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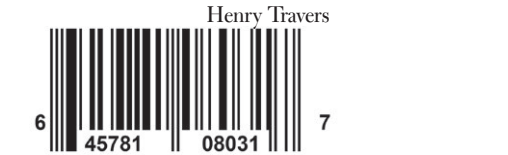
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Thought for the day:

"Each man's life touches so many other lives. And when he isn't around he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?"



SULLIVAN COUNTY Democrat

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HAPPY HANUKKAH: To all our Jewish friends! **4-5A**

EDITORIAL: Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. **6A**

READY TO RUN: All-Sullivan County Cross-Country teams announced. **8B**



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY FRED STABBERT III

Livingston Manor Central School voters approved the merger with Roscoe overwhelmingly on Thursday, 351-227. The two districts already share many services, including sports teams.



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY KATHY DALEY

Roscoe Central School, the smallest school by enrollment in all of Sullivan County, will merge with Livingston Manor following Thursday's approval by Roscoe district voters, 283-106.

Livingston Manor, Roscoe approve merger

BY ANTHONY MORGANO

ROCKLAND — After nearly three years of studies, meetings, votes and petitions, the communities of the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central school districts elected to merge via centralization on Thursday, December 19.

The vote was first presented in 2022 and failed in both communities, but a significant increase to incentive aid brought the potential merger back to the forefront of voters' minds in September of this year.

This time around, the boards elected to gather signatures for a petition in both communities to gauge interest in a merger vote, with both petitions reaching the number needed to present a vote to the taxpayers.

In Livingston Manor, the vote passed with 351 in favor and 227 opposed, while the numbers were 283 yes and 106 no in Roscoe. Despite centralizing the two districts, the new one will still



Livingston Manor-Roscoe Superintendent John Evans

be the smallest in Sullivan County.

John Evans, who serves as Superintendent of both the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central School Districts, said, "I appreciate our residents' support of the measure, which will benefit our students and the communities."

Evans was one of the many shared services prior to the potential merger was first studied in 2021. "I want to thank all of the people who contributed to making this happen."

Alongside the vote to merge, there were additional questions on the ballot regarding the new school board. Voters decided on a seven-member school board with staggered three-year terms.

An optional exit survey was also passed out to voters along with their ballot to gauge interest on the important issues for voters, which included a priority list for the incentive aid.

The election of the new Board of Education is expected to take place in February, and those interested must gather enough signatures. More details on the petition process will be available at a later date, as well as a finalized date for the board election.

A new operating budget for the 2025-26 school year

Voters decided on a seven-member school board with staggered three-year terms.

will be presented to voters on May 20.

According to the news release, the new district will begin operation on July 1, 2025. Building reconfiguration will not happen immediately, but the extra funding through incentive aid will begin at that time.

There will also be a restructuring committee comprised of board members, administrators, faculty, staff parents and students formed to recommend the best grade configurations and building makeup for the new district, with implementation gradually taking place over the 2025-26 school year and beyond.

Skidders Falls Bridge to be permanently destroyed

BY ALEX KIELAR

MILANVILLE, PA & SKIDNERS FALLS, NY — During a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, December 17 the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) announced its new plan to now permanently destroy the currently standing Skidders Falls Bridge which connects the communities of Milanville, Pennsylvania and Skidders Falls, New York.

This is a reversal of the project team's previous plan of only dismantling the bridge, which has been closed to vehicular traffic since 2019, and storing its pieces for later use.

In the public meeting, the project team said that they evaluated several disassembly options, which included lowering spans of the bridge to the ground with a large crane before dismantling it there. However, the team was concerned with the safety of this method and determined that the bridge would not be able to be picked up and moved without putting the workers and the public in danger.

As they explained the need for a demolition of the bridge, the project team referenced an inspection report from October. Rich Roman, District Executive of PennDOT District 4, said that the main concern coming out of the inspection was a down-



VINCENT KURZROCK | DEMOCRAT

The Skidders Falls Bridge is now set to be demolished permanently as decided in a new plan announced by PennDOT this week.

grade of the structure from "critical" to a "failed state."

"One of our main concerns is that abatement on the New York side of the river," Roman said. "That abatement is actually starting to shift and rotate in a manner that we cannot control, and we cannot predict what it is going to do or how it is going to function."

Roman also added that there is concern that the New York abatement could collapse during winter in the Northeast as precipitation gets behind it and starts to move around with the change of temperatures. "There is no predicting it,

so there is a major concern on behalf of the department," he said. "And that is leading us to an approach to remove the superstructure of the pier and the abatement as quickly as possible."

PennDOT took a step toward getting the demolition project underway, as there is still a significant amount of administrative work to get done before it can begin. On Monday, December 16, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro issued a declaration of emergency for the project to speed up the process of demolition.

"We do have an emergency declaration in place to expedite the steps that we need to take to do the right thing here by removing the structure along with our inspection done by Pennsylvania," Roman added. "The Federal Highway Administration Pennsylvania Division has reviewed our MBIS inspection and are in concurrence with the failed state of the bridge."

"This is a serious concern that the deteriorated structure would not survive the pick and move by a crane," Lisa Brozey of PennDOT's project consultant AECOM said. "With the condition of the bridge, if the trusses

PLEASE SEE SKIDNERS, PAGE 3A

CBS features The Center for Discovery

BY PATRICIO ROBAYO

HARRIS — The Center for Discovery (TCFD) was featured on CBS Saturday morning on December 7, offering viewers an inside look at its model for helping individuals with autism and other complex disabilities live healthier and more independent lives.

CBS News Chief Medical Correspondent, Dr. Jon LaPook, narrated the segment, focusing on the journey of 20-year-old Tommy Bove. Diagnosed with autism and is nonverbal, Tommy struggled with significant challenges during the pandemic, including severe weight gain. After a three-year wait, he was accepted into TCFD's pediatric residential program, where he has since made life-changing progress.

"This is the best place for him. This is the best thing that's ever happened to him," said Tommy's parents, Scott and Kelly Bove, during the CBS interview.

Holistic Model

TCFD serves over 1,200 children and adults annually through a model that combines therapy, education, and health-focused initiatives. Residents take part in various programs, including farm work, equine therapy, and personalized nutrition plans, all designed to address their physical, emotional, and developmental needs.

Dr. Terry Hamlin, TCFD's President and CEO, described the Center's approach. "We are true to our mission in that we care for individuals with really complex disabilities," she said. "When parents come here, we describe it as a program that looks at your whole child, appreciating them inside and out."

The CBS segment highlighted how TCFD stands out from other programs across the country by taking a comprehensive approach to care. "Too often, autism is treated as a behavioral problem," Dr. Hamlin said. "We've missed the bigger picture."

Dr. Hamlin told the Democrat the value of the CBS feature. "We are incredibly proud that The Center's work was highlighted on CBS News and seen by a national audience," she said. "This added exposure is crucial in raising awareness of the impactful programs we provide, helping us extend our reach and ultimately, connecting with more families and helping their children with complex disabilities."

Tommy's Progress

For Tommy Bove, TCFD

has been transformative. At the height of the pandemic, Tommy lived at home, struggling with obesity and behavioral challenges. He weighed 360 pounds and needed extensive support for daily tasks. Today, he has made significant improvements, losing weight and developing greater independence.

"He's dressing himself now," Kelly Bove shared. "It's something we always just did for him. Seeing him do it on his own—it's huge."

The CBS segment showed Tommy participating in activities on TCFD's farm, where residents harvest vegetables that are later used in meals. His parents described the changes they've seen as "shocking" and "remarkable."

Food as Medicine

Nutrition plays a central role in the Center's success. Through its "seed-to-belly" program, meals are made with whole, organic foods grown on-site, and ultra-processed foods are eliminated entirely. Jennifer Franck, Chief of the Department of Nourishment Arts, explained the importance of this approach.

"Food has amazing power," she said. "It can either support or undermine your health."

Sixty percent of TCFD's adult residents maintain ideal body weight, and rates of high blood pressure and diabetes are significantly lower than the national average.

Looking Ahead

While Tommy's progress has been a major victory, his family is now preparing for what comes next. At 22, he will age out of TCFD's pediatric program, and adult placements are limited. This transition weighs heavily on his parents and sister, Courtney, who may eventually take on more responsibility for his care.

"It's always there, the worry," Kelly Bove said. Courtney added, "I know one day I'll be in charge of him."

National Model

Dr. LaPook closed the CBS segment by discussing the potential for TCFD to serve as a blueprint for other facilities nationwide. However, scaling the model to reach more families will require significant resources and planning.

The Center for Discovery serves as a resource for families like the Boves, focusing on helping individuals with complex disabilities build independence while addressing the challenges their families face.



Dr. Terry Hamlin, President and CEO of The Center for Discovery, shared on CBS Saturday Morning how their innovative model helps people with autism and other complex disabilities live healthier and more independent lives.

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Mamakating welcomes new Sergeant Proclaims 'Goodie Maier Day' after centenarian

STORY AND PHOTO
BY VINCENT KURZROCK

WURTSBORO — The Town Board of Mamakating was proud to welcome a new face to the lineup of troopers next to the Town Hall as Sergeant Eddy Donohue took on the role as Station Commander following the promotion of the position's former holder, Mary Cadet.

Donohue affirmed that he will continue to keep the trend of success that Cadet has maintained.

Donohue was born and raised in Middletown but has "a lot of enjoyment" being down in Mamakating.

"One of the things I see and I fall in love with more and more is that there's a sense of community here," Donohue pointed out. "That's something you don't see in too many places now, so I definitely look to be a

part of that."

He is looking to make the Town roadways safer. He stated that, upon doing the math earlier that day, he found that from last year to this year, there's been an increase in DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) enforcement 75 percent.

"It's to make sure you guys can get from point A to point B safely and accordingly," stated Donohue.

He told the public that if they ever need him, he can be reached at the station next to the Town Hall and he "doesn't bite" and will talk to anybody about "absolutely anything."

"Anyway I can help, I would love to do so," said Donohue.

Town Supervisor Michael Robbins wanted to thank Donohue because ever since he's been at the station, he's been a big help.

"Anything that has hap-

pened here, you've been right on top of it, so thanks for coming and we look forward to working with you."

'Goodie Maier Day'

Councilman Matt Mordas acknowledged the celebration a couple Sundays ago of Gladys "Goodie" Maier's centennial celebration on December 8th.

Mordas, who knows her personally, acknowledged the uniqueness in celebrating a 100th birthday in the area.

Mordas dubbed her a "pillar of our community".

"We had a celebration in her modest home. It was pretty crowded in there," recounted Mordas.

The celebration saw the presence of Wurtsboro VFW, the American Legion, and some neighbors and family.

On the Town's part, Robbins and the Town proclaimed December 8th Sunday as 'Goodie Maier Day' throughout the Town of Mamakating.



Sergeant Eddy Donohue recounted the cracking down on DWI's while talking to the Board.

"It was a joyous and sometimes poignant celebration," recounted Mordas. "We heard stories of her late husband Edward and their efforts to organize and create the VFW in Mamakating back in 1946."

Mordas also warmly reminisced of Edward Maier and Goodie's efforts to support Veteran's causes and other causes within the commu-

nity.

One of Goodie's efforts "no recently" was working to secure a spot on the list of National Registry of Historic Landmarks for the Community Church of Wurtsboro.

"I want to thank Supervisor Robbins for the proclamation ... I wish Maier much health and many more birthdays in the future," stated Mordas.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

POLICE NOTES

Monticello Man Arrested For Slashing The Face Of Another Male

SULLIVAN COUNTY — On Friday December 13th, 2024 at 10 P.M., Village of Monticello Police responded to a 911 report of a male who had been "Slashed" to the face in the parking lot of the Stewarts convenience store located on Forestburgh road. The 38 year-old male victim reported to responding officers that while he was putting air in his vehicle's tires, he was approached by another male, identified as Miguel A. Jimenez, age 29, of Monticello. Jimenez slashed the victim's face with a pocket knife and then proceeded to also puncture the tires and break the windshield of the victim's vehicle. Jimenez then fled prior to officers arriving on scene. The victim was treated for his injury at Garnet Health Medical Center in Harris. Jimenez was arrested at 10:00 A.M. today and charged with the felonies of Assault in the 2nd degree and Criminal possession of a weapon in the 3rd degree. Jimenez was arraigned in the Village of Monticello Justice Court before Associate Justice David Maho. Jimenez was remanded to the Sullivan County Jail on \$40,000.00 cash bail, \$80,000.00 bail bond or \$150,000.00 partially secured bond pending further court action.

Additional felony charges are pending against Jimenez for the damage sustained to the victim's vehicle. The filing of an accusatory instrument is merely an accusation and every person is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.



Miguel A. Jimenez

taking the vehicle in the surveillance footage, known to police as Milton Romero, was located in the back of the vehicle and he was also taken into police custody.

Following a police investigation, Edgar Perez was charged with criminal possession of stolen property in the fourth degree, a felony, and Milton Romero was charged with grand larceny in the fourth degree, a felony. In accordance with bail reform laws, both individuals were released on an appearance ticket and are set to appear in the Town of Fallsburg Justice Court at a later date. Criminal charges are merely allegations that a defendant has committed violations of the criminal law, and as such they are not evidence of guilt. All defendants have a presumption of innocence and are entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the burden of the State of New York to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

South Fallsburg men arrested following an investigation into a reported stolen vehicle

FALLSBURG — On December 10, 2024, the Fallsburg Police Department received a report that a vehicle was stolen from the parking lot of Boosur Meat and Deli in South Fallsburg. Surveillance footage of the incident was provided and police were able to obtain a description of the alleged suspect. While investigating the matter, a Fallsburg patrol unit observed the reported vehicle being operated on State Route 42 in South Fallsburg and vehicle stop was made. The operator was identified as Edgar Perez and he was taken into police custody. The suspect who was observed

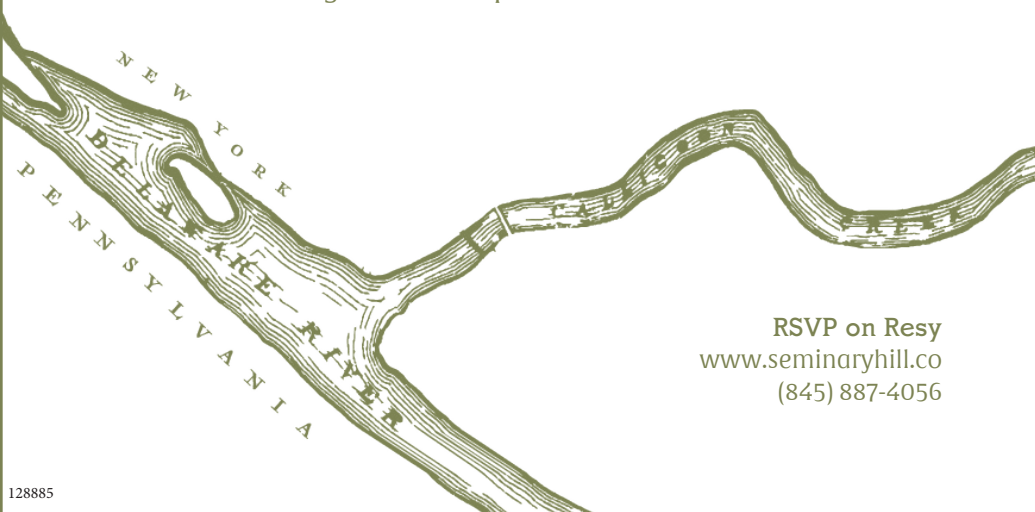
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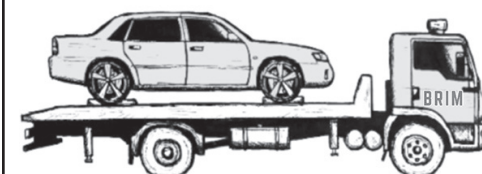
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Peter Manning takes over as Town of Delaware Planner

STORY AND PHOTO BY ALEX KIELAR



New Town of Delaware Planner, Peter Manning

HORTONVILLE – At their regular monthly meeting, the Delaware Town Board was introduced to its new Town Planner, Peter Manning. The Principal of Genius Loci Planning, Manning is taking over for the previous Town Planner Tom Shepstone, who has decided to step aside.

