RIVER REPORTER.COM

VOL. 50 No. 42 • OCTOBER 17-23, 2024 • $2

The price for police

Honesdale Borough Council mulls police staffing, coverage

By LIAM MAYO

HONESDALE, PA — The borough of Honesdale would face challenges if it decides to expand its police department, including non-competitive salaries and a new landscape for hiring police recruits.

That was the message the Honesdale Borough Council received from consultant Stephen Wheeler at a September 30 meeting. Wheeler has been working with the borough since 2023, helping it locate viable candidates for the police department.

The borough is "at that juncture where we're trying to decide what to do with the police department," said borough manager Kevin Kudratic.

At present, the borough only has three full-time officers in addition to Police Chief Richard Southerton, according to Mayor Derek Williams.

A department that could provide full-time coverage—specifically overnight coverage—would need nine officers, Williams said.

Southerton told the **River Reporter** that the department had that level of coverage when he first joined around 10 years ago.

"I've been an advocate for a full-time department since I've come here," he said.

The borough council has not made a decision on what direction it wants to take the police department. Jason Newbon, chair of the Public Safety Committee, said the committee could meet to develop some guidance; he did not respond to a request for an update from the **River Reporter**.

Wheeler's work gives the borough the blueprints for how it could grow the department if it chose to do so.

"We're just trying to see what's out there and figure out, if we move forward to grow the police department, how do we do it?" Kudratic said.

¬ Page 3



RR photo by Jonathan Charles Fox

Fall in bloom

UPPER DELAWARE RIVER VALLEY—The fall season is getting to be at its best and most beautiful. New York State's Fall Foliage tracker says fall foliage is currently at its peak bloom. Across the river, the Poconos are projected to reach their peak throughout October, with the northern Poconos region already at its peak.

Apple picking is a go as well, as New York State's orchards have bounced back this fall. After a late frost last year devastated the yields farmers are saying the apple harvest this season is thriving in the region.

NY 19 candidates address opioids in Sullivan

By RUBY RAYNER-HASELKORN

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY — Incumbent Congressman Marc Molinaro (R) and challenger Josh Riley (D) spoke to the **River Reporter** about how they would address Sullivan's ongoing opioid crisis.

Historically, both candidates have been vocal on the subject. In 2017, after working as counsel on the Democratic staff of the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, Riley co-wrote a piece with a former employee of the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the George W. Bush Commerce Department. The piece was in advocacy of a vote by the Broome County's legislature in favor of creating an opioid treatment facility.

In 2017, Molinaro, as county executive of Dutchess, celebrated the grand opening of a stabilization center as part of the county's effort to address opioid addiction and mental health.

The stabilization center is a walk-in facility "for people feeling overwhelmed by mental health, substance use or other life issues," according to a brochure.

At the time, Molinaro said the 24-hour center was the result of a "unique private-public collaboration" and would stand as a model for New York State and the nation.

Marc Molinaro NY-19

Molinaro said, "The opioid epidemic is the public health crisis of our lifetime, and, I would argue, upstate New York is the epicenter of that crisis."

¬ Page 5

OPINION
Caring for all of our citizens
PAGE 6

ELECTION
Be an informed voter
PAGE 8

COMMUNITY LIVING
The power of a helping hand
PAGE 16

GREEN & SIMPLE



A new modern barn for farm and community
PAGE 18

CURRENTS
'It's got to be real'



Sullivan West's 'green thumb' senior
PAGE 26

SPORTS



A game of chances
PAGE 38

IN BRIEF

In-person NYS workers' compensation board hearings are back

NEW YORK — The NYS Workers' Compensation Board announced that multiple offices statewide are now open to the public for in-person hearings and services by appointment. Board offices have been closed to the public since March 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, but the board itself was never closed.

Thanks to the 2018 implementation of virtual hearings, the board was able to immediately shift all hearings online, enabling continued operations and ensuring critical benefits continued to flow to injured workers.

While the board's virtual hearings continue to be held, stakeholders who wish to have an in-person hearing, or to visit a board office for free support from vocational rehabilitation counselors or licensed clinical social workers, can request an appointment. Stakeholders can also request appointments to get help filing a claim, to use board resources for case-related activities or to complete forms.

Board chair Clarissa M. Rodriguez said, "We are thrilled to once again welcome injured workers and other stakeholders in person to conduct business with the board and get the assistance and support they need. Whether in-person or virtual, we take great pride in serving our fellow New Yorkers, ensuring the proper delivery of benefits and compliance with the law."

Any party attending a virtual hearing can request to have their next workers' compensation hearing in person. In-person hearings bring the injured worker, their legal representative (if applicable), and other parties (if they so choose) together at a physical board location for their hearing. Requests for in-person hearings should be made directly to the Workers' Compensation Law judge during a scheduled virtual hearing. Otherwise, the next hearing will remain virtual.

Stakeholders seeking support services and other resources can also request in-person appointmentse. These in-person appointments can be requested by calling the board's customer service line at 844/337-6301 or by emailing VocRehab@wcb.ny.gov or SocialWorkers@wcb.ny.gov for the relevant support.

Information on which board locations are now open by appointment is available at wcb.ny.gov/locations.

Honesdale man charged in fatal Hawley crash

HAWLEY, PA — Honesdale resident Tyler Nathaniel Canfield, 27, has been charged with multiple offenses including homicide by vehicle driven while under the influence, in relation to the crash that killed Elizabeth Struble, 61, on Saturday, October 5.

Witnesses told police they observed Canfield driving erratically, including driving over the center line and almost hitting a stone wall, before he crossed a double yellow center line and hit Struble's vehicle head-on, according to the criminal complaint.

When police arrived on the scene, they told Canfield to stay where he was and wait for ambulance personnel to check him out, according to the complaint.

"At this time, I detected a strong odor of an intoxicating beverage on his breath [and] he was unsteady on his feet [and] almost falling over [with] bloodshot eyes [and] slurred very slow speech," said Officer Lee Rowan. "He agreed to wait then took off down the embankment."

Police and passers-by gave chase and apprehended Canfield after around a quarter mile, according to the complaint.

Canfield "admitted to drinking last night and [said that] today he had a few beers," said Rowan. According to the complaint, police took him to the hospital and were apprised that Canfield's BAC was .30.

NYS Attorney General Letitia James sues TikTok

NEW YORK STATE — New York Attorney General Letitia James and California Attorney General Rob Bonta co-led a bipartisan coalition of 14 attorneys general in filing lawsuits against the social media platform TikTok for misleading the public about the safety of its platform and harming young people's mental health. The lawsuits, filed individually by each member of the coalition, allege that TikTok violated state laws by falsely claiming its platform is safe for young people. The suit says many young users are struggling with poor mental health and body image issues due to the platform's addictive features and are getting injured, hospitalized or dying because of dangerous TikTok "challenges" that are created and promoted on the platform. James and the bipartisan coalition of attorneys general are seeking to stop TikTok's harmful practices and impose financial penalties on the social media company.

"Young people are struggling with their mental health because of addictive social media platforms like TikTok," said James. "TikTok claims that their platform is safe for young people, but that is far from true. In New York and across the country, young people have died or gotten injured doing dangerous TikTok challenges and many more are feeling more sad, anxious and depressed because of TikTok's addictive features. Today, we are suing TikTok to protect young people and help combat the nationwide youth mental health crisis. Kids and families across the country are desperate for help to address this crisis, and we are doing everything in our power to protect them."

"Our investigation has revealed that TikTok cultivates social media addiction to boost corporate profits. TikTok intentionally targets children because they know kids do not yet have the defenses or capacity to create healthy boundaries around addictive content," said Bonta. "When we look at the youth mental health crisis and the revenue machine TikTok has created, fueled by the time and attention of our young people, it's devastatingly obvious: our children and teens never stood a chance against these social media behemoths. TikTok must be held accountable for the harms it created in taking away the time—and childhoods—of American children."

According to the lawsuits, TikTok's underlying business model focuses on maximizing young users' time on the platform so the company can boost revenue from selling targeted ads. TikTok uses an addictive content-recommendation system designed to keep minors on the platform as long as possible and as often as possible, despite the dangers of compulsive use. Multiple studies have found a link between excessive social media use, poor sleep quality and poor mental health among young people. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, young people who spend more than three hours per day on social media face double the risk of experiencing poor mental health outcomes, including symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Through these lawsuits, the coalition of attorneys general are using state laws to stop TikTok from using these harmful and exploitative tactics. In addition, the lawsuits seek to impose financial penalties, including disgorgement of all profits resulting from the fraudulent and illegal practices, and to collect damages for users that have been harmed.

UDC awards cleanup grants

NARROWSBURG, NY — Since initiating its River & Shoreline Clean-up Grants program in 2014, the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) has awarded $51,923.72 to member municipalities to help keep the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and its banks pristine.

In 2024, the Towns of Deerpark and Highland opted to participate after submitting proposals on March 20 and April 22 respectively. They completed their cleanups by the September 10 deadline. The UDC's Operations Committee approved reimbursement of actual expenses totaling $3,520.59 on September 24.

The Town of Deerpark focused efforts on the Hawk's Nest area of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway New York State Route 97, a much-photographed winding hillside route which offers sweeping views from 200 feet above the river. The town highway department conducted three multi-day sweeps after Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day to pick up debris along a 2.9-mile section to the Lumberland town line. The cost for labor, transportation and supplies was $2,800.59.

The Town of Highland subcontracted with Matt Sallusto from NextGen Property Services to organize a river and roadside clean-up from Minisink to Barryville on September 8. With volunteer help and donated hauling and disposal fees for the collected trash, the discounted rental cost for a 20-yard dumpster stationed at Kittatinny Canoes Barryville Base was $720.

The UDC opens this summer-long program to its eight New York towns and five Pennsylvania townships each March as an environmentally beneficial community service. The council has also organized four annual, land-based Upper Delaware litter sweeps throughout the river valley in April. Visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org for more information.

Lawsuit filed to protect Atlantic sturgeon

PHILADELPHIA, PA — On Wednesday, October 2, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) filed a complaint against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its failure to finalize dissolved oxygen standards. The network said the standards are "essential" for protecting the Delaware River's endangered population of Atlantic sturgeon and other aquatic life.

"When the U.S. EPA granted our petition seeking swift and strong action to develop and release stronger dissolved oxygen standards, followed by a draft proposal a year after, we were placed on an important path towards progress essential for saving the Atlantic sturgeon of the Delaware River from extinction," said Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and the leader of the DRN. "It has been worrisome to see the process inexplicably slowed."

In April 2022, the DRN and partners filed a legal petition urging the federal government to start a rulemaking process. On December 1, 2022, the EPA granted the petition, determining that revised water quality standards for the Delaware River estuary were necessary to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

RIVER REPORTER.com *The weekly newspaper that respects your intelligence*

Published by: Stuart Communications, Inc. • Office location: 93 Erie Avenue, Narrowsburg, NY 12764
Mailing address: PO Box 150, Narrowsburg, NY 12764 • Phone: 845/252-7414, Fax: 845/252-3298

Publisher	Rev. Laurie Stuart	ext. 133	publisher@riverreporter.com
Online Editor & Production Manager	Amanda Reed		amanda@riverreporter.com
Managing Editor	Annemarie Schuetz	ext. 129	copyeditor@riverreporter.com
PA News Editor	Liam Mayo	ext. 128	liam@riverreporter.com
Staff Reporter & NY News Editor	Ruby Rayner Haselkorn	ext. 143	ruby@riverreporter.com
Subscription Manager/ Ed. Assistant	Roger Snedeker	ext. 130	events@riverreporter.com
Administrative Assistant	Kathlyn Leggio	ext. 134	sales@riverreporter.com
Sales and Development	Amy Janzen	ext. 135	amy@riverreporter.com
Sales Associate	Lily Skuthan	ext. 123	lily@riverreporter.com

News editor@riverreporter.com
Press Releases copyeditor@riverreporter.com
Advertising sales@riverreporter.com
Classifieds/Legals sales@riverreporter.com
Where & When events@riverreporter.com
Special Sections copyeditor@riverreporter.com

MEMBER NYPA • MEMBER NNA

Opinions expressed by the editors and writers are their own and are not necessarily the views of the publisher or the advertisers. The appearance of advertisements does not constitute an endorsement of the firms, products or services.

Official newspaper of: Sullivan County; towns of Bethel, Lumberland and Tusten; Sullivan West, Eldred and BOCES school districts; and the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance

Subscription rate: $124/2 years, $72/1 year, $46/6 months. Published weekly on Thursdays. USPS 354-810. ISSN: 1084-2225(print) • ISSN: 2993-5849 (online) Periodical postage paid at Narrowsburg, NY 12764 and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The River Reporter, PO Box 150, Narrowsburg, NY 12764.

Entire contents © 2024 by Stuart Communications, Inc.

A lifetime of service

Bertsch served town and the county

By JAMES McKEEGAN

COCHECTON, NY — Life-long Cochecton resident Earl Bertsch served on the Cochecton planning board for 24 years. He passed away in September at the age of 85.

To memorialize his 24 years of service, the Cochecton Town Board entered a tribute and a memorial resolution into the minutes at its October 8 board meeting. The board appointed a new member to take his place, as well as an alternate.

The board thanked Joy Bertsch for her service to the Cochecton Planning Board. She will retire as clerk at the end of 2024.

Earl Bertsch's obituary tells the story of a long history of community involvement, working for the county and SUNY Sullivan.

In other business, the board:

• discussed the increasing costs to maintain the town's trucks with recent mechanical breakdowns due to degradation caused by road salts. The board will consider buying a new truck fitted with a plow and sander, and explore costs during the budget process.

• discussed the recent rash of activated fire alarms and agreed to look into how other towns regulate the issue; some local communities levy fines after a certain number of false alarms.

• approved a request by the Lake Huntington Presbyterian Church to hold its annual bake sale at the town hall on Election Day, November 5.

• heard Upper Delaware Council representative Larry Richardson report concerns about the influx of the spotted lantern fly. Richardson said that there have been large infestations of the nuisance insect in nearby Orange County and in Northeast Pennsylvania, though recent numbers have tapered off in the past year.

The Cochecton Town Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be November 13. A work session begins at 7 p.m., followed by the regular business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioners recognize food pantry coordinator

By JAMIE FALGIE

HONESDALE, PA — The Wayne County Commissioners meeting on October 10 started with a recognition for Clarissa Wimmers for her five years of dedicated work in the human services department. There to introduce Wimmers was integrated services specialist Dave Hartung.

"Whatever I'm able to say here will not do Clarissa justice," Hartung began. "She has been an extraordinary staff member, partner and just has meant so much to Wayne County Human Services."

Wimmers is the food pantry coordinator, who oversees a food bank and five different pantry sites throughout the county. She has also created pop-up programs that serve community offices, such as churches, hospitals and YMCAs, along with integrating fresh milk, eggs and produce from local farmers into the pantries.

"She strongly emphasizes culture and building a positive culture and lifting people up," Hartung said. "We are truly fortunate to have Clarissa as part of our team."

The commissioners congratulated Wimmers, while also praising her efforts in getting local farmers involved with the food pantry.

"The relationship that you have developed with our local farmers is extremely valuable because we are an agricultural community. We weren't using our local farmers in our food pantry efforts before you started… but you have gone so far forward with that as a personal mission," commissioner Jocelyn Cramer said. "Congratulations on the five years [of service] and we hope you are here for many more."

When asked if she would like to add anything, Wimmers simply thanked the commissioners and said, "I think we all can change our world by caring just a little bit more and raising people up."

Recognizing physical therapists

The commissioners welcomed physical therapists and physical therapist assistants from Wayne Memorial Hospital to receive a proclamation for Physical Therapy Month.

The proclamation states that physical therapists are able to improve the quality of life and physical well-being of community members of all ages through a variety of ways. Along with reducing pain and promoting health, physical therapists also can help clients with movement disorders.

"Physical therapy to us is something we think is a critical part of our healthcare system."

— Brian Smith

"Physical therapy to us is something we think is a critical part of our healthcare system," commissioner Brian Smith added, "and I'm very proud that you are all here… what you do changes people's lives."

In other county news

The commissioners paused for a moment of silence for Bob Carmody, a former county commissioner, who died on Wednesday, October 9, at the age of 82. Carmody opened B&B Dodge Inc. in Honesdale with his two brothers in April 1970, later selling his share of the business to purchase a local real estate agency. Carmody served on the board of commissioners throughout the 1980s. Arrangements for his services have yet to be announced.

Other motions that were approved included a college financial planning piece of the People Joy agreement for one year at a rate of $300 per hour for assistance for Wayne County employees. Additionally, a letter of support was approved for the Victims' Intervention Program for an AllOne Charities grant to help cover the cost of managing their 24-hour crisis hotline.

The last day to register to vote in Wayne County is October 21. The last day to request a mail-in ballot is October 29. Mail-in ballots need to be dropped off or received by mail at the Wayne County Courthouse by 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 5.

PRICE FOR POLICE

¬ Page 1

The cost of talent

If the borough chooses to recruit additional officers, it may have to address its current rate of police department pay.

"I'll be very blunt with you: The salaries offered by Honesdale Borough are not really competitive with salaries in other police departments," Wheeler said.

The starting salary for a full-time patrol officer is $41,000 a year, according to the collective bargaining agreement hosted on the Honesdale Borough website. That goes up to $54,000 a year for a patrol officer after five years of service, with steps beyond that depending on an officer's title and term of service.

The mean salary for police and sheriff's officers in non-metropolitan northern Pennsylvania is $68,280, according to May 2023 estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That's around $27,000 a year more than the starting salary for Honesdale's police officers.

While Wheeler acknowledged that there are budgetary constraints, he said the borough should consider offering financial incentives for new recruits.

And if it offered incentives to new employee, he added, "current employees are going to say, 'Hey, what about me?' That's something the borough needs to wrestle with."

The total allocated to the Honesdale police department in the 2024 budget is $567,023, a figure that includes equipment and expenses. The department's full-time salaries, including lines for a new patrol officer and overtime, add up to $307,522.

The state of recruiting

The borough council also faces a hiring landscape that's different from how it used to operate. "Police hiring has really changed in the last several years," said Wheeler.

The "severe competition for police officer candidates" means employers need to "differentiate your agency from everyone else who's trying to hire," Wheeler said. This could involve financial incentives, but also more creative avenues such as marketing Honesdale as a place recruits would want to live, he said.

In addition, the old ways of reaching candidates no longer applied, he said. "We all know that people looking for employment these days, particularly the young people, generally don't get their leads from the print newspaper."



RR photo by Liam Mayo

Honesdale Borough Mayor Derek Williams, left, and manager Kevin Kudratic sit in a September 30 meeting of the borough council.

While Wheeler said some recruiting occurred online through social media or on jobs listings sites like Indeed, he said a majority of it happens through discussions with recruits currently in police academies. He said Lackawanna University's police academy is "the big police training program" in the surrounding area.

New Texas Township zoning addresses solar, short-term rentals

By LIAM MAYO

TEXAS TOWNSHIP, PA — The Texas Township Board of Supervisors signed its newly revised zoning ordinances into being with little fanfare at their meeting on October 7.

"There wasn't a lot of changes," township zoning officer Bill Watson told the **River Reporter**. "It was really just bringing it up to date."

However, there were one or two more major additions to the document. The revised ordinances include sections on short-term rentals and on renewable energy installations, addressing topics that have become issues of concern since the last township zoning revision.

Township residents interested in looking at the ordinances can purchase copies at the township offices, said Watson.

Short-term rentals

Short-term rentals—rooms or full houses put up for rent on sites like Airbnb or VRBO—have taken off as an industry over the past decade. Growing numbers of short-term rentals in the region of the Upper Delaware River has led a growing number of towns and townships to put laws in place to regulate them. Municipalities include Damascus Township, Wayne County and Lackawaxen Township, Pike County.

Texas Township's short-term rental regulations include many elements common across the region, such as:

• Occupancy of a short-term rental is limited to two people per bedroom plus an additional two people.

• All parking must be on the property, and the short-term rental owner must provide one parking space per bedroom on the property.

• The owner will prevent guests from creating "unreasonable noise or disturbances," and either the owner or a designated contact person will respond within an hour to any emergency.

• Short-term rentals will have smoke detectors in each bedroom and common hallway on each floor; carbon monoxide detectors for coal, oil or gas furnaces; and a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.

The purpose of the regulations is "to ensure public health, safety and welfare."

Solar and wind

The township also looked to address another emerging land use: renewable energy generation.

Commercial solar and wind power generation is allowed only in the rural district and only as a conditional use (meaning the planning commission and the board of supervisors need to OK any project). Accessory solar and wind generators—say, solar panels on a residential rooftop—are allowed in all districts.

The township's regulations on commercial solar are meant "to accommodate the need for solar power facilities while regulating their location and number in the township, in recognition of the need to protect the public health, safety and welfare."

The ordinances impose standards on commercial solar fields, including:

• A fence and/or screening landscaping may be required around the facility.

• A company proposing a solar field will submit information on the potential glare from the project, including on how potential nuisances to nearby properties and roads will be controlled.

• Anyone proposing a commercial solar field will cooperate with local emergency services to develop an emergency response plan, on request.

• All battery storage will be kept at least 200 feet from property lines.

Another set of standards applies to commercial wind turbines, including:

• The turbines will be the minimum height required to function satisfactorily.

• Wind turbines must be at least 2,000 feet away from any nearby buildings, unless the owners of those buildings sign waivers acknowledging the potential damages they may incur as a result of the turbine.

• Sound from a wind turbine can't be higher than 45 decibels as measured at the exterior of any nearby occupied building.

• Wind turbines will be a "non-obtrusive color," such as white, off-white or gray.

Aqua PA rate hike will be decided by February

By LIAM MAYO

NORTHEAST PA — A rate increase proposed by utility Aqua Pennsylvania (Aqua PA) could cost the average user an extra $16 a month on their water bills.

The utility submitted a request for a rate increase to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) on May 23. The increase would net the company an additional $126 million in annual operating revenue, an 18.8 percent increase over its projected revenue without the rate increase.

Aqua PA says it needs the increase to fund infrastructure improvements it is carrying out across its system.

An average residential customer, using 3,870 gallons of water per month, would see their bill increase nearly 20 percent, from $80.91 to $97.01, according to Aqua PA. The increase on a typical monthly residential wastewater bill would be slightly smaller; those bills would go from $81.18 to $96.10.

The PUC is investigating the rate increase request and will make a final decision by February 22, 2025.

Reason for rate increase

The proposed increase is "the minimum rate increase necessary to enable the company to earn a reasonable return on its investment in property devoted to the public service," Aqua PA claimed in its rate filing.

The company said that it will have replaced around 200 miles of water main and hundreds of fire hydrants between April 2023 and the end of 2025. In addition, it said it will have rehabilitated water and wastewater treatment plants, addressed new types of contamination and upgraded its pump systems.

All together, the company said it will have made around $950 million dollars in infrastructure investments by the end of 2025.

"We are at a critical point when it comes to our water and wastewater infrastructure here in Pennsylvania and across the country," said Aqua PA president Marc Lucca.

The company last filed for rate increases in August 2021. The PUC approved the increases in May 2022. However, the PUC approved "substantially lower than requested" increases for its water and wastewater services, around 30 percent less than what Aqua PA requested, according to a PUC press release.

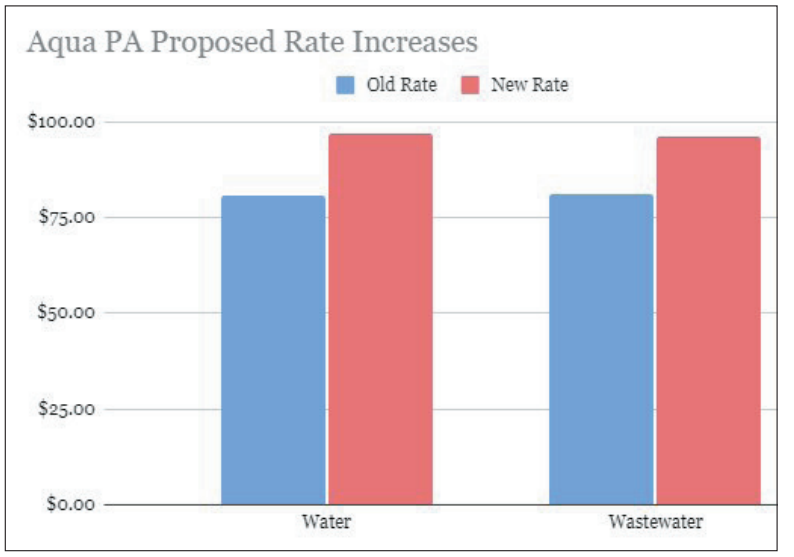


Chart made with Google Sheets

An average residential customer, using 3,870 gallons of water per month, would see their monthly bill increase nearly 20%, from $80.91 to $97.01, according to Aqua PA. The increase on a typical monthly residential wastewater bill would be slightly smaller; those bills would go from $81.18 to $96.10.

Where things stand

The PUC has been reviewing Aqua PA's rate filing since earlier in the year, as the commission voted in June to investigate the rate increase requests.

In August, the PUC held 11 public hearings looking for feedback, and "we saw strong participation in those hearings," said PUC press secretary Nils Hagen-Frederiksen.

Hagen-Frederiksen said that hearings for testimony from expert witnesses were scheduled for the second and third weeks of October. Final written briefs are due by the first week of November, after which the judges in the case will begin working on a recommendation to the PUC. The PUC's final decision is due by February 22, 2025.

PA seeks feedback on trout management plan

HARRISBURG, PA — The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is seeking public feedback on a new strategic plan for the management of trout fisheries in Pennsylvania.

This updated plan for 2025-2029 was developed based on input from PFBC commissioners and staff from the bureaus of Fisheries; Hatcheries; Outreach, Education and Marketing; Law Enforcement; and Administration.

The goal of this strategic plan is to ensure that adequate protection is afforded to Pennsylvania's wild trout resources, and that fisheries provided through the management of wild trout and stocking of adult and fingerling trout produce high quality angling opportunities across the commonwealth.

The plan is available for review on the PFBC's website (visit www.fishandboat.com/Conservation/Plans/Management-Plans/Pages/Species-Management-Plans.aspx) and the public is encouraged to provide feedback through Saturday, November 2. Feedback on the plan may be submitted by email to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov with "Trout Plan" written in the subject line.

The plan will be finalized during December 2024 following consideration of public feedback.

George W. Childs Park re-opens

BUSHKILL, PA — George W. Childs Park, a destination in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, re-opened to the public at noon on October 2, announced the National Park Service.

The site has been closed since 2018, when back-to-back winter storms destroyed much of the site.

"Though there have been a few changes to the site, like the improved and expanded accessible portion of the trail and the removal and restoration of a short section of trail that was too damaged to repair, returning visitors and first-time visitors alike will be greeted by a rustic trail system with perfectly situated bridges and viewing platforms that highlight three scenic waterfalls and the natural environment in which they are located, similar to what was originally envisioned by George W. Childs over a century ago," said Doyle Sapp, Park Superintendent.

On-site work was completed in several phases by contractors and the park's professional trail crew with some early assistance with site clearing from the park's volunteer trail stewards.

Present at the ribbon cutting was Michael Gadomski, who served 25 years with the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks as a park ranger and naturalist until his retirement in 2002. He worked out of Promised Land State Park where his duties included the George W. Childs State Park, before it being turned over to the National Park Service in 1983.



RR photo by Jeffrey Sidle

Factory Falls, the uppermost of three falls located along the newly re-opened park trails at George W. Childs Park.

"It was wonderful to attend the re-opening of Childs Park in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Pennsylvania today," he said. "What also added to the day was seeing an old National Park Service friend and talking with some of the newer rangers and trail crew. It should come as no surprise to those who know, that some of America's best people administer, manage, and interpret 'America's best idea'."

NY19 ¬ Page 1

He told the **River Reporter** he remains committed to supporting and securing state and federal funding for a stabilization center to be built in Sullivan County. Molinaro held a roundtable discussion in November of last year with officials from Dutchess and Sullivan County in an effort to support Sullivan in building a stabilization center.

Since that meeting, Molinaro says he's been in contact with Nadia Rajsz, chair of the Sullivan County Legislature; a working group has been created to develop a proposal; and he is ready to support efforts to obtain state dollars and federal dollars to fund the project.

"They are going to need to pull the trigger at some point," he said, referring to the county legislature.

He believes in a community-based mental health model, in "meeting people where they are and connecting them with the treatment and support services they need."

Focusing on treatment is critical, Molinaro said, "but so is prevention and enforcement, and enforcement can only happen if we secure our border and spend dollars on intervening in drug trafficking, and then [addressing] some policies in New York that make it impossible for law enforcement to intervene, and for us to use tools to incentivize individuals to enter into certain care."

As co-chair of the bipartisan mental health caucus, Molinaro said, "I'm leveraging bipartisan support to invest in and support efforts like this in Sullivan."

"I believe that every county and country should have access to a stabilization center and the resources that come with it," Molinaro added.

Josh Riley (D) (I)

Riley said, "Of course" he would support efforts to build a stabilization center in Sullivan county. For him, "it's a top priority that there are places people can go and get the help they need," and he would support efforts to build a stabilization center in Sullivan County in Congress.

"My approach to this comes from growing up in a community that was devastated by the opioid epidemic," Riley told the **River Reporter**. Losing a friend who lived "down the block" to opioid use is what Riley said drives his work to end the opioid epidemic.

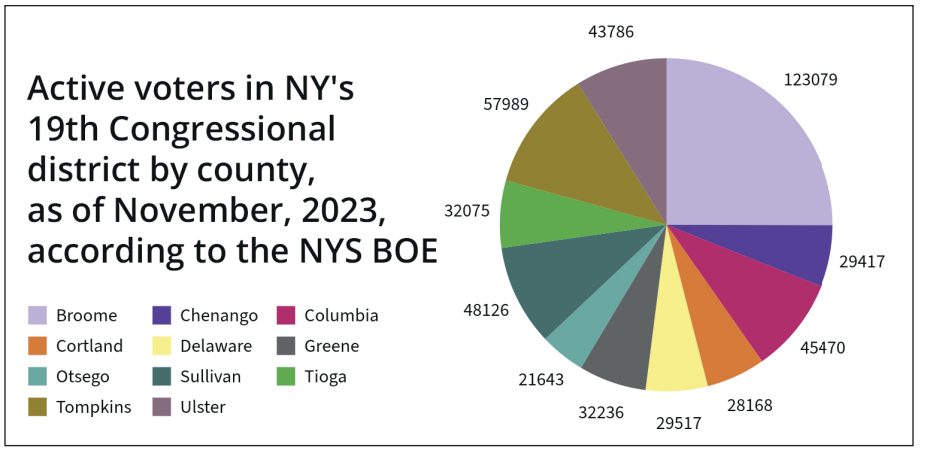
"I've been advocating for a long time for services for people dealing with addiction and mental health, because too often, what happens is people end up getting caught up in the criminal justice system."

