

## HINDSIGHT IS 2020

### THE YEAR HAD MORE UPS THAN DOWNS

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE – It is probably fair to say that last year was more historic than most.

The ongoing COVID pandemic and the restrictions that accompanied it dominated the news at all levels during the year. The Hurleyville Sentinel first reported on the pandemic in April, and some new development or other associated with the virus was covered in every edition since. But there were other newsworthy events taking place in and around the liveliest little hamlet in the Mountains, as well.

It has been perhaps a century since two major commercial buildings were constructed from the ground up at the same time on Main Street in Hur-

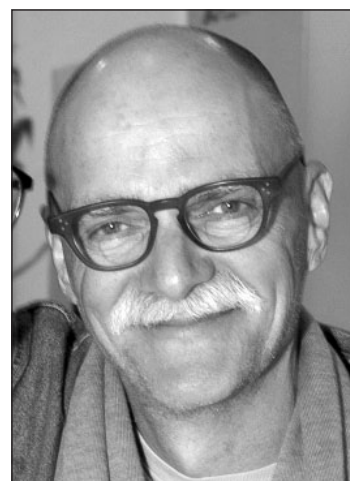
leyville, but throughout 2020 progress continued on two significant additions to the hamlet. The Hurleyville Mews, located at 234 Main Street, is a three-story mixed use building with four storefronts on the ground level and eight two-bedroom apartments on the upper floors. As of press time, the building was completely enclosed and interior framing was nearly complete and sheetrock had been delivered.

The new restaurant, catering facility and culinary education center located at the rear of the Performing Arts Centre, and positioned to face Main Street, is nearly completed, and word of a soft opening is anxiously awaited.

The Center for Discovery was in the news

throughout the year, announcing an affiliation with Northwell Health, New York's largest health-care provider, in January, and being called "the gold standard in specialized care" by Congressman Antonio Delgado in July. In December, the Homestead school in Glen Spey announced a collaboration with TCFD and SUNY Sullivan in development of a new high school for the region, to be headquartered in Hurleyville.

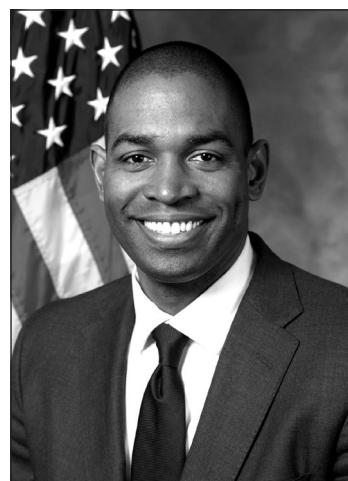
Perhaps most remarkably, TCFD President and CEO Patrick H. Dollard, Associate Executive Director Dr. Theresa M. Hamlin, and a skilled and devoted staff have steered the organization through the COVID crisis remarkably well. Unlike virtually every other similar facility,



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
TCFD President and CEO  
Patrick H. Dollard

The Center has had very few cases of COVID so far, and no deaths.

The Hurleyville General Store was honored in 2020 with an Empire Award from State Senator Jen Metzger for "their entrepreneurial success and dedication to uplifting all community members."



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
Congressman  
Antonio Delgado

In presenting the award, Senator Metzger said, "The Hurleyville General Store is a values driven business that puts inclusivity at the forefront. I had a great time perusing the store, which is filled with handcrafted products made right here in New York, sourced from small busi-

nesses that employ people with special needs, women-owned businesses, and more."

Senator Metzger narrowly lost her bid for reelection in November, and her seat in Albany will be taken in January by political newcomer Mike Mar-tucci of Orange County. Senator Metzger represented the 43rd District for a single two-year term, which ended on December 31. The district comprises all of Sullivan County, and parts of Orange, Ulster, and Delaware Counties.

"I have always taken a problem-solving approach to this job, and focused on the real needs of the rural communities and towns I represent, like combating climate change, closing the broadband gap, expanding

affordable access to telehealth, and protecting our water, farmland, and other resources," the Senator noted in a year end statement. "These are people issues, not partisan issues, and it has been an honor to serve as State Senator for communities in the Hudson Valley and Catskills."

The Hurleyville Arts Center unveiled a new name and a new logo in celebration of its first season as an independent community-supported arts center. Incubated since 2016 by The Center for Discovery, the Arts Centre became a separate entity and is now known as the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. Once the COVID restrictions are lifted, HPAC will continue to screen the latest popular movies, host dance class-

es, live performances, and workshops, and will work to expand its offerings, as well as continuing to operate Gallery222 and the new restaurant, catering facility and culinary education center referenced above.

As the COVID pandemic seemed to revive itself entering the fall, plans for the annual Holiday in Hurleyville event were cancelled. The popular luminaria walk on the winter solstice was also canceled due to COVID, and most holiday celebrations, including Thanksgiving and Christmas were scaled back.

The pandemic, the lockdowns, the raucous election campaigns, and other disruptions moved some to dub 2020 "the annus horribilis" or the horrible year.

## Catholic Charities Offers Guidance for Coping with Holiday Stress in the Time of COVID

GOSHEN – Catholic Charities CEO, Dr. Dean Scher, a clinical psychologist, and Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), reminds people that experiencing fear and anxiety during this unprecedented time is normal. For many, adding in the holidays and challenges of appropriately interacting with family and loved ones has compounded the stress.

"Coping with pandemic-related fear, isolation, change of routine, and the challenges of celebrating the holidays during these unusual times, has been stressful for everyone," said Dr. Scher. "Pro-actively managing the stress is key to keeping us healthy right now. Focusing on self-care is essential," he added.

Dr. Scher offers some tips for managing both holiday and pandemic stress this year:

- Take care of yourself. Eat healthy, well-balanced meals. Get plenty of exercise and sleep. Maintaining a routine is important.
- Practice meditation, self-reflection, or deep breathing. Take time to relax and unwind your mind and body.
- Stay connected with people who are important to you. Catch up on phone calls, use video chat, or write a letter. But don't take on too much. If you can't get holiday cards out this year – that's okay.
- Give yourself a "time-out" – from news, social media, even family members, when necessary.
- Take a break from screen time as well. Too many video calls can be draining.
- Spend time outdoors if you can.
- Avoid turning to substances to self-medicate.
- Continue to attend sup-

port meetings and counseling appointments.

- Take time for activities you enjoy.
- Find ways to help where you can.
- Be kind to yourself and others. Everyone is feeling the stress and anxiety right now.

"It's also important to follow the guidelines for curbing the spread of COVID-19," reminded Dr. Scher. "Wear a mask, maintain a responsible distance, wash your hands. If you are struggling to maintain recovery, turn to your counselor, physician, or other support system for assistance. It's okay to ask for help or support if you need it."

Catholic Charities continues to provide programs and services to those who are struggling to maintain recovery, manage their stress, and

cope with other related issues during this difficult time. Program adjustments have been made to promote responsible social distancing and protect the health and well-being of both employees and clients.

Addiction treatment and recovery services, including medication-assisted treatment, are available at Catholic Charities in Orange and Sullivan Counties. New admissions, counseling sessions, and group therapy are being made available via telephone and tele-health practices, and in person when necessary.

The Catholic Charities clinic office for Sullivan County is located at 396 Broadway in Monticello. The phone number is 845-794-8080.

For more information about Catholic Charities' programs and services, visit [www.cccsos.org](http://www.cccsos.org).

## HURLEYVILLE GETS A HIGH SCHOOL

*Homestead School, SUNY Sullivan, TCFD Team Up*

HURLEYVILLE – The Homestead School, a private Montessori school focused on humanitarian and sustainable education serving 200-plus students in Glen Spey since 1978, announced in December that it would be expanding into Hurleyville.