Manning has 25 years' experience in municipal planning and land use training at the local, county, regional, and statewide levels.

"Thank God we were able to find Peter and he is willing to take control of the planning board," Town Supervisor Scott DuBois said. "We wish you luck."

The town's Planning Board Chairman, Warren Blumenthal, was also in attendance at the meeting as he and Manning got acquainted.

"Thank you for the opportunity and you have my contact information if anyone

has any questions," Manning said to the board. "We will be in touch."

During his report, Building Inspector Kris Scullion said that he had received a call from Zev Heisler, owner of PDG Building Consultants, regarding the Villa Roma Re-

sort. New owners Fay Hospitality Catskills LLC have plans for renovation and potential development at the resort.

"He's one of the people that is in the planning stages and developing some of the renovations that they are planning," Scullion said. "They are planning on doing some big stuff up there, but I haven't seen anything yet. They are moving some things around and [Heisler] said he's going to be in contact very shortly. So we'll see what they come up with for plans. I thought it was just going to be renovation, but now he's talking new building too. So I don't know what's going to happen yet."

In her report, Town Clerk Tess McBeath asked the board if they would agree to a six-month extension on the Callicoon Depot project for extra time to complete the project. Sullivan 180 had given the Depot a December 31 deadline for project completion, but McBeath said that they have about \$40,000 remaining in their grant from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY).

"The DASNY paperwork

was accepted for the Callicoon Depot Project," McBeath said. "Now that the DASNY part is moving along, I know that they have another big expense with architectural drawings and stuff. I think they are going to spend down [the remainder of the grant] soon, but it hasn't happened yet."

The board agreed to the extension and McBeath said that they would have DuBois write a letter to Sullivan 180 to give a little more time for the project to be completed.

Other business

Four resolutions were passed unanimously by the board at the meeting. First, they appointed Robert Lindquist as Upper Delaware Council (UDC) Alternate. McBeath noted that the town's UDC representative, Harold Roeder, and UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie both vetted Lindquist. Secondly, the board appointed Mark McLaren as the Delaware Scenic Byway Alternate. Third, they appointed Skylar Vairo-Hubbell as Assessor Clerk. Lastly, the board set their reorganizational meeting for Wednesday, January 8.

the UDC Executive Director; discussion of old and new business; and public comment.

All UDC meetings are open to the public. To request the agenda or Zoom link to participate remotely, call or email (845) 252-3022 or stephanie@upperdelawarecouncil.org.

Donate your used Christmas Tree!

BETHEL – Starting December 26, you can donate your used Christmas tree at Alton Distillery (2037 NYS Rt 17B, Bethel, NY) by dropping it off at the fire pit in front of the building.

The trees will be used to fuel the Bethel Big Burn event on Saturday, February 15, 2025, from 4 PM to 10:00 PM. Come join the fun with live music, food, and a giant bonfire to kick off the King of the Ice Fishing Festival! Free admission for all attendees. This event is proudly presented by the Sullivan County Conservation Club and the Bethel Business Association. Your tree donation will help make this celebration even more special, so bring it by and be part of the fun!

SKINNERS: Going out with a bang.

FROM FRONT PAGE

would collapse during the pick or the lift, it would result in catastrophic crane collapse."

Brozey noted that the time needed to design and implement a safer method of a lift-pick disassemble is "not reasonable given the bridge's rapidly deteriorating condition."

Executive Director of the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) Laurie Ramie, speaking on behalf of the UDC, said, "We are extremely disappointed over the loss of this bridge after steadfastly advocating for the preservation of this unique, historical gem which we believe could have been rehabilitated based on all the studies done for millions of dollars, had it not been left to deteriorate for six years of closure with a questionable inspection schedule."

"Currently, we do not know what the future holds for crossing there, but we do know that the landscape will be forever changed. There is no true mitigation possible," Ramie concluded.

The report from the inspection did not contain any reference to the possibility of the bridge being destroyed, instead identifying \$261,290 worth of "Priority 1" repairs to be conducted on the bridge within the following six months. That is only a small portion of the total of \$2,881,165 in maintenance recommendations from the report.

have the demolition done in late winter or early spring, with two options being considered. The first option would be a causeway going the full width of the river and the second option is with a partial causeway.

According to Brozey, the causeway would go from the New York side to approximately 25 feet beyond the center pier. The demolition team would then drop the New York side of the bridge knot the causeway and the Pennsylvania side would be dropped into the river and pulled up onto the causeway.

Brozey stated that one of the means that they anticipate to be used to drop the bridge onto the causeway is through explosive charges. She also added that the New York abatement and central pier would be removed while the Pennsylvania abatement would be stabilized.

Ramie also added that at the UDC's Project Review Committee meeting on Tuesday night, December 17, the National Park Service and UDC determined that they will likely pursue a joint substantial conformance review of the project in order to assess the impacts the demolition will have on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's Land and Water Use Guidelines.

"Given that this is being pursued under Governor Shapiro's emergency declaration to expedite the bridge's removal however, that may be for due diligence documentation after the fact," Ramie said.

Demolition approach
The project team hopes to

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BRIEFS

UDC to elect

2025 Officers on Jan. 2

NARROWSBURG – The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) will hold its 2025 Election of Officers at its annual meeting on Thursday, January 2, at 7 p.m. at the Upper Delaware Council office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg.

Nominated to serve at the Dec. 5 meeting were Chairperson James R. Rodgers (Town of Fremont, NY), Vice-Chairperson Evan Padua (Town of Tusten, NY), and Secretary-Treasurer Alan F. Henry (Berlin Township, PA). The election will take place by ballot; voting board members may also offer nominations from the floor that evening.

A swearing-in ceremony to formally take the oaths of office will take place on Feb. 6, followed by a reception at the end of the meeting.

The UDC's monthly business meeting to immediately follow the election will include status reports from the Delaware River Basin Commission, NYSDEC, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, National Park Service, and

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With Light: What a Wonderful World This Would Be



BY LORI ORESTANO-JAMES

Remember when our parents would say, "wait until you get older," to justify our ability to understand the world? Well, I still don't understand the world, especially the current world we live in.

So many people live in fear of what is to come; their health, their finances, fear of safety, in short, what tomorrow brings within this tumultuous world. And, although the feeling of nervous despair is prevalent, there still can be found a spark of light to change the world. We need only learn by the history of the Jewish people in their celebration of Chanukah and many other cultures in our world celebrating the same

concept during Christmas and Kwanzaa.

First, let's come to an understanding that Chanukah is not a Holy Day (Holiday). The name of the celebratory 8 days actually includes what it is: Chanukah - The Festival of Lights. Now, why is this so important? Simple once you know the story.

Recently, Dr. Peter Chester, President of the Landfield Avenue Synagogue, sent a message to the congregation to explain. He shared, "Though all of these holidays have their special importance to their respective religions, there is one powerful commonality that they share; a commonality that is both spiritual and simple. Both acknowledge a

miracle - the irrefutable might of G-d that 'makes things right' for his children.

Both acknowledge the importance, indeed the spiritual allusions of a word so common that we often fail to recognize its true essence.

That word is 'light.' Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, retells the miracle that kept the Ner Tamid [the Eternal Flame of G-d present in all Synagogues] illuminated for 8 days when there was barely enough oil for a single day - indeed that capful of oil truly 'illuminated the world' - an occurrence that could only be explained as 'a miracle!'

Our non-Jewish brothers and sisters also recognize the 'miracle of light' - a star in the sky that designates a 'holy occurrence.'

Overarching these holidays is the power of G-d; his might; his goodness and compassion; the light of his miracles that shows his children the way to peace.

As the calendar now turns to 2025, we, the family of humankind, in acts of kindness, reverence, and piety, must do our level best to 'illuminate the world' with the light of G-d."

Dr. Chester lays out the pathway for the true understanding of this season. The lights of the Menorah, the Kinara, or Star in the Heavens, have the understanding to light the way. How can we do this? By living our lives in the spirit of what the light stands for; kindness, respect, love, peace, and a world in which neighbor helps neighbor to



Landfield Avenue Synagogue Board of Directors Secretary Lori Orestano-James and 1st Vice President Jared Kaufman at the Inaugural Menorah Lighting of the then newly commissioned LAS Menorah at the Ted Stroebele Recreation Center in 2023. The Menorah will be lit again this year to shine in all its beauty for the Community.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

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build a better tomorrow. As we look toward making our Annual New Year's Resolutions, let's take a moment to make one that is personal through its global focus. Make a resolution that brings light to your life and the lives of those around you. Think about helping a neighbor in need. Maybe to show kindness without judgment to a fellow member of the community. Make a resolution to say one kind thing to every person you see each day. How about thinking before you speak against someone of what might be the reason something is happening?

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And there is always the old adage of "Do unto others as you would like to have others do unto you."

None of us is perfect. However, negative energy can bring us to a dark place in which we will surely never see the light so obvious in our collective histories. Find the light in our children, family, friends, and community. Embrace with respect the positiveness of this light through kindness and understanding.

I still am not sure if what my parents said to me is true in the fact of me ever being able to understand the meaning of life. To me, my Chanukah memory was about lighting the menorah, and a guarantee of some new socks for the year (IYKYK). It is possible what they taught me through those words of understanding so long ago are true and

lasting. How do I know? Because this year I will make a resolution to shine my light, avoid the darkness, and find the goodness in what is right before me. For that truly is the miracle of the light. And if we all do that together, imagine what a wonderful world this would be.

Landfield Avenue Synagogue Community Menorah Lighting Schedule:

The Landfield Avenue Synagogue (LAS) oversees the lighting of 3 LAS Community Menorahs. Each Community Menorah Lighting will take place at 5:15pm every night from December 25, 2024 through January 1, 2025. The location for the Community Lightings is as follows:

December 25, 2024 - Ted Stroebele Recreation Center, Jefferson Street, Monticello

December 26, 2024 - The Village of Monticello Village

Hall, Rt 42 Monticello
December 27, 2024 - Ted Stroebele Recreation Center (This will be an early lighting at 3:50pm due to the start of the Sabbath).

December 28, 2024 - Ted Stroebele Recreation Center at 5:45pm after the Sabbath ends.

December 29, 2024 - The Village Hall with the Annual Lots of Latkes Chanukah Dinner (Lighting 5:15/Dinner at LAS at 5:45pm - call 845-794-8470 to make your reservation).

December 30, 2024 - Garnet - Catskills (Lighting at 3pm to accommodate visitors schedule.)

December 31, 2024 - Ted Stroebele Hope In Our Community in partnership with SALT (Sullivan Allies Leading Together).

January 1, 2025 - The Village Hall, Monticello



Members of the Landfield Avenue Synagogue and the Community light the new Menorah commissioned last year during the first night of Chanukah.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus!

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

#115 West Ninety-Fifth St.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias.

There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove?

Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church, Editor

This article originally appeared on the editorial page of the New York Sun, September 21, 1897, and was reprinted for many years in the December 24 editions of the newspaper.



The Best of Nellie

Reprinted from December 19, 1963

It has become an annual custom for the writer of this column to repeat each Christmas the old, yet ever new, story of Christ's birth. No hand could write that story more beautifully than the divinely inspired hand of Luke. And so, we turn again to this great masterpiece and print it for you.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was Governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the City of David, which was called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David: To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that while they were there the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And, lo the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round them and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. — N.C.S.



DEREK KIRK | DEMOCRAT

Sturdy, even under snow

All across the world tonight are countless Christmas trees set up in anticipation of what's to come tomorrow. As per tradition, they are decked out with lights and ornaments, all different shapes and colors intertwined with tinsel and topped by a twinkling star. For many, it is the staple of the holiday. But with so many pine trees in the area, you don't even need

all the festive decorations to feel the magic of Christmas. It still holds up, even under the weight of heavy, pure snow. With that being said, we hope our readers enjoy their Christmas, as well as to have a peaceful Hanukkah!

We're ready for our close-up, Hallmark

I'm not sure how many holiday movies one has to watch to become an expert. Ten? Twenty? One hundred or more?

The number I've taken in over the course of the past few weeks is too high for me to feel quite comfortable revealing to you, my trusty newspaper readers. So let's just say that I work out on my treadmill daily, and the cheesier a holiday movie, the better it is for distracting me from the burning in my calves.

I may or may not qualify for festive film expert status at this point. I will allow you to do some quick math to decide.

As someone who's lived all but a few years of my life in the vicinity of the 12723 zip code, however, I do consider myself a bit of an authority on one of holiday filmmakers' most beloved settings — the small town.

It's with this dubious expertise that I offer up one or several of the small towns of Sullivan County as the perfect setting for one of these

INSIDE OUT

JEANNE SAGER

schmaltzy flicks.

After all, there is nothing quite as alluring to a sentimental screenwriter as a charming Main Street, that is until they come upon a cozy country inn coated in snow or perhaps a community cookie competition?

Charming Main Streets we have here in abundance, and we have our fair share of cozy country inns too. No snow at the inn? Just wait for a day when you absolutely have to get a ton of errands done and can't afford to be stuck at home, and it's sure to be snowing so hard at said inn that all the guests will be stuck inside with no choice but to get to know one another.

As for cookie competitions, I offer up our own Catskills version: The flour-covered big city girl

reconnects with her hunky former ex-flame who's been toiling over a boiling pot of freshly shaped bagels.

Cue the perfect "meet ugly" (that's the opposite of a meet cute). He accidentally bumps right into her thanks to steamed up glasses, and we are off for an hour and a half of dressing up like it's the 1800s for Dickens on the Delaware in Callicoon, decking out the best tree for the museum exhibit in Hurleyville, and finally the big moment ... a chaste kiss between our "will they or won't they" couple in the backseat of a car as it rides through Peace, Love and Lights at Bethel Woods.

The screenplay really just wrote itself.

Hallmark, are you listening?

JEANNE SAGER turns her job as a freelance reporter/photographer and life as a county native "Inside Out" each week on these pages. Keep an eye out for her state-award winning column every Tuesday here and at www.jeannesagerphotography.com.

LAKE HUNTINGTON

JENN POWELL | JENN@JENNPowellDESIGNS.COM

December 24 — And just like that, we've reached the final chapter of the year! December is a whirlwind of cozy nights, sparkling lights, and those magical moments where time seems to pause (right before you realize you're late to the next holiday gathering). Whether you're soaking in the joy of family traditions, wrapping up projects, or plotting your big dreams for the new year, let's make these last days count.