"That's terrible for people with addiction or mental health issues," Riley said. "It's terrible for law enforcement. It's terrible for the taxpayers."

Riley said that a stabilization or treatment center "almost always requires federal funding, either through the Department of Health and Human Services and or through the Justice Department. And I have done work in my career in a bipartisan way to increase that funding and provide it to communities that need it, and I will continue to support that kind of work in Sullivan County. My opponent can say whatever he wants to say, but he voted to cut that funding by 22 percent and spent his entire last campaign attacking me or pushing for those kinds of treatment facilities."

A stabilization and/or treatment center in Sullivan falls under the second prong of Riley's three-pronged approach. The first is getting drugs out of communities by securing the border and deploying technology that can "detect fentanyl before it goes across the border into our communities," Riley said.

The last prong, "in the long term," Riley said, it's about rebuilding the middle class. "Data shows that when you have a strong economy with good job opportunities, you have less addiction and substance abuse."



Mental health and opioid misuse in Sullivan County

Sullivan County's mental health infrastructure is lacking. In a 2022 study of priorities, Garnet Health, the area's dominant medical provider, identified mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention as their top two priorities.

There was one mental health provider per 450 people registered in Sullivan County in 2024 compared to one mental health provider for every 280 people statewide in New York. It's a slight improvement from 2023 data, which showed there was one mental health provider per 490 people.

Sullivan County consistently has some of the highest fatal drug overdose statistics across New York State but has not always received concurrent federal and state assistance. It was only in 2023 that Sullivan secured the federal designation as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) and received the associated resources.

New York's 19th

New York's 19th congressional district includes parts or all of Broome, Chenango, Columbia, Cortland, Delaware, Greene, Otsego, Sullivan, Tioga, Tomkins and Ulster counties. Sullivan County voters are vital in NY-19. Of the total registered active voters in the district, as of November 2024, Sullivan County makes up nearly 10 percent of the total vote. Sullivan County's active voter share of NY-19 is greater than every county except Broome and Tompkins, according to the New York State Board of Elections (see chart with voter share by county).

MY VIEW

BY MATTHEW ESPENSHADE

State help is needed in addressing mental health

Pennsylvania is in the midst of a mental health crisis. This health emergency isn't just occurring in one county or region—it's happening across the commonwealth and the nation. Exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and an ongoing opioid epidemic, individuals from every type of community and across all industry sectors are suffering.

As president of the Pennsylvania State Grange, mental health is an area of concern that often comes up in discussion with my members. Unfortunately, our elected officials and policymakers at the state level continue to turn a blind eye to this growing problem—especially as it relates to Medicaid recipients.

The Grange is the oldest agricultural and rural advocacy organization of its kind in the United States. Rural Pennsylvania is no stranger to mental health problems; we are not immune to these issues. That is why the Pennsylvania State Grange has partnered with organizations like Rural Minds to promote mental health care.

The isolation one can feel in rural areas is difficult, and more importantly, the lack of access to mental health care is a challenge. Agriculture can—not always—be a somewhat isolating industry. Our members often live in rural regions on large parcels of land. The nearest neighbor or town can be a significant distance away. The work is never-ending and can be physically demanding. We don't have weekends off when there are animals and crops to care for. There is no such thing as being closed due to inclement weather. The challenges and pressures are vast and real.

As a society, we have made great strides in removing the stigma that for far too long has been associated with utilizing mental health services. But we still have a long way to go.

These efforts are hindered when there is a lack of available services. While the COVID-19 pandemic had devastating effects across the globe, one silver lining was bringing telemedicine even more into the mainstream. But while telemedicine has increased access to services, there is still the underlying issue of whether there is an adequate number of staff and programs to meet the demand and provide quality services. That's where we need action from the state.

For background, the state (through the Department of Human Services) funds these programs every year as part of its Medicaid budget and through rate negotiations with the organizations responsible for managing these services. Unfortunately, this year's rates did not consider several factors. There is a large shift in membership now that the COVID-19 public health emergency has ended; there are increases in payments to providers for services to maintain access to critical behavioral health services and a growing demand for behavioral health services.

Because the rates don't take these factors into account, the state has essentially been underfunding these vital services. The rates don't reflect the reality of the need and utilization of these services, and the state is basically passing their funding responsibility onto primary contractors and counties.

It's an unsustainable situation that is reaching a crisis point.

The Shapiro administration has the power to rectify the situation by performing a mid-year rate review and adjustment. Less than half of the money would come from the Pennsylvania budget, as the majority would come from federal dollars.

If the rates aren't adjusted, the underfunding will continue, federal funds will be left on the table, and the problem will get worse. That's largely because rates for the next year are partly based on the current year's rates. Each year of underfunding compounds, creating an even bigger funding gap in future years.

To put that in real terms, inadequate funding equates to reduced investment in behavioral health systems and programs. There will be more issues in hiring and maintaining behavior health staff, which will negatively impact available services, put additional strain on county budgets and threaten funding for other county services.

Behavioral health services are vital for helping individuals with mental health and/or addiction problems. They are vital for helping our families, neighbors and communities thrive. These are serious issues that left unaddressed can lead to devastating results.

The commonwealth has a responsibility to adequately fund these services to ensure access to quality care. It's time for the state to step up to the plate, acknowledge its financial responsibility and adjust the rates.

Matthew Espenshade is the president of the Pennsylvania State Grange.

QUOTE

"We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate."

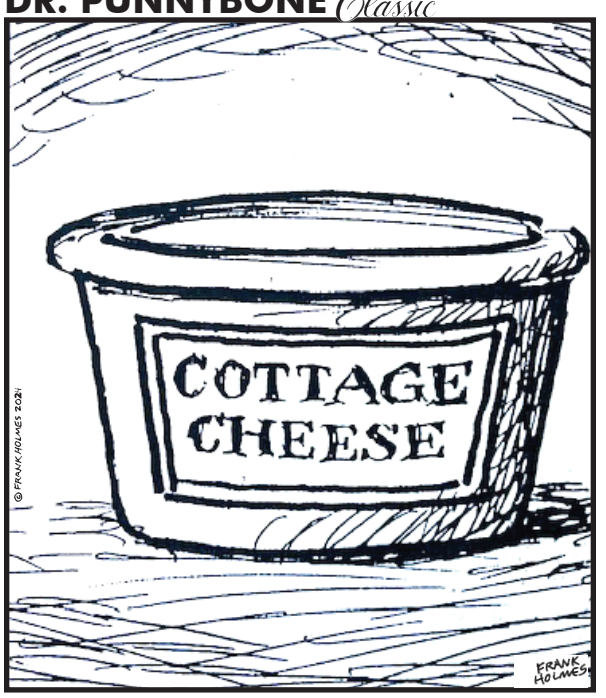
– Thomas Jefferson

[The **RIVER REPORTER** welcomes letters on all subjects from its readers. They must include the correspondent's phone number. The correspondent's name and town will appear at the bottom of each letter.

Letters are printed at the discretion of the editor. It is requested they be limited to 350 words; longer letters may not be printed, or may be edited down to the appropriate length. No letters or My Views in excess of 800 words will be printed. Deadline is 1 p.m. on Friday.]

For more letters, visit riverreporter.com/opinion.

DR. PUNNYBONE *Classic*



No Whey!

MY VIEW

BY JOE PERRELLO

Caring for all of our citizens

For over two years, I've heard the back-and-forth over the Adult Care Center—sell it, lease it, take it back. It's time for the legislature to do something, and I vote for moving forward.

We've all repeatedly heard and seen the concerns and criticisms about the facility and our consultant from a small group that continually brings it up at legislature meetings and on social media. I'm tired of hearing them repeat themselves over and over, and I don't for a minute believe they represent anywhere near the majority of residents and taxpayers in Sullivan County.

Do the majority of taxpayers want to see their taxes hiked by double digits to return the Care Center to a county-only operation? Many residents and taxpayers may not support the significant tax increases required to bring the Care Center back under full county control.

In contrast, leasing it to an experienced operator, such Infinite Care or another provider, will be a more sustainable option.

Whether it's our current consultant, Infinite Care, or somebody else who ends up leasing the Care Center, they'll know a lot better than we do how to run a place that has to be profitable to survive. The escalating cost of operations is a major issue around the state and nation. Close to half of the 62 counties in New York State used to run nursing homes. That's now down to just 14 (and soon 13, since one is in the final stages of being sold). Sullivan County is not wealthy enough to continue paying for the Care Center unless we raise taxes so high that every one of us legislators would be thrown out of office.

Municipalities in government have no business operating a nursing home facility. This is not our specialty, and hiring quality, qualified people to run a nursing home in a rural, low-paying area is extremely difficult. Yet month after month, the same small group of individuals with a narrow focus present their criticisms and concerns, as if they possess the definitive solutions to the widespread challenges facing nursing homes. The resource demands this makes on Sullivan County are large, burdensome and inefficient.

A private company, on the other hand, is in a good position to provide the kind of care and responsible management that we all want for our older population. But they've got to be free of the time-consuming procurement procedures that municipalities like us have to follow, so that they can provide care in a fiscally sustainable way.

Despite what you hear from a small group, it's not about lining their pockets at residents' expense—it's about having enough consistent revenue to pay staff competitively; to maintain high standards of cleanliness and care; and to constantly invest in, repair and upgrade equipment.

I've visited and talked with the Care Center as well as county staff, most of whom have already joined Infinite Care and are pleased with the change. I've also spoken with constituents, and many share the belief that a private operator is the best solution moving forward, whether or not the county retains ownership.

A lot of the debate in the legislature boils down to whether you believe that nursing homes should be publicly operated or privately operated. I 100-percent believe that better care and lower taxpayer costs can and will happen with a private operator who leases the Care Center from us. For the good of all the people of Sullivan County, including the best interests of those who use and live at the facility, I want us to head in the right direction as soon as possible.

I don't want to see the Care Center closed. It provides a valuable service to residents, and by leasing it to a professional operator, Sullivan County will ensure it's always there for those who need it.

Joe Perrello is the District 7 Legislator in Sullivan County, NY.

MY VIEW
BY KATIE BLUME

Rural Pennsylvania is full of opportunity

Let's keep it that way

There has quite possibly never been a better time to live in rural America—and certainly in rural Pennsylvania.

Thanks to an avalanche of strategic federal investments, country dwellers no longer have to leave their hometowns to find opportunities. Instead, opportunity is coming straight to them and has already created more than 51,000 new rural jobs since 2022—when the Biden-Harris administration began implementing the Inflation Reduction Act.

By offering a plan to provide all rural areas with reliable electricity and clean water, as well as modern-day necessities of high-speed internet and rural transit, the Inflation Reduction Act is helping oft-forgotten communities realize their full potential.

And there's so much more to come—provided the Inflation Reduction Act and its companion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law remain intact. Programs such as the Empowering Rural America (New ERA) program and the Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) program are investing billions to bring clean, reliable and affordable energy to rural communities, helping them to avoid skyrocketing electric bills while heating and cooling their homes, running their businesses, and powering their cars, schools and hospitals.

The Rural Energy for America (REAP) program—which received an injection of $2 billion through the Inflation Reduction Act—is helping Pennsylvania families save their farms and is offering loans so that rural small businesses and agricultural producers can upgrade their energy efficiency. At least 31 renewable energy projects are getting underway across Pennsylvania as we speak—a statewide investment of $5.69 million and $500 million nationwide.

A lot of former mineland in rural communities will, under the Biden-Harris Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, be repurposed for clean energy deployment. The Department of Energy announced up to $475 million for such projects in Pennsylvania and other historically mining states.

One thing is clear: the Biden-Harris clean energy plan isn't leaving rural America behind. And it's not just rural America that benefits—all Pennsylvanians will get a boost from the clean energy boom. Experts estimate that as clean energy continues to expand, the average family's energy costs will drop by $1,000 each year.

Despite these far-reaching benefits for all Americans, Republicans in Congress have repeatedly proposed repealing the Inflation Reduction Act. And while all Americans ultimately benefit from the clean energy boom, rural America arguably has the most to lose should it be repealed.

That's why Pennsylvania lawmakers must continue to fight to maximize our state's share of this critical funding, as well as to ensure the law is not eliminated. Destroying the law would mean destroying all of the opportunities it has created—and the jobs, savings and economic growth that come with them.

Katie Blume is the political and legislative director of Conservation Voters of PA. She is the chair of the PA Clean Power Coalition, serves on the Climate Power PA Advisory Board and served on the transition team for PA Gov. Josh Shapiro.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seek better options than an incinerator

Note: This was posted as a comment under "No incinerator for Sullivan," a My View by Rebekah Creshkoff, ***River Reporter****, October 3-9, 2024.*

I am grateful that we have people like Rebekah, who has thoroughly researched this topic, and who has the conviction to show up at county meetings held in the middle of a work week in late morning, to organize a campaign against incineration of solid waste.

Yes, it is a problem. We must seek other solutions to reducing trash through composting, separating usable components and repurposing those components into building materials.

Maria Grimaldi

Youngsville, NY

Praise for Garnet Health's hospital in Callicoon

It is my happy lot to live and work near Garnet Health (aka Grover Hermann Hospital), Callicoon. I know many neighbors in my own and other nearby communities feel likewise, but I feel it is worth noting.

Praise to the emergency and primary care units there can't be overstated. The clinical and support staff should be acknowledged in public and in their paychecks for the thorough work and respectful, personalized life-saving care they provide to a large rural area where more medical resources are needed than now exist.

Small communities thrive when good quality healthcare is accessible at all hours. Thank you, Garnet Health and NYS DOH for supporting and maintaining Sullivan County's local community hospitals. They are needed here.

Tom Rue, LMHC

Narrowsburg, NY

The importance of cultivated meat

I was happy to read that New Zealand's government has invested $6 million in research into cultivated seafood. For those who don't know, cultivated meat is grown from animal cells, without slaughter. It offers numerous potential for animal welfare and has environmental and public health benefits.

Rather than standing in the way of progress—as some American states have by preemptively banning the technology—our country should be leading the way. Forward-thinking legislators in the United States should be increasing public funding to help develop the new protein.

Jon Hochschartner

Granby, CT

Editor's note: For letters releated to the election, see page 13.

MY VIEW
BY JESSICA R. TOWHEY, INSIDESOURCES.COM

Lawsuits hinder progress on climate change solutions

Innovations in technology and free economies—not judges or nuisance lawsuits—provide solutions to the challenges of climate change.

That was the view of a group of energy experts and legal scholars at a panel discussion hosted by the nonpartisan Hudson Institute, a think tank in Washington, D.C.

More than 30 states, counties and municipalities have sued energy companies using state public nuisance and consumer laws, hoping to address global climate change with local nuisance laws in state courts. It's the wrong strategy, said Donald J. Kochan, executive director of the Law and Economics Center at Scalia Law School at George Mason University.

"Courts are meant to resolve real disputes. Courts are there to say what the law is, not what the law should be—not to create rules and not to expand over time."

The panel, moderated by Brigham McCown, senior fellow and director of the Hudson Institute's Initiative on American Energy Security, called the lawsuits counterproductive. The role of the courts is not to "fill in the gaps" that activists claim exist in regulations and legislation.

"This idea that we need more legislation, more litigation to solve the challenge at hand is a false way of thinking," added Drew Bond, CEO of PowerFieldEnergy and C3 Solutions. "We need more economic freedom, not less, in order to innovate more, in order to solve the climate challenge."

Environmentalists sometimes argue for more central power over the economy by claiming countries like China have a leg up on finding solutions since the Chinese government can make fast decisions, while the United States gets bogged down in the legislative process. Bond countered that argument by pointing out the results.

Countries governed by "communism, socialism and dictators" have a far worse environmental track record than countries with free—or at least freer—economies.

According to Statista, China released 11.4 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions in 2022. It was also "one of only a handful of countries" in which emissions increased in 2020 as a result of COVID-19, the data site said. In contrast, the United States released 6.34 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents in 2022, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Bond also discussed the "climate anxiety" of younger people who have been told "the sky will fall, therefore the government has to step in and solve our problems."

One of the more prominent legal cases right now is Honolulu v. Sunoco, which is pending before the Supreme Court. Local entities are suing several global oil and gas producers over five major allegations of public nuisance, private nuisance, strict liability failure to warn, negligent failure to warn, and trespass for global harm from their activities.

Phil Goldberg, special counsel of the Manufacturers' Accountability Project, described the case of municipal overreach to seek payment for activities taking place outside their boundaries.

"It's not for Hoboken or Baltimore or Honolulu to say, 'Who do we want to blame for this?'" he said. "The political nature of these decisions and the political nature of all these litigations… everybody's out there trying to sue somebody over this issue as opposed to dealing with the issue in any kind of real and sustainable and material way."

At least one court has agreed. In July, Baltimore City Circuit Court Judge Videtta A. Brown threw out a similar lawsuit by the City of Baltimore targeting 25 energy companies over climate change.

"Global pollution-based complaints were never intended by Congress to be handled by individual states," Brown ruled, adding that "under the Constitution's structure, matters that involve interstate controversies cannot be handled in state court under state law."

"We need a national, cohesive response to this, and it can't be done piecemeal," Goldberg told the Hudson panel.

Panelists also discussed how the lawsuits are a form of hidden taxation on consumers as companies are forced to cover the legal costs.

Bond referenced Germany's "top-down, bad climate policy," in which the government picked winners and losers, with coal and nuclear "losing" while natural gas that is exported from Russia became the "winner."

"When government tries to pick winners and losers, ultimately who loses most are the consumers," he said. "We have reduced greenhouse gas emissions faster than any other county in history by having access to clean, affordable natural gas. That happened not because the government said so, but because an entrepreneur went out and took risks."

Do you disagree? Tell us why. Email copyeditor@riverreporter.com.

Jessica Towhey writes on education and energy policy for InsideSources.com.

ELECTION 2024

DELAWARE RIVER VALLEY, NEW YORK & PENNSYLVANIA — Calling Sullivan, Pike and Wayne counties: As the foliage lining the Delaware turns to bright orange and yellow hues, Election Day 2024 draws closer. The crisp air settles and with it a whirlwind of political flyers, candidate signs along the roads, and swirling requests for campaign donations and your vote.

But how will these candidates affect you? Your community? What will these candidates do?

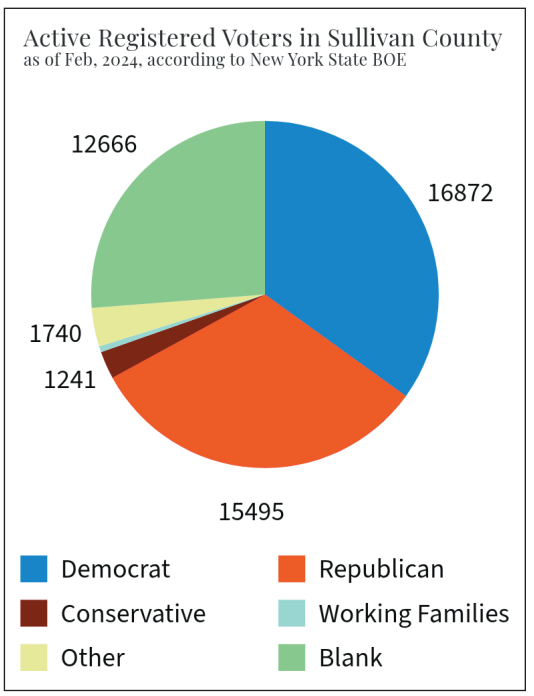
The **River Reporter** asked each candidate to choose one piece of legislation to pass in office and how that legislation would serve their constituents.

Their responses serve to illuminate candidate priorities and help decide who deserves your support on that all-important first Tuesday in November.

New York elections: a one-pager

By RUBY RAYNER-HASELKORN

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY — According to New York State voter registration data as of February 27, 2024, Sullivan County has 48,280 active registered voters. According to registration, 34.95 percent of those active voters are registered as Democrats, 32.09 percent are Republicans, 26.23 percent have not registered with any party, and 2.57 percent, 0.55 percent and 3.6 percent of those active voters are registered as Conservatives, Working Families and "Other," respectively. See chart.



NY-100

With no incumbent in the race, one of the candidates—Republican Lou Ingrassia or Democrat Paula Kay—will usher in a new era of representation in New York's 100th Assembly District. The 100th district encompasses all of Sullivan County with the exception of Fremont, which lands in the 121st Assembly District. It also includes part of Orange County.

Aileen Gunther (D), the current Assemblymember for the 100th district, will retire this year after over two decades in office. Gunther first ran for the assembly after the death of her husband, Jake Gunther, who held the seat previously.

Ingrassia has experience in county and municipal government and says he wants to address high taxes, growing energy costs, cashless bail and the migrant crisis.

Kay says she wants to support good health, education, housing, economic opportunity, clean air and water, and safe highways.

NY-51

Sullivan County voters make up the largest portion of the active voters in the 51st state Senate district. **23 percent of all active voters in the 51st state Senate district are Sullivan County voters.**

Democrat Michelle Frazier will challenge incumbent Republican Peter Oberacker for the district. Oberacker has served as the state Senate 51st representative since 2021. The district includes all or part of nine counties, including all of Sullivan County.

Frazier highlights increasing housing stock, expanding child care and family support, passing the New York Health Act, and developing a centralized 911 system.

Oberacker would support for small businesses by rolling back restrictions and mandates, reforming bail policy, and supporting the No Farms, No Food Act for the protection of farmers.

U.S. Congress: NY-19

No, it's not deja vu. Democrat Josh Riley will run against incumbent Marc Molinaro for New York's 19th Congressional District again in the 2024 election. The 19th congressional district encompasses all of Sullivan County, as well as the Southern Tier, the Hudson Valley and more.

Molinaro says he supports regulatory reform for energy, wants to end the opioid crisis by curtailing the trafficking of illicit fentanyl, and promotes community-driven solutions to address mental health.

Riley says he wants to champion equity for all and supports the Respect for Marriage Act, cut taxes for the middle class by requiring the wealthy and large corporations to pay "their fair share," and will defend abortion rights by working to restore Roe v. Wade into federal law.

U.S Congress, NY-19

Marc Molinaro (I)(R)



For me, this isn't hypothetical.

I'm ranked the most bipartisan in New York, second most bipartisan in America and fourth in Congress for most bills passed. These bills made progress on affordability, protecting Social Security and Medicare, supporting those with disabilities, and supporting those struggling with mental health and substance use disorders.

But with our borders open, I want to keep fighting to implement the Secure the Border Act. I voted to pass it in May of 2023. It's the strictest border security bill in generations and if President Biden would sign it into law, it would make a massive difference for Sullivan County. It reinstates Remain in Mexico, deploying physical barriers and innovative technology at the border to stop the unmitigated flow of illegal crossings and deadly drugs. And importantly, it fully funds law enforcement.

Sullivan County has among the highest overdose rates in the state. By stopping drug traffickers, we save lives. The unmitigated flow of illegal immigrants is having a devastating impact. Illegal immigrants are freely entering our communities—or in the case of Liberty, are being bused in. This includes tens of thousands of illegal immigrants with sexual assault and murder convictions, according to ICE. In Delaware County: a rapist crossed the border illegally, was arrested and released in Orange County, then was allowed to come to the Catskills to commit another crime.

And it's not just drugs and crime. According to Biden's Federal Reserve Chairman, it's the job market. With millions of illegals here, downward pressure is being put on salaries and big corporations are choosing cheap immigrant laborers over American workers.

We must secure our border, but that's not to say other issues don't matter. On one issue I'm sure you're seeing a lot of lies about on TV, let me tell you where I stand: I believe health care decisions should be between a woman and her doctor, not Washington. I kept my promise to reject a national abortion ban, keeping New York's laws in place. And I bucked my own party as the first Republican to back legislation protecting IVF, birth control and mifepristone.

On rural health care, mental health care, and addiction treatment too, there's so much more to be done. That's why I'm asking for your vote. To continue that fight—for you.

Josh Riley (D)



On Day One in Congress, I will sponsor the Women's Health Protection Act to restore the protections of Roe v. Wade and to codify those protections once and for all into Federal law.

Two years ago, the United States Supreme Court overturned 50 years of precedence in their disastrous ruling in the Dobbs case, ending the constitutional right to an abortion nationwide. Since then, anti-abortion extremists have pushed for a national abortion ban that would outlaw a woman's right to choose and allow politicians to control women's most personal health care decisions—even here in New York. Voters deserve to know exactly where their representatives stand.

During his 30-year political career, my opponent, Congressman Marc Molinaro, has made his position on this issue crystal clear. He opposed the law that codified abortion into law in New York State. He funneled money to an anti-abortion propaganda group known for lying to women about their personal health care options, and in just two short years in Congress, Molinaro has voted 13 times to restrict access to reproductive freedom for women.

My view is simple: women's health care decisions are women's health care decisions, and politicians should stay the hell out of them. I championed an effort in federal court to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, which would make abortion access a constitutional right, and I'll finish the job in Congress. I will always stand up to extremists trying to take away reproductive rights, including those attempting to restrict access to birth control, IVF or mifepristone; and I support a Constitutional amendment to put reproductive rights in the constitution, so not even a far-right Supreme Court can take them away again.

My opponent has had 30 years to stand up and to fight for Upstate New York women and families and he has failed to get the job done time and again.

He won't do it. I will.

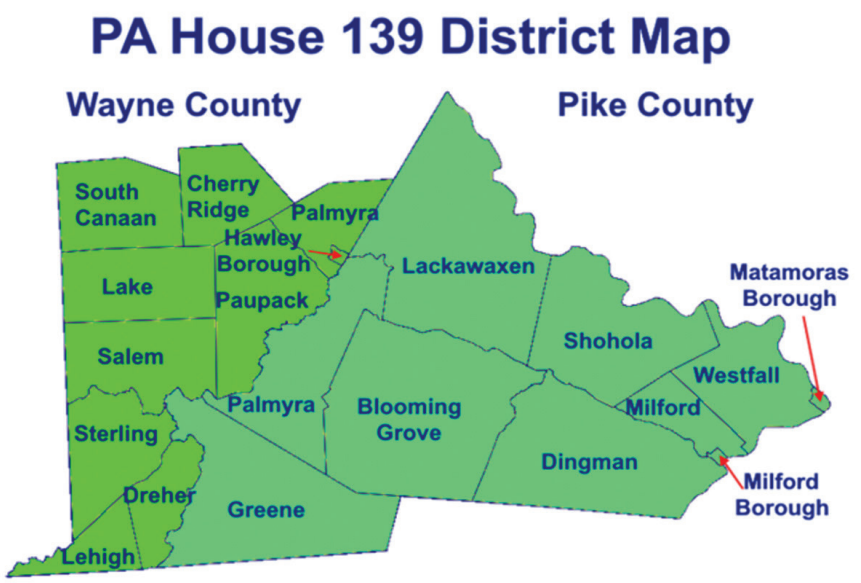
On November 5th I would be honored to have your vote.

IMPORTANT

The 139th District in the PA House of Representatives—including parts of Pike and Wayne Counties—could determine whether **Pennsylvania women can continue to legally access reproductive health services.**

Democrats hold a one-vote majority in the PA House. If the Republicans win control on November 5, they can pass their promised constitutional amendment, **which declares that PA women do not have any right to any abortion-related service. Not even if they are victims of rape, incest or if their life is at risk.**

I am Robin Skibber and I am running for the 139th district House seat, against Republican Jeff Olsommer, to protect Pennsylvania women by keeping the Democratic majority in the House.



I was born and raised in Blooming Grove and attended Wallenpaupack schools K-12. My Mom was a staunch Republican and my Dad a Democrat. They loved talking politics almost as much as they loved each other.

Sometimes they changed each other's minds, but when they disagreed it was always in a respectful manner.

I, like them, ultimately always voted for the person, not the party.

Jeff Olsommer isn't the kind of Republican my Mom was. He is a true "MAGA" Republican, donating to Trump's campaign PACS an astonishing 29 times. In his short time in office, he has already voted to cut school funding and against protecting marriage equality.

If the Republicans get the one more vote needed to control the legislature, the right to abortion, and possibly in vitro fertilization and, yes, even contraception itself, will be at profound risk. I have a daughter and two sisters I love; when it comes to control over our bodies, it could not be more personal.

Olsommer is endorsed by the PA Pro-Life Federation, the main group promoting the constitutional amendment.

I've been endorsed by Planned Parenthood.

A few weeks ago, the League of Women Voters sponsored a debate between Olsommer and myself. When the moderator asked: "How would you vote on a state ban on abortion?" Olsommer responded: **"I really can't comment on how I would vote on a bill like that."**

He is just as evasive on his campaign's Facebook page: when posters ask "Where do you stand on women's right to abortion?", he refuses to answer the question. His Facebook page also states he is "supporting women making decisions about their own body," which simply isn't true.

Jeff Olsommer doesn't want Pike and Wayne County women to know he believes politicians should make these decisions, not the woman herself.

For 22 years I ran the Pike County Area Agency on Aging, working cooperatively with Republican Commissioners and getting a lot done. Prominent Republicans have endorsed me, including former Pike County Sheriff Phil Bueki.

I want to continue to work across the aisle, with both parties, to get things done. But nothing is more important than protecting fundamental rights, like that of women to control their own bodies.

A few days ago, Georgia Judge Robert C.J. McBurney (a

Republican appointee) wrote in a ruling concerning Georgia's extreme abortion law:

"Women are not some piece of collectively owned community property, the disposition of which is decided by majority vote... It is generally men who promote and defend (these) laws, the effect of which is to require only women... primarily poor women, which means ... primarily black and brown women—to engage in compulsory labor, i.e., the carrying of a pregnancy to term at the Government's behest."

The language in Georgia's law is so unclear and the requirements so complicated, two women died in the process of attempting to meet its legal requirements for the "life of the mother" exception.

Not long ago, Kentuckian Hadley Duvall, who was sexually abused, raped and impregnated by her stepfather when she was 12 years old, was able to get an abortion. Today, because of Kentucky's law outlawing abortion, she would be forced to either become a criminal or give birth.

