

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

HURLEYVILLE NATIVE GETS OBAMA APPOINTMENT

President Barack Obama has appointed Hurleyville native Rebecca S. Salon to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

Currently a resident of Silver Spring, Md., Dr. Salon is project director at the National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities, established by the National Disability Institute, and program specialist at the D.C. Department on Disability Services, positions she has held since 2013.

She previously held numerous posts at the Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Institute in Washington, D.C., from 1987 to 2007, including serving as the agency's director.

Dr. Salon started her career in the disabilities field in the mid-1970s, when she opened some of the first group homes for adults with intellectual disabilities in Sullivan County as a staff member of the Sullivan County A.R.C.

She earned a bachelor's degree from SUNY Albany and holds Master's and doctoral degrees from Syracuse University's School of Education. She grew up in Hurleyville, where her parents, Phil and Marion Salon, owned Salon's Bungalows and Salon's Corners. She is a graduate of Fallsburg High School.

Dr. Salon began her career at Sullivan County A.R.C., when it was just a school in Parksville. Upon obtaining her Master's Degree, she returned to Sullivan County, where she assisted in closing the Parksville school so that the students could attend their own home schools or B.O.C.E.S. She then became the agency's first Director of Community Living, opening its first group homes and enabling disabled residents who had been institutionalized at Willowbrook and Letchworth to return to the county.



Dr. Rebecca S. Salon

"This was shortly after the Willowbrook expose by Geraldo Rivera," Dr. Salon told The Sentinel. "The President's Committee had just published a report on 'Changing Patterns in Residential Services,' which spawned the development of community residential programs and a commitment to ensure that people with intellectual disabilities have opportunities to have typical lives and choices. The amazing experiences I had at the Sullivan County A.R.C. were invaluable in shaping my interests and the direction of my career."

Dr. Salon says she knows many of the people on the President's committee and is excited about the prospect of working with them.

"I've been an active supporter of the self-advocacy movement, through which people with intellectual disabilities influence the direction of the services and supports available to them," she points out. "For the past 25 years, I have been a volunteer advisor to a statewide self-advocacy coalition in the District of Columbia, Project ACTION!, which has strong links to the national self-advocacy coalition, Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE). I see this appointment as a way to amplify the voice of people with intellectual disabilities, some of whom will be my colleagues on the President's Committee. I am also strongly committed to supporting the inclusion of people with disabilities in the life of their communities, and look forward to exploring additional ways to support people to live full lives, including employment, economic advancement, and self-determination."

Dr. Salon says she considers the appointment "a great capstone to a 40+ year career," and says she looks forward "to this both as a learning experience and an opportunity to offer some of what I've learned over the years."

A VISIT WITH SOME WHO CREATE HOLIDAY MAGIC

by Heather Gibson

As we move out of November, and into December two things are strikingly clear. The election is finally over and the Holiday Season is upon us.

Do the words "Holiday Season" bring you pure joy? If your answer is, "No," you are not alone. That's the thing about this time of year, you either can't get enough, or enough IS enough. So, while some of your neighbors have already put up their lights, finished Black Friday shopping, and trimmed their tree, you might find yourself lacking holiday spirit. You aren't exactly a "Grinch" per se, but let's just say you're still holding onto all things Pumpkin.

A popular Christmas song claims, "It's the most wonderful time of the year", but for so many it can be the most difficult time of the year. Perhaps you don't have the finances to "keep up with the Joneses," or you've lost someone special and you can't bear the empty seat at the dining room table. Well, I have the very best news! The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer somebody else up! When we give to others, we give to ourselves in return. So, I hope you find this article motivating, and inspiring, as it's filled with ideas to help you find your Holiday mojo.

James Gerrard, of Hurleyville, is a quiet and gentle man who gets paid to serve his community through his work at The Monticello Fire Department. Day in and day out, for nineteen years, he has answered the calls of neighbors in need, but interestingly enough, he makes the choice to give when he's off the clock too. "Fireman Jim", as he's affectionately known, enjoys playing Santa at Hudson River Healthcare in Monticello. The staff there gather donations of toys for over 300 children in need. Jim gets to see their big smiles up close, as they sit on his lap and share their Christmas wishes. Throughout the year, Jim can be found reading stories at area elementary schools, and he is very involved in educating children about fire prevention. He anonymously adopts a few families this time of year, and his hope is that they might have a brighter holiday due to his contributions.

Carlos Torres, of Monticello, is the founder and president of A Dose of Kindness. Carlos exemplifies what it means to give from the heart. The non-profit was founded in 2014, following its very first FREE Holiday Dinner. I just knew that an organization with the hash tag #teamgiveback was sure to inspire me, but what inspires Carlos? Just about three years ago, he witnessed a close friend do-



nate food to a homeless man and was really touched by this simple selfless act. Carlos began to think of ways to duplicate that act on a much larger scale. So, he gathered a small group of friends together to feed a community. Much to his surprise, they fed over 1,000 people during that first dinner, and they've been feeding the community ever since.

When I say they've been "feeding" the community, I'm not just speaking of a hot meal, either. Carlos, and his team, which consists of six board members, including his wife Christine, and four committee members, have been feeding hope, love and light into our local community for the past few years. Every contribution and donation that's made to them gets put back into the organization. During the Summer, they host a huge street fair in Monticello which consists of live entertainment, carnival rides, pony rides, and many different children's activities. There are a variety of vendors, and it's all FREE! They've also organized Family Day in Liberty, Halloween Parties, Trick or Treat, and Holiday Craft days.

Much like "Fireman Jim," Carlos is also humble in not wanting his name mentioned. He reminded me that it takes his entire team to move mountains, and they do so one step at a time, one volunteer at a time. He

commented, "When people ask me why I do this, I ask them, 'why not?' Why not be an example; a role model for our children? Why not donate a bit of time to create a positive impact on our community? Why not be the change you want to see?"

A Dose Of Kindness is not faith- or politically based. They are a diverse group of volunteers; motivated by their unity, each other's kindness, and the joy they bring to the children who live here.

Currently, they are looking for families who need a little extra help this Holiday Season. If you know a family who has experienced extreme loss and could use a little pick me up, please email that nomination to ADOKfortheholidays@yahoo.com. They are also currently gearing up for their 3rd Annual Free Holiday Dinner, which will take place at Ted Strobele Recreation Center in Monticello on Dec 18th, at 5 PM. For more information, to volunteer, or to make a donation, please contact Carlos at (845)-742-7475, Devon Spagnoli at (845)-423-0988 or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ADoseofKindness1.

While getting involved in an organization and giving of your time is an excellent idea, there are many small acts of kindness you can do on a daily basis. At your local coffee house?

Why not buy coffee for a stranger on line? Did we get a bit of snow? Can you help a neighbor shovel their path or driveway? Missing a loved one who lives far away? How about writing a hand written letter or card, instead of posting a note via social media? Are you Christian and have questions about Chanukah? Why not attend a neighbor's menorah lighting and learn more about how other people celebrate? You've got a Christmas list and you're checking it twice? What if you added someone to the list who isn't usually on it? Just simply surprise them with something special? Perhaps a tin of homemade cookies?

Although, he wouldn't want me to say this, and he spent most of our interview asking me not to mention his name, no one in the county helps us find our Holiday Spirit more than Lou Monteleone. Lou, who is an active member of his Elded community, had a reoccurring dream more than 12 years ago. In that dream he was dressed as Santa Claus, but he wasn't giving out gifts, instead he saw himself mingling among the community and bringing joy to children everywhere. He got excited about this dream and he told it over and over again until one day, a co-worker got sick of hearing it and said, "Lou, why don't you just do it already!?" And so, his dream came to fruition, and The Santa Express came to life!

The Santa Express, now in its twelfth year, makes stops at eleven different towns (Port Jervis, Bethel, Liberty, Monticello, South Fallsburg, Eldred, Glen Spey, Barryville, Yulan, Narrowsburg, and Milford, PA). This event, which invites only those who BELIEVE, is perhaps the most magical scene you can witness this Holiday Season. I'm going to recommend that even if you don't have children, even if you don't like crowds, that you simply hang back in one of these towns long enough to see and feel the magic.

Lou described, "It's pure darkness and off in the distance you hear the sleigh bells. The sound gets louder and louder as Santa's sleigh approaches. Then the night sky is lit up with every color imaginable and every child is greeted with the tune, "Here Comes Santa Claus." Their eyes grow wide as they see a variety of different characters: Rudolph, Olaf, Frosty, Gingerbread Men, Jingle Bear, Chrissy Mouse, The Snow Queen, several elves, and Mrs. Claus. Then up high in the sky, the man they've all been waiting for.

"Ho, Ho, Ho!" it's Santa Claus himself!

There's Christmas music, and there's even popular



Candlelight will illuminate the Milk Train RailTrail in Hurleyville on December 21 to celebrate the winter solstice.

