

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Hurleyville Hub Gearing Up

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE — Spurred on by the momentum of a successful inaugural year in 2022, the Hurleyville Hub community group is already gearing up for a bigger and better year in 2023.

The group holds its first official meeting of the year this month, but members have been brainstorming and comparing notes via group emails more or less regularly since last year's successful Holiday in Hurleyville event ended in December.

Hurleyville Hub, just organized in 2022, has about 30 members, representing all of the businesses in the hamlet as well as non-profits such as the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum, the Hurleyville United Methodist Church, the Hurleyville Fire Department and Hurleyville-Sullivan First.



In-person meetings typically attract about a dozen attendees.

Group member Denise Sullivan said that dates have already been selected for a number of the season's events, including two summer festivals—events that

debuted last year—scheduled for Thursday, July 20 and Thursday, August 17. In 2022, the August festival was one of the group's most well-attended, estimated to have attracted more than 800 people to Hurleyville for vendors, music, food and



amusements.

Also already on the schedule for 2023 are the second annual Scarecrow Festival, scheduled this year for Sunday, October 8, and Holiday in Hurleyville, scheduled for Saturday, December 2. The Scarecrow Festival, featur-

ing activities with a Halloween theme, was first held last fall, and proved to be a good enough draw to make it an annual event. The Holiday in Hurleyville event started in 2017, and except for 2020, when it was not held due to the lingering pandem-



ic, it has been held every December since, with more and better features added each year.

Last year's Holiday in Hurleyville event was a perfect example of the tweaking the group typically does as it searches for exactly the

right formula for staging a successful event. After analyzing the success of the first ever Scarecrow Festival in October, for which businesses and other groups constructed scarecrows of various designs and displayed them around town,

the group added a similar wrinkle to the Holiday in Hurleyville event.

The group chose the snowman—or more accurately, the snowperson—as the theme of the daylong festivities, and the creatures, some intricately constructed, and in a wide range of costumes, appeared throughout the hamlet. After the conclusion of an event, such new additions are carefully evaluated as to their effectiveness and there is always an open mind for new and innovative suggestions for change.

There has been discussion about adding a spring event to the schedule, but plans are incomplete at present, and adding any new festival to the calendar will likely have to wait for next year. In the meantime, save the dates for this year's activities, because each one promises to be bigger and better than last year.

SENTINEL FILE PHOTOS

HPAC ANNOUNCES NEW SERIES

Step Into Ballroom Dance

by John Conway



PHOTO PROVIDED

HURLEYVILLE — In its ongoing effort to provide innovative programming for the community, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre has announced a new series of programs under the umbrella “Step into Ballroom Dance.”

HPAC is calling the offering “a unique and unforgettable four-week series of classic ballroom dance films, paired with a glass of wine or beer and tapas by Tango Café, and an exhilarating ballroom dance class led by acclaimed instructor Edgar Osorio of Osorio Dancesport.” The entire series takes place at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, 219 Main Street in Hurleyville.

Tickets are \$40 per person

per session. They are available for each evening separately, or tickets to all four events can be purchased as a package for \$160.

The series runs on consecutive Thursday evenings beginning at 5:30. HPAC will first screen “a beloved ballroom dance film” in order to introduce Ballroom and Latin dance styles. After the movie, at 7:30 p.m., participants will adjourn to the upstairs ballroom for a glass of wine or beer and tapas provided by Chef Jonathan Martinez of Tango Café. Then to complete the evening, HPAC's professional Ballroom and Latin dance instructor, Edgar Osorio, of Osorio Dancesport, will introduce participants to the dances that were highlight-

ed in the film with a lesson suited for all levels of dance experience.

The schedule for the programs is as follows:

Thursday, March 16 - Introduction to Ballroom

Film: Shall We Dance (2004)
Step into the glamorous world of ballroom dance with acclaimed instructor Edgar Osorio.

Thursday, March 23 - The Latin Dance Tradition

Film: Dance With Me (1998)
Experience the passion and rhythm of Latin dance.

Thursday, March 30 - Ballroom Fusion

Film: Take the Lead (2006)
Get ready to mix it up.

Thursday, April 6 - Any Body Can Dance

Film: Musical Chairs (2007)
Unleash your inner dancer.

by Win Hadley

HURLEYVILLE — The Milk Train Trail will be the venue for another in a long line of popular Hurleyville History Hikes next month, this time to once again commemorate national Celebrate Trails Day on Saturday, April 22. The hike will begin at 2 p.m.

Hosted on the fourth Saturday of April, Celebrate Trails Day is an annual spring celebration of America's trails. Started by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in 2013, the celebration encourages people across the country to get outside and enjoy the nation's exceptional trails and trail systems.

Sullivan County Historian John Conway has been hosting and narrating the hikes for the past several years, and will once again do the honors.

“The idea is to get outside, enjoy the incredible scenery, and experience the majestic beauty nature has bestowed on our area, so we want everyone to be able to participate, regardless of stamina or mobility issues. And they can learn some local history at the same time,” Mr. Conway says.

The historical topics covered on the hike will include the impact of the railroad on the farms and resorts of the Hurleyville area, the 1907 Hurleyville train wreck, the native American Lenape

tribe, their language and their culture, the tanning industry, and more.

“Both farming and the tourism industry in Sullivan County owe much to the railroad,” Mr. Conway says. “And in fact, Hurleyville was really created with the arrival of the Midland Railroad in the 1870s. There wasn't much here prior to that. It is pretty cool that the thing that established the community in the first place has been reincarnated as a trail that is the linchpin of the revitalization of the community today.”

Mr. Conway says that after the long winter season, the Hurleyville History Hike presents an opportunity for everyone to improve

HISTORY HIKE SCHEDULED FOR CELEBRATE TRAILS DAY

Mark Your Calendars

LOGO PROVIDED



their mood, boost their energy level, and exercise their mind as well as their body.

“We always say that regular use of the Milk Train Trail is a way to a happier, healthier life,” he says. “The Rails to Trails Conservancy's Celebrate Trails Day is the perfect chance

for people to find out for themselves what we're talking about.”

Details are still being firming up, and there will be more about the Celebrate Trails Day Hurleyville History Hike in the April edition, but be sure to save the date in the meantime. ing!”