In Mississippi, 12-year-old girls who were raped now come home after school and, instead of doing homework, they must prepare bottles and change diapers, because they were forced to give birth. There are similar stories, each more painful than the next, in every state that has imposed extreme these abortion restrictions.

A one-vote majority in the House of Representatives stands in the way of Pennsylvania potentially joining that list.

Just as one vote can make the difference in Harrisburg, one vote can make a difference in the voting booth. That vote belongs to you, to cast privately as you, and only you, choose.

I respectfully ask for your support. I will not let you down.

Robin Skibber



Robin Skibber

Paid for by Robin for 139

New York State Senate 51st District

Michelle Frazier (D)(Working Families)



One of my first priorities as New York State Senator would be to address public safety resources in our community. I would propose the "Enhanced 911 Response Act," aimed at expanding the current 911 system to include specialized mental health, domestic violence, and substance abuse professionals as part of emergency response teams.

Key points of the legislation:

Multidisciplinary Emergency Response Teams: This bill would create integrated response teams that include mental health professionals, domestic violence advocates and substance abuse specialists, who would respond alongside or independently of law enforcement officers, depending on the situation.

Mental Health Crisis Response: For calls related to mental health crises (e.g., suicide attempts, severe anxiety or schizophrenia-related episodes), a team of trained mental health professionals would be dispatched. These professionals would be equipped to de-escalate situations, connect individuals to immediate care, and reduce the likelihood of unnecessary arrests or use of force.

Domestic Violence Support: The bill would mandate that domestic violence advocates be available to respond to calls where intimate partner violence is reported. These professionals would ensure victims have immediate access to shelter, legal services, and support, working to reduce the risk of further harm.

Substance Abuse Interventions: For 911 calls related to overdose, intoxication or addiction crises, a substance abuse specialist would be part of the emergency response team. These professionals would focus on harm reduction, providing naloxone where necessary and referring individuals to treatment services, rather than relying solely on the criminal justice system.

Funding and Training: The legislation would provide a structure to use current resources to expand current 911 services, including training dispatchers to properly identify and route calls to the appropriate specialized teams. It would also allocate resources to recruit and train professionals in the relevant fields to join emergency response units.

Data Collection and Accountability: To assess the impact of this expanded system, the bill would require data collection on response times, outcomes and community feedback. This data would be used to improve services and ensure the efficacy of the program.

Community Impact: When a crisis strikes, our community response matters. Expansion of 911 services provides greater services and safety. By integrating professionals with expertise in these areas, we can reduce the number of unnecessary incarcerations, improve public safety, decrease long-term costs and provide individuals with the services they need during emergencies.

Peter Oberacker (I)(R)



Senate Bill S4020A: Prioritizing First Responders and Public Health through Senate Bill S4020A

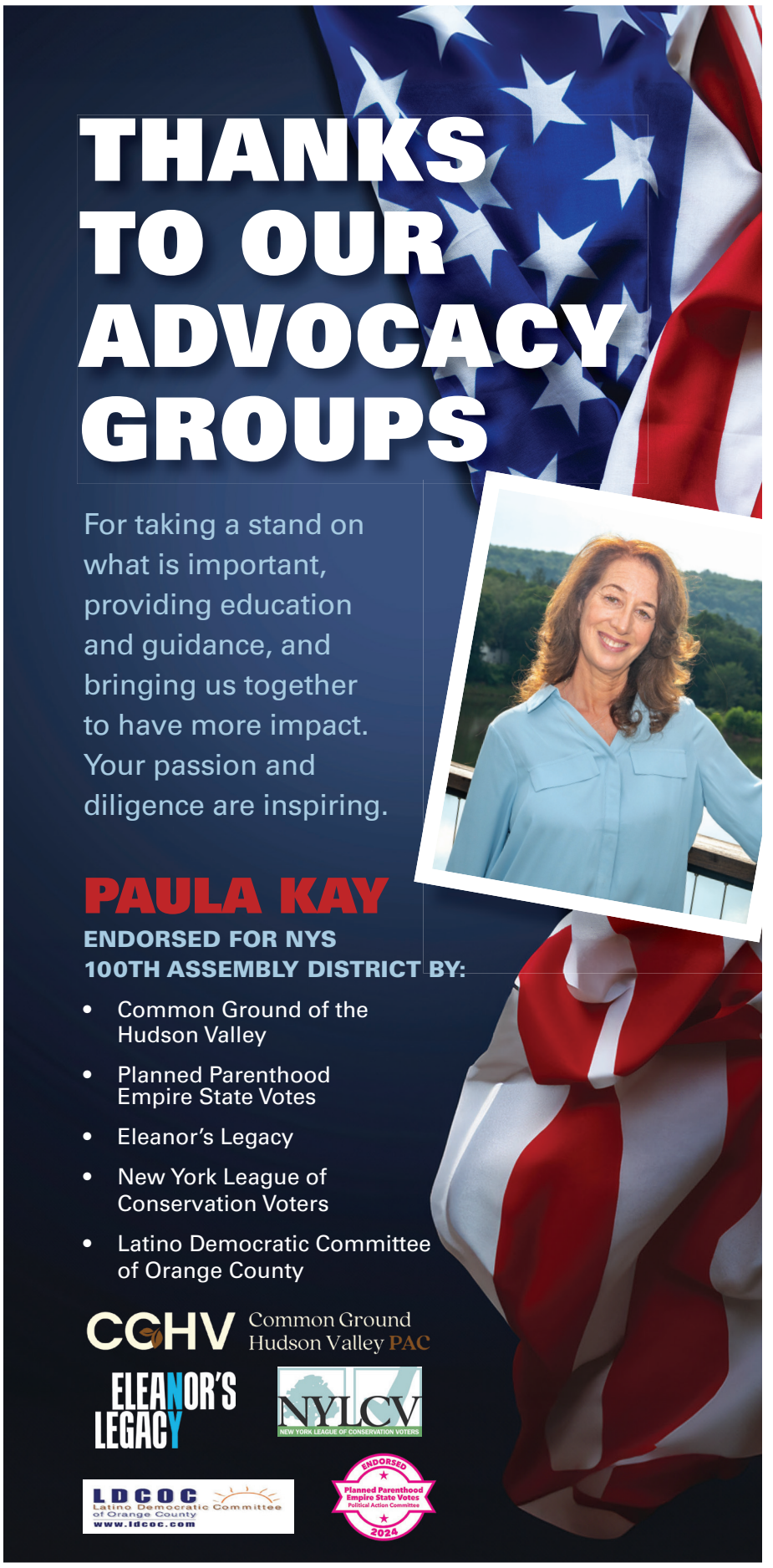
I'm a proud co-sponsor of Senate Bill S4020A, which strengthens emergency medical services (EMS) across the state. This bill is a crucial step forward in ensuring that every New Yorker—whether they live in an urban, suburban or rural area—has access to timely, life-saving care.

At its core, this legislation makes EMS an essential service, meaning it becomes the responsibility of all municipalities to ensure emergency medical care is consistently available. This is especially important in underserved and rural areas, where EMS response times can vary due to geographic challenges or funding constraints. S4020A allows municipalities to establish special districts specifically for financing and operating general ambulance services, ensuring sustainable funding for the essential resources that save lives.

This bill, which passed the Senate last session, also promotes collaboration and coordination across various municipalities, ensuring that EMS services are not only available but are of the highest standard. It proposes the creation of a statewide comprehensive emergency medical system plan, a move that would standardize protocols and training while fostering continuous improvement and quality assurance in EMS services.

By developing a robust system for certification, setting minimum standards for training, and requiring regular quality reviews, we can ensure that every patient in New York receives the best possible care. Moreover, this bill empowers EMS providers to not only handle emergencies but also engage in public education and preventative care, broadening their role in our health care system.

In supporting S4020A, we invest in the health and safety of our communities, ensuring no one is left without care in their moment of need. The bill represents a comprehensive, forward-thinking approach to public health, aligning with our state's commitment to protecting its residents. This is a commitment to protecting lives. By recognizing EMS as essential and providing the necessary resources for its success, we're making sure that our EMS providers have the support they need to continue their invaluable work. For many, this could mean the difference between life and death.



PAULA FOR ASSEMBLY 100 PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

PaulaforAssembly100.com

@PaulaforAssembly

Paid for by Paula for Assembly

IN A DEMOCRACY
NO ONE IS ABOVE THE LAW
Get your CAR BUMPER STICKER at DEM Headquarters
809 Main St. Honesdale PA - Open most days 12-6
Paid for by DEM Gals for Accountability

CATSKILLS
News Talk
92.5 FM 94.9 FM 1240 AM
THE VOICE OF
SULLIVAN & THE CATSKILLS
STREAM 24/7
catskillsnewstalk.com | RadioBold APP
CatskillsNews catskillsnewstalk

VOTE FOR
PA'S BEST
TEAM

DONALD J. TRUMP
& JD VANCE
President & Vice President
DAVE McCORMICK
U.S. Senate
ROB BRESNAHAN
U.S. Congress
DAVE SUNDAY
Attorney General
TIM DEFOOR
Auditor General
STACY GARRITY
State Treasurer
JEFF OLSOMMER
139th State Representative
JONATHAN FRITZ
111th State Representative

VOTE EARLY!
VISIT YOUR LOCAL COURTHOUSE TO VOTE IN PERSON*
*IF YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR A MAIL-IN BALLOT YOU CAN GO TO THE COURTHOUSE AND APPLY AND CAST YOUR BALLOT THERE IN PERSON.
*IF YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED FOR A MAIL-IN BALLOT WAIT FOR IT TO COME IN THE MAIL.
* YOU MUST HAVE PICTURE ID TO VOTE AT THE COURTHOUSE THE SAME DAY. IF NOT,

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING WCRC BY MAKING A DONATION
@ WWW.VOTEWAYNECOUNTYPAGOP.COM
PAID FOR BY THE WAYNE COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

New York State Assembly 100th Assembly District

Lou Ingrassia (R)



As a Republican/Conservative running in the NYS 100th AD, the most pressing piece of legislation that I would like to see carried out in the next session of the NYS Assembly would have to deal with Public Safety and reversing the disastrous Bail Reform Act of 2019. This legislation has proven time and time again to be detrimental to our justice system and it places an undue strain on our law enforcement partners.

As it stands, the majority of misdemeanor and non-violent felony offenses fall under a "cashless bail" scenario, where an individual is free to go under the guise that they won't be involved in and or partake in the recurrence of a crime. This theory is certainly false. We are seeing skyrocketing numbers of individuals with multiple arrests continuing to walk our streets and recommit crimes.

The inability of law enforcement, our prosecutors and our judges to incarcerate these individuals is a detriment to our society and our communities. If we do not feel safe where we live, where we work, where we shop and where we find recreation, our communities will not thrive.

Throughout the NYS 100th AD we have communities that are plagued with crime and illegal drug use that is directly related to the inability to incarcerate individuals that have been arrested and are awaiting their court proceedings. These criminals know that the likelihood of incarceration for re-committing a crime is slim to none. This empowers them with the notion that if they are arrested again, there will be no consequences. We as a society cannot and will not stand for this.

In order for our community and our state to return to the vibrant and welcoming place that it can be, we must return the scales of justice to our capable Prosecutors and Judges. Failure to this will continue the exported migration of our families, our children, and our grandchildren.

My goal when elected to the NYS Assembly will be to break the super majority one party rule in the NYS Assembly and make them return to the table and listen to what the average New Yorker wants and demands from their elected representatives.

Paula Elaine Kay (D)



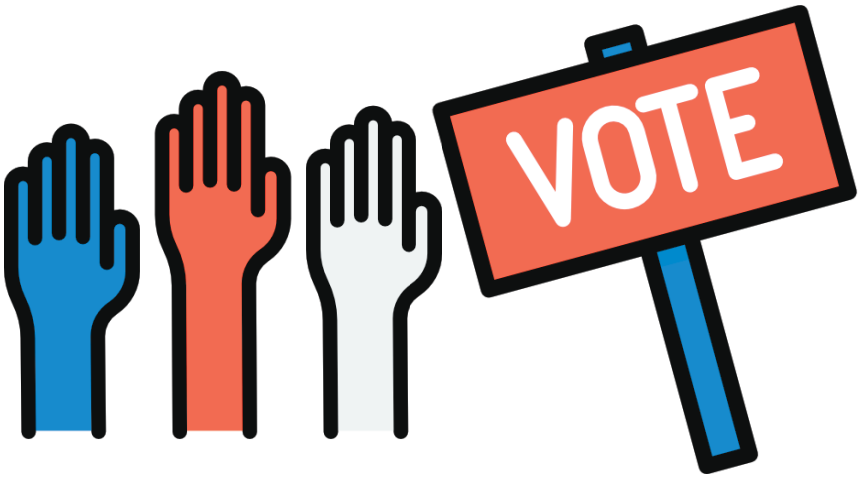
As Counsel to several Fire Districts and Volunteer Ambulance Companies and the daughter of a volunteer firefighter in Rock Hill, I've seen firsthand the sacrifices first responders make to keep our communities safe. Today, across New York, we're facing a critical shortage of people willing to do this critical work. Over the past two decades, the number of volunteer firefighters has dropped by nearly a third, and EMS practitioners have also seen a sharp decline. This isn't just a statistic—it's a wake-up call.

Our first responders—whether firefighters or EMS—are the people we rely on in emergencies, from house fires to medical crises. But as regulations tighten and the costs of maintaining equipment and training rise, it's getting harder to recruit and retain volunteers, especially in rural areas. If we want to keep our communities safe, we need to act now.

As a legislator, I would focus on a package of incentives for first responders, like meaningful tax breaks and tuition assistance for those willing to serve. I would secure access to state-of-the-art equipment, better training, and the mental health support they need to cope with the emotional toll of their work. And now with new OSHA mandates requiring expanded physicals and fitness programs, we must make sure all departments—especially small, rural ones—have the funding to comply.

EMS, in particular, needs more support. It's time we make EMS services essential, guaranteeing departments the funding and recognition they deserve. Every day, these workers are saving lives, often under incredibly difficult circumstances. We need to guarantee, through legislation, that they have the resources to continue.

This issue is personal for me, but it's also an issue of public safety for all of us. It's time New York prioritized the people who have always been there to protect us. We owe them more than gratitude—we owe them the resources and respect they deserve.

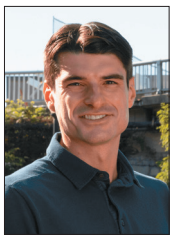


U.S. Congress, PA-08

Matt Cartwright (D) is running to retain his seat as the representative for Pennsylvania's Eighth Congressional District. He first took this seat in January 2013.

Rob Bresnahan (R) is challenging Cartwright for the seat. Bresnahan joined his grandfather's electrical contracting business at 19, and became CEO when his grandparents retired.

Rob Bresnahan (R)



As I travel across Northeastern Pennsylvania meeting voters, they are repeatedly discouraged by policies that seem to prioritize extreme agendas like putting illegal immigrants ahead of American citizens or sending money overseas before investing in our communities. It's time for that to change. My top priority in Congress will be addressing these concerns by passing a bill that focuses on two critical areas: securing our borders and strengthening our economy to prioritize the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Unfortunately, Congressman Cartwright has shown time and time again that his beliefs are not aligned with what our region wants. He voted against the Secure the Border Act and was one of the first members of Congress to endorse Vice President Kamala Harris, despite her calling the border wall a "complete waste of taxpayer money" that "won't make us any safer."

It's important to realize that illegal immigration isn't just a problem at the border—it affects Northeastern Pennsylvania, where flights of illegal immigrants have been sent with no transparency and no plan. This puts a strain on local resources and families. I will work to secure our borders, end dangerous "catch and release" policies, and prohibit taxpayer funding for relocating illegal immigrants to communities that are already struggling economically. This will protect our communities and national security while ensuring federal dollars benefit our district—not a broken immigration system.

The second part of my plan focuses on putting Pennsylvanians back to work. Rising prices and skyrocketing energy bills are squeezing the middle class. Unfortunately, Congressman Cartwright—who votes with his party nearly 100 percent of the time—supported the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, which drove up costs on everyday necessities ranging from groceries to gasoline, and left families struggling to make ends meet.

To provide relief, I will fight to cut wasteful government spending and economically crippling regulations and protect jobs in industries like fracking and natural gas by embracing an all-of-the-above approach to energy production. I'll also prioritize neglected infrastructure projects like roads, bridges, and electrical grids here at home before sending billions more to build them in other countries.

The bottom line is this: My focus is on putting the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania first by securing our borders and creating good-paying jobs. It's time for a representative who puts our community above party politics. That's exactly what I plan to do in Congress.

Matt Cartwright (D)



Northeastern Pennsylvanians know hard, honest work. Our farmers feed America. Our factory workers produce semiconductors and military supplies that make our economy competitive and our nation safe.

That's why it's no surprise that a rising China has tried to put our area's manufacturing talent out of business. The Chinese Communist Party has dumped state-subsidized goods overseas to put American workers out of a job. Wall Street banks and private equity firms have helped China do this dirty work—because they can make a quick buck from selling out workers.

That's why I've made it my priority to fight for American jobs. We've seen too many factories close because our workers were put at an unfair disadvantage. Losing these good-paying jobs craters our middle class. It also creates a dangerous dependence on foreign exports.

One of my main priorities for the next Congress is passing my Made in America bill. This bipartisan legislation would bring critical pharmaceutical manufacturing back to the United States, making us less dependent on China and other foreign adversaries.

We saw how this dependence hurt us during the pandemic. America was too reliant on China for medicines and surgical supplies. Patients suffered from dangerous shortages. Moving this manufacturing to America will make our nation more secure while creating good-paying manufacturing jobs.

My Made in America bill is part of a long-term strategy to bring jobs back home. I was proud to help pass the CHIPS Act to move semiconductor manufacturing from China to America. We're seeing the law at work, right here in Pennsylvania. Hundreds of millions have been invested in new manufacturing jobs. This high-tech growth will spur economic activity throughout the state, as subcontractor supply, construction, and other manufacturing grow alongside these opportunities.

Investing in local jobs also plays a key role in addressing the cost of living. Prices rose throughout the pandemic as our supply chain backed up. Shortages drive higher costs. Investing in our domestic workforce helps ensure that won't happen again—because the price increases we've seen over the past few years are unacceptable.

I'm dedicated to shoring up our supply chains and bringing jobs back home. I'll continue to work with both sides to get this done. The rest of the country is catching up to what we've known in northeastern Pennsylvania all along—when we support American workers, we're all better off.

PA House District 139

Jeff Olsommer (R,I) is running for reelection as the representative for Pennsylvania House District 139. He took the seat this past April, following the resignation of Republican and former Wayne County Commissioner Joe Adams.

Robin Schooley Skibber (D) challenged Olsommer in April's special election and was defeated. She is running again as Olsommer's challenger in the general election.

Jeff Olsommer (R, I)



During my time in the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives, I have voted on numerous pieces of critical legislation that have made this Commonwealth and Pike and Wayne Counties better for our families, seniors, employers, farmers and sportsmen.

I am currently working on a few pieces of legislation that include a Storm Chaser Bill, which will prevent fraudulent contractors outside of our area from taking advantage of unsuspecting homeowners, and a Guardianship Bill, which will require courts to hold a hearing within 30 days of receipt of a petition to modify or terminate a guardianship for an incapacitated individual.

I am also planning on introducing legislation that will provide a tax cut for every Pennsylvanian. We are all suffering—seniors, families and employers—from the high cost of materials, energy and groceries brought on by inflation, high interest rates and a poor energy policy. Pennsylvanians need help and should expect their state government to help them keep more of their hard-earned money!

As your State Representative, I will fight hard every day so the residents of the 139th can have more of the money they earned. It is my honor and privilege to represent a community that I know so well and the citizens I respect so much. I would be honored to earn your vote on Tuesday, November 5th.

Robin Schooley Skibber (D)



I want to pass common-sense gun reforms to stem the tide of gun violence in our schools and communities. Gun violence is the #1 cause of death for school-aged children in the U.S. Many die due to carelessly secured weapons in the home. Youth and others struggling with mental illness commit suicide at a much higher rate when a gun is easily available.

I come from a family of hunters in Blooming Grove and I respect the 2nd Amendment. But I also believe in protecting our children and those at risk. When a young, troubled relative of mine used a gun to end his life, it was a shock to our entire family. I learned that more than half of the gun-related deaths in Pennsylvania are suicides and that there are some simple steps we can take that will protect people and not infringe on the 2nd Amendment.

First is the passage of a "red flag" law, also known as an "extreme risk protection order" (ERPO) to allow judges to order the temporary confiscation of a person's firearms if they are a danger to themselves or others. Family or law enforcement can petition for a such an order, based on specified criteria.

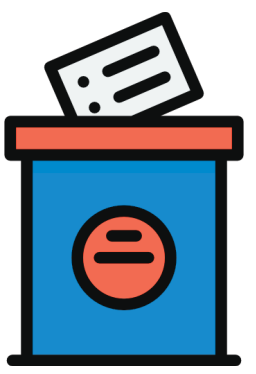
Filing false or frivolous ERPOs would be punishable. Passed by the Democratic-controlled House, the bill remains in limbo in the Republican-controlled Senate, stuck in the powerful jaws of the gun lobby. Pennsylvania should join the 21 other states and D.C. that have red flag laws.

If elected, I will also draft a bill to implement Donna's Law, groundbreaking new suicide prevention legislation that has become law in Virginia, Washington, Delaware and Utah. Donna's Law allows people who know they are at risk of serious depression or suicidal ideation to, when they are thinking clearly, put themselves on a voluntary, confidential self-registry to prevent their impulsive purchase of a gun.

Many suicides are impulsive spur-of-the-moment decisions; a delay in or the inability to access a gun will save lives. Registering with Donna's Law can be revoked if the person so chooses. It seeks to help people through a crisis—not to control their lives.

We need political leadership with the courage to stand up for common-sense measures to reduce gun violence, protect women's reproductive rights and marriage equality, support seniors and veterans, and protect our environment. That's the legislator I want to be.







Lou's COMMON SENSE agenda:

Repeal cashless bail

Cashless bail and pro-crime policies have made York State more dangerous for law-abiding citizens and the men and women of law enforcement who keep our communities safe.

Lower Property Taxes

High taxes, growing energy costs and inflation are squeezing our young families, small businesses and seniors.

Stop the Migrant Crisis

The migrant crisis is a failure of leadership on the state and national level. It is a security risk, has made our state less safe, and siphons away billions in resources that could be used to provide tax relief.

Improve Our Roads and Water Infrastructure

Rebuilding the State's damaged infrastructure and local roadways is important to residents and visitors alike.

"My 40 years of dedicated public service and familiarity with the region will provide a seamless transition to representing the NY-100," Ingrassia said. "With your support, I hope to celebrate a win in November, and bring much-needed leadership to New York."

The NY-100 consists of Middletown and Wallkill in Orange County and most of Sullivan County.

New Yorkers pay some of the highest taxes in the nation. What's worse is that Sullivan and Orange County families don't get their fair share of state resources. That's why I'm fighting to lower property taxes and ensure that District 100 receives the funding it deserves for local infrastructure projects.

I also understand that clean water and good roads are vital for the health and safety for area residents and critical to help local businesses grow and promote economic development.

I look forward to listening to what's on the minds of the good and hard-working residents of the NY-100. And then making it happen.

Thank you for your vote and confidence in me on November 5.

Vote Lou Ingrassia, Republican NYS Assembly District 100

Political Advertisement: Paid for by Friends of Lou Ingrassia

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - ELECTION

Paula will support Sullivan

I am from Wurtsboro and have lived in the Town of Mamakating for over 70years. I am a United States Navy veteran, retired law enforcement officer, past chief and presently chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Wurtsboro Joint Fire District. I am also a lifelong and proud Republican.

In all of my years of voting, I have never once, nor will I ever, vote a straight one-party ticket. I adamantly believe that you should vote for the person you feel will do the best job for all involved. On November 5, I will be supporting—and I urge all of you, from all political parties, to join me in voting for—Paula Kay to be our next Assemblymember from the 100th AD.

Let me tell you why I will be supporting Paula. As the chairman of the Wurtsboro Fire District, I have known and worked with Paula. Paula has been our attorney for many years. Although not herself a firefighter, she has become one of us and she gets us. Whether it is planning for a new firehouse or understanding the implications of new regulations for fire equipment, we have relied heavily on Paula's guidance. She has always stood by us and for us. Her counsel has always been spot on, and a valuable asset to our fire district as well as the Rock Hill Fire and Neversink Fire Districts. She understands the needs of the various fire departments and fire districts throughout our county.

Finding new ways to recruit volunteers, pay for equipment, changes in personal protection turnout/bunker gear and new stringent regulations are among the number of issues facing volunteer departments. Paula is the representative we need here and in Albany.

I am no fan of most Democrats; however, I must admit that Aileen Gunther was always there for us, which helped us a lot. So one more time, it is a no-brainer to vote for another Democrat. In the State of New York assembly, the majority is overwhelmingly Democratic. We need someone who can be in the room when they are deciding who gets what. Unfortunately, a first-time Republican just cannot deliver. And this is true for other emergency services, highway, water, sewer projects, nonprofits—and the list goes on.

And if you are a Republican or Conservative and cannot vote for Paula as a Democrat, do not worry, she is also running as an Independent. I particularly love the name of her Independent line, "People Over Politics." That says it all right there. Look for it when you go out and vote.

Paula has lived in Sullivan County for almost 30 years. She lives in Rock Hill and has watched as Sullivan County has changed. She and her family have spent plenty of time in the Middletown and Town of Wallkill areas. Most of us have to travel to that part of the assembly district for health care, shopping, restaurants and even the YMCA. Paula will be good for the entire district. But she understands the needs and issues that face Sullivan County.

I want someone who lives in Sullivan County and can deliver for us in Albany.

Paula Kay will be that someone. Please vote for Paula Kay on November 5.

Bill Lothrop
Wurtsboro, NY

Socialism cannot be done right

Socialism is the Rosemary's baby of societal governance. Very alluring precepts that promise everything and finally deliver tyranny, misery and death. The devil starts out in all innocence, but he is still the devil.

CRT, ESG, DEI, identity politics and climate change hysteria are the tools of socialism. Why are these tools of the Marxists tolerated in America? Easy: free people have to tolerate bad ideas as well as the good. However, tolerance should never be confused with approval.

America has become the greatest nation in planet Earth's history, because of the ideals laid down in the Declaration of Independence and codified in the Constitution. Prosperity comes from freedom, and America does freedom better than anyone else on earth.

Putting America first pushes back on all of the devil's tools wielded by self-proclaimed do-gooders, who are mostly unaware of the evil that will emerge from their thirst for power.

It will surely corrupt them when they remove the public's freedoms. How is it possible so many forget the utterly savage results of socialism as practiced by the Nazis, the Soviet Union and China today?

America first has a champion. He has been maligned, besmirched, bloodied and slandered. Still he stands ready to do battle with the dark specter of socialism infecting our great country. This imperfect man needs our support and vote. Let us not forsake him. God Bless America, and God Bless Donald J. Trump.

Wayne D. Holbert
Pike County, PA

Make the right choice

While dropping off my mail-in ballot, I noticed an article honoring citizens who voted in every November election for 50 years. There was Centa Quinn with more than 70 years, and Lorraine Gregory with more than 60 years. This is what exceptional, responsible citizenship looks like.

For most of my adult life, I was a registered Republican. Gifford Pinchot, Bill Scranton, Dick Thornburgh, Tom Ridge, Arlen Spector, Joe McDade. Now Republicans have turned into angry people. Conservative values and integrity no longer seem to mean anything.

I vote for the person, not the party. Elections are about character, competence, and integrity. I voted for Matt Osterberg. This year I will mark my ballot for Robin Skibber. Both Matt and Robin are about serving our needs, not about themselves. Like most of you, I stand against any form of hate and discrimination.

Having been in public service for more than 40 years, I know people who have served the public interest. Now, Republicans want to get rid of "the deep state," people like I was, and replace them with individuals whose first qualification is loyalty to a party and one person. Not the public.

I trust people to make the right choice, even if some may find it very hard to vote for a Democratic candidate. But we must. Liz Cheney is right.

Edgar Brannon
Milford, PA

¬ Page 14

ELECTION LETTERS

¬ Page 13

You who can vote: It matters

Your vote matters. This phrase has been reiterated and circulated widely, and is probably becoming white noise to undecided (or uninterested) voters. But it's true, and I am begging you to listen.

I'm 17. My future will be decided in November, and I have no power over it. Every time I hear someone say that they aren't planning on voting, I am terrified. I'm terrified not only for my future, but for theirs. The Republican candidates in the upcoming election do not care about you. Project 2025, which was written by Donald Trump's inner circle, will cut taxes for the rich, cut Medicare and Social Security funding, ban women's access to lifesaving healthcare, oppose LGBTQ+ rights (PA Republican representative Jeff Olsommer recently voted against same-gender marriage), and cut funding for public education. Democratic candidates will do the opposite.

I am sometimes frustrated with our government, critical of our systems, and do not always identify with party lines. I understand apathy. But this election is about more than Democrats vs. Republicans. It is about keeping our fundamental human rights and upholding our democracy.

In a class I'm taking, multiple students have discussed their experiences with collapsed democracies in other countries. These students managed to escape. Many didn't. The students say the current American narrative feels very similar to the one in their countries pre-collapse. You get to choose how this story goes.

I have dreams and goals. But right now, I have no control over them. You have the control. Your vote holds the rest of my life. Please use it wisely.

Samantha Antonetti

Lords Valley, PA

Trusting Lou Ingrassia

Voters in New York's 100th Assembly District have an opportunity to do something in this election that has rarely been even possible in the previous 20-plus years. They have the chance to elect a conservative, common-sense candidate to represent them in the state legislature. Lou Ingrassia is that candidate.

For far too many years, New York has spiraled downward in so many ways due to the poor leadership and policies put in place by ultra-liberal Democrat representatives. Highest taxed state in the nation. Soft on crime policies, including "cashless bail" that allows individuals charged with serious crimes—including arson and assault on a police officer—back on the street within hours of the alleged crime. EV mandates, banning gas stoves and heating appliances fueled by clean-burning propane and natural gas.

We must end this insanity. We must end the mass exodus of New York's residents and businesses. We must end the supermajority of Democrat rule brought to you courtesy of New York City, Albany and Buffalo. Lou Ingrassia will help make this possibility a reality.