COMMUNITY INVITED TO JOIN IN CANDLELIGHT WALK

As Andy Williams popularly sang, "it is the most wonderful time of the year," but for many, the holiday season and the often unpredictable winter weather brings stress, as well. And while it is—again borrowing from the song lyrics—"the happiest season of all," sometimes the hectic pace of it all can get folks down.

If that sounds even just a little bit familiar, the 2nd Annual Hurleyville Winter Solstice Candlelight Walk is definitely for you.

The self-guided walk is scheduled for Wednesday, December 21—the winter solstice and the shortest day of the year-- at 4:30 PM at the Milk Train RailTrail in the center of Hurleyville.

"It is a lovely tradition that we hope will bring people of all ages together outdoors in nature, guided by candlelight," says Jim Cashen, the event organizer.

There will also be live music, which will take place at the nearby Hurleyville Mak-

er's Lab, where hot cider and warm bathrooms will also be available. The event is free and open to the public.

Mr. Cashen says there will also be an opportunity for folks who are so inclined to read or recite their favorite poems, preferably with a winter or holiday theme.

"We hope everyone in the community will come celebrate the winter solstice," he says. "This festival is intended to encourage a peaceful walk and reflection while quieting our minds during what can be a hectic and sometimes stressful holiday season. It is an experience that can bring joy and light in the simplest of ways."

Mr. Cashen says the event should wrap up by around 6:30 PM.

All that appears to be missing are "marshmallows for roasting, and caroling out in the snow; scary ghost stories and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago."

"Please," Mr. Cashen implores, "come join us!"



"This is our second annual event," says organizer Jim Cashen. "We decided to call it 'candlelight' because it is a more universal term than 'luminaria.'"

WE WANT TO KNOW



A faithful reader of The Hurleyville Sentinel has asked us to try to find out if anyone else has ever encountered a spirit or spirits along the RailTrail. The reader has experienced a strange, though not at all unfriendly, presence at certain places on the trail, and speculates that it might be because of the February 13, 1907 explosion of the boiler on an O&W passenger train just after it exited Smith's Cut which resulted in the death of three crew men. Anyone who would like to weigh in on the matter can contact The Sentinel via e-mail at hurleysent@hotmail.com. All responses will be kept confidential if requested.

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



Q. Are you looking forward to Winter? If so, what are your favorite Winter activities?



Ryan David (Age 4):
“Yes! I like to build a snowman.”



Jayden Williams (Age 10):
“Yes, I like the snow, snowball fights, building snowmen and forts for when my dad throws snowballs at me, and sledding, I like sledding too.”



Mykenzi Williams (Age 9):
“Yes, my favorite activities are sledding, snowball fights, drinking hot chocolate, and making cookies.”



Avery Carrier (Age 6):
“Yes, because you can play baseball with snow and a shovel. I like to shovel, slide down the slide and land in a big pile of snow. I build a snowman, have a snow fight. Oh, and I like sledding too.”



Hannah Weiner (Age 6):
“Yes, because I like making snowmen and sledding, snowballs and snowball fights with my sister and brother and making snow forts. I also like having inside play dates. Snow days are fun!”



Kendall Ingram (Age 11):
“I am looking forward to Winter very much because I love to ski. I participate in the school’s ski club and I also enjoy sledding. I’m patiently waiting for it to snow”

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold its 20th Annual “Deck the Doors” holiday decorating contest on Thursday, December 15.

Looking for something to do in Hurleyville during the holiday season? The Sullivan County Historical Society’s 2016 Holiday Theme Tree Exhibit Open House and Reception will be held at the Sullivan County Museum & Cultural Center on Sunday, December 4th from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to join in the festivities. Admission is free and donations are always welcome. The Museum & Cultural Center is located at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville. The Historical Society’s ongoing Veterans’ Exhibit at the Museum features military uniforms from the Civil War era through today. The exhibit will also include a presentation on Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Francis Currey. The Historical Society is interested in hiring someone to shovel snow this winter at the Museum. Please call Pat Burns at 845-434-8044 for more information. Please visit www.scnyhistory.org for more information on the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Sullivan County Museum. The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop will present two holiday shows in December at their “off-season” home at the Sullivan County Museum & Cultural Center at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville. An original work for younger audiences, “I’m Getting Nuttin for Christmas” by Mekalya Perneszi and Megan Grieco, based

on the classic holiday song, will be presented on Friday, December 9th and Saturday, December 10th at 7:00 PM and on Sunday, December 11th at 1:00 PM. A family production of a live radio play, “Miracle on 34th Street” will be presented on Friday, December 9th and Saturday, December 10th at 8:00 PM and on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 PM. Admission for “I’m Getting Nuttin for Christmas” is \$7.00. Admission for “Miracle on 34th Street” is \$10.00. The admission price for both performances together is \$15.00. Bring an unwrapped toy to help support the Thunder Country “Toys for Tots” drive and receive \$2 off your admission! Dessert, coffee and tea will be served. Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 20th Annual

“Deck the Doors” holiday decorating contest on Thursday, December 15th. The group will tour every road in Hurleyville on the night of the contest and judge all holiday-decorated doors in the hamlet. Winners of the contest will be awarded prizes furnished by Hurleyville business owners and members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First. The volunteers in Hurleyville-Sullivan First continue to work on projects contributing to the revitalization of our hamlet. Anyone interested in the future of Hurleyville is encouraged to join the group. Hurleyville-Sullivan First meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the firehouse. Please visit www.hurleyvil-leny.com for more information and to see the progress Hurleyville-Sullivan First is making.

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

The first winter storm has come and gone giving us our first taste of ice and a power outage, as well. Let’s hope it’s the last we see of both! Recently I spoke with longtime friend and longer time Hurleyvilleian Al DeFino. There is no question that this man is a master guitarist (you know this when exceptional musicians bow to his talent) but a darned nice, funny guy. The list of the famous he’s played with would fill a whole column, but suffice it to say, you can hear him for yourselves at Sorella’s, 3562 State Route 55, Kauneonga Lake most Fridays and Saturdays from 6-9 PM with the ever versatile Larry Ravdin on sax. Tell them Jane sent you. ‘Home Grown’ on WJFF radio on Saturday December 3rd welcomes Steve Faubel who passed the reins of the show to Hurleyville’s Kevin McDaniel three years ago. The show airs live at 1 PM at 90.5FM. And speaking of WJFF, their Music Fair this year was a resounding success. Always held the first Saturday after Thanksgiving, this fundraiser for the station had a wonderful amount and variety of musical instruments donated this year and the line of attendees was “out the door”. Member supported, this station provides a great service to Sullivan County. We may have seen the last of the concerts at the Sullivan County Museum. A big thank you to Carol Smith and Little Sparrow, who made them a reality in our

lives for these last 5 years. There’s also something exciting shaping up in Gramsville for next year. I’m sworn to secrecy at this point but I can’t wait until all the “Is” are dotted and the “Ts” are crossed!! At this writing, it is unclear if the Brew is remaining open for the winter. If it does, the tentative dates for the Search and Rescue Orchestra should be December 13 and December 27. The schedule for December is set, but make sure you check with the venue before heading out, as everything from this point until spring is “weather permitting.” For December: 2nd Friday, The Pickled Owl; DREW KELLY (folk, blues and favorite covers), 7 PM 2nd Friday, Cabernet Frank’s, SEARCH AND RESCUE ORCHESTRA, (Joanna Gass, Steve Schwartz, Kenny W, Eric Neis, Bobby C), 38 Main Street, Parksville; 7:30 PM-9:30 PM 3rd Saturday, Kevin McDaniel’s HOME GROWN onW JFF with guest Steve Faubel; 90.5FM, 1 PM-2PM 3rd Saturday, The Pickled Owl, TERRI HALL (jazz vocalist), 7 PM 4th Sunday, DeFillipis Bakery, MUSIC WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT IT, 506 Broadway, Monticello, 11 AM to 1:30ish 9th Friday, The Pickled

Owl; BARRY SCHEINFELD JAZZ TRIO, 7 PM 10th Saturday, The Pickled Owl, THE ACQUAINTANCES (jazz to rock variety), 7 PM 11th Sunday, DeFillipis Bakery, MUSIC WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT IT, Monticello, 11 AM to 1:30ish 13th Tuesday, TENTATIVE, Brew, SEARCH AND RESCUE ORCHESTRA, Rock Hill 845-796-2222 16th Friday, The Pickled Owl, SARA HULSE, CAMPFIRE JONES, JODI OAKS (roots and bluegrass), 6 PM 17th Saturday, The Pickled Owl, ALBI (acoustic variety), 8 PM 18th Sunday, DeFillipis Bakery, MUSIC WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT IT, Monticello, 11 AM to 1:30ish 27th Tuesday, TENTATIVE, Brew, SEARCH AND RESCUE ORCHESTRA, Rock Hill 845-796-2222 30th Friday, The Pickled Owl, MARK VISCONTI & JUSTIN SUTHERLAND, (acoustic folk, rock, pop) 7 PM 31st Saturday, The Pickled Owl, TALKING MACHINE, (modern acoustic rock), 8 PM Wishing all of you a blessed Holiday season, and please remember your less fortunate neighbors. Until next time...

