

## SUCH A FRIENDLY SMILE

### Snowmen Highlight Holiday in Hurleyville

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE—Comprising both the traditional and the innovative, and even a few in between, activities will abound throughout the hamlet during this year's Holiday in Hurleyville festivities.

The festivities will kick off at 10 a.m. on Saturday, December 3 with holiday shopping vendors located at the Sullivan County Museum at 265 Main Street, the Collaborative College High School lobby at 202 Main Street, and at Gallery 222 at 222 Main Street.

Nothing proclaims the yuletide holiday like music, and there will be no shortage of musicians on hand to entertain festival goers at several venues

throughout the day. In fact, the only thing that might outnumber the musicians during the event will be the many snowmen (and snow women) handcrafted just for the occasion to serve as mascots for this year's festivities. The snow creatures will be inhabiting many businesses and other locales, and participants are encouraged to take selfies with as many of them as possible for a chance to win a raffle.

The music offerings will begin with Heart's Song, which will be performing on a stage set up just off the east side parking lot beginning at 12 noon. Other musical acts, including Joyful Noise and AVenue will also be performing on that stage later in the day.



The Hurleyville General Store will feature more or less non-stop musical performances beginning with Shane Rennison at 1 p.m., followed by Cris Spinner at 2:30 p.m. and The Dirty



PHOTOS PROVIDED  
A sampling of some of the snow creatures to be seen around Hurleyville on Saturday, December 3.

the High School from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

In addition to hosting vendors, both the Sullivan County Museum and the High School will be involved in other ways: the Museum will have its annual themed community Christmas tree exhibit on display from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the CCHS will feature a Kids Craft Class from noon to 3 p.m.

There will be Spin Art with PartyMaster and snowshoe exhibitions with Fortress Bikes in the east side parking lot from 12 to 4.

Main Street Dance will

present a dance performance in the HPAC ballroom at 4 p.m. and Osorio Dancesport will perform in the ballroom at 7 p.m.

The tree lighting and Menorah introduction will take place in the mini-park at 5:30 p.m., and then the Luminaria will be lighted along the east side Rail Trail, and participants can take part in a self-guided walk beginning right afterward. The Hurleyville General Store will host its "A Christmas Story Leg lamp Lighting" event at 6 p.m. and raffle winners will be picked.

In addition, all the Main Street stores, including Morgan Outdoors and All That Glitters is Old will be offering special holiday sales throughout the day.

## "MEET THEM WHERE THEY'RE AT"

### Flex Catskills Comes to Hurleyville

by Denise Sullivan

HURLEYVILLE—Flex Catskills Fitness, located at 227 Main Street, may be Hurleyville's newest business, but it's only new to the hamlet. Owner Nicole Rosa has been training and teaching for years in Sullivan County, at well-known gyms like Fitness Factory and its successor, Next Level Fitness, as well as in her own business, which has now found a home here in the liveliest hamlet in the Mountains.

It's the sense of community that drew Ms. Rosa to Hurleyville, she says. It's an inclusive community that values outdoor spaces, and a perfect fit for her business. Seeing the Rail Trail and the basketball and pickleball courts, as well as the grassy hill behind her new digs at 227 Main, she knew she could bring creative new workouts to her personal training clients and group classes in Hurleyville. During the pandemic, training with clients outdoors became a necessity with indoor gyms shuttered, so she embraced the idea and made the best of it. And, although sprinting up a grassy hill carrying a kettlebell isn't for everyone (!), it is an option that she is excited about.

It appears that Ms. Rosa has personal training clients that will follow her anywhere, and some of them are already coming to work out in the new space, where the paint is barely dry. There isn't even a business sign on the building yet, but clients are scampering up the ramp for one-on-one workouts using equipment, or weights, or to do TRX, a method that uses body weight and gravity to build strength, core and joint stability.

Open now for personal training and other services, Ms. Rosa plans to have a fully functioning fitness cen-



PHOTO BY DENISE SULLIVAN  
Nicole Rosa in front of her new location at 227 Main Street.

ter with a variety of classes and multiple instructors by the end of the year. Having two connected storefront spaces on Main Street is perfect, she says, and as soon as the right side of the building is set up, some group classes will begin.

Personal training isn't affordable for everyone, Ms. Rosa says, and group classes foster camaraderie and courage for beginners and devotees alike. Her philosophy for fitness is "meet them where they're at," whatever that level might be, and she holds a wide variety of certifications that allow her to practice that positive outlook and ideology. Functional fitness is the goal, she says, allowing people to join in the activities of daily life with more confidence and fewer barriers.

Seniors who like moving to music might enjoy Zumba Gold, a lower intensity version of the typical Zumba class. Fans of CrossFit will be delighted to see that Ms. Rosa can incorporate some of those elements in the studio. She is also certified to teach Kettlebell classes, complete with swings, cleans and presses for those who love the simplicity of using only one piece of equipment to build balance,

strength and endurance.

Spin classes are a possibility in the new space, and other prospects include High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), BOSU ball balance training, or Zumba Strong, which combines music with muscle conditioning and plyometric training. For those in need of better nervous system regulation or help with recovery from an injury, Nicole provides fascia stretching, a specific individual therapy that also benefits athletes at all levels. She is certified in Fascial Stretch Therapy (FST) and attends regular training to keep current in her practice.

At present, anyone interested in classes or other services can reach out to Nicole Rosa via phone at (845)763-2715. She returns calls, and is collecting names and fitness needs / preferences for classes as renovations are being finished in her new space. The business website will be online by the end of December, so visit flexstudioscatskills.com after the holidays to choose a new fitness routine for the new year.

Flex Catskills Fitness--a fantastic addition to the happening hamlet of Hurleyville!

## A Necklace of Gems Hurleyville is Surrounded

by Lisa M. Lyons

HURLEYVILLE-- This article is about great local places for outdoor adventures, but first, a few words about local people! It's been just seven months since I moved my longtime business, Morgan Outdoors, to Hurleyville. The people and business owners are so warm and welcoming, it wasn't long before I was waving and stopping to talk with folks as I walked through town. Committed volunteers and community events stoke the fires of town pride. People really care about what happens here!

Once I settled in and got a better sense of where I had landed-- the store was based in Livingston Manor for 17 years-- I was thrilled to realize that many of my favorite trails were now so close. Hurleyville is surrounded by a necklace of gems! These gems offer a wide variety of walking and hiking difficulty, so it's likely you will find at least one that fits your ability and interest any time of year (see Winter Tips below). I'll describe just a few, and invite you to stop by the shop to learn about the rest and pick up trail maps.

The easiest trail of all is Hurleyville's three-and-a-half-mile paved section of the O&W Rail Trail. Located just 50 yards from Mor-

gan Outdoors, this beautiful eight-foot-wide pathway is welcoming to all abilities. Lined with trees, bushes and grasses, it passes through a wetland, a bluestone rock cut, over a stream, and past several small ponds where wildlife abounds. Regular walkers here report how each day there's something new to discover. The smooth surface allows them to look up and enjoy all the sights, sounds, and sensations. And, the interpretive panels along the trail invite one to delve deeper into the natural and human history of the area. No wonder people keep coming back for more!

Just 20 miles northeast of Hurleyville there is a trail that offers the other end of the spectrum -- a two-mile hike to the summit of Red Hill. The newly-constructed trail from the Denning Road in Claryville offers the shortest hike to a fire tower in the Catskill Park. We love the way the trail route was chosen to bring us through different parts of the forested landscape, from hardwoods and conifers to bluestone ledges with new stone steps. And when you arrive at the summit, the 360-degree view of the Catskills from the fire tower is truly splendid. I wanted to be a bird when I was little, so this "bird's eye view" is thrilling any time of the year. Many of the Catskill



PHOTO PROVIDED  
No matter what kind of trail suits your fancy, there are likely many around Hurleyville you'll find to your liking. The author is pictured far right.

high peaks are easily seen to the north with Frost Valley's campus in the foreground and the Rondout Reservoir to the southeast. We met a hummingbird at the top of the tower this summer, possibly attracted to a red t-shirt.

In between these two extremes is a third gem, Walnut Mountain Park, just eight miles away in Liberty. Its wide, easy to navigate carriage road trails lead gently

uphill through the woods to an overlook, and link to other carriage roads. There are also miles of single-track trails enjoyed by mountain bikers and hikers in warmer weather, and snowshoers in the winter.