Lou has proudly led his life dedicated to public service, starting as a laborer and working his way to becoming the commissioner of public works in the Town of Wallkill. Lou has devoted countless hours of his time honoring and serving our nation's Veterans. Lou has served his community as a volunteer firefighter for 42 years, including earning the rank of chief of department, elected fire commissioner and a deputy county fire coordinator.

As a 45-year volunteer firefighter myself, I know the amount of trust that is instilled in my brother and sister firefighters. Our safety and lives depend on each other. We live and operate as emergency first responders by the motto "Everyone Goes Home." It's a sacred bond we share. It's the brotherhood that keeps all of us safe.

Lou Ingrassia is one of my brothers who I would trust my life with. Lou Ingrassia is someone ALL of us can trust to represent us with common sense and conservative values. Please help elect Lou Ingrassia to the NYS Assembly in the 100th District.

Thomas R. Bose

Supervisor, Town of Callicoon, NY

Michele Frazier endorsed by the New York State Nurses Association

Michele Frazier, candidate for New York State Senate District 51, announced that she has received the endorsement of the New York State Nurses Association, a union of 42,000 frontline nurses united together for strength at work, their practice, safe staffing and health care for all.

"The nation learned during COVID something I had already experienced in my life, and that is that nurses are essential to our health and community," Frazier said. "I am honored to stand with nursing professionals who have stood by my own bedside so many times. Together, we will continue to fight for policies that support nurses and protect the health and well-being of our communities."

www.michelefrazierfor51.com

Delhi, NY

Michele Frazier endorsed by the NIRH Action Fund PAC

Michele Frazier, candidate for New York State Senate District 51, announced that she has received the endorsement of the National Institute for Reproductive Health Action Fund PAC (NIRH Action Fund PAC), which works to create political environments that lead to pro-reproductive freedom policies necessary to protect and expand access to care, including abortion.

"Reproductive care for women is not only health care, but required for women's full participation in society," Frazier said. "The NIRH Action Fund PAC's unwavering commitment to protecting and expanding access to reproductive health care is more important than ever in today's political climate. Together, we will work to ensure that every individual has the right to make personal health care decisions with dignity and without fear of government intrusion."

www.michelefrazierfor51.com

Delhi, NY

Molinaro endorsed by Greater Capital Region building trades

The Greater Capital Region Building and Construction Trades Council, representing thousands of tradesmen, has endorsed Congressman Marc Molinaro for reelection in New York's 19th Congressional District.

Molinaro now has 36 total endorsements from union organizations and is endorsed by all building and construction trades councils in New York's 19th Congressional District, including Binghamton-Oneonta, Tompkins-Cortland and the Hudson Valley.

Michael Lyons, president of the Greater Capital Region Building Trades Council said, "Based on Marc Molinaro's support for the Building Trades and the need for a strong community, the Greater Capital Region Building and Construction Trades Council is pleased to endorse him. We will promote his candidacy to our members and encourage members and their families to become directly involved in Marc's campaign."

"I'm incredibly honored to have the support of the Greater Capital Region Building Trades Council and all the building trades councils in NY-19, which make up thousands of workers," Molinaro said. "Together, we're going to keep fighting for fair compensation, strong job protections and secure retirements."

In Congress, Molinaro has supported the Tax Fairness for Workers Act, which delivers a tax deduction for union dues and expenses, supported the National Apprenticeship Act to create nearly one million new apprenticeship openings, and voted against legislation that would have undermined Davis-Bacon and Project Labor Agreements.

Molinaro was elected in November 2022 to represent New York's 19th Congressional District. The new district includes Broome, Chenango, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Otsego, Sullivan and Tompkins counties as well as part of Cortland, Rensselaer and Ulster counties. In Congress, he has been recognized by the nonpartisan Lugar Center as the second-most bipartisan and by the Congressional Research Service as the fourth-most productive.

Marc for U.S.

Leeds, NY

Workers back Cartwright on unions and American jobs

Local workers, asked why they support the reelection campaign for Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA-08), said "He gets the job done."

In an ad released recently, workers discussed the congressman's fight to bring jobs back to America, strengthen unions and invest in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Cartwright is a fierce advocate for American jobs. His MADE in America Act would incentivize American pharmaceutical manufacturing. This bill would level the playing field, support American workers, and make the United States less dependent on adversaries like China for lifesaving medications.

Cartwright also helped pass the CHIPS and Science Act, which will create nearly 100,000 good-paying union jobs by bringing semiconductor manufacturing back to America. Vytal Plant Science Research in Hazleton has already received funding from the CHIPS Act to support innovation and economic growth.

Cartwright has long been a champion for unions and working families—not CEOs. He co-sponsored the Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act), which would do more to support union rights than any piece of legislation since the New Deal.

Cartwright has also fought to lower the cost of living for working families. He voted for the Consumer Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act, to crack down on oil companies' price gouging.

Cartwright's advocacy has earned him the AFL-CIO's only endorsement in PA-08. The AFL-CIO is the largest federation of unions in the United States. Its members include the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the United Mine Workers of America, and the International Union of Police Associations, among many others.

Cartwright for Congress

Scranton, PA

Oberacker, Ingrassia endorsed by NFIB NY

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) endorsed Sen. Peter Oberacker (R) for NY-51 and Louis Ingrassia (R) for Assembly District 100.

"The onslaught of policies pushed by powerful, well-funded special interest groups, including labor unions and the plaintiffs' attorneys, continue to pass the current state legislature, making it more difficult and expensive for small businesses to succeed in New York," said Ashley Ranslow, NFIB New York state director. "Electing pro-small-business candidates is more critical than ever. Small businesses employ nearly half of all employees in New York and produce half of the state's GDP. Small business owners are integral to the state's economic health and communities."

Legislative endorsements, when there is an incumbent, are based on the 2023-24 NFIB Voting Record of key small-business issues, including taxes, labor mandates, regulatory reform, workers' compensation, economic development and other general business-climate matters that affect the cost of doing business in New York.

Owners of small businesses and their employees are a key voting bloc and are known for actively recruiting friends, family members, and acquaintances to go to the polls. NFIB is the nation's leading and largest small-business association, with nearly 11,000 members in New York representing a wide range of industries and businesses of all shapes and sizes.

¬ Page 15

ELECTION LETTERS

¬ Page 14

Michele Frazier endorsed by the New York State Federation of Democratic Women

Michele Frazier, candidate for New York State Senate District 51, announced recently that she has received the endorsement of the New York State Federation of Democratic Women, an organization dedicated to creating opportunities for women to excel in leadership and politics.

"Women in leadership and politics are essential for fostering equality and representation in governance. Their participation brings diverse perspectives that enrich discussions and lead to more effective policies," Frazier said. "By breaking barriers and challenging stereotypes, women leaders inspire future generations to engage in civic life and pursue their own leadership aspirations."

The New York State Federation of Democratic Women recognized its endorsed candidates, including Frazier, on September 25 in Syracuse.

Michelfrazierfor51

Delhi, NY

Jacobs reelected by NY Democrats

The New York State Democratic Committee today held its biennial reorganization meeting, re-electing Chairman Jay S. Jacobs. Jacobs was unanimously reelected by acclamation to a sixth term by the newly-elected State Committee members, Executive Committee members and officers.

The leadership now includes Chairman Jay S. Jacobs, Executive Committee Chair Christine Quinn, First Vice Chair Pamela Hunter, Secretary Latrice Walker, Assistant Secretary Jason Clark, Treasurer Kenneth Jenkins, Assistant Treasurer Lynne Boecher, Sergeant-at-Arms Michael Reich, Policy Co-Chairs Michaelle Solages and Shawn Hogan, and Labor Representative Stuart Appelbaum.

New York State Democratic Committee

New York, NY

Michele Frazier endorsed by United Auto Workers

Michele Frazier, candidate for New York State Senate District 51, announced recently that she has received the endorsement of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Region 9, a union representing workers in the automotive, aerospace and steel industries.

"UAW is a leader when it comes to the fight for living wages and the rights of working people," Frazier said. "I am honored to have the support of their members who make the cars we drive and the helicopters that transport our military. In Albany, I will always stand up for the hardworking people of rural New York."

Frazier recently joined striking UAW workers at Cornell University to support their fight for decent wages. Frazier is running against Republican Peter Oberacker, who has consistently voted against worker protections.

In addition to those who work at Cornell, UAW Region 9 members make doors, quarter panels, hoods, fenders and other stamped parts for Ford F-150, 250 and 350 trucks, Flex, Edge, Focus, Econoline vehicles, and for Lincoln MKX and MKTs. Members also build the V-22 Osprey troop transport helicopter and the Chinook medium-lift helicopter.

michelefrazierfor51.com

Delhi, NY

Women for Bresnahan coalition launched

Rob Bresnahan, Republican candidate for Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District, recently announced the launch of the Women for Bresnahan Coalition. It consists of 50 women across the 8th Congressional District in northeastern PA. The coalition will be co-chaired by state Sens. Lisa Baker and Rosemary Brown.

The announcement highlights the growing support for Bresnahan's candidacy from women across the region. Bresnahan has consistently voiced his commitment to addressing the issues that matter most to women and families in northeastern Pennsylvania. His focus includes improving public safety, expanding access to affordable health care and ensuring that education funding prioritizes teaching academics rather than promoting a political agenda.

"I am supporting Rob Bresnahan to represent us in Congress because I believe he will stand up for families and communities and advance policies to improve the quality of life in Northeastern Pennsylvania," Baker said. "We need a congressman who will fix problems and create opportunity. That candidate is Rob Bresnahan."

"As a state senator and mother of three, I know that Rob Bresnahan is focused on the issues critical to our families' futures: bringing down the cost of living, border security, energy and parental rights," said Brown. "Rob is smart, thoughtful and has the common sense ideas to make things better."

"Women of northeastern Pennsylvania have my word that I will always fight to ensure they have the opportunities they deserve," said Bresnahan. "I am committed to addressing the real challenges facing our community, including improving public safety, increasing access to affordable health care and ensuring that education funding incentivizes our schools to focus on academics, not a woke agenda."

For more information on how to join the Women for Rob Coalition, visit www.RobForPA.com.

Rob Bresnahan for Congress

Pittston, PA

THE HUSTINGS

Story and photos by CYNTHIA NASH



At Cordero's, faith and Donald J. Trump

HONESDALE, PA — Perched on a rise on Texas Palmyra Highway, Cordaro's Restaurant is a 70-year-old institution. From the menus to the decor, there are testaments to the Cordaro family's faith—and also a belief in respecting all faiths.

Rosina Cordaro works in the kitchen and the front of house, as her family has for generations.

She has always been absolutely public at the business in her support of the Republican party and Donald J. Trump.



The towering sign for the restaurant, which advertises specials and the fact that it is still open, includes banners honoring Corderos who have served in the military with distinction.

The future of this family-owned restaurant is in many ways as uncertain as the future of some of Wayne County's farms.

This week, we are visiting with Rosina at Cordaro's, a gathering place for all sorts of people of all ages and all faiths, including a group actively registering voters for the election.

For a full album and video, visit riverreporter.com/the-hustings.

To make a tax-deductible contribution in support of this voter-engagement photo project, visit https://givebutter.com/riverreporter-the-hustings.

DEATH NOTICES

Frederick C. Andkjar

Frederick C. Andkjar, 95, of Callicoon, NY, passed away September 22, 2024 at home. Frederick was born January 8, 1929 in Brooklyn, NY. Graveside services and burial will be private in the Hortonville Cemetery in Hortonville, NY.

Robert Michael McDevitt

Robert Michael McDevitt, 35, of Rowland, PA, passed away October 7, 2024 at home. Robert was born May 5, 1989 in Honesdale, PA. Funeral services were held October 11 at Hessling Murray Funeral Home in Honesdale. Interment followed in Indian Orchard Cemetery in Honesdale.

James 'Jim' Robert Skelton Sr.

James "Jim" Robert Skelton Sr., 77, of Waymart, PA, passed away October 8, 2024 at home. James was born October 22, 1946 in Carbondale, PA. A celebration of life will be planned by the family at a future date.

Temple Sholom plans October events

Temple Sholom invites the community to help assemble the sukkah. Helpers will meet on Monday, October 14 at 10:30 a.m. If you can help, call Ira Simon at 914/799-0921. Coffee and donuts will be served.

The temple will host a communal meal in the sukkah on Friday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m. Join Simon and Julia Levin to celebrate this mitzvah. Attendees should bring their own picnic dinners and a warm jacket. During dinner, attendees will have an opportunity to shake the lulav and etrog. Shabbat services will follow.

The Temple Sholom Book Club will be reading "Exodus, Revisited" by Deborah Feldman. The book is available at Amazon in hardcover, paperback and Kindle versions. The next discussion meeting will be Thursday, October 24 at 7 p.m. by Zoom and all are welcome to attend. RSVP to receive the Zoom link by emailing Valerie Taitel at vmtaitel@gmail.com or call 508/314-0511.

MARTIN CAUFIELD MEMORIAL WORKS
THE CLEAR CHOICE
For all your cemetery memorial needs.
SELECTION
Tri-state area's largest.
Over 400 memorials on display in more than 25 color choices.
QUALIFICATION
Family-owned and operated for over 145 years.
Recommended by more than 15 funeral homes.
PRICE
Monuments purchased from granite quarries around the world and carved in our modern engraving facility.
This means *rock-bottom* prices—and NO MIDDLEMAN!
Come see for yourself!
Martin Caufield Memorial Works
249 Sunrise Avenue, Honesdale, PA 18431
1-800-824-5293
570-253-3300
New York customers pay NO sales tax!



The power of a helping hand

By Marsi Ann Clark, executive director, People for People Fund

If you knew him, you'd say he was a hardworking, self-reliant man. For the last several years, Darryl*, a life-long resident of Orange County, has diligently worked part-time, in addition to his full-time employment, all in the name of taking care of himself and his financial future.

Unfortunately, Darryl's financial future grew dim in a matter of months. First, it was a small auto repair. Then, something else went wrong and another car repair was needed. Because he needed his car to travel to and from work, paying the $2,000 repair bill was not an option but a necessity.

Suddenly, Darryl was behind on bills due to these unforeseen events. His auto insurance was under threat of cancellation. If he had more time, he could've resolved these grievances himself; but, as we all know, bills wait for no one.

These emergent circumstances made Darryl an ideal candidate for interim support from People for People Fund.

For nearly four decades, People for People Fund–thanks to the generosity of local donors–has provided one-time grants to qualifying residents of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster County. The Fund recognizes that, no matter how well prepared or self-supporting an individual may be, financial hardships can still wreak havoc.

"If he had just a few more weeks, he would've resolved the situation himself," explained Nolly Climes, president of People for People Fund. "He always paid his bills on time, but these unforeseen repairs put him in an unexpected situation. His only choice was to ask for help and, thankfully, we were able to provide it."

Thanks to the fund's one-time assistance with auto insurance, Daryl regained his financial stability. This would not be possible without the generosity of his neighbors –people like you and me.

The People for People Fund helps those in need in Orange and Sullivan Counties. To learn more, visit www.peopleforpeople fund.org or find it on Facebook at People for People Fund, Inc. and on Instagram at peopleforpeoplefund.

*A pseudonym was used to protect this recipient's identity.

Bethel's comprehensive plan survey IDs priorities

BETHEL, NY — The Town Of Bethel is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan, known as "Bethel Forward."

As part of this planning process,the Comprehensive Plan Committee has developed a survey in various formats—online and printed along with QR codes for ease of access. The survey return date is on or before Thursday, October 31.

The survey asks Bethel residents, business owners, landowners and second homeowners about their priorities, what they would like to see in Bethel and how the town can better serve their needs.

It has been designed to take 20-25 minutes to complete.

Questions on the survey range from demographics to opinions about development. All individual responses will be kept confidential, and the results will only be reported as a compilation.

"The challenges, strengths, and opportunities that we face today are significantly different than they were years ago," town officials said.

The survey can be found at townofbethel ny.us. It is also available on paper; copies are available at Bethel Town Hall, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays. Mail the paper surveys to 3454 State Rte. 55, White Lake, NY 12876.

Printed copies with a QR link to access the survey can also be distributed for those who prefer a hard copy.

The committee's outreach process will continue for the next several months with public workshops, interviews and focus groups. Details of these will be advertised and announced on the town's website.

For more information, email Moreen Lerner at bethelcompplan2024@gmail.com or call 845/583-4350 ext. 110.

The Dime Bank supports Pocono Environmental Education Center

DINGMANS FERRY, PA — The Dime Bank announced a $9,000 donation to the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development's Educational Improvement Tax Credit. The donation will support PEEC's hands-on environmental education programs for local school students.

"The Dime Bank is committed to supporting initiatives that promote environmental education and sustainability," said president/CEO Peter Bochnovich. "We believe that investing in the future of our planet is essential, and PEEC's programs are a valuable resource for our community's young people."

PEEC's mission is to inspire, educate and empower people to care for the natural world. Through its programs, students can explore the wonders of nature, learn about environmental issues and develop a deeper appreciation for the planet.

"We are so thankful for the support of the Dime Bank through the EITC program," said director of development Amanda Subjin. "The majority of the funding we receive through these donations is dedicated toward providing hands-on environmental education programming to local school students either by visiting their classroom or when they come to PEEC for a field trip."

Learn more about PEEC at peec.org.

Learn more about the Dime Bank www.thedime.bank.

SUNY Sullivan promotes Simon Clement

LOCH SHELDRAKE, NY — Simon Clement, previously the interim head men's basketball coach at SUNY Sullivan, has been promoted to interim director of athletics.

Clement has played a crucial role in shaping the college's athletic programs, a college spokesperson said. In his new position, he will lead efforts to expand and enhance the overall sports experience at SUNY Sullivan.

Clement will now oversee a diverse range of sports offerings aimed at fostering student success both on and off the field. SUNY Sullivan's athletics program features competitive teams in basketball, baseball, volleyball, cross-country, track and field, and e-sports. The college competes in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II men's and women's basketball and baseball, and NJCAA Division III men's and women's cross-country and track and field.

SUNY Sullivan also offers various intramural sports that provide students with opportunities to engage in recreational athletic activities. These programs are designed for those who want to participate in sports in a more relaxed and social environment compared to varsity-level competition. Specific intramural sports include basketball, volleyball, soccer, flag football, workout challenges and e-Sports. Students can also participate in clubs such as men's and women's e-sports.

"Our athletics program is committed to providing students with opportunities to excel in sports while supporting their academic and personal growth," Clement said. "With our outstanding facilities and dedicated coaching staff, I'm eager to build on our strong tradition and elevate our programs to new heights."

Simon Clement was named head coach for the NJCAA Division II Sullivan Generals men's basketball team in 2023, after five years as an assistant coach. Clement was a part of four consecutive Region XV championships; two district championships; and earned two bids to the NJCAA DII National Tournament (fourth place finish in 2021-22).

Clement earned a master's degree in business administration the University at Albany. He played collegiate basketball at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy and at Johnson State College in Johnson, VT. He also played a year of collegiate golf while at Johnson State.

By hosting local tournaments, youth sports clinics and community events, SUNY Sullivan fosters a sense of unity and pride within the county, the spokesperson said. The college's facilities, including the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse and the Diamond at Generals Park, serve as central venues for both collegiate and community activities, making SUNY Sullivan a key hub for sports and recreation in the region.

For more information about SUNY Sullivan's athletics programs and its facilities, call Simon Clement at 845/434-5750 ext. 4250, or email sclement@sunysullivan.edu.



Contributed photo

Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County recently graduated eight students from its General Education Development (GED) program. Four are pictured here.

Literacy Volunteers' GED program graduates eight

HURLEYVILLE, NY — Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County recently graduated eight students from its General Education Development (GED) program.

Nevaeh Davis, Yeniffer Embree, Ociana Torres-Cabal and Jaquez Ware were honored on September 28 at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, with their friends and family in attendance.

Not able to be present were GED recipients John Hopper, Dominic Martinez, Shaylea Tate and Jaiden Wiggens.

Learn more about the program at www.literacysullivan.org.

Sullivan 180 scholarship recognizes volunteerism

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY — Sullivan 180, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan, awarded two scholarships to volunteers who made a significant contribution to a 2024 Sullivan 180 project. These scholarships will be awarded for the spring 2025 semester to the following individuals:

Liza Mitchell of Rock Hill dedicated her time to volunteering with the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance. Her efforts focused on trail maintenance in the Towns of Fallsburg and Liberty, where she beautified entrance gardens, hung trail markers and organized cleanups to keep the trails accessible and welcoming.

"Volunteering with the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance allowed me to connect with my community in a meaningful way, improving and beautifying the local trails," Mitchell said. "It was inspiring to see the community come together and to educate others on the importance of maintaining our shared natural resources."

Mitchell is a junior at SUNY Geneseo studying accounting.

Erin Skinner of Parksville brought her passion for service to the Daffodil Project. She contributed by creating artwork symbolizing the children lost in the Holocaust and collaborated with others to design interactive trees where participants could leave poems or messages in remembrance.

"Through experiences like assisting at the Liberty United Methodist Church's Thrift Store and participating in the Daffodil Project, I've learned the importance of connection, compassion, and the power of community," Skinner said.

In addition to her volunteer work, Skinner also serves as a junior firefighter with the Neversink Fire Department. She is a freshman at SUNY Geneseo, majoring in biology with a pre-med focus and a minor in Spanish.

For more information on the work and initiatives of Sullivan 180, visit www.Sullivan180.org or call 845/295-2680.

New food pantry in Monticello

MONTICELLO, NY — Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan & Ulster hosted a ribbon cutting and open house for its relocated food pantry and case management office in Monticello. Now located on the agency's Sullivan County campus at 396 Broadway, the pantry's new space is larger and more accessible to better meet the needs of the community, with plenty of off-street parking. It's open to community members on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

In addition to providing a wide variety of fresh and non-perishable food selections, the pantry provides baby supplies, personal care items, household goods and other necessities to help people in need. (Offerings could vary from week to week.)

The food pantry's co-location with case management improves access to other Catholic Charities' services, including assistance with emergency shelter, eviction prevention, utilities and rental arrears and other supports.

Prior to cutting the ribbon, Fr. Bob Porpora, pastor of the Church of St. Peter in Monticello, and a Catholic Charities board member, offered a blessing for the new location. He reminded guests of the agency's mission to provide help and create hope for our neighbors in need, regardless of a person's religion.

Local officials assembled for the ceremonial ribbon cutting included NYS assemblymember Aileen Gunther, Village of Monticello mayor Rochelle Massey, village manager James Snowden, Town of Thompson supervisor Bill Rieber, Sullivan County HHS commissioner John Liddle and Monticello acting chief of police David Lindsay, as well as many partners from community organizations and Sullivan County Government.

People in need of food assistance can stop by the pantry during Wednesday pantry hours. For case management assistance or more information, call the office at 845/794-8080 ext. 2871 to schedule an appointment.

Learn about bats at DHC

BEACH LAKE, PA — The Delaware Highlands Conservancy (DHC) will hold an hour-long talk about the world's only flying mammal—the bat—at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 24 at the Van Scott Nature Reserve.

Discover the different types of bats found in this area, learn about their fascinating behaviors, and find out what to do if you have bats in your home. The presenters will also discuss the impact of white-nose syndrome and much more.

After the presentation, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., you can take an optional hike with conservancy staff through the reserve, where they'll use a bat-frequency reader to detect the bats around you.

If you are attending the walk, be prepared to walk on sloped terrain and wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that are comfortable for the weather. Flashlights are recommended.

The fee is $5 for conservancy members and $10 for non-members; kids under age 12 can attend for free. The lecture is targeted to adults, but the walk is appropriate for all ages.

The reserve is located at 571 Perkins Pond Rd. Events require advance registration. For program details and to register, visit www.DelawareHighlands.org/events or call Rachel Morrow, the education and volunteer coordinator, at 570/226-3164 ext. 2.



Contributed photo

The Chamber of the Northern Poconos will hold its community awards banquet in November. Pictured are Joe Regenski, chair of the chamber's board, left; and Kate Bryant and Pete Bochnovich, the co-chairs of the banquet.

Commitment to community honored by Chamber of Northern Poconos

HAWLEY, PA — The Chamber of the Northern Poconos, along with event co-chairs Pete Bochnovich, CEO of the Dime Bank; and Kate Bryant, CFO of the Honesdale National Bank; has announced the upcoming annual community awards banquet. This year's banquet will be held on Wednesday, November 6 at the Inn at Woodloch. The meet-and-greet will begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m.

This year the chamber will honor individuals and organizations to recognize them for their commitment to their profession, business and the community at large.

Richard "Dick" Teeter of Teeters' Furniture will be recognized as Business Person of the Year. Mike Flederbach and Jim Zumpone will receive the Citizen of the Year Award. Lacawac Sanctuary will be recognized as the Nonprofit Organization of the Year.

During the evening, the chamber will also present the Outstanding Leadership award to Mary Beth Wood of WEDCO to thank her for decades of commitment to the region and the chamber's adult and junior leadership programs. The chamber wishes her well on her retirement.

The chamber's Chairman's Circle sponsored the banquet.

Tickets cost $85 for individuals, $640 for a table of eight or $800 for a table of 10.

A commemorative booklet is being prepared for the evening. Space will be available for those wishing to advertise and join in the recognition of the honorees.

Register at www.NorthernPoconos.org by Friday, October 25.

For more information on joining the Chamber, benefits, and events, visit www.NorthernPoconos.org.

Community lunch at Good Shepherd

MILFORD, PA — On Thursday, October 17, and on every third Thursday of the month, a free community lunch will be held in Good Shepherd Parish Hall at the corner of W. Catharine and 5th Streets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There is no cost, no registration and everyone is welcome. Bring a friend and join them in celebrating community while enjoying a meal and friendly conversation.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and coffee and tea are available; lunch is served at 12 noon.

This is a community outreach program of the Ecumenical Food Pantry of Pike County and Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. For more information about the pantry, visit www.ecumenicalfoodpantry.com.



GREEN & Simple



Photo by Tannis Kowalchuk

The new Farm Arts Collective barn contains a shared workspace for the farm and offers a permanent home for the education and performance programs of Farm Arts Collective (FAC, Farm Arts).

A new modern barn for farm and community

By TANNIS KOWALCHUK AND JEFFREY MCMAHON

DAMASCUS, PA — In 2023-24, Greg Swartz and Tannis Kowalchuk, co-owners of Willow Wisp Organic Farm, worked with Jeffrey McMahon of Jeffrey McMahon Design + Build to bring to life a new barn containing a shared workspace for the farm as well as offering a permanent home for the education and performance programs of Farm Arts Collective (FAC, Farm Arts).

Farm Arts is a nonprofit that Tannis founded in 2018 with a mission to intersect farming, art, food and ecology to uplift and celebrate rural life.

The new building is an impressive modern design, 127 feet long, and built with sustainability at the forefront of everyone's mind.

The building includes a spacious kitchen (Tannis cooks a farm lunch every day for the Willow Wisp crew), a shop for maintenance of farm equipment, lockers and a lunchroom for the farm team.

The other half of the barn is an AGRI-Cultural space for Farm Arts Collective. It includes a 40-foot-by 40-foot venue for performances and education classes, a dressing room, storage, a tech booth and an administrative office for the company.

The building had its ribbon cutting on June 2, 2024, and Tannis is currently leading a capital campaign to outfit the Farm Arts Collective side of the space to be a fully equipped education and performance venue with lights, sound, A/V, curtains and a flexible seating system. So far, the collective has raised $128,000 with a goal of $250,000.

Tannis sat down with designer Jeffrey and posed some questions.

Tannis: As you were conceiving the design for the new barn at Willow Wisp Organic Farm, how did designing a multi-use facility for a solar-powered organic farm influence your choices?

Jeffrey: Thanks for the great question. I'll try to explain the complexity of a large scale design and build project like this as simply as possible!

¬ Page 21

BUSELLI SOLUTIONS

generators solar ductless





SET THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARD

Your endless search for the ideal contractor is over! You have found the team you've been longing for. We take pride in consistently delivering exceptional results that surpass high standards and expectations. Our team of committed professionals combines expertise with passion in every project, guaranteeing unmatched service and quality. In a time where reliable excellence is scarce, we are dedicated to being the dependable professionals you can trust for a premium installation experience.





Efficiency and comfort cannot wait! Get your free quote today

AND get 5% off your install with Promo Code: OCH24

570-729-7791 www.busellisolutions.com/community


CLEAN ENERGY
STRONG COMMUNITIES
Clean Energy.
Strong Communities.
Clean Path NY is investing in you, New York. With thousands of good-paying jobs and funding for workforce development and education, we're working together toward a clean energy future.
Learn more at cleanpathny.com
Invenergy
NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.
NY Power Authority
energyRe
Clean Path NY

BARN

¬ Page 18

Willow Wisp Organic Farm sets a high bar for what it means to do things consciously with regards to sustainability and earth-friendly practices. Ensuring that the new building works, actively works, within the daily and seasonal functional aspects of the farm influenced several key design strategies that I organized under the slogan, "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle."

Small and sleek big building. Buildings can be too big, and when you look at what's needed, and focus on providing the most efficient space for those needs, then you avoid the wastefulness of excess for excess sake. This aligns with Reduce.

There are materials we chose because of their high recycled content, but we also did the legwork to find material that was previously used: two examples are the post-industrial polyisoprene insulation panels and shipping pallet wood. I found a person in western New York who had taken down thousands of square feet of four-inch-thick polyisoprene insulation from a building. We were able to use a very high efficiency insulation material without the embodied energy and environmental impact of new production.

In a small town north of Allentown, PA I found a carpenter who spends their extra time taking apart found shipping pallets and de-nailing the boards. We gained from their efforts to have a beautiful wood interior cladding without taking down one tree. Re-use!

As in nature, sometimes the destruction or decomposition of one thing can lead to new growth. Making sure the humans that inhabit the barn have access to composting and recycling is as important as practicing those behaviors during the construction. Wood cut-offs and scraps? Use them in the wood stove and keep a house warm. Digging up some dirt for a foundation? Make sure it's stored so other farm-based soil needs have it for a resource. Extra materials left over? Build a lean-to for the germination greenhouse. Recycle!

Tannis: And what unique considerations did you give when conceiving the Farm Arts Collective education and performance space? It's such a multi-use space.