According to the school's website, "Homestead will start a full Junior High program next school year, September 2021, that will include grades 7-9. In September of 2022, Homestead will launch the Senior High program with the ad-



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
The Center for Discovery's THINC building on Main Street will be the headquarters for the new Collaborative College High School.

dition of 10th grade, adding a grade each subsequent year."

The new school, called the Collaborative College High School will be con-

ducted in partnership with SUNY Sullivan and The Center for Discovery. It will be headquartered in TCFD's Technology Hub and Incubator (THINC) on Main Street.

"This is quite possibly the first pre-K through Associate's Degree Montessori experience available on the planet!" Jack Comstock, the school's Director, wrote on the Homestead's website.

We will have more on this exciting new development in the February edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel.

## HURLEYVILLE SCENE IS PART OF PBS SHOW

*Laura Flanders Show Filmed Segment Here*

by Win Hadley

HURLEYVILLE – Although it did not air on channel 13, the PBS station that serves this region, the December 13 episode of The Laura Flanders Show included a mention of Hurleyville and an interview filmed on the Milk Train Trail just east of Main Street.

The half-hour episode, entitled "Transportation is a Human Right" was also aired on the WORLD network and is currently viewable on YouTube as well as on the Laura Flanders website, [lauraflanders.org](http://lauraflanders.org).

Laura Flanders, who grew up in a family of journalists in London, is an Izzy Award winning independent journalist, a New York Times bestselling author and the recipient of the Pat Mitchell Lifetime Achieve-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Laura Flanders

ment Award from the Women's Media Center. Recent episodes of her show have featured topics including food security, Bob Dylan, racial inequality, and lynching.

A portion of the December 13 episode explored the impact the COVID pandemic has had on public transportation, and by way

of a historical perspective featured Sullivan County Historian John Conway discussing the role tuberculosis played in the decline of the railroad linking New York City to the Catskills in the early 20th century. The interview was filmed during this past summer near the Smith Hill Cut on the Milk Train Trail.

## EMERGENCY HEATING BENEFIT NOW AVAILABLE

LIBERTY – Sullivan County's Home Energy Assistance Program's (HEAP's) Emergency Benefit component is now open and accepting applications.

Emergency benefits are available to assist eligible households with a heating emergency or a heat-related domestic emergency. Regular component benefits, if available, must be utilized first to resolve heating emergencies for eligible households.

Temporary relocation for housing emergencies, and propane tank deposits to

obtain new propane vendors, are available under the Emergency Benefit component in emergency situations only, such as relocation due to eviction or when a home is uninhabitable.

All applicants for the Emergency Benefit may apply via telephone or in person – not via the MyBenefits web portal. The phone number is 845-807-0142. Applications can be completed over the phone and do not require a face-to-face interview. Residents are asked to call before visiting the Department of Family Services

in Liberty, as offices are still operating on a limited-access basis.

The applicant must be facing a heating emergency or heat-related domestic emergency under one or more of the following conditions:

- The applicant's utility service is terminated or is scheduled for termination
- The applicant's electric utility service necessary to operate the primary heating equipment is terminated or is scheduled for termination
- The applicant is without heating fuel; has less

than one-quarter tank of oil, kerosene, or propane; or has less than a ten-day supply of other heating fuels

To be eligible for consideration, the applicant must be the customer of record for the utility or deliverable fuel account. Also, the applicant and all household members must meet the resource limit requirements: no more than \$2,000 in available liquid resources (or \$3,000 if the household contains a member age 60 or older).

For more information, call the County's HEAP Office at 845-807-0142.



## The Inquiring Photographer

by Kathleen Sullivan

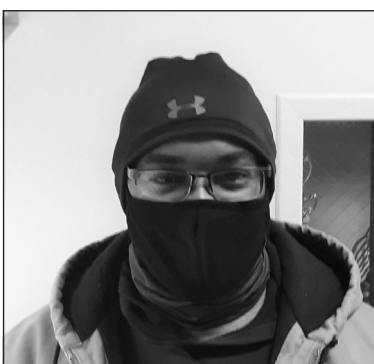


*Q. How long have you lived in Hurleyville, and what do you love most about it?*



**MARYANN  
GEARY-HALCHAK**

I've lived in Hurleyville for 31 years. I love Hurleyville's rural character.



**SONYA  
ROBINSON**

I've lived in Hurleyville for 70 years. Hurleyville is a nice small town.



**JANET CARRUS**

My first experience of Hurleyville was in 2015 when Patrick Dollard gave me a tour of Hurleyville, which by the way, I didn't know existed. I did give him my opinion, which was that the one way to revitalize a

community and achieving that goal is through the arts. So, I gave it some thought and decided that Hurleyville should have an arts center, and the rest is history. In thinking about it, I then decided to build a house on Main Street so that I was able to oversee the project. At first, it was just a place for me to stay. Then Hurleyville became a place that started to feel like home. I never really had a sense of community before. After coming here, I had to stretch and develop individual relationships with different people. I found everyone very welcoming, and it's now really become home. I'm thrilled to be here and will do whatever I can for the community. I want to help make Hurleyville a comfortable, inviting place so that everybody would want to be here in some form.

## FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



## THE NOR'EASTER

A nor'easter is a very large storm system that brings winds from the northeast and lots of snow or rain.

Nor'easters develop when the cold air and warm water meet, forming a low pressure system. The low pressure system causes clouds to form and a storm to develop. This can happen when cold air from Canada blows over the warm Atlantic Ocean off the east coast.

Nor'easters often form on what is known as the 40-70

line, also called the benchmark. That's in reference to the longitude (70 degrees west) and latitude (40 degrees north) of a point south of Nantucket in the Atlantic Ocean.

Sometimes a nor'easter can cause thunder snow, which is when the storm gets intense or crazy. Damage from nor'easters can be in the billions of dollars.

This winter could bring lots of nor'easters our way, so stay tuned!

## Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



### HURLEYVILLE -SULLIVAN FIRST

The decorations in Hurleyville for the 2020 holiday season were especially creative and beautiful.

There were 11 winners in the 24th annual "DECK THE DOORS" holiday decorating contest sponsored by Hurleyville-Sullivan First.

The winners were:

The Ditchik Family  
The Fairman Family  
The Harvey Family  
The Hoag Family  
Madelyne and Patrick Maxwell  
Holly and Bill Miller  
The Nardi Family  
The Payne Family  
The Rose Family  
Jakuin and Ken Saunders  
Annette and Ernest Wood

Terry McGrath was added to the "DECK THE DOORS" Hall of Fame. Other "Hall of Famers" include:

The Dromazos Family  
Ruth and Dick Forest  
Ryan Forest  
Dawn and Shawn McCarthy  
Cathy and Bob Orlowsky  
Leisha and E Snihura.

Prizes for the winners were provided by the Arati Store, Fiber on Main, the Hurleyville General Store, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, izzy's aunt, Jampond, La Salumina, the Pickled Owl, QQL Enterprises, LLC and LouAnn Rexford.

Please visit [www.hurlevillyen.com](http://www.hurlevillyen.com) for more information about Hurleyville-Sullivan First. You can also visit Hurleyville-Sullivan First on Facebook.

### HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The volunteers at the Bread of Life Food Pantry provide pre-made boxes of food to individuals and families in need. The food pantry will be open on Thursday, January 21st and on Thursday, January 28 from 3 until 5 p.m.

Personal hygiene products and COVID-19 supplies (masks, hand sanitizer and hand soap) are also being



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Madelyne Maxwell displays the holiday door she decorated with her brother, Patrick.**

distributed at the food pantry.