Winter Tips: Modern tools make it easy to venture out all winter long. Snowshoes and microspikes worn over insulated boots provide traction on both

snow and ice so you can look up and enjoy the sights. See for yourself! It's easy to rent both right here in Hurleyville. Fortress Bikes has snowshoe rentals for all ages (Fortress-bikes.com) and Morgan Outdoors offers microspike rentals for hikes in icy conditions. They can be game changers for people who become more sedentary in winter. A walk on a sunny winter day is truly a great cure for cabin fever!

## SALE OF MOBILEMEDIC ANNOUNCED

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE— Although rumors of the sale of one of Main Street's most venerable businesses have been circulating since last spring, it was finally announced in November that MobileMedic has been sold.

The Journal of Emergency Medical Services announced online on November 23 that Empress Ambulance Service, with its main office in Yonkers, "has acquired the assets of Sullivan Paramedicine, Inc., doing business as MobileMedic EMS, headquartered in Hurleyville, NY, to expand support of the growing healthcare needs of New York State."

"MobileMedic EMS, a family-owned business founded by Albee Bock-

man in 1991, has been the dominant ambulance service in Sullivan County and surrounding areas since its inception. MobileMedic provides 911 advanced life support, as well as basic life support and interfacility transport services, to the entire Sullivan County," the JEMS site reported.

Empress, a PatientCare EMS Solutions company, provides emergency and non-emergency ambulance services to municipalities and hospital systems across New York's Westchester County and significant ambulance services in the Bronx and Manhattan boroughs as well as the Hudson Valley region. In addition to its primary services, Empress has a mobile integrated health unit (MIH) providing care to patients

who do not need to be transported to the hospital. These MIH services include, but are not limited to, vaccination and testing stations, in-home vaccines, and treat-in-place services.

JEMS reports that "MobileMedic will continue operating under the same brand name and Justin Bockman, currently MobileMedic's CEO, will remain in his leadership role. The experienced and dedicated EMS staff will continue to run the day-to-day operations, providing the level of attention and commitment to which the community is accustomed. Empress will be able to leverage additional capital and technology resources to expand critical services and mobile healthcare programs throughout the service area."

## ABOUT OUR HEADLINE

Since the snowman has become the unofficial theme of the Holiday in Hurleyville festivities, it seemed logical that the headline for this month's edition reflect that. And so, we turn to a children's poem by Winifred C. Marshall entitled "Peter, The Snowman."

*It would not seem like winter,/ Without a snowman tall;/ I've worked on one all morning,/ With Ted and little Paul./ This is a jolly snowman,/ With such a friendly smile,/ We'll ask you out to meet him,/ In just a little while.*

*His hat belongs to Daddy,/ His button eyes are blue,/ His bright red scarf and mittens/ Were knit by Cousin Sue./ We're going to call him Peter,/ We'd like to have him stay./ But sometime when we're all at school,/ He's sure to slip away.*

Enjoy the festivities!



## Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



### HURLEYVILLE FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

The annual election of the Hurleyville Fire District will take place on Tuesday, December 13 from 6 until 9 p.m. at the Hurleyville Fire House.

The purpose of the election is to elect one Commissioner for a five-year term, beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2027.

All voters registered with the Sullivan County Board of Elections on or before November 23, 2022 and residing within the Hurleyville Fire District are eligible to vote.

### HURLEYVILLE SULLIVAN-FIRST (HSF)

Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 26th Annual "Deck the Doors" Holiday Decorating Contest on Thursday, December 15. The group will tour every road in Hurleyville beginning at 6 p.m. and judge all holiday-decorated doors. Winners of the contest will be awarded prizes furnished by Hurleyville business owners and members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First. Don't forget to turn your lights on!

For more information about Hurleyville and Hurleyville-Sullivan First, please visit the group on Facebook or at [www.hurleyvilleny.com](http://www.hurleyvilleny.com).

### HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All are welcome to attend Christmas Eve services at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 24 at 6 p.m. The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church will be open on Thursday, December 22 and on Thursday, December 29 from 3 until 5 p.m. Donations made to the food pantry now can help make the holidays more special for our neighbors.

Sunday services are held at the church at 9 a.m. Children of all ages can attend Sunday school at the church during services.

Pastor Jorge delivers sermons on the church's page on Facebook at 11 a.m. on Sundays.

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

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

Youngsters are invited to participate in "Messy Church" held on the second Saturday of each month from 5 - 6:30 p.m. The next

## BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY



Thursday, December 22nd  
Thursday, December 29th

3:00pm - 5:00pm

Hurleyville United Methodist Church  
263 Main Street  
Hurleyville

date is December 10. All children taking part in the fun activities must be accompanied by an adult.

Donations of socks, gloves, hats and diapers are being collected at the church for children in foster care. Please contact Cookie at 845-428-5871 or Goldie at 845-467-1641 for more information.

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

### THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

There are two more special reasons to visit the Sullivan County Museum and Historical Society in December...the Theme Tree Exhibit and a lunchtime concert to benefit the Frederick Cook Society

The annual Sullivan County Historical Society Open House and Holiday Theme Tree exhibition will be on display until January 1. A variety of wonderful holiday displays created by members of the community and local groups and businesses are featured at the exhibit.

The Frederick Cook Society is offering a special lunchtime concert to benefit the society and its programs on Friday, December 9 from 12 until 3 p.m. Musicians include Little Sparrow, Van Manakis and other surprise guests. The concert will feature a presentation on the ship, Belgica, its crew and their musical instruments. Pizza will be served for lunch. The suggested donation for the event is \$10.00. The Frederick Cook Society is a 501c3 organization.

Holiday gifts...history books, memorabilia and photographs by Frederick Cook...are available at the museum gift shop.

Volunteers are available to help visitors explore the historical and genealogical resources at the Historical Society's archives at the

museum. The archives are open on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

The museum, located at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville, is open on Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. Donations to meet the increasing cost of operating the museum are always appreciated.

Guided tours of the museum...behind the scenes and regular exhibits...are available. There is no charge for the hour-long tours but registration is required. Please call 845-434-8044 to make a reservation.

Go to [www.scnyhistory.org](http://www.scnyhistory.org) to learn about the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Sullivan County Museum. You can also visit the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum on Facebook.

### COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The CHNA steering committee continues to meet monthly to prepare for the next appearance of the Gan Eden Estates project on the agenda of the Town of Thompson Planning Board.

The members of CHNA and the community have identified and disclosed many concerns with the project and the deleterious effects it will have on the community and the environment. Some of the concerns are:

- water supply
- storm water runoff
- wastewater treatment plant and discharge
- electric grid capacity
- traffic
- noise pollution
- light pollution
- 534 units in 89 structures
- 4 miles of paved roads
- possibility of more than 3,000 residents
- 1,100 parking spaces
- 110-foot 400,000-gallon on-site water tank

Members of CHNA also continue to monitor the questionable over development in the towns of Fallsburg and Thompson.

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 by demanding responsible and sustainable development.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kiwanis Board members (L-R) Robert Green, Sheila Lashinsky and Linda Barriger with United Way CPO Julian Dawson.

### MONTICELLO KIWANIS GIVES THANKSGIVING DONATIONS

MONTICELLO-- Following in the continuous tradition of community service, the Monticello Kiwanis Club members donated and presented Julian Dawson, Chief Professional Officer of United Way of Sullivan County, with one turkey and a check

for \$375.00 to purchase additional turkeys and Thanksgiving food trimmings. Shop Rite in Monticello generously contributed an additional 3 turkey. The food items were distributed to families in need in the community for their Thanksgiving enjoyment.

### Warming Center Opens for the Season

LIBERTY-- Sullivan County has opened its Liberty warming shelter and will keep it open every night of the winter season from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. The shelter is located at the Liberty United Methodist Church at 170 North Main Street.

"In collaboration with the State, we have sufficient funding to keep this warming center available throughout the winter to anyone who needs it, and we're working on doing the same at the Ted Stroebele Recreation Center in Monticello, though that location is not yet in operation," said Sullivan County Health & Human Services Commissioner John Liddle. "In addition to the benefit to the public, staying open seven nights a week makes it easier for our valued partners, who run these shelters, to ensure adequate staffing and supplies."