Jeffrey: I built my first home in the area in 2008; I made a hilltop mid-century-inspired structure packed full of sustainable features. It was my first time looking at what sustainability means, in this specific context, these Sullivan County lands. I think that laid the groundwork for me tackling your project almost 16 years later. What does the Farm mean for context? What can the Farm Arts Collective gain from a more considered approach to sustainable architecture?

The first of many strategies is best described using the metaphor of a sailboat. Build a sailboat and not a motorboat; use skill and not strength.

Passive cooling and heating was primary to achieve the functionality similar to a sailboat, in a 140-foot barn. The Farm Arts educational and performance space straddles the southern gable end of the barn, half on the open patio and half in the primary gathering space; both are 40-foot squares. The 12-foot extension of roof and side walls extending over the patio provides passive solar gain in the winter for the interior, and passive shading/cooling in the summer months when the sun is high in the sky.

Like sails, the building can adjust to have air move through it. There is a center corridor of around 8 feet that not only functions as the primary navigation route for farm staff and FAC members alike, but also has doors at each end allowing the building to be open at two specific locations for air flow to effectively move through and replace stale air with fresh air. This can reduce the energy needs for cooling when we have those cooler evenings and mornings, letting the building cool down before the midday heat. Then the building's internal thermal inertia benefits from the high R value recycled insulation.

There are also active components like fans at each gable end because, like most sailboats, if the wind is low you need a little boost.



RR photo by Tannis Kowalchuk

Sustainable materials created a space that has a positive impact on the local, and the global, environment.

There are other components to the Farm Arts space that further assist the passive heating and cooling, and were designed specifically for a facility that at times might have just a few humans, and at times might have a bunch more! The concrete floors, with their dense thermal mass, are an excellent heat sink for the winter sun. The windows are positioned to provide tons of light during the day and therefore reduce the need for electric lighting in the daytime. We also ensured that each material chosen to make this structure has some sustainable legacy, including reclaimed wood, low-VOC paint, cement board cladding with high recycled content, etc.

I think the barn, and our project working together to make your space, Tannis, is an example of how smart design starts with a conversation. You and Greg wanted to not just have a space that fit in at the farm, that provided the facilities for dynamic performances and farm production, but to do that with a head towards positive impact on the local and global environment. And I think that's what I think of when I hear the word sustainable.

Tannis: Both Willow Wisp Organic Farm and Farm Arts Collective are really thrilled with what the new sustainable barn space offers—a welcoming and efficient workspace for the activities of farming, art, food and ecology. It is an elegant and practical building that serves our community and the farm to be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Learn more

Jeffrey McMahon Design + Build: www.jm-db.com

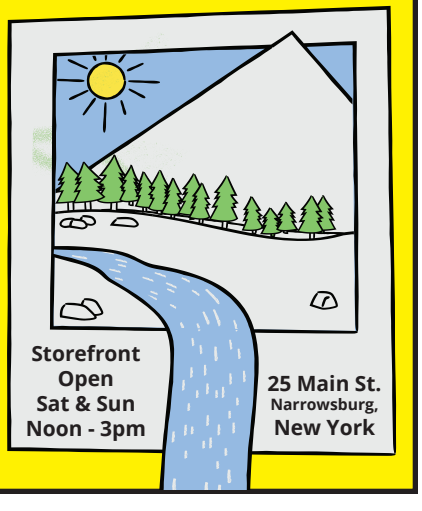
Willow Wisp Organic Farm https://www.willowwisporganic.com

Farm Arts Collective https://www.farmartscollective.org

DCS DAMASCUS CITIZENS
CLEAN WATER, AIR AND LAND ARE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

In addition to science-based advocacy and legal initiatives, we educate about renewable energy, new technologies, affordable energy, and refocusing comsumption.

845-252-6677
dcs@DamascusCitizens.org



Catskill Mountainkeeper
Protecting our natural heritage and empowering communities
catskillmountainkeeper.org
CATSKILL MOUNTAINKEEPER

Organic gardening basics

By THE COUNTRY GARDENERS

HAWLEY, PA — We all try to avoid pesticides and chemicals, not only in our food but also in our home garden. To help the Country Gardeners' members accomplish this, "Organic Gardening Basics" was the lecture at last month's meeting.

The guest speaker was Diane Diffenderfer, Penn State master gardener and home gardener vegetable trial coordinator in Wayne County. She mainly focused on integrated pest management (IPM), one of the basic tenets of organic gardening.

Although natural and organic pest management takes longer to provide protection for the plants, IPM avoids producing insecticide-resistant insect pests—plus it is more cost-effective and helps to balance the plant ecosystem. Therefore, its benefits surpass the inconvenience of waiting to reach full protection for the plant targeted and there will be less damage to the overall ecosystem around our homes.

The first layer of protection is disease prevention through the use of fertile soil, the correct amount of sun exposure, proper soil PH, proper watering practices and avoiding plant stress.

The next key factor is watching for symptoms of plant disease in the early stages and applying the right organic remediation.

Another basic protection is to sanitize stakes, plant cages and pots every spring, and rotate the location of vegetable crops. In addition, proper spacing between the plants is necessary to avoid overcrowding and to provide good air circulation. Pruning is also an important part of IPM—it allows the plant's energy to bolster the growth of the fruit or flowers of a plant, instead of just the leaves.

Biological control of insect pests by introducing their natural predators into your garden is another useful tool. Various predators, such as ladybugs, can be easily ordered online through gardening catalogs. Milky spore is another useful organic product that can be spread in the area to be protected. Not only are these effective preventatives, but once you add the bugs or spores to your garden, you can let the predatory bugs and spore cells do the work for you. However, be forewarned: these methods might take one or two growing seasons to reach their full potential.



Contributed photo by Candida Portugues

We all try to avoid pesticides and chemicals, not only in our food but also in our home garden. To help the Country Gardeners' members accomplish this, "Organic Gardening Basics" was the lecture at last month's meeting.

Wind energy agreement to power Shawnee Mountain Ski Area

SHAWNEE, PA — Shawnee Mountain Ski Area announced a renewable energy agreement with ENGIE Resources.

The ski area has also transitioned from diesel to electric compressors, enhanced snow-making efficiency and implemented environmentally conscious practices such as eliminating Styrofoam in dining establishments.

Now it will purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) as part of a four-year agreement with ENGIE Resources.

Under the new agreement, Shawnee Mountain will claim 6,000 annual RECs, equivalent to six million kWh of electricity delivered to the grid from renewable energy sources. The RECs, which are Green-e® certified, match 100 percent of Shawnee Mountain's forecast annual energy load of 6,116 MWh with renewable energy generated by the Priddy Wind Project in Texas.

The RECs in this agreement equate avoiding the greenhouse gas emissions of 2,501 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent, which is comparable to the CO_2 emissions from 2.8 million pounds of coal burned, or nearly 6,000 barrels of oil consumed each year. Over the four-year term, Shawnee Mountain will achieve a total of 24,000 RECs.

"By aligning with a renewable energy project that supports sustainable energy, Shawnee Mountain continues to lead by example in the ski industry, showcasing that outdoor recreation and environmental responsibility can go hand in hand," a spokesperson said.

Shawnee Mountain Ski Area is located at 401 Hollow Rd. in East Stroudsburg.

To learn more and for updates, visit www.shawneemt.com or find Shawnee Mountain on Facebook at www.facebook.com/skishawnee.



Jeff Sanitation

Refuse & Recyclable Pick-Up

Roll Off Containers 10, 15, 20, and 30 yard and Dumpsters Available
PO Box 387 • Jeffersonville, NY
845-482-9826

Sullivan COUNTY CATSKILLS Mountains of Opportunities

2024 Sullivan County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

WHEN: **SUNDAY, October 20, 2024 from 8:00 AM—2:00 PM**

WHERE: **Monticello Transfer Station**
91 Landfill Drive
Monticello, NY 12701

WHAT TO KNOW:

- Pre-registration is NOT required
- Bring **ACCEPTABLE HHW** carefully packaged to prevent reactions, spills/leaks
- Bring **PHOTO ID and/or PROOF OF SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENCY**
- Remain in your car at all times

ACCEPTABLE		UNACCEPTABLE
Paint	Smoke detectors	Household garbage
Solvents	Fire extinguishers	Commercial/industrial/agricultural waste
Stains	Cleaning products	Medical waste/ pharmaceuticals
Ink	Poisons	Radioactive material
Pool chemicals	Roofing tar	Explosives
Acids	Bases	Ammunition
Wood preservatives	Adhesives	Bulk liquids/drums/tanks larger than 5 gallons
Fluorescent bulbs	Creosote	LP/gas tanks
Mercury containing devices	Stale fuels	Electronics
Pesticides/herbicides	Antifreeze	Tires
Batteries/ automotive batteries		Refrigeration devices

Questions?
Kassie Thelman, Recycling Coordinator
(845) 807-0291
recycling@sullivanny.us





Collaboration, not competition

By RYANNE JENNINGS

The definition of collaboration (at least by Merriam-Webster) is to work jointly with others or together, especially in an intellectual endeavor. This might seem like second nature to many, but it is a process that takes significant intentionality to be successful.

In the community foundation world, collaboration is the name of the game and, quite honestly, the only way we get anything accomplished. We collaborate with donors, nonprofits, funders, local government, media outlets, schools and other community foundations daily. Community foundations would not exist if we didn't collaborate.

A unique feature about community foundations is that we generally don't see other community foundations as competitors, as we each have our own "territory" to primarily fund. Same goes for private foundations—in fact, we partner with private foundations on funding projects and also rely on private and family foundations to support our internal operations from time to time. We all try to play to our strengths for community benefit.

For-profit businesses don't always have the luxury of seeing other businesses as collaborators rather than competitors, but I have seen this happen successfully at times, especially in our local community. A business might upgrade equipment and then sell their other equipment to a newer business doing similar work, or co-brand a product they both work on to create. When I see this kind of collaboration, I always find it inspiring and I wish more entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations would work together in this way.

So what makes for a successful collaboration? In my experience, a few key elements are needed. The first, and most important, is a focus on "we" and not "me." Everyone coming to the table will have a different motivation for being there, but if a common goal can be agreed upon for everyone to focus on, it becomes about that goal rather than individual motivations.

The second element is for everyone participating to assume positive intent and to own their impact. Communication can be messy in collaborations and the way you say something might not land the way you intended. Accepting that your impact might not have been what you intended and seeking repair of that relationship is essential. Coming into that collaboration with the assumption that everyone is there with positive intentions is also something that has to happen for a collaboration to be successful. If you're looking for something bad, your digging and negative attitude will likely create it.

Lastly, consistent and honest communication is always an important factor when working with others. Recognizing that people take in information in different ways is part of this. When working across generations, your communication style might have to span a variety of modalities from text to email to phone calls. That's the reality of working in groups right now, and it's better to accept it than lose valuable insight from people you want as part of the collaboration. You can't always reach 100 percent of people, but it's worth the effort to try to reach the 80 percent in the middle.

Let's all try to see our neighbors, colleagues and business competition in a new light of potential partners and those in which we can collaborate. Cheers to collaboration!

Ryanne Jennings is the president/CEO of the Wayne County Community Foundation.

New leadership at PEEC

DINGMANS FERRY, PA — The Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) has announced a new executive leadership team.

Amanda Subjin has been appointed PEEC's acting CEO. She is a Dingmans Ferry native and has a long history of involvement with PEEC. She returned to PEEC in 2022 to serve as director of development, where she has spent two years cultivating support for PEEC from partners, donors and funders. Her background is in forest science and she has experience in nonprofit leadership.

Derek Scott has been appointed PEEC's acting COO. Over his 10-year tenure at PEEC, he has filled several roles. In his most recent role as director of operations, he prioritized the visitor experience at PEEC, ensuring that every aspect from lodging to food service to programming is well-coordinated, safe and welcoming.

Kirsten Larick has been appointed PEEC's acting chief financial offer. Her six-year tenure as PEEC's director of business management has allowed her to demonstrate her knowledge of the organization's financials, staffing, and operations and to ensure the integrity and accuracy of PEEC's business administration, a spokesperson said. The Pocono Environmental Education Center, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, is located within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, between Milford and Bushkill, PA. PEEC advances environmental education, sustainable living, and appreciation for nature through hands-on experience in a national park.

'The Magic and Mystery of the Garden' at UDUUF

NARROWSBURG, NY — Landscape artist and horticulturalist Eve Springwood Minson of Just One Seed will speak on "The Magic and Mystery of the Garden" to the Upper Delaware U.U. Fellowship (UDUUF) on Sunday, October 20 at 10:15 a.m. at the Narrowsburg Union, Room 102.

A Zoom option is also available.

"The garden provides endless opportunities for healing and deep reconnection with the divine, however you interpret that experience," Minson said. "Together we will explore what that looks and feels like, and how to create and integrate more sacred space into our lives."

Come in person if you can, or bookmark this link for this and future UDUUF services: zoom.us/j/9376301223.

For more information about this or upcoming weekly programs, see upperdelawareuu.org or email uduuf2022@gmail.com.

THE WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Investing in Our Future
Grants
Scholarships
Donor Fund Management
Legacy Giving
Community Leadership
To learn more, visit our website:
WayneFoundation.Org

Best Green Builder
Green2morrow
845-796-6448
Renovations-Design-Custom Cabinetry
www.Green2morrow.org

MJC Michael J. Chojnicki Archictect, P.C.
272 BEHR RD
JEFFERSONVILLE, NY 12748
845/887-4181
mchojnicki33@gmail.com
www.mchojnickiarchitect.com
SUSTAINABLE DESIGN
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

CLEAN • COURTEOUS • HONEST
Narrowsburg ELECTRIC
(845)252-6640
ALL CALLS RETURNED
RICK & JUSTIN MALONEY

DER OSKAR Tree Service
845-557-8051
24 Hour Emergency Service
Tree Removal
Tree Care
Hazardous Tree Removal
Free Estimates

Curious about solar but not sure where to begin? Let SEEDS help!
SEEDS offers free solar energy assessments to members and provides solar education to everyone. Learn more at www.SEEDSGroup.net!
Sustainable Energy Education & Development Support
1030 Main Street, Honesdale, PA / info@SEEDSGroup.net / 570.245.1256 / @SEEDSofNEPA

FOSTERDALE EQUIPMENT CORPORATION
3137 Route 17B
Cochecton, NY
845-932-8611

Low-waste, high impact

The Callicoon Pantry leaves an intentional food footprint

By EVA BEDNAR

CALLICOON, NY — Walking into the Callicoon Pantry, one is greeted with soft lightbulbs and a refrigerator with "LOCAL" emblazoned across the top, illuminating neat, colorful boxes and bags and rows of glass containers filled with beans, spices, pasta and more. In addition to the local and healthy options in this re-fillable grocery, there exists the intentional curation of eco- and community-friendly products.

Though there are presently hundreds of items to choose from, the Pantry began with only 12 items for sale.

Dania LaScola, owner of the Callicoon Pantry, began the operation five years ago in the Callicoon Market building on Lower Main Street. Moving from Arizona with a degree in sustainability, she had come to New York to do an apprenticeship on a farm and then stayed, pulled in by the "vibrant and loving community."

"I knew I wanted to work in food systems sustainability in some way," LaScola said. "I thought, if I go into food policy, I'm going to want to know what it's like to be a farmer to understand the full food system complexities."

Her dad said she had an entrepreneurial spirit from a young age, and LaScola heard Callicoon residents expressing a need for a health food and low-waste store. So she and a friend took a chance and started small, aiming to have "a place for people to come and refill containers with high-quality food pantry staples."

The Pantry's Instagram jokes it's "not your grandmother's low-waste grocery."

"I say that in jest because it is kind of your grandmother's low-waste grocery store; it's totally what we used to think of when it came to food, before we had these massive supermarkets that changed how we shop, how we eat, the amount of plastic that goes into our food," LaScola said. "But it has a modern twist. We feature things you might not have found years ago—things for people with food restrictions: gluten-free, vegan, paleo."



RR photo by Eva Bednar

Dania LaScola, owner of the Callicoon Pantry, began the operation five years ago in the Callicoon Market building on Lower Main Street.

The Pantry also focuses on equity, featuring queer, women, Asian-American and Black-owned businesses.

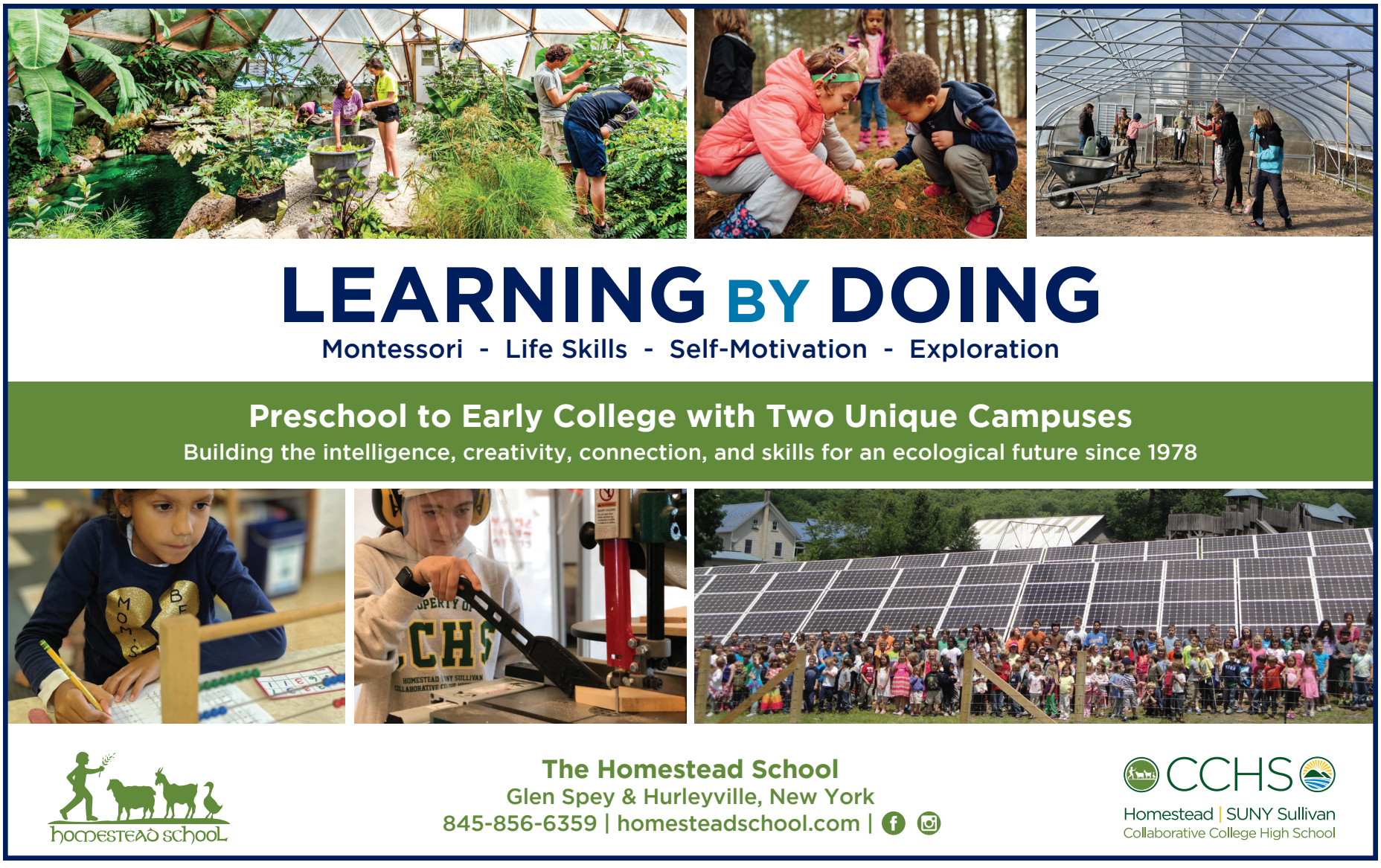
"Those nuances make us stand out, in addition to being able to come in and bring your own container to fill up," said LaScola. "I hope this is a place your grandmother would love to come shop; many grandmas do."

The Pantry began as a refillable-only store, where customers needed to bring their own containers for groceries. LaScola realized that was not as accessible as she'd hoped for the community. "We thought we were doing right by the planet, but we weren't really doing right by the people," she said.

Approximately 28 percent of landfill waste is food packaging, according to the EPA.

The business model adapted to continue to sell bulk goods, but also added pre-packaged items and brown paper bags. "A big lesson was hearing people and their frustrations. Introducing paper bags was huge. You can also re-use it as a lunch bag, or to start a fire," she said. "We're all doing the best we can and are as low-waste as we can be. It's a tough world to be in without going up the chain and changing large producer mindsets."

The Callicoon Pantry does make positive environmental waves in the supply chain, working with ¬ Page 25



LOW-WASTE

¬ Page 24

Northeast and New York State producers "to combat the monopoly of large distributors."

This can help keep prices low. It also can reduce food miles, or the distance food needs to travel to reach its consumer. It all helps the environment along the way.

The flour in the Pantry is grown and milled in upstate New York. Once Again Peanut Butter is also based in New York. The Pantry works with a local dairy, Freedom Hill Farm, which has plastic containers in other grocery stores, but sells in glass at the Pantry. There is a deposit on the glass in which the dairy is purchased; the container can be returned to the Pantry, and then given back to the farmer to be cleaned and refilled.

"We're the only business they do this program with," said LaScola. "It requires extra work, but it's something that we've committed with them to do. It's really special to have those relationships with the farmers and cut waste out of the equation in that way."

LaScola has visited every nearby farm she sources from in the store, able to see organic practices, or, when a farm might not be certified organic because of the certification costs, able to see sustainable practices encouraging biodiversity. She cited one farm that had monarch butterflies and wildlife thriving. "It might not say it on the label, but it doesn't have to when you've seen it—this is organic actually."

LaScola noted how moving to the Northeast, with its "bright, busy summers and cozy winters," encouraged her to eat more seasonally, like enjoying blueberries in the season they are available. "Food grown outside of those seasonalities has its own impact on the planet," she said.

Buying food in bulk can also be cheaper when placed in one's own container rather than in a pre-packaged bag.

"We have bulk coffee that is the same for one pound of coffee as it is for a 12-ounce bag. If you brought in your own container, you'd be getting four ounces more than if you paid for the packaging and design, and creating less waste in the process," LaScola said.

LaScola supports a mindset shift among other groceries as well, saying, "People want to see apples not covered in plastic, ginger not covered in plastic when it already comes in its natural ginger-root packaging."

She is an advocate for people who want to see more stores like this. "I'm happy to advise or help people. I believe that community trumps competition every time," she said.

This creates a culture of shopping in bulk and coming prepared with containers.

LaScola explained, "The more of us there are, the better it is for the planet. It's a culture shift we all have to work towards—have your reusable bag in your car, have a couple jars; they don't even have to be glass jars, they could be some little plastic containers. We don't judge what people bring in. It's just that mindshift of thinking ahead. Connectedness to our food system and proactiveness is really important."

The Pantry recently expanded; it now has 25 percent more square footage. "That is due entirely to the community coming in, supporting us, and telling us what they want to see, and being so lovely and warm. I couldn't ask for a better place to be than Callicoon," LaScola said.

The Pantry isn't just about food, but also about community.



RR photo by Eva Bednar

Buying food in bulk can be cheaper, especially if you place it in your own container, rather than taking it home in a pre-packaged bag.

"With sustainability comes community. This shop doesn't happen in a vacuum."

LaScola talked about the pantry's events: free clothing swaps, Friendsgivings, crop planning sessions.

"It's not so simple as 'here's a product and here's my money, let's exchange.' It's so much more than that," she said. She plans for future soup nights with Early Bird Cookery, which is connected to the back of the Pantry, and loves when people come in and tell her about a recipe they've tried. "I love the exchange of ideas when it comes to food. Food is so important to bring us together," she said.

LaScola recommends that customers bring a container and find food to fill it with. Her future plans include adding a freezer section for homemade ice pops and frozen local fruit, a nut butter grinder for freshly ground peanut butter, and additional healthy prepared foods from Early Bird Cookery. The kale-ade juice and ranch dressing, both made in-house, are local favorites.

"You vote with your dollar," said LaScola, emphasizing how consumers can make an impact with what they choose to support. They can also broaden their food knowledge by visiting and supporting local farms.

"A farm with a U-pick day can be a great opportunity to meet your local farmer, meet the people who are working hard to bring you food. The mainstream food industry relies on you not being able to see [where your food is grown]. Once you start being aware, it's impossible to ignore."

BMA

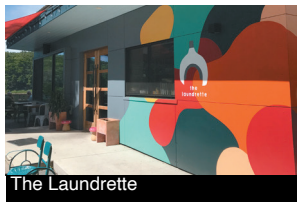
BUCK MOORHEAD ARCHITECT

Callicoon | Upper Delaware | New York City

Buck Moorhead Architect is a full-service architectural firm offering residential, commercial, institutional and municipal design services. We specialize in high performance, carbon-neutral, and net-zero building design, informed by the Passive House standard.



The Catskill Project



The Laundrette



The Callicoon Library

BEST of 2022 for 2023

info@buckmoorheadarchitect.com www.buckmoorheadarchitect.com

Rinker Inc.

Generator / Ductless / Electrical

PA 002383

GORINKERINC.COM 570-698-9696

Automatic Generators
Battery Storage Systems
Ductless Heating & Cooling
Electrical Services

"Where comfort and peace of mind are more affordable than you think."

Professional Service for Over 30 Years

0% Financing

*With credit approval through Synchrony Financial

'It's got to be real'

Sullivan West's 'green thumb' senior

By TED WADDELL



RR photo by Ted Waddell

Aiden Tambascio, a 17-year-old senior, is pictured in the high school's biodome with a cucumber plant.

LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — Sullivan West Central School has a 17-year-old senior with a passion for all things green.

"I think we're very fortunate to have a lot of classes in this district, and the people who work in the schools are very good. And that's something the school really needs," said Aiden Tambascio, a 17-year-old upperclassman. When not taking several college level courses at the "Home of the Bulldogs," he can be found in the high school's biosphere taking care of plants, including a prolific cucumber vine.

During the summer break, Tambascio was in the biodome every other day, tending the plants, and days before the start of the school year he came in to "repot everyone's plants" at both the elementary school and middle/high school.

"I grew up on a little homestead farm outside Jeffersonville, and I like what I do," he said of his passion for all things green.

At home, Tambascio has what he described as "My own little greenhouse, plus an actual garden." After graduating from high school, he plans to study agriculture and horticulture in college, with a dream in the future of starting his own farm.

"One of my main goals is to grow enough fresh produce to sell at farmer's markets, so people can actually buy real farm-fresh produce," he explained. "A lot of our produce is just 25 percent fake stuff, stuff pumped into it. It takes away from the realness of the food, and that's not how it should be handled."

"It's got to be real," said Tambascio.

David Eggleton, Sullivan West's new secondary school principal, noted that the district's "green thumb" was recently recognized as the Student of the Month for "all the work he has put in at our science department's grow dome, and being very giving of his time, like repotting all the plants for our teachers."

"Because of his love for gardening, he gave cucumbers to all the staff, and we're very proud of him for giving of his time after hours… He's very kind and community oriented," said Eggleton.

More happenings at Sullivan West

LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — There are two new administrators at the middle/high school and a new assistant principal at the elementary school.

In an April announcement, Sullivan West superintendent Dr. Kathleen Bressler wrote, "It is with great pride that the Board of Education has appointed Mr. David Eggleton as the Secondary School Principal."

Eggleton isn't new to the district, she continued. He previously served as a physical education teacher, a coach and as athletic director. So "Mr. Eggleton comes with an understanding of our school community."

Given his more than 13 years of teaching experience, between 2022 and 2024, he served at Livingston Manor as assistant principal, and as director of physical education, health, wellness and athletics for Roscoe and Livingston Manor.

Eggleton earned a bachelor's degree in education from SUNY Cortland, his master's degree in education from CUNY Lehman and a Certificate of Advanced Study in School Leadership at SUNY New Paltz.

During a recent conversation with the **River Reporter,** Eggleton talked about innovative programs at the Sullivan West secondary school.

Electives, college credits have an impact

In the 2023-24 school year, students had the opportunity to earn Vo Tech-BOCES credits in an animal science course at Diehl Me In Performance Horse Farm in nearby Callicoon.

"It's close to our campus, and easy for our students to get to," he explained. Last year, three students were enrolled, and this year, five students signed up.

New electives include health, athletic training and energy science.

Looking to the future of electives, Eggleton said, "We're assessing what we can maintain, and possibly add on."

"How many students graduate from the district with college credits to move forward?" he said. "One thing we look at is where are they going—military, college or straight into the workforce… we look at analytics from years past, and what is driving our students."

Last year, of the 84 seniors, 68 percent graduated with at least one college credit, while 49 percent walked down the aisle with 12 or more college credits. Eggleton called it a "huge amount of money" in savings to the students and parents.

He also outlined what he views as three "key components" for successful education: communication, curriculum and social/emotional wellness.

On the topic of communication, Eggleton said briefly that it was not just "with the community, but how we communicate with our staff and students."

When it came to the curriculum, "not only looking at courses and programs that we offer, but also how to sequence them."

And on social/emotional wellness, there are "conversations in different classes about human interaction."

Turbulent times, cellphones and more

Sarah Mootz has been named the assistant secondary school principal. She has been an educator for over 16 years, and before coming to Sullivan West, served at the Monticello School District, most recently as elementary assistant principal.

She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from SUNY Potsdam, her master's degree in special education/literacy from SUNY New Paltz and earned a certificate in educational administration from Long Island University, Hudson.

"Building rapport and relationships with students is really important, adjusting to the needs of the students, and looking at the whole student," she said, thinking about social and emotional wellness in these turbulent times.

"They see and feel these things so much, in families and each other, [and] if we don't recognize that and take their 'temperature'," that can have negative effects on their education.

On the subject of social media—e.g. the use of cellphones in school—Mootz said they "should enhance the education experience, not distract from the educational setting." Phones are not banned in school (for communication with parents and for emergencies), and "[students] have opportunities during the day to use their cellphones." Each student also has a school-issued laptop.

At present, there are approximately 515 students at the middle/high school in grades 7-12, slightly down from last year. But what Eggleton and Mootz described as a "huge seventh-grade class just came in," as over 100 students joined the ranks at the middle school.

As for the decline in enrollment—it fluctuates—Mootz postulated that reasons other than economic include "charter schools, online academics and home schools… There are other options, a variety of reasons."