The church is open for Sunday services.

The Bible study group meets at the church every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Protocols for social distancing, disinfection and cleaning are being followed. Masks must be worn.

Pastor Jorge is delivering sermons online on Facebook at 11 a.m. on Sundays.

You can pray with others over the phone on the church's prayer line on Sundays from 7 to 8 p.m. The prayer line phone number is 605-472-5491 and the access code is 251678.

"MESSY CHURCH", Youth Group meetings and the women's group meetings are cancelled for now.

Please call Katrina at 845-436-7942 for more information. You can also get updates from the church's page on Facebook.

### THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

The Sullivan County Museum and the Historical Society are still closed to the public because of COVID-19.

Volunteers at the Historical Society continue to work on research requests.

Go to [www.scnyhistory.org](http://www.scnyhistory.org) for more information on the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Sullivan County Museum. You can

also visit the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum on Facebook.

Please email Suzanne Cecil at [scecil@hvc.rr.com](mailto:scecil@hvc.rr.com) if you have any questions.

### COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The members of CHNA appreciate the support of their efforts to protect our environment and our community. They extend their best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy New Year to their friends and neighbors.

The developer of Gan Eden Estates has not yet submitted the new DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) which must address environmental factors and concerns. The completed statement must be submitted to the Town of Thompson Planning Board and will be subject to public review and comment followed by a public hearing before the it is considered for approval and acceptance. The Planning Board will then review the applicant's site plan application which will require another public hearing before any approval to allow site work to commence. The members of CHNA continue to monitor and provide input on this ongoing process.

Visit CHNA at [www.columbiahill.org](http://www.columbiahill.org) and on Facebook to learn how you can help to protect your environment and your community.

## The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

I will be so glad to see the backside of 2020!

That whole week of Christmas was very disconcerting. A surprise phone call from one of the Directors of S.T.A.R.S. on Christmas Day told me about the avalanche that caused considerable damage to The Grand Lodge at Belleayre. The photos (courtesy of the Belleayre FaceBook page) are shocking! But even so, the cascade of rock, snow and ice came to rest exactly in the portion of the lodge where she, I and the other Directors sit every year we attended the benefit for HEART OF THE CATSKILLS. The benefit didn't take place this year due to COVID.

HEART OF THE CATSKILLS is a wonderful organization that operates a no-kill shelter. I adopted my Lefty and Missy Mags (not their names at the time) from them back in 2011. What impressed me more than anything was in addition to telling me about their shots and general health condition, they also clued me in on their personalities and the little quirks the staff had observed.

S.T.A.R.S. stands for Second Time Around Rescue & Sanctuary. This is also a wonderful organization, but of a most unique kind. They maintain a strict limit on the number of kitties and Cocker Spaniels in their sanctuary because of the vision of the group. They take in the elderly, the chronically ill, those suffering from badly healed injuries....in other words, the unadoptable. They give the unadoptable a quality of life. If you are on Facebook, I suggest you check out the pages of both organizations.

It is not all doom, though. I spoke with MATT WILLIAMS, my writer friend from Canada, mid December because at long last, the third of the trilogy is being released.

I became familiar with Matt's writing when we first became friends and I began following the articles in UNIVERSE TODAY. He is a scientific journalist specializing in anything to do with Astronomy. Astronomy always meant just the stars to me. Boy was I wrong. The more articles I read of Matt's, the more I realized there was a lot more to it. Of all definitions I researched, the one from Wikipedia is probably the best I've found to explain exactly what this is, "astronomy is a natural science that studies celestial objects and phenomena. It uses mathematics, phys-



PHOTO PROVIDED

**This quilt by Katharina Litchman is a work of art.**

ics, and chemistry in order to explain their origin and evolution. Objects of interest include planets, moons, stars, nebulae, galaxies, and comets." Wow, who knew?

So here I am, extoling the writing of a SciFi trilogy that I would have bypassed completely were it not for my respect for Matt's talents and knowledge. I would not have chosen SciFi to read BUT I am so glad I did. The writing is fluent and cohesive, but it's how his lead characters hooked me from the first book, THE CRONIAN INCIDENT, kept my attention riveted through his second; THE JOVIAN MANIFESTO and I have no doubt will continue in the third in this trilogy, THE FROSTLINE FRACTURE, which was released this Christmas

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JANUARY 2021

The New Year has arrived  
It's two thousand twenty-one  
Let's make an effort to be positive  
And try to have some fun

First, be grateful for today  
You've awakened from your sleep  
Now, make a resolution  
One you feel you're going to keep

Perhaps it won't be easy  
To feel joy for a while  
But, think of one time in your life  
A time that made you smile

Keep that vision in your sight  
To bolster your mood  
Meditate, exercise and  
Take time to eat good food

Make this year, twenty twenty-one,  
One you won't soon forget  
Keep stress levels low and take deep breaths  
This year live with few regrets

- Mimi  
January, 2021



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# DESIGN THINKING YIELDS RESULTS

by Denise Sullivan

HURLEYVILLE – How many tools do you pick up with your hands and use in daily life? Toothbrushes, washcloths, forks, spoons, cups, hair styling implements and writing utensils are a small number of gadgets that must be gripped in order to take care of oneself. Imagine not being able to hold kitchen devices for basic cooking or a paint brush for creating art for fulfillment, or, heaven forbid, a cell phone for communication.

For people who are not able to grasp these necessary tools, activities of daily living or enjoyment are either very limited, or they require adaptive equipment and / or the assistance of another person.

Adaptive equipment is any tool, device, or machine that is used to help with any task associated with daily living. Adaptive devices are generally used by people

who have a short or long-term disability, but many devices are becoming commonplace in most homes.

Adaptive equipment doesn't have to be complicated or fancy. A loop of rope tied to a door latch or a long-handled loofah that allows someone with limited reach to wash their entire bodies are examples that have become commonplace and are used by many.

Assistive devices can be created or purchased, so long as they achieve the end result of making tasks possible for people with disabilities. At the Technology Hub and Incubator (THINC), the design team is often asked by therapists at The Center for Discovery (TCFD) to improve upon or replicate a device that is commercially available, but its price is prohibitive or it is not the right fit for an individual. These were the presenting problems with the universal tool holder. An inexpensive but small silicone strap did not



The "tool grabber" designed at THINC.

PHOTO PROVIDED

offer enough support for the hand or arm that lacked controlled movement. A more like gripper was overpriced, vigorous use. Poor quality and would not withstand in materials is a frequent

complaint in reviews for adaptive tools or tool holders. The THINC team used design thinking, a human-centered approach to innovation—anchored in understanding customer's needs, rapid prototyping, and generating creative ideas - and then analyzed the best elements of the most versatile devices and came up with the "Tool Grabber."

The Tool Grabber allows for gross movement in a specific plane of movement, like using a paintbrush on an easel. It has an adjustable grip that molds into a child's hand that has weak grasp or articulation. The vice clamp is lightweight and can grip just about any tool. It can

be manufactured and possibly offered to the public for under \$40, a bargain for a universal device compared to the average costs of adaptive equipment.

This design process took a considerable amount of time, and included lots of prototyping and testing. Sourcing the durable Velcro straps and lightweight plastic vice, and then preparing test models for tryouts and feedback can sometimes send a designer back to the drawing board. But imaging the delightful victory and sense of self-empowerment when a child feeds him or herself for the very first time. It is magical.

## Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

Ten days before Christmas, on a Wednesday, the first big storm of the season struck: a nor'easter. "Nor'easter" is one of those windy words, like "sirocco" or "squamish," that refer to the disposition of vaguely baleful winds, a word I might use without much purchase on what it actually describes. "Oh, yes, there's a big nor'easter coming our way..." - this would seem to be unwelcome news, generally.

I had to look up "nor'easter" to discover its derivation from the flow of air currents coming down from Canada, bearing an arctic charge of cold; when these cold currents meet air warmed by the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic, climactic mayhem ensues. The two air currents converge and propel one another, spinning like a top, back towards Canada; when the motion is severe enough, bombogenesis may be involved – a force you don't want to mess with! So the nor'easter is a regional phenomenon, pertaining mostly to the east coast of North America; in New Zealand, the antipodes from here (where Lewis Carroll's Alice expected to meet "the people that walk with their heads downwards"), they look out, with inverse symmetry, for nor'westers.

was prepared to declare a state of emergency in Sullivan County, if conditions warranted. Conditions suggested it might be warranted. By 2:30 p.m. the day was already dusk, the clouds massing and darkening across the horizon; it felt like a dimmer switch was steadily dialing down on the day. By 4:30 p.m. we entered such a deeply empurpled Blue Hour it could have been midnight. By full dark, around 6 p.m., a finely-flaked snowfall was underway. It snowed all night, quietly, and it was still snowing when we woke on Thursday.

I went out first thing to take the measure of the snow on the ground and came up just shy of a foot. Elsewhere in the region they had as much as 18 inches. A grand nor'easter indeed! Thursday morning was lovely: the soft dry snow swelled in wave-like billows across the fields – a landscape softened and turned a bit abstract, like one of those sumi-e drawings in which "reality is expressed by reducing it to its pure, bare form." It was a day of pure and bare forms, elemental in appearance, with human needs pared down and concentrated on essentials: warmth, food, water, and snow plows.

More snow came down in one night, I was told, than in the entirety of the previous winter, and the sheer mass of it defeated our plow-guy's truck. This meant we were stuck in place for the morning, until our impassable driveway could be cleared and we be about our business again. For a sweet moment we were suspended within this snow-globe world, the day's agenda temporarily erased, or whited-out by the snow, and a clean slate given: you can begin anew, the day seemed to say, just look around you and take heart! And if by Thursday evening the world had begun to assume its familiar contours again, there's always the next nor'easter to look forward to, with as much anticipatory glee or worry as moves you at the prospect.

## ANOTHER NEW YEAR ARRIVES

*The "Re's" And The "Tions" –*

HURLEYVILLE – There are so many ways we can fail to live up to the expectations of others—or those of ourselves--at that most anticipated day of the year for being a better person than we have ever been. New Year's Day!

It is a day of promise. A day for thought and planning. A day we may have actually been thinking about since Thanksgiving, when our failure to be the best person we had planned to be (given last year's serious analysis) manages to crash into our recognition that we are unable to give Thanks for accomplishing our last New Year's Resolutions.

In fact - it can become clear that we have never totally lived up to the self we have pictured and pursued for many New Year's Days. Some Resolutions are so simple and stupid that we can't even reveal them to others. Some are so difficult and complex that we can't admit them. Some are repeated so often through the years that we vow not to make Resolutions this year—even though that is a Resolution itself, darn it.

Let's take a look at the beginning and end of the word, Resolution. "Re" indicates either again or backward. Cousin letters of e can also appear in the family. Either meaning can be positive or negative. Does it have to be negative, or is it just a natural part of the learning curve of change?

"T-i-o-n" at the end of the word indicates the idea or action needed to accomplish the middle of the word- the VERB. Resolutions exist in a family of words that can get us closer and closer to goals that bring us joy or satisfaction, and the mental knowl-

edge we need to get closer and closer- or to change with the realization that we have a newly recognized value that can mean more to us than our original target.

Resolution: you were determined and had decided to act. Reconsideration: what worked and what didn't work? Ramification (yes the e is an a- get over it!): success or failure? Rumination: why did a plan succeed or fail? Revelation: what does that say about the plan you had made? Recrimination: Should you have made a different plan for the failures, and should you employ successful plans in new ways to succeed in the future? Repolarization: Change it up- either the goal or the method! Rebellion: but I don't want to! Reimagination: but if I did, look what could happen! Reorientation: do I change my goal or my method - which will have the better outcome, now that I think about it? Reorchestration and reconstruction (twins): what preparation do I have to make so that the new goal or method will be successful? Reincarnation: this is how the plan and the method will work. Resonation: this is the best resolution I have made, and it is worth revision when needed. Regularization: get to work and keep at it. Revitalization and re-evaluation: did this work so well that I want a new and more demanding and important goal?

Is New Year's Day rolling around again? Did the "Re's" and the "Tion's" lead to "resolution revolution" or "resolution recrimination?"

Either way, happy New Year!



The toboggan run at Grossinger's circa 1960.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## “WINTER IN THE BORSCHT BELT” Crawford Library to Host ZOOM program

MONTICELLO— Although Sullivan County will always be known primarily as a summer resort, there were dozens of hotels open all year around during its tourism heyday. And while indoor swimming pools and artificial snow for skiing were staples at some of the larger hotels, many other resorts had to be much more innovative in developing amenities to attract visitors in the cold

weather.

In an attempt to provide some insight into this little discussed chapter in the county's history, the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library in Monticello will host a ZOOM program, "Winter in the Borscht Belt," on Thursday, January 28 at 6 p.m. The discussion will be facilitated by Marvin Rappaport and Steve White, each of whom grew up at resorts their families

were associated with, and John Conway, longtime Sullivan County Historian, who has made a study of the evolution of tourism in the

Catskills.

The program is free and open to the public. Call the library for registration information. 845-794-4660.

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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.

2020 has been a year like no other. Our firehouse is still closed to the general public. We continue to answer all calls at all hours of the day and night.

County-wide we are still limited on the number and kinds of classes we can offer. Fire calls are still up county-wide.

In the Hurleyville Fire Department, we lost some of our most senior members: Eddie Orłowsky, Honorary Chief Jim Minarsky, and Fred Turner, and some way to soon: Chet Hobby and Pat Maxwell. Together they represent more than 250 years of experience.

This year we did get three new members: Tom Becerril, Stephen Crown, and Summer Sherwood. Welcome aboard.

Our annual elections were held in December and these are the officers for 2021:

Line Officers:

Chief - Charlie Payne

1st Assistant Chief - Fred Froehlich

2nd Assistant Chief - Tony Harvey

Captain - Alan Price

1st Lieutenant - Josh Colon

2nd Lieutenant - Pete Micheletti III

Captain of the Fire Police- Eddie Ayala

Executive Officers:

President - Jim Kaufman

Vice President- Miranda Behan

Treasurer- John Jaycox

Secretary- Erica Payne

Officer at Large- Roger Dainack

Congratulations to all of the newly elected officers.

At our annual meeting we

also had our annual memorial

service to honor those mem-

bers that have answered their

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last alarm. Each name is read and the bell is tolled for each departed member. Chaplin Jim Kaufman gave a sermon and said that one day all of us will be on the memorial board and to enjoy life now. We need new members to continue on so that we to can be remembered.

Also at the meeting, the SYDA Foundation gave the membership a holiday basket full of goodies for all to enjoy along with a check for \$2,500.00. Unfortunately, because of COVID they were not present for the fire department to thank them in person. Formaggio Cheese delivered a box of their cheese products for all to enjoy. (And we did.) Thank you to both Formaggio and the SYDA Foundation for thinking of us. Also, the fire department gave a check to Jim Kaufman for \$3,000 to help offset some of his medical expenses. The Patel family also chipped in with \$250.00.