MOMMY AND ME PAINTING PARTY

by Gabriela Almonte (age 8)

Mrs. Amy Nardi held a “Mommy and Me” painting party at 2 PM on Sunday, November 20th at Frankie & Johnny’s Restaurant in Hurleyville. There were also some dads who went with their children. It was well attended. I went with my mom and it made me very happy to be there. Mommy and I made a half-picture and put it together to make a whole picture. It was a caterpillar! I’m sure my mommy had fun, too.



Gabriela Almonte poses with her mom, the Honorable Amanda Ward, Fallsburg Town Justice, and the painting on which they collaborated.



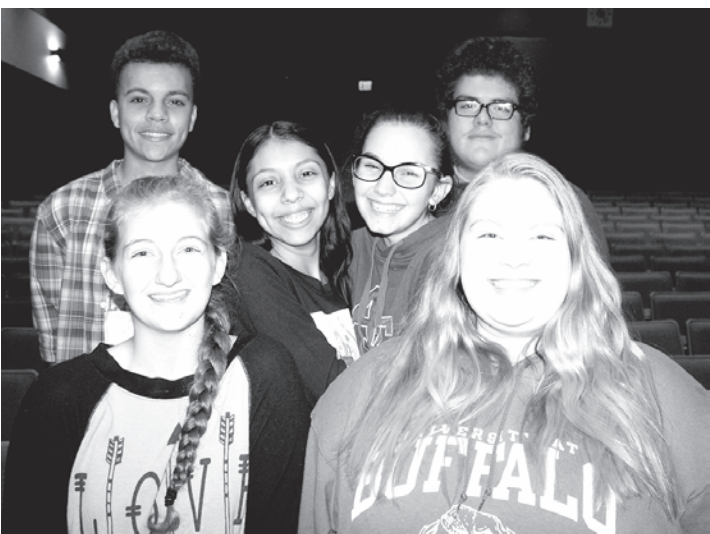
The painting party was well attended by moms, children, and even some dads.



Everyone enjoyed themselves at the Mommy and Me Painting Party.



Mrs. Amy Nardi hosted the painting party at Frankie & Johnny’s Restaurant.



Fallsburg High School Chorus members (top row) Brenden Hooks and Guillermo Granados; (middle row) Isabel Morales and Jenna Vairo; (bottom row) Mekayla Perneszi and Grace Strauss.

FALLSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN AREA ALL-STATE MUSIC HONORS

Congratulations go out to Fallsburg High School Chorus members Brenden Hooks, Isabel Morales, Guillermo Granados, Jenna Vairo, Mekayla Perneszi and Grace Strauss for earning Area All-State Chorus Awards from the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) on the weekend of November 19-20, 2016.

Chorus Director Ms. Colleen O’Toole-Barber is very proud of these students, who performed so admirably during the competition. Ms. Barber and the award recipients are hard at work rehearsing for the Annual Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 13 at the Fallsburg High School Auditorium which will feature the different school choirs and bands.



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SOME SCENES FROM AROUND TOWN



1



2

- 1 This new house, one of the first homes to be built on Main Street in many a year, appears to be nearing completion.
- 2 The opening of Casella's in the old Perk's market building is now right around the corner.
- 3 The rear of the old Perk's Market building has also gotten a facelift and an addition.
- 4 Renovations have commenced on these two Main Street residential properties, a further sign that the community is being revitalized.
- 5 This former Main Street residence has been converted into office space, bringing more people to work in the community.



3



4



5

MAGIC: FROM FRONT PAGE

music such as Katy Perry's Firework. Santa Claus and his helpers get the entire crowd involved in the entertainment by having the children hold up letters which spell out the word, "Believe". Santa moves throughout the crowd with his finger touching the noses of all those he meets. If you've been a good boy or girl his finger lights up red! The children are mesmerized by this magical power.

Just when you think it can't possibly get any better, Santa exclaims that it's time to measure the town's spirit. He points to a huge spirit meter with words like "Imagine," "Wish," and "Dream." Only when the meter reaches the word "Believe" can the sled be lifted off the ground for Santa to fly back to the North Pole, and just as that happens Jingle Bells plays and it begins to snow.

All that magic happens through donations and volunteers, who like Lou, sacrifice their own time to help others believe again. He takes a lot of pride in making sure that this is the most authentic non-commercial experience for each child. He takes the child's thoughts and feelings into account at every moment during the experience.

During these moments, out in the community, or in Santa's Workshop in Elldred, Lou doesn't exist. He is indeed Santa Claus. He comes into town on a sled, and it flies, not drives. All of these small details, and how we, the adults in the crowd, refer to things, in front of young hearts who still believe, is so very important. The children don't get gifts. With crowds of over 1,000 children at some stops, it's become too hard to give out toys. But, per-

haps there's a lesson in that too. Christmas isn't about gifts. For Lou, it's not a season, it's a feeling. The Christmas magic that Lou, and his entire team create, can't be found under a tree. I guess in the end we have to ask ourselves, "What makes it the most wonderful time of year, exactly?" Is it the gifts we unwrap or is it the feeling we evoke in others? It's always given me great pleasure to give, because I love to make others smile. I know that most emotions are contagious. Every day when we get out of bed, we set a tone. We decide to smile or to frown. It's just that simple. We decide to jump into Holiday Cheer, or we decide to sit out.

Don't join the crowd just because everyone else has jumped on Santa's sleigh, but don't sit on the sidelines feeling sorry for yourself either. Get out there! Love a neighbor! Create less stress and chaos in your own little world, by opening your heart to those you meet. No matter what you believe, no matter which Holiday you and yours celebrate, I wish you a season filled with endless possibilities! Go find your Holiday Mojo! Come on, unpack that box of decorations, it's time to add a little tinsel to your life!

Teachers and administrators at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School (BCES) are encouraging students to explore nature in the outdoors, right on the Fallsburg school campus.

With the help of a Sullivan Renaissance Healthy Community Grant, teachers Ms. Leah Exner and Mr. Mark Spina developed a partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and local businesses to clear and redevelop a hiking trail in the woods behind the school.

The grant writers wanted to allow the school's children, families and community to experience the wonder of nature in their very own backyard. Ms. Exner and Mr. Spina are following the principles of people like Richard Louv, a child advocacy expert and author of the 2005 book, "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder."

The book links the absence of nature in the lives of our "plugged-in" children to some very upsetting tendencies, such as obesity, attention disorders, loneliness, and depression. Louv's work has generated scientific evidence supporting exposure to nature as vital for healthy development and well-being of

ENJOYING NATURE'S GIFTS



Shown with some of the girl scouts are (left to right) Emily Devore from Cornell Cooperative Extension, a collaborator on the grant; BCES teacher and grant writer Ms. Leah Exner; and Colleen Emery of Sullivan Renaissance, which awarded the Healthy Community Grant to the school for the project.

children and adults.

In this spirit, Girl Scout Troop 767 of the Mid-Hudson Area, under the leadership of Fallsburg parents Ms. Jenny Gagnon and Ms. Jenine Alvarado, has been helping with the clearing of brush and fallen tree branches to open the trail. On their second visit, on November 7, they were joined by Ms. Emily Devore of CCE, Ms. Colleen Emery of Sullivan Renaissance, and a community volunteer who learned of the event that morning at a meeting introducing a new program called Volunteers in the Classroom. Mr. Larry Schafman, representing the Fallsburg Central School District Wellness Committee, was on hand to document the hour-long operation.

Ms. Exner welcomed the group coming to help. She and Ms. Gagnon demonstrated a whistle and horn they had brought in case it was necessary to alert anyone of potential hazards along the trail. Ms. Exner explained that bear scat had recently been found, indicating that a bear had been in the area.

The participants were excited about every discovery that the teacher pointed

out—the age of fallen trees, identification of trees and bushes, the lack of water in the creek bed indicating the effects of the drought in the area, and, high up in a tree, an eagle's nest. This last item brought several "wows" from both children and adults.

On a particularly clear fall afternoon just a hundred feet from the Cosor School building, thirty children and adults were experiencing what one naturalist calls "the rebirth of wonder and joy." These girl scouts, their leaders, and the other adults were giving nature a chance to show her gifts.


Because of snow and vacation schedule for Thanksgiving, students had only one day during the week of November 21 to work on preparing railroad ties and benches for the project. Taking full advantage of the time, Ms. Exner had a rigorous schedule of eighteen classes scheduled throughout the day to paint, in an assembly line process, the railroad ties generously donated by Monticello's Home Depot. After vacation, students from the additional 24 classes in the building will finish up the painting of all the railroad ties.

With rollers and trays of Cool Calming Green paint (that's the color), teachers had their students with disposable plastic aprons painting one tie per class. Each tie has the name of the teacher on the end. When the paint dries, students will come back and stencil on their individual names in a permanent ink so they will be on the ties that will be boundaries for the trail. Ms. Exner explained that years from now, these students can show their own children the trail and the names of those who helped with the preparation.