Contributed image

Narrowsburg, NY-based actor Thomas Cambridge stars in "And Through the Portal We Go." The film will be screened at the Black Bear Film Festival in Milford, PA on Sunday, October 20.

Movie filmed in Glen Spey to be shown in Milford

MILFORD, PA — It's described as "'Groundhog Day' meets 'Heaven's Gate'," and critics have called it "hilarious and heartwarming." The film is "And Through the Portal We Go," and it will make its debut at the Black Bear Film Festival as part of the mainstage feature on Sunday, October 20 at 11 a.m. in the Milford Theatre.

What happens when the final three members of a rural cult step through a glowing portal in the woods, just as the 47 other members of their cult have done? Will perfection help them find the key to transcendence? Or will they need to look deeper to find the answers?

The film is directed by Glen Spey, NY resident Mike Hayhurst and produced by his partner, Allison Moy Hayhurst. It was shot entirely in Glen Spey.

It stars New York City-based actors Sarah Goeke, Joseph Lymous and Taylor Dalton Curtis, and Narrowsburg, NY-based actor Thomas Cambridge.

"And Through the Portal We Go is a culmination not only of many of my passions but an exploration of the power of faith and friendship," said Mike Hayhurst. "In a world fractured by social media, where we are simultaneously more connected yet more alone than ever before, where do we find community?"

The questions led Hayhurst to the world of cults and the many charismatic leaders who claim to hold the answers.

"So many stories about cults are built on the premise that the leader is selling a lie, so I was fascinated about what would happen if you took that lie and made it a fact. For our characters, there is a shimmering portal in the woods. When things don't go to plan, where do you look for answers? How long will your faith survive when it's being challenged from every possible angle? How long will it take until you turn inward instead of looking at the people around you?"

The film had its world premiere at the Gig Harbor Film Festival in Gig Harbor, WA.

Tickets cost $15 and can be purchased at events.eventgroove.com/event/And-Through-The-Portal-We-Go-101624.

The theatre is located at 114 E. Catharine St.

To stay up to date on future screenings, follow Evening Squire Productions on Instagram (@eveningsquire/@andthroughtheportalwego) and Facebook.

Learn more about the Black Bear Film Festival at blackbearfilm.com/.

Be sure to get your tickets for:



The Rhythm Section
Delaware Valley Opera
Huntington Hall @ DVO Center
October 19 7-9pm



Power Plays
The Act Underground Theatre Company
Delaware Valley Arts Alliance
October 24, 25 8-10pm
October 26 2-4pm

Visit MyRiverTickets.com *today!*



Contributed image

Burton Bulles, "Salt Falls Late Afternoon." The painting will be on exhibit at the Wayne County Arts Alliance in Honesdale, PA.

Two views of the landscape at the WCAA

HONESDALE, PA — The Wayne County Arts Alliance (WCAA) Gallery will open a new two-person member's exhibition featuring Thomas Colbert and Burton Bulles on Friday, October 18; a reception will be held that evening from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Titled "Two Views," the exhibition will be open until Thursday, November 21.

Thomas Colbert explores "Life Around Me," in plein air-painted landscapes as well as tabletop artworks. The Hawley resident says he finds inspiration in light and color.

Burton Bulles presents modern realist landscapes in "Landscape and You." To the Honesdale resident, artwork is as much about how a scenic landscape feels as it appears to the artist's eye.

The WCAA gallery is located at 959 Main St. and is open Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Learn more at waynecountyartsalliance.org.

Library patrons: Give back

WESTERN SULLIVAN LIBRARY DISTRICT — The Great Give Back returns to the Western Sullivan Public Library (WSPL) starting Monday, October 21.

Every year, libraries across New York State call on library patrons to give back to their communities. The WSPL ed will work with the Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth to create comfort cases, bags that contain essential items, with room for children to add personal possessions. Each comfort case will be given to children entering or in the foster care system, and the personal items can help them find comfort and be carried with them as they navigate the system.

Consider donating any or all of the following items: Small duffel bags or backpacks, pajamas (no nightgowns), blankets, diaper wipes, diaper cream, baby bibs, baby washcloths, toothbrushes, shampoo (variety of hair types), conditioner, soap or body wash, deodorants (travel size), lotion (travel size), feminine products, coloring books and crayons, journals, and pens and pencils.

A donation bin will be located at each WSPL branch, along with a list of suggested items for donation.

There will be a bin for your donations along with a suggested list of items at each library branch. Contributions will be collected until Monday, November 4.

To learn more about the Great Give Back, visit thegreatgiveback.org/.

Where there's a weir, there's a way

ONLINE — On Friday, October 18 at 12:15 p.m., Melanie Mayhew will speak on "Where There's a Weir, There's a Way: Stone Fish Weirs in Pennsylvania's Waterways." It's part of the online Learn at Lunchtime: Archaeology series, being held in October as part of Archaeology Month.

The program will last about 20 minutes, followed by a Q&A.

Mayhew, curator at the State Museum of Pennsylvania, will introduce the history of V-shaped stone fishing structures, known as fish weirs. Prior to the construction of hydroelectric dams in the 20th century, Pennsylvania's rivers and streams supported a large fishing industry. This presentation covers the identification of weirs in Pennsylvania, from historic documentation to remote-sensing imagery, and how those sites continue to shed light on life in colonial-era Pennsylvania.

Archaeology is the study of past cultures through excavated objects. These material remains allow archaeologists to reconstruct the activities and lifeways of people from the dawn of humanity to the present. Archaeologists employ a variety of scientific methods—from radiocarbon dating to geospatial analysis—to piece together the stories of our ancestors. Studies such as these have furthered our understanding of change over time and the adaptation and movement of people across the landscape.

The series is presented by the State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council.

For more information or to register, visit statemuseumpa.org/WorkshopsInArchaeology.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania will host Virtual Learn at Lunchtime: Archaeology, a series of four online learning sessions on Fridays in October to celebrate Archaeology Month.

GALLOPING HORSE Graphics
SIGNS, BANNERS, STONE ENGRAVING, LETTERING & MORE!
JOHN FARNSWORTH
917-538-9754
gallopinghorsegraphics@gmail.com

BILL CASE POLARIS Sales & Service
WARNING! ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety always wear a helmet, eye protection, and protective clothing and never carry passengers unless the adult ATV has been designed by the manufacturer specifically for that purpose. Polaris adult models are for riders aged 16 and older. Be sure to take a safety training course. For safety and training information, call SVIA at 800-887-2887. You may also call your Polaris Dealer or Polaris at 800-342-3764. ©Polaris Sales Inc.
Snowmobiles • ATV • Rangers
408 Welcome Lake Road Beach Lake, PA 18405
www.billcase.com 570-729-7402
POLARIS

Septic Tank Cleaning
KOBERLEIN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
WIND RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL A Wind River Environmental Company
Courteous Professional Service for ALL Your Septic Needs
24/7 Emergency Service
Ferndale, NY and Honesdale, PA
845-292-1494
Or Visit koberlein.com

Cash Back Checking
Jeff Bank's Cash Back Checking rewards you for your banking habits. By using your debit card, you can receive a cash reward on your debit transactions.*
• Minimum Opening Deposit of $25.00 required
• First 3 cleared checks per statement are free; each additional cleared check is $0.25
• Up to 5 Jeff Bank foreign ATM fees will be rebated per statement cycle
*$0.10 (ten cents) per transaction up to 100 transactions with a maximum credit of $10.00 per statement cycle. Does not include ATM transactions.
To qualify, you must enroll in e-Statements, use Online Banking, and have 10 posted Point of Sale (POS) transactions per statement cycle. Otherwise, a $15.00 service charge will be assessed at statement date from your Cash Back Checking account. (Does not include recurring POS transactions.)
JEFF BANK Member FDIC
(845)482-4000 • www.jeff.bank

Have a photo of NY fall foliage?

NEW YORK STATE — The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will hold its annual Fall Foliage Photo Contest during the month of October. In addition, the DEC's Conservationist Magazine is also looking for photo submissions, the DEC said.

The two photo contests are a popular way for New Yorkers and visitors to show off the incredible array of fall foliage throughout New York State.

DEC photo contest

DEC will share submissions on Instagram throughout the month. On three consecutive Fridays (October 11, 18 and 25, and November 1), the agency will announce three winners for each week. Each winner will receive a $100 gift card to a sporting goods store, a free year's subscription to Conservationist magazine, a copy of DEC's "New York State Wildlife Viewing Guide," a DEC reusable bag and more.

During the week of November 4-8, the DEC will hold an Instagram story bracket featuring all winners, and followers will have the opportunity to vote for a grand prize winner. In addition to the prizes mentioned, the grand prize winner will receive a 2025 Empire Pass. The Empire Pass provides unlimited day-use vehicle entry to most facilities operated by DEC and New York State Parks including forests, beaches, trails and more.

Conservationist Magazine photo contest

Photos must be a minimum of 8.5 inches by 10.75 inches, and have a resolution of 300 dpi to be considered. The winning photo will be featured in the October/November 2025 issue of DEC's Conservationist magazine.

The two photo contests support New York Gov. Kathy Hochul's "Get Offline, Get Outside" initiative, which was launched to encourage New York's kids and families to get outside for recreation and social gatherings.

Photos should be submitted to social@dec.ny.gov with the subject line "Fall Foliage Photo Contest" or "Conservationist Magazine Photo Contest." Participants should attach one photo per email entry and include the location in which the photo was taken (can be general and not specific).

Pictures must be of a location in New York State.



Photo contributed by the Western Sullivan Public Library

Art Hawker, Town of Tusten Historian, will speak about local cemeteries at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 19 at the Tusten-Cochecton Branch of the Western Sullivan Public Library.

Tusten cemeteries: Who's buried there?

NARROWSBURG, NY — All are invited to the Tusten-Cochecton Branch of the Western Sullivan Public Library on Saturday, October 19 at 11 a.m. to learn about Tusten's cemeteries.

Much of Tusten's history lies within these grounds. Learn some of the stories through a talking tour led by Town of Tusten Historian Art Hawker.

Have you ever wondered, "Did someone really own the small island off of the flats?". Come to this program and find out. Art will feature graves from several cemeteries including Glen Cove Cemetery, St. Francis Xavier Cemetery and Tusten Cemetery.

Registration is required because space is limited. Email wsplprograms@rcls.org with any questions.

Debashish Bhattacharya trio to perform at Bethel Woods

BETHEL, NY — The Debashish Bhattacharya Legacy Trio will perform at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts on Saturday, October 19 at 7 p.m.

The trio consists of Debashish Bhattacharya (chaturangui, pushpa veena); Anandi Bhattacharya (vocals, swarmandal); and Subashis Bhattacharya (tabla). The concert is a tribute to the pioneering Indian recording artists of the early 1900s.

The trio, dressed in the fashion of the period, will recreate the spirit and character of those early recordings, a time when a family might have huddled around a radio to hear their favorite stars.

Another highlight will be the ornate stringed instruments of Debashish's own design. Bhattacharya is a slide guitarist and a master of the demanding technique and discipline of both Hindustani classical music and modern world fusion, a spokesperson said. The performer has designed and patented four types of guitar for performing raga music, which will be used at the performance.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is located at 200 Hurd Rd.

Tickets cost $38-$59. For more information, visit www.bethelwoodscenter.org/events/detail/debashish-bhattacharya-trio.

Milford Lions to hold Fall Classic

MILFORD, PA — The Milford Lions Club will hold its fourth annual Fall Classic 5K Walk/ Run at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 19. The event begins at Ann Street Park and circles through historic Milford.

The event is a fundraiser for the Milford Lions Club and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Commemorative T-shirts will be given to the first 100 participants to sign up.

Register online at RunSignup.com by searching for "Milford Lions Club Annual Fall Classic." Last-minute registration will begin at 9 a.m. on the morning of the event. First-, second- and third-place trophies will be awarded in both male and female categories. Participants are invited to join us after the event for a barbecue lunch.

DELAWARE VALLEY OIL
Family owned and operated
FUEL OIL • KEROSENE • DIESEL
24-HR. EMERGENCY SERVICE
COD • HEAP • CREDIT CARDS • SENIOR DISCOUNT
PO Box 838, Callicoon, NY 12723
570-224-4141 • dvoil.com
845-887-6090 • 877-887-6090
Office in Equinunk, PA • Free Tank Inspections for our Customers

NATURE'S GRACE
HEALTH FOODS & DELI
Natural Foods • Full Line of Supplements & Vitamins
Hoagies & Take-Out Lunches (Also Vegetarian)
Fresh Juices • Special Diet Products
947 Main Street, Honesdale, PA • 570-253-3469

CIDER
FRESH EVERY DAY
$7.00/gallon
NOW OPEN
RICKARD'S CIDER MILL offers a variety of:
Pumpkins, Gourds, Indian Corn, Squash, Crafts, Whiskey Barrels,
Maple Syrup, Apples, Honey, Corn Stalks, Potatoes, Real Cider Donuts
570-470-6573
1397 Owego Turnpike, Honesdale, PA 18431 • No Custom Grinding
Call or visit us today - Open Thursday Thru Monday - 10 am-6 pm - Closed Tuesday And Wednesday

ROAST BEEF DINNER
LIVE MUSIC & DANCE
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19
DINNER 4 PM – 7 PM
DANCE 8 PM – 12 AM
Support our Jeffersonville Fire Department & have a fun night!
Performance by The Other Band
$20 Take-out or sit-down Dinner and Dance
$5 Dance only
Jeffersonville Firehouse
4903 NY-52 | Jeffersonville, NY 12748

ZANE GREY GALLERY
7 ERIE AVE., NARROWSBURG, NY 12764 | 917.854.9500

Artist fellowships and project grants available

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY – Each year, the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance (DVAA), the arts council for Sullivan County, administers Arts for Sullivan, a regrant program for Sullivan County nonprofits and individual artists. Funded by the New York State Council for the Arts, project grants in community arts, art education and individual artist fellowships for artists who live and work in Sullivan County will be offered for 2025.

Details and links to information sessions are below.

The Arts for Sullivan community arts grants assist nonprofits that wish to create or present arts, cultural and heritage programming in Sullivan County throughout the year. Projects can be offered in person or virtually. They can include theatre, music, dance, literary arts, folklore, installation and visual arts, among other art forms.

Independent artists who wish to produce community art projects can work with a nonprofit organization in the county that will act as a fiscal sponsor. Applicants can apply for up to three grants that range from $500 to a maximum of $5,000.

The arts education grants offer funding support for arts education projects designed for closed groups of learners through two funding strands: Pre-K to grade 12 in-school or afterschool projects, and community-based learning. Grants assist nonprofit organizations and artists (working with a community partner or education center) who are producing artistic educational programming in Sullivan County throughout the year.

Projects can be offered in person or virtually. Projects must include a curriculum with a timeline, goals and assessment tools. Fellowships will be awarded to six artists who live and work in Sullivan County, to support the creation of new work. Each artist will receive $3,000. A community engagement component is required of each recipient. Applications will be accepted in the disciplines of visual arts, literary arts and compositional arts. The deadline for the fellowships is January 30, 2025.

The mini-grants program helps identify and support new and existing cultural projects that have not previously received funding. It offers a simplified application and rolling deadline. For 2025, the DVAA is offering two $500 block grants. Applicants are limited to one request and the opportunity is available only to first-time Arts for Sullivan applicants.

New applicants must attend an information session. A series of free information workshops will be hosted in person and online across Sullivan County by the DVAA to assist with effective grant writing, creating a budget, generating ideas and networking with other artists and organizations.

Advance registration is required.

An online information session will be held Wednesday, October 30, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Zoom link is bit.ly/3ZXwqRd.

An in-person session will be held on Saturday, November 2 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. at New Memories, 862 Parksville Rd., Parksville.

Visit delawarevalleyartsalliance.org (under "Empower") for guidelines, grant information and information session registration links. Potential applicants can also schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss their projects.

All applications and supporting documents must be submitted on Submittable.com, the DVAA's online submission platform.

The 2025 grant application window is open until November 30. Mini-grant applications will be accepted after that date.

For more information, call Tanner Simon at 845/252-7576 ext.1004. Office hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Instagram account is @ArtsforSullivan.



Photo contributed by GAIT

GAIT Equine Assisted Services has begun a veterans fellowship program every Friday afternoon from 12 noon to 2 p.m. It offers a chance for veterans to connect with peers and horses.

GAIT launches veterans fellowship program

MILFORD, PA — GAIT Equine Assisted Services has begun a veterans fellowship program, made possible through the support of the Robert H. Spitz Fund of the Scranton Area Community Foundation. Every Friday afternoon from 12 noon to 2 p.m., veterans can connect with peers and horses. It's a free, non-clinical environment, where veterans can spend time grooming and walking GAIT's horses through wooded trails, "experiencing the healing power of nature and the transformative connection with these gentle animals," a spokesperson said. The program also includes horsemanship activities and concludes with a shared community meal—lunch is provided.

GAIT is located at 314 Foster Hill Rd.

For more information or to reserve your spot, email GAIT at info@gaittrc.org or call 570/409-1140.











IN MY HUMBLE OPINION

BY JONATHAN CHARLES FOX

‘The hurrier I go…’

“…the behinder I get.” That’s right—and until today, when I fact-checked it, I thought this was said by the White Rabbit in Lewis Carroll’s “Alice in Wonderland.” The rabbit ran round in a frenzy, checking his pocket watch before disappearing down a hole in the ground.*

I don’t own a pocket watch, but I’ve also been seen running around “in a frenzy” from time to time, muttering those very words to myself, all the while pretending that I’m talking to the dog. According to the almighty Google, the quote serves as a reminder that “rushing to get things done can lead to negative consequences such as: lower morale, attendance issues [hmm], turnover problems [hmmm] and issues with communication.” Uh huh.

The quote can also be interpreted as a nudge to “be mindful of time and what you do next to achieve your goals and deadlines.”

Honestly, I don’t think I need a nudge, per se, but what I do need is a working computer, and experienced a week-long hiccup in that department a week or three ago. I’ve lost track because I’ve been rushing, rushing, rushing in between trips to the computer doctor, but suffice it to say that the “hurrier” I go…

As a result, several events worthy of writing about have slipped away, and were it not for my endless pile of notes, written out with an old-fashioned pen and paper, I’d have nothing to refer to at all because, well—let’s just say, the “behinder” I got.

While still computer-free, I attended the Sullivan 180 Evening of Recognition a while back. It honored NYS Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther “for her years of support and friendship.” Also recognized were The Black Library and Tusten Social “for their innovative efforts to engage youth,” and I’m just now able to take a peek at some of the pics—because, well, you get it. As I recall, the evening was lovely and the honorees most deserving.

In the days that ensued I actually found myself at The Black Library (TBL). There co-founders Douglas Schindler and Michael Davis welcomed guests to the opening reception of the library’s third artists-in-residence exhibit, featuring the works of six Sullivan County artists, representing a variety of styles and disciplines. High school student Briel Cucuta combines the written word with her pieces and found that through the TBL residency she was able to “use the opportunity to challenge myself and try things I haven’t attempted before.” Pretty cool, too—IMHO.

Now that I’m looking at the hundreds of photos, I’m reminded that I stopped by the Sullivan County Historical Museum in Hurleyville, NY, to hear Shain Fishman and her sister Anna speak of their experience being raised as children of Holocaust survivors. A sobering subject to be sure, but one that should not be forgotten, which is the mission of Hope’s Compass. The organization is devoted to “supporting community education and civic engagement” spearheaded by “author/volunteer/educator/author and friend” Hope Blecher Croney.

Shain and Anna’s story was enlightening, disturbing, fascinating and important, and while some of you may have missed it, something tells me Hope will show up again, just when you least expect it.

Speaking of uncomfortable subjects, I finally gave in last Sunday and “walked the walk,” as it were, joining the county’s National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) executive director Lori Schneider and close to a hundred others who participated in the Out of the Darkness community walk. In association with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSM), it helps to raise much needed dollars and awareness. Check out www.Afsp.org/sullivanCounty to get involved. Sigh.

Meanwhile, I’m forging ahead, since there’s no “behinder” for me to get. Want more pics? Check ‘em out in our online photo gallery at www.riverreporter.com and at www.Facebook.com/theriverreporter. Have an event you’d like to promote? Make sure to let Roger and Co. know by alerting them at events@riverreporter.com.

**Wait, what...?: According to https://quoteinvestigator.com/2021/04/04/behinder/#google_vignette, Lewis Carroll never wrote that. Looks like that attribution is one of those viral internet boo-boos*



RR photos by Jonathan Charles Fox

Close to a hundred people participated in the Out of the Darkness community walk that, in association with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, helps to raise much needed dollars and awareness.



“I was able to use the opportunity to challenge myself and try things I haven’t attempted before.”—Briel Cucuta, on her artist-in-residence experience at The Black Library in Monticello, NY.



I stopped by the Sullivan County Historical Museum in Hurleyville, NY, to hear Shain Fishman and her sister Anna speak of their experience being raised as children of Holocaust survivors.



NYS Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther, left, with Sullivan 180’s Kathy Davidoff, Denise Frangipane and Jean Gallagher at the Evening of Appreciation, held at Bethel Woods last month. I’m a little “behinder.”

Where & When

Thursday, October 17

Art Walk @ GHP
HONESDALE, PA — The Greater Honesdale Partnership Art Walk, 4-5:30pm, Main St. Register visithonesdalepa.com/events.

Big Eddy Film Festival @ DVAA
NARROWSBURG, NY — The Delaware Valley Arts Alliance 13th annual Big Eddy Film Festival, Oct. 17-20, 210 Bridge St, bigeddyfilmfest.com.

Blood Drive @ Monticello FH
MONTICELLO, NY — Red Cross blood drive, 1-6pm at Monticello Firehouse, 23 Richardson Ave. Schedule online at www.redcrossblood.org or call 800/733-2767.

John Conway @ LML
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Livingston Manor Library, John Conway, "Ghost Stories from Sullivan County History," 5:30pm, 92 Main St. Register, livingstonmanorlibrary.org.

Mental Health Support Group @ Lakeville
LAKEVILLE, PA — National Alliance on Mental Illness mental health support group, 7-9pm, 10 Daniels Rd. Register info@naminepa.org.

Public Health & Wellness Event @ CVAC
LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY— The Cochecton Volunteer Ambulance Corps Community Public Health & Wellness Event, 6-7pm at 70 Cty. Rte. 116. cvachealth70@gmail.com.

Sage Sessions @ DVAA
NARROWSBURG, NY — Tusten Social & Growing Old Together Sage Sessions, 1:30-3:30pm, 37 Main St. Ages 60+ www.tustensocial.org.

Twist & Shout @ HPAC
HURLEYVILLE, NY — Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Twist & Shout for kids 6 & under, 6pm, 219 Main St. Register ci.ovationtix.com/34881/production/1211362.

Upper Delaware River Rendezvous @ FUDR
CALLICOON, NY — Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Upper Delaware River Rendezvous conference, 9:30am-2:30pm, 356 Villa Roma Rd. $25. Register fudr.org.

Vet 2 Vet Support Group @ ATI
MONTICELLO, NY — Action Toward Independence Vet 2 Vet support group, 309 Broadway. atitoday.org.

Walnut Mtn. House Display @ LPL
LIBERTY, NY — Liberty Public Library Walnut Mountain House display, with a guided history hike 4pm, Oct. 20, 189 North Main St. Register Lisa 845/693-4181.

Friday, October 18

Black Bear Film Festival @ Milford
MILFORD, PA — The Black Bear Film Festival 25th anniversary, Oct. 18-20, 114 East Catherine St. Schedule & tickets, blackbearfilm.com.

Full Moon Hike @ Lacawac Sanctuary
LAKE ARIEL, PA — Lacawac Sanctuary Field Station & Environmental Education Center, un-haunting full moon hike, 6:30pm, 192 Sanctuary Rd. Register lacawac.org.

Life Skills Group @ ATI
MONTICELLO, NY — Action Toward Independence Life Skills group, 5-6pm, 309 East Broadway, for age 13-31. info@atitoday.org.

Opening Reception @ WCAA
HAWLEY, PA — Wayne County Arts Alliance, art exhibit "Two Views," featuring works of Thomas Colbert & Burton Bulles, 11am-4pm, 959 Main St. waynecountyartsalliance.org.

'Rocky Horror Picture Show' @ FB Playhouse
FORESTBURGH, NY — The Forestburgh Playhouse "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," 6pm dinner & 8pm show, Fri. & Sat. through Oct. 26, 39 Forestburgh Rd. fbplayhouse.org.

Spooky Movie Festival @ The Cooperage
HONESDALE, PA — The Cooperage Project Canal Town 8th annual Spooky Movie Festival, 7:30pm, doors 6pm, 1030 Main St. canaltown552.com/spookyfest.

Teen Art Lounge @ The Cooperage
HONESDALE, PA — The Cooperage Project Teen art lounge, 4-6pm, for grades 6-12. Stoneworks Youth Center, 1030 Main St. thecooperageproject.org.

Saturday, October 19

4-H Racing & Beyond @ CCE
JEFFERSONVILLE, NY — Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan 4-H Racing & Beyond, 10am-2pm, Stone Wall Farms, 136 Callicoon Center Rd. Register sullivancce.org/events. Register bjm292@cornell.edu, 845/292-6180 Ext. 109.

Alive Again @ HPAC
HURLEYVILLE, NY — Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Alive Again, for veterans & families, 9:30am, 219 Main St. hpacny.org.

Color Fun walk/Run @ Honesdale HS
HONESDALE, PA — Honesdale High School Class of 2027 annual color fun walk/run, 9:30am, Honesdale track complex, honesdalepac.com.

Daniels Farmhouse Tour @ WCHS
HAWLEY, PA — The Wayne County Historical Society Daniels Farmhouse guided tour, 2pm, waynehistorypa.com.



Dinner Dance @ JFD
JEFFERSONVILLE, NY — Jeffersonville Fire Dept. Roast Beef sit-down dinner & dance, 4pm-midnight, live music by The Other Band. johnwenk@hotmail.com.

Fall Community Luncheon @ CSC
COLD SPRING, PA — Cold Spring Chapel Community Kitchen Fall community luncheon, 11:30am, Upper Woods Rd. & Great Bend Turnpike. 570/253-4033.

Fall Foliage Hike @ Lacawac Sanctuary
LAKE ARIEL, PA — Lacawac Sanctuary Field Station & Environmental Education Center fall foliage hike, 10am, 192 Sanctuary Rd. Register lacawac.org.

Flora, Fungi & Foraging Walk @ Outside Institute
CALLICOON, NY — The Outside Institute, Flora, Fungi & Foraging Walk, 10am, destination emailed to participants, theoutsideinstitute.org.

Fly Tyers Series @ CFFCM
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Fly tyers series with Jim Conrey & Greg Quaglio, 11-3pm, Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum, 1031 Old Rte. 17. Register, cffcm.com.

Free Paper Shredding @ Dingmans Ferry
DINGMANS FERRY, PA — State Rep. Tarah Probst free paper-shredding event for individuals, 9am-noon, 116 Wilson Hill Rd, 570/420-2850.

Halloween Bash @ The Cooperage
HONESDALE, PA — WCAA & The Cooperage Project Halloween Bash, 7-11pm, 1030 Main St. 570/253-2020.

Halloween Frightfest @ TYC
NARROWSBURG, NY — The Tusten Youth Commission Halloween Frightfest, 4-9pm, 6615 NY-97. facebook.com/TustenYouth.

Haunted House @ Fort Delaware
NARROWSBURG, NY — The Tusten Youth Commission & Delaware Company Haunted House, 6615 NY-97. Contact fortdelaware@thedelawarecompany.org.

Historic Preservation Awards @ WCHS
HONESDALE, PA — Wayne County Historical Society historic preservation awards 2-3pm, D&H Canal Park at Lock 31, 178 Texas Palmyra Hwy. wchspa@gmail.com.

Induction Ceremony & Dinner @ CFFCM
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, 1-3pm, 1031 Rte. 17. $75/person, register cffcm.com.

Penny Social @ L.H. Presbyterian
LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — Lake Huntington Presbyterian Church penny social. Doors 11:30am, Cty. Rte 116.

Pumpkin Party @ Lackawaxen
LACKAWAXEN, PA — Lackawaxen Township annual pumpkin party, 11am-2pm, Veteran's Memorial Park, 109 Scenic Dr. vendors, growinglackawaxen@gmail.com.

Rock the Vote @ Parksville
PARKSVILLE, NY — Sullivan County Diversity & Youth Committee Sullivan Rock the Vote, noon-6pm, 862 Parksville Rd. diversityandyouth@gmail.com.

The Great Give Back @ WSPL
NARROWSBURG, NY — Western Sullivan Public Library Great Give Back clothing drive, collection through Nov. 2, distribution Nov. 4-Nov. 23, all branches. WSPL.childrens@gmail.com.

The Rhythm Section @ Arts Nest
LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — Delaware Valley Opera's Arts Nest, The Rhythm Section, 7-9pm, 6692 St. Rte. 52. myrivertickets.com.

'Tusten Cemeteries' @ WSPL-TC
NARROWSBURG, NY — The Tusten Historical Society "Tusten Cemeteries: Who's Buried There?" 11am, 198 Bridge St. wsplprograms@rcls.org.

WWSG @ Damascus Community Center
DAMASCUS, PA — The Woodland Weavers & Spinners Guild meeting, 9am, 60 Conklin Hill Rd. 845/866-4354.

Sunday, October 20

Create A Walking Stick @ PEEC
DINGMANS FERRY, PA — Pocono Environmental Education Center Create Your Own Walking Stick, noon-3pm, 538 Emery Rd. Register, 570/828-2319.

Designer Bag Bingo @ SCCoC
ROSCOE, NY — Sullivan Co. Chamber of Commerce Designer Bag Bingo Fundraiser, 100 Fairway View Dr. noon-5pm. Register business.catskills.com.

Guitar Workshop @ Hawley Hub
HAWLEY, PA — The Wayne County Community Foundation guitar workshop session 2, 2:30pm, Sundays through Oct. 27, Hawley Hub, 318 Main Ave. Jason Merrill 570/862-2453.

JourneyDance™ @ Chi Hive
NARROWSBURG, NY — The Chi Hive presents JourneyDance™ with Danielle, 3-4pm, 22 Main St. thechihive.com.

'Planet Earth' @ Grey Towers
MILFORD, PA — Grey Towers National Historic Site, "Planet Earth," 2pm, 151 Grey Towers Dr. RSVP greytowers.org.

