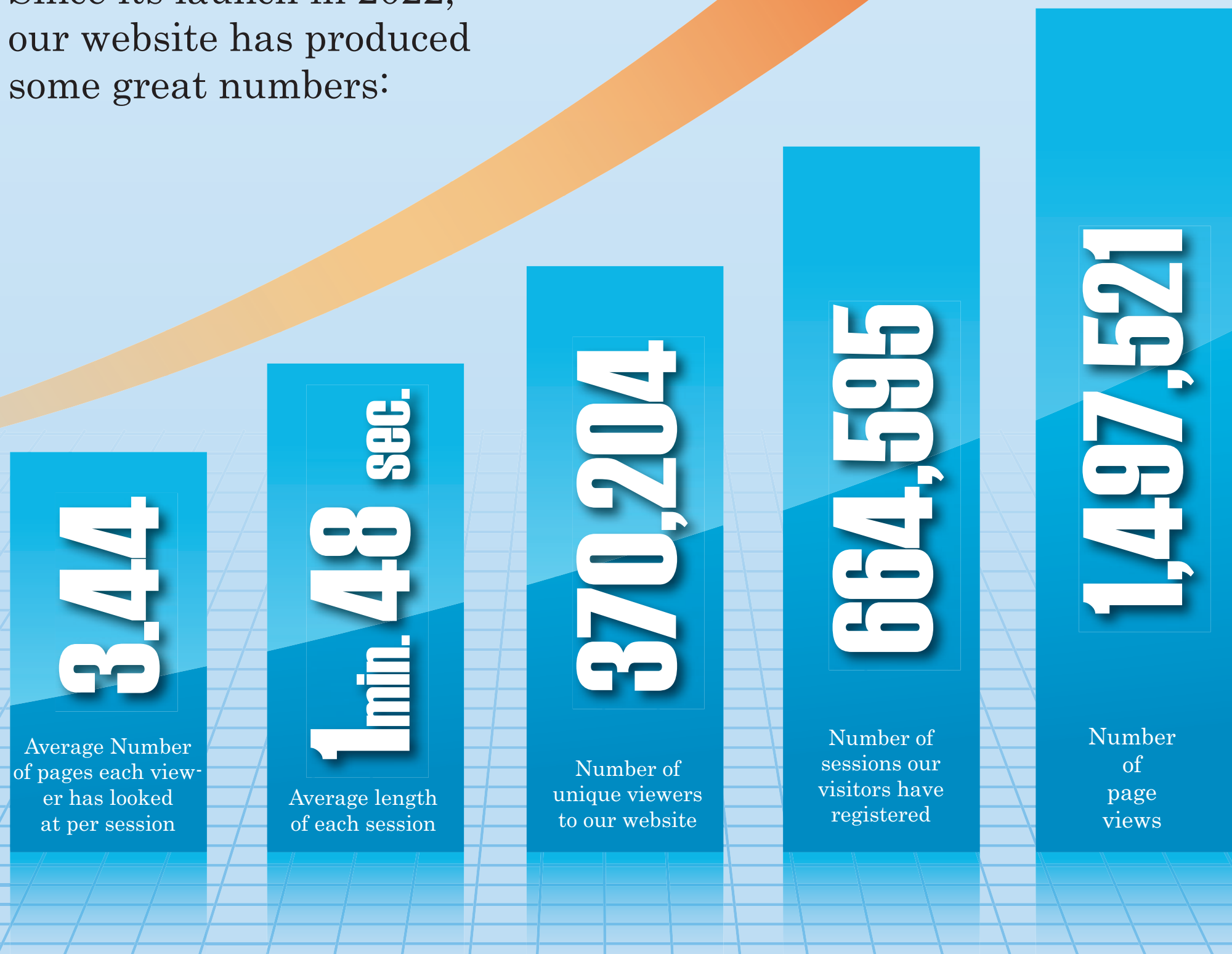
By Order of the Town Board
Dated Monticello, New York
February 06, 2024
Marilee J. Calhoun
Town Clerk

120580

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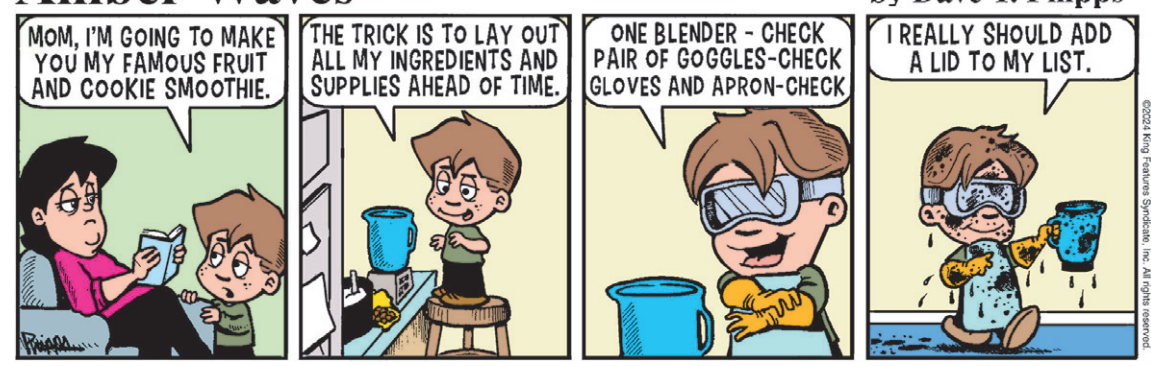
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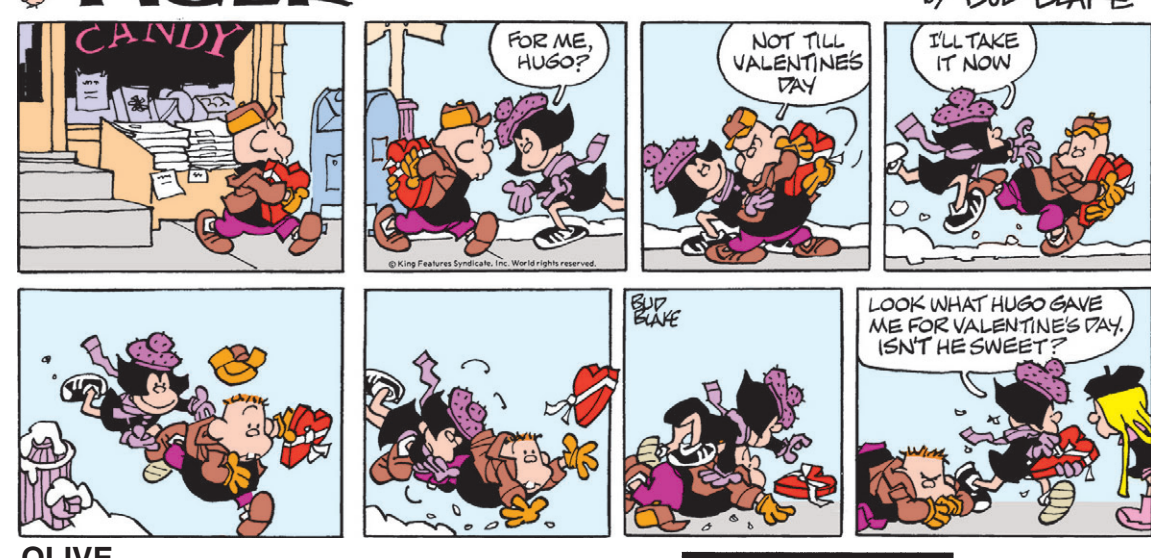
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