It has been a trying year, but fire takes no holiday and doesn't care about COVID. Each article I try to give some fire safety hints that are relevant to the season and what I

have encountered as a Deputy Fire Coordinator.

One topic is the proper disposal of ashes from your stove or fireplace. Put them in a covered metal container and store them outside away from your house. We had an incident where the homeowner put them in a plastic bucket and put them in the basement up against the wall. It stated a fire in the wall and the responding fire department made a good save.



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Through the efforts of District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajsz, Camp Simcha Director Ben Brown, left, was able to give hundreds of toys donated by the Glen Spey camp and its supporters to the United Way of Sullivan County for distribution to many children and families. Gratefully accepting the donation outside the Government Center was United Way Executive Director Julian Dawson. "Thank you to Camp Simcha and Ben Brown for always remembering the children of Sullivan County through these yearly donations!" Legislator Rajsz said.**

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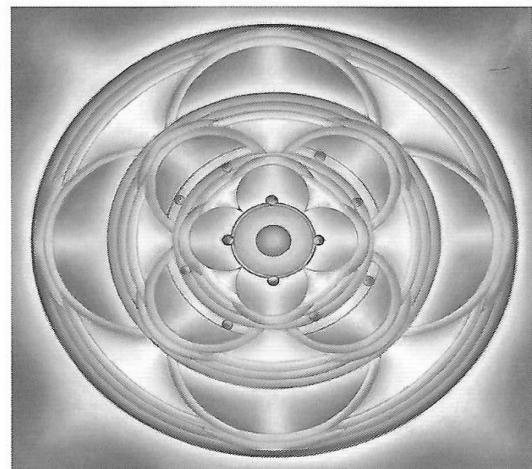
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FROM THE FILES OF...

# THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburg

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

**January 14, 1938**

### Drivers Warned Against Dangers of Winter Roads

Driving at reduced speeds will prevent many "winter" accidents, Motor Vehicle Commissioner Charles A. Harnett told State motorists today.

"Driving hazards increase during the winter months with the combination of early darkness and unfavorable weather conditions," Harnett declared. "Reduced speed enables the motorist to have his car under better control and to cope more effectively with whatever emergency might arise.

In addition to emphasizing the need for keeping windshields clear of ice and snow, the Bureau offers the following suggestions for application of brakes on slippery roads.

1. Use your brakes carefully. Press lightly at first and release quickly. A series of brief, moderate brake actions will aid in stopping car without skidding.
2. Keep the wheels of the car revolving to prevent skidding and to stop more quickly.
3. Take your foot off the gas, but do not release the clutch until the car is almost to a standstill. The slowing down of the engine will aid the brakes in reducing speed.
4. In case of a skid, turn your steering wheel so that the front wheels will be headed in the direction the car is skidding. This will tend to bring to rear wheels back into their proper position on the road.

### Teachers Hear Plea for Zeal

Although he condemned their objectives, Dr. Roland G. Will, education instructor at the New Paltz Normal School, recommended the zeal of Italian, German, and Russian teachers who met at the Monticello High School on Monday night to form the Sullivan County Teachers Association. Chairman of the meeting was William McKernan, prin-



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

**A bevy of skiers gather on Walnut Mountain in Liberty.**

cipal of Woodridge High School.

"We must have the zealot's desire to do something about things that trouble us," Dr. Will said in his discussion of dangers presently confronting democracy, and of the influence teachers might exert in eliminating them.

"The difference between the real teacher and the complacent routinist is a knowledge of what is happening outside the classroom and correlating it to classroom instruction," Dr. Will remarked. "The danger to our democratic way of life is no longer theoretical or remote, but a real thing, now with us," Dr. Will warned. "If we teachers could become as enthusiastic about the teaching of democracy as the teachers of the three dictatorial countries are about their own current national philosophies, we would no longer be uncertain of the fate of our democratic system."

**January 15, 1937**

### Liberty Ski Fans Greet Light Snow

With the ground again blanketed with a light fall of snow after two weeks of the balmy weather in the memory of Sullivan County natives, sponsors of the Liberty Winter Sports Program renewed their activities this week on Walnut Mountain, where, if the snow holds out, Sullivan's first contingent of skiing fans from New York City will

disport themselves this weekend. On Friday night at seven o'clock, the first of a series of O&W weekend snow trains is slated to leave Weehawken.

The first O&W Sunday snow train was to have been run last Sunday, but the lack of snow called the trip off.

### Dry Township Receives Last Liquor Tax Refund

Neversink township, which adopted local option by a vote at the November election, received this week from County Treasurer Roy C. Johnston the last revenue which it will derive from the alcoholic beverage tax. Towns in which local option exists cannot share in the pro rata distribution of beer, wine, and liquor taxes. The final check for Neversink, Mr. Johnston disclosed, was for \$926 and represented a delayed payment for the period ended September 30th.

### Hillig Introduces Two Dairy Bills

Assemblyman Otto Hillig introduced two bills in the Assembly this week, both of which pertain to dairy farming.

The first would provide for the creation of a committee to be appointed by the Governor to make an investigation of the spread between the price paid to the dairyman and that paid by the consumer.

The second bill provides authority to the Department of Agriculture to audit the books and records of all milk dealers including co-operatives.

## FCSD Will Provide 13,000 Meals to Students over Winter Break

FALLSBURG — Ever since the "normal" school day had to be altered because of the COVID-19 pandemic last March, Fallsburg Central School District has ensured that school children received breakfast and lunch every Monday through Friday when school was in session and over the past summer, as well.

This great effort was possible because the District's Food Services staff, with the help of custodial staff, worked early morning shifts and late in the day to prepare the meals and all the packaging. All boxes were filled and labeled according to each bus route and carted to waiting buses.



PHOTO PROVIDED

**FCSD cafeteria staff Karen Allen and Cynthia May transport the meals to a waiting bus.**

Rolling V Bus Company was the essential partner for FCSD. Drivers and monitors picked up at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School

(BCES) each morning, no matter what the weather was.

With families still struggling in the throes of COV-

This would check up to ascertain whether or not the milk producers are receiving fair financial returns on the milk shipped by them.

**January 29, 1937**

### Rivoli to Close for Two Weeks

On or about February 10th, the Fallsburg Rivoli Theatre will close down for approximately two weeks during which time extensive alterations and remodeling will take place.

On the reopening date, tentatively set for Washington's Birthday, moviegoers will be presented with an entirely new Rivoli, modern in every detail and completely rebuilt from lobby to screen, with seating capacity increased to 700.

New seats, new projection, new stage and screen, new vari-colored lighting system, new ladies and men's rooms, modern lounge and smoking room, and new decorations will all go to make the New Rivoli the last word in theatre construction.

Jack Kaplan, manager of the theatre, states that everything will be new except the name "Rivoli" which has always stood and always will stand for the ultimate in screen entertainment.

### Judge Kove to Lecture on Brandeis

Justice Moses L. Kove of Hurleyville has accepted an invitation of the Jewish congregation of Liberty to address the members at the Liberty synagogue on Friday evening, February 5th. His theme will be "Justice Brandeis, the Liberal." Jews throughout the United States this year are celebrating the eightieth birthday of Brandeis, one of the great jurists of the country, who was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson.

Kove has become a popular speaker in both political and social organizations of Sullivan County. He is an active member of the Zionist movement in this region.

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# FAIRY MUSIC

AN ORIGINAL SHORT STORY by Jim Red Fox

There once lived a beautiful young Mohawk maiden by the name of Buttercup. Her mother had died when she was born and her father had remarried. A year ago, her father died after a long sickness.