County, BOCES Team Up to Provide Free Training in Construction Trades

Job-Ready After Completion of Nine-Week Course

LIBERTY — Thanks to a partnership between Sullivan County's Center for Workforce Development (CWD) and Sullivan BOCES, up to 15 local residents who want to gain basic carpentry skills can do so for free, starting this April.

“While we are fortunate to have a number of skilled contractors in our region, they struggle to find reliable, competent help to meet the demand for their services,” noted Sullivan County Legislature Vice Chair and District 3 Legislator Michael Brooks, who joined his fellow legislators this month in unanimously approving County funding for this program.

“This is yet another example of the Legislature's commitment to making Sullivan County a better place



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO
Sullivan County District 3 Legislator Michael Brooks

to live and work,” added Legislature Chair and District 1 Legislator Robert A. Doherty. “I commend our staff for thinking innovatively about what we can offer our residents, and I thank BOCES for joining with us to provide this new path to employment.”

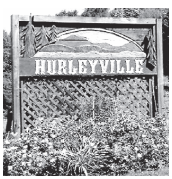
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ABOUT OUR HEADLINE

This month's headline is self-explanatory, and refers to the work being done to promote the hamlet by the fledgling organization Hurleyville Hub. The Sentinel thinks the visionary and energetic members of the group deserve a huge thank you and wishes them great success in the future. After all, their success means success for all of us in Hurleyville. Hurleyville Hub has already begun planning events for the upcoming summer, fall, and winter, and holds its first in-person meeting of the year this month. For the group, it is definitely “full speed ahead.”

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Youngsters enjoyed pizza after making “blessing bags” for folks in need at Messy Church in February.

HURLEYVILLE SULLIVAN-FIRST (HSF)

Hurleyville-Sullivan First has applied for a 2023 Sullivan 180 Beautification Grant. Sullivan Renaissance made news this year when the organization teamed up with Sullivan 180.

The grant will enable the group to add solar powered strip lights to the historical kiosk in the Hurleyville Firemen’s Park and to install wayfinding and parking signs. The signs will direct visitors and drivers to public parking lots and to all the marvelous places to visit in Hurleyville.

Funds from the grant will also be used to enhance and maintain completed projects:

- the signs and stone planters at the entrances to Hurleyville
- the stone planter at the Hurleyville Firehouse
- the Little Free Library at the Hurleyville Firemen’s Park

Everyone is welcome to come out and help plant annuals and perennials in the barrels on Main Street and in the stone planters. The first planting date will be scheduled in the spring.

Please visit www.hurleyville.com for more information about Hurleyville-Sullivan First. You can also visit Hurleyville-Sullivan First on Facebook.

HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church will be open on Thursday, March 23 and on Thursday, March 30 from 3 until 5 p.m. The volunteers at the food pantry serve more than 40 families.

Sunday services at the church begin at 9 a.m. Children of all ages are invited to attend Sunday school at the church during services.

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

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

You can 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 next “Messy Church” will be on Saturday, March

11 at 5 p.m. The theme in March is “Heroes of the Bible.” “Messy Church” offers youngsters the opportunity to learn about the Bible in a fun way through arts & crafts, games, music, singing and other fun activities. An adult must accompany children taking part in the fun.

Volunteers at the church are collecting socks, gloves, hats, underwear and diapers for children in foster care. They are also gathering paper goods for Preventive Services. This county program supports parents in their efforts to keep their children safe and healthy in their own homes. 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

The Frederick Cook Society will present a program of Americana, folk and bluegrass music on Saturday, March 11 at the Museum. The afternoon of live music, Irish soda bread, coffee and tea will begin at 2 p.m.

The event, hosted by Carol and Aldo Troiani of Little Sparrow, will feature performances by Anne Baglione, Mike Baglione, Steve Lane and Clancy Lane. Admission is free. Donations to support the musicians are always appreciated.

Guided tours of the Museum are available at no charge. Please call 845-434-8044 to make a reservation.

Anyone interested in genealogy and the history of life in Sullivan County can send an email to info@scnyhistory.org to find out about volunteering at the Museum.

Sullivan County memorabilia and books recounting the history of Sullivan County are available at the Museum gift shop.

Volunteers are available to help visitors explore the historical and genealogical 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 from Tuesday through Saturday from

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Museum will be closed on Sundays until April.

Go to 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.

COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The proposed Gan Eden Estates project comprised of 534 units on Columbia Hill is the focus of monthly CHNA meetings. The members of CHNA continue to strategize and to gather information supporting their concerns with the project.

The proposed project is an endangerment to the community and to the environment in many ways including:

- depletion of our water supply
- threat to our wildlife, streams and wetlands
- harmful effects of storm water runoff
- disastrous consequences of wastewater treatment plant and discharge
- increased traffic
- noise pollution
- light pollution
- electric grid capacity

Visit CHNA at 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.

AKTION CLUB DISTRIBUTES CLOTHING



PHOTO PROVIDED

Aktion Club Members and Advisors displaying items donated to the Monticello Warming Center.

MONTICELLO – Members of the Aktion Club of Sullivan County recently donated needed winter attire to the Warming Center located at the Ted Stroebele Center in Monticello. They distributed blankets, scarves, socks, hats and gloves, which were very much appreciated.

For their next project they raised \$210.00 for the WSUL Heart-a-thon by selling paper hearts to their friends and family.

Aktion Club is comprised of individuals with various degrees of devel-

opmental disabilities and who are affiliated with Arc Greater Hudson Valley, The Center for Discovery and New Hope Community. The club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs

of Monticello and Wodridge. Their disabilities certainly do not interfere with their love and compassion to help people in the community.



REMEMBERING

Do you really ever forget
The hard or the fun times you’ve had?
It’s part of your life’s history
Folding in the good with the bad

Life is full of mysteries
There are many that make us smile
And the others force us to realize
Understanding them might take a while

They say that it’s already written
How much time we have on the earth
So, use every day until then as if
It’s your first day of birth

Do not let the bad thoughts take over
To make you sit and be blue
Remember, the first love you have
Must always be wholeheartedly you!

- Mimi
March, 2023

FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



BLACK ICE



PHOTO PROVIDED

According to meteorologist Kaylee Wendt of Spectrum News, black ice is ice that is so thin that black top can be seen through it. That is what makes it so dangerous.