Also on hand to help with the painting were Ms. SueAnn Boyd of Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), a collaborator with FCSD on the grant, and Ms. Colleen Emery from Sullivan Renaissance, the grantor. Meanwhile, in the same area of the painting, was Lee Smassanow, a retired BCES teacher and volunteer helping on the trail project. He was busy assembling new benches donated by CCE. It was a fun and productive day and a timely way to give thanks for the land and the new trail being developed through the efforts of so many busy hands.

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From the Firehouse

By Jack Halchak, Past Chief H.F.D.



The Hurleyville Fire Department is always looking for help, to fight fire or support those that do. We even supply all of the gear and provide all of the training needed, for free. Stop by any Monday night and find out how you can help.

Last issue we talked about fire prevention. I would like to continue on that topic with some personal observations and experiences. I am approaching 48 years as a Hurleyville firefighter and I am currently a Deputy Fire Coordinator for the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire. My primary responsibility is to assist the fire departments in the Towns of Fallsburg and Nev-ersink, and as backup to the other deputies I have been all over the county assisting dif-ferent fire departments throughout the county.

These are some of my real life experiences that I have seen burn down our neighbors homes:

- I have been to a number of calls where the furnace has malfunctioned, most of the time because of a lack of cleaning. The result is black soot throughout the entire house. It is as though you gave a group of kids black

talcum powder and told them to cover everything possible and then you go in and do it again. What a mess. The other result can be CO (carbon monoxide) poisoning. The worst case scenario is your house burns down. Get your furnace cleaned. NOW!

- I have seen way too many thimble failures. The thimble is where the stove pipe goes through your house to the outside. So the stove pipe goes from your stove through the thimble to the rest of your chimney to the roof top. The thimble gets hot and if not installed to code the fire gets out of a failed thimble or it heats combustible material that is too close to the thimble and you have a catastrophic failure and fire. This can also happen if you don't clean your chimney, and have a chimney fire. In a dirty chimney the creosote catches fire and super heats everything, and this could cause a thimble failure. Clean your chimney, and have it inspected by someone who knows what to look for.
- So your stove and fireplace is well maintained. Now it is

time to clean out the ash. I have seen people put the ash in a paper bag, plastic bucket or other combustible container and put it in the garage, on the back porch, alongside the house, or in the shed. The results are not good. Put the ash in a metal bucket with a cover and put it outside, away from the house. It will be hot and I have seen a brush fire start from it and then burn the house down. Put that bucket of ash in a safe place!

- Space heaters (electric or kerosene) are another cause of fire I have seen, especially when we have an extended cold snap. The heater is placed too close to the bed-ding or furniture. It may take a couple of days to super dry the material but then it may burst into flames. Keep these space heaters at a safe distance from all combustible materials. Refer to the owner's manual for recom-mendations.
- If you have a kerosene space heater, make sure you use the white kerosene. Read the directions before you use it. The wrong type of fuel is dangerous. It will produce a poor burning flame and I have seen it where you can-

not control the flame or even turn it off. It too will pro-duce deadly CO.

- I have seen people plug power strips into power strips with multiple extension cords. If you are lucky it will trip your circuit breaker. If you are not, it will over-heat the wiring or extension cord and cause a fire.

What I have described above, you have probably read in a newspaper or seen on TV as a cause of a fire that burned a house down.

I have personally witnessed these causes. They are some of top causes I have seen in re-sponding to structure fires. Use some common sense when trying to stay warm. Maintain your heating systems and be safe.

As stated in my last article, make sure you have a working smoke detector(s) and CO de-tector (s) in your home. One or both may save your LIFE.

Winter is soon to be here and that means cold weather and ice. Mark this on your calendar.

Hurleyville Fire Department / Town of Fallsburg Youth Commission 29st Annual Ice Fishing Contest on Morningside Lake Feb.11, 2017.

More on this in the next issue.

HOME HEATING SEASON IS HERE ARE YOU READY ?



Fires can be prevented.

A few easy steps can save your life!

- Have a service person inspect and clean your chimney , wood stove or furnace each year.
- Use a metal or glass fireplace screen to keep sparks from hitting nearby carpets or furniture.
- Keep kindling, paper, and décor away from fireplaces and wood stoves.
- Never use gas or lighter fluid to start a fireplace or wood stove.
- Burn only seasoned wood.

Remember

Fireplaces and chimneys are the number one source of home heating equipment fires.



THE YOGA SPACE

at The Hurleyville Arts Centre

Premiere class with
NIKKI COSTELLO



Nikki Costello is a Certified Iyengar Yoga Teacher (CITY). For 23 years, her teaching has been inspired by annual trips to India including RIYMI (Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute) the study of scriptural and philosophical texts and a daily practice of meditation. In 2013-2014, she was a contributing editor at Yoga Journal, writing the magazine's "Basics Column," and in 2016, Nikki was named one of the 100 Most Influential Teachers in America

THE RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Rejuvenating and supported poses that balance the nervous system, relax the body and quiet the mind.

\$25.00

Friday, December, 16 | 5:30 - 7:00

THE BASICS PRACTICE

The Basics Practice builds a solid foundation by engaging with and understanding the Iyengar yoga principles of alignment and action. This class is suitable for ALL levels including beginners, pregnant women, "inflexible" dudes, the injured athlete and the yoga enthusiast obsessed with the "how to" and "why" to progress in practice. (All Levels)

\$35.00

Saturday, December, 17 | 12:30 - 2:30

\$5.00 Reduced rate per class for TCFD Employees

\$50.00 for both classes
Open to Everyone!

Space is limited Please reserve your spot - contact
Erindudley@hacny.org



THE YOGA SPACE

at The Hurleyville Arts Centre

216 Main Street Hurleyville NY 12747

HURLEYVILLE MARKET ON MAIN

The Hurleyville Market is a warm and welcoming gathering space on Main Street. Open 7 days a week, the Market offers artisan breads, baked goods, locally roasted coffee, specialty and organic items, and a variety of handmade gifts.

238 Main Street, Hurleyville, NY | Phone: (845) 707-8434
Facebook: @HurleyvilleMarket

From the files of...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburg

Compiled by Sullivan County Historian John Conway



Ernie's Bar & Grill can be seen with the Gulf gasoline sign in front, just to the left of center in this photo of Hurleyville's Main Street from the 1940s.

DECEMBER 27, 1930 Hurleyville Girls Hurt in Auto Crash

Miss Sarah Hillman, twenty, suffered severe lacerations of the face and body, and Pearl Jacobson and Mary Schubert, her companions, also of this vil-lage, were slightly injured Friday of last week when a car driven by Miss Hillman was struck by a Hi-Land bread truck at the intersec-tion of Loch Sheldrake and Hurleyville roads. A brother of Miss Hillman was skinned ten days ago while skating on Morningside Pond.

High School Notes from the Announcer

Outplaying Hurleyville from start to finish, the Roscoe quintet rang up its first victory in the Catskill Mountain League at Roscoe. Both teams fought hard, but Roscoe, the better team, won.

Hurleyville was the first to score when our dashing for-ward, Charles Yavorofsky made two foul shots. Imme-diatly after this, Al Keating broke loose and made a nice hang shot making the score 4-0. At this point Roscoe began using its scoring abil-ity and quickly sprang into the lead.

In the second half, our boys fought hard, but could not make their shots good. They kept Roscoe's scoring down, but could not add any points to their own score. The final score was 25-14. There was a preliminary

game between the girls of both schools with victory for Roscoe. Both teams, scrap-ping hard, made the game a treat to the eye. The score was 19-12.

People You Know

Among those who attend college and are spending the Christmas vacation with their parents are: Rose Cohen, Sylvia Garelick, Rose Wizwer, Lillian Lawrence, Herbert Bil-lowitz, George Schmuckler, Milton Schmuckler, Betty Simmons, and Paul Raskin.

JANUARY 1, 1937 Breaks Ankle When Pet Dog Trips her

While strolling along the highway on Monday with her pet dogs, Mrs. Amoretta Jones of Hurleyville, fell and fractured her ankle when one of the dogs playfully tripped her. The elderly woman was found lying on the highway by hotel guests who passed by on horseback. They re-moved her to the home of Mrs. Fred Mitteer who noti-fied Dr. Harry Jacobs at his office here. Mrs. Jones was taken to the Monticello Hos-pital where her condition is reported as satisfactory. She remains under the care of Dr. Jacobs.

Engagements Announced

Three engagements in-volving Hurleyville resi-dents were announced during Christmas week.

The betrothal of Miss Frieda Wichinsky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wichinsky and Jerry Lax of New York was made public. The couple plan to wed in June.

On Christmas Eve, the en-gagement of Miss Marion Metcalf of Monticello, to Edward Reynolds, son of

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Reynolds, was announced. They plan to marry soon.