Her stepmother was very mean to the young girl. She made her work all the time. The stepmother never let her play with the other children of her tribe. Buttercup had to cook all the meals, skin the game, make all of the clothing, and more. She never had any time for herself. She was very sad for she missed her mother and father very much. The only time Buttercup really looked forward to was when she had to gather firewood.

Early one morning, her stepmother woke her to get up and gather some firewood. Buttercup got up slowly and started walking the path that would lead her up into the big forest. She was told by the elders of her tribe never to go very far from the path. If she did, she might get lost. A few girls did and never came back.

The sun was just now coming up over the mountains. It felt so nice on her face as she walked along the path. Soon she came to the edge of the bog forest. The trees were mostly pine trees and were very tall. Their branches were thick with pine needles. This kept most of the sunlight out. Here and there, Buttercup could see sunbeams shining through the branches. Continuing along the path, she soon came to a clear little stream. It was beginning to get hot now.

Buttercup thought to herself, "wouldn't it be nice to sit on the river bank and put my feet in the cool water?" After taking off her moccasins, she sat down on the river bank with her back against a tall pine tree. Looking down into the clear water, she noticed little fish her people called pinheads swimming around her toes. Buttercup smiled as she watched them. It was so peaceful here in the forest. "how lucky these creatures are to live here," she thought.

Buttercup wished she could also live here. She knew that her stepmother would send braves out into the forest looking for her. She remembered one time when a young girl by the name of Little Rabbit got lost in the forest. They looked for her for two days, but never found her. That was two years ago.

Sitting on the river bank with her head against the tree, Buttercup noticed a very beautiful butterfly. "How beautiful you are," she sighed. When it came closer to Buttercup, she stood up. "If it would just land on my finger."

She followed the butterfly as it fluttered around the trees. Buttercup didn't realize it, but soon she was off the path. Deeper and deeper she chased the butterfly into the forest. Finally, she stopped and looked around. Buttercup knew what she had done. What really scared her was the fact that the sun was now setting behind the mountains. She cried as she covered her face with her hands.



"Wait," she thought. "Were those people singing and playing music?" She tilted her head. "Yes, there it is again. Walking toward the music, it soon began to get louder. All of a sudden, she stopped. Up ahead she could see a little light coming from a hole in a big old

tree stump. Slowly, Buttercup walked toward the light. Music was also coming from the stump.

Getting down on her knees, she looked into the tree stump. What she saw, she couldn't believe. There inside the stump was a gathering of forest fair-

ies. She had heard stories of them but didn't believe them. There were male and female, young and old. All of them had wings on their backs and stood about three inches tall. The music came from a fairy band that played in the corner. None of the fairies saw Buttercup looking at them. She soon found a large door at the bottom of the stump. Buttercup pushed the door open and was able to stick just her head into the doorway. When the fairies saw her, they did not move or say anything. Finally, an old male fairy came forward. Buttercup thought he must be their leader.

"My name is Moonbeam, I am king of these forest fairies," he said. "what is your name?"

"I am called Buttercup," she said.

"Now that you know that we are here, what do you plan on doing about it?" Moonbeam asked.

"What do you mean?" Buttercup inquired.

"Are you going to tell anyone what you saw here?" he asked.

"How can I? I don't even know where here is," she replied. "I'm lost."

Then she heard a little voice from the crowd say, "Buttercup, Buttercup, it's me, Little Rabbit! Do you remember me, I'm from your tribe. I got lost in the forest two years ago and I found the fairies. They changed me into one of them. If you want, the king will change you, too. You can live with us in this beautiful forest and have many friends to play with," Little Rabbit said.

Buttercup thought about her life with her mean stepmother. She knew this was her only chance to find happiness.

"O.K., I'll do it! I wish to be a fairy like you!"

The fairy king reached into a bag that hung on his belt. He then sprinkled some fairy dust on Buttercup's head. In an instant, Buttercup was changed into a beautiful fairy maiden. The

next day, as she stood on a leaf next to her new friend, Little Rabbit, they watched the braves from their village look for her. Little Rabbit said, "After a few days they will give up and never come back again."

"Hey Buttercup, let's go chase some butterflies. Try out your new wings"

Off they went, two new friends, looking for fun.

Remember, my friends, the next time you are walking along a path in the forest, keep your ears open for some fairy music. Who knows, you might find where the fairies dance!

*The story originally appeared in the 2016 book, "Native American Short Stories, Book II" by Jim Red Fox and is reprinted with permission. The book, and others by the author, can be purchased online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble, among other book dealers.*

## THOUSANDS OF MASKS GOING OUT

LIBERTY – Sullivan County Public Health Services worked with the Emergency Community Assistance Center (ECAC) to distribute 1,500 face masks to 13 area food pantries throughout the County last month. An additional 2,500 masks are being distributed to low-income families, senior citizens, the Federation for the Homeless, and small private businesses with essential workers, in collaboration with the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce.

These surgical face masks were purchased with funding made available to Sullivan County Public Health Ser-

vices by the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) through a \$6,785 grant from the New York Health Foundation to purchase flu vaccine, masks, food boxes and gift cards at local grocery stores.

As many Sullivan County residents continue to encounter challenges associated with COVID-19, the ECAC and Sullivan County Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County (CCE) have been collaborating with Public Health to ensure people who are in quarantine have access to food, and to also ensure that face coverings and masks are available.



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Sharon Ferber of the Sullivan County Division of Community Resources is one of the Emergency Community Assistance Center team members distributing thousands of masks around the County.**

Sullivan County has had 2,629 confirmed cases of COVID-19 from March 13 through December 21, with 793 people on quarantine, the highest since May 29. Collaborations between non-profits, local government, school districts and others were initiated in February 2020 for help with food assistance and the ECAC was activated to deliver food, masks and medication to those most in need. The ECAC, staffed by the Center for Workforce Development and the Office for the Aging, remains active, and due to the rising number of cases over the past two months, the demand has increased, and resources are being depleted.

Sullivan County Public Health Services has also used these funds to provide at-risk community members who work at area manufacturing plants with flu vaccinations and masks to reduce their risk of complications of co-infection from the flu

and COVID-19. Rural Migrant Ministries is assisting in distributing masks to these communities. Many of these vulnerable individuals are also at increased risk for food insecurity due to COVID-19's impact upon sustained employment.

These funds will be used to provide supplemental food boxes and/or gift cards to families and individuals identified as at risk for food insecurity and/or are low-income and have been more greatly impacted by COVID-19. Food boxes and gift cards have been distributed to homes by the ECAC and CCE, and at community outreach flu clinics held by Public Health in several of the most vulnerable communities in Sullivan County.

For more info and to request assistance with a COVID-19-related need for food, medicine, shelter or other concern, the ECAC welcomes calls at 845-807-0925.



PHOTO PROVIDED

**KLR Principal Christopher Palmer, Executive Director of Special, Summer and After-School Programs, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Matthew Evans, AOH Member Mike Williams, KLR/Cooke Cares Coordinators Sarah Mootz and Elisa Mendels.**

## CLOSING THE GAP Cooke/KLR Students Step Up

MONTICELLO--The holiday season was a bit brighter for some Monticello families, thanks to the Ancient Order of the Hibernians of Sullivan County (AOH) and the hard-working elves at the George L. Cooke and Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary Schools.

For many years, each school held its annual "Cooke Cares" and "KLR Cares" initiative that matched families in need with staff members willing to sponsor gifts. With this year's grade realignment leaving students in the same families split between schools, Social Emotional Wellness (SEW) Facilitators Sarah Mootz and Elisa Mendels decided to team up, creating the first joint Cooke/KLR Cares program. The two created a digital application open to families in either school to request holiday help. The application invited families to share their child(ren)s sizes, interests, needs and wants. Within the first 10 minutes of the application's publication, 15 families had signed up.