Here are some events and happenings in and around our community:

Join Cochection Volunteer Ambulance and make a life-changing impact on our community. Your time and dedication can help save lives, bring comfort to neighbors in need, and make our town safer for everyone. Apply Today! <https://tinyurl.com/cvapplication>

Lakeview Bar is hosting a New Year's Eve Bash at the Lakeview Pizza & Bar located at 23 Crestwood Road, Lake Huntington NY. Party starts at 8:00pm. Live DJ, Italian Buffet, Drink Specials (21 or older to

enter). Admission is \$25.00. Come have fun, dance the year away, and watch the ball drop on our three big flat-screen TVs. For more information, call Chris at 845-932-5061.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Youth Ice Fishing Tournament hosted by Smugglers Nob Rod & Gun Club. This event will take place on Sunday, February 2 from 8 AM - 2 PM on Mitchell Pond in Cochection, NY. Parents, please bring all of the kids for a fun-filled day of ice fishing. All kids fish for free. Food and beverages for all kids who participate. All children will be eligible for prizes. Fishing regulations will be in accordance with NYDEC. Fishing access will be located at 175 Mitchell Pond West Road. Transportation will be provided by club members. No outside ATV/UTVs. Please contact Harold "Boomer" Russell at 845-583-6602 or Kevin Esselman at 845-932-7829 for any questions.

Be advised the following town roads in the Town of Cochection will have no maintenance from Decem-

ber 2024 to April 1, 2025. During that time, there will be no Town services performed on these roads. The closing of the roads will take effect on the date indicated or when signs are placed, and signs will be removed on April 1, 2025.

HAASE ROAD – from Stony Road to R. Haase's driveway.

STONY ROAD – from Rauch Road to Old County Road.

MILL ROAD – after Shawn Nearing's driveway to H. Twyman's driveway.

Annual Ugly Sweater Party at Hector's Inn on Sunday, December 29th at 3 PM. Don't pack those sweaters away yet! Wear them here & vie for the title of the ugliest one! Bring a dish to share and join in the fun!

If you have a local business that would like to be spotlighted in an upcoming column, please get in touch! Please email jenn@jenn-powelldesigns.com with any news, events, and happenings. Catch me online at www.everafterinthetwoods.com for delicious recipes too!

SEND US A LETTER

The Democrat welcomes letters to the editor. We ask that they be no longer than 300 words, typewritten or neatly printed, and include the author's signature, address and a phone number for possible verification questions. With the obvious exception of the signature, this policy also applies to email. Letters longer than 300 words will be cut, rewritten by the author, or considered for inclusion in the "Counterpoint: A

View From a Reader" column – at our discretion. In addition, the Democrat will not accept letters written specifically about a local newspaper article other than those printed in the Democrat. Thank you letters of any sort are considered paid advertisements. Please send your letters following the above guidelines to: editor@sc-democrat.com.

COMING UP

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

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

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

Tuesday, December 24

The Eldred Preserve invites you to enjoy a specially curated menu to celebrate Christmas Eve at The Homestead Restaurant and Lounge. Our holiday menu includes unique appetizers, dinner entrées, and special desserts. Appetizers are available for an additional charge. Reservations are available from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. \$68 per person (excluding beverages, tax + tip). | Reservations required. We look forward to hosting you this holiday season!

Thursday, December 26

Sew-cial Circle group meets every Thursday at the Jeffersonville Branch of the Western Sullivan Public Library from 1:00pm to 3:00pm for needlecrafts including embroidery, cross stitch, needlepoint, and more. Basic supplies and general instruction will be provided. More information at WSPLonline.org.
Senior Social Dance Program: During these 60-minute low-impact sessions, you'll be guided through the basic steps of ballroom and Latin dance styles. Don't worry if you have no previous dance experience – everyone is welcome! Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Water will be provided. Most Thursdays from 12:30 – 1:30pm | The Ballroom at HPAC | Tickets: \$20

Friday, December 27

Step into the enchanting world of cabaret at Hurleyville Arts Centre, where an unforgettable evening of burlesque awaits. Prepare to be dazzled by high-energy dance performances from professional burlesque dancers adorned in elaborate costumes that capture the glitz and glamour of the genre. This unforgettable burlesque experience celebrates classic charm and bold allure, where every act offers a playful nod to vintage glitz and seductive sophistication. The Ballroom @ HPAC, 219 Main St, Hurleyville, NY 12747 Fees/Admission \$60.00 Age 18+, <https://hpcacny.org/hpac-events/oh-my-stars/>. Contact Information Megan@hpcacny.org, 845-985-4722 ext 4.

BRIEFS

**Delaware Highlands Conservancy
Announces Winter 2025 Eagle Watch Bus Tours**

UPPER DELAWARE RIVER REGION – Join the Delaware Highlands Conservancy for eagle-watching all winter long, including for its popular series of Eagle Watch bus tours in January and February. Bus Tours Winter 2025:

Join the Conservancy on a guided eagle-viewing bus tour, scheduled on select weekends in January and February. Learn from an expert guide and take a scenic drive on a heated bus throughout the Upper Delaware River region to look for and learn about bald eagles and their habitat.

Seats on trips are limited and advance reservations are required, so reserve your space today for the following 2025 winter trips (Fee: \$25 for Conservancy members, \$35 for non-members; kids under 12 free). Get tickets online at www.DelawareHighlands.org/events or call 570-226-3164/845-583-1010.

January 4, January 18, January 25

February 1, February 15, February 22

The trips commence at the Conservancy's Winter Field Office at the Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA and run from 11am-3pm. Snow dates for the trips are

the Sundays immediately following. Check www.DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information. Refunds are not provided in the event of canceled reservations or no-shows.

Eagle Watching On Your Own:

The Conservancy's Winter Field Office inside the Zane Grey Museum at 135 Scenic Drive, Lackawaxen, PA is provided by the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and staffed by Conservancy volunteers. It is a center of information for visitors looking to learn more about viewing and protecting eagles. Visitors can pick up information about the bald eagle in the Upper Delaware River region, get maps and directions to eagle viewing locations, watch a short film, and view interpretive exhibits. The Visitor Center is staffed on Saturdays and Sundays in January and February, and open to visitors from 10am-3pm.

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy has also partnered with the NPS and the New York State Department of Conservation



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES PHOTO

to maintain well-marked Eagle Observation Areas open to the public. These viewing blinds are also staffed by Conservancy volunteers on weekends through the winter season, and visitors can look through binoculars and spotting scopes to see bald eagles in the wild. Visit www.DelawareHighlands.org/Eagles for directions and information about eagle viewing on your own.

The Upper Delaware River region is one of the largest wintering habitats for eagles in the northeast United States because of abundant clean water and large, undisturbed stands of trees. Protected

lands in Pike and Wayne Counties in PA and Sullivan and Delaware Counties in NY provide a safe haven for these migratory birds, as well as breeding eagles that live here year-round.

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy works in partnership with landowners and communities to protect the natural heritage and quality of life of the Upper Delaware River region. For more information, call 570-226-3164/845-583-1010 or visit www.DelawareHighlands.org

Stay in the know, read the *Sullivan County Democrat!*

Radio Catskill Unveils New Sunday Programming Lineup

LIBERTY – Radio Catskill has announced a new Sunday programming schedule, effective January 5, 2025.

Critically acclaimed national programs "City Arts & Lectures" and "The New Yorker Radio Hour" will move to more accessible times. Local favorite "Folk Plus" will move to an earlier time on Sunday afternoon.

"We're pleased to provide wider exposure to 'City Arts & Lectures' and 'The New Yorker Radio Hour' and have them bookend the Sunday edition of 'All Things Considered,'" said Jason Dole, Program Director, Radio Catskill. "With 'Folk Plus' moving to 2pm, our afternoon lineup will feature four local shows in a row and streamline our schedule."

See below for the new lineup effective January 5, 2025:
Folk Plus
New Time: Sundays, 2pm

Angela Page has been curating folk music since the 1970s, drawing from her extensive experience, including running coffee houses in college and working with the first national coffee house conference in 1976. After college, she founded the Speak Easy in NYC's Greenwich Village and co-launched the Fast Folk Musical Magazine. She has written reviews for "Sing Out Magazine," judged for NERFA, and MC'd at international festivals. Angela has hosted "Folk Plus" on Radio Catskill since 1991 and has aired specials on SiriusXM and other stations across North America. In 2022, she was inducted into the Folk DJ Hall of Fame by the International Folk Alliance. Visit folkplusradio.com for setlists, interviews, and more.

City Arts & Lectures

New Time: Sundays, 4pm

Since 1980, San Francisco-based non-profit "City Arts & Lectures" has offered unique programs with leading figures in arts and ideas. Each year there are more than fifty lectures and onstage conversations – and a few surprise performances, film tributes, and concerts – with outstanding writers, critics, scientists, performing artists, and cultural figures from around the world. "City Arts & Lectures" events are held in the historic Sydney Goldstein Theater in San Francisco's Performing Arts Center and can be heard on more than 130 public radio stations across the country, co-produced with KQED 88.5 FM in San Francisco.

The New Yorker Radio Hour

New Time: Sundays, 6pm
David Remnick is joined by "The New Yorker"'s award-winning writers, editors and

artists to present a weekly mix of profiles, storytelling, and insightful conversations about the issues that matter — plus an occasional blast of comic genius from the magazine's legendary Shouts and Murmurs page.

"The New Yorker" has set a standard in journalism for generations and "The New Yorker Radio Hour" gives it a voice on public radio. Produced by "The New Yorker" and WNYC Studios. Additionally, "Fresh Air

Weekend" will join the schedule Saturdays at 6am.

Leaving the schedule are "Millenium of Music," "Harmonia," "Sinner's Crossroads," and "Notes From America," which are ending production.

Thompson Sanitation



PO Box 494
Rock Hill, NY 12775-0494
Phone: 845-796-1032

E-mail: tschaulers@aol.com
www.thompsonsanitation.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Last week Sullivan County took \$2 million of your tax dollars out of the landfill and shifted them to other parts of their budget. That huge amount has been passed to all the trash haulers in the area. The County is implementing a 25% increase in fees when we dump your refuse. This is in addition to the County more than doubling the rate to dump recycling this year, from \$50 to \$110 per ton. Remember when it was free?!!

We have all faced many challenges over the last 2 years. Increased costs in everything we need to run a business or a home. To offset these increases, Thompson Sanitation has implemented many ways to decrease our costs while increasing our efficiency. We have been able to keep your monthly bill the same, no increase, the last 2 plus years.

With regret, we are now forced to increase monthly fees by an average of 15%. Some may pay a little more or a little less, depending on what you were paying previously.

As Sullivan County's largest hauler, we are continuing to work with local officials, exploring ways to minimize these increases to our friends and neighbors. We are hopeful this percentage will decrease as negotiations progress. If we are successful, we will credit your account for any difference.

Though we know this is not the news anyone wants to hear during the holidays, we wanted to inform every one of this change.

Happy Holidays and the healthiest of New Year wishes to everyone!

Your friends and family at Thompson Sanitation

MORE RECYCLING.....LESS TRASH



We understand.

Sometimes you just need a break.

As a caregiver, it's easy to lose your sense of self. Spending time with friends, laughing, sharing, or even just sitting together can make all the difference.

We'll care for your loved one while you care for yourself.



hospiceoforange.com
845-561-6111



Christmas Worship

Worships services this Christmas season in Sullivan County

St. Francis Xavier & Our Lady of the Lake Mass Schedule



St. Francis Xavier Church
151 Bridge Street,
Narrowsburg, NY



Our Lady of the Lake Church
Route 52,
Lake Huntington, NY

8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, Dec.24
11:15 a.m. Christmas Day Mass, Dec.25

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vigil -
Children's Mass and Pageant, Dec.25

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

24 Chestnut St., Liberty

Dec. 24th

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
& Holy Communion
5 PM**

For information call
845-807-6964

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Liberty, NY

The Western Sullivan Charge of the United Methodist Church

**Jeffersonville
United Methodist Church**
28 Maple Ave,
Jeffersonville, NY 12748
No Service

**Kenoza Lake United
Methodist Church**
484 Old Taylor Rd,
Kenoza Lake, NY 12750
Service Time: 7 PM

**United Methodist Church
of Liberty**
170 N. Main St, Liberty, NY 12754
Service Time: 5 PM

**Livingston Manor
United Methodist Church**
89 Pearl St., Livingston Manor, NY 12758
No Service

**Mongaup Valley
United Methodist Church**
1090 Rt. 17 B,
Mongaup Valley, NY 12762
Service Time: 4 PM

**North Branch United
Methodist Church**
County Rd. 95, North Branch, NY 12766
Service Time: 4 PM

**White Sulphur Springs
United Methodist Church**
3318 St. Rt. 52,
White Sulphur Springs, NY 12787
Service Time: 7:30 PM

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9 Mt. View Dr., Callicoon, NY
Across from Roche's Garage
CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST
1:30 P.M.
(845) 887-3145

Christmas Worship Services Mid-Sullivan Charge of United Methodist Churches

Monticello United Methodist Church
445 Broadway Monticello, NY
Christmas Eve - 7PM

Hurleyville United Methodist Church
Main Street, Hurleyville, NY
Christmas Eve - 5PM

Woodridge United Methodist Church
No Service
Pastor Wendy Paige

For Faith Parish Christmas Services

Hortonville Presbyterian Church
12/22 at 11 a.m.

**Lake Huntington/Bethel
Presbyterian Churches**
12/22 at 9:30a.m.

Roscoe Presbyterian Church
12/24 at 5:00 p.m.

Service will be posted on the
For Faith Parish Facebook page
and Live Streamed on the
Roscoe Presbyterian Church
Facebook page

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

31 Erie Ave., Narrowsburg, NY

Christmas Eve
December 24th 2024
Service of Holy Communion
4:00pm

Christmas Day
December 25th 2024
Service of Holy Communion
10:00am

First Sunday after Christmas
December 29th 2024
Lessons & Carols
with Holy Communion
9:30am

St. Peter's R.C. Church

264 N. Main St., Liberty NY

Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Mass in English
7:00 PM Mass in Spanish

Christmas Day
10:00 AM Mass in English

St. Francis Church Youngsville

**Christmas Eve Mass
7 p.m.**

St. George Church Jeffersonville

**Christmas Eve Mass 4 p.m.
Dec. 25 Christmas Mass
11 a.m.**

Livingston Manor Presbyterian Church

568 Old Route 17,
Livingston Manor, NY

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service @ 4:00 p.m.**

Saint Peter's Monticello 10 Liberty St., Monticello N.Y. Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
5:15 p.m.- St. Peter's
5:15 p.m. - St. Joseph's
(Mongaup Valley)
7:00 p.m. - St. Peter's (Spanish)
Midnight - St. Peter's

Christmas Day
9:00 a.m. - St. Peter's
9:30 a.m. - St. Joseph's
(Mongaup Valley)
11:15 a.m. - St. Peter's
1:00 p.m. - St. Peter's (Spanish)

Ellenville Christ Lutheran Church

105 Center St., Ellenville, NY

Tuesday Christmas Eve Service
11a.m.
With Communion
Pastor Paul Johnsen
(845) 647-9054

Grace Lutheran Church of North Branch

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service 3 p.m.**
Come Join Us
For info contact
Pastor Bowman 845-720-2605

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

15 St. John St., Monticello, NY
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT
FAMILY SERVICE
WITH HOLY EUCHARIST
4 P.M.
845-303-0535

St. Aloysius Church, Livingston Manor Gate of Heaven Roscoe

Christmas Mass Schedule
Christmas Eve (12.24.2024) Tuesday
5:00 PM - St. Aloysius,
Livingston Manor
7:00 PM - Gate of Heaven, Roscoe

Christmas Day (12.25.2024) Wednesday
9:00 AM - St. Aloysius,
Livingston Manor

First Presbyterian Church of Jeffersonville

All are welcome.