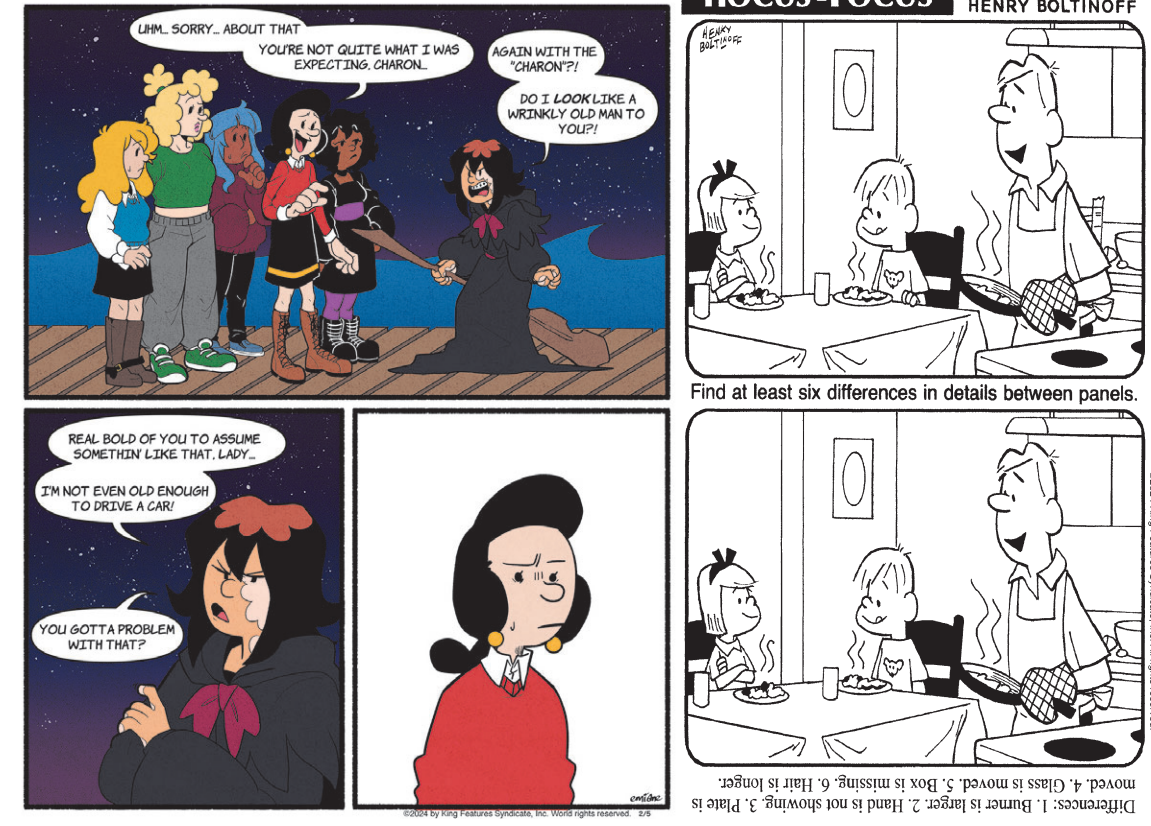
TIGER CANDY

by BUD BLAKE



OLIVE

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Y equals O

HIQ MYYU WMYSV VNLUT WHX
ZFIWT QCY LYSFXH'V ZNHX
BKYBIK CYTVT:
"BWKWTNVIT FYTV."