"This really helped to merge the two schools together as one," Executive Director of Special, Summer and After-School Programs Dana Taylor said. "We are partners, we have the same families and the same traditions. We are making new traditions together as one unified team—together."

Ms. Mootz and Ms. Men-

dels took the responses and created an anonymous tag for each child listing his or her wants and needs. Staff members had the opportunity to select a child to sponsor. The AOH also joined the effort with a donation of \$500 to help purchase gifts.

"This year in particular has accelerated the gap between the have and have-nots," AOH Member and Tri-Valley Central School District Superintendent Mike Williams, who presented the donation on behalf of the organization, said. "We offered supportive aid to all school districts in the county this year because we wanted to be able to make a difference locally."

Between the AOH donation and the 50 staff members who rose to the occasion, Cooke/KLR Cares was able to fulfill the holiday wishes of every family who applied for assistance.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have staff members who prove time and time again that they care for their students beyond the confines of the school day," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Matthew Evans said. "We are also incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by community organizations that continually step up to the plate whenever there is a need. I thank our participating staff members as well as the AOH for supporting our families this holiday season."

**Young professional guy living locally in Loch Sheldrake / Hurleyville is looking for a gym partner with experience in fitness. Let's work out together 5-6 days a week. You'll be my guest at our beautiful private community gym, which has a bench press, free weights, and high quality machines. 3-minute drive from Hurleyville, perfect for when there's a storm and you still want to get a workout in without traveling to Monticello or Liberty. I teach online until 2 p.m. daily, so any time after 2 p.m.. Let's encourage each other and do this together! My goal is to get lean and build muscle and tone up. Contact Zel at 516-451-7021**

## FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Kelly Wells & Amanda Letohic



Happy New Year from all of us here at the Fallsburg Library! We know 2020 was a difficult year for so many, and we hope this finds you and your family still in good health!

January usually brings frigid temperatures and nasty winter weather. Even if the Library building has to close for the day – or if you simply don't want to leave your warm cozy home – you can still access thousands of e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines, and e-videos with your library card! How you ask? Just download the OverDrive or Libby app onto your computer, tablet, or smartphone! We have noticed a large increase in our e-content usage over the last few months, so we've been purchasing more e-content to keep up with your demand.

Although we are still operating under COVID restrictions, we are continuing to offer 'Craft Kits to Go!' Be sure to check our Facebook page, or request to be added to our email list, to see what the latest offering is. You can call Miss Amanda at 845-436-6067 ext. 102, or email

her at aletohic@rcls.org to see about reserving your kit today! Just please be sure to pick up your kit(s) if you reserve one – you could be keeping someone else from making a fun craft otherwise, as a limited number of kits are made.

No library card? No problem! Just give us a call or send us an email, and we'll let you know what we need from you to get a card set up. For a Fallsburg Library card you must live within the Fallsburg Central School District – if you do not and you are unsure of what library is your "home" library, give us a call and we can direct you to the right library.

Stay up to date with the latest library updates by following our Facebook page or visiting our website, [www.fallsburglibrary.org](http://www.fallsburglibrary.org). As a reminder with winter weather, please be sure to call the Library before venturing out as our schedule may change depending upon the weather and road conditions. As always, thank you for continued support and patience. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without your support. Be well!



*The Best Way To Keep An Inside Track On What's Happening At HPAC Is To Join For 2021!*

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# SENTINEL SPORTS



## CANCELLED!

### NO WINTER SPORTS AT SUNY SULLIVAN

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE SUNY Sullivan—and most of the other two year colleges in the SUNY system—has completely cancelled its winter sports season for 2020-21.

The announcement came in a letter in early December from the college's Director of Athletics and Dean of Student Development, Christopher DePew.

"After careful thought and consideration and in conjunction with 27 of the 30 SUNY Community Colleges, it has been decided that SUNY Sullivan will cancel our NJCAA Winter indoor, designated high-risk sports including basketball, volleyball and wrestling in the Spring of 2021 due to the on-going COVID pandemic," Mr. DePew wrote in a letter addressed to

"Sullivan Generals Family and Friends" and released on social media. "This decision does not come lightly and I fully understand the disappointment and frustration, however in our commitment to the best interest, health and safety of our student-athletes, coaches and staff, there is no other choice at this time."

Plans released by the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XV, of which Sullivan is a member, had previously called for the winter sports schedule to begin in late January. The renewed vigor of the COVID-19 pandemic changed that, and has left hopes for a normal spring sports schedule up in the air.

"We will continue planning for what we hope will be the safe resumption of intercollegiate athletics



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics Chris DePew

later in the spring of 2021 including men's and women's track & field, men's and women's golf and baseball. An official announcement on our spring sports' status will be made at a later date. Detailed sport specific guidelines and protocols

are currently in development and Return to Play and Return to Competition Plans will be informed by nationally recognized sport specific agencies along with NYS, CDC, DOH and governing athletic associations."



## NYSPHSAA Announces the Cancellation of All Winter State Championships; High-Risk Sports Postponed Until Authorization is Provided

LATHAM, NY – The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) has announced the cancellation of all 2021 Winter State Championships and the postponement of all high-risk sports until authorization is granted by state officials. The NYSPHSAA Officers rendered these decisions with input from the NYSPHSAA membership and the 11 Section Executive Directors.

"When examining the feasibility of Winter State Championships, it became apparent that travel and overnight accommodations would create a unique challenge for our member schools," said Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director. "At this time, we must prioritize maximizing student participation without a focus on championship events."

The Association's decision to postpone all high-risk sports until authorization is granted was reinforced by the increase in infection and hospitalization rates across the State. The New York State Department of Health has determined the following NYSPHSAA-endorsed sports to be high risk: basketball, boys lacrosse, competi-

tive cheerleading, football, ice hockey, volleyball, and wrestling.

The cancellation of the Winter State Championships (bowling, basketball, boys swimming & diving, competitive cheerleading, gymnastics, indoor track & field, ice hockey, skiing, and wrestling) addresses membership concerns associated with increased travel, hotel accommodations, transportation logistics and the planning for meals. Furthermore, venue capacity limitations and social distancing restrictions make it increasingly difficult to ensure the safety of student-athletes, coaches, and families.

"As an educator, I am witnessing first-hand the challenges our member schools are facing each day in addressing this pandemic," said Julie Bergman, NYSPHSAA President. "It is important we continue listening to the concerns being expressed by our membership when making decisions impacting interscholastic athletics."

Low- and moderate-risk regular season sports continue to be permitted. The 2021 NYSPHSAA Spring State Championships remain scheduled at this time.



Here are five ballgame bafflers for your consideration. The first person to email the most correct answers to hurleysent@hotmail.com will win a prize. Have fun!

1. How many goals did Wayne Gretzky Score in his National Hockey League career?
2. What National Hockey League team has won the most Stanley Cup championships?
3. How Many Canadian cities have had NHL franchises at one time or another?
4. What two teams played in the first Winter Classic Game?
5. Which NHL team won four straight Stanley Cups in the early 1980s?