The transparency of the ice makes it very difficult to see, especially at night. Black ice forms when rain or snow falls, and the temperature climbs above freezing, melting some of it. Then, when the temperature falls below freezing again, ice forms. Although it is less common, black ice can also form from dew or fog under similar temperature condi-

tions.

“A few places to be extra careful of this invisible predator are bridges, overpasses, and any spots in the shade,” Ms. Wendt writes. “These areas will freeze over before anything else in your proximity.”

When you are driving your car in winter weather, it is advisable to reduce your speed when the temperature is around 32 degrees. This will allow you to have more control over the car in the event you do encounter black ice.

And that is a good thing.

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

Winter is back! How I’ve missed you (not). Actually, I don’t mind winter. It’s beautiful, and I have no problem with the cold temperatures and snow but the ice/sleet/freezing rain...that is what I mind. And we’ve seen more of that than anything over the last few years. Yuck!

On the flip side, before the Old Man showed up again, I was able to get out and enjoy. On my calendar was the annual two venue birthday parties for friends BOBBY D (who plays the Dobro with THE JOHNNY JULES BAND), and buddy BILLY who is not a musician, but is often out supporting the live music of Sullivan County. For all the new readers, JOHNNY JULES was the second person I met when I moved here over a decade ago. He lived right here in Hurleyville, in a house that no longer stands to make way for the public parking. I was invited to several parties in that house, and you could always be guaranteed tons of food, nonstop live music and wonderful people to meet, not the least of which was the late SHREDNE VOLLMER, harp player (that’s musician speak for harmonica) with THE BAND and a good friend of JOHNNY’S. Another of the notables was

DAVID TRESTYN. He and his wife TERESA opened THE HEARTBEAT MUSIC HALL OF GRAHAMSVILLE a few years ago right before COVID.

Before heading out to the first of the parties at CABERNET FRANK’S in Parksville, I stopped into our own PICKLED OWL to catch Sullivan County’s native son, ALBI BELULLI. Being a solo performer is not easy, but you’d never know it seeing ALBI. His musicianship and great voice aside, his vast repertoire of music and his interaction with whatever audience is in the room make it seem effortless. I’m so happy too to see THE PICKLED OWL dipping their toes in the live music pool again, as it is a great venue. The building has a history that the owners chose to maintain and I applaud them for that.

Dubbed THE EDGE OF AQUARIUS PARTY, the music started off at CABERNET FRANK’S with, who else, but THE JOHNNY JULES BAND, because hey, why wouldn’t BOBBY D play at his own party! With MANGO MIKE on ukulele and JOHN CONDON on drums, the band churned out all the Blues, Blue Grass and Country the lovers of could handle. In a double header, THE

JOHNNY JULES BAND was followed by JAKE-TOWN ROAD with music in the same vein but ramping it up a notch into Rockin’ Blues. I have to admit I don’t know much about this band, but I guarantee I will by my next writing! This was quite a party, so much laughter, so many people to talk to. Party-goers took up both floors with a constant flow between.

And many also showed up at HECTOR’S INN in Bethel for the second birthday party that Sunday afternoon along with others unable to get to CABERNET FRANK’S. THE JOHNNY JULES BAND with the addition of guitar player JOHN BOTTON and with MANGO MIKE pickin’ expertly on the banjo, cranked out Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, and some classic country that got people up and dancing. Yes, even me.

And now back to reality. I will have to explain, one more time, to my kitty, MISSY MAGS, that she will have to move off my foot because I’m invited to dinner with musician friends, which always means a live living room performance. I love my life.

Stay well, stay safe, and keep that mask and hand sanitizer handy!

Until next time...

NEW LAW FOR NOTARIES IN NYS Must Log Every Time They Sign

MONTICELLO – A new State law requires that notaries now keep track of every instance in which they provide their services.

Section 182.9 of the Notary Public License Law states that Notaries Public must make a record at the time of the performance of the notarial act, to include:

- The date, approximate time, and type of notarial acts performed
- The name and address of any individuals for whom a

notarial act was performed

- The number and type of notarial services provided
- The type of credential used to identify the principal, including the names of the witnesses and, if applicable, the type of credential used
- The verification procedures used for any personal appearance before the notary public
- For electronic notarial acts, identification of the communication technology

and, if not included as part of the communication technology used by the electronic notary, the certification authority and verification providers used

“These records must be kept by the notary for at least 10 years, to be produced upon demand of the NYS Secretary of State or other authority,” notes Sullivan County Clerk Russell Reeves, whose office handles notary license renewals.

COUNTY, BOCES TEAM UP: FREE TRAINING

FROM FRONT PAGE

“We are pleased to collaborate with the Center for Workforce Development to create an educational program that provides individuals with the training and skills needed to succeed in the construction field. This project builds upon our mission to provide learning opportunities within our community and help build and maintain our County’s

workforce,” said Robert M. Dufour, Ed.D, District Superintendent/CEO at Sullivan BOCES.

The nine-week program is being administered by the CWD, part of the Division of Community Resources. Classes start April 10 and will be held every Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Rubin Pollack Education Center on Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty.

“This incredible oppor-

tunity is for our adult learners (those age 18+) who live in Sullivan County,” explained CWD Director Loreen Gebelein. “Each week the BOCES instructor will focus on a different aspect of the construction trades: tools, safety, materials, framing, flooring, ceilings, decks, stairs, building inspections, and more. In the final week, my staff will teach students how to build a great resumé and find jobs right away.”

“This is hands-on training at BOCES’ classrooms and shops in Liberty, and graduates of this program will be immediately ready to work with any number of local employers, as the local building industry is growing fast,” said Community Resources Commissioner Laura Quigley. “I encourage anyone interested to contact us right away, as only 15 spots are available for this course.”

To find out more or to sign up, contact the Center for Workforce Development at 845-794-3340 or scscwd@sullivanny.us.

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MEET RALPH BURGER

Seasoned Landscaper and Friend to Everyone

by Lily Barrish

HURLEYVILLE – Have you ever wondered who mows the majority of the grass in Hurleyville? Well, that would be Ralph Burger. He’s in charge of mowing the grove, the museum, the lawns for The Center for Discovery, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, all of main street, and the parks lining Main Street.

When he was ten years-old his parents packed their blue Chevy and moved him, along with his seven siblings, to Hurleyville. In Trenton, New Jersey he’d attended St. Mary’s Catholic School, but upstate he was enrolled in public school.