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Excite **SPINER**

Ruin **SWEAT**

Peril **GARDEN**

Shine **RUSTLE**

TODAY'S WORD

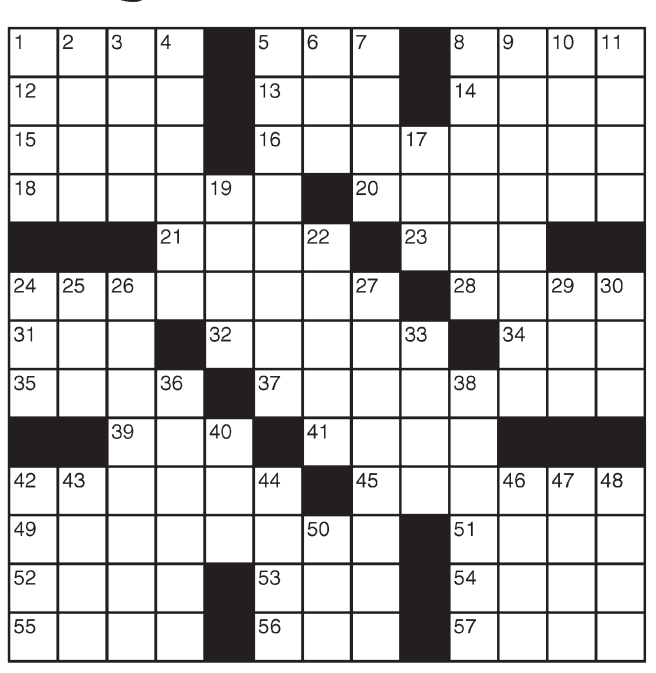
King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Pt. of a sentence
- 5 Skirt edge
- 8 Some Gls
- 12 Nest setting
- 13 Commotion
- 14 Inter —
- 15 Admin. aide
- 16 Prepared
- 18 Fake fireplace fixture
- 20 Baker Street sleuth
- 21 Competent
- 23 Roman 151
- 24 Started
- 28 Editor Wintour
- 31 Prior night
- 32 Wrap up by
- 34 Martini ingredient
- 35 Painter
- 37 Chagall
- 37 Coexisted
- 39 Chinese chairman
- 41 "Not so fast!"
- 42 Pub game fodder
- 45 Honor
- 49 Matured
- 51 Jazzy James
- 52 Robert of "The Sopranos"
- 53 Census stat
- 54 Winter fall
- 55 Suffix with song or gab

DOWN

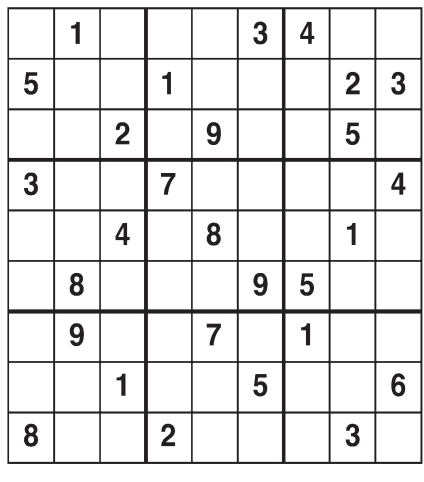
- 1 Men-only
- 2 — Major
- 3 Porgy's love
- 4 Air travel fatigue
- 5 Negotiating a
- 6 Tokyo, once
- 7 Closet invader
- 8 Spanish dish
- 9 Pink wading bird
- 10 Funny — (2003 Derby winner)
- 11 Utters
- 17 Sinbad's bird
- 19 Slender woodwind
- 22 Fund
- 24 Jewel
- 25 Eggs
- 26 Little home wreckers?
- 27 Amassed
- 29 Diarist Anais
- 30 "Life of Pi" director Lee
- 33 New Mexico resort
- 36 Frolic
- 38 Most recent
- 40 Tin Man's need
- 42 Pre-weekend yell
- 43 Actor's quest
- 44 Driver of "Logan Lucky"
- 46 Sicilian peak
- 47 Thames town
- 48 Gulleets
- 50 Conceit



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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WORD LADDERS

Can you go from BLIND to SAINT in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BLIND

SAINT

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Which movie has the tagline, "May the odds be ever in your favor"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which country possesses Baffin Island?
- AD SLOGANS: Which company's slogan is, "You're in good hands"?
- LANGUAGE: What is a common saying for the Latin phrase "lapsus linguae"?
- MUSIC: What country was home to reggae singer Bob Marley?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is an example of a macropod?
- TELEVISION: Gordon, Percy, James, Toby and Emily are characters on which children's show?
- MATH: What is 1/60 of a degree?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the book series "The Chronicles of Narnia"?
- ACRONYMS: What does the acronym SPF stand for?

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- Answers
- "The Hunger Games"
 - Canada
 - Allstate
 - A slip of the tongue
 - Jamaica
 - Kangaroo
 - "Thomas the Tank Engine"
 - "A Minute"
 - C.S. Lewis
 - Sun Protection Factor

WAITING
Today's Word

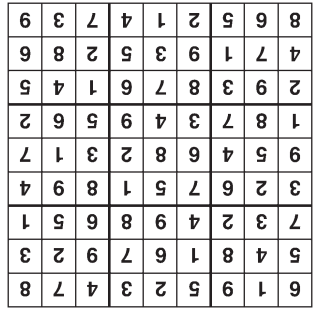
1. Inspire 2. Waste; solution

SCRAMBLERS

FLINT, FAINT, SAINT
BLIND, BLING, FLING

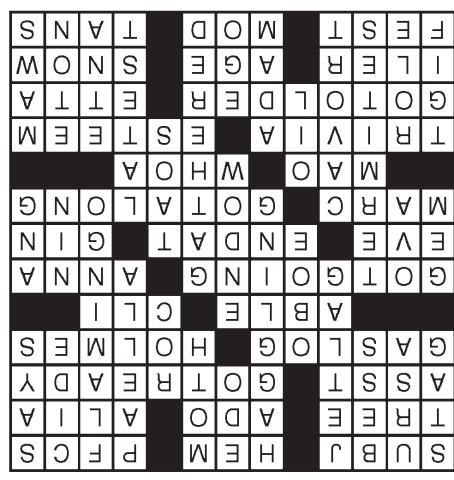
Answer

WORD LADDER



Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

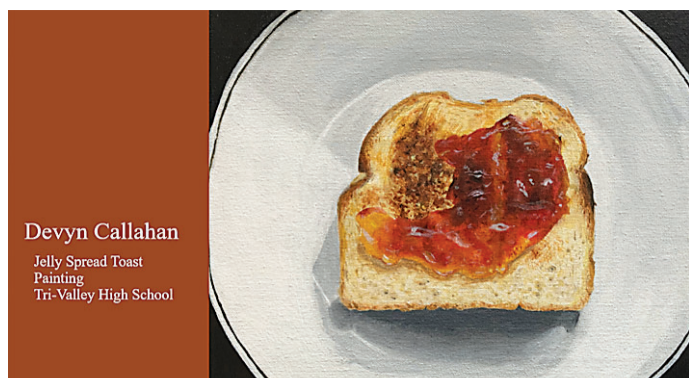
CryptoQuip
New book about ticks and fleas who couldn't find proper hosts: "Parasites Lost."