Mr. and Mrs. B.M. Case of Rock Hill have announced the engagement of their daughter, Gladys, to Earl Peck of Monticello. Miss Case, a school teacher in the Mitteer district in Hur-leyville for the past four years, is a sister to Mrs. Peter LaBaugh. No date has been set for the wedding.

Christmas at the County Home

Christmas was celebrated at the Welfare Home in the real old-fashioned way. Christmas Eve, by the light of the brilliantly lighted Christ-mas tree, welcomed the visit of Jolly Old Saint Nick, who visited each and every person in the institution bringing gifts that made joyous each one's heart. After singing Christmas hymns, several of the inmates contributed a song or piece to make the evening a pleasant one.

A little later, the Truthseek-ers' Club of Mountindale sang Christmas carols under the windows of the sick in all three of the buildings. The menu for Christmas day for the old folks was chicken, biscuits and gravy, mashed potatoes, squash, cranberry sauce, mustard pickles,

mince pie, tea and coffee. There were seventy-eight at the home.

Grahamsville Man Celebrated his 100th Birthday

This past Christmas Day brought to Charles H. Hall of Grahamsville a present he has been waiting just 100 years to receive—his centen-nial birthday. The centenar-ian had been conserving his strength for days in anticipa-tion of being able to greet the scores of friends and neigh-bors who called Christmas morning to combine their Christmas greetings with birthday wishes.

JANUARY 8, 1937 John Knapp Hurt in Coasting Accident

While coasting downhill across the golf course at the Columbia Hotel here last Sunday, John Knapp, eight year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Knapp, suffered a deep flesh wound in his thigh when his sled struck a water pipe used during the summer to water the greens. The deep three cornered gash cut into leg muscles and nar-rowly escaped severing an artery. Dr. Ralph Breakey of Monticello treated the wound, which required twelve stitches to close.

An Invitation to the Pub- lic

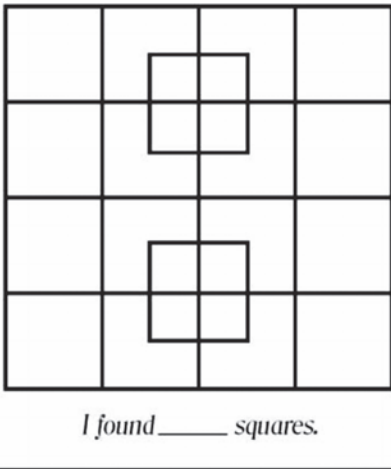
The public is cordially in-vited to attend the official opening of Ernie's Bar and Grill in Hurleyville on Satur-

day evening, January 15. There will be free refresh-ments, entertainment, and dancing. Come one, come all.

Eagles to Play at Woodridge on Wednesday

The Sullivan County Ea-gles, acclaimed Sullivan County champions, will play the Woodridge A.C. for the undisputed championship of Sullivan County at the Woodridge High School gym, Wednesday, January 19. Woodridge is the only team in the vicinity which holds a victory over the Ea-gles, and the Hurleyville quintet is favored to erase that defeat. The Eagles hold victories over every other team in the county, and a victory over Woodridge will give them unquestioned recognition for titular hon-ors. In the Woodridge line-up there will be Podberesky,

HOW MANY SQUARES?

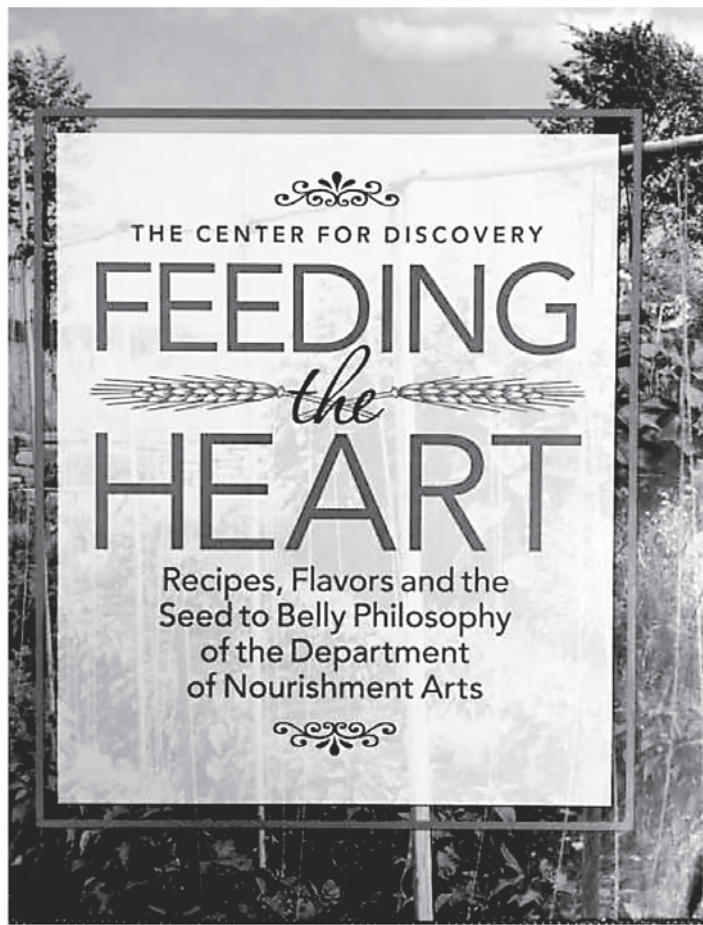


I found _____ squares.

Send your answer to info@hurlevillmakerlab.org. The first five correct answers, or the five entrants with the closest answer, will receive a prize.

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AND FARMERS AND THE INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY THEY NURTURE..



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Holiday Show Opens 12/09!!!

December 9, 10, & 11.
For the kids... "I'm Getting Nuttin' For Christmas"
The song you remember, brought to life on stage.
December 9 & 10 @ 7:00 PM, December 11 @ 1:00 PM
Tickets \$7.00

For the family... "Miracle On 34th Street - A Live Radio Play On Stage"
Re-live the holiday classic, brought to you as a live radio broadcast, on stage.
December 9 & 10 at 8:00 PM, December 11 @ 2:00 PM
Tickets are just \$10.00
Buy tickets for both Shows: \$15.00
Bring a unwrapped toy for Toys For Tots and receive \$2.00 off admission
Desserts will be served after each performance.

All performances are at the Sullivan County Museum
265 Main Street, Hurleyville.

Buy tickets at the box office or on-line at Showtix4u.com.
For more information: 436-5336 or www.SCDW.net.

HOW A DEPRESSION-ERA BOY FROM QUEENS OVERCAME A LIFE THREATENING ILLNESS TO LIVE AN ADVENTUROUS LIFE AS A GLOBE-TROTTING EXECUTIVE AND HELP FOSTER THE POST-WORLD WAR II ECONOMIC BOOM

WALTER'S WAY

BY WALTER J. SCHERR

SILVER WINNER — 2016 AXIOM BUSINESS BOOK AWARDS

AVAILABLE AT THE HURLEYVILLE MARKET
238 MAIN STREET HURLEYVILLE

POSSSESSED

The Hurleyville area was once home to nearly forty hotels, none any more well-known than the Columbia. Originally known as The Columbia Farm, it was founded by John Harms Knapp in 1891 and when it closed in 1969 it was the oldest continuously operating hotel in Sullivan County. This is an extraordinary story set at the Columbia one winter in the early 1960s. It is not likely you have heard it before, but once you have, it is not likely you will forget it. Please enjoy this first of three installments, exclusively in The Hurleyville Sentinel...

PART ONE

Deke Temple realized he had made a serious mistake almost as soon as he had done it. Not that it mattered now, he thought. There was little he could do to rectify things at this point. There was no solace in the fact that he was well aware that being head over heels in love had clouded his judgment, and he resigned himself to try to make the best of what would surely end up being a bad situation. He was standing on the sidewalk in front of a tiny bus station on Broadway in Monticello, NY, carrying his own suitcase and two bags that belonged to his girlfriend, Janice Pearson. A significantly longer duffel-type bag, containing her skis, lay at his feet. It was snowing lightly and a cold wind was starting to blow as the Ford Country Squire station wagon pulled up to the curb. "If you're waiting for a ride to the Columbia, this is it," a young man with thick black hair and glasses announced as he exited the driver's side door and opened the rear gate, seemingly all in one



The ski hill at the Columbia in the 1960s.