**Christmas Eve Service
at 8:30 p.m.**
Candlelight Service

*We will be Zooming the service.
Please email the church at
fpcjeff@gmail.com
with your name
and email address and we will
send you a link for the service.*

*Our elevator is temporarily
not working*

Christmas Eve Service Riverside United Methodist Church

Callicoon, NY

Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30pm

In person and zoom
ID# 917-417-1539 Password: 758844
Ph: 646-558-6856 then ID and password

Reformed Presbyterian Church White Lake

6 Mattison Rd.

**Christmas Eve
Program 7 p.m.**



Pastor David Coon
www.whitelakechurch.com
Our facilities are handicapped accessible

Barryville United Methodist Church

3405 State Route 97, Barryville, NY

Christmas Services
December 22nd
Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30
December 24th
Christmas Eve Service 5:30

Pond Eddy Methodist Church

122 Berne-Church Rd.
Pond Eddy, NY 12770

You are invited to a
**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**
Dec. 24th 7PM

**The Sanctuary will be open
All Day Christmas Day,**
Join me for Christmas Carols
From 10 AM-11AM

For information call
845-858-2607
Pastor Nancy Lee Vonderhorst

Vine & Branch Church

Belong • Become • Be Sent

845-292-5227

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**
7:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m.

In-person and live streamed at
www.vineandbranchchurch.org

*For unto us a child is born, and His name shall
be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*

**Come Home for Christmas
& the New Year!**
**Come to the Oldest Catholic Parish
in Sullivan County**
St. Mary Church, Obernburg, NY

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
5:00pm Caroling
5:15pm Visit from Santa
5:30pm Mass

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day
The Nativity of the Lord
9:30am Mass



Tuesday, December 31, New Year Eve
**Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of
Mary The Mother of God**
5:30pm Mass

Wednesday, January 1, New Year Day
**Mass of the Solemnity of
Mary The Mother of God**
9:30am Mass

Saturday, January 4
The Epiphany of The Lord
4:00pm Mass
& Sunday, January 5
8:00am & 9:30am Mass

Saturday, January 11
The Baptism of The Lord
4:00pm Mass
& Sunday, January 12
8:00am & 9:30am Mass

United Church of Roscoe

2 Church St., Roscoe, NY

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
7:00 p.m.

No Christmas Day Worship Service
Tuesday evening worship service at 6:00 p.m.
Reverend Christin Lindeberg
203-499-8923

First Church of Monticello Presbyterian

**11 Jones St., Monticello, NY
Next to Court House
845-794-5783**

**Candlelight
Christmas Eve Service**
7 p.m. Dec. 24th
All Welcome

**Join us as we livestream on
Facebook: First Church of
Monticello Presbyterian**

**Damascus Manor
United Methodist Church**
1721 Cocheton Turnpike
Damascus, PA 18415
(570) 224-4637

Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm
Come see the luminaries!

DOWN THE DECADES

Still winning:
Sullivan West
beats Burke! **8B**



SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

www.scdemocratonline.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024 **1B**

Mostly old photos, you lend 'em, we return them. Compiled by Lee Hermann, Muse, & Ruth Huggler

A retrospect of happenings in the daily lives of the people of Sullivan County.

130 YEARS AGO - 1894

Katie, wife of John Huggler of Kenoza Lake, and daughter of Melchior Kohler of Beechwoods, died December 14, aged about 23.

J. Segar of New York and Miss Mamie Laidlaw of Roscoe were married at the latter place December 3.

A pleasant wedding was celebrated at the residence of William Krantz of Callicoon on Tuesday last when his daughter, Miss Katie, was united in wedlock to Michael Lober, also of Callicoon.

Personal Notes:

Schwab's Obernburg Brewery announces a special brew of beer light and dark, for the holidays. Fill 'em up again, bartender.

Miss Lizzie Mages, daughter of John Mages of Jeffersonville, who was taken with smallpox in New York, is reported as doing well.

Liberty "do" seem to be a favored spot, anyhow. The folks out there are riding around on runners as nice as you please, while here we haven't seen a sign of sleighing for a long time.

John Schmidt has built an addition to his butcher shop for the purpose of making bologna, sausage, etc.

A meeting of the water works company was held at the Mansion House last week, at which it was decided to pay for the labor and other expenses incurred so far.

120 YEARS AGO - 1904

Dr. Davis on Monday operated on Albert, 13-year-old son of John Huth, north of this village, who had been ill of appendicitis.

A drove of 65 cows was taken from Charles Scheidell's stables in Jeffersonville Tuesday by Birdsey Young of Bullville, who drove the animals to their destination in two days. Arthur Grishaber of this place went with the drove.

The Callicoon Depot Board of Education has decided to discontinue the morning and afternoon intermissions and dismiss school at 3:30, on account of the children who come from a distance.

The real estate and creamery fixtures of the Alpine Creamery Co. of North Branch will be sold at auction on January 19.

The Sullivan County Dairy Co. is having a telephone line built between its creameries and Callicoon Depot of Hankins, a distance of four miles.

Mercury stood from 6 to 12 degrees below zero this morning.

Ed Kohler, the painter, has bought two acres of land of John Holpp in the rear of his lot on which he has moved his barn and also built a paint shop.

A surprise party was given Rudolph Krantz of Beechwoods on Wednesday evening, December 7, in honor of his 47th birthday.

Youngsville — Melvin Gorton has moved from the Rogler homestead to the Schroeder place on "Chicken Hill."

A daughter was born to John Bruetsch and wife of Youngsville on December 5 and a son was born to John Wahl and wife on November 30.

110 YEARS AGO - 1914

The Colt acetylene gas machine of hotel keeper George DeLap of Kenoza Lake blew up Saturday while Mr. DeLap was thrown out of the open door of the building.

The school in Beechwoods District No. 7 has been closed till after the holidays, owing to scarlet fever.

On Thursday, the drying house at the barrel factory of W.E. Sipple at Mileses was destroyed by fire.

William Brown of Jeffersonville has been appointed mail carrier on the rural route from Stevensville through Hurd and adjacent territory in place of Hans Reinshagen of Bethel.

Frank Riemenschneider arrived home Monday from Hansfield, South Dakota, to see his parents, George Riemenschneider and wife of East Hill. John Schurer and Henry Reyman are also home from South Dakota for a visit.

A yearling calf left the herd of Henry Mauer of Beechwoods last spring and made its home in the Tamarack Swamp, across the Callicoon Creek south of Hortonville, defying all efforts to capture it until recently. August Faubel of Hortonville succeeded in corralling the critter by erecting a stanchion in the swamp, placing hay for bait.

Alethea Lillian, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hess, was baptized in the M.E. Church Sunday by Pastor Read.

Bernard Morman, a resident of Monticello and a son-in-law of the late Thomas Brown of Youngsville, died suddenly in Monticello Friday. Mr. Morman was married in 1880 to Miss Maria Brown of Youngsville, who survives with four sons and three daughters, Victor, Bernard, Otto and Marjorie, at home; Lizzie of Wilmington, Del., and Gertrude of Philadelphia, Pa.

Stephen D. Sawyer, the well-known proprietor of the Delaware House at Callicoon, died at his home in that village Saturday night after a short illness. He was 64 years of age.

One of the greatest features of Christmas is the home meeting. How many hundreds of thousands who have been separated throughout the year will now be gathered together once more under the old home roof. It is well that it should be so. It warms the heart to read of the trains to the north and the trains to the south, east and west, being filled with people going home for the Christmas holidays.

100 YEARS AGO - 1924

At the Livingston Manor fire district election recently a proposition pertaining to the rental of hydrants from the Woolsey Old Homestead Water Co., was rejected by voters. This leaves the village without fire protection except from natural sources, such as brooks and rivers.

George Schaefer, native of Beechwoods, died in his 71st year at his home in Woodhaven, L.I. He was the eldest son of the late John Philip Schaefer.

The Methodists of Long Eddy, who lost their church edifice some time ago by fire, have their new church erected, and it took only two days to put it up. The material was received in pieces ready to join together and an old-fashioned "bee" was held to put them in place.

The county board of supervisors have raised the pay of grand and trial jurymen from \$3 to \$4 a day and has made \$2 the standard for excused jurymen.

The Board of Supervisors have announced the following bounties for the killing of destructive wild animals: wildcats, \$5; gray foxes, \$3; red foxes and weasels, \$1.

The O&W railroad will use a gasoline car of a type that has proven successful elsewhere on its Summitville-Monticello line in a

short time for the light winter passenger traffic.

The state troopers are kept busy now holding up auto drivers to see if they have operators' licenses. It is said that only forty percent of the car owners in Sullivan County have licenses.

90 YEARS AGO - 1934

The A&P in a 1/3 page ad, in the December 20 issue of the Liberty Register, advertises Long Island Duckling at 21¢ a lb.; fresh stewing oysters at 25¢ a pint; tub butter, 3 lbs. for 95¢ and print butter at 2 lbs. for 67¢; sugar, 10 lbs. for 51¢; fillets of fish, 10¢ lb.; and Lucky Strike, Chesterfield, Camel, Old Gold and Piedmont cigarettes at \$1.20 (in a Christmas wrapped gift) carton. Organizations or individuals desiring to purchase Christmas orders for needy families will be interested in our cheer orders. Information can be obtained at any of our stores. May we suggest A&P Dollar Food Coupons. They are redeemable for one dollar's worth of merchandise when presented at any A&P Food Store in the United States.

Raymond Anderson, native of Beechwoods and a former school principal in Jeffersonville, is now grand master of Odd Fellows in the state of Vermont with his office at Essex Junction. He is also a member of Callicoon Lodge of Free Masons in Jeffersonville.

Charles E. Button, principal of the Livingston Manor School, went to a Middletown hospital last Sunday for an appendicitis operation.

White Lake, one of the finest bodies of water in the county, and around which are many boarding houses and other business places, has been purchased from the Gillespie estate, owners since the Revolutionary War, by Thomas Leonard, retired New York policeman.

Abe Strong, Cochection Center aviator, was removed last week to his home from the Callicoon Hospital where he was under treatment for a fractured pelvis, broken fingers and sprained ankles, sustained on December 2 when his small homemade plane failed to rise out of the Cochection Airport and fell from a height of about 100 feet into the muddy banks of the Delaware River. Abe, instead of replacing the damaged plane, will build a larger and more powerful one as soon as he is able to go to work again.

Mrs. John Simon Diehl, aged 82, died at her home in Jeffersonville on December 18 after five years' illness from liver and gall bladder trouble. Mrs. Diehl was born Barbara Schwalb in Hessen Darmstadt, Germany, and at the age of 14 came alone to New York City.

Michael A. Hoffman, aged 83, native of the Town of Fremont, died December 13 at his home in Larchmont.

Mamie Moore, wife of John C. Meyer of Narrowsburg, died December 15 at the home of her sister in Flushing. Mrs. Meyer was born on a farm near Jeffersonville, a daughter of Arnold Moore and Elizabeth Kehrl, natives of Switzerland.

80 YEARS AGO - 1944

Mrs. Mary Bernhardt of Kenoza Lake was notified last week by the War Department that her son, Sgt. Floyd A. Bernhardt, had been wounded on November 19th in Germany. This is the third time that Floyd has been wounded in action in the European War. Mrs. Ber-

GLANCING BACK ...A LOOK AT YESTERYEAR



CONTRIBUTED BY ART & SANDY FLYNN

Telegram for you!

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah and Kwanzaa to all our readers who celebrate. We're thinking of those who give their time during the holidays to serve others: may you enjoy your celebrations and share them with those you care about, family and friends. Thank you for all you do.

nhardt has three other sons in the Army: Adam, who was wounded in Germany some time ago; Ralph, who was reported missing and is thought to be a prisoner of the Germans; and Hans, a baker with the overseas forces in Germany.

Pvt. Albert Bogert of Callicoon Center was wounded in the back and leg in France on October 14, according to word received by his wife, the former Eleanor Allgeier of North Branch.

Hugh Stephenson, 80, died at his home in Brooklyn on November 23. He left the request that his body be cremated and the ashes scattered on the farm where he was born, now the home of his brother, John, at Birch Ridge in the town of Bethel.

Timothy Sweeney, 67, who with his wife occupied one of the Huff apartments on East Main St., died suddenly last Saturday, December 9. Mr. Sweeney was born in New York City and in his younger life he served many years in the U.S. Navy as a shiprigger.

70 YEARS AGO - 1954

Miss Elfreda Topp became the bride of Andreas Nissen Saturday, December 11, at the First Lutheran Church in Jeff. Miss Topp is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Topp of Jeffersonville and Mr. Nissen is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Nissen of Germany.

Herbert N. Lambert of Parkville, a driller on construction work, died Saturday, December 11, after a two-month illness. He was 49 years old.

Mrs. Lena Biebel, 82, a half-century resident of Sullivan County, living in Kenoza Lake and Jeffersonville, died December 13 in Forest Hills, L.I., at the home of her niece.

Mrs. Alexander Henderson of Bronxville, died Monday. She was the former Lillie Bosley, daughter of the late Henry and Emma Bosley and sister of Mrs. L.J. Dietrich and John Bosley. The Sackman House at Kenoza Lake was formerly the Bosley homestead.

Frank Bauernfeind, a lifelong resident of Beechwoods, died December 11, at the age of 76.

Mr. and Mrs. George Schaefer of Staten Island were guests of honor at a 50th wedding anniversary dinner at the Antrim Lodge in Roscoe on December 12.

The tunnel to be constructed for Cannonsville Reservoir, from Cannonsville, Delaware County, to

Lows Corners in Sullivan County, will have seven shafts, will cost some \$90,000,000 and will be started before any other phase of the Cannonsville work because of its immensity as a project.

60 YEARS AGO - 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Osmer Graby of Callicoon were surprised at a dinner party at the Village Inn, Hortonville, in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary on December 13.

Aennora Isabel Cabrera Herrera of Moron de la Grontera, Spain, announced the engagement of her daughter, Amparin to James F. Buddenhagen of Hortonville.

Mr. and Mrs. George Merkschlager of Lake Huntington celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on December 12.

Mrs. Augusta Rutz, 87, resident of Hankins and Roscoe, died December 9.

The U.S. Government means business on the Tock's Island Dam and action will be taken to enforce pollution regulations along the upper Delaware River.

Airman David Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Dumrose of Livingston Manor, has completed Air Force basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Gries of Mongaup Valley.

Christmas decorations in Callicoon are beautiful again this year. At the Agway bulk tanks, an enormous star has been erected, many homes are decked out for the season: the usual tree is lighted at the Callicoon Firehouse; at Hermann Hall, a Christmas tree, donated by Winkelstern's Christmas Tree Kingdom, has been lighted. By the way, who keeps shutting off the Christmas lights on lower Main Street?

50 YEARS AGO - 1974

Timothy P. Kelly of Liberty has been named Parks and Recreation Coordinator by the Liberty Town Board. He will be in charge of the youth activities program and will mesh the township's recreation efforts with those of the village of Liberty and the Liberty Central School.

The Majestic Hotel, for decades a Sullivan County landmark in South Fallsburg, burned to the ground in a spectacular fire of suspicious origin in a blaze that

could be seen for miles on Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Krebs of Narrowsburg announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathy, to Edward Steven Ambrozevitch of Moscow, Pa. No date has been set for the wedding.