“That’s when they were moving kids all around,

because the Hurleyville school got packed, so we went to Woodridge, and then Mountindale. We got along with everybody,” he said.

It was around 1960 when the family settled in Woodridge and lived on a farm with no electric or plumbing. Ralph’s aunt owned that piece of land. About a year later, they relocated to an old farm on Houghtaling Road with running water and electric, however, they still had to cut a lot of wood.

His father, born in Ellenville, was a mechanic who owned his own garage back in New Jersey, working alongside Ralph’s four uncles. When his father sold the garage back to his

brothers, they moved to Woodridge so his dad could work for the Frunzis as a mechanic. In New Jersey, his mom, who had arrived from Poland on a boat with eight sisters, had worked in pottery, making dishes. Up here, she focused only on being a homemaker.

“We used to be called the eight pack. We ran into the garage and changed the oil. Had to do something to make money as kids,” Ralph said, referring to his time working for his father. He started landscaping at the age of fourteen.

After graduating from Fallsburg High School, he worked for the Town of Fallsburg for more than 40 years in various roles. First in the water depart-

ment, next at Lochmor Golf Course for the parks department, and then he worked on sewers. Finally, he landed at the highway department where he stayed for the remainder of his career, driving trucks and snowplows, and doing mechanic work. He’s been retired for over a decade now.

Falling into memories of the past, he shared, “at eighteen years old I lived above Lee’s Inn and joined the fire department when Bob Cole was the chief. After that Nelson (Durland) became the chief. I have 40 years in the fire department. There were three butchers in Hurleyville when I moved here. I remember the horse acad-

my, and I remember when Frankie and Johnnie’s came to town. Hurleyville was a good town and it still is.”

He met his wife, Debbie, who grew up in Neversink, and they got married at Lanza’s in the ‘80s. It was the early 90s when they paid \$600 at a land auction and bought three acres in Hurleyville. They built a house that overlooks the marsh and still live in that home where they raised both of their children, Samantha and Adam.

“I was gonna buy property in Neversink. Four point five acres I wanted, but the woman didn’t want to sell. Hurleyville lucked out,” Ralph said.

On a good day, he can

complete around fifteen lawns—weed whacking, mowing, tending to flowers-- all on his own. He keeps the equipment in his trailers. He works in other parts of the county other than Hurleyville, including Liberty and Swan Lake.

“I used to have 150 accounts, and now I have 100,” said Ralph. He also still has about 20 plowing accounts.

In his free time, he enjoys fishing at Morningside Park for walleye and bass, or whatever fish are in the lake. He and Debbie walk five miles a day, locally, during the spring, summer and fall. He frequents the restaurants in Hurleyville often, and six out of seven mornings you can find him



PHOTO BY LILY BARRISH

Ralph Burger at the Hurleyville General Store

shooting the breeze at the Hurleyville General Store with the regulars that congregate there. “I’m gonna live in this town forever,” said Ralph.

FCSD Welcomes Law Enforcement Officers

FALLSBURG – Kristen Meyer’s son, Rory, graduated Fallsburg High School in 2015. He now is a Deputy Sheriff in Sullivan County.

Ms. Meyer, who currently is in the Technology Department in the high school, had been the Guidance Office Secretary for many years. She knew and spoke with students who expressed interest in law enforcement as a career, just as had her son. She suggested to the administration in the high school that they invite a group of officers from various jurisdictions in Sullivan County to an assembly of high school students.

A neighboring district does something similar, and she thought it might be beneficial for FCSD students to hear from some law enforcement officers who were Fallsburg alumni. The Administration enthusiastically supported the idea.

On February 1, 11 offi-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Attending the Law Enforcement Day meetings at Fallsburg were (left to right): Sullivan County Sheriff’s Deputy Matthew Shaw, Deputy Cheryl Davis, Fallsburg PD Officer Kyle Geraine, Fallsburg PD Officer and FCSD School Resource Officer (SRO) Phillip Brooks, FPD Detective Brendan Pavese, NYS Police Trooper Russell Corley, Liberty PD Officer Breann Jones, FPD Detective John Chevalier, SC Sheriff’s Deputy Andrew Hartman, SC Deputy Jason Beebe, and Monticello PD Officer Kelvin Nunez.

cers came to Fallsburg High School and met with two assemblies of tenth and 12th graders and ninth and 11th graders. Overall, 400 students participated. Ahead of time, Ms. Meyer received many questions to ask the law enforcement team. Several students wanted to know about

how the officers got into the field, whether it was through the experience of family members, educational courses and majoring, or through former jobs.

Students wanted to know the procedures once someone was accused of a crime. One question was about the use of Narcan, the drug administered by police and other

trained individuals to revive people that had overdosed on addictive drugs and were near death. That was a pretty scary tale and held the attention of the young people. Another question was about scariest situations they faced. In answering these questions, officers emphasized how much crime in Sullivan County is related to drug abuse. Finally,

two female officers in attendance were asked about women entering police forces.

The give-and-take of questions and answers held the attention of the assemblies.

“The officers, deputies and trooper were awesome with the students,” Ms. Meyer said.

Students, law enforcement officers, and other staff shared the same sentiment about the interaction during the two group meetings. People were aligned over the success of the programs and were encouraged to support future events between law enforcement and students in FCSD. Good community relations between police and the public is very important in light of what is happening in the daily news in school buildings and America’s cities and towns. Everyone benefits from discussing issues in public forums, such as FCSD did on February 1.



Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

Of all the wildlife in the neighborhood of Divine Corners, only one creature makes itself at home in our home – the mouse. We’ve had deer come up to our front door, during a hard winter, and peer through the glass, looking for a handout, but they’ve never yet come inside. Mice come inside – over and over again. They partake of our food, our clothes (good nesting material), and our hearth. To a mouse, our cottage is a big nest – as it is, in some sense, to us. So our nesting habits overlap.

Once, after a week away, we returned home to find small caches of seeds tucked away around the place – under a sofa cushion, beneath a pillow – as if someone had been hoarding food against winters to come. Perhaps it was the alpha-mouse, the one who strode into the kitchen while we were at table and, when he saw us, halted, turned, and strode slowly out again, all casual and cool, as if we were the intruders disrupting his domestic routine.