motion. "I'm Stan, and I will be your driver." Deke barely gave him a glance as he swung the heavy bags into the back of the wagon. "Aren't there two of you?" the youth asked, and Deke noticed that he sounded an awful lot like a radio disc jockey. "I was told there were two of you." "My girlfriend will be right here," Deke assured him. "She had to use the ladies room." Janice appeared almost on cue and Deke, mesmerized by her as always, held the back door of the wagon open for her to climb in. "Oh honey, I am so excited! This is going to be a marvelous weekend," she exclaimed as she slid across the seat. "It's already snowing, and I can't wait to get out on the hill." Deke smiled weakly. He was madly in love with Janice and there were plenty of things he was looking forward to about this weekend, but skiing wasn't one of them. He had been dating Janice just a few months, but he had fallen in love with her on their very first date. When she mentioned that she was heading to the Catskills on a long-planned skiing vacation and asked if he wanted to come along, he had jumped

at the chance in spite of the fact that he had never been on skis in his life. After all, he told himself, how hard could it be? He was a reasonably good athlete, had played college football, and had remained in good shape in the five years since graduation. Besides, he had studied the brochure for the hotel, Knapp's Columbia in a small town in the mountains called Hurleyville. It wasn't very big, and its ski hill was advertised as "in its second season" and "perfect for skiers of all levels of skill." He was not deterred, and in fact, might have even assured Janice at some point that he was an experienced skier; maybe even hinting that he had raced, no less. It wasn't until they had boarded the bus at Port Authority that she burst that bubble of false security by presenting him with a letter on the hotel's stationery that outlined the plans for the weekend ahead; plans that included their entry in the hotel's annual "Luzon Cup" couples ski race. His mind hadn't known a moment of peace since. The short trip from the bus station to the hotel took about ten minutes over winding roads that were quickly becoming snow covered. Stan kept up a steady chatter the

entire trip in that radio announcer's voice of his, but Deke heard little of what he said, trying instead to distract himself from his dread by staring at—and fantasizing about—Janice's long and shapely legs. It was solely a testament to her physical charms that he was able to momentarily put aside the apprehension he felt about having to either perform in the ski race or tell her he had lied to her. After registering at the front desk—as Mr. and Mrs. John Smith—and settling into their room, they took a walk around the hotel grounds, watching as the darkness descended, bringing with it the muted electric lighting that illuminated the walkways between the buildings. They paused to kiss, but just briefly, because Janice pulled away suddenly, her eyes bright with excitement. "I can't tell you how much I am looking forward to you and me winning the Luzon Cup, Deke!" she blurted out. "I have thought about winning that cup ever since last winter when my friend Margie won it with her boyfriend, Stu. They're married now." "Do you think there's a connection?" Deke asked impulsively. To his surprise, she answered, and seriously, at that. "I guess we'll find out." Needless to say, he slept little that night. The after dinner drinks and dancing had tired him out, but his mind was on the next day's race. Janice's well-calculated plans called for an early breakfast and then some warm-up runs on the hill before the preliminary heats began at 11 AM. He would, of course, have to rent skis and boots, since he had nothing of his own. He had sold them when he

moved to the city, he had told her. Another lie. The breakfast layout was elaborate, but it was wasted on him. He ate mechanically, saying little. She joked about him getting his game face on, a remnant of years of serious competition, she guessed. He noted that her energy was exceeded only by her enthusiasm for the upcoming event. Her preparation included scouting the other possible entrants, and she passed the time at breakfast speculating about the relative abilities of couple after couple as they made their way along the buffet line. She actually recognized two couples from the year before, she said. Deke was only paying partial attention, but he couldn't help but notice one of the couples she pointed out. The man was tall, even taller than his own 6'4" and he was nearly as broad shouldered. The woman was considerably shorter, but had that unmistakable springy step of an athlete. This was the couple to beat, Janice proclaimed, and if looking the part had anything to do with it, he had to agree. They headed for the ski hill as soon as they'd eaten. The weather was cool and crisp under bright sunny skies. The overnight snowfall had added a few inches of powdery snow to the accumulation, and the hills looked well covered. The ski shop was a rudimentary facility, small, but well stocked with skis and poles and boots and even some clothing. There were two employees behind the cluttered counter, an elderly man and a younger woman, and the man greeted them as they walked in. Deke carried the duffel with Janice's skis and a small canvas bag with her boots and a

few other miscellaneous items. Passing by a full length mirror on the way to the counter, he couldn't help but glance sideways and liked what he saw. "At least you look like a skier," he thought to himself, forgetting his apprehension for just a moment. "Well, you are certainly a *grand gaillard*," the man behind the counter ventured in a raspy, French accented voice, looking Deke up and down. "And those skis you're carrying certainly do not belong to you." Deke knew skis were sized according to a person's height, and Janice's skis were obviously much too short for him. The elderly man could tell that, too. "No, I need to rent skis," Deke said. "Unless you don't have anything in my size," he added hopefully. The old man scrunched up his face in lieu of answering. After a time, he shook his head. "I might not, at that," he finally said. "How tall are you, nearly two meters?" "I'm not sure about that," Deke said, unable to convert meters to feet and inches so quickly in his head. "I'm a shade over six foot four. If you can't accommodate me, I will understand." "Follow me," the old guy said, gesturing with his hand. "I just might have a *bonne*

idee." Deke joined the man behind the counter and followed him down a narrow hallway to a small room, which they entered, and the old guy switched on a light, that is to say he tugged on a string, illuminating a bare bulb hanging from the steeply sloping ceiling. "You are going to have to watch your head in here," he said sternly. "It's not meant for average height *gonzes*, let alone one as tall as you. But there are some old wooden skies over here that I brought with me from a place I used to work years ago. They were discarding a lot of equipment, so I salvaged what I could and have been carrying it from place to place ever since. I know there was a long pair of skis among them." "You don't say," Deke said, ducking to follow the old guy to the back of the room. "Yes, I do say," he replied. "I am certain of it. By the way, my name is Michel, but everyone calls me Mike. And what do they call you?" "I'm De..." Deke started to say before realizing they had registered under different names. "I'm deeply proud to meet you, Mike," he finally managed. "My name is John... John Smith. "You know, I'm not surprised at that, not at all," the old fellow chuckled. "Kind

of bet myself you would be when I saw that young lady you walked in with. We get a lot of John Smiths here at the Columbia, and a lot of Joneses and Johnsons, too. Even had a Kilroy once. Of course, not as many as we used to get at the Laurels when I worked there. Have you ever been to the Laurels? Swingingest place in the mountains, I'd say. Not that we don't get our share here, you see. Swingers, I mean." "Any luck with the skis?" Deke asked. He heard Mike moving some stuff around, but couldn't really see what he was doing. "Ha! Just as I thought," Mike said, turning around with a long pair of wooden skis. "A bit *cabosse*, but I can get them in working order for you." "Wonderful," Deke said, hoping his disappointment wasn't too evident as he turned to lead the way out of the room. He had been momentarily hopeful, but it was beginning to look like he would have to hit the slopes after all.

"Possessed" is a work of fiction and any resemblance to actual persons or events is strictly coincidental, except when it is not. Don't miss Part Two in the next issue of The Hurleyville Sentinel!

EMS Beat

By Albee E. Bochman, AEMT-P



First, and foremost, I hope everyone had a happy, healthy and safe Thanksgiving holiday. "Help! I've fallen and can't get up!" How many times have we seen that television commercial over the years and had a little laugh watching it? As funny as it may have seemed at the time, those of us who possess the "Red, White, and Blue" card do not take that quote for granted. Falls are the leading cause of death from injury among people 65 and older. Furthermore, and quite alarmingly, one-fourth of seniors who fracture a hip from a fall will die within six months of the injury. Approximately 9,500 deaths in older Americans are associated with falls each year. Food for thought, right? As the winter months approach, it is critical we prepare ourselves for the possibility of slipping, sliding, and falling. Hip fractures are not the only concern. For seniors who fall and are unable to get up on their own, the period of time spent immobile often affects their health outcome. Muscle cell breakdown starts to occur within 30-60 minutes of compression due to falling. Dehydration, pressure sores, hypothermia, and pneumonia are other complications that may result. Additionally, bruising the size of one's fist is a 10% blood loss. A 30% blood loss is considered life threatening. More food for thought, huh? Getting help after an immobilizing fall increases the chance of survival by 80% and increases the likelihood of a return to independent living. I can't stress enough the importance of calling 911 and requesting the assistance of Paramedics to properly assess and treat potential injuries from a fall. Injuries that do not appear on the surface may haunt you hours, days, or even weeks down the road.

So what can we do to avoid these unwelcome and unforeseen incidents? Exercise to improve balance and strengthen your muscles helps prevent falls; Make your home safer by removing loose rugs, and adding handrails to stairs and hallways; Make sure you have adequate lighting in dark areas. Don't be so vain when it comes to using canes and walkers inside and outside the home;

Place non-slip strips or mats in the shower or bath. And most importantly, avoid going outside during bad weather. Watch the forecast and PLAN ACCORDINGLY !!! Falls are inevitable as we "mature" (the new senior term, LOL). As your EMS provider, we are here to serve and protect. Let's protect ourselves from unnecessary falls and related injuries. Be safe and stay well, Hurleyville!!!