Last month's answers:

1. The longest game ever played in the National Football League was played on Christmas Day in 1971. Who were the teams and who won? **The Kansas City Chiefs hosted the Miami Dolphins in a Divisional Game which the Dolphins won, 27-24, in double overtime after 82 minutes and 40 seconds of play.**
2. Who was the only National Basketball Association player to ever score 100 points in a single game? **Wilt Chamberlain (against the NY Knicks on March 2, 1962)**
3. In what year did the N.B.A. season start on Christmas Day due to a lockout? **2011**
4. What two teams played in the first regular season NFL Christmas Day game? **The Cincinnati Bengals played the Vikings in Minnesota in 1989.**
5. Only two players in NBA history have missed 5,000 or more free throws, and one achieved the milestone on Christmas Day in 2008. Who are they? **Wilt Chamberlain and Shaquille O'Neal.**

Bonus: What NBA player scored 60 points in a game on Christmas Day in 1984, but his team still lost? **Bernard King of the NY Knicks, who lost that game to the Nets 120-114.**

*We did not have a winner last month.*

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – SUNY Sullivan's vaunted basketball program has typically been well-represented by its alumni who go on to play for four-year schools upon leaving Loch Sheldrake, and this year is no exception.

Former General Jasiah Lewis, a 6'1" guard from Brooklyn, was averaging 9.8 points per game for the undefeated Mid-America

Christian University (OK) team, including a 15-point game against Manhattan Christian (KS), before the school interrupted its schedule on November 20, postponing all future games until further notice due to the COVID pandemic. MACU is currently 4-0.

2020 Sullivan grad Darius Lee is now playing for the Houston Baptist University team, which has limped out to a 1-7 record

The letter continued: "SUNY Sullivan will continue to be guided by best practice and cautious adherence to health and safety protocols that will safeguard the well-being of our student-athletes, staff, campus, and community. We commit to ongoing collaborative efforts to develop cohesive safety plans to implement on our campus in support of our student-athletes.

"SUNY Sullivan Athletics is committed to its "Tradition of Excellence" and is working overtime to ensure a safe and healthy return to play for our student-athletes. This is but a small bump in the road of our stor-

ied history within intercollegiate athletics.

"As I stood at Center Court of the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse last March as our students, including many of our student-athletes in other sports, rushed the court to celebrate our Men's & Women's District Basketball Championships, never did I imagine that we would be making the decisions that we are right now. It is a sad, frustrating time, but I am certain that we will persevere and SUNY Sullivan Athletics will come through this stronger and ready to face any challenge that may stand in our way. Go Generals!"

## FIFTY YEARS AGO...

### Fallsburg Hoopsters Open Defense of DUSO Village Crown

by John Conway

FALLSBURG – It was January, 1971, 50 years ago this month, that the Fallsburg Comets basketball team opened defense of its DUSO Village League championship with a convincing 78-57 win over the visiting Monticello Panthers.

It was the ninth win in a row for Coach Jim McDermott's undefeated Comets.

McDermott, in his 13th season as head basketball coach at Fallsburg, expected big things from his veteran team prior to the season's start, and they didn't disappoint.

"I guess I've been here quite awhile," McDermott told Times Herald-Record sportswriter Lou Hansen before the league opener. "Maybe 13 is an unlucky number for some people, but I think I have a lot to look forward to."

In the January 15, 1971 contest against Monticello, the league opener for both squads, the Comets leading scorer Stan Gilmore again led the way with 22

points. Hurleyville native Nate Patton, who years later would serve as head basketball coach at Sullivan County Community College, contributed 15. Robert Jancko added 12. Sophomore sharpshooter Chris Cummings led Monticello with 22 points, while Cliff Doyle added 13.

The game was never close, as the Comets raced out to a 22-9 lead after the first quarter and led at half-time by 43-20. Gilmore and Patton combined for 18 of Fallsburg's 22 first quarter points.

Fallsburg also won the jayvee game, 74-52 with Arthur Gonzalez scoring 22 points.

The Comets win streak was snapped just one week after the Monticello win, when visiting Liberty held on for a 56-51 victory, giving the Indians first place in the DUSO Village League standings. The Comets went on to finish 18-3 on the season, losing the Section IX Championship to Jeff-Youngsville in a 47-42 defensive struggle at SUNY New Paltz.

## WOMEN'S WRESTLING TAKES ANOTHER STEP

by John Conway

CHARLOTTE, NC – During the December Board of Regents meeting of the National Junior College Athletic Association, the board considered increasing the association's sports offerings following a survey to membership to gauge interest. Following the Board of Regents' vote, the NJCAA will formally recognize competitive cheer (coed), clay target shooting (coed), men's volleyball, and women's wrestling as emerging sports within the association.

"The NJCAA is excited to offer competitive cheer, clay target shooting, men's volleyball, and women's wrestling as emerging sports," stated Dr. Christopher Parker, NJCAA President & CEO. "Athletics is a vital driver of enrollment for many NJCAA member colleges. The addition of these four sports will also provide a pathway to increase opportunities for student-athletes around the country."

Each of the new emerging sports have garnered interest amongst NJCAA member colleges as club sports in recent years. Survey results from NJCAA membership showed an interest from membership in declaring for each of the sports, with enough programs planning to begin programs over the next three years to sustain sponsored sport status. Programs will be permitted to field teams beginning in the fall of 2021 under the recognized emerging sport distinction. There will not be an NJCAA championship opportunity during the 2021-22 academic year, however, teams will have the opportunity to participate in various season-ending events, whether through the sport's national governing body or another organization. The timeline to begin NJCAA championships will vary based on sport, depending on participation.

The NJCAA will form sport committees for competitive cheer, clay target shooting, men's volleyball, and women's wrestling in preparation for the 2021-22 academic year. These committees will be tasked with navigating all areas of strategic planning for the emerging sports including trends in sponsorship, commitment periods, sports procedures, and recommended timelines.

The adoption of the four emerging sports follows the NJCAA's addition of beach volleyball in April 2018. Prior to beach volleyball, the association last added half marathon and women's lacrosse in 2003-04. The NJCAA currently sponsors 28 sports across three divisions with 52 national championship events.

SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics Chris DePew has previously announced that the college was considering adding women's wrestling. He says that now that the sport has been officially approved by the NJCAA, he will be discussing the school's next steps with college president Jay Quaintance.

"It is our ultimate goal to add multiple sports over the next two years, however we just need to do some research on how to best roll them out to benefit the college as a whole," Mr. DePew said. "Once the final decision is made, we will formally announce how we will move forward."

## SULLIVAN ALUMS KEEP ON PLAYING

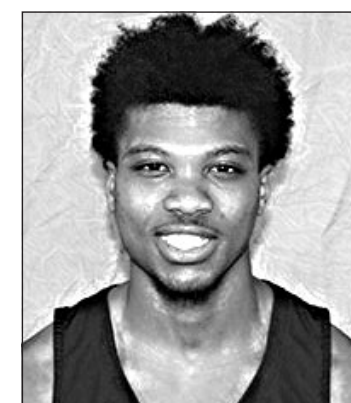


PHOTO PROVIDED

Jasiah Lewis

thus far this season. The Huskies participate in the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Darius Lee

Southland Conference and have yet to begin league

play, but have opened the season with an extremely rigorous non-league schedule that has so far included Texas Christian University, Arizona State, Southern Methodist, Rice University, and Oklahoma.

Lee, a 6'6" 230 pound guard/forward who hails from Harlem, NY, is averaging 6.9 points per game, third best on the team, in spite of playing just over 12 minutes per contest. Lee has hit on seven out of ten

three-point shots attempted so far.

Lewis and Lee's erstwhile teammate at Sullivan, center Josh Galloway from Wappingers Falls, NY, is on the roster of the Eckerd College (FL) Tritons, but the team has yet to begin play this season due to the COVID pandemic. The Tritons are expecting to start the basketball season on February 15, but that is subject to change.