Answer

Scholastic Art awards honors another year of excellence

LIBERTY — Sullivan BOCES and the Hudson Valley Scholastic Art Affiliates, a consortium of organizations including Dutchess BOCES, the Enlarged City School Districts of Middletown, the Orange County Arts Council, and Orange-Ulster BOCES came together once again to organize and present the Regional 2024 Scholastic Art Awards Program for Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties. The ceremony was held at SUNY New Paltz on Friday, February 2.

The Hudson Valley Regional Affiliate had over 500 incredible middle and high school artists participate in this year's program. The competition had 2,640 works of art adjudicated, with 209 Gold Key winners, 276 Silver Key winners, 440 Honorable Mentions and 5 American Vision awards given to students to recognize their remarkable work.



Devyn Callahan
Jelly Spread Toast
Painting
Tri-Valley High School

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Devyn Callahan's painting of Jelly Spread Toast.

- Giovanni Flores Leon, Liberty Central School - 1 Silver Key
- Joaquin Isler, Liberty Central School - 1 Gold Key
- Leonel Malaga Ventura, Liberty Central School - 1 Gold Key and 3 Silver Key
- Maria Quintanilla, Liberty Central School - 1 Gold Key
- Allison Vasko, Liberty Central School - 1 Gold Key
- Rachel Yaun, Liberty Central School - 1 Gold Key

For the second time in the competition's history, a student from Sullivan County was awarded an American Vision nomination. Devyn Callahan, an eleventh-grade student from the Tri-Valley CSD, received this prestigious award for her painting "Jelly Spread Toast." Each year, only five pieces are selected for the American Vision Award. To be considered for this recognition, the nominee has to exemplify the emergence of an original, personal point of view or style in their work of art. "Coming from Sullivan County, I am exceptionally pleased that Devyn Callahan's painting won the American Vision Award for

our County," said Zieres.

Students receiving a Gold Key Award in architecture, ceramics, design, painting, illustration, fashion, photography, digital art, mixed media, printmaking, sculpture, or film categories will have the opportunity to receive additional recognition. Their work is adjudicated on a national level by a panel of leading creative professionals. National Gold Medalists are announced in March and are honored during a special awards ceremony in June.

"On behalf of the Hudson Valley Regional Scholastic Affiliate, we are proud of the artistic accomplishments of our students. We wish our gold winners luck as their work moves through the National adjudication," stated Zieres.

Parents and community members are encouraged to view the artwork to show their support for these budding artists. The artwork will be displayed at SUNY New Paltz in the Fine Arts Rotunda from February 2 through February 25 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Fallsburg CSD announces middle and high school honor roll

FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Central School District is proud to announce their honor roll and Superintendent's honor roll lists for the second marking period. These students were commemorated for their high academic achievement. These students are:

9TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Jordyn Cerone, Carissa Ciorciari, Fatoumata Gai, Riley Gorr, Chanel Han, Lucas McCarthy, Conner McManus, Jozyr McNeil, Heysel Mejia Corcio, Dayana Murillo Madrid, Fabio Narkaj, Efrain Rodriguez, Axel Salinas Mejia, Inmer Santos Morales, Abigail Toledo and Rodrigo Zacapexpan Reyes.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Sarah Blume, Emina Cenovic, Ashleigh Fuentes Ardon, Eric Moocz, Robert Perrera, Alisha Tremper and Peyton Varner.

Nunez, Dalila Ortiz Fuentes, Keven Padilla Perdomo, Jennifer Rios Nunez and Emy Sierra Mejia.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Isabelle Batista, Kimberly Diaz, Ethan Dunn, Jeffrey Evangelista Jr., Nicole Jimenez, Hannah Johnson, Erli Maldonado Garcia, William Martinez Martinez, Rachel Montenegro Sandoval, Bella Muscia, Vivian Ordonez Cabrera, Cecelia Riker Lainez, Jaily Sebastian and Jordyn Wall-Carty.

7TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Yasmina Bache-Seraphin, Adriel Canales Gonzales, Estrella Canales, Surey Delgado, Amelia Forman, Leyna Greenberg, Angelina Lara-Jones, Elijah Lucas, Emily Mackerley, Angelica Esperanza Martinez-Lopez, Patrick Maxwell Jr., Carlos Mazariego Pena, Xander McCarthy, Victor Medina Orellana, Marielyd Muniz, Nancy Orellana Mejia, Om Patel, Justin Peralta Rosa, Easton Pugh, Dominico Retana, Franklin Reyes-Rodriguez, A'miyah Sellers, Mason Stafford-Martinez, Samuel Vega Rosales, Joshua Velazquez, Hailey Vogel and Honor Wilson.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Jack Bensimon, Xzander Berrios, Abdiel Cabrero, Joseph Cerone, Nicolas Ciorciari, Michael Damms, Alyssa Florence, Sara Flores Ramos, Keily Garcia Menjivar, Dina Gottlieb, Katherine Juarez Cadena, Lindsay Lopez Landaverde, Rebecca Moocz, Teresa Nardi, Daniel Perez Martinez, Jeybi Rodriguez Canales and Samantha Saciolo.

10TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Edison Bastidas Avendano, Bintou Darboe, Marcos DerasLopez, Jonathan Dias Paredes, Sebastian Fowler, Kaedyn Freeman, Hector Jami Cocha, Virginio Jeronimo Sanchez, Joey Ketcham, Eric Li, Johnarris Lopez-Landaverde, Carmen Montes Velasco, Isis Santos Berrios and Gavin Storms.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Angelina Alvarado, Saladin Basic, Karrine Bennett, Andrew Bensimon, Xzavier Berrios, Lee-Ann DiNapoli, Jaecob Espinoza, Emmabella Ferreira, Douglas Medina Carcamo Jr., Joslyn Odell Schreier, Madeline Pantel, Allison Rojas, Marilyn Santos and Skylar Wright.

12TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Jasmine Acevedo, Ezekiel Acosta, Meredith Anderman, Haris Basic, Jordan Batista, Madison Bertholf, Nikolas Bonner, Emily Bou, Sherin Bruno Pinzon, Emily DeLaCruz, Alaina Dinkel, Etiben Escalante, Lilly Fairman, Arianna Gonzalez, Adira GreerPadilla, Terrence Hayden Jr., Lidia Hernandez Ponce, Ashley Ingrassia, Aryany Mercado Dubon, Cian Meyer, John Padilla Orellana, Catherine Pena, Semaj-zae Potter, Nadiushka Rosa Gonzalez, Alexandra Ruiz, Rugiatu Sesay, Willson Torres Martinez, Diego Ugsha, Ariel Vasquez, Alyssa Velazquez and Isaiiah Young.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Gustavo Avila Morales, Asly Avila Reyes, Anngelena Bruno, Emma DeGraw, Alexander Depuy-McBride, Chloe Doolittle, Miya Ennist, Jaedon Espinoza, Brandon Fierro, JeanCarolos Galeas Iraheta, Kevin Hernandez Martinez, Kristian Huttemeyer, Mia Irlbacher, Jane Islas Escamilla, Angelina Levner, Adam Mednick, Georgia' Rane O'Brien, Junior Ordonez Bonilla, Emily Perna, Jalysa Poindexter, Elizabeth Rivas-Ferrufino, Selina Rodriguez, Besart Selimaj, Charlotte Steingart and Christopher Yautentzi Reyes.

11TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Maya Ballard, Isaiiah Brown, Amerie Capicchioni, Nehemiah Damon, Kenya Escalante, Kaelyn Fuentes, Adrianna Garcia, Isaac Hernandez Martinez, Hayden-Marie Herrera, Bryce Junior, Daris Koljkenovic, Mayline Maldonado, Francely Maradiaga, Nancy Martinez Cadena, Jamin McCollough, Brianna McManus, Juan Morales Perez, Brianna Noller, Mauricio Ordonez

8TH GRADE

Honor Roll list: Elenora Ahmetaj, Ilana Burke, Deysi Diaz Hernandez, Amhara Gillmer, Carlos Granados Reyes, Jancarlos Guardado, William Hamilton, Stephon Harris, Senaida Jeronimo Sanchez, John Ketcham, Emmett Kleingardner, Dalila Koljkenovic, Alisson Lagos Guardado, Yasmel Leon Mota, Nazareth Manjarrez Paredes, Brandon Mariaca, Madelyne Maxwell, Jaqueline Mazariego, Paola Melendez Deras, Kileen Milligan, Jaysi Nicanor-Perez, Melina Ortiz, Tatiana Parada, Shiv Patel, Pedro Pineda Ortiz, Benjamin Santos Jr., Kiara Sauer, Marion Sesay, Zayd Amir Snead, Angel Toxqui Hernandez, Helen Vasquez, Avery Wall-Carty and Lavante Ward.

Superintendent's Honor Roll list: Addison Alvarado, Autumn Rain Atkinson, Keily Brizuela Fuentes, Sophia Cordova, Maddelynn DeMondo-Gernant, Natalia Evangelista, Mariama Gai, Melanie Gomez Perez, Isabella Gonzales, Eriberito Gonzalez Jr., Layla Hermann, Camdyn Hoefling, Kate Islas Escamilla, Sophia Jacobs, Dayana Mendoza-Gallo, Ronny Mendoza, Evelyn Molina Ax, Dillan Padilla Avila, Payton Pisaniello, Kayden Saravia, Jahnnny Sebastian and Joslyn Smith.

Farm Arts Collective to receive 10k grant from National Endowment for the Arts

DAMASCUS, PA — Farm Arts Collective is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Challenge America award of \$10,000. This grant will support DREAM ON THE FARM, play #5 in a decade-long climate change performance project presented at the collective's home base, Willow Wisp Organic Farm in Damsacus, PA.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DREAM ON THE FARM 2023 by Irene Soloway.

In total, the NEA will award 257 Challenge America awards across the country totaling \$2,570,000 for its first round of fiscal year 2024 grants.

"The NEA is delighted to announce this grant to Farm Arts Collective which is helping contribute to the strength and well-being of the arts sector and local community," said National Endowment for the Arts Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. "We are pleased to be able to support this community and help create an environment where all people have the opportunity to live artful lives."

Tannis Kowalchuk, Farm Arts Collective founding artistic director says, "We are honored and very happy to receive support once again

from the NEA. Receiving a government award carries with it a civic responsibility that we take very seriously--to serve our community with engaging programs that bridge farming, art, food and ecology. We look forward to providing agri-culture and innovation in our rural community."

Farm Arts Collective's award will support artist fees and production costs for the 2024 DREAM ON THE FARM production (play #5 in a 10-play series). The 2024 performance entitled Conference for Those Still Living will be a

site--specific performance collectively created by the Farm Arts Collective ensemble, and directed by Tannis Kowalchuk. The new work will explore themes of climate change and environmentalism and will be presented on Willow Wisp Organic Farm August 8-11 and August 15-18.

For more information about Farm Arts Collective visit <https://www.farmartscollective.org/>.

For more information on other projects included in the NEA's grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

Monthly programs at WSPL

SULLIVAN COUNTY—The Western Sullivan Public Library continues to offer weekly tech support and various crafting programs throughout the month of February.

Each month, the library offers free technical and computer support at each of the branches. Make an appointment with computer tech Dale, either in-person, via zoom, or by phone. Support is available from 1pm to 4pm by appointment, Mondays at Narrowsburg, Tuesdays at Jeffersonville, and Wednesdays at Callicoon.

Our monthly Board Game Group will be on a winter hiatus until further notice. Be well!