During the daytime hours, various public buildings (like the Government Center in Monticello), stores, and libraries are available as places to get warm, and Sullivan County's Department of Social Services can assist in more challenging circumstances



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
John Liddle

(845-292-0100).

In addition, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) - which can provide funds for fuel and heating system repair/replacement - is currently taking applications. For more information, call 845-807-0142.

For a warm meal, from 12 - 1 p.m., Mondays through Fridays (except holidays), the Federation for the Homeless at 9 Monticello Street in Monticello offers takeout food, and afterhours emergency food requests can be made to the Federation at 845-798-8774.

The Federation's pantry is open to all (no documentation required) from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. every Friday, as well.

## The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

It was so good to see De-FILIPPI'S Sunday morning Open Mic making a strong come back! Decimated by COVID, then rumors that the Monticello location was up for sale, well, it kept both performers and audience away. The rumors turned out not to be true, and the Sunday I stopped by was like the "old days."

SCOTT PALERMO, a newcomer named RANDALL, GREG HATTAN, CARMINE PACE, BARRY ADLEMAN, founder of MUSIC FOR HUMANITY, JOANA DUTCHER and MICHAEL HENRY (known as THE AVENUE),

DEBBIE FISHER and CHERYL ROTH were all there for DAVID ROSENBERG'S long standing "MUSIC WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT IT." This is every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1-ish. Bring your instrument and join the fun!

There's so much happening, I'm just going to give you the schedule:

Mondays: Open Mic at CATSKILL BREWERY, Livingston Manor, hosted by CASWYN MOON; 5 -7 p.m. Caswyn and his partner, FAITH KELLY will continue to host their Open Mics here and CABERNET FRANK'S on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. until they head back out on tour, this time through the Southern states. The dates and cities are being firmed up as you read this.

Wednesdays: The Open Studio is back at FIBER ON MAIN in their new location! Bring your knitting or crochet project (or embroidery or needlepoint) and meet others with the same passion!

Pilates at THE NEVER-SINK GENERAL STORE on State Route 55 in Neversink. Your instructor is AUDRA LANG of HAPPY BODY Pilates. 5 - 6 p.m. \$15

Friday, Dec 2 and Saturday Dec 3: ELLA JUKEBOX CAFÉ at THE JAMES & BETTY HALL THEATRE, Dutchess Community College, 53 Pendell Road in Poughkeepsie. Our own LAURA GARONE has a spot in this musical revue honoring ELLA FITZGERALD and the jazz of the 1930s. 8 - 9 p.m. Tickets start at \$29

Saturday, December 3: Holiday in Hurleyville!! Always great fun for kids AND adults!

The Arts and Crafts show at the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH in Grahamsville, next to the TIME AND VALLEYS MUSEUM and the DANIEL PIERCE LIBRARY; 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Local artists and crafters showing their support for the church, which almost faced closure during COVID. Bring your Christmas list and see how many things you can cross off.

SARA HULSE and JASON MOWER return to CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville. Getting to see this talented lady in a small venue is rare. A few years ago, the festival circuits and their audiences up and down the East Coast reached out and embraced her...and rightly so! Sara told me once that performing at CABERNET FRANK's was like coming home.

Friday, Dec 9 at the SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM in Hurleyville: LITTLE SPARROW with VAN

MANAKIS and FRIENDS; high noon to 3 p.m.

CHRIS PARROW opens her studio to show her works Saturday, December 10, Sunday, Dec 11 and lastly Saturday, Dec 17 at 218 Twin Haven Road in Grahamsville. She will also be showing her pottery at the Arts and Craft show

at THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH in Grahamsville on Dec 3. Stop by and say hello, and if you like what you see, stop up and see her collection! For more information, call 845-985-7564.

A Very Happy Holiday Season to you all!

Until next time...



by Mimi

### MEMORIES

Do you daydream or think of old memories  
Allowing them to run through your mind?  
There are many events that stick with us  
Some that might even cause us to smile

Sometimes we're moving so fast through the day  
We don't even give ourselves a chance  
To let our minds go way back in time  
Like recalling when we first learned to dance

Or when you spent time in the kitchen  
Watching your grandmother bake  
You were only a toddler, a little one  
Now an expert at baking her cake

How about the fun times with your father  
Tossing a ball in the yard  
You both enjoyed being together so much  
There's a baseball on each Father's Day card

Times can be so tough and stressful  
That we see the glass as only half full  
Try changing your thoughts and daydreams  
To a time when you felt life was cool

Stop and do yourself a favor  
Take a very long walk in the woods  
Think of the time you were happiest  
It will do your brain and body some good

End this year on an uplifting note  
Leave all of the bad stuff behind  
Daydream and think of good memories  
You'll see that those are the best kind

Happy Holidays!

- Mimi  
December, 2022

## FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



### Ice Pellets

Ice pellets are a form of winter precipitation that, according to Wikipedia, consists of small, hard balls of ice. Ice pellets are made of frosty white rime (frost that is formed by the rapid freezing of water vapor in a cloud) and a mixture of rain and snow which is slushy liquid or semisolid.

International Cloud Atlas says that ice pellets originate as raindrops or snowflakes (less common) that generally fall from Altostratus or Nimbostratus. They fall into a sub-cloud layer of warm air where the snowflakes melt or partially melt, and then fall into a cold layer of air (below 0 °C) where they freeze and reach

the ground as frozen precipitation.

Ice pellets of the form of frozen raindrops are transparent, the less common refrozen snowflakes are, in parts, transparent and, in parts, opaque, depending on whether the snowflake melted or only partially melted.

Ice pellets are not easily crushable, and when the ice pellets hit the ground, they bounce and make a high-pitched tapping sound. Pellets generally do not freeze into other solid masses unless mixed with freezing rain.

The code of weather on a map for ice pellets is PL.

Ice pellets can also sometimes be known as sleet.

### THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

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# MEET MARY PAGE WATTS

## Occupational Therapist and Yoga Teacher

by Lily Barrish

HURLEYVILLE - Mary Page Watts has been at The Center for Discovery for almost a year and a half. Originally, she was supposed to do her fieldwork at The Center, but COVID delayed that plan. She was disappointed, because she had been looking forward to coming to The Center—the outstanding non-profit organization and the Catskill Mountain setting seemed like a magical place to her. After attending graduate school at Clarkson University in Potsdam and receiving her occupational therapist license, she randomly saw the job posting

at TCFD and applied. She was thrilled to get hired.

Ms. Watts works with a varying population of residential students on the south campus, where she focuses on ADLs (activities of daily living). As an OT, she's helping her students be as independent as possible with their daily living skills, such as putting on a coat or washing dishes. She's also helping them learn to understand what level of assistance they need to be successful.

"I feel very inspired here," she says. "I have such a big vision for what I see this career being, and for the broader OT community."

Putting that sentiment into action, she started a mini-horse yoga program at the Milligan Hill Riding Center with some of her co-workers. She was eager to take advantage of the animal-assisted intervention aspect at The Center. So, when the idea was presented to her by another OT, she was excited to get approval from the Animal Assisted Intervention and Education team.

"I appreciate all of the teamwork and support at The Center," she said. "My job can be challenging, but it's inspiring to learn from the senior staff."

One to two mini-horses roam around while groups

of five to six students-- or an individual student-- practice yoga. Sometimes, clinicians and teacher's assistants are also in attendance. The 20-minute sessions, held a couple times a week, focus on movement and breath work. Stools and benches are provided for accessibility.

"Those who attend the class, love it. It's a neat opportunity for students to engage with animals. There is also a co-regulation piece happening. I can see the animals and students calm down. It's been a really fun program to create and grow," Ms. Watts said.

Her "side gig" is teaching Iyengar yoga—she's been

an instructor for a decade, even longer than she's been a licensed OT. Currently she teaches at the Yoga Space inside the Hurleyville Performing Arts Center on Fridays at 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Ms. Watts grew up in Virginia, received her undergraduate degree from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, and then, after graduation, moved to the Bay Area in California and began her journey with Iyengar yoga. First, she trained in San Francisco, and then went to India for a year and worked with a teacher there. Iyengar certification requires you to train with a teacher for two years before undergoing a



PHOTO BY LILY BARRISH  
Mary Page Watts leads a mini-horse Yoga class.

rigorous assessment process.