Trail Run @ Lacawac Sanctuary
LAKE ARIEL, PA — Lacawac Sanctuary 10th annual 8K lake to lake trail run & 5K woods walk, 9am, Register runsignup.com/lacawac.

'The Lorax' @ Grey Towers
MILFORD, PA — Grey Towers National Historic Site, "The Lorax," 11am, 151 Grey Towers Dr. RSVP greytowers.org.

Monday, October 21

Tai Chi for Arthritis @ CCE
LIBERTY, NY — Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan presents Tai Chi for Arthritis Mon & Thurs, 1-2pm through Dec. 12. 64 Ferndale-Loomis Rd. Register: tinyurl.com/3s4uhzc9.

Tuesday, October 22

Author Talk @ EBCPL
ONLINE— Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library Virtual Author Talk with Lori Gottlieb, "Maybe You Should Talk to Someone," 2pm on Zoom. Register, libraryc.org/ebcpl.

Blood Drive @ Paupack UM Church
PAUPACK, PA — Red Cross blood drive, 1:30-6pm, 579 Rte. 507. Schedule redcrossblood.org, or 800/733-2767.

Family Support Group @ NAMI-NY
ONLINE/MONTICELLO, NY — Sharing & Caring Family support group, 6:30-8pm, 20 Crystal St. namisullivan.org.

Wednesday, October 23

Blood Drive @ Eldred High School
ELDRED, NY — Red Cross blood drive, 2:15-6:15pm, 600 Rte. 55. Schedule redcrossblood.org or 800/733-2767.

Business Smarts Toolkit @ WPWA
HONESDALE, PA — The Wayne Pike Workforce Alliance Pt.2, Becoming credit ready, 12:30-1:30pm, 646 Park St. sonia.smith@sba.gov.

Line Dancing Classes @ DYC
CALLICOON, NY — The Delaware Youth Center Line Dancing classes with April Schmidt, 6-8pm, 8 Creamery Rd. $10-$15/class. 845/887-5155.

Medicare @ WCPL
HONESDALE, PA — Wayne County Public Library Medicare, 4:30-5:30pm, 1406 Main St. Register 570/253-1220.

Science on Tap @ Here & Now
HONESDALE, PA — Pike County Conservation District Science on Tap: Household Solar, 6pm, 645 Main St. 570/226-8220.

Senior Luncheon @ Grace Episcopal Church
HONESDALE, PA —The Cooperage Project Senior Gathering & Luncheon, 11am-1pm, 827 Church St. Ages 60+, reservations 570/253-2020.

Thursday, October 24

Afterschool Art @ CAS
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Catskill Art Space afterschool art, 3:30-4:30pm, 48 Main St. Register info@catskillartspace.org.

Bat Walk @ DHC
BEACH LAKE, PA — Delaware Highlands Conservancy bat walk, 4:30pm. Free, but register. delawarehighlands.org.

Fall Garden Cleanup @ CCE
LIBERTY, NY — Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan fall garden cleanup & planting, 5-6pm, 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road. Register sullivancce.org/events.

Jewelry Making @ PJFL
PORT JERVIS, NY — Port Jervis Free Library Halloween jewelry making for adults, 6:30pm, 138 Pike St. Register portjervislibrary.org.

Journaling @ PJFL
PORT JERVIS, NY — Port Jervis Free Library journaling & planner workshop, 6:30pm, 138 Pike St. portjervislibrary.org.

Sage Singers @ DVAA
NARROWSBURG, NY — Tusten Social & Growing Old Together Sage Sessions, 3-5pm, 37 Main St. Ages 60+ tustensocial.org.

Strengthening Families @ CCE
LIBERTY, NY — Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County, strengthening families series, 5-7pm, register mc2224@cornell.edu or 845/292-6180, ext. 104, 136.

'The Power Plays' @ Tusten Theatre
NARROWSBURG, NY — Act Underground Theatre Company two one-act Power Plays, Oct. 24 & 25, 8pm, Oct. 26, 2pm, Krause Hall 37 Main St. myrivertickets.com.

Friday, October 25

Halloween Party @ PASS
MILFORD, PA — Pike Autism Support Services Halloween party, 5-9m, 415 4th St. facebook.com/PIKEAUTISM.

HO&WL Hike @ Sullivan O&W Trail
WURTSBORO, NY — The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail HO&WL guided walk, 5:30pm, 1132 South Rd., facebook.com/sullivanoandw.

Jail Tales @ WCHS
HONESDALE, PA — Wayne County Historical Society's Jail Tales, a chilling haunted tour, 5:30-9pm at 10th & Court Sts. $15/person, visithonesdalepa.com.

Ribbon Cutting @ Wurtsboro
WURTSBORO, NY — Wurtsboro Board of Trade Ribbon-cutting for new playground, Veteran's Park, Sullivan & 3rd St. wurtsboro.org.

Retro Cinema @ Tusten Theatre
NARROWSBURG, NY — The DVAA & Bar Veloce "Bride of Frankenstein," 7-9pm, 210 Bridge St. $15/person, delawarevalleyartsalliance.org.

Smoky Joe Woods @ PCHS
MILFORD, PA — Pike County Historical Society Smoky Joe Wood's birthday bash, 6-8pm, 608 Broad St. milfordpa.us.

Storytelling Dinner @ Settlers
HAWLEY, PA — The Settlers Inn storytelling dinner, Fri.-Sat. 6-10pm, 4 Main Ave. $89/person. desk@thesettlersinn.com, 570/226-2993.

'The Decrepit Ghouls' Variety Show @ PAC
PARKSVILLE, NY —Parksville Arts Center "The Decrepit Ghouls: Revenge of Zoltan," Fri. & Sat. 7pm, Sun. 4pm, 862 Parksville Rd. parksvilleartscenter.com.

Saturday, October 26

One-year Anniversary @ The Cooperage
HONESDALE, PA — The Cooperage Project 1-yr Anniversary Stoneworks Youth Center, 2-4pm, 1030 Main St. 570/253-2020.

Blood Drive @ Hankins FD
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Red Cross blood drive, 9am-2pm, 20 Newman Rd. Schedule redcrossblood.org or 800/733-2767.

Contra Dance @ The Cooperage
HONESDALE, PA — The Cooperage Project Contra Dance, 7:30-10pm, 1030 Main St. $10/person, free/kids under 15. thecooperageproject.org.

Craft Fair @ Liberty Elks Lodge
LIBERTY, NY — Liberty Elks Lodge #1545 bake sale & craft fair, 10am-3pm, 21 John St. facebook.com/libertyelks1545.

'Danse Macabre' @ NACL
HIGHLAND LAKE, NY — North American Cultural Laboratory, "Danse Macabre," 7:30pm, 110 Highland Lake Rd. nacl.org.

Dreamers Market @ Barryville
BARRYVILLE, NY — The Hamlet Dream Dreamers market, 10am-4pm, 3364 St. Rte. 97, Thehamletdream@gmail.com.

Poe Reading @ Milford
MILFORD, PA — Grey Towers afternoon with Edgar Allen Poe, dramatic reading by the American Readers Theatre, 1pm, 3pm, & 5pm. greytowers.org/events.

Ghost Tours @ Honesdale
HONESDALE, PA — Downtown Honesdale Ghost Tours, Sat. & Sun. 6-9pm, meet at Wayne County library. $20/age 13+, $15/age 4-12. 570/253-5492, visithonesdalepa.com.

Girl Scout Badge Festival @ PEEC
DINGMANS FERRY — Pocono Environmental Education Center GSA Badge Festival, 9:30am-4pm, 538 Emery Rd. 570/828-2319.

Geowoodstock XXI @ PCPL-D
MILFORD, PA — The Milford branch of the Pike County Public Library Geowoodstock XXI, 12:30-2pm, 119 E. Harford St. pikecountypubliclibrary.com.

Halloween Dance @ HPAC
HURLEYVILLE, NY — Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Halloween dance & costume contest 8pm-midnight, 219 Main St. hpacny.org.

Halloweenfest @ Wurtsboro
WURTSBORO, NY — Wurtsboro Board of Trade Halloween fest, noon-2:30pm, Veteran's Park, Sullivan & 3rd St. wurtsboro.org.

Halloween & Harvest Fest @ Barryville
BARRYVILLE, NY — Halloween & Harvest Fest, 10am-1pm 34,05 St. Rte. 97. barryvillefarmersmarket.org.

Halloween Parade @ DYC
CALLICOON, NY — The Delaware Youth Center presents a Halloween parade & party, 1pm, lineup 12:45pm, Callicoon Caffe, Audley Dorrer Drive. www.delawareyouthcenter.org.

Halloween Parade @ Liberty
LIBERTY, NY — Liberty Halloween Spooky Parade starts at noon, line-up 11am, Elks Lodge. To participate: 845/292-7690.

Halloween Parade @ Port Jervis
PORT JERVIS, NY — The Port Jervis NY Tourism Board 76th annual Halloween parade, 3pm, City Hall to Farnum House. portjervisny.gov.

Halloween Party @ CVFD27
LACKAWAXEN, PA — The Central Volunteer Fire Department Halloween party & First Responder chili cook-off, 5:30pm, 574 Westcolang Rd. facebook.com/CVFD27.

Halloween Pooch Parade @ PCHS
MILFORD, PA — Pike County Historical Society annual Halloween pooch parade, 11:30am, 608 Broad St. milfordpa.us.

Halloween Swing @ LPL
LIBERTY, NY — Liberty Public Library Halloween Swing, 1-2pm, 189 North Main St. libertypubliclibrary.org.

Halloween Tribute Show @ Catskill Brewery
LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Catskill Brewery Halloween tribute show with live music by Love Vigilantes, 672 Old Rte. 17. info@catskillbrewery.com.

Kids Make Sixes @ DVAA
NARROWSBURG, NY — Delaware Valley Arts Alliance Kids Make Sixes, 10am-noon, Oct. 12 & 26, 37 Main St. delawarevalleyartsalliance.org.

Oktoberfest @ Holiday Mountain
MONTICELLO, NY — Holiday Mountain Oktoberfest, 99 Holiday Mountain Rd. skiholidaymtn.com.

Pet Pawrade @ Honesdale
HONESDALE, PA — Honesdale Rotary Halloween Pet Pawrade, 11:30am, Central Park, 10th & Church Sts. facebook.com/honesdaleparotary.

Repair Café @ Narrowsburg
NARROWSBURG, NY — Repair Café, 10am-1pm, Town Hall, 210 Bridge St. Free repair of items. repaircafetusten@gmail.com.

¬ Page 37

Service Directory

CALL TO ADVERTISE: 845-252-7414 | DEADLINE: THURSDAYS, 2:00 P.M.

Architect

BUCK MOORHEAD, ARCHITECT
Creative, High-Performance Building Design
Certified Passive House Consultant
Callicoon, NY **(212) 343 2735**
buck@buckmoorheadarchitect.com

Arts

DELAWARE VALLEY ARTS ALLIANCE
37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY
845-252-7576
delawarevalleyartsalliance.org

Auto Body

B&R COLLISION CORP.
Complete Collision Specialists
512 Church Street, Hawley, PA 18428
570-226-3291

Blacktopping

COOPER PAVING
Driveway stone delivered, leveled and compacted
Blacktop, seal coating,
light excavation and drain work
845-361-1028

TOWN & COUNTRY PAVING & SEALCOATING
Driveway stone, Blacktop, sealcoating,
all types of drainage work
845-609-7139

Books and Collectibles

HAND PICKED BOOKS
Rare, first edition, hard to find,
many categories from Arts to Zoology.
Original art, prints, ephemera,
antiques, coin and stamps, VHS & DVD's
Open Saturdays & Sundays 9am-4pm
Or by appointment weekdays
1539 Milanville Road • Milanville, PA 18443
908-347-3915

Brush Hogging

BRUSH HOGGING
TREE & WOOD REMOVAL
AGED COW MANURE
Insured
570-729-7638
Leave a Message

Car Shopper

SKIP THE LOT,
expert car search delivered to your door.
Monthly lease specials, most brands, work trucks too.
dougsellsjeeps.com
888-646-3816

Chimney Service

SPRING HILL CHIMNEY SERVICE
Look Up At Your Chimney!!!
Call us for all your chimney needs!
Cleaning, Repair, FREE ESTIMATE
Serving Sullivan County
1-800-943-1515
www.springhillchimneyservice.com

Contractor

PIONEER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC
Site Work, Ponds, Utilities, Paving
3298 Lake Ariel Highway
Honesdale PA 18431
570-647-0050
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS
Blower door testing for energy efficiency
Windturbine and solar assessment
Renewable energy/greenbuilding design consulting.
845-701-9126

Electrical

AMERICAN ELECTRIC, LLC
Licensed Electrical Contractor
Sull. Co. License #273 • Orange Co. License #174
Wayne Co. Builder's Assoc #PA031768
NJ State License #12380
Residential • Commercial • Industrial
Authorized Generac Generator Dealer
We Service All Makes of Generators
www.AmericanElectricOnline.com
845-932-8111 or 845-583-1015
PA: 570-251-9990

Electrical

ATOMS ELECTRIC
SERVICE/UPGRADES
Complete Electrical Service • Licensed & Insured
Servicing both Sullivan Co. NY & Wayne Co. PA
570-709-5825

NARROWSBURG ELECTRIC
Serving Sullivan County • Over 30 Years experience
All forms of Electric work • Licensed and Insured
Richard and Justin Maloney
845-252-6640

Generators

AMERICAN ELECTRIC, LLC
Licensed Electrical Contractors
Sales • Service • Installation
GENERAC Certified Technicians • Financing Available
All Makes and Models of Generators
NY 845-932-8111 • PA 570-251-9990
Visit us on the web @ AmericanElectricOnline.com

BUSELLI SOLUTIONS
Generac Automatic Standby Home Generators
Certified Generac Technicians
Licensed Electrical Contractor • Financing - Insured - Service
www.busellisolutions.com
570-729-7791

Gutters

BOB'S SEAMLESS GUTTERS
5" Residential, 6" & 7" Commercial
Leaf Guard also Available
36 Colors Available
845-557-8967 • 845-796-6382
bobsseamlessgutters@hotmail.com

Handyman

LESTER HANDYMAN
On Time, on Budget
845-456-0147
Info@handymanlester.com

Heating

BILL'S HEATING & A/C
QUALITY SERVICE. FREE ESTIMATES
SPECIALIZING IN: NEW CONSTRUCTION
Retrofitting • Replacements • Custom Duct Work
Central Ac Systems • Hot Air Furnaces • Humidifiers
Hot Water Boilers • Central Air Cleaners • Hydro Air Systems
914-774-4909 Billshvac1@gmail.com

Landscaping

BRADY STONE & LANDSCAPING LLC
All phases of landscaping
Specializing in stone walls, walkways, patios,
veneer & cultured stone • www.bradystonelandscaping.com
570-729-8395

CREATIVE EARTH LANDSCAPING
Certified Patio, Walkway, Wall Installation,
Stone Work, Tree Removal, Excavating
Gravel Driveway Repair and Installation
845-468-0130
www.CreativeEarthLandscape.com
www.facebook.com/CreativeEarthLandscaping

Ministerial Services

CEREMONIES AND RITUALS
Weddings, funerals, memorials, child dedications,
house blessings. Rev. Laurie Stuart,
845/701-9127, laurie.stuart@gmail.com
Free 1/2 hour consultation.

Oil & Propane

COCHECTON OIL & PROPANE
Family Owned & Operated since 1959
Fuel Oil, Propane, Kerosene, On & Off Road Diesel
845-932-8483 Cochectonoil@yahoo.com
HEAP ACCEPTED CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Outdoor Power Equipment

JOHN H ESCHENBERG INC.
Sales, Parts & Service
Stihl, Husqvarna, Bad Boy, Red Max, Simplicity
Ferris, BobCat, Ariens, DR, MightyMac
Warranty ONLY what we sell !
3965 St Rt. 17B Callicoon, NY 12723
www.johneschenberg.com **845-887-5350**
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5 Sat: 8-1

OSBORNE'S LAWN & GARDEN
Ferris, American Landmaster, Toro, Shindaiwa, Country
Clipper, Kohler Standby Generators.
660 West Park St, Honesdale PA 18431
570-253-6430
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat 8am-noon

Painting

JOHN ANTHONY THE PAINTER
Interior & Exterior
paint & stain, power washing,
log & wood siding restoration
FREE Estimate
845-596-4704
leave message

Photography Service

CHARLIE HOFFMAN PHOTOGRAPHY
Real Estate * Drone * Portrait * Pets
Photo Restoration * Insurance Claims
FAA Certified Pilot * Insured
845.807.7796
www.charliehoffmanphoto.com

Propane

MODERN GAS SALES
Serving Sullivan & Delaware Counties
For all your propane needs
570-352-3400

Refuse & Recyclable Pick Up

JEFF SANITATION
Roll Off Containers
10,15,20,and 30 yard
Dumpsters Available
Po Box 387 • Jeffersonville NY
845-482-9826

Retail

RECYCLE YOUR GEAR
recycle. reuse. repurpose
Shop and Save or become a vendor today!
WANTED: ARTISTS & ARTISANS
WHO CREATE WITH RECYCLED GOODS.
WWW.RECYCLEYOURGEAR.COM
recycleyourgear21@gmail.com

Roofing

STRAIT LINE ROOFING, LLC
Your Local Roofing Expert
30+ years in business
Voted BEST ROOFER 2009-2023
Owens Corning Preferred Contractor, A+ BBB Rating
Licensed and Fully Insured
845-583-0247
www.straitlineroofing.com

ROOFING, SIDING & GUTTERS
Licensed & Insured
CASSAS BROS.
845-492-9549
Visit us at: cassasbros.com

Rubbish Removal

SV PROJECT MANAGEMENT
CLEAN OUTS, DELIVERY
SERVICE & SALVAGE
Attic, Basement, Garage, Home, Apt, Commercial
Dump Runs, Debris Removal, Demolition • Lawn Care Service
Short Stay B & B Weekly Garbage Pickup Removal Service
646-941-0925

Sand & Gravel

Stone • Topsoil • D.O.T. Sand • Modified
Mason & Screened Sand • Red Shale
VALLEY SAND & GRAVEL
Rt. 652, Honesdale, PA • 570-251-9818

Scrap, Recycling, Towing

HENDRICKSON SCRAP METAL & TOWING
Top dollar cash for all scrap!
dumpster/container service
24/hr towing
845-866-5359

Security Systems

NINJA SECURITY SYSTEMS
Let us put a Ninja in Your home or business
Whole Home Protection • Fire and Burglar Protection
Audio & Video • Water Detection • Surveillance Systems
Temperature Detection • Central Station Monitoring
Peter DeAngelis
211 County Route 25 Narrowsburg NY 12764
845-423-2417
peterd@ninjasecuritysystems.com
Licensed & Fully Insured

Self Storage

ARAHOVA STORAGE, LLC
9 Barracuda Blvd.
Honesdale, Pa. 18431
917-748-5872

RILEYVILLE MINI STORAGE
Your lock - your key - low monthly rates,
various sizes to suit your needs.
67 Cochecton Tnpk, Honesdale, PA • RileyvilleMiniStorage.com
570-224-6284

Septic Service

ESSELMAN SEWER & DRAIN SERVICE
Septic tank pumping, jetting of lines,
video inspections, Restore, Replace
and install septic tanks & drain fields
24/7 service with no after hour or weekend fee
845-798-5959 or septicgopro.com

KOBERLEIN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
KOBERLEIN SEPTIC CLEANING
Septic Pumping, Jetting, Line Cleaning
Video Inspection, Drainfield Restoration & More
24/7 Service • Koberlein.com
845-292-1494 • 570-729-7645

ROTO-ROOTER PLUMBERS
ROTO ROOTER Septic Tank Pumping, Underground Pipe Video Inspections, Drainfield Restoraton Service, Septic System Inspections, All Types of Plumbing, Repairs, 24-Hour Service. Voted Best Septic Service 6 wonderful years in a row!
845-252-6672 • 570-729-7936

SULLIVAN COUNTY SEPTIC SERVICE
"The Drain Surgeon"
Pumping - Drain Cleaning - Excavation
Portable Restroom Rentals • High Pressure Jetting
Bloom Family • **845-583-4064**

Sewing Services

BUSY BEE SEWING SPECIALIST
Elin Agustsson
Elin.Agustsson@gmail.com
617-230-6994

Sign Shop

GALLOPING HORSE GRAPHICS, INC.
Custom Signs & Banners of all shapes & sizes,
Vehicle Lettering, Magnets, Plaques
Memorial Stone Engraving, incl. Headstones,
Pavers and Bluestone Benches, etc.
Free quotes - and help with graphics and logo design!
951 Cadosia Rd, Hancock NY 13783
GallopingHorseGraphics.com
John Farnsworth • 917.538.9754
Gallopinghorsegraphics@gmail.com

Solar Energy

BUSELLI SOLUTIONS
Solar Electric Power, Solar Thermal
Hot Water & Heat. Install & Service
570-729-7791

Stone

JEN RUTLEDGE MATERIALS
Driveway Mix, 2-A, AASHTO #57's, AASHTO #1 and #3
Manufactured Sand, Anti-skid and Rip-rap
2434 Hancock Highway, Equinunk, PA 18417
(570) 224-4720

Sustainable Building

NATURAL BUILDING MATERIALS CONSULTING.
Net zero energy buildings
plus net zero carbon emissions,
Carbon Drawdown Now, one building at a time.
Stephen Stuart **845-701-9126**

Tree Service

DER OSKAR TREE SERVICE.COM
Full Service Tree Care • Tree Removal & Pruning
845-557-8051 Licensed NY/PA
deroskartreeservice@gmail.com
In business since 1993 • Fully Insured

JACOBI TREE SERVICE, INC
From large trees to ornamental. Rope climbing & pruning.
Cable installation, Fruit tree pruning. Specializing in creating views. Knowledgeable, conscientious.
Jobs include cleanup and chipping.
jJacobitreeservice@gmail.com. **845-423-3443**

J & M TREE CARE
ISA Certified Arborist
Jason@jmtreecare.com • www.facebook.com/jmtreecare
pruning, removal, lighting protection, preventative care,
cabling & bracing, stump grinding
845-554-6765

Truck Parts & More

Truck Parts, Repair & Equipment, Heavy-duty Towing,
Road Service, Snow Removal Equipment
RTS TRUCK CENTER, INC
570-729-7636

Well Drilling/Pumps

FRANK SMITH & SONS
Established Since 1961
Well Drilling Pumps & Water Systems
Service & Repair
130 Matt Smith Rd • Cochecton, NY 12726
845-252-6642
SERVING THE TRI-STATE AREA
FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED

Well Drilling

PETER A. KESTLER WELL DRILLING
Licensed driller serving NY, NJ and PA
Since 1967 • "Water when you want it!"
Shohola, PA • 570-559-7596

Yard Sale

THE YARD SALE STORE
NOW OPEN WEEKENDS!
Located on Main Street Narrowsburg, under the overpass, opposite the River Reporter. ALL BOOKS $1 First Editions, Art, Cookbooks, Craft, History, Fiction AUDIO BOOKS, DVD MOVIES, GAMES,POTTERY, GOWNS, STERLING SILVER JEWELRY and THE KITCHEN SINK is really there also. "Where Great Things Go To Die" Why Buy New? Recycling at it's Best. GIVE YOURSELF A SECOND HAND! THEYARDSALESTORE@AOL.COM

ADVERTISE IN THE SERVICE DIRECTORY
$215 per year for 4 lines. *(Additional lines are $50 each.)*
Call 845/252-7414 today!

Classifieds

CALL TO ADVERTISE: 845-252-7414, OR EMAIL SALES@RIVERREPORTER.COM | DEADLINE: FRIDAYS, 12:00 P.M.
FOR A LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT VISIT QUICKADCREATOR.COM | DEADLINE: THURSDAYS, 3:00 P.M.

Publisher's Employment Notice – All employment advertised in this newspaper is subject to Section 296 of the Human Rights Law which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, age, or arrest conviction record, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, U.S. Code, Chap. 630, excludes the Federal Gov't. for the age discrimination provisions. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for employment which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that employment offerings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Attorney

DIVORCE $389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

Attorney

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-888-454-4717. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider

Auto Donations

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-888-251-3135.

Health

WE HAVE THE HELP YOU NEED!!! HHA's, LPN's, Nurse's Aides, Childcare, Housekeeping, Day Workers. No Fee To Employers. Serving The Community Over 20Yrs. Evon's Svces: 516-505-5510

Health

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only $99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-855-399-2582

Health

FreedomCare. Let your loved ones care for you and get paid! Paid by Medicaid. Choose family or friends as your paid caregiver. Check your eligibility today! Call FreedomCare now! 1-855-385-7556

Health

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-399-2719

Health

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-819-7060

Home Improvement

Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgramFunding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

Home Improvement

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-855-399-2076

Miscellaneous

When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® animal healthcare for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com)

Miscellaneous

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just $25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

Real Estate

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

Services

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682

Services

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-866-448-8311 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

Services

SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277

TV Internet Phone

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

TV Internet Phone

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-855-399-2803

TV Internet Phone

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package $84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918







Leave Opening
Liberty Central School

Special Ed. Teacher
Leave Replacement

NYS Certification Required
Please apply online by **Nov 11th**
at libertyk12.tedk12.com/hire **EOE**

Leave Replacement
Sullivan West Central School

Secretary/Typist

Leave Replacement: Nov. - Jun. 2025
Salary: $36,000 - $40,828
Please forward resume & Sullivan West's application
(located at swcsd.org) by **Oct 21st**
to sullivanwest-recruitment@scboces.org
Attn: Secretary/Typist Search **EOE**

DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!

- Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket
- This is real dental insurance – NOT just a discount plan
- You can get coverage before your next checkup

Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.

FREE Information Kit

1-855-225-1434
Visit us online at
www.dental50plus.com/nypress

Product not available in all states. Acceptance is guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY: call 1-800-969-4781 for a similar offer. In WV: To find a provider in the network visit us at https://www.physiciansmutual.com/web/dental/find-dentist. For complete details about this solicitation of insurance, please contact us. Certificate C2504; Insurance Policy P150. Certificate C254 (ID: C2540, PA: C2541PA); Insurance Policy P154 (GA: P154GA, NY: P154NY, OK: P154OK, TN: P154TN)
6129-0524

Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES



For a FREE brochure call:
1-800-404-9776



District Openings
Liberty Central School

TESOL Teacher
Special Ed. Teacher
(Elem & HS)

NYS Certification Required
Please apply online by **Dec 6th**
at libertyk12.tedk12.com/hire **EOE**

Immediate Openings
Liberty Central School

Substitute Teachers

NYS Certification preferred, but not required

Please apply online by **Nov 10th**
at libertyk12.tedk12.com/hire **EOE**







BUYING COMIC BOOK COLLECTIONS!
TOP PRICES PAID!

Honest and Reliable, 30+ years experience. Local Collector/Seller
Putnam/Westchester/Orange/Dutchess and more
Call or text: 917-699-2496 - email: smileLP@aol.com
Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Tax Foreclosed Real Estate
LIVE AUCTION

Warren County • 20+ Properties Available
Saturday, October 19, 2024
Registration: 8AM • **Auction Start:** 10AM
Location: Warren County Courthouse
1340 State Route 9, Lake George, NY 12845
For terms, conditions, and sale info visit
www.WarrenCoAuction.com
800-536-1401, Ext. 111
AUCTIONS INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL AUCTIONEERS
"Selling Surplus Assets 7 Days a Week Online"

Real Estate

**CALL TO ADVERTISE: 845-252-7414,
OR EMAIL SALES@RIVERREPORTER.COM
DEADLINE: FRIDAYS, 12:00 P.M.**

EAGLE VALLEY REALTY

6569 State Route 97 • Narrowsburg, NY 12764 • 845-252-3085
Serving the Upper Delaware River Valley
Licensed NY & PA, Realtor-MLS



Beautiful 1900's Victorian Home! Let The Wrap Porch & Double Front Doors Welcome You Into This 3 Story Home W/ A Foyer, High Ceilings, Living Room, Pocket Doors, Library, Formal DR, Kitchen W/ Island, Half Bath, & Sunroom. A Charming Staircase Leads To The 2nd Flr That Hosts A Primary Ensuite, 3 Bedrooms, A Den/Office & Full Bath. Wonderful Original Details, Wood Floors & Beautiful Woodwork. The 3rd Floor Has 6 Additional Rooms That Are Awaiting Your Renovation. Plus, An Attic, 1 Car Garage & A Generac Generator. Asking $569,000 MLS# 6316396

For more country properties visit us on the web!
www.eaglevalleyrealty.com • eaglevalleyrealty@gmail.com

LISTINGS NEEDED, BUYERS WAITING



PRICES ARE UP - CASH FOR SCRAP

Copper, Brass, Aluminum, Steel, Appliances, Batteries, Cars, Machines, Trucks! Most anything metal!!

Clean Copper $2.00-$3.00/lb.
Light Iron, Cars & Steel $80-$225/gross ton
Clean Aluminum 25¢-40¢/lb. Scrap Car Batteries $5.00 each

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAILY

CALL TODAY or just bring your scrap and cash in now!

ARTHUR TROVEI AND SONS, INC.
Rt. 97, Sparrowbush/Port Jervis, NY 12780
845-856-1142 www.trovei.com



BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE, WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.

Plans start at just $20/month.
Switch & Save Today
844-919-1682 Consumer Cellular®

© 2024 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Plans shown above include $5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations.

LeafFilter® GUTTER PROTECTION
CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!
1-855-478-9473

20% OFF Your Entire Purchase* + **10% OFF** Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget![1]

+ See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. 1Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366920923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC.0671520, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 176447, MD MHIC111225, MI 262300173, 262300318, 262300328, 262300329, 262300330, 262300331, MN IR731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13VH09953900, NM 408693, NV 86990, NY H-19114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 069383, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFFNW822JZ, WV WV056912.