SPOTLIGHT ON A HURLEYVILLE TREASURE

By Kathleen Sullivan

"PERK JACOBSON" Louis Benjamin ("Perk" to all of us who knew him) Jacobson, the son of Bessie and Max Jacobson, was born on November 14, 1909 on the family farm in Divine Corners, New York. Along with his seven brothers and sisters, he was devoted to his family's well being. He helped out with boarders and sold meat butchered by his father, going door-to-door by horse-drawn wagon. Perk got his nickname when the local harness maker mispronounced his Hebrew name which was pronounced "Bear-ka." Perk married Florence Frumovich in 1940, and they became parents of two daughters, Myrna Coffey and Bette Jacobson Gdfrey. Local farmers taught Perk how to make sausage. After much trial and error he got the recipe right and earned the enthusiastic approval of his "coaches." Perk also made delicious pickles which were always available in a barrel at Perk's Market. Perk's Market on Main Street in Hurleyville featured the sausage made by Perk, produce, and dry goods. Perk and Florence worked in the market seven days a week. Perk's Market prospered through the 50's. The market's customers included schools, resorts and folks from all the surrounding towns. Delivery service was always available. The only time the market was closed was when Perk served in the



Perk and Florence Jacobson in 1997. The occasion was the 69th Annual S.C. Volunteer Firefighters' Assn. Parade for which Perk served as Honorary Grand Marshal.

U.S. Army during World War II. Perk was drafted into the Army due to a clerical error. He had a lifelong eye condition, retinitis pigmentosa, which could have probably kept him home. However, because of his inherent sense of responsibility he did what he was called to do. In camp, he improvised a way of getting from his tent to the mess hall and back to his tent by holding a rope in the dark.

While working as a cook in the Army during the war Perk devised a method of gleaning information from German soldiers that always worked. He didn't want them to know he was Jewish, could speak Yiddish, and could often understand their conversations. So, he told them, in very basic German, "gut sprechen, gut essen!" (If they talked good, they would eat good). When he returned to the States after the war, Perk was

in an Army base kitchen and saw the cooks making "beautiful green vegetables" during the winter. He learned that the Army had been freezing the vegetables for later use. He got the specifications for the process and for construction of the freezers. When he came back to Hurleyville he looked for a place to establish a business. He partnered with his sister, Rose and purchased a building on "Creamery Road" (9 Mongaup Road today), built the cooler and freezer in the basement, opened Mountain Frosted Foods, and obtained an exclusive distributorship for Birdseye frozen vegetables. Rose suggested bringing in a partner who operated a similar business in New York City. The new partner, Mr. Shindler, made some poor business decisions including over-ordering box cars of vegetables which could not be processed in a timely manner. He was eventually sued

by a guest at a hotel who broke a tooth on a cherry pit from one of his cans of fruit salad. He declared bankruptcy. Mountain Frosted Foods could not obtain financing and the business was forced to close. There would be no "Mr. Birdseye" in Hurleyville! Perk and Florence enjoyed traveling after they retired. They traveled to exotic locations with friends and family and made many new friends at campgrounds across the nation. Deteriorating eyesight forced Perk to give up his passions-- golf and bridge-- later in life. Perk contributed significantly to the community. He was a member of the Hurleyville Fire Department for 75 years. He belonged to Congregation Anschei Hurleyville and was a founding contributor to Lochmor Golf Course. Perk never missed a church supper at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church. He was

an early supporter of beautification in Hurleyville-- watering flower barrels along Main Street and serving as a volunteer caretaker at the Hurleyville Jewish Cemetery. He generously supported family and neighbors in any way he could.

Perk's daughter, Myrna, describes her father: "So many parts to this man... generous, but uncomfortable accepting gifts from others. He was always positive, even after the loss of parents, siblings, friends and his eyesight." Perk's daughter, Bette, said of her father, "In the final decades of his life, as Perk's sight was continually diminishing, his patience may have been tried, but he, and his essential nature, always moved forward, savored the past, and appreciated what he could from each and every day. Such people build a world for all of us." Bonnie Makofsky, Perk's niece, spoke at the dedication of Perk's bench in the Hurleyville Firemen's Park in 2006, "Uncle Perk was one of the people who made it so wonderful to have grown up in Hurleyville." Perk passed away in 2004. He saw Hurleyville from horse and buggy times through the boarding house and resort boom to the start of the rebirth of the hamlet he loved. Perk is one of Hurleyville's many extraordinary treasures. Visit www.hurleyvillenyc.com to find more treasures in Hurleyville.



Perk's family poses during the dedication of Perk's bench in Hurleyville Firemen's Park in 2006. From left to right (back row) Merilyn Griff, Bonnie Makofsky, Les Witherel, Meredith Makofsky, Helen Carlson and Michael Makofsky; (front row) Gail Makofsky and Pearl Kollender..

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SENTINEL SPORTS

Angelee Santillo, Sports Editor



SENTINEL ON-GROUND AT HOME OF THE COMETS

By Angelee Santillo

To be able to properly cover the Comets, our hometown team that has long represented Fallsburg and its surrounding communities (including Hurleyville) with black-and-gold pride, it is only fitting to have a fellow Comet provide such reporting. Thus, it is with great excitement that we welcome Julia Batista, a junior at Fallsburg High School and a five-year Comets volleyball player, to the Sentinel staff!

Julia, having previously lived in Middletown, Queens, and Puerto Rico, eventually settled with her family in Woodbourne and has considered the Fallsburg district home ever since. She believes the small community feel, especially in comparison to

the large ones in which she's lived before, makes a big difference.

"To live in Fallsburg means that you know many of the other people who go to school with you and many of the community members," Julia says of her town. "It is a very close-knit community and I like that very much."

Batista began playing volleyball at Fallsburg in the sixth grade and learned throughout her years as a Comet that the competitiveness and the constant support of her teammates in helping her grow as an athlete kept her loving the game.

Julia is just as excited to join the Sentinel Sports staff as we are to have her on board, not only because it's helping to prepare her for a future career in writ-

ing (she wants to work in publishing), but because she hopes her work will connect Fallsburg athletes and parents with the greater community and get people out to support the Comets at home games.

"It's important to support our local sports because it shows that people do care, that people do support our school and our student athletes," Batista says. "It inspires more students to come out and play."

With a gift for writing, a love for Fallsburg Comets culture, and an understanding of the importance of community support of our local teams, Julia Batista is a natural fit for The Hurleyville Sentinel, and we couldn't be prouder to welcome her to the team!

By Angelee Santillo

You can walk into almost any full-service bar in Sullivan County and scan the room to find an electronic dart machine hidden in the corner by a pool table or standing alone in full view. If you're an average patron, perhaps sometimes you've got a few extra bucks on you and decide to give it a shot, sliding singles into the feeder and marveling at the bright screen over the many options for game play. What's cricket got to do with darts, anyway? You likely shoot around for a little while, about half of the soft-tip missiles actually sticking, the others strewn upon the ground where they fell after bouncing off the board. Then, your food arrives at the table, or there are people waiting their turn behind you who look like they actually know how to play, and you concede, no better at darts than before, but flooded with the nostalgia of childhood hangouts in friends' basements.

But have you ever stayed to watch those people behind you—the ones who actually know how to play—in action? There's something peculiar about the way they play. They don't just chuck the darts at the bullseye and hope for the best, but instead throw them with precision and focus, ever tuned-in to the pie chart-looking board in front of them. These people are really good, and it's the kind of skill one can only attain by playing a whole lot.

Are people really playing darts often enough nowadays to become that good at it?

As it turns out, darts are huge in Sullivan County, and it's all thanks to Hurleyville's own Shawn McCarthy of Catskill Amusements. Shawn's family business is well-known for supplying high-end amusements and gaming machines throughout most of the Catskills and the Hudson Valley, but the company namesake may be best known to locals for running the Catskill Amusements



An electronic dart game provided by Catskill Amusements.

Dart Leagues (CADL). Facilitated in three counties (Sullivan, Orange, and Ulster), the leagues have been hugely popular among men and women of all ages, but nowhere more than in Sullivan County, where the league currently sits on an astonishing 24 teams, all gathered each week at a different participating bar for competitive play.

We've also got a home team, and you've probably been there before.

It's the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, and the dimly-lit lakeside tavern is quiet, but not empty. It's the calm before the storm, as Bum & Kel's in Loch Sheldrake is due to celebrate 44 years of business on Wednesday the 23rd with an evening of food and fun. Julie Bowers (née Morman), one of the owners who has long been in the family business, sits at the bar chatting with customers about the anniversary, and she's kind enough to take some time out of the busy

preparations to talk about something important to the culture of Bum & Kel's for quite some time now — darts. Bum & Kel's has participated in the CADL for over a decade, a significant portion of the bar's history, and Julie plays on one of the bar's two teams this winter season.

She is joined by her husband, Ryan, a fellow teammate and dart aficionado who has played in the league on a number of different teams for years. Julie and Ryan offered a short rundown on darts as a competitive sport, well-aware of how foreign the concept can be to people who don't play darts themselves.

The basics: teams go head-to-head each week in a mixed league made up of both men and women. Players are assigned handicaps, similar to the way it's done in golf, to rank people based on skill, give teams the opportunity to make strategic matchups, and to alter the overall scores in the end. Some teams take handicaps and proper player-to-player matchups rather seriously,

but for the Bum & Kel's A-team, they've got a set lineup that they stick to each week.