40 YEARS AGO - 1984

The Honorable Lawrence Cooke, Chief Justice of the New York State Court of Appeals, the highest judicial office in the state, will be a guest at a December 23 breakfast at the Concord when more than 600 of his personal friends, who have supported him, taken pride in his achievement and of whom Judge Cooke says, "I will never forget the generosity and support of the people of Sullivan County. My home is here, I was born here and I hope to live all my life here," gather in honor of his retirement from the position he has held for the past six years, being appointed to the job by New York State Governor Hugh Carey on January 2, 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ross of Long Eddy announce the birth of a son, Garrett William, born December 1 in St. Joseph's Hospital, Carbondale, Pa. He has three older sisters, Jessica, Casey and Emmylou.

Due to the efforts of a small group of volunteers, Liberty residents are once again able to enjoy the 24-foot Christmas star shining out over the village from Thompson Hill. First erected in 1965, the star has been struggling for its existence ever since the untimely death of its original creator Dick VanAlstyne. Donations from the Masons, the American Legion, the VFW, the Clickin' Chicken 4-H group, Liberty Police PBA, St. Paul's and St. Peter's churches and the Elks have kept the star burning over the years.

Dave Irvin of Honesdale, Pa., shot an 11-point buck which measured 71 1/2 inches in the Democrat's Big Buck Contest.

30 YEARS AGO - 1994

Firemen from Callicoon and Hortonville extinguished a garage fire at the home of Willard and Barbara Turk just after 4 p.m. Monday. The building had no electric service and fire officials suspected that children playing with matches may have set the fire.

PLEASE SEE DECADES, PAGE 5B

DEATHS

Betty Jane Ringgenberg

December 10, 1939~December 13, 2024

Betty Jane Ringgenberg of Hortonville, NY a retired Post Master Relief for the United States Postal Service, Hortonville, NY and a lifelong area resident, died December 13, 2024 at her home. She was 85.

The daughter of the late George L. and Frances Grace Long Buddenhagen, she was born December 10, 1939 in Callicoon, New York.

Betty was a Past President and 30-year member of the VFW Post # 7276 Ladies Auxiliary; she had been the chairman for the VFW National Home for Children and held other positions at the District, County and State Level.

Survivors include her daughters, Lori J. Tyler of Syracuse, NY, Rhonda L. Houghtaling and her husband Bruce of Callicoon, NY and Christine M. Ringgenberg of New Windsor, NY; nine grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, Verl Ringgenberg; and her sons, David A. Ringgenberg and Roger L. Ringgenberg.

Funeral services will be Saturday, December 28, 2024 at 10 AM in the Presbyterian Church of Hortonville, NY. Pastor Shannon Bailey will officiate. Burial will follow in the Hortonville Cemetery, Hortonville, NY. Repass will follow at Hortonville Volunteer Fire Department.

Memorial contributions in Betty's name may be made to FFW National Home for Children Donate - <https://vfwnationalhome.org/donate/>; or to Upper Delaware Volunteer Ambulance Corp. 26 Kellam Bridge Rd, Hankins, New York 12741.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Harris Funeral Home, Railroad Ave., Roscoe, NY 607-498-4929 or 845-439-5200 or www.Harris-FH.com



Betty Jane Ringgenberg

Marilyn Brizel

December 15, 1937~December 7, 2024

Marilyn Brizel, 86, of Fallsburg, New York, a retired reservations manager of Fontainebleau Miami, The Flagler Hotel, Raleigh Hotel, Laurel's Hotel and Country Club, Kutsher's Country Club, The Fountains of Rome, and New Roxy, Catskills Resorts, and a lifelong resident of Sullivan County, died Saturday, December 7, 2024, at home in Fallsburg. She was 86 years old.

The daughter of the late Irene Ida Gadon Elovitz and Eli Arthur Elovitz, she was born December 15, 1937, in Winthrop, Massachusetts. She was a 1955 graduate of Malden High School. She was a 1957 graduate of the now defunct Mary Brooks College in Boston, Massachusetts, earning an Associate of Science degree in Secretarial Science. She was the widow of Sullivan County Community College Math and Logic Professor and Trustee, The Flagler Hotel and Schenk's Hotel co-owner, and Southern Tier Capital Corporation president and private businessman Milton Brizel. A previous marriage to the late Fallsview Hotel Ellenville talented bandleader pianist and entertainer Ben Gordon ended in divorce. She was predeceased by a brother, Fred Elliot of Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

Beginning her career at Olympic Hotel, and ending it at The Pines, as a top flight hotelier for decades, Marilyn was involved in hotel management, as well as managing reservations, sales, and conventions, and supervising staff, a testament to her exceptional organizational skills and commitment to hotel excellence. Always impeccably dressed and fashionable, she was a gracious hostess.

Marilyn was past president of the Fallsburg-Woodbourne Chapter of B'nai Brith, past president of the Fallsburg-Woodbourne Chapter of Hadassah, second president of the Fallsburg Parent Teachers Association (PTA) at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School, and past president of the Hotel Motel Management Association of Sullivan County.

Unknown to the general public, Marilyn also: organized, compiled and sent care packages to American soldiers on the front lines during the Vietnam War by secret courier; and organized, compiled and sent care packages to suffering families in the Soviet Union by secret courier during The Iron Curtain Cold War period. These care packages consisted of clothes, footwear, food, toiletries, basic necessities and print literature, and were smuggled out without the authorization or knowledge of the U.S. Government.

Marilyn is survived by her son, Robert Brizel, of Edgewater, New Jersey and his wife Dr. Lamara Brizel M.D.; a granddaughter, Ciline Brizel, of Edgewater, New Jersey; a first cousin, Cynthia Gadon of Bal Harbour, Florida; and several nieces, nephews and cousins in Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

A private graveside service was held Monday, December 9, 2024, at 12:00 P.M. at the Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery, Sunset Lake Road, Liberty, NY, with the Koblenter Rebbe, Hasidic Rabbi Joseph Kolakowski of White Lake officiating. Funeral arrangements were handled by Colonial Funeral Home, Woodbourne, New York. A gathering of family and friends followed at Liberty Diner.

Margaret C. Ellison (Peggy)

January 19, 1939~December 19, 2024

Margaret C. Ellison (Peggy) of Owego, NY, formally of Grahamsville, NY, died on December 19, 2024. She was born on January 19, 1939, in Carbondale, PA. Daughter of John F. Cadden and Delores Briggs, both of Carbondale, PA.

She is survived by her daughters, Christine Halloran and her husband Jim and children Michael (Alicia) and great-grandsons Braeden and John, Kevin and Sean (Janna) and her daughter, Kathleen. Sister-in-law Jean Cadden, nephews John (Angela), James (Lori), Robert (Natasha) and her niece Maureen Fitzgerald (John).

She was predeceased by her loving husband Miles R. Ellison, Jr., her parents, brother John Cadden, and her loyal and loving pets.

There will be no visitation or service. Cremation and the scattering of her ashes will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, ASPCA of Sullivan County or the Humane Society of the United States.



Marilyn Brizel

When I was almost two, I wanted to be a ballerina. And so, I took a shower cap, the kind that separates the hairline from the face and looks like a halo, slipped off my bulky diaper and stepped into it. However, when mother started taking photos and expecting pirouettes and grand jetes, I left the dance world for good.

In grade school, all I wanted to be was a girl with long hair. And so, Mother crocheted a cap from yellow yarn with two long braids for me to put over my pixie cut, and wear around the house. It felt good to have long hair; even better to be a blonde.

As I grew, I wanted to be a Marine Biologist because that's what my older brother wanted to be. When he spoke of it, it sounded important. However, to avoid sibling rivalry, my parents said pick something else. And so, I chose Architect, and when said brother wanted to be an Architect, I was encouraged to choose again. After seeing Mick Jagger strut across the TV screen, I chose rock star. No one bothered me about that choice, and so

RAMONA'S RAMBLINGS

RAMONA JAN

This Crazy Maze Called Life

that's what I stuck with from the time I graduated high school until I was in my thirties.

When I no longer enjoyed smoke-filled night clubs, staying up all night, little money and the arduous lifestyle of practicing music, I went back to college for a while and studied psychotherapy. I was number one in my class at CUNY. However, upon realizing the career entailed listening to people's problems, I dropped out of school to pursue a career as a visual artist.

During my ten years as a fine art painter and sculptor, my work appeared in several publications including Elle and People Magazines, plus I was represented for a spell by Meisner Soho, now The Meisner Gallery. Yoko Ono attended my first and only opening, and almost bought

one of my sculptures, a chair made entirely of cracked eggshells with barbed wire as handles. Had she made the purchase, my career would have soared. However, her Hungarian art consultant talked her out of the buy at a time when rents were going up, and job prospects were nil, and so I left Manhattan and moved Upstate.

Upon landing in the Callicoon area, I joined theatrical groups as an actor, and really enjoyed it. I played Bananas in House of Blue Leaves and the lead ingénue in Dracula. When I realized I'd have to travel back to NYC to further this pursuit (this was before internet auditions), I created characters on two reality shows, Wife Swap and Design Star thinking I could get into the biz that way. But alas, they didn't get

it. Besides, I had a daughter to raise, and so I dedicated myself to being a mom.

Then one day, while walking to the post office, I bumped into the Editor of the Sullivan County Democrat, a paper I had always loved. Said Editor asked for a sample of my writing. He must have gone to a Yarnslingers's event where I, along with many others, shared our true stories. I submitted three samples and was offered the job of Tuesday Columnist and so, here I am today; something I never thought I'd be, a writer.

The next Yarnslingers is on Sunday, January 26th at 11:30am at Seminary Hill Cidery in Callicoon, NY. The theme is 'winter,' and it's free to attend. I'll be there, content as one of the writers, a place for me arrived at merely through this crazy maze called life.

RAMONA JAN is the Founder and Director of Yarnslingers, a storytelling group that tells tales both fantastic and true. She is also the roving historian for Callicoon, NY and is often seen giving tours around town. You can email her at callicoonwalkingtours@gmail.com.

BRIEF

PA Beef Council 'Beefs Up' School Lunches for Pennsylvania Students

BEDFORD – The Pennsylvania Beef Council (PBC) announced today that, to date, 117 school districts within the Commonwealth are participating in the PA Beef to PA Schools Program (PBPS) for the 2024-2025 school year. Now in its third year, PBPS connects schools and food service professionals with cattle producers to provide fresh, locally sourced beef to students. The focus of the program is more beef, more often.

The initiative not only supports farmers, but also integrates locally grown food into school lunch menus, connecting students to agriculture and their community through the beef industry.

PBPS ensures that high quality beef is on the menu regularly and works to fight food insecurity while meeting students' nutritional needs with locally sourced protein. School food service providers focus on creating healthy meals that showcase the power of protein and harness beef's ten essential nutrients to support and fuel growing bodies.

Throughout the school year, participating school districts will procure beef monthly from local producers. The program covers 70% of the state in 47 counties and will serve more than 217,000 students. This demonstrates substantial growth in the program's third year, with the number of students served growing by more than 197,000 since 2022.

More than 26 farms will provide over 132,000 pounds of beef to Pennsylvania school students. One pound of beef will feed 5.5 students. Programming aimed at connecting students with farmers and growing their understanding of where their food comes will take place in multiple schools, including the participation of 300 school districts in Local PA Beef Days. Additionally, many schools are planning special programming to teach students about preparing healthy beef recipes and to connect them with the farmers providing their beef.

"Beef has so much to offer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Brandywine Heights High School Food Science students gather in front of a PA Beef poster. The students are part of the high school's newly-established Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter.

including ten essential nutrients that can support a healthy and active lifestyle. We continue to be extremely passionate about fueling young students with beef and connecting the dots between Pennsylvania farm families and beef meals on the lunch tray," said Nichole Hockenberry, PA Beef Council, Executive Director. "Our desire is to provide more beef, more often in schools which offers sound nutrition and a great eating experience and ultimately grow the next generation of beef consumers."

The PBPS program is administered through a 50/50 cost share with schools and the PBC with additional funding support from the PA Department of Agriculture and other State Beef Council Partners. Local beef producers have also donated to the program. As farmers, their priority is to aid in feeding the next generation and sharing their passion for farming with students across the Commonwealth.

To learn more about PBPS contact Nichole Hockenberry, PA Beef Council Executive Director at nhockenberry@pabeef.org or 1-888-4BEEFPA.



Brandywine Heights High School Head Cook Donna Kline prepares beef hamburgers for students. Kline has worked in food service at the high school for 30 years.

from **WOODSTOCK** to **HARD ROCK**

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CLASSIFIEDS

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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TODAY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

3B

To place your Classified ad, call

845-887-5200

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fax your ad copy to (845) 887-5386

E-mail your ad: class@sc-democrat.com

Mail-in form: P.O. Box 308, Callicoon, NY 12723

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- Campers
- Cars for Sale
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- Cleaning Services
- Estate Sale
- Equipment
- Events
- Excavating
- Farm Machinery
- Farm Products
- Firewood
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- Help Wanted
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- Hunting & Fishing
- Hunting Lands
- Jobs Wanted
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- Lawn/Garden Equip.
- Legal Services
- Livestock & Poultry
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- Motorcycles
- Moving Sale
- Musical Instruments
- Outdoor Power Equip.
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Wanted
- Rec Vehicles
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- Sale
- Services Offered
- Snowmobiles
- Snow Plowing
- Sports & Recreation
- Storage
- Stores & Retail Space
- Tires
- Tractors
- Travel Trailers
- Trips & Tours
- Trucks for Sale
- Truck Accessories
- Tutors/Instructors
- Vacation Rental
- Vendors
- Wanted
- Wanted to Buy
- Wood Stoves

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* All are based on total prices per ad. For additional rates please call 845-887-5200.

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Classified Deadlines
Tuesday – Earlybird Edition
Friday – 12 noon
Friday – Weekender Edition
Wednesday – 12 noon
 (Same schedule applies to space cancellations)

HELP WANTED

Sullivan West School Immediate Opening

Substitute Cleaner
\$16.00 per hour

Please forward resume & Sullivan West's application (located at swcsd.org) by **Dec 27th** to sullivanwest-recruitment@scbores.org

Attn: Sub Cleaner Search EOE

Reporter/Photographer

Growing twice-weekly newspaper is seeking a reporter/photographer to work in an energetic office. Assignments will include news reporting, general assignment articles as well as feature stories. Experience a plus and knowledge of Sullivan County is preferred.

Please send resume to: publisher@sc-democrat.com or Call 845-887-5200, ext. 103 or apply in person to 5 Lower Main St., Callicoon.

APARTMENTS

PATHSTONE: Accepting Applications for 1 2 & 3 Bdrm. units at Hemlock Ridge Apts., 27 Arts Blvd, Livingston Manor, NY for their Sec. 8 Project – Based Program. Applications available only at Pathstone 64 Jefferson St., Suite 1, Monticello, NY Between 8AM & 4PM. 845-794-4880 EHO

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the White Sulphur Springs Fire Commissioners will be holding their Organizational Meeting on January 8, 2025 at 7PM at the White Sulphur Springs Firehouse located at 3352 State Route 52, White Sulphur Springs, New York.