We’ve done our best to get rid of mice (short of acquiring cats), setting traps that cage them for release back into the wild. For months at a stretch, we think we’ve succeeded and evicted our last mouse. That’s a delusion. Mice never end.

During a recent oil change, the mechanic ex-

plained that he had had to replace my car’s air filter, a square-framed device filled with furrowed material resembling a plowed field. I asked why and he showed me the one he had removed. It looked like a long-abandoned field gone to seed, every furrow crammed with bits of grass, leafy matter, shredded cloth, strips of paper, tumbleweeds of detritus – a wild profusion of stuff jutting out on all sides: a nest! My Toyota had been colonized by mice. Banished from the house, they had simply migrated to the car. I asked the mechanic if mice could be in there while I drove. “Very likely,” he said.

Tossing out such an elaborately constructed nest made me think of Robert Burns, the poet who plowed up a mouse’s nest back in November, 1785, and sorely regretted it. His response, “To a Mouse,” was written in a tone of rueful sympathy: “I’m truly sorry Man’s dominion / Has broken Nature’s social union...” He declared himself the mouse’s “poor, earth-born companion, / an’ fellow-mortal!” Burns saw in the rude dispossession of the mouse something that can befall any creature whose “best laid schemes go oft awry and leave nought but grief and pain.” And he saw something deeper: fellow-mortal means not just fellow creature, but one sharing

the fate common to all Earth’s fellow creatures – that is, mortality.

Leaving the cottage one morning, we found, laid out by our front step, a long tail trailing from a patch of fur with a few paws still attached – all that was left of a mouse who had likely been the prey of an owl during the night. The remains looked like a mouse costume, ready to be taken up and worn by any small critter inclined to take their chances in the commonwealth of mice.

Burns understood those chances to be the same no matter what body (fur, feather, skin) one comes clothed in. We’re born, we die, and in between we’re subject to the vicissitudes of time and circumstance. The Plow (or Auto Mechanic) of Fate upends our nest. The invasive mouse invades a house that once invaded the natural habitat preceding it. To recognize that we live in a complex scheme of exchange and interrelationship, a Great Skein of Being, invites an extension of sympathy beyond our person, tribe, or species. For all our investment in boundaries and borders, we live within overlapping domains as extensive as the surface of the Earth itself.

Jonathan Shimkin, writer and editor, may be contacted at jonathan-shimkin@gmail.com, or via his website: jonathan-shimkin.weebly.com.

DRAMATIC WORKSHOP TO PRESENT AT COSOR ELEMENTARY



PHOTO PROVIDED

FALLSBURG – The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop (SCDW) is enthusiastically presenting

a program titled “Creative Dramatics” at the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School (BCES).

This program is an introduction for fourth, fifth and sixth grade students at BCES to experience and participate in the theatre arts. Students will experience the following activities: acting, memorizing, crew (backstage work for boys and girls), tech (lights and sound), building sets, props, costuming, stage

presence, dance, singing, ensemble work, stage direction, projection, stage man-

ing, theatre games and much more.

Children participating in this after school activity will commit to perform a selected play: two performances will be for their fellow students at BCES and six performances on the stage at the Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop’s Rivoli Theatre in South Fallsburg. The Rivoli Theatre show dates are May 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21. This innovative after-school program will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be taught by experienced members of the SCDW.

Key directors of this program, begun on February 7, have been Sally Gladden, Eileen Kalter, Bunny Wolo-

szczak with help from Renee Kates and Amanni Sitz.

Soon to join the program are Jenny Silverman, Ellie J. (doing a lesson on clowning), Keith Prince (improv), Harold Tighe (set design), Grace Summa (technical direction), Heather Strauss (costuming) and many more.

The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to provide and promote quality theatre for the community.

Everyone who lends their talents to present the SCDW shows is a volunteer. SCDW is thrilled to be able to share their skills with the elementary school population.

STEP INTO BALLROOM DANCE:

A Film and Workshop Series at HPAC

Join us for an unforgettable four-week series of classic ballroom dance films, paired with a glass of wine or beer and tapas, and an exhilarating ballroom dance class led by acclaimed instructor Edgar Osorio of Osorio Dancesport, all at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre.

Tickets are available for each evening separately, or tickets to all four events may be purchased as a package.

Every week, you’ll experience a beloved dance film at 5:30pm, followed by a fun and exciting dance class at 7:30pm that’s perfect for both beginners and experienced dancers alike. Enjoy a glass of wine or beer and delectable tapas by Tango Café before the class, and then let Edgar Osorio guide you through the steps to make you feel like a pro on the dance floor.

Thursday, March 16, 5:30pm:
INTRODUCTION TO BALLROOM
Film: Shall We Dance (2004)
Step into the glamorous world of ballroom dance with acclaimed instructor Edgar Osorio.

Thursday, March 23, 5:30pm:
THE LATIN DANCE TRADITION
Film: Dance With Me (1998)
Experience the passion and rhythm of Latin dance.

Thursday, March 30, 5:30pm:
BALLROOM FUSION
Film: Take the Lead (2006)
Get ready to mix it up.

Thursday, April 6, 5:30pm:
ANY BODY CAN DANCE
Film: Musical Chairs (2011)
Unleash your inner dancer.

Tickets are only \$40 per event.

More information and tickets at
HURLEYVILLEARTSCENTRE.ORG

HPAC Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre

PHOTO PROVIDED

The Monticello Kiwanis Club has continued their tradition of supporting the 98.3 WSUL Heart-a-thon. This year, the club members, friends, and family raised \$1,100. The Kiwanis service leadership clubs contributed to the event, as well. Monticello High School Key Club collected \$110 and the Sullivan County Aktion Club raised \$210 by selling paper hearts. A total of \$1,420 was collected by the three clubs. Pictured are Kiwanis Club President Marvin Rappaport (right) with Board Member Rob Green, who made the presentation at Resorts World Catskills, which hosted the event.