Transitioning from yoga to occupational therapy made sense because she feels there is such a strong connection between the two. Modification and adaptation are important to both with assistance by use

of props encouraged.

"The Yoga Space is a very valuable part of the community. I believe in yoga to change the world. It's changing and helping our world right now," she said.

Ms. Watts is not sure where life will lead her, but currently she feels that she's

right where she belongs, and Hurleyville is lucky to be able to call her one of its own.

## Music, Lunch and History

### At County Museum



PHOTO PROVIDED

Little Sparrow with Van Manakas (center)

HURLEYVILLE - The Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville is also home to the Frederick Cook Society, a non-profit organization that dates back to 1940. The Society's mission is to defend Hortonville native Dr. Cook's claim to the discovery of the North Pole.

On Friday afternoon, December 9, the Cook Society will present a talk about Dr. Cook's famous Belgica Expedition, along with a musical performance by Little Sparrow and special guest Van Manakas. Van is a world-class guitarist who has performed on 5 continents and in all 50 states.

What does Antarctic exploration and Americana music have in common? Well, it turns out that the men who went to Antarctica with Dr. Cook had banjos, accordions and mandolins on board the ship.

The concert and talk will be held from noon to 2 p.m., but doors open at 11 a.m. for lunch and a chance to peruse the ongoing exhibition of Dr. Cook's polar photography in the auditorium. There is a suggested donation of \$10, which in-

cludes pizza and a beverage.

The Sullivan County Museum is located at 265 Main Street, Hurleyville. For information, call 845-434-8044.

## Fallsburg Students Collect Food

FALLSBURG-- On November 21, members of the Fallsburg Central School District Junior/Senior High School Student Government Association (SGA) met in the school cafeteria to distribute several boxes filled with non-perishable food items and frozen turkeys collected over the previous three weeks by the SGA in both buildings of the district.

This annual event has been a long-standing tradition,

only interrupted for two years during the Covid pandemic in 2019 and 2020.

As has been the case for the most recent food collection, pick-up trucks were loaded to bring the bounty to Hurleyville's Bread for Life Food Pantry at the United Methodist Church and the Food Pantry of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in South Fallsburg. These food pantries are always grateful and eagerly provide bags of Thanksgiving

dinner item to dozens of families that they serve throughout the year.

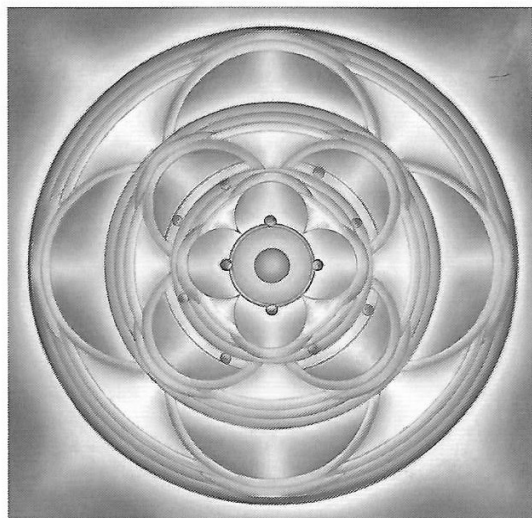
Thanks go out to the school staff and families that support this wonderful program and provide the food and to the students that gather it, organize it, and get it to the families to enjoy. For the past several years, the SGA faculty advisors have been Ms. Elisa Baum in the JSHS and Mr. Peter Dworetzky in Benjamin Cosor Elementary School.



PHOTO PROVIDED

The members and volunteers from the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School SGA pose with some of the food they collected.

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## Temple Sholom to Host Chanukah Luncheon

MONTICELLO - Temple Sholom's (pre)Chanukah party this year will feature two outstanding presenters. Richie Chiger, as Master of Ceremonies will tell the Chanukah story and lead Chanukah songs. Chiger, who spent many years as a teacher in the Monticello School District, is an accomplished and knowledgeable raconteur. Accompanying him on guitar will be Steve Schwartz of Steve's Music Center in Rock Hill. Schwartz is well-known around town for his versatile guitar playing—from folk to jazz.

Don't miss this one! The celebration is open to the community. The

luncheon will be potluck. A covered dairy (non-meat) dish is the price of admission. The Temple will provide potato latkes. Start thinking now about what yummy dish to prepare.

If interested, RSVP to Sue Kantor by texting 845-798-0578, calling 845-434-6679, or emailing skantor914@yahoo.com to let her know how many are in your party and what dish you will be bringing.

The fun starts on Sunday, December 11, at 1 p.m. Bring a menorah, matches, and (at least) two candles, as well as a potluck dish. Temple Sholom is located at 5 East Dillon Road in Monticello.



## Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

The end of the year approaches, with its singular blend of the celebratory and the elegiac. We move ahead looking back, to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" (in the Scots, that's literally "old long since," or "days gone by"). It's an apt anthem for the occasion. The transitional moment invites stock-taking-- a time for tallying up the gains and losses of the old year, to reckon the balance of debits and credits. Foremost among the debits are those who've passed away.

My father died in December, in New York City, sixteen years ago. I remember the odd sense of disjunction I experienced that December. There was the gravity of hospice in my father's apartment, and, across a great divide, the festive air of the city streets: Rockefeller Center with its great tree alight and the weightless gliding of skaters below, while across Fifth Avenue the lights of Saks took the shape of snowflakes drifting down the building's façade. I felt like I was traversing diverse worlds, inside and out of hospice, and it took a stretch of sensibility to accommodate both. But such an accommodation is intrinsic to the season; there are always strands of black crepe threaded through the wreaths and the tinsel. The insistent seasonal light can't help but summon an undercurrent of darker tones, a range of complementary blues. The heightened sense of my father's absence (a debit) is balanced by the memory of his presence (a credit). Both sides of the ledger must be duly noted to insure an accurate representation of the whole. That's why "Auld Lang Syne" lauds memory as a repository of value, and proposes a toast to its

recuperative properties. So let's reckon, to recoup, a few of this year's losses:

Back in October I read an article by the art critic Peter Schjeldahl that contained this sentence: "*Think about mornings. They're when the purest sense of what we're doing, or not doing, with our temporary habitation of the Earth sinks in.*" I had to pause and write that down in my notebook. Such striking sentences were not uncommon in his work. I always looked forward to reading him. A week later, it was his obituary in the New York Times I was reading. Our temporary habitation of the earth must have been on his mind when he wrote that final article.

And I bid *adieu*, Jean-Luc Godard! Ciao, Monica Vitti! Fare thee well to Jerry Lee Lewis, and bye-bye, Ronnie Spector ("Be My Baby" is perhaps as close to immortality as we'll get). Roger Angell died in May, at 101. When he was only 94, he wrote an essay, "This Old Man," and observed: "*Getting old is the second-biggest surprise of my life, but the first, by a mile, is our unceasing need for deep attachment and intimate love.*" Another golden sentence, wise enough to mark the spot of our maximum vulnerability, where we need each other and find the courage to admit it.

There were more personal losses, of course, of friends old and new, though the passages that made headlines could feel equally personal and hit just as hard. Watching a Godard film from the early sixties, the images of the streets of Paris are so deeply lodged in my psyche they feel like actual memories, as intimate as looking through a family photo album. They

mark passing time, and it is time that's passing, along with the things we love.

But what passes in time abides in memory and dream. A recent dream of my father had him back in that same New York City apartment, up on the 11th floor, living alone. I was visiting, and we were pleased to see one another. Through the living room window, I noticed that all the huge white-brick apartment houses on the other side of the street had disappeared, replaced by a bucolic landscape. It looked very like what I see from Divine Corners: a vista of mountains, woods, and farmland. My dream-self was amazed at the feat of engineering that had managed to excavate-in-reverse eleven stories of height and make the landscape level with the balcony; one could simply walk off across the fields. And so we met, my father and I, in this place that was not quite of this world, but was not *not* of this world, either (for where else could it be?). The dream fused diverse realities -- the past and the present, the living and the dead -- into a feeling of radiant wholeness that persisted for some time after I woke up.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot?" the song asks, and it's a rhetorical question. No, they shouldn't, and no, they can't. As the end of year approaches, I gather up my memories of all that's passed and carry them into the new year to meet what's coming.