Dated: December 18, 2024
 Dana Austin, Secretary
 Board of Commissioners
 White Sulphur Springs Fire District

129161

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF FORESTBURGH COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, STATE OF NEW YORK NOTICE OF REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Forestburgh Town Board will hold its Reorganizational Meeting on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Forestburgh Town Hall with our regular meeting to immediately follow.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Dated: December 20, 2024
 Teresa Collins
 Town Clerk
 129155

LEGAL NOTICE LIBERTY CRANE LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/04/2024. Office loc: Sullivan County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Steven Siegel, 148 Burr Rd, Cochection, NY 12726. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 128689

HELP WANTED

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC) is TAVERNA CATSKILLS LLC. Arts. of Organization were filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 9/28/2024. The County in which the Office is to be located: Sullivan. The SSNY is designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: PO Box 835, MONTICELLO, NY, 12701. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 128954

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC). The name of the LLC is 259 North Shore Drive LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) office on 7/15/2024. The County in which the Office is to be located: Sullivan County. Sec. of NY State is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 259 North Shore Drive LLC, 259 North Shore Drive, Wurtsboro, NY 12790. Purpose: any lawful activity." 128032

LEGAL NOTICE Please take notice Safe Harbor Catskills located at 206 Service Rd Parkville NY 12768 intends to hold a sale of the property stored in the below listed Storage Spaces. The public sale shall occur as an online auction via Bid 13 on 1/8/2025 at 8:00AM. Unless listed below, the contents consist of household goods, tools, and furnishings. Anthony Roach Unit 23, John Mulvihill Unit 18, Elliot Hernandez Unit 80; Jessica Holeman Unit 34; James Dole Unit 17; Gail; Moore Unit 77. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. See manager for details. 128803

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Annual Reorganization Meeting of the White Lake Fire District. Notice is hereby given that the White Lake Fire District Commissioners will hold its Annual Reorganization Meeting on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at the White Lake Firehouse, 1596 Route. 17B, White Lake, New York, at 7:00 P.M.

Dated: December 24, 2024

Elaine VanDermark, Secretary
 Board of Fire Commissioners
 White Lake Fire District
 129033

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of formation of 1703 AD Golf LLC. art of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/09/2024. Office located Sullivan County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to % Michael Decker 231 price rd, Monticello, NY 12701. Purpose:any lawful activity. 129156

LEGAL NOTICE The Livingston Manor Fire District will be holding its Reorganization Meeting for 2025 on January, 20th, 2025 6:00 PM at the Firehouse. Public Welcome. 129147

Read the Legals in the Sullivan County Democrat

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of BRAZELL PHYSICAL THERAPY, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 05/03/24 in Sullivan County, NY. Sec. of State designated agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 20 Hornbeck Road, Neversink, NY 12765. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 128755

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of formation of Brown & Sons Tree Service LLC. art of Org. filed with SSNY on 08/02/2024. Office located Sullivan County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to % Anna Laforge po box 942 Wurtsboro, NY 12790. Purpose:any lawful activity. 129160

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of formation of Carmano Holdings LLC. art of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/11/2024. Office located Sullivan County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to % Hiram Jones Rd, Monticello, NY 12701. Purpose:any lawful purpose. 129157

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of Chayim Realty LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 12/11/2024. Office location: 390 Broadway Suite 1 MONTICELLO, NY, 12701. Sec.203 of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 390 Broadway Suite 1, MONTICELLO, NY, 12701. Purpose: any lawful purpose 128948

Read the Legals in the Sullivan County Democrat to keep on top of all the local news

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of formation of Dorncare LLC. art of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/24/2024. Office located Sullivan County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to % Scott Dorn 103 lucky lake dr, Rock Hill, NY 12775. Purpose:any lawful activity. 129159

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of formation of Montela Haus Kennels LLC. art of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/17/2024. Office located Ulster County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to % Anna Laforge po box 11 Grahamsville, NY 12740. Purpose:any lawful activity. 129158

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of Sullivan County Restoration Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 11/01/24. Office location: Sullivan County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: PO Box 971, Smallwood, NY 12778. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 128194

LEGAL NOTICE TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, a Board of Education Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time at the Tri-Valley Central School District Secondary School Lower Level Collaboration Center. The public hearing shall be held at the time and place stated herein. 129149

Read the Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. prevailing time at the Tri-Valley Central School District Secondary School Lower Collaboration Center, at which time and place the Board of Education of the State of New York, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. prevailing time at the Tri-Valley Central School District Secondary School Lower Level Collaboration Center, at which time and place the Board of Education of the State of New York, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. prevailing time at the Tri-Valley Central School District Secondary School Lower Level Collaboration Center, at which time and place the Board of Education of the State of New York, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Request for Proposals-Survey of DeHoyos Park

The Village of Monticello Board of Trustees is seeking an Experience Surveyor to provide a survey of DeHoyos Park that is located on Hay St in the Village of Monticello. We are interested in receiving proposals of interest from an individual or company that is familiar with this scope of work and can provide professional services in a specified amount of time.

Please contact the Village of Monticello via JSnow@villageof monticello.com for additional information or if you have any questions. All responses should set forth the relevant experience of the responder along with pertinent references and be received via email at the email previously mentioned or to the attention of James Snowden, Village Manager at the 2 Pleasant Street address no later than Monday, January 6, 2025. Any submissions postmarked or not received by this date will not be accepted.

128962

LEGAL NOTICE

SULLIVAN - INDEX NO.: E2022-2234- SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS. Plaintiff designates SULLIVAN COUNTY as the place of trial based upon the location of the premises herein described having tax map Section 15., Block 5, Lot 8.1, NARROWSBURG, NY, County of SULLIVAN - WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS TRUSTEE OF WV 2017-1 GRANTOR TRUST, PLAINTIFF, -against- CHERYL CRICK A/K/A CHERYL BIGAUD, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR CRICK; CORDELLE BROWN, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR CRICK; MONROYDE JONES, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR CRICK; RICARDO CUMBERBATCH, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE ARTHUR CRICK; MARIKO GROSVENOR A/K/A MARIKO CRICK-GROSVENOR, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR CRICK; JALEEL GROSVENOR, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE ARTHUR CRICK; any and all persons unknown to Plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or generally or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs-at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of ARTHUR CRICK, deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs-at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to Plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to Plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, DEFENDANTS. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this Summons and Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered against you and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: Syosset, New York, November 20, 2024. Roach & Lin, P.C., attorney for Plaintiff, 6851 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 185, Syosset, NY 11791. Tel: 516-938-3100. To the above-named defendants: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. MEAGAN K. GALLIGAN, JSC, a Justice of the Supreme Court, State of New York, dated November 13, 2024 and filed with the SULLIVAN County Clerk together with the supporting papers thereon. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage held by Plaintiff on the premises known as Section 15., Block 5, Lot 8.1, NARROWSBURG, NY, County of SULLIVAN as described in the complaint on file and commonly known as 11 LUCKY LN LUXTON LKS F/K/A 575 SECOND AVENUE, NARROWSBURG, NY 12764.

128336

LEGAL NOTICE Invitation to Bidders BOARD OF EDUCATION Monticello Central School District

PUBLIC NOTICE: is hereby given for separate prime contract sealed bids for: Capital Improvements (Task 4 - Site Construction) at Monticello High School and Rutherford Elementary School. Bids will be received by the School District, on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the District Office, 60 Jefferson Street, Suite 3, Monticello, New York, 12701, and at said time and place publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the Office of the Architect, BBS Architects, Landscape Architects and Engineers, P.C., 244 East Main Street, Patchogue New York, (631-475-0349); however the Contract Documents may only be obtained thru the Office of REV Plans, 28 Church Street-Suite 7, Warwick, New York 10990 (845-651-3845) beginning on Friday, January 3, 2025. Complete digital sets of Contract Documents shall be obtained online (with a free user account) as a download for a non-refundable fee of One-Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars at the following website: bbs.biddlyhq.com.

Optionally, in lieu of digital copies, hard copies may be obtained directly from REV upon a deposit of One-Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars for each complete set. Checks for deposits shall be made payable to the DISTRICT, MONTICELLO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT and may be uncertified. All bid addenda will be transmitted to registered plan holders via email and will be available at the above referenced websites. Any bidder requiring documents to be shipped shall make arrangements with the printer and pay for all packaging and shipping costs. Plan holders who have obtained hard copies of the bid documents will need to make the determination if hard copies of the addenda are required for their use, and coordinate directly with the printer for hard copies of addenda to be issued. There will be no charge for registered plan holders to obtain hard copies of the bid addenda. The bid deposit for hard copies will be returned upon receipt of plans and specifications, in good condition, within thirty days after bid date, except for the lowest responsible bidder, whose check will be forfeited upon the award of the contract.

A non-mandatory pre-bid site walk through is scheduled for January 22, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. starting at the Monticello CSD Transportation Building, 153 Forestburgh, Road, Monticello, NY 12701

The Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder or the proposals will be rejected within 45 days of the date of opening proposals. Bids shall be subject, however, to the discretionary right reserved by the School District to waive any informalities, accept or reject any alternatives, reject any proposals and to advertise for new proposals, if in its opinion the best interest of the School District will thereby be promoted.

Each bidder may not withdraw his bid within 45 days after the formal opening thereof. A bidder may withdraw his bid only in writing and prior to the bid opening date.

By Order of: The Board of Education Monticello Central School District

128961

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Request for Proposals-Foreclosure Proceedings

The Village of Monticello Board of Trustees is seeking a Title Search Company to assist the Village with its Foreclosure Proceedings. We are interested in receiving proposals of interest from companies or teams familiar with conducting Title Searches for Municipalities and the relevant provisions of the NYS Real Property Tax Law and can provide turn-key professional services working in a multi-faceted office. The successful vendor will assist the Village of Monticello with foreclose on parcels for the 2022 tax year.

Please contact the Village of Monticello via JSnow@villageof monticello.com for additional information or if you have any questions.

Your response should set forth your relevant experience with pertinent references and proposed terms of engagement and be received via email at the email previously mentioned or to the attention of James Snowden, Village Manager, 2 Pleasant Street, Monticello, New York by no later than Monday, January 6, 2025. Any submissions postmarked or not received by this date will not be accepted.

128963

LEGAL NOTICE

Request for Proposals-Engineering Services

The Village of Monticello Board of Trustees is seeking an Experience Engineer to provide Engineering Services and Design services for the new DeHoyos Park Pool that will be located on Hay St in the Village of Monticello. We are interested in receiving proposals of interest from a company that is familiar with this scope of work and can provide professional services in a specified amount of time. The successful vendor will assist the Village of Monticello by heading the design and building process for the new pool with the use of high-tech computers and the latest technology for the new pool.

Please contact the Village of Monticello via JSnow@villageof monticello.com for additional information or if you have any questions. All responses should set forth the relevant experience of the responder along with pertinent references and be received via email at the email previously mentioned or to the attention of James Snowden, Village Manager at the 2 Pleasant Street address no later than Monday, January 6, 2025. Any submissions postmarked or not received by this date will not be accepted.

128964

CLASSIFIEDS Work! Whether you are looking for a new job, an apartment for rent or want to have a yard sale let the Sullivan County Democrat Classifieds work for you! The largest classifieds of any newspaper published in Sullivan County, the Democrat also carries all the important public notices, which keep you abreast about your community!

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SULLIVAN MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST SHARON PRATT AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF OSWALD LEE ALLEN A/K/A OSWALD L. ALLEN, OSWALD LEE ALLEN, JR. AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF OSWALD LEE ALLEN A/K/A OSWALD L. ALLEN, TODD DAVIS AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF OSWALD LEE ALLEN A/K/A OSWALD L. ALLEN, EARL ALLEN AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF OSWALD LEE ALLEN A/K/A OSWALD L. ALLEN, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF OSWALD L. ALLEN OF OSWALD L. ALLEN IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered August 2, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the in the Lobby of the Lawrence H. Cooke Sullivan County Courthouse, 414 Broadway, Monticello NY on January 21, 2025 at 10:00AM, premises known as 47 Waverly Avenue, Monticello, NY 12701. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Thompson and partially in the Village of Monticello, County of Sullivan and State of New York, Section 117, Block 4, Lot 7. Approximate amount of judgment \$166,858.92 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #2019-274. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the District and SULLIVAN County Auction Plan in effect at this time. Jason P. Sautter, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 18-006303 83233

128797

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SULLIVAN U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust, Plaintiff AGAINST Jacqueline Brady a/k/a Jacqueline M. Brady a/k/a Jacqueline Mae Brady, Individually and as Administratrix of the Estate of Andrew Levine if she be living or dead, her spouse, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered September 24, 2024 I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the front steps or 1st Floor Lobby of the Sullivan County Courthouse, 414 Broadway, Monticello, NY 12701 on January 21, 2025 at 2:30PM, premises known as 21 Oxford Drive, Bethel, NY 12720. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Bethel, County of Sullivan, State of NY, Section 53, Block 1 Lot 79. Approximate amount of judgment \$330,814.90 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# E2019-1265. The auction will be conducted pursuant to the COVID-19 Policies Concerning Public Auctions of Foreclosed Property established by the 3rd Judicial District. Kamal Inder Singh Alagh, Esq., Referee LOGS Legal Group LLP f/k/a Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: December 5, 2024 83730

128796

LEGAL NOTICE Liberty U Storage public sale being held to satisfy unpaid storage fees on 12/26/2024 for Units 302 and 335. At 7am Place 157 Mill Street Liberty 12754 Info: (845)-292-7051 129166

You can access and even submit your Legal Notices online at scdemocratonline.com

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BETHEL: THE CORNER

SUZANNE WHITE | 583-4808 | SWHITE747@GMAIL.COM

Birthday wishes to Carol Dauch, Evelyn Brown, Claire Sullivan, Norb Skalski, Lori Farina, Carole Levinson, Mary Mullen, Sebastian Panullo, Joy Tunno, Eileen Hennessey, Rocky Klugman, Steve Sharoff, Dawn Ryder, Audrey Cohen, and my brother, Barton Hindley.

Our sympathy to the family of Helen Bates Solomon Fero who passed recently. Memorial services will take place in May.

Bethel Departments, meeting links, minutes, newsletter, and Parks & Recreation Bethel NY.us.

Follow: Catskill Mountain-keeper.org, Lake Association of White Lake NY(fb).

Residents can apply for a CEAP (heat) benefit. FMI: 845-583-4350 x102.

Roadway parking or shoveling/plowing snow into the road is prohibited until May. Vehicles are towed at your expense.

“Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” – Participate in the SC Food Scrap Compost-Recycling Program. FMI: 845-807-0291.

Community: donate non-perishable foods to White Lake’s Shepherd’s Pantry. FMI: 845-583-5885.

Learn more about SC Dept of Public Health and attend monthly events (845-292-5910 x2210).

Be healthy! Get up! Move! Enjoy the local parks or area trails (trailkeeper.org).

Business Watch: Dine, shop and support local business this season. Pick up last minute restaurant and services gift certificates! Use the Bethel Business resource list: www.bethelnybba.com. Become a BBA Member for 2025.

Look forward to the BBA’s ‘Bethel Big Burn’ and SC Conservation Club’s ‘King of the Ice’ planned weekend in February! Reminder: save and recycle your used holiday trees! Strip and drop at Alton Distillery for use in the Bethel Big Burn ‘Fire’.

Forgive me, I forgot to include Festivus on the calendar for the 23rd!

Enjoy the holidays! Be infected with spirit and believe in Santa Claus. Christmas Eve is celebrated on Tuesday, the 24th. Merry Christmas! Have a lovely, festive Christmas Day on Wednesday, the 25th. Chanukah begins at nightfall on the 25th and ends on January 2nd. The Bethel Menorah Lighting will take place at Kauneonga Lake Veteran’s Square on Wednesday, the 25th, at 5:30pm. Enjoy treats and live music with Debbie Fisher and David Rosenberg hosting.