From the Firehouse

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

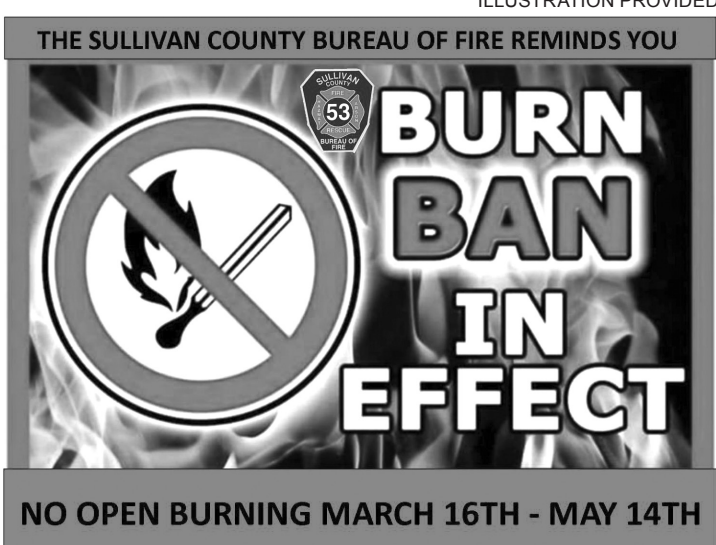


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

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

We picked up two new fire-fighters this month. Braiden DeGraw and Ernest Benjamin. Welcome aboard. Braiden's father is a member, as was his grandfather.

This is the March column so I need to rant and rave about the “**Burn Ban.**” The Burn Ban dates are March 16 thru May 14. **NO OPEN BURNING.** Looking outside as I type this column, there is no snow on the ground with temperatures in the 50-degree range. The first week of February, and already there have been several brush fires. Some were multi-company. This is what happens every spring: we go from snow to mud and dry conditions. Right now, there is no snow on the ground or any in the distant future forecast. How quickly this happens is anyone's guess. Brush fire season is already here a month early. Spring rains can help, but there is no snow to melt. So, when you get on your lawn to take care of spring cleanup, **DO NOT BURN** your debris piles. All it takes is a gust of wind in dry conditions when the terrain has not yet greened up, and we have a brush fire. So please, no burning of anything after you clean up your lawn! With these snowless conditions, it could be a long brush fire season. Unfortunately, today many



people do not get a newspaper, or are not on social media and do not know about the burn ban. Many of the brush fires that I have been at the last few years, the homeowner did not know about the burn ban. If you see your neighbor burning, please tell him about the Burn Ban.

Fire stats are in for 2022. Overall, fire calls for Sullivan County were up five percent for 2022 over 2021. Activated alarms in 2021 were 1,487 and for 2022, 1,587, brush fires in 2021 were 87 and for 2022, 117, structure fires in 2021 were 315 and in 2022, 325, drownings/water rescues 25 in 2021, and 22 in 2022, and other types of rescues calls in 2021, 37 and in 2022, 35.

In 2022, the first quarter of the year saw a big jump in structure fires. There was no one major cause. So far this year, thankfully, there has been a slow start in fire calls with the exception of activated alarms.

On March 12,, we change the clocks by springing ahead one hour. Change your clocks, change your batteries in your smoke and CO detectors.

This line may become obsolete soon. Today's smoke and CO detectors come with a ten-year tamperproof battery. Many people would take the batteries out of their detectors and use them in the TV remote or some kid's toy.

I went to a call in an apartment building with eight apartments, and there was not one working smoke or CO detector. Fortunately, it was only burnt food with a lot of smoke. I went to another call, and the smoke detector was laying on the counter because they needed the batteries for something else.

What you can do with the ten year battery detectors is test them by pushing the test button on them, and vacuum the head to remove the dust.

The fire service treats all activated alarms as a fire call, and so should you. I can't tell you how many calls I have been on where the occupants just ignore the alarm and go about their business. Sometimes they don't know why it went off, but continue to ignore it. Get out and stay out.

Be Safe Out There and use some common sense.

PAPER CLIPS...

by Elaine Corrington



SPRING FORWARD OR FALL BACK?

Wait just a darned minute! Look out the window- have you noticed that the days are getting longer and the nights are getting shorter? Is it just our imaginations that some days feel a little warmer? Is there a “warm wind”? Is it a mistake that some flowers are starting up... and then should we be covering them up at night to protect them from our winter weather? Is this a time of New Beginnings? Was that a baby bird singing? Are new little animals springing up around us? Is there a reason that we are energized and happier, or are we just fooling ourselves?

What is happening to our winter?

And then, then, then--- wait a minute! March is the month that Spring arrives! It has always seemed that in Hurleyville, it still felt like winter at this time of year; and we just needed to stay warmer, use our blankets, ignore the morning and night sky, and wait for winter to be **OVER!** There WAS no Spring!

But this year can we leap forward and applaud March 19 as that true last day of winter and March 20 as the REAL first day of SPRING? Is it time to be energized and happier?

Well-- maybe. But some days are a little cold, snowy, wintery. You have to leap, bounce, be buoyant and flexible, recoil, resilient, vault, spring (?) forth, jump, skip. Well, you might just as well believe that it is just SPRING, with special needs- and you can prepare accordingly and pretend it really is that season that signals wonderful long days and short nights.

You can keep warm by using your time for cleaning and organizing so you don't have to do that when it is HOT! You can start to look at old clothes that can be brought forward at the right time...or buy some new ones! And throw away those ugly and spotted old clothes, or get them to a thrift store. Very soon, you will realize it really IS Spring, and you are ready for some of those warm summer months (AACK- new problem). Make the town pretty! Hide some funny little safe toys in the summer garden for little kids to find. Walk or run the rail trail. Get a tan. ENJOY HURLEYVILLE, and so far it is only SPRING.

Winter will come back. It always does. Little kids in your family? Teach them to watch for the seasons, plan for the seasons, and enjoy the changes as they occur. Even Winter has its good points.

REALLY. A kid can help you find them.

HAPPY SPRING!
IT REALLY IS ON IT'S WAY!!

FROM THE FILES OF...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

March 19, 1937 Sullivan Farmers Start to Tap Sugar Maples

Although information gleaned throughout the state would indicate New York farmers anticipate the best maple sugar season in four years, Sullivan County farmers who work sugar bushes are not yet ready to say whether this year's run will be better or worse than average.

There is considerably less maple sugar produced in this county now than formerly, although many farmers still make it a regular early spring job. Those questioned say that February and march were warm and apparently favorable to inducing good sap flow, but their observation is that the weather is not yet warm enough in the daytime.

Among those who have already started tapping trees are Joseph Ulrich of White Sulphur Springs, and Christopher Foy of Swan Lake. Among the larger producers, Willie Cray and D. H. Clements, both of Liberty, have not started yet.