Cricut Machine Meet-Up

is happening Wednesday, February 21st at 5:30pm at the Jeffersonville Branch. We encourage people who know their Cricut machine well to train others on new techniques. Discuss your machine's capabilities and share the latest tips and tricks for making your current project. This program works great because we work together to come up with projects and help follow through on ideas!

Join Ciera and other crafters at Craft Lovers on Friday, February 16th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the Delaware Free Branch to make beeswax-rolled candles!

Every Monday, Irma Schilling and the

Narrowsburg Knitters meet at 6pm, at the Tusten-Cochecton branch in Narrowsburg. Bring your stitching project and join Irma and other knitters. The group will not meet on February 19th.

Every Thursday, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm come to the Jeffersonville Branch for our Sew-cial Circle aka our Needle Crafts group. Bring projects you are currently working on or begin something new. Basic supplies and general instruction will be provided.

To view all of our programs, visit our calendar at www.wsplonline.org, and register if necessary. Email wspprograms@rcls.org with any questions.

Young Professionals

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

On Friday, March 22, the Sullivan County Democrat will be publishing its edition featuring the **Young Professionals of Sullivan and Wayne Counties**.

We are asking that our readers help us in nominating those Up and Coming Business Leaders to be featured in this special edition.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL. NUMBER _____

OCCUPATION _____

COMMENTS _____

SUBMITTED BY _____

Just fill out the entry form and mail or fax it to us no later than **February 21st** and your entry will enter the field of candidates for a feature story in this exciting publication.

Mail the form to:
Sullivan County Democrat
P.O. Box 308,
Callicoon,
New York 12723
Fax 887-5386

450 register for final coyote contest

SULLIVAN COUNTY — After new legislation from Governor Kathy Hochul's office banned certain hunting contests, the Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County hosted their final coyote hunting contest before the new law goes into effect in November. Over the weekend of February 2-4, 115 coyotes were taken and entered in the contest. The first place win-

ner, Lucas Price, harvested a coyote that weighed 52.90 pounds. The entry was good for the largest on Friday of the 34 that were entered, as well as the overall winner out of the 115. The second place finisher, a 52.65 pound coyote taken by Greg Reed, was also entered on Friday. Curtis Smida's 48.40 pound coyote was good for

third place and was the largest entry on Saturday. Sunday's largest entry was John Hilton's 46.30 pound coyote. Adrianna Kautz was the Youth Winner and Jordan Hollenbeck was the Female Winner. Of the 450 registered hunters for the weekend, 350 attended the banquet celebrating another successful contest.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY SUSAN BROWN OTTO

Vice President of the Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County, Carl Lindsley presents the winners alongside Marlene Osterhout Muthig, the Federation's Secretary and Treasurer.



A banner for the Federation showing a number of the things that they contribute to around Sullivan County.

SPORTSMAN OUTDOORS

JACK DANCHAK

Facts about coyotes and coyote contests!



Jeff Mulhollem, editor of the Pennsylvania Outdoor News newspaper, wrote about some facts about coyotes and coyote contests. He said Pennsylvania has more organized coyote contests than any other state, and this winter Pennsylvania will have about 24 coyote contests.

Jeff went on to say, last month New York became the 10th state to ban coyote-hunting contests. Other states include Maryland, Oregon, Washington, California, Vermont, New Mexico, Arizona, Massachusetts and Colorado.

He said, "We heard that the Humane Society put a full-court press on the New York Legislature to pressure lawmakers there to ban organized coyote contests. We are wondering if Pennsylvania is next."

The coyote population continues to grow. Coyotes mate once a year between January and March. Their gestation period is between 60 and 63 days, and an average litter of coyote pups will be four to seven.

Pups remain with their mother until they are 9-12 months old. Males leave between six and nine months, the females remain with

their mothers. At 12 months, they are ready to mate.

Coyotes have a lifespan of 13 to 15 years, however the majority live for three years. A female coyote will produce between eight and 14 pups in three years.

Jeff continued to say, wildlife managers continue to tell us that coyotes don't threaten the deer population. Although they do kill and eat lots of fawns in the spring and early summer, they say, coyotes rarely prey on adult deer. But a study by researchers published in 2011, suggested otherwise.

Over three winters researchers examined and identified artifacts from the contents of 98 coyote stomachs collected throughout most of Pennsylvania. They found that white-tailed deer was the most prominent food item for coyotes, occurring in 62.2% of the stomachs.

Although deer appeared to be the most important coyote food item, at least during the winter, the researchers concluded, it is unclear if the pattern is entirely the result of predation or scavenging.

PA Senator Wants to Legalize Drones for Recovery of Game!

PA Senator Jarrett Cole-

man released a co-sponsorship memorandum this January outlining his intention to introduce legislation that will make use of electronic aids, including drones, lawful for game recovery. Currently the practice is prohibited in Pennsylvania because drones are considered electronic devices.

In his memorandum, he stated that tracking and recovery of downed game is one of many challenges facing Pennsylvania hunters. He added that Ohio permits drone use to recover game, while the PA Game Commission appears to be taking a hostile view on the use of drones in game recovery.

Coleman stated in his memorandum, "Pennsylvanians deserve better. With the Advent of drones, hunters have an additional tool to use and reduce the amount of dead game that goes uncollected."

PA Game Commission spokesman Travis Lau said, "Since legislation has yet to be introduced, the Commission hasn't taken a position on Coleman's proposal."

JACK DANCHAK is a longtime sportsman and spent 30 years as the President of the Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County, Inc.

Sullivan County's Healthiest Fire Department Challenge

Healthiest Fire Department Challenge

Leaderboard Status as of 2/6/2024



Kauneonga Lake
49 Points



Monticello
45 Points



Rock Hill
42 Points

To support and follow all 20 participating departments:
Sullivan180.org/Healthiest-Fire-Department-Challenge



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

As we finish the first week of February, Kauneonga Lake (49 points) is still holding a slight edge over Monticello (45) and Rock Hill (42) in this year's Healthiest Fire Department Challenge. Monticello Fire Department volunteer members took to the trails at Kartrite Indoor Resort and Water Park and turned their walk into a litter pluck; coming back with several bags of garbage found along the trails. Thank you Monticello Fire Department for your dedication to building a healthier department, and to lending a hand in cleaning up our community!