Jonathan Shimkin, writer and editor, may be contacted at [jonathan-shimkin@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan-shimkin@gmail.com), or via his website: [jonathan-shimkin.weebly.com](http://jonathan-shimkin.weebly.com).

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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 the gear and provide all the training needed, for free. Stop by any Monday night and find out how you can help.

Fire Departments throughout the County continue to be busy with calls. Activated alarms are still creating a high volume of calls for departments.

The first cold snap since the last edition saw a few chimney fires. The chimneys were not cleaned. There were a couple of improperly installed wood stoves that caused fires. There have also been several furnace malfunctions. Proper maintenance and cleaning of the chimneys could have avoided all these calls.

Last column, I wrote about Lithium-Ion batteries. Since then, I have taken a few more classes on Lithium-Ion batteries. From the data that has been compiled from the Lithium-Ion battery fires it was found that a lot were caused by knock-off batteries. The knock-off batteries are not made to the standards that name brand batteries are. A good name brand E-Scooter is a good example of this. A name brand e-scooter will have a good battery and what is known as a “battery maintenance system.” This system will not charge a battery that is too hot and will not overcharge a battery. Your phone has this system, that is why they are so safe. It is the knock off brands of most of these electronic devices that do not have one. Some cheap e-scooters have been left in apartment hallways and plugged in, they overcharge without the bat-



tery maintenance system, overheat, and caused a fire. Unfortunately, they were between you and your way out of your apartment. There have been a number of these fires in New York City, and it could happen here.

By the time you are reading this, winter may be here. Are you ready in case of a power outage or a prolonged storm?

Here come the holidays. Your Christmas tree is up and decorated. Please take care of it.

Here are some helpful hints for your tree:

### PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut two” from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

### LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights that has worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.

- Never use lighted candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

### Menorah candle fire safety

- Never leave a lighted Menorah unattended.
- The Menorah should be made of non-flammable material only.
- Put your Menorah on a sturdy surface — Is your dining room table a bit wobbly? Do not put your Menorah there! Any piece of furniture with wheels is also a bad idea. Opt for a sturdy, safe surface.
- Take precautions when letting children light the Menorah — Make sure that when you let your children light the Menorah, they are standing on a sturdy surface, are close enough and high enough to safely light it (a stable stool is good, so they can see what they are doing). Have an adult present and there for support and intervention.
- Never place the Menorah near or under flammable material such as papers, curtains or books.
- Do not walk around while holding a lighted candle.

Above all use common sense when decorating for the holidays. I (we) do not want to visit you in an emergency.

*Be Safe Out There  
Merry Christmas*

## PAPER CLIPS...

by Elaine Corrington



### HAPPY HURLEYVILLE HAMLET HOLIDAYS?

Are you used to being a holiday host or hostess- especially in the month of December? Well, Ho-Ho-Ho. I would like to suggest that you can accomplish that in a whole new way, based not on traditional holidays that don't suit everybody, but in the unique Hamlet of Hurleyville. Yes, right here!

Want to invent your own holidays? It is just plain fun, and can be planned and prepared for at any other time of the year, but the last month of the year seems like a natural time to celebrate living in an unusual way you would really enjoy. And, you might very easily convince others to do the same.

Hurleyville Hamlet Honors Habitants Happily! And the final month of the year is a fine time to think ahead to make December plans for Hurleyville even better!

Since nobody seems to be inventing new holidays yet, I have nobody to slap them down, and I would be happy to work with you in creating next years' December bunch! But right now, it is all me!! Every day has its own new holiday. Take a look below at our calendar and plan joining up!

### HAPPY HURLEYVILLE HAMLET HOLIDAYS

1. New York Wash Your Filthiest Room Day
2. Hurleyville Eat A Local Dessert Day
3. Give A Weird Toy To A Strange Hurleyville Habitant Day
4. Hide A Funny Safe Toy By The Sidewalk Day
5. Play The Ukulele Badly Downtown And Sing Loudly Day
6. Pick Up Litter And Make A Work of Art With It For Your Front Yard Or Door Day
7. Dress Too Fancy Day
8. Hurleyville Burp Inappropriately Day
9. Be Too Darned Friendly Day
10. Kids Plan Weird New Sport Day And Teach It To Groanin' -Ups Day
11. Sullivan County Wear Ugly Shoes Day
12. Paint Your Ear And Look Proud Day
13. Check The Back Of Your Head Day
14. Play The Ukulele At The Rail Trail And Sing Loudly Day
15. Explain What The Heck Is All Of This About To A New Resident Day
16. Work With The New Resident On Inventing A New Resident Holiday Game At The Basketball Court Day
17. Make Wild Hair Ribbons And Tie Them In Peoples' Hair Day
18. Help Kids Sing Loudly Downtown (Ukulele Welcome) Day
19. Happy Dance On The Sidewalk To Music From 1950 - 1968 Day
20. Eat A Big Dessert Because I Danced Too Much Day
21. Have Somebody Choose A Funny Outfit and Take Your Picture Day
22. Put Yesterdays' Picture In A Frame And Give It To The Person Who Took The Picture Day
23. Do A half- Hour Hard Job For Someone Who Needs It Day
24. Get Together With Friends and Skip Around Hurleyville Thanking Neighbors Day
25. Seriously Give Up A Bad Habit Day
26. Keep the Bad Habit Away For Another Day
27. Swear To Replace The Bad Habit With A Good Habit Right Now Day
28. Choose A New Hobby For The Next Year- And Start It Day
29. Make a Personal Bank Jar Where You Can Put Change Every Day To Help Fund New December Happy Hurleyville Hamlet Holidays
30. Make Everyone You Know Laugh Happily Day
31. Oh Heck- Take the Happy Hurleyville Hamlet Holiday Off Day.

Of course, now that you have had a month to realize how much of a treat it is to be here, you will want to share that joy all the time! Let People Know!!

FROM THE FILES OF...

# THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

### December 27, 1930 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 forward, Charles Yavorofsky made two foul shots. Immediately 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 ability 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, scrapping 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 Billowitz, George Schmuckler, Milton Schmuckler, Betty Simons, and Paul Raskin.

### January 1, 1937 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 Christmas 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.



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

After singing Christmas hymns, several of the inmates contributed a song or piece to make the evening a pleasant one.

A little later, the Truth-seekers' Club of Mountain-dale 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.

### December, 2017 Holiday Activities Abound in Hurleyville

It will be a busy December in Hurleyville, starting with a festive new family-friendly event, Holiday in Hurleyville, on Saturday, Dec. 2.

The businesses of Main Street have come together to plan a day of shopping, arts and live music to kick off the holiday season in style. The bustle will continue throughout the month with ongoing exhibits, a holiday cabaret and a winter solstice celebration.

Free activities for Holiday in Hurleyville will begin at 11 a.m., Dec. 2, up and down Main Street. The Sullivan County Historical Society will have its annual holiday open house and a theme tree exhibit at the Sullivan County Museum. Fiber on Main is hosting a pop-up shop for Buck Brook Alpacas, a Roscoe farm and fiber operation that raises alpacas and pro-

duces hypoallergenic yarn. The fuzzy animals will be visiting Hurleyville as well, set up for children's visits outside the store.

Community members can admire—and buy—their talented neighbors' work at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance's "Radius Hurleyville" show in Gallery 222, alongside a makers market where members of the Hurleyville Makers Lab will sell their creations. The Hurleyville Arts Centre will host two free performances by Main Street Dance, and offer free yoga sampler and essential oils classes in the afternoon. Sullivan County Historian John Conway will give visitors a taste of Hurleyville's fascinating cultural and natural history in a guided walk along the paved Hurleyville rail trail at 1 p.m. Families can visit the Hurleyville Makers Lab for kids' crafts, a festive photo booth and Christmas train displays.

### TCFD Receives Grant to Study Brain Health

Sometimes, it's hard to see connections between scientific research and progress in everyday life. But a unique three-year grant at The Center for Discovery is allowing a team of creative specialists to implement a program that draws connections from neurological research to the creative activities many intuitively love to do, tracking how positive things like dance and gardening actually improve neurological health.

## RABIES IN NEVERSINK Fox Tests Positive

GRAHAMSVILLE -- Sullivan County Public Health is advising the public to stay away from wild animals and be vigilant of your surroundings while camping, hiking or playing in area parks near wooded areas.