Kwanzaa is celebrated on the 26th through January 1st.

Hector’s Inn is hosting an ‘Ugly Sweater Party’ on Sunday, the 29th, at 3pm.

Arts & Culture: BCA@BethelArt.org, Bethelwoodscenter.org,

Callicoontheater.com, Catskillartspace.org, Delawarehighlands.org, DelawareValleyartsalliance.org, DelawareValleyopera.org, Dutch’s (on Fb), Ebcpl.org, FarmArtsCollective.org, fbplayhouse.org, hpacny.org, Nacl.org, Narrowsburgunion.com, Nesinculturalarts.org, sccoplayers.org, scdw.net, shadowlandstages.org, shandelee.org, scnyhistory.org, Sunysullivan.edu, Theeldred-preserve.com, waynecounty-artsalliance.org.

Support Bethel Woods, the Museum and programs. Check event schedules and get tickets online beforehand. ‘Peace Love & Lights’ Drive Through continues through Dec 29th from 5-10pm (last entry at 9pm). Join the ‘Holiday Hub’ live music in the Market Sheds from 6:30-8:30pm: Th 26th-Albi Beluli, Fri 27th- a Holiday Hootenanny Family Sing-A-Long, Sat 28th- Treasure Mountain Band, Sun 29th- Jon Zanger. Docent Tours are held weekends at 1pm until the 29th. The Museum will be open daily 10-5p through the 31st.

Check out Monticello Crawford Library’s scheduled programs (ebcpl.org). Drop by our Duggan Past Perfect Bookstore.

Catskill Art Space exhibits Scott + Weissberger, Crookall, and Storey until December 29th.

Register for future DHC Winter Eagle Watches (DelawareHighlands.org/events). Dutch’s: check Fb for their scheduled events and entertainment.

DVAA: The galleries and Shop are open. Check the website for upcoming events.

DVO Arts Nest: next event is scheduled for February.

Eldred Preserve Lounge: Sunday Happy Hour (3pm+) and Wine About Mondays. Attend a festive ‘Christmas Eve Dinner’ on the 24th from 2-5:30pm. Plan and reserve for the NYE “Glitz, Glam + Groove” Celebration on the 31st.

HPAC and Tango: Catch “Oh my Stars! Cabaret Style Burlesque Show” on the 27th at 8pm.

Follow: NCA (nesinculturalarts.org) and SCCO (Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra on FB).

Follow VAPA on Fb. Their next scheduled event is January 25th at Liberty’s Bridge & Tunnel Brewery at 6pm.

Callicoon Movie Theater screens ‘Mufasa’ on the 27th-30th (all 7:30pm, Sat and Sun 2pm).

Future SUNY Sullivan’s “The MET: Live in HD” simulcasts. Tks/FMI: Sunysullivan.edu/met-opera/.

Markets: Callicoon Market- Inside DYCenter on Sundays, 11-2pm.

Suz sez, “May you be content and have kindness in your heart.”

December 24 – I don’t know anything about a pixel but I’m thinking that might be a bad thing going forward.

The word pixel was coined in 1969 by Fred C. Bill a researcher at NASA’s Ames Research Center. It means “little picture elements” which are individual dots that make up a digital image on a screen.

Well, if that’s the case and you have a hard time figuring out what all this means or looks like Frank Monteleone has a fabulous and fun example for you. After his family all came together and literally built the Monteleone Garden’s Hydro Farm in Eldred, the lot it’s located on still had a huge open field.

Three years ago, the family installed a Christmas themed Light Show that featured 5,199 pixels and fifteen display props all installed and displayed in just eight weeks. It was a huge hit with the Town. The Light Show worked well with the enchantment of the Christmas celebration his twin brother Lou Monteleone and his wife June had set up across the street.

Lou installed thousands of lights and huge holiday inflatables and sponsored Santa Village of Giving for donations to local charities, a parade and freewheeling holiday dance party with Santa and his North Pole friends having a huge kids’ centered celebrations.

DECADES: Looking back at years gone by from the Demo

FROM PAGE 1B

In another fire on Monday, in Obernburg, Ida Baunat was evacuated from her burning home, suffering critical burns. She is in the Lehigh Valley Hospital Burn Center.

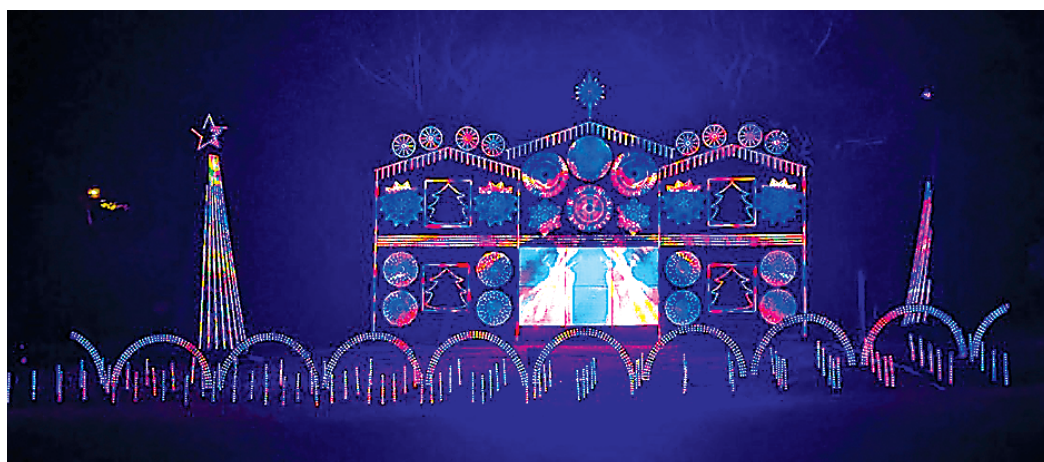
Richard Wall and Arnold Baum have been appointed to fill vacant seats on the Town of Delaware Town Board. They are expected to take the oath of office within the next week and will serve as councilmen through December 30, 1995.

V. Edward Curtis of Callicoon has retired as the Town of Delaware Planning Chairman after 30 years in that position. He encourages younger people to serve and to help carry on the town business. Edmund Raum has been appointed to serve as chairman. In the same meeting, the former residence of the late George Widmann was turned over to the town as part of a will agreement. It was decided to keep the house, adjacent to the town sewer plant intact, as a possible place to store town historical archives and records management.

The Monticello High School Centennial Committee presented checks for

HIGHLAND

PAULA CAMPBELL | 917-453-9260 | PAULACAM@VERIZON.NET



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Monteleone Hydro Farm on Route 55 in Eldred is sponsoring a Light Show featuring over 51,000 pixel and 300 light props and synchronized to music (90.7 FM) The Greatest Light Show is free and runs every night starting at 5pm and the last show at 9pm and will be displayed through New Years Eve.

The Village brings a delightful level of hometown charm making the village of Eldred a sweet spot destination for family fun. Between the two displays Eldred is festively glowing with Christmas lights in the evenings which is so lovely to see.

Now in the third year, The Monteleone family have greatly expanded the light show display from 5,100 to over 51,000 with 300 props and the display for the current light show takes up the entire field and is now referred to as “The Greatest Show.” Phyliss Monteleone is the “Chief Pixel Pusher” and manages the intricate job of overseeing the Show’s thousands of lights. Joey Monteleone is the “Music Maestro”

crafting the synchronization of the lights to music. Frank Monteleone is the “Wizard” in charge who does the heavy lifting running over thirty miles of wire with thousands of connections and installing hundreds of props that display the lights.

With dazzling choreography, flashing colors and all synchronized to great music (90.7FM radio) it all adds a special sparkle and drama to the show. The Greatest Light Show is free of charge and there is plenty of viewing from the parking lot of the Hydro Farm. The Light Show starts at 5pm and is repeated until the last show at 9pm.

Families come with hot cocoa and snacks and sit snugly in the car to enjoy the

Show. On the weekends, the small European style Cider Bar is open on the Patio selling drinks and snacks and Light Show merchandise for the kids and adults. Christmas time in Eldred has become about community, creativity, and the holiday spirit.

The Show is in the best tradition of Christmas to find a beautiful and elaborate light display to visit and enjoy a beautiful winter evening out. The Greatest Light Show will run through New Years Eve. Many thanks to the Monteleone family for their decades of hard work and the countless years of helping our community make beautiful Christmas memories together in Eldred. Merry Christmas Everyone.

\$1,000 to the school’s debate team, \$700 to the music department to buy new instruments, and \$3,587.69 to the school for a new sound equipment as proceeds from its summer reunion. A flag was also presented which had flown over the national capital June 24 in honor of the centennial.

20 YEARS AGO - 2004

Bill Reynolds wants his listeners to know one thing: he’s not retiring. In three months’ time, he plans to sell radio station WSUL-FM to some of the principals in Empire Resorts – Robert Berman and Scott Keniewski – pending approval by the FCC.

Winners of the Voice of Democracy contest honored at the Clarence Hoyt VFW Post #9217 on Monday night were Jessica Cherry, a senior at Eldred Central School, who placed first; a Liberty Central School tenth grader, Nicole Cuttita, placing second; and in third place, Danielle J. Bastone, a senior at Monticello Central School.

Mamakating Historical Society president John Masten says the organization has obtained a crown jewel of military history – what is thought to be a rare Badge

of Military Merit, the precursor to the Purple Heart. The badge was just one of the historical treasures found in 58 boxes donated to the organization by Radford Curdy, a longtime historian from Dutchess County, upon his death.

Kyle William Rose, the first grandchild for Lisa and George Rose, and the first great-grandchild for Alice and Bill Froelich, recently came to Kenoza Lake, with his parents, Jinny and Darren Rose, to meet his extended family for the first time.

Melissa Cullen of Woodridge, daughter of Billy and Nancy Cullen of Natick, Mass., and Mark Hess of Woodridge, son of Jim Hess of Jeffersonville and Diane Hess of North Branch, were married September 25, 2004 at Fibber’s in Kiamesha Lake. Eillen and Emil Motl of Monticello announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen Motl, to Kevin A. Bigelman. He is the son of Kathleen and Paul Bigelman of Clifton, Va.

10 YEARS AGO - 2014

A Phillipsport man recently purchased at county auction the Homowack, which in its heyday was a thriving resort, but has fallen into disrepair

and has been an eyesore for local residents for many years. Mamakating Town Supervisor Bill Herrmann has been in constant communication with the new owner, Lex Heslin. Heslin is still mulling ideas with how the resort will function. The restoration and operation of the resort would create much-needed employment opportunities.

Soon to be confirmed Eagle Scout Alex Bisland, with Boy Scout Troop 101 out of Rock Hill, unveiled part of his Eagle Scout project at the Farmers’ Market area on Rock Hill Drive. A Boy Scout since he was in the 1st-grade, the 12-year-old Bisland’s project was a “Little Free Library,” Bisland’s second. The first of his libraries sits next to the Forestburgh Town Hall.

The Eldred Lady Yellow-jackets remained unbeaten Friday with an easy 46-23 over host Livingston Manor. With the victory, Eldred improved to 4-0 overall and 2-0 league. Eldred center Kelsey Collins led all scorers with 12 points while Jordan Lepes chipped in with 10. Junior Devon Dutcher led Manor with 10 points while 8th grader Lindsey Rau added 9.

KNOW IT ALL

LORI ORESTANO-JAMES
LORIJAMES.SCDEMOCRAT@GMAIL.COM

December 24 — Well, the countdown is over and we are finally here. The perfect meld of Christmas, Chanukah, and Kwanzaa all nestled within this last week of 2024. The bustle is done and now is the time to take a break and celebrate what is good in life.

Wonderful good has been done and continues to be done in our community. The Fallsburg High School Interact/Leo Club spent a day after school to complete its annual Baking for Heroes of cookie trays distributed to Chief Brenden Pavese and his Department (Fallsburg Police), and to many departments throughout Garnet-Catskills. The students wanted those who serve us through the holiday to know they are appreciated.

The Monticello Rotary Club distributed Care Bears at Garnet Hospital complete with Santa, Chanukah Harry, Elves of all kinds and the Rotary Ramblers to sing holiday songs, distribute sweets, and take pictures with patients, visitors, and staff alike. Best part was the smile on the faces of patients, visi-

tors, and staff alike. In addition, the Monti Rotary Senior Comfort Closet was a huge success collecting all kinds of goodies from slipper socks to lap throws to be distributed to those infirmed in our county during this holiday season.

The Landfield Avenue Synagogue will be holding its Annual Festival of Lights for Chanukah during the 8 Days of Chanukah. The first night of lighting will take place at the Ted Stroebele Recreation Center on Jefferson Street in Monticello on December 25, 2024. Light refreshments to follow. All are invited to participate. The full schedule of Menorah Lightings can be found in the Chanukah Article in this copy of the Sullivan County Democrat. And remember to save the date on your calendar for the Annual Lots of Latkes Chanukah Dinner on Sunday, December 29th, 2024 with Menorah Lighting at 5:15 with the dinner to follow at the Synagogue. To make a reservation, call 845-794-8840.

Sullivan Sings “Lean on Me” recording is still available to gift as a last min-

ute gift while making a difference. To purchase, go to https://sullivansings1.bandcamp.com/track/lean-on-me and download your copy today.

Another last-minute gift that pays it forward is the coveted Heart-a-thon T-Shirt which is a popular item this holiday season. Each year many folks ask to purchase this well desired Heart-a-thon shirt. Make someone part of the Heart Squad. 100 percent of the proceeds benefit the Heart-a-thon. If you would like to purchase this year’s t-shirt, please email me at the email below for a link on how to order your shirt to benefit this year’s event.

As a reminder, the cold is here and folks need help to stay warm. Please join Senator Peter Oberacker in collaboration with the Monticello Rotary Club and donate new or gently used

winter coats during the first Annual Senate District 51 Coat Drive through the end of December. Coats will be available through United Way as well.

All facilities collecting Monday to Friday 9am-5pm: Jeff Bank, 18 Anawana Lake Road, Monticello or 19 Forestburgh Road, Monticello, Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North St, Monticello, Ethelbert B Crawford Library, 479 Broadway, Monticello, The Liberty Police Department, 159 N Main St, Liberty, Callicoon Town Hall, 19 Legion St, Jeffersonville.

Don’t miss Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre “Oh My Stars” A Cabaret Style Burlesque Event on Friday, December 27, 2024 at 8pm. This is an 18+ Adult event in the Grand Ballroom. Tickets are NOT available at the door and can be reserved online by visiting https://hpacny.org/ As the year rolls over to

2025, I would like to take a moment to thank our retiring Assemblywoman and my friend, Aileen Gunther for her exemplary 20 years of service to the residents of our community. It has been my honor and privilege to know her, work alongside her on community and state-wide issues from opioid awareness, education, community health, and community assistance. We owe all who serve a debt of gratitude, but a special shoutout must be made to Aileen. From our community – for our community! Thank you, Aileen. I know you well enough to know that you are just moving to a new leg of your journey and that your commitment to service will not end with this retirement. I look forward to what we will continue to do together.

And, with that, we are very lucky to have Assembly Member-Elect Paula Kay, ready to pick up and continue the much-needed work for our community and state. The Swearing In Ceremony for Paula will take place on January 5, 2025 at 1pm at the Thompson Town

Hall, 4052 Route 42, Monticello. I am excited to work with Paula in her new role, and know she will stand up and deliver for ALL.