March 3, 1959 Fallsburg Plans New Town Hall

Fallsburg will have a new Town Hall to relieve overcrowding at the present town office which has been used for 22 years.

Monday night the Town Board approved a proposition which will allow the Fallsburg Parking District to renovate the former O&W railroad station into a town hall.

The proposal includes provisions for the township to lease the building at a cost of \$2,000 annually plus interest. Total cost of the renovation is not to exceed \$40,000.

Fallsburg officials point out that the one room presently used by the township is far too small for the various departments. Everything must be kept in the one room and there is no privacy for those coming to see officials.

The new building will have supervisor's office, utility office, water department office, room for the town clerk, a 24 by 24-foot courtroom for trials and public meetings and a jury room. Also there will be a



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

BCES fifth-graders on snowshoes in 2017.

room for the police and assessors' room.

Plans call for advertising for bids next week. Officials hope to receive bids by the end of the month and start of the project this spring.

March 10, 1959 School Addition Work Delayed

The 387-foot addition to the Grahamsville School will not be completed by the September first deadline, it was learned today from W. Eugene Ross, Tri-valley Central School principal.

Reason for the delay was the extremely cold weather this winter, the school head stated. The contracts were awarded October 23 but contractors were unable to do any ground-moving work since. Thus it will be nearly a year before the work can be completed the school head indicated

The new construction will be on the back of the present building which is along Route 55 east of Grahamsville. At the far end of the wing will be 14 elementary classrooms and between the new rooms and the old building will be a new cafeteria and gymnasium.

According to the principal, there is a total enrollment of 618, which is expected to jump to at least 650 next year. The capacity of 825 for the new building is expected to be reached by 1965, the principal noted. There are now 65 pupils in the kindergarten. The faculty has 29 members, including Mr. Ross.

Tri-Valley started out as a consolidated district, with 13 school districts, in 1945. Total number of students was 142. In July, 1946, it became a union free school and in 1960 three district, Bradley, Hasbrouck and Thunder Hill, were taken

in.

This was reduced to a total of 15 when Tri-Valley lost the Lackawack District to Ellenville Central after a court battle. However, Divine Corners was added in 1951, In February, 1957, three Claryville districts were added, and in May, 1957, the state allowed the district to centralize. There now are 22 former districts in the Central School.

March 2017 BCES students embrace nature on snowshoes

The moment their snowshoes were strapped on, a dozen Benjamin Cosor Elementary School (BCES) fifth graders took off running across 12 inches of fresh powder, laughing and scooping up snowballs.

Snowshoeing is the latest activity that has been introduced to the BCES Trail extended day group. With the help of a Sullivan Renaissance grant, and a Cornell Cooperative Extension donation, trail coordinators Ms. Leah Exner and Mr. Mark Spina were able to get snowshoes for 16 children and two adults from Morgan Outdoors, a Livingston Manor shop owned by Lisa Lyons. The fifth grade extended day group got their first snowshoe lesson on Feb. 1, and they have not stopped smiling.

“The kids are absolutely thrilled about this experience,” Ms. Exner said.

None of the students in the group had ever snowshoed before, Ms. Exner said, and some of them didn't even own boots or winter accessories. Some of the Renaissance grant money was used to buy boots, gloves and hats, to ensure every child could participate.

Hurleyville United Methodist Church
263 Main Street
Hurleyville, New York 12747



2nd Saturday of each month
5:00pm - 6:30pm

March 11, April 8, May 13
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Church Done Differently

Questions? Please call 845-428-5871.
We will be happy to answer any questions.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

A. Invite a person who creates ice sculptures to visit the school garden or cafeteria. Let that students watch this guest carve a storybook character out of ice. It's as if the character comes to life in front of their eyes. Teachers, this also taps into a career readiness standard.

B. I coined the title, We Knead to Read. This incorporates baking and reading. Think about recipes. Those include a sequence of steps you follow in order. Sometimes, recipes include illustrations. Students reading recipes are learning to follow instructions. Baking also involves one's five senses, measurement, and so much more.

a. What to bake? How about a cake in the shape of New York or Sullivan County? There, you have integrated geography into this learning.

C. Plant the Seed to Read a. For this, you create a reading garden. This program promotes local gardening, learning about local growth cycles and plants.

b. This also promotes awareness of local places to rejuvenate, repurpose or beautify for use as a reading garden.

c. It could include making sitting areas which involves carpentry, problem solving and other skills. You can plant a Free Little Library with books and plants. Get those hands



PHOTO PROVIDED

and knees dirty!

d. This project integrates mindfulness.

One more for this month's column is this thought that can be brought to fruition.

Read Across America Day-Getting Books into Hands

1. Use Read Across America Day to get a book into the hands of all the students.

a. These can be student made books with construction paper covers and real handwritten pages and illustrations
b. Ask parents/guardians/community members to make the books and become authors and illus-

trators

c. These can be books written and illustrated by the children using book-creator.com and ReadM. app

2. Use Read Across America Day to start or end a book donation where you collect, sort and then donate the books

a. When I have undertaken this project, I required the person who would be picking up the books to meet with some of the students. I did not want the books to be in boxes and then disappear the next day. I wanted the students to hear about the impact of their donations.

If you are reading this column after March 2, that is fine. It is my hope that you will find your way to a book. Perhaps it is one you have fond memories of from your childhood. Perhaps it is one that brings smiles to the faces of your children, grandchildren, or others in your community.

Whatever the reason for choosing that book of poetry or prose, fiction or non-fiction, just do it. Give yourself the gift of being enveloped by the setting and the characters.

Thank you for taking the time to read this column. Reading, listening, speaking, viewing and writing are each a component of literacy. Let us cheer for each other and for people of all ages. Let us read together and smile as we share stories.



A NEW YEAR'S EVE ADVENTURE PART III

An original short story
by Jack Robbin

Fallsburg Constable Bronco Kelly is in the midst of another adventure taken from actual historical events, this one involving the discovery of a local man with his head caved in along Pleasant Valley Road on New Year's Eve, 1936. As we pick up the story, Bronco and Sullivan County Deputy Sheriff Jay Lass have just met with local farmer Morris Golden, who has identified the deceased as his hired farmhand, John Dombrosky...