"A grey fox that was acting aggressively in the Town of Neversink was captured by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, sent to the NYS Department of Health laboratory, and tested positive for rabies," said Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. "There were no known exposures to humans or domestic animals, although it was found wandering near a residential home."

Rabies continues to be a concern and risk in Sullivan County. Hunting season and hiking or snowshoeing/skiing brings people outdoors and into wooded areas this time of year, so there is the potential for an increase for encounters with wild animals that can carry rabies.

"With a few basic safeguards," Ms. McGraw said, "you can help protect your family and pets from being exposed to the rabies virus."

### What is rabies?

Rabies is a deadly disease that attacks the brain and spinal cord, and can be transmitted from infected mammals to humans and other mammals. Rabies is most commonly found in raccoons,

bats, skunks and foxes. Pets can get rabies if they are not vaccinated to protect them from the disease.

### How do I protect my pets and family?

The best way to keep pets safe from rabies is to get them vaccinated and keep their shots up to date. If your pet is injured by a rabid animal, contact your veterinarian to get medical attention. Even if your pet has been vaccinated, a booster dose of rabies vaccine may be needed within five days of the incident. Pets that are too young to be vaccinated should be kept indoors and allowed outside only under direct supervision.

People can help protect themselves from rabies by observing the following guidelines:

- Don't feed, touch, or adopt wild animals, stray dogs or cats. This includes raccoons, no matter how cute they may look.
- Be sure your pets and livestock are up to date on their rabies vaccinations.
- Keep family pets indoors at night. Don't leave them outside unattended or let them roam free.
- Don't attract wild animals to your home or yard. Keep your property free of stored bird seed or other foods that may attract wild animals.
- Feed pets indoors.
- Tightly cap or put away garbage cans.
- Board up any openings to

your attic, basement, porch, or garage. Cap your chimneys with screens.

- If nuisance wild animals are living in your home, consult with a nuisance wildlife control expert about having them removed.
- DO NOT discard a bat found in your sleeping area upon waking, or one you may have come into contact with, try to trap or capture it if you can do it safely, so that it can be tested.
- Teach children not to touch any animal they do not know and to tell an adult immediately if they are bitten by any animal.
- If a wild animal is on your property, let it wander away. Bring children and pets indoors and alert neighbors who are outside.

Report all animal bites or contact with wild animals to Public Health at 845-292-5910, ext. 0. If possible, do not let an animal escape that has possibly exposed anyone to rabies. A rabies vaccination clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets is being planned for the Town of Neversink in early December due to this recent detection. A date and location will soon be widely announced.

For questions or more information, call Sullivan County Public Health Services at (845) 292-5910, or visit the New York State Department of Health at <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/zoonoses/rabies>.

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PHOTO PROVIDED

United Way Chief Professional Officer Julian Dawson (to the right of banner) with Aktion Club members and advisors proudly displaying the Thanksgiving Baskets that were donated to several local schools and organizations.

MONTICELLO – During the month of November, the Aktion Club of Sullivan County collected non-perishable food items from club members, agency reps and Kiwanis Co-Advisors, and had fun decorating and filling five baskets that were then distributed to families

in need in the Liberty, Monticello and Fallsburg School Districts, as well as to the Federation for the Homeless and United Way of Sullivan County.

It was a busy evening, but the Aktion Club members enjoyed helping to make Thanksgiving more spe-

cial and enjoyable for some families in the community.

The club, which is co-sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge, comprises individuals affiliated with ARC the Greater Hudson Valley, New Hope Community and Center for Discovery.



# THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL

by HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

It was dreadfully cold; it was snowing fast, and it was almost dark, as evening came on—the last evening of the year. In the cold and the darkness, there went along the street a poor little girl, bareheaded and with naked feet. When she left home she had slippers on, it is true; but they were much too large for her feet,—slippers that her mother had used until then, and the poor little girl lost them in running across the street when two carriages were passing terribly fast. When she looked for them, one was not to be found, and a boy seized the other and ran away with it, saying he would use it for a cradle some day, when he had children of his own. So on the little girl went with her bare feet, that were red and blue with cold.

In an old apron that she wore were bundles of matches, and she carried a

bundle also in her hand. No one had bought so much as a bunch all the long day, and no one had given her even a penny. Poor little girl! Shivering with cold and hunger she crept along, a perfect picture of misery! The snowflakes fell on her long flaxen hair, which hung in pretty curls about her throat; but she thought not of her beauty nor of the cold. Lights gleamed in every window, and there came to her the savory smell of roast goose, for it was New Year's Eve. And it was of this which she thought. In a corner formed by two houses, one of which projected beyond the other, she sat cowering down. She had drawn under her little feet, but still she grew colder and colder; yet she dared not go home, for she had sold no matches, and could not bring a penny of money.

Her father would certain-

ly beat her; and, besides, it was cold enough at home, for they had only the house roof above them; and, though the largest holes had been stopped with straw and rags, there were left many through which the cold wind whistled. And now her little hands were nearly frozen with cold. Alas! a single match might do her good if she might only draw it from the bundle, rub it against the wall, and warm her fingers by it. So at last she drew one out. Whischt! How it blazed and burned! It gave out a warm, bright flame like a little candle, as she held her hands over it. A wonderful little light it was. It really seemed to the little girl as if she sat before a great iron stove, with polished brass feet and brass shovel and tongs. So blessedly it burned that the little maiden stretched out her feet to warm them



also.

How comfortable she was! But lo! the flame went out, the stove vanished, and nothing remained but the little burned match in her hand. She rubbed another match against the wall. It burned brightly, and where the light fell upon the wall it became transparent like a veil, so that she could see through it into the room.

A snow white cloth was spread upon the table, on which was a beautiful china dinner service, while a roast goose, stuffed with apples and prunes, steamed famously, and sent forth a most savory smell. And what was more delightful still, and wonderful, the goose jumped from the dish, with knife and fork still in its breast, and wad-

dled along the floor straight to the little girl. But the match went out then, and nothing was left to her but the thick, damp wall. She lighted another match. And now she was under a most beautiful Christmas tree, larger and far more prettily trimmed than the one she had seen through the glass doors at the rich merchant's. Hundreds of wax tapers were burning on the green branches, and gay figures, such as she had seen in the shop windows, looked down upon her. The child stretched out her hands to them; then the match went out.

Still the lights of the Christmas tree rose higher and higher. She saw them as stars in heaven, and one of them fell, forming a long trail of fire. "Now some one is dying," murmured the child softly; for her grandmother, the only person who had loved her

and who was now dead, had told her that whenever a star falls a soul mounts up to God.

She struck yet another match against the wall, and again it was light; and in the brightness there appeared before her the dear old grandmother, bright and radiant, yet sweet and mild, and happy as she had never looked on earth. "Oh, grandmother," cried the child, "take me with you. I know you will go away when the match burns out. You, too, will vanish, like the warm stove, the splendid New Year's feast, the beautiful Christmas Tree." And lest her grandmother should disappear, she rubbed the whole bundle of matches against the wall.

And the matches burned with such a brilliant light that it became brighter than noonday. Her grandmother had never looked so grand and beautiful. She took the

little girl in her arms, and both flew together, joyously and gloriously, mounting higher and higher, far above the earth; and for them there was neither hunger, nor cold, nor care;—they were with God.

But in the corner, at the dawn of day, sat the poor girl, leaning against the wall, with red cheeks and smiling mouth,—frozen death on the last evening of the old year. Stiff and cold she sat, with the matches, one bundle of which was burned. "She wanted to warm herself, poor little thing," people said. No one imagined what sweet visions she had had, or how gloriously she had gone with her grandmother to enter upon the joys of a new year.

*"The Little Match Girl" is a literary fairy tale originally published in 1845. It is in the public domain*

## Walkthrough Mondays Return to Peace Love and Lights

*Get walking this winter for a good cause!*

LIBERTY – Sullivan 180 and Bethel Woods Center for the Arts are pleased to announce the return of Walkthrough Mondays, at Peace, Love & Lights. Experience this magical 2-mile event up close and personal, out of the car every Monday from November 28 through December 26. The hours are 5–9 p.m. The last entry is at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 per person; children 11 and under are free. Admission is also free for participants who

bring a new, unwrapped toy. Toys will benefit the children's holiday gift program at the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless.