Happy Birthday to Joe Taylor, Joanne Evans, Angelo Cracchiolo, Norb Skalski (12/25), Hope Mikaelian, Samantha Cohn, Walter Switzer (12/26), Julie Furman, Shula Drillings (12/27), Betty Friedman (12/28), Regina Lombardo-Phillippy, Joy Tunno, Julie Starner, Nancy Heimbuecker, (12/30), President and CEO of SC Chamber of Commerce Ashley Leavitt, Tyler Murtie, Gerry Skoda (12/31).

Condolences to the Mulvey family on the loss of family matriarch Betty Mulvey. May her memory be for a blessing.

Enjoy whatever days you celebrate in whatever way you celebrate. Remember those working on this holiday to keep us all safe and say thank you! Wishing you all a very Happy and Happy Holiday Season. And, just in case I really don’t “Know It All,” please keep me in the know by emailing me at LoriJames.SCDemocrat@gmail.com.



MOVING TOWARDS HEALTH

MAGGI FITZPATRICK

Enjoy every bite



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chocolate chip cookies are a staple in my household, and are best enjoyed when I'm with people I care about.

As the year is coming to a close and the ground will hopefully be wrapped in a blanket of snow, many holiday treats are being made, decorated, and consumed. My sister found a fantastic dairy-free pumpkin pie recipe and I'm about to make my third one since Thanksgiving. I absolutely love chocolate chip cookies, and my favorites my grandmother used to make are thumbprints with giant chocolate chips on top. I'll be the first person to agree that holiday treats add a layer of joy to this season that is not to be missed. I'm sure you've been asked the question or even have asked it yourself: Do broken cookies have calories? In my circle of family and friends, the answer is no, broken cookies do not have calories. Since broken cookies have no calories, we can eat as many of them as we want! How exciting. But what about the cookies that aren't broken? Can we eat those too? It's easy to get stuck demonizing calories and believe they are bad. Calories are a unit used to measure how much energy a food contains, and it's necessary that we eat food with calories to sustain our lives. The number of calories in a food is determined by factors such as its macronutrient breakdown. Carbohydrates and protein contain four calories per gram and fat contains nine calories per gram. Many cookies contain quite a few grams of carbohydrates and fat and therefore are typically a calorie-dense food. While it's important we are mindful of our daily caloric consumption, I'd argue it's even more important we are aware of our food intake in terms of macronutrients. When we aim for one to two servings of protein, one to two cups of vegetables, and a serving of complex carbohydrates and healthy fats at each meal, we can ensure we are fueling our bodies well. If we are fueling our bodies well on a regular basis, we will be more equipped to handle the burden a cookie will have on our digestive system and blood sugar levels, and therefore, the cookie is not to be worried about. It is when we are not fueling our bodies well that over-consumption of treats high in sugar and fat becomes more challenging for our bodies to handle. Pretending that broken cookies don't have calories creates a loop of shame and guilt that is difficult to escape from. When we ignore the facts about food and refuse to acknowledge how different foods affect us, we run away from the opportunity to use food to our advantage. We also deny ourselves the opportunity to truly enjoy the foods we eat, especially those we most likely have an emotional connection to, whether it's just the food or the memories that come along with eating it. Instead of giving the cookie all of your power, I'd like to encourage you to look at the cookie for what it is.

The cookie is a food that is high in calories. The cookie is also full of love, joy, memories, and cheer and should not be deemed unworthy of its place on the holiday table. Once we can move past the lies we hide behind about food, we can move toward accepting all food for what it is and truly enjoying what different foods have to offer. Fuel your body well, and when it comes time for the cookie, don't hide behind the stories you usually tell yourself. Acknowledge the cookie, tell yourself the truth about it, and enjoy every single bite, whether it's broken or not.

Xoxo
Coach Maggi

2025 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge: Lighting the Path to Wellness

LIBERTY— Entering its third year, the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge is set to kick off on January 1, 2025. To date, 16 of Sullivan County's Volunteer Fire Departments have signed up to participate. To kick off the challenge, departments gathered with their members, friends and families to walk the 1.7-mile illuminated trail at Peace, Love & Lights at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. The Healthiest Fire Department Challenge calls attention to the mental and physical health of our firefighters.

Firefighting is physically and emotionally demanding from the moment the tones drop. More than half of all firefighters have elevated blood pressure; are obese and pre-diabetic. 90% or more have poor diet or exercise habits, additionally, suffering from heart disease, PTSD and lead in suicide more than any other first responder. Firefighters are consistently managing the balance between family, work and serving their community. Absorbing the trauma of each call has impacts that are not always visible or obvious.

"We learned about better eating habits, cardiac health, and became more aware of the importance of fire responder mental health as a group," said Nate Rutledge, Chief of Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department. "This challenge did exactly what it intended to do, it brought us together as a group, it got our families together and made us get back to the days where we would socialize and spend time together away from drill nights and fire calls."

To date the 2025 Participating Fire Departments are: Bloomingburg, Callicoon Center, Grahamsville, Hortonville, Jeffersonville, Kauneonga Lake, Liberty, Livingston Manor, Lumberland, Monticello, Narrowsburg-Lava, Rock Hill, Roscoe-Rockland, Smallwood-Mongaup Valley, White Lake, Woodbourne and Woodridge.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Representatives from the Monticello Fire Department.

representing Fire Departments are: Bloomingburg, Callicoon Center, Grahamsville, Hortonville, Jeffersonville, Kauneonga Lake, Liberty, Livingston Manor, Lumberland, Monticello, Narrowsburg-Lava, Rock Hill, Roscoe-Rockland, Smallwood-Mongaup Valley, White Lake, Woodbourne and Woodridge. To make the challenge fun and competitive, departments receive credit in the form of 'turtle points' for each health focused activity they complete. The department that earns the most turtles will be eligible for grant funding through Sullivan 180 and community partners. Grant levels are based on the final points completed by September 1, 2025. The two departments that earn the most turtle points will be eligible for a grant in

the amount of \$15,000 and \$10,000, respectively. Additional grants will be awarded based on a tiered point system. Winners will be announced at the Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighters Parade in Monticello on September 6, 2025. During last year's challenge, departments chose healthier food options, increased physical activity, trained in suicide prevention, and recognized the sense of comradery that returned to their houses and between departments. (With a little competition as well.) Monticello Fire was named the Healthiest Fire Department and awarded a well-deserved grant in the amount of \$15,000. Roscoe-Rockland Fire was awarded a \$10,000 grant, coming in second. To follow the challenge and the participating departments visit Sullivan180.org.

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- 3rd Place**, Best Multiple Advertiser Section, Daily and Non-Daily Division, circ. 5,000 to 9,000, Bethel Destination Guide, 2020

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Nail biting home court win for Sullivan West

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOSEPH MCDOAL

LAKE HUNTINGTON — The Sullivan West Lady Bulldogs hosted Burke Catholic Lady Eagles in a non-league basketball matchup. The Lady Bulldogs snagged a very close 28-27 win. “Well we won, it was a bit close but we got it done. We had some looks and had shot opportunities, but we couldn’t get shots to fall. We just have to focus on getting better and sinking our shots,” said Coach Pat Donovan of Sullivan West.

The Lady Bulldogs were pulling down plenty of offensive and defensive rebounds to give them multiple chances at the basket each possession. Sullivan West’s Mckala Chevalier was putting in work in the paint with grabbing most of the early rebounds helping the Lady Bulldogs build a small lead but in the final minute of the quarter Burke was able to sink a few shots to take the

lead 6-8. Sullivan West opened the second quarter with a full court press that immediately resulted in a turnover in their favor. That didn’t rattle Burke and they quickly scored on the next possession. Sullivan West’s Sammy Hellerer continued to force turnovers throughout the quarter but couldn’t seem to convert them into points until about halfway in when she cashed an inside jumper to make it a two-point game. Ella Herbert was able to sink a three pointer to put the Lady Bulldogs up by one point. This was the beginning of an 11-point run by Sullivan West, who finally seemed to find their offensive rhythm. Heading into the half Sullivan West was up 19-10 over the visiting team. The Lady Eagles seemed to be the only ones finding the basket, going on a quick run at the top of the third quarter. By the two-minute mark Burke had obliterated

Sullivan West’s lead and tied the game at 19. Sullivan West struggled to find the basket, unable to score until late but maintained a six point lead heading into the final quarter. Sullivan West opened the fourth quarter with intense defensive hustle, but it was Burke who scored first, bringing the score within one basket. With Burke down by only one point they seemed determined to overcome Sullivan West’s lockdown defense. With one minute remaining they did just that and put up an inside layup to take a 27-26 lead over the home team. Ella Herbert was able to score off an inbound play to put Sullivan West back on top by one with 40 seconds left in the game. Luckily, Sullivan West was able to close out the nail-biting game without allowing Burke to score again finishing 28-27 over the Lady Eagles.



Sullivan West's Sammy Hellerer hits a wide open deep three pointer.



Ella Herbert of Sullivan West goes for a contested layup in the paint.

Panther wrestling takes a tough loss against Cornwall

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOSEPH MCDOAL

MONTICELLO— The Monticello Panthers hosted the Cornwall Dragons for a wrestling meet. Coach Pat Owens seemed slightly apprehensive before the meet, noting that “Cornwall is always a consistent team and has a larger wrestling program. They have some good wrestlers, and this should be a tough match.”

Unfortunately, Monticello lost the bout 15-54 against Cornwall, but they had some impressive matches and each wrestler fought hard.

Results:
Cornwall 54- Monticello 15

145 lbs (Scott Larusso v. Richard Williams): Williams started with 3 early mat return takedowns and got back positioning on top of Larusso. Larusso was finally able to get free in the last few seconds of the first round and ended the round with Larusso down 2-3. Early in the second round Williams was able to score big twice to put him up 3-12 going into the final round. Williams got a big double leg takedown to start the final round and ended the final round with a 3-16 win on points for Cornwall.

152 lbs (Jaden Ortega v. Tyler Furst): Furst started the

round with an explosive ankle pick to takedown Ortega and get top position. Furst ended the match quickly with a pin after about a minute. **160 lbs** (Chase Persdon v. Marc Henke): Persdon started aggressively with an attempt at a double leg that Henke was able to sprawl out of. Henke reversed and was able to score to put him up 3-5 going into the second round. While down by four points Chase was able to flatten Henke onto his back and secure a pin with 20 seconds left. **170 lbs** (Max Barbosa v. Kiefer Grossman): With a lot of early gang fighting it seemed like neither wrestler could get an advantage. Then Barbosa shot for a double leg that Grossman reversed to put him up 1-3 over Barbosa. Barbosa was able to tie the score early in the second round but Grossman quickly responded by capitalizing on a poor takedown attempt by Barbosa to put him up 4-6 again. Grossman was able to take Barbo-

sa down again and almost secured a pin but the clock ran down before he could pin. Grossman went into the final round up 4-16 over Barbosa. In the final round Grossman scored again putting him 15 points over Barbosa which led to a technical win for Grossman. **190 lbs** (Sincere Embry v. Noah Cisneros): Cisneros took Embry down with a headlock early on and was able to secure a pin within a minute of the first round. **215 lbs** (Dion Knight v. Michael Martinez): Both wrestlers continually trying to use collar ties for the entirety of the first round with neither wrestler getting dominant position or any points. Early in the second round Knight was able to score some points and got a dominant position twice before going out of bounds both times. Late in the round Knight hit an explosive double leg takedown and was able to get top position on Martinez. Knight

started the final round up 5-1 over Martinez and immediately hit a big takedown for 3 more points. Martinez was able to get top position late in the round but Knight fought it and secured a win by points with 9-5 over Martinez. **285 lbs** (Julio Santiago v. Justin Walker): Santiago hit a quick single leg takedown into a pin about 30 seconds into his match. **116 lbs** (Zach Zuch v. Keaton Venarchids): Venarchids locked up a single leg takedown into a cradle pin in the first 20 seconds to win his match over Zach Zuch. **124 lbs** (Ronald Brigman v. Santiago Galbraith): After a lot of standing fighting, Brigman was able to get a big mat return into top position to score three points late in the first round. Then halfway through round two Galbraith hit a quick double leg takedown to tie the score 3-3. With four seconds left in the round Brigman was able to escape to put him up 4-3



Monticello's Dion Knight ties up with Cornwall's Michael Martinez. Knight went on to win with 4 points over Martinez.

going into the final round. In the last 30 seconds of the final round Galbraith scored with a big double leg takedown to secure a 4-7 victory over Brigman. **131 lbs** (Liam Brasington v. Xavier Clavell): Brasington started with a collar tie that he was able to pull down to get top positioning. But Clavell quickly reversed this and got Brasington onto his back for a quick pin 30 seconds into round one. **138 lbs** (Todd Petrowski v. Andrew Bonet): Both wrestlers started very quick and were dancing around each other. Then Bonet shot for a single leg that Petrowski defended perfectly. A battle for top positioning ensued that Petrowski was able to win for three points. The second round was a different story however with Bonet flipping Petrowski onto his back to secure a pin in the first 15 seconds of round two.

2024 All Sullivan County Cross-Country Teams

COMPILED BY FRANK SCHORLING

SULLIVAN COUNTY — After an exciting and highly competitive cross-country season many of the runners have now transitioned into their perspective winter sports. Once again Frank Schorling has shared with the Democrat the selections for the All Sullivan County Cross-Country Teams and the honorable mentions.

2024 GIRLS ALL SULLIVAN COUNTY TEAMS

1ST TEAM

- Joslyn Odell-Schreier (Falls) 11
- Adelaide Robbins (Homest) 9
- Baya Titus (Monti) 9
- Diya Patel (Monti) 12
- Anna Furman (TV) 10
- Kenzie Krier (TV) 7
- Em Richardson (TV) 12

2ND TEAM

- Empress Torres (Eld) 9
- Lillian Fisher (Eld) 9
- Autumn-Rain Atkinson (Falls) 9
- Noelle Varner (Falls) 11
- Jaida Gould (Manor) 11
- Maria Gelsomino (TV) 7
- Molly Van Etten (TV) 12

HONORABLE MENTION

- Falls: Jaily Sebastian, Alisha Tremper
- Homest: Natalie Webstergreen
- Lib: Gia Matullo
- Monti: Stephanie Belcher, Anneliese Reyes
- SW: Valantou Cordischi, Layla Wilkin
- TV: Gwen Redman, Elle Stanley



Runners from all over New York State compete at the Section 9 Cross-Country Championships.



Cullen Hess named to the 1st team and and Brody Day, honorable mention, take on Walnut Mountain.



Senior Diya Patel of Monticello, was named to the 2024 All Sullivan County Girls 1st team.



Boe Mueller of Tri-Valley at the Manhattan Invitational.

2024 BOYS ALL SULLIVAN COUNTY TEAMS

1ST TEAM

- Isaiah Kirk (Fallsburg) 12
- Anthony Hicks- (Manor) 11
- William Burns (Monti) 12
- Edward Salinas (Monti) 12
- Bryce Bressler (SW) 8
- Van Furman (TV) 12
- Wyatt Morton (TV) 12

2ND TEAM

- Cullen Hess (Manor) 10
- Max de Beer Maidenbaum (Monti) 12
- Giovanni Gutierrez (Monti) 10
- Sean Mc Assey (Monti) 11
- Nick Bender (TV) 12
- Aaron Edwards (TV) 10
- Boe Mueller (TV) 12

HONORABLE MENTION

- Manor: Brody Day
- Monti: William Cooper, Anthony La Russo, Cameron Stalter
- SW: Cole Flynn
- TV: Lorenzo Haffner, John Woods, Yan Zheliazouski

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