BRIEF

UDC's 2024 Upper Delaware litter sweep

NARROWSBURG — The 4th Annual Upper Delaware Litter Sweep will take place on April 20-28, with land-based clean-ups to be organized in every Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor community that is willing to participate.

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) sponsors this active celebration of Earth Day ideals.

The non-profit organization is seeking to designate Litter Leaders in the Towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cochetcon, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, and Deerpark (NY); and Buckingham, Manchester, Damascus, Berlin, Lackawaxen, Shohola and Westfall Townships (PA) by February 20 if possible.

Litter Leaders are responsible for setting the date(s) and location(s) for their clean-ups, helping to round up volunteers in conjunction with the UDC's publicity outreach, and overseeing safety standards with provided instructions.

Fellow volunteers will receive a commemorative Upper Delaware Litter Sweep t-shirt with a pending new design; supplies to use including bags, pickers and safety equipment; and disposal information for their collected trash.

Any individuals, groups, or businesses willing to step forward should contact Stephanie Driscoll at (845) 252-3022 or stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org with name, email, phone number and where they would like to clean up. Goods and services are also welcome.

The 4th Annual Upper Delaware Litter Sweep is wholly funded by donations from partners, businesses and those who love the river corridor.

The UDC handles ordering the t-shirts for volunteer team building, permitting, insurance coverage, grant



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UDC volunteers disposing of garbage that may be on the sides of the road.

applications, connecting volunteers, purchase and distribution of equipment, supplies, maintaining a clean-up schedule and promotion before, during and after the event.

Donations by credit cards may be made via a 'Donate Now' button on the UDC website: <https://www.paypal.com/paypal/upperdelawarecouncil>. Checks can be mailed to: Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764; or drop off monetary donations at the 211 Bridge Street office. Please indicate that the donation is for the 2024 Litter Sweep.

Contributors of \$50 and above will be acknowledged in event publicity.

For information on the UDC, visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org, or follow Upper Delaware Council on Facebook, Instagram @upperdelawarecouncil and X @UpperDelCouncil.



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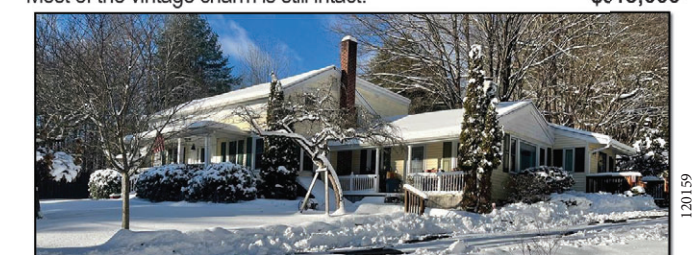
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VILLAGE TWO-STORY

Very convenient location, this Village of Liberty home offers 2400+SF, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, wood floors, large dining room, Eat-in Kitchen, and laundry room. Plenty of storage, nice private deck and pretty backyard. Most of the vintage charm is still intact! **\$315,000**



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Fall in love with this inviting & elegant 3BR+, 2.5 BA home. Wide plank wood floors, chef's kitchen, radiant heat, AC, Central vac, gazebo, hot tub, tree fort & more! Detached oversized garage, RV hook-up & large shed with separate electric. Lovingly maintained. **\$489,900**



Brandon Haass led all Sullivan West scorers with 19 points, including 17 in the second half.

Bears beat Bulldogs in convincing league win

early and see where the game kind of took us from there.”
 The lead grew even more throughout the second quarter, as the Bears were leading 48-16 at halftime. Tri-Valley dropped 27 points in the second quarter while holding the Bulldogs to just eight points in each of the first two quarters.
 Sullivan West began to break into the deficit somewhat in the third quarter, as they outscored the Bears, 16-7, but were still down by a score of 55-32. Tri-Valley put the game back to well out of reach in the fourth quarter as they scored 19 points, with five different players scoring, while holding the Bulldogs to 10 points.

the ball.”
 “We just give it up way too easily,” said Padu. “We work on it, but obviously it’s different in a game situation. Still gotta work on it.”
 Tri-Valley had four players reach double digits in scoring out of the five players who scored for them. Matt Fanslau and Boe Mueller each led the Bears with 19 points, while Misha Khodakovski scored 18 and Josh Fanslau scored 16. Of Mueller’s 19 points, 15 came on five three-pointers, three in the first half and two in the second half. The other scorer for the Bears was Austin Swett, who scored four points.
 “We had a little extra motivation,” Coach Delaney said. “We lost to them early in the season at home, coming out



Boe Mueller was one of the leading scorers in the game for Tri-Valley, scoring 19 points including five shots made from behind the arc.

STORY AND PHOTOS
 BY ALEX KIELAR

LAKE HUNTINGTON – On Tuesday night, the Tri-Valley Bears visited the Sullivan West Bulldogs for a key battle of two Class B schools. The Bears entered the game with a record of 10-5 (3-3), while the Bulldogs entered with a record of 4-10 (2-5).
 The Bears pounced on the Bulldogs and emphatically took home a 74-48 victory.
 Tri-Valley came out swinging as they jumped out to an 8-0 lead in the first quarter. Sullivan West was kept off the scoreboard until more than

two minutes into the action before Matt DuBois hit a three-pointer to make it 8-3.
 The Bears kept attacking and expanded their lead to 14-3 before Sullivan West took their first timeout with 3:10 remaining in the opening quarter. Then at the end of the quarter, Tri-Valley was up, 21-8.
 “What we’ve been working on this year is coming out strong to start games,” Tri-Valley Coach Kevin Delaney said. “So with an away league game that has always been a rivalry game, we knew we had to come out with some energy. That was our goal, to play hard

Leading Sullivan West in scoring was Brandon Haass, who scored 19 points, 17 of which came in the second half and a majority on second-chance looks. Also scoring double digits was Evan Ebert, who scored 11 points.
 “We needed to get back in transition and stop the easy stuff,” Sullivan West Coach Ronj Padu said. “They had too many second chance opportunities. Just things that we can’t have like letting easy buckets up at the rim.”
 Sullivan West also had a lot of turnovers throughout the game which led to easy baskets for the Bears, which Padu said was them “not cherishing



Matt Fanslau (23) also scored 19 points for Tri-Valley as he crashed the boards for second chance points all game.

of [Winter] break. We hadn’t played in three weeks, we had a couple of guys sick and we probably played our worst

game of the season. So our guys were a bit more amped up to get one back.”
 Coach Delaney also said that they are hoping to go on a good run to end the season as they are still in contention for a home Sectional game.
 “That was one of our goals coming into the season, to make Sectionals in Class B,” Delaney said. “Class B is very competitive this year, so the better seed we can get hopefully the better draw we get.”