"Grab your sneakers or winter boots, zip up your coat and get ready for some winter movement for a great cause," said Amanda Langseder, Sullivan 180 Executive Director. "Not only is walking Peace, Love & Lights good for your heart, it fills your heart knowing that you're helping bring holiday gifts

and support to an amazing community resource, the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless. It's a win-win all around."

Sullivan 180 is challenging the community to have 600 walkers participate in Walkthrough Mondays at Peace, Love & Lights this year. If the goal is reached, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and Mullally Tractors, along with other local businesses and organizations, will each donate \$600 to the Federation for the Homeless. To be a match-



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
**Amanda Langseder**  
ing sponsor and be part of this worthwhile cause, please contact Elise Yamen

at 845.295.2680 or email [eyamen@sullivan180.org](mailto:eyamen@sullivan180.org)

For added fun, Sullivan 180 is introducing two themed Mondays. December 5 is School Spirit Day. Area students and school staff are encouraged to come out in their school colors to walk the trail together. On December 12, Sullivan County firefighters are encouraged to join in their gear. Departments with three or more members will earn a turtle point in the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Chal-

lenge. Groups will be photographed and featured in the Sullivan County Democrat.

The mission of Sullivan is to build a healthy community one degree at a time. Learn more at [www.sullivan180.org](http://www.sullivan180.org)

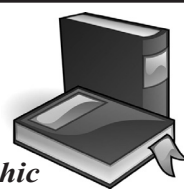
For details on Walkthrough Mondays, visit:

[www.bethelwoodscen-ter.org/events/peace-love-lights](http://www.bethelwoodscen-ter.org/events/peace-love-lights)

For information about the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless, visit: [www.scfederation.org](http://www.scfederation.org)

## FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Amanda Letohic



Winter is in the air at the library! This month, we'll have an ornament kit available for pick-up starting on December 5. Stop in and grab one, or call the library or email [aletohic@rcls.org](mailto:aletohic@rcls.org) to check availability. For adults this month, we have a Fishbowl Snowman Take & Make kit, and for the kids, we have a Perler Bead Holiday Take & Make kit available.

We're also starting pick-up for another Tiny Art Show! Pick-up for supplies starts December 5, and we ask that you return your finished art before December 30 so we can put them on display. We'll have one canvas and one small container of air-dry clay for you to make two beautiful, tiny,

masterpieces. Please name your pieces, and we will make a tiny sign to place next to your art. Let's show this county our creativity in Fallsburg!

As we're now in "snow season" please be sure to give us a call or check our social media before you head out. There you can find up-to-date closing information, program cancellations, and more. Don't forget about all of our virtual resources such as Libby, Rosetta Stone, Kanopy, and more. You can always place inter-library loan requests through our website too. Always, we thank you for your support. We couldn't do what we do without you! Stay warm!

## FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE

*Time and the Valleys Museum Presents Program*

FORESTBURGH-- Celebrating its 77th Season as "The Miracle of the Forest, Forestburgh Playhouse, under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Franklin Trapp, has proudly announced its 2023 Season of musicals and plays.

"The Forestburgh Playhouse 2023 Mainstage Season will be a thrilling celebration of live theatrical entertainment in the Sullivan Catskills," said Producing Artistic Director Franklin Trapp. "Our mainstage season will be quite exciting on many levels. Our season is chock full of major Broadway hits including: Jersey Boys, Monty Python's Spamalot, Matilda the Musical, and The Addams Family. The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey will inspire laughter and tears and audiences should get ready to solve one of our favorite mysteries of all time with Clue the Musical. Suspense will abound in Stephen King's Misery. In addition, our

Children's Theatre Series this summer is featuring not one, but two amazing shows for the whole family—Dreamworks' Madagascar the Musical and Gordon Gets Down!"

The Playhouse season will once again include Spring Series at the Forestburgh Tavern, Broadway Concerts Under the Stars, A Fall Series at the Tavern and of course, The Rocky Horror Show during the month of October. According to Trapp, "We are also proud to announce that the In the Woods Festival will be returning for a 3rd year to celebrate and present the work of emerging artists."

Playhouse Season Passes are available for purchase as well as the popular Flex Ticket 6-Pack, which provides six voucher-tickets to be used in any combination throughout the season. Passes and 6-Packs are available online at [www.fbplayhouse.org](http://www.fbplayhouse.org) or by calling the Box Office at 845-794-1194.

## MONTICELLO KIWANIS HONORS ALAN KESTEN



PHOTO PROVIDED  
**Alan Kesten (left) accepts his Everyday Hero award from Monticello Kiwanis president Marvin Rappaport.**

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello presented the Everyday Hero Award to Alan Kesten, a Monticello native who has devoted much of his time and energy to giving back to the community.

As the owner and operator of Yellow Cab, Mr. Kesten has provided complimentary transportation to those in need. He has been a volunteer fireman for five decades and has served as Chief of the Monticello Fire Department. He currently serves as a County Coroner on a 24/7 basis. He has also chaired the renowned Bagel Festival, which attracts thousands of people to our County every year.

Mr. Kesten says he always tries to follow his father's

admonition to do a "mitzvah" (good deed) every day.

"The Monticello Kiwanis Club Everyday Hero Award recognizes those who go beyond customary responsibilities and provide extraordinary leadership and service to the community. This is consistent with the Kiwanis goal and Alan Kesten certainly falls into this category," said Monticello Kiwanis President Marvin Rappaport.

Kiwanis is a service organization of local volunteers dedicated to assisting our children and the underserved population in the community. For further information about Kiwanis, contact Mr. Rappaport at 845-701-1655.

*A Hurleyville General Store Tribute*

**TO JEAN SHEPHERD'S**

**A CHRISTMAS STORY**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD**

**"He looks like a deranged Easter Bunny."**

Professional photos by Eddie Ayala Photography with the pink bunny from "A Christmas Story"

11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**"It's a Major Award!"**

We triple dog dare you to dress up as one of your favorite characters of the movie and be entered into a raffle to win one of five \$100 Hurleyville Store gift cards.

**"Fraa-jeel-ay! It must be Italian!"**

**LEG LAMP LIGHTING AT 6:00 PM**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**SHANE RENNISON 1:00 PM**

**CRIS SPINNER 2:30 PM**

**DIRTY STAY OUT SKIFFLERS 4:00 PM**

*Come to 238 Main Street as we celebrate the upcoming winter solstice and pay tribute to this epic holiday movie. Join us as we take professional photos while recreating some of the most memorable moments of the film, whether dressed up as Aunt Clara's gift to Ralphie - the absurdly cute pink bunny, or as we light the iconic gold-skirt-fishnet-stock-clad leg lamp at 6 pm.*

There will be cookies, there will be hot chocolate, there will be more than a few pink bunny suit clad folks, there will be holiday shopping and much more!

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*Follow & tag this year's festivities on IG & FB #hurleyvillechristmasstory*



# SENTINEL SPORTS



## FIFTY YEARS AGO...

### Comets Close December Without a Loss

by John Conway

FALLSBURG—The Fallsburg High School basketball team started out the 1972-73 season the same way they had closed out the previous season—on a hot streak-- winning their first six games and finishing December—50 years ago this month—with a perfect 4-0 record.

Combined with the five-game winning streak the Comets had put together at the end of the previous season, Fallsburg won 11 games in a row over the two seasons before dropping their next two contests.

One of Fallsburg's most impressive wins during the winning streak was an 89-56 triumph over non-league rival Tri-Valley at home on December 21, 1972.

That win pushed the Comets to 4-0 on the season, while the Bears dropped to 0-2 with the loss.

Fallsburg forward Rick Woodard scored 24 points to lead the offense in that one, and added 14 rebounds. Mike Brooks contributed 17 points to the Comet attack while Sam Copeland netted ten points.

The six-game winning streak to start the year propelled Fallsburg to an eighth-place ranking in New York

State among small schools, a position the Comets maintained until they were upset by Epiphany High in New Windsor on January 18. The stunning 47-45 loss to Epiphany came after Fallsburg had built a 13-point halftime lead, giving up just 10 points in each of the first two quarters.

Fallsburg fared even better in the third quarter, at least defensively, yielding just 8 points, but some adjustments Epiphany made at the half shut down the Comet offense, and they managed only six points in the quarter. Still, the 11-point lead looked fairly safe entering the final stanza, but Epiphany outscored the Comets 19-6 to close out the contest, coming away with the two-point victory.