Jacuzzi® BATH REMODEL

TRANSFORM YOUR BATHROOM AND YOUR LIFE IN **ONE DAY***

CALL NOW
855.564.2680

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

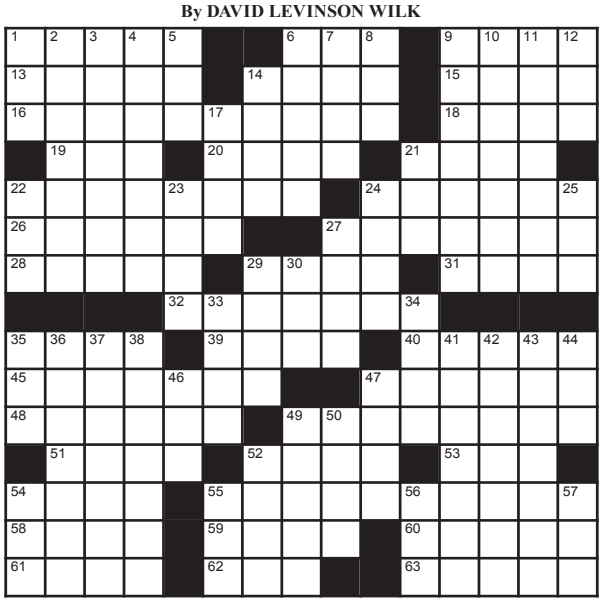
* Some installs may take longer. Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/29/24.





CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By DAVID LEVINSON WILK



©2010 David Levinson Wilk

ACROSS

1. Hit it off
6. Protrude
9. Family tree listing: Abbr.
13. Spike Lee's "____ Right Thing"
14. Five-star
15. "Do ____ others as ..."
16. 2007 Cy Young Award winner
18. Jan. 15, for MLK Jr.
19. Airline to Holland
20. Unaccompanied
21. Damage
22. "Star Trek" director
24. Call me Ishmael's boat
26. Slow to swing at, as a pitch
27. Author better known as Saki
28. Chapter 11 filers
29. Pinzo of "South Pacific"
31. Latin 101 verb
32. "Isn't it funny / How a bear likes honey" writer
35. Clinical study
39. Light bulb unit
40. It gets dressed for dinner
45. Grammy winner for "Hey Lover"
47. Labor
48. France's Bruni-Sarkozy and others
49. Short story writer Granta dubbed a "Best of Young American Novelists" in 2007
51. Love ____
52. Mother of Cronus
53. Obama, before he became pres.
54. "Do not change," to an editor
55. "Tulips and Chimneys" poet
58. Cube maker Rubik
59. Tibetan beasts
60. Slippery as ____
61. "Child's play!"
62. Ambulance destinations, briefly
63. Informative

DOWN

1. Govt. health org.
2. Its technical name is trismus
3. Lead-in to "I really should get going"
4. Echo ____
5. Bluesman ____ Mo'
6. "Flag" artist Jasper
7. Combined, in Cannes
8. It's taken in spots
9. City on the Mississippi
10. Evasive maneuvers
11. Turbine parts
12. Playing hard to get
14. Basic building block
17. Actor Rickman
21. Haw's partner
22. Quadruple-platinum 2001 album
23. Civil rights figure Parks
24. Sound: Prefix
25. It might go for a buck
27. Maximum extent
29. Key with four sharps: Abbr.
30. Promgoer's woe
33. Belt maker's tools
34. "Como ____ usted?"
35. Lots of hugs, in brief
36. Hyundai model
37. Shows for critics
38. "The Cossacks" author
41. Trig angle
42. As good as ever
43. Exacts satisfaction for
44. "____ Kommissar" (1983 pop hit)
46. Cheerios grain
47. Oft-deleted message
49. 2009 Cy Young Award winner Greinke and others
50. Thunderbolt thrower
52. Backpack fill
54. Observe
55. Observe
56. "____ alive!"
57. Kind of devil?

Answer to Last Week's Crossword Puzzle

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

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

Do you need a **Roof, Windows, Siding** and **Help paying** for it?

*Any leaking, visible damage, or age, may *qualify you!*

Do you need **Energy Efficient Windows** & **Help paying** for it?

*Drafty windows, energy cost too high, you may *qualify!*

HELP IS AVAILABLE EVEN IF YOU COULD PAY CASH

YOU MAY *QUALIFY THROUGH NEW 2024 RELIEF PROGRAMS

Qualify Today: **(800) 736-9629**
or visit **NYImprovementFund.com** to see if you ***qualify**

*Enrollment is only open during a limited time. Programs, appointments, and installations are on a first come, first serve basis in your area.

Approved applications will have the work completed by a quality repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs. Contractor License: NY: #2719-h14

For daily crossword puzzles and sudoku visit riverreporter.com/puzzles

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN
LOCAL LAW
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Legislature of the County of Sullivan at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 19th day of September 2024 duly adopted on said day, a Local Law 7 of 2024 a true and correct copy of the original thereof, and of the whole thereof as follows:

LOCAL LAW 7 OF 2024

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE SULLIVAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE REGARDING SECTION A8A-4 INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED ETHICS VIOLATIONS AND ADVISORY OPINIONS

§ A8A-4. Investigation of alleged violations; advisory opinions.

Complaints. Upon receipt of a sworn complaint of a person alleging a violation of this article, or upon the Board of Ethics determining on its own initiative that a violation of this article may exist, if the complaint is against an elected County official, or a member of the Board of Ethics, it shall be referred to outside, Independent Counsel for investigation and determination, all other complaints shall be referred to the Board of Ethics and the Board of Ethics shall have the power and duty to undertake an investigation to determine whether a violation has occurred by and/or against a non-elected County official or employee of the County. Independent Counsel shall be bound by the same time frames provided below for the Board of Ethics.

A. In the event a proceeding is commenced by sworn complaint, the Board shall, within 60 business days, review the allegations and supporting documentation and determine whether or not a violation of this article has been alleged and/or if the complaint falls within the prohibitions of this article. The 60 business days may be extended by agreement between the Board of Ethics and the complainant. To the extent circumstances require an expedited review of a complaint, the Board shall endeavor to provide its initial determination to the complainant within a reasonable, expedited time frame. The Board shall render its initial determination by majority vote. In the event the Board determines that the complaint does not allege a violation of this article, the complaint shall be dismissed and simple notice of the complaint and of its dismissal, without further detail, shall be mailed to the complainant. The complaint and the determination shall be sealed and not available to any person not a member of the Board of Ethics. The complaint and Ethics Board determination is confidential and shall not be shared by the complainant with any person not a member of the Board of Ethics.

B. In the event a member of the Board of Ethics raises the possibility of a violation by a non-elected County official, the Board shall first determine, by majority vote, whether the alleged conduct, if undertaken, would constitute a violation of this article. In the event the Board determines that the conduct would not constitute a violation of this article, it shall render a written determination. The complaint, preliminary investigation and determination shall be sealed and not available to any person not a member of the Board of Ethics.

C. Upon the review set forth in Subsection A above, in the event the Board determines that any element of the complaint, if true, would constitute a violation of this article, it shall provide written notification to the subject of the complaint within five business days. The notification shall identify the complainant, describe the alleged violation and provide 15 business days in which the subject of the complaint may submit a sworn, written response setting forth information and/or documentation sufficient to address the alleged violation. The Board's notification shall also inform the subject of the complaint of its rules regarding the conduct of adjudicatory proceedings, appeals, and the due process procedural mechanisms available to such individual.

1. In the event the Board of Ethics determines at any stage of the proceeding that the proof presented does not demonstrate that a violation has occurred, or that there is no violation or that any potential conflict of interest or violation has been rectified, it shall, within 15 business days, provide written notice to the subject of the complaint and the complainant. The foregoing notice of determination shall be confidential, except the subject of the complaint may, in defense of any claim made against him/her, disclose the determination of the Board.
2. Upon review of the complaint and of any information or documentation provided by the subject of the complaint, a further investigation to determine whether reasonable cause exists to believe a violation has occurred shall be commenced and completed within 30 days, unless circumstances require a shorter or longer period of time. In the event the Board requires more than 30 days to complete its investigation, it shall provide notice of same to the complainant and the subject of the complaint.
3. In the event the Board determines there is reasonable cause to believe a violation has occurred, it shall provide written notice of reasonable cause to the subject of the complaint and to the complainant. In the case of a non-elected County official or employee, the Board shall also provide written notice to the appointing authority for such person. Such determination of reasonable cause shall not be disclosed or made public unless required by Public Officers Law or for use in a disciplinary proceeding or a proceeding under this article involving the subject of the complaint or another County official.
4. In the event Independent Counsel determines there is reasonable cause to believe a violation has occurred by and/or against an elected County official, or a member of the Board of Ethics, it shall provide written notice of reasonable cause to the subject of the complaint and to the complainant. In the case of an elected County official, Independent Counsel shall also provide written notice to the Chair of the County Legislature. In the event of a conflict with the Chair, then notice shall be given to the Vice Chair. Such determination of reasonable cause shall not be disclosed or made public unless required by Public Officers Law or for use in a disciplinary proceeding or a proceeding under this article involving the subject of the complaint or another elected County official or non-elected County official.
5. Once reasonable cause has been established, the Board of Ethics shall schedule a formal hearing, to be held within 60 days, at which the subject of the complaint is entitled to legal representation of his or her own choosing and at his or her own expense. Testimony shall be taken under oath and the proceeding shall be recorded. The Board shall issue a decision containing specific findings within 30 days of the completion of the hearing. A copy of the decision shall be served by certified mail on the subject of the complaint or his or her legal representative, the complainant, and the Clerk of the Legislature. The decision of the Board of Ethics shall not be confidential.

D. Dispositions. The Board shall state, in writing, the disposition of every sworn complaint it receives and of every investigation it conducts and shall set forth the reasons for the disposition. The report shall be made in accordance with § A8A-3F, subject to the confidentiality requirements set forth herein.

E. Advisory opinions.

1. An elected County official, a non-elected County official or employee or other government official may request an advisory opinion from the Board of Ethics prior to that elected County official, non-elected County official or employee or other government official engaging in any behavior which he or she reasonably believes may cause a violation of this article. The request for an advisory opinion shall be written and sworn to and shall contain sufficient facts to permit the Board to make its determination. An individual requesting the opinion is obligated to be forthcoming and cooperative throughout the process, in the absence of which no advisory opinion will be provided. The Board shall endeavor to provide written notice of its determination within 10 business days. The elected County official, non-elected County official or employee who requested the opinion shall be notified of the Board's determination within 48 hours of the determination.
2. Advisory opinions shall be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature; however, the Board of Ethics shall first redact all names, identifying features, and any other information which would tend to identify the complainant and the subject of the request for the advisory opinion.
3. In the event a complaint is subsequently filed against an elected County Official, a non-elected County official or employee or other government official in which a violation of this code is alleged based upon the facts which formed the basis of the request for the advisory opinion, it shall be a complete defense to the alleged violation that the elected County official, the non-elected County official or employee or other government official acted consistent with, and in reliance upon, said advisory opinion. An unredacted advisory opinion shall be available to the elected County official, the non-elected County official, or employee who sought or needs it to defend himself or herself.

F. Complaints against the Board of Ethics. The Board of Ethics shall not conduct an investigation of itself or any of its members or staff. In the event the Board of Ethics receives a sworn complaint in which it is alleged that the Board or any of its members or staff has violated any provision of this article or any other law, it shall transmit a copy of the complaint to the Chair of the Legislature and the County Attorney within 48 hours of receipt of same. The Chair of the Legislature shall, within five business days, refer the matter to outside, Independent Counsel for investigation and determination. A copy of the ~~subcommittee's~~ Independent Counsels findings and decision shall be distributed to all members of the Legislature. Further action, if any, shall comply with the provisions of this article.

G. False complaints. Any person who knowingly files a false complaint may be subject to disciplinary action, civil liability, or criminal prosecution.

Effective: This Local Law shall become effective as of the date of the filing with the Secretary of State.

Dated: September 30, 2024

ANNMARIE MARTIN, CLERK
Sullivan County Legislature

There's a better way to advertise
RIVER REPORTER
YARD SALE HERE
Call today 845.252.7414

Legal Notice

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

CHWH REALTY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/18/24. 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, 24 North 3rd Avenue, Suite #204, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of NY Granger I, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/12/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Delaware River Solar, LLC: PO Box 384 Callicoon, NY 12723. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Onyx MEP Engineering, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/25/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Christina Sharp: 1174 Sackett Lake Road, Forestburgh, NY 12777. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of NY DRS Finco XII, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/03/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Delaware River Solar, LLC: PO Box 384 Callicoon NY 12723. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Legal Notice

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of NY Tyrone I, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/12/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Delaware River Solar, LLC: PO Box 384 Callicoon, NY 12723. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

PHILIP ZUCKERMAN LCSW PLLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 8/20/24. Office in Sullivan Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Philip Zuckerman 45 Clark Rd Eldred NY 12732. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of NY DRS Finco XX, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/23/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Delaware River Solar, LLC: PO Box 384 Callicoon NY 12723. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of POLYN ADVANTAGE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/24/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to ROCKET CORPORATE SERVICES INC.: 2804 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE #100, SACRAMENTO, CA, 95833, USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Legal Notice

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of FREMONT HILLS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/25/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Fremont Hills LLC: 13083 Caminito Pointe Del Mar, Del Mar, CA 92014. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Attentive Equations Arts Group, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/16/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Richard Reeve: 51 County Road 93, Fremont Center, NY 12736. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

AGHIOS NEKTARIOS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/04/24. 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, PO Box 438, Jeffersonville, NY 12748. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN PUBLIC NOTICE

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, November 1, 2024:

1. Repair and Maintenance of Kitchen Equipment for the Care center at Sunset Lake (R-24-40)

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

Dated: October 18, 2024

Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

To be sold to satisfy a garagmen's lien on 10/25/24

2014 Honda 4dsd Vin#1HGCR2F58EA275085 Owner Deyci Hernandez

2010 Toyot 4DSD Vin#JTDKN3DU8A0092338 Owner Bret Winograd

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of The Golden Hemp Garden. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/26/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to The Golden Hemp Garden: 90 Yulan Rd Eldred NY . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN LEGAL NOTICE

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, November 1, 2024 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

1. Bridge Construction Materials (B-24-48)
2. Cargo Shipping Containers for the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office (B-24-49)

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: October 18, 2024

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of House of O'Britson LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/30/2024. Office location: Sullivan County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Janeen Ritson: 162 Meyer Road, Livingston Manor, NY 12758. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

WHERE & WHEN

¬ Page 32

Saturday, October 26

'Rocky Horror Picture Show' @ Milford

MILFORD, PA — Hotel Fauchere "Rocky Horror Picture Show," 9-11pm, 114 E. Catherine St. hotelfauchere.com.

Shane Rennison @ Arts Nest

LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — Delaware Valley Opera Arts Nest, Shane Rennison, 7-9pm, 6692 St. Rte. 52. myrivertickets.com.

Sunday, October 27

Bud Rue Memorial Walk @ UDUUF

NARROWSBURG, NY — Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Bud Rue Memorial Walk fundraiser, 10:15am Narrowsburg Union, 7 Erie Ave. upperdelawareuu.org.

'Carrie' @ Milford

MILFORD, PA — Hotel Fauchere "Carrie," 4-6pm, 114 E. Catherine St. hotelfauchere.com.

Fall Fiddle Festival @ BLVFD

BEACH LAKE, PA — The Old Time Fiddlers annual fall fiddle festival, 2pm, 1033 Beach Lake Hwy, 570-575-7158.

Nature Photography @ PEEC

DINGMANS FERRY, PA — Pocono Environmental Education Center Nature Photography, 10am-noon, 538 Emery Rd. Register 570/828-2319.

Legal Notice

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

MHP 18 LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 9/10/24. Office in Sullivan Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to The LLC PO Box 297094 Brooklyn NY 11229. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of JUAREZ EXECUTIVE SERVICES LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/08/2024. Office location: Sullivan SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to P.O BOX 182, SOUTH FALLSBURG, NY 12779. Any lawful purpose.

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

DEEP PLAY LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 10/1/24. Office in Sullivan Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 263 Country Road 134, Long Eddy, NY 12760, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Reconstruction of the Farm @ Grahamsville

GRAHAMSVILLE, NY — Time & the Valleys Museum "Reconstruction of the Farm," 1-3pm. $5/non-members.

ONGOING

Art Exhibit @ Assembly

MONTICELLO, NY — The Assembly Art Space exhibit of 21st Century Mexican artists, Saturdays 10am-5pm, 397 Broadway. assemblyny.org.

Art Exhibition @ CAS

LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY — Catskill Art Space Art Exhibit with Jane Fine, James Esber, Tracey Goodman & Jim Lee Fri.-Sun. through Oct. 26, 48 Main St. catskillartspace.org.

Call for Submissions @ CPT

ROSCOE, NY — Catskill Public Theater call for submissions: original ideas amplifying the Woodstock Festival message. facebook.com/CatskillPublicTheater.

Call for Submissions @ DVAA

NARROWSBURG, NY — Delaware Valley Arts Alliance call for submissions for "Art in Sixes," Thurs.-Sat., 11am-4pm, 37 Main St. delawarevalleyartsalliance.org.

Dale Emmart @ DVAA

NARROWSBURG, NY — Delaware Valley Arts Alliance exhibition "Imperfect Books," Thurs-Sun, 11am-4pm, through Oct. 27, 37 Main St. delawarevalleyartsalliance.org.

Erica Hart Exhibit @ TESS

NARROWSBURG, NY — TESS, Erica hart art exhibition, Fri.-Sat. 11am-5pm, Sun. 11am-4pm, through Oct. 22, 15 Main St. facebook.com/tessnarrowsburg.

Five Gallery Exhibit @ Narrowsburg Union

NARROWSBURG — Five gallery exhibit 8am-8pm, 7 Erie Ave. narrowsburgunion.com.

'Language of Beauty' @ ARTery

MILFORD, PA — ARTery Gallery, "Language of Beauty" exhibition by Marie Liu & Liza J. Smith-Simpson, Thurs-Sun, 10am-6pm, 210 Broad St. arterygallerymilford.com.

Margaret Inga Urías @ DVAA

NARROWSBURG, NY — Delaware Valley Arts Alliance exhibition "Of Cloud & Ash: Eons, Epochs, and Eras", Thurs-Sun, 11am-4pm, through Oct. 27, 37 Main St. delawarevalleyartsalliance.org.

MEETINGS

Monday, October 21

Supervisor's Meeting @ Lackawaxen

LACKAWAXEN, PA — Lackawaxen Supervisor's meeting, 6:30-7:30pm, 169 Urban Rd. growinglackawaxen.com.

Supervisor's Meeting @ DCC

DAMASCUS, PA — Township of Damascus Supervisor's meeting, 7pm, 60 Conklin Hill Rd. 570/224-4410.

Tuesday, October 22

Committee Meetings @ UDC

NARROWSBURG, NY — The Upper Delaware Council's Project Review Committee & Operations Committee, 6:30pm & 7:30pm, 211 Bridge St. upperdelawarecouncil.org.

Town Board Meeting @ Fallsburg

SOUTH FALLSBURG, NY — Town of Fallsburg board meeting, 6pm, Town Hall. 845/434-8810, x 1.

Tusten Planning Board Meeting

NARROWSBURG, NY — Town of Tusten planning board meeting 7:30pm, 210 Bridge St. 845/252-7146 x1001.

Wednesday, October 23

Highland Planning Board Meeting

ELDRED, NY — Town of Highland planning board meeting 7pm, 4 Proctor Rd. 845/557-6085.

Town Board Meeting @ Bethel

WHITE LAKE, NY — Town of Bethel board meeting 7:30pm, 3460 Route 55 or Zoom. townofbethelny.us.



TALKING SPORTS
BY TED WADDELL

A game of chances

LAKE HUNTINGTON, NY — You win some, you lose some. It's all up to a roll of the dice in a game of chance.

In summing up the varsity girls' soccer match between the visiting Eldred Lady Yellowjackets (5-3) and the home team Lady Bulldogs of Sullivan West (2-10) on Saturday morning, October 5, 'jackets first-year coach Kevin Moscatiello said, "We traded a lot of chances in the beginning of the game. We had chances; they had chances."

But as the game evolved under sunny early-fall skies, the Lady Yellowjackets drew first blood in the opening frame as Olivia Gonzalez scored at 9:23, and in the second half, Victoria Ryman "beat the keep" at 30:53 to win the game 2-0.

"The second goal gave us a little breathing room," said Moscatiello. "The game was very competitive on both sides."



About to strike. Sullivan West's Ella Herbert, a 10th grader.

Megan Brockner, third-year helmswoman of the Lady Bulldogs booters, said of the season, "I think we have an outstanding, hard-working group of girls, a young team, so we're trying to build from the ground up."

"Every game we see improvement, and they're working together harder… What we started this year, we'll continue to build upon."

The Lady Bulldogs field a six-pack of seniors (Arienna Hinkley, Karli Kessler, Ryann McElroy, Brooke Nunnari, Mary Schroeder and Katelynn Smith) and are led by captains Nunnari and junior Gracyn Halloran.

Eldred's Alexis Fredericks is the squad's only senior, while the team fields a trio of 11th-grade captains: Olivia Gonzalez, Avery Moscatiello and Tabitha Smith.

For more photos, visit www.riverreporter.om/sports.

Game stats

Shots on goal: SW 12, ECS 13

Corner kicks: SW 3, ECS 1

Keeper saves: SW's Karli Kessler 11, ECS's Alyena Galvin-Bliefernich 12



RR photos by Ted Waddell

Eldred's goalie Alyena Galvin-Blierfernich made 12 saves in the win over Sullivan West.



Battle for control. Sullivan West's McKayla Chevalier, a junior, and Eldred's Tabitha Smith, a junior co-captain.



Footloose and fancy free. Eldred's Olivia Gonzalez, an 11th-grade co-captain, battles Sullivan West's co-captain Brooke Nunnari for possession.



Twister. Sullivan West's Samantha Hellerer, a junior, is pictured with Tabitha Smith of the Lady Yellowjackets.

Beginner Farmer
MENTORSHIP COHORT

SULLIVAN CATSKILLS BEGINNER FARMER PROGRAM

APPLY TO BE A FARMER MENTEE!

The Beginner Farmer Mentorship program is for folks who are ready to take the next step toward turning their farm dreams into a reality!

- Benefit from in-person learning with:
  - mentors
  - CCE staff
  - and fellow mentees!
- Receive a $10,000 stipend distributed quarterly across 12 months





GET MATCHED WITH A FARMER MENTOR TODAY!

Questions?
Contact Taylor Adam at
(845)292-6180 ext. 130
beginnerfarmer@cornell.edu
https://sullivancce.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

INVESTING IN AMERICA

This project is supported by USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture award #2022-06508. Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Contact the office to request accommodations.

RAMBLINGS OF A CATSKILL FLY FISHER

BY TONY BONAVIST

Fly fishing the tailwaters

I'm guessing that some of you who read this column fish the East and West Branches of the Delaware and the Neversink Rivers below the reservoirs. The tailwaters.

At the outset of trout season, once the early fly hatches begin, the tailwaters and freestone rivers all have the same species of mayfly emergences. The species that hatch then include quill Gordons, blue quills, Hendricksons and pale evening duns. There might be some early olives in the mix too. I call these early species of flies "cold-water hatches," because these insects begin to hatch when the water temperatures approach 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

As the season progresses and the freestone rivers begin to warm with the increase in air temperature, the tail waters do not.

Instead, the water temperatures remain constant due to the release of very cold bottom water. That means they stay in the very low 50s throughout the summer in the upper reaches of the East and West Branches of the Delaware and the Neversink River, below their respective dams.

While I do not have a great deal of first-hand knowledge about the hatches that appear along the upper sections of the West Branch and Neversink, I am very familiar with the upper East Branch. What I have observed on that river is that the species diversity of the mayfly population has been significantly altered by the bottom release of very cold water. The only species found in the upper river are quill Gordons, Hendrickson blue quills, pale evening duns, sulphurs and olives. There are no March browns, grey foxes, green and brown drakes, light Cahills, Isonychia or tiny tricos.

Once the water temperature warms to more favorable levels several miles downriver, around Shinhopple, all those other flies are present.

In addition to having a significant impact on the species diversity in the upper reaches of the tailwaters, the cold water has altered the dates that some mayflies hatch. That cold water has also had a profound impact on the length of some fly hatches too. For example, the little sulphur mayfly, a species that hatches from freestone rivers in early June and last a week or so, begins at about the same time on the tailwaters. But instead of emerging for a week or two, sulphurs have been known to last well into August. In addition to and because of the cold water, sulphurs might hatch around noon, not at dusk.

While I know that some of what I have written here is a bit repetitive, it is important to emphasize how much the releases of cold bottom water from Catskill reservoirs has changed the hatching behavior of some species of aquatic insects. What that means for us as anglers is that it is necessary to familiarize ourselves with the time of day and season that the important hatches occur.

The anglers with whom I am friends are on Catskill tailwaters sometimes several times a week, so they have first-hand knowledge of the hatching dates and times of the different flies.

It is also important to keep in mind that the same species can hatch at different times on different tailwaters.

In addition to sulphur mayflies, I've observed that pale evening duns are also affected by the cold releases from Pepacton Reservoir. On freestone rivers that fly normally emerges right at dusk, generally in mid-to-late May. On the upper East Branch, pale evening duns have been observed as early as 5 pm. And while this hatch lasts a week or so on freestone rivers, I've seen duns on the water well into late June on that section of river.

What this all means to us as anglers is that there can be two distinct seasons for the same fly hatches, depending on whether we fish the freestone, the tailwaters or both. Fly fishers not familiar with these anomalies need to check with fellow anglers and the local fly shops to find out what insects are hatching on the freestone rivers when compared to the tailwaters. In that way they can take advantage of both the freestone and tailwater hatches and likely extend their fishing during the same fly hatches, but for a much longer period of time.

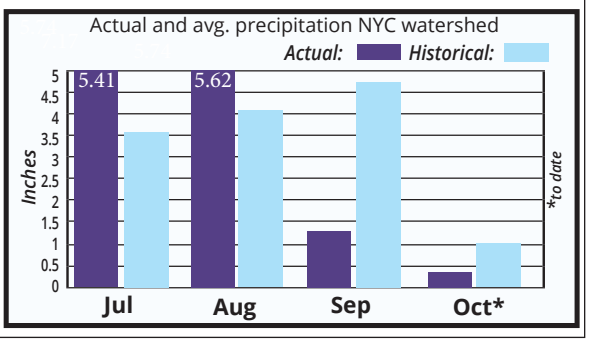
The implementation of the Water Releases Legislation in 1976 along with the increased releases resulting from the Flexible Flow Management Plan have made the rivers in the Delaware system world-class trout fisheries. The fact that they provide season-long dry fly fishing to species of mayfly hatches that have long been over on the freestone rivers is a huge bonus for us as anglers. Especially since there is little or no fishing in the famous freestones, including the Beaver Kill, where flows can be extremely low and water temperatures extremely high. Conditions lethal to trout, with no fishing.

SOUNDINGS: TAKING THE PULSE OF THE UPPER DELAWARE WATERSHED

For river gage, height and temperature readings visit www.bit.ly/RRsoundings.

Reservoir levels

October 10, 2024
Cannonsville: 62.2%
Pepacton: 68.4%
Neversink: 40.4%
Total: 73.4%
Normal Total: 76.9%
Total in 2023: 93.3%



RIVER TALK
BY SCOTT RANDO

A fall creek walk

During an early October morning, I found myself along a medium-sized creek in Pike County. It was a cool morning, in the low- to mid-50s, but not too cold, and there had not been freezing temperatures in the area yet. There had been little precipitation in the past two weeks; the water level in the creek was low, exposing some rocks along the bank.

I decided to walk along the bank and see what I could see, and perhaps flip some rocks along the shore. There would likely be some collection of small animals under or near the rocks, taking advantage of the still relatively warm water to stay warm in case frost did come a little early. It was early in the day for flying insects, but stream invertebrates were visible nearby; many invertebrates will be active in the water all winter.

Under the second rock that I flipped was a salamander, and continuing slowly upstream for about 30 feet and after about 15 minutes of exploring, were several green frogs, crayfish and myriad aquatic and non-aquatic insects. All the vertebrates were somewhat cold and did not dash or jump away as they usually do when the weather is warmer.

After a quick photo of some of the animals, I gently replaced the rock, taking care not to crush any critters.

Once in a while, I see a great blue heron in this portion of the creek, probably looking for a meal, and on warmer fall days, I might find watersnakes basking in the sun before they go into brumation for the winter (meaning that they go inactive in burrows below the frost line, but do not sleep).



RR photos by Scott Rando

Green frogs are likely the most abundant frogs seen or heard around lakes, ponds or streams. During summer, they are found in quieter portions of streams and standing water near road culverts. In streambeds, they can be found among rocks during spring and summer when resting or hiding from predators. Most of the frogs will move to a nearby lake to overwinter.



This common crayfish (*Cambarus bartoni*), also called the Appalachian brook crayfish, is not very happy about getting its picture taken, as seen by its left claw. There were several under rocks where there was some amount of water present. This species prefers swift-flowing streams and can overwinter at the bottom of these streams. There are some invasive species of crayfish present in PA, and it is important to know, if you're using crayfish for fish bait, that it was caught in the same body of water that is being fished.



This northern two-lined salamander was the first animal found during my stream walk. It is considered a brook salamander and is usually found under rocks in or near a stream bed. They are named for the two dark lines that run the length of their body from behind each eye. As with many species of salamanders, offspring of this species have gills and spend their larval stage completely in the water. As adults, they lose their gills and breathe air.

SULLIVAN COUNTY'S NDEAM Event

National Disability Employment Awareness Month presents an opportunity for job seekers and employers alike to engage and learn the benefits of employing those with disabilities.

Employers now is your opportunity to invest in your business!

ACCESS TO GOOD JOBS FOR ALL

OCT.24 2024 9AM-12PM



YOUR IMPACT

Turnover
Turnover can be costly. Studies have shown that employees with disabilities stay at jobs longer, reducing the time and cost involved in recruiting, hiring, and training new employees.

Retention
$15,000 is the average cost to replace an employee (per worker earning a median salary of $48,672).

Rapid Value Creation
Hiring people with disabilities conveys and promotes an inclusive work environment characterized by empathy, respect, and belonging— important traits when working with customers and clients.

LOCATED IN THE LOBBY OF SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 100 NORTH STREET MONTICELLO, NY 12701

#NDEAM
dol.gov/odep

Contact Us 845-807-0620 sidney.curry@sullivanny.us

Moments Matter



Holding your spouse's hand. When a loved one is diagnosed with a terminal illness, you realize that moments matter. Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties can give you more moments. We provide comfort care, ease pain, and offer what you need to care for your loved one. **Learn how we can help.**

We Honor Veterans

hospiceoforange.com
845-561-6111

HOSPICE of ORANGE & SULLIVAN