Tri-Valley	74
Sullivan West	48

‘D’elivered Eldred plays spoiler to Livingston Manor in final league matchup



Anastasia Niforatos drives to the basket through contact. Niforatos led the Lady Wildcats with eight points in Monday night’s loss.

run. Late in the first quarter, Eldred built a 10-5 lead, but Livingston Manor closed out the first with a bucket to make it 10-7.
 The Lady Wildcats opened the second quarter with another two-point shot to make it 10-9. Eldred netted two free throws to increase the lead back to three before Livingston Manor equalized with a long-range jumper.
 From there, Eldred began taking over the game, scoring six straight points and taking an 18-12 lead to force a Livingston Manor timeout.
 Eldred finished the quarter on an 8-2 run, taking a 26-14 lead into the break.
 From the end of the second quarter and throughout the second half, Eldred was able to take control of the game.
 Outscoring Livingston Manor 14-7 gave the Lady Yellowjackets a 40-21 lead that would prove to be insurmountable in the fourth.
 Eldred’s offense was led by Olivia Gonzalez, who netted a game-high 15 points. Her scoring was supplemented by Sydney Furler with 10 as well as 10 from Victoria Ryman. Ryman, who started the season on JV, moved

up to varsity to add depth to the roster and has made an immediate impact on offense.
 Livingston Manor was led by Anastasia Niforatos with eight points and Leah Ladenhauf with seven.
 “It was a very intense game in the first half,” Eldred Coach June Hallock said after the win. “In the second half my Yellowjackets took control. We have a few injuries so we had to move up a few JV players, one of them [Ryman] permanently.”



Sydney Furler, despite being scoreless in the first quarter, put up ten points over the next three as Eldred was able to pull away from Livingston Manor and earn a second win in Class D.

Eldred	49
Liv. Manor	24

STORY AND PHOTOS
 BY ANTHONY MORGANO

LIVINGSTON MANOR — The Lady Yellowjackets punched their Sectional ticket earlier this season when Livingston Manor visited Eldred, but due to their being only two teams in the division, the Lady Wildcats still had a chance to make the postseason when the two ‘D’ schools met up on Monday evening.
 As always, it was a very physical matchup between

the two teams, but Eldred weathered the early back and forth battle and began building their lead, ultimately defeating their division rivals 49-24 and eliminating the Lady Wildcats from playoff contention.
 Livingston Manor opened up the scoring with an early 3-pointer but it was quickly answered by Eldred. The entirety of the first quarter, and much of the second, followed a trend of contested shots and an inability for either side to get out on a

Victoria Ryman moved up to Varsity and scored 10 points in the division game against Livingston Manor.



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When asked about returning to Sectionals, this time with an undefeated record, Hallock said, “It means a lot to me and my girls. We set our goals and accomplished what we’ve worked so hard for.”
 The Lady Wildcats had little time to rest after their contest as they hosted Seward on Tuesday evening for their senior recognition night. Despite keeping the game closer through three quarters, Seward was able to pull away in the fourth to earn a 41-26

victory.
 “Eldred played a great game. They were able to get multiple players heavily involved in the scoring while we were unable to do so,” Livingston Manor Coach Maggi Fitzpatrick said after the game. “The game was very physical. I thought my team did a better job of handling it than the first time around, but we allowed them too many offensive rebounds and unfortunately weren’t able to create second chances for ourselves.”

Lions secure regular season sweep of Wildcats



The Wildcat’s Zach Schwartz goes for an open jump shot early in the second half.

With both Aiden Johnston of Livingston Manor and Jonah McDuffie of Chapel Field leading their respective teams in made jump shots. Both players went on to be the highest scorers for each of their teams. Chapel Field gained a slight one-point lead over the Wildcats with 15-14 to end the first quarter.
 Quarter two proved to be the beginning of the end for Livingston Manor as they were only able to score six points to Chapel Field’s 20. Manor could not seem to shut down Chapel Field’s shooters, and multiple CF players knocked down three pointers. Meanwhile the only points the Wildcats were able to pick up were off foul shots. Livingston Manor went into the half down 35-20 to Chapel Field.
 The second half saw the Wildcats return with ferocious energy. They hustled on defense and played

an aggressive man to man but it still wasn’t enough to stop Chapel Field’s accurate shooters. Manor gave up a few key turnovers that seemed to seal their fate, but they still never gave up and even hit a buzzer beating shot to end the third quarter. Chapel Field led the Wildcats 52-30 going into the final quarter.
 Both teams came into the last quarter with incredible hustle and determination. Even as both teams emptied their benches, the energy and pace remained. At this point Chapel Field seemed more concerned with ball possession and running the clock out and it was the lowest scoring quarter for both teams. Chapel Field was able to secure a well fought victory over Livingston Manor and ended the game 57-37.
 Livingston Manor Coach, Charlie Hicks, had this to say after the game, “Chapel



Livingston Manor’s Kaleb Maldonado attempts a contested layup after a rapid drive to the basket.

Field is a great team, their defense is amazing and they outplayed us in every aspect tonight. We have three games left before sectionals so we are just focused on getting some final things like rebounding and physicality ready to play.”

Chapel Field	57
Liv. Manor	37