Sam Copeland led Fallsburg in the loss with 22 points.

Following the two losses that interrupted their winning streak, the Comets embarked on a nine game winning streak to end the regular season at 15-2. Three more victories followed, but the last win of the season, a forfeit victory over an extremely powerful Cornwall team in the Section Nine B-C final, ended the season on a controversial note.

More on that in a future Fifty Years Ago... column, only in The Hurleyville Sentinel.

# ON A ROLL!

## GENERALS MEN ARE RED HOT



by John Conway

LOCH SHELDRAKE—Led by sophomore standout Jay Alvarez, the SUNY Sullivan men's basketball team has opened the 2022-2023 season with seven straight victories, averaging better than 90 points per game in doing so.

Alvarez, a 6'5" guard from Waynesboro, PA, is averaging 24.9 points per game in the early going, and also leads the Generals in rebounding with 7.9 per game. Guard Kipplyn Richvine, a 6'2" sophomore from Brooklyn, is the only other Sullivan player scoring in double figures, averaging 11.6 points per game. Freshman Mohammed Touray, a

6'7" forward from James Monroe High School in the Bronx, has contributed heavily to the Generals on the boards after seven games, with 7.5 rebounds per contest.

After winning both games in its own Tip-Off Classic at Paul Gerry Fieldhouse to open the season, the Generals hosted Lackawanna College on November 10, and came away with a 93-60 win. Next came the Murph Shapiro Tournament in Rochester, NY, and the Generals captured both games, 88-63 over Jamestown Community College, and 91-71 over Monroe Community College, moving them to 5-0 on the season.

Back home in Loch Shel-

drake, Sullivan opened its conference schedule with an impressive 99-66 win over Ulster County Community College. It was the tenth straight victory for the Generals over the Senators. Alvarez struck for 36 points in that game, hitting on 14 of 23 field goal attempts, including four-for-seven from three-point range. Richline contributed 19 points to the victory, while Touray pulled down 10 rebounds as Sullivan outdid Ulster on the boards by 56-30.

On Tuesday, November 22, the Generals traveled to Albany for a clash with Bryant & Stratton College, and after a relatively slow start, rolled to a large halftime lead, eventually coming

away with an impressive 87-57 win. Alvarez and Steve Takyi both recorded double-doubles in the win, with Alvarez scoring a game high 23 points to go with 12 rebounds, and Takyi adding 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Sullivan is currently ranked number two in the nation among NJCAA Division II schools, behind only defending national champion South Suburban College of Illinois. The results of a December 1 clash with Westchester County Community College in Valhalla were not available at press time. The Generals next play on Tuesday, December 6, when they host the Colts of SUNY Orange in a 7 p.m. contest at Paul Gerry Fieldhouse.

## JASPER NEW A.D. IN MONTICELLO

### Gets Interim Appointment from Board of Education



Ryan Jasper

PHOTO PROVIDED

MONTICELLO—Sullivan County native Ryan Jasper has been named interim Director of Athletics for the Monticello Central School District.

Jasper is no stranger to the athletes at Monticello, serving as girl's varsity basketball coach as well as working as a physical education teacher at the High School for the past four-and-a-half years. He had previously served as head girl's basketball and softball coach at Eldred High School, where his teams won four Section Nine titles in five years in both sports. In 2015, after his Eldred girl's basketball team advanced to the state semi-finals, he

was named the Varsity 845 Coach of the Year by the Times Herald-Record newspaper.

Jasper earned his Bachelor's degree in sports management from St. John's University, and a Master's degree in physical education from Manhattanville College.

"There has never been a better time to be a Panther than right now, as we've seen renovations to our baseball and softball fields, as well as the new tennis courts that are nearing completion," he said. "It's certainly an exciting time for Monti Athletics and I am thrilled to be a part of our district."

## Fallsburg Honors Two Coaches

FALLSBURG-- During the month of March, America becomes riveted on college basketball and catches "March Madness." During the Final Four in both the men's and women's NCAA tournaments, television captures "One Shining Moment," when the victors cut down the nets. The team coach gets the last piece of net. Since the number of high school basketball players that will enjoy such a moment is infinitesimal and the number of head coaches is far less, how can high schools acknowledge these coaches for their great effort?

At Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD), the administration pondered this question and created a Coach's Wall of Distinction. This year the honors go to Paul Marsden and Melvin Feldman. Spearheading the nomination of Coach Marsden was Fallsburg Central High School graduate from the Class of 1997, Uriah Goldfinger. Current FCSD Staff Member Lisa McA-doo submitted the award application for Coach Feldman.

Letters of support for each of their nominations extolled them for teaching the fundamentals of the sport, and they coached basketball, soccer, baseball, track, wrestling, and even skiing. They both thrived as mentors to their student athletes, and took a strong interest in furthering their education. When speaking with his athletes off the field, Mr. Marsden first asked about their school work and how their grades were. Uriah acknowledges the coach for inspiring him to become a successful athletic coach and teaching youngsters

with the lessons learned at FHS. Coach Feldman encouraged and supported Lisa McA-doo to attend Clarion University. He and his wife drove her out to the college for a recruitment tryout. They helped her receive a full scholarship. She recently was inducted into that school's Hall of Fame.

Each former student thanked the two coaches for imbibing in them a sense of humility and fair play on and off the court.

Both Marsden and Feldman's teams won many awards over the 31 years and 35 years they coached at Fallsburg Central School District. Coach Marsden was the Times-Herald Record Boys Basketball Coach of the Year in 2005; and the Boys Soccer Coach of the Year 1992. Between them, their teams placed more than a dozen championship banners on the walls of the FHS gymnasium. The two men acknowledge their predecessors and fellow coaches that were their mentors—Jack Halchak for Marsden and Ward Young for Feldman.

Join the Fallsburg community on January 18, 2023 in the JSHS Cafeteria at 7 p.m. to celebrate "One Shining Moment" for Paul Marsden and Mel Feldman when they receive their plaques for 2022-2023 Coach of Distinction Awards.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Above:  
Mel Feldman

At left:  
Paul Marsden



## COMETS STREAKING

### Fallsburg Football Closes Season With Two Wins

by Win Hadley

FALLSBURG—Buoyed by the return of senior Andrew Rein, Jr., the Fallsburg Comets varsity football team erupted for 28 second-half points against homestanding Dover on November 4, and closed out their 2022 season with a convincing 40-8 victory.

Rein accounted for 228 yards rushing in the game on 15 carries, and scored two touchdowns. He also completed six of eight passes for an additional 90 yards and a touchdown.

Fellow senior Matteo Scana rushed for 142 yards and three touchdowns, and the Comets accumulated 399 yards on the ground as a

team, while amassing 489 yards in total offense.

Defensively, they held Dover to just 136 yards in total offense and the single touchdown. Fallsburg intercepted four Dover passes—two of the pilfers by sophomore Nazir Lopez—and recovered three Dover fumbles.

Fallsburg dominated the game from the outset, although they led just 12-0 at halftime before striking for 14 points in each of the two second-half quarters to run away with the victory.

It was the second straight win for the Comets, following four consecutive losses, and enabled them to finish the season with a 4-4 record.

**BALLGAME BAFFLERS**

BY BRIAN

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

#### December Questions:

1. What is college football's oldest bowl game and what was the first year it was played?
2. The Sugar Bowl and the Orange Bowl both began the same year. What year was it?
3. The first Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas was played in 1935. What was unusual about that game?
4. The Gator Bowl was first played in 1945. In what city is it played?
5. Which bowl game, originally played in 1959, takes place in Memphis, Tennessee?

#### November Answers:

1. What two schools played in the very first college football game? (**Rutgers and Princeton.**)
2. Who is generally regarded as the first professional football player? (**Pudge Heffelfinger**)
3. What two men were responsible for picking and publishing the first All-America college football team in 1889? (**Caspar Whitney and Walter Camp**)
4. Who was the first man named Most Valuable Player in the American Football League following the 1960 season? (**Abner Haynes, Dallas Texans**)
5. The Four Horsemen gained college football immortality playing for Notre Dame in the 1920s. For which college did the Seven Blocks of Granite play in the 1930s? (**Fordham**)

There was no winner last month.

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