"The handicaps and matchups really affect the outcomes," Ryan offers, detecting my confusion at the rules of the game. "You can run a number of different matchups — your best vs. their best, your best vs. their worst, and try to see how to best leverage your scores."

After listening some more, I get a sense of just how competitive this league is. There have been arguments over referring to darts as an actual sport versus a "game of skill," but the energy and regimented format put forth by the league and Sullivan County locals makes it rival any of the other reputable leagues we have here. There are even separate winter and summer leagues, and although the winter season is far more popular, they both fill up quickly. It's tough to say exactly why and how darts caught on so fiercely in Sullivan County, but the quality of play and the seamlessness with which the league is run likely has something to do with it.

"I tried the pool league we have here," Julie says, glancing at the pool table at the front of the bar, "but I didn't enjoy it. It wasn't for me. So we joined the dart league and have been playing ever since."

Everything is done through the machines by Catskill Amusements, and they're linked to the Internet so that there is continuity throughout every electronic dartboard in the county. According to Julie and Ryan, you can approach any Catskill Amusements dart machine in Sullivan and find photos of the most recent tournament champions, statistics, and handicaps of all the players. The success of the league has forged better players out of many who've been darts for years, and some have even traveled upstate to the New York State Dart Tournament on occasion, where they've represented Sullivan County by doing very well!

"We've had some really good players in this league," says Ryan.

But for him, the best out-

come of the CADL over the years has been the promotion of local businesses in Sullivan County.

"The point of the league is to spread love and spend money at local businesses," he says, sipping on a beer and smiling as he looks around the bar at his wife's family establishment. "We like to try new bars and new foods. We always get dinner and drinks [on dart night] because Julie, being a bar owner, understands the importance of supporting local."

Feeling so welcomed and engaged by my new friends at Bum & Kel's, I couldn't have talked all night about the ins-and-outs of darts. By the end, I even got the itch to find a bar and jump on a team myself. But as the night came to a close, I had to ask the most important question: has Bum & Kel's ever won a darts championship?

Believe it or not, despite multiple plaques on the walls and having placed 2nd and 3rd on a few occasions, the league veterans have never won the whole thing!

"We usually make play-offs," Julie says, smiling at the question. "But we haven't won a championship yet."

They say they're amidst a "rebuilding year" this winter and that, although confident in their team's ability to be a real challenge for the best teams in the league, this is not likely to be their championship season. Next year, though, after getting used to the lineup they have now, Bum & Kel's believes they have a real shot at snagging the title.

In any case, you don't have to be in the somewhat-intimidating 24-team dart league to enjoy the game, although anyone is welcome to start a new team with a participating establishment. The next time you head down to Bum & Kel's on a quiet night, take a minute to excuse yourself from the friendly conversation around you and try your hand at the dartboard across from the bar. There's a good chance you — like so many others in Sullivan County — will find the sport to be something you really enjoy.

FALLSBURG BASKETBALL GETTING UNDERWAY

By Julia Batista

As the year 2016 comes to a close, one of Fallsburg High School's most important seasons is just beginning. Basketball is one of the most esteemed sports for the school and its players alike, and both the girls and boys varsity basketball teams have begun taking the steps necessary for a successful season.

Coaches Daniel Redmond and Lionel White both have hopes and plans for their teams this season. Redmond has already coached the girls for a number of years, and he knows what it takes to build an exceptional team.

The Comets girls varsity basketball team currently holds a record of going to sectionals for 7 years in a row, and Redmond says that he aims to reach way beyond that. He's confident that his girls have what it takes to bring themselves to the sectional finals and maybe even to states, carrying the school name with pride. The girls themselves are confident about the season, as well.

"I hope that our team will go into these games strong and make it into sectionals and maybe even the next round," said Sierra Barbisani, looking ahead to the season. "I have a lot of hope for my team this year."

"We have all built a chemistry, and I feel that with the team this year we can do big things," Diamond Weeks elaborated. "If everyone puts in the effort I think we will be more than ready."

Indeed, many of the girls are beyond ready and excited to start to play on the court and get Fallsburg the Section 9 title.

Coach White, the Comets boys varsity coach, is a new addition to the Fallsburg sports administration. He has expressed excitement to be coaching in

Fallsburg, the school he once attended and played for. As a coach, he wants to make sure his boys have "a good and successful season," and he wants his seniors to graduate. Just like the girls team, many of his players are eager and ready to get out on the court and play their hearts out.

"Talent-wise, I think we're ready for this season. We just need to work on team chemistry the most if we want to get anything past the second round in sectionals," said player Britain Burgess of his team.

Rashaad Nurse added that, "If the team keeps practicing hard, follows

through, and stays on track" with what they learn in practice, they will be ready for the season more than ever.

Dedication, hard work, leadership, heart, hustle and so many more characteristics are needed to have a strong high school sports team. With the optimistic mindset that the girls and boys varsity basketball teams have, hopefully both teams can start strong and maintain outstanding seasons. The Hurleyville Sentinel and the Fallsburg surrounding area will be cheering the Comets on at their home games this season, with both schedules provided in this issue.

Fallsburg Boys Varsity Basketball Home Schedule
November 29. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Rondout Valley
December 6. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. S.S. Seward
December 8. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Sullivan West
December 14. @ 5:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Ellenville
December 16. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Goshen
January 10. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Chester Academy
January 12. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Port Jervis
January 20. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Liberty
February 2. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Cornwall
February 10. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. O'Neill
February 13. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Onteora

Fallsburg Girls Varsity Basketball Home Schedule
December 13. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Port Jervis
December 21. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Cornwall
January 4. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Ellenville
January 11. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. O'Neill
January 19. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Burke Catholic
February 1. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Rondout Valley
February 7. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Chester Academy
February 15. @ 6:00PM - Fallsburg vs. Liberty



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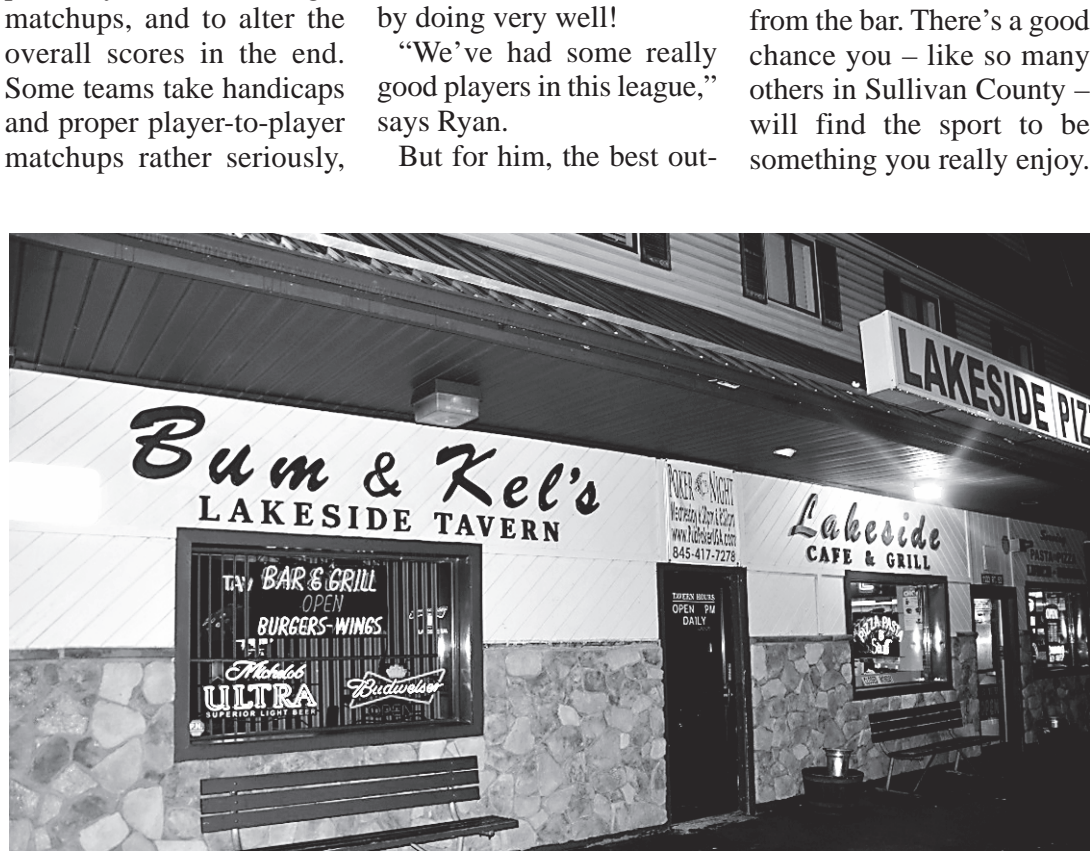
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Bum & Kel's Lakeside Tavern in Loch Sheldrake sponsors two teams in Sullivan County's Catskill Amusements Dart League.