"There is no question this is John Dombrosky," Morris Golden said. "I worked next to him in the fields every day for several years. I recognize his hands, his wrists, his arms, and his hair. And then, I look over there, and I see that shirt in the pile of clothes and that is the shirt he wore every Sunday since I have known him. That is John, of this I am certain."

"All right, that's fine, Mr. Golden," Dr. Ralph Breakey, who had performed the autopsy, said. "Thank you for coming. We appreciate it."

Sullivan County Deputy

Sheriff Jay Lass and I decided that we wanted to get a look at John Dombrosky's rig, which Golden had told us had shown up at his farm overnight without a driver. We thought it might hold some sort of clue as to how John Dombrosky's head had been crushed.

We took Jay's car and headed to Hurleyville, making the trip to Golden's farm on Pleasant Valley Road in about fifteen minutes. As we approached the farm, we passed a group of five or six youngsters playing in the road. They scattered as our car approached, but I could see that at least a couple of them took a particular interest in us as we passed by.

We pulled into the yard at Golden's, and stopped near the barn. There was a horse drawn wagon parked on the side, and some horses roamed in a small fenced-in area adjacent to the barn.

As Jay and I walked over to the wagon, some movement off in the distance caught my eye, and in glancing over that way I noticed that a few of the kids that had been playing in the road had followed us and

were watching from afar, trying to stay out of sight.

"Looks like we've got an audience," I said more or less half aloud.

Jay was examining the whiffle tree and reins when I caught up.

"These look pretty beat up," he said, pointing to a broken piece of wood on the whiffle tree. "Think that could be connected?"

"I wouldn't bet against it," I said.

I looked over the wagon itself, and found nothing much of significance, though there were some tiny pieces of paper or cardboard scattered about. I picked up a couple of the tiny shards and examined them closely.

"Jay, I think I am going to go over and talk to those kids."

"Okayyyy... any particular reason why?"

"Playing a hunch," I said, my mind racing now with a rapidly developing scenario that had just occurred to me.

As I approached the place where the kids had gathered to watch us, they suddenly burst out of hiding and ran in different directions onto



ILLUSTRATION BY JACK ROBBIN
She had short, dirty blonde hair and bright blue eyes which seemed to have a tinge of sadness to them.

road and into the surrounding woods. That is, all but one of them.

"Aren't you going to run?" I asked once I had reached the hiding place. The kid was crouched down beside some briars, and barely moved when I spoke.

"I only want to ask you a couple of questions," I said as softly as I could. "Would that be all right?"

The kid stood up, and I saw for the first time that it was a girl, probably nine or ten years old, dressed in overalls, a heavy flannel shirt and wool sweater. She had short, dirty blonde hair and bright blue eyes which seemed to have a tinge of sadness to them.

"I guess so," she said timidly. "I guess that would be all right."

"My name is Bronco Kelly. I'm the town constable, and that skinny guy over there is Jay Lass. He's a deputy sheriff."

"I know who you are," the girl said. "I remember you from Halloween a few years ago when a bunch of us got spooked on the railroad tracks in town. You went to see what was up."

"Oh yeah," I said, nodding. "I remember that. And what is your name?"

"Willie Smith."

"Willie Smith?"

"My real name is Wilhelmina, but DON'T call me that. Nobody calls me that."

"Okay, then, Willie Smith it is. Do you have any idea what we're doing here today, Willie?"

"I think so," she said, just as Jay walked up. "You're here about Farmer John, aren't you?"

"Did you know Farmer John?" Jay asked.

The girl hesitated for a few seconds, and then nodded. "I knew him."

"When was the last time you saw him?" Jay asked.

"New Year's Eve," the girl said. And then she start-

ed to cry.

"What's wrong, Willie?" I asked.

"I did it," she managed between sobs. "I killed Farmer John. I didn't mean to, but I killed him."

Jay and I looked at each other, incredulous.

"What do you mean, Willie? How did you kill Farmer John?" I asked.

She wiped her eyes on one of her sleeves, and then wiped her nose on the other.

"We were just playing around," she finally said.

"I had gotten hold of some firecrackers, and we were just playing around. It was New Year's Eve, and we were setting a few of them off here and there as kind of a celebration. It was right before it got dark, and we saw Farmer John ride by in his wagon. I threw one of the firecrackers into the wagon. We didn't know he was going to, but he stopped by one of the houses up the street, and started to climb down from the wagon when the firecracker went off. It was an accident. We didn't mean to hurt anybody. The firecracker went off as he was climbing down and it

spooked the horses. They went crazy, pulling every which way, and Farmer John got caught up in it all. Everybody ran away when they saw what was happening, but I stayed. The horse dragged the wagon off somewhere and Farmer John was just layin' there in the road. I went to look at him, but there was blood everywhere and I got scared and ran off, too. It was me. I did it. I threw that firecracker. I didn't mean to, but I killed Farmer John."

A Sullivan County Grand Jury declined to take action against Wilhelmina Smith in the death of John Dombrosky, and no charges were filed against her. Her family scraped together some money to help Morris Golden pay for a proper funeral and burial. That concludes our story. Bronco Kelly and Wilhelmina Smith are fictional characters. While Dr. Ralph Breakey, Deputy Jay Lass, Morris Golden and John Dombrosky are real people, no representation is made as to the accuracy of their portrayal in this story.

Hudson Valley Honor Flight Seeks Veterans



PHOTO PROVIDED
Hudson Valley Honor Flight veterans and guardians in Washington, D.C.

WALDEN, N.Y. – Hudson Valley Honor Flight (HVHF) is seeking area veterans and guardians to take part in two flights this spring. Flights are scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2023 out of New York Stewart International Airport and Saturday, May 20, 2023 out of Westchester County Airport.

Priority is given to World War II and Korean War veterans; however, all veterans who have not yet participated in an Honor Flight are encouraged to apply. Applications can be found at hvhonorflight.com/veterans. The Honor Flight experience is one that veterans are sure to never forget. No matter your role during your service, if you're a veteran, you're eligible. Honored veterans fly free!

In addition to veterans, HVHF is seeking guardians to accompany participating veterans. It is not required that guardians have any history of military service. It is recommended that each guardian be at least one generation younger than the veteran he or she accompanies. To help fund each flight, guardians pay a fee of \$500. Please visit hvhonorflight.com/guardians.

"We have two planes to fill with deserving veterans! We are anxiously seeking local veterans to take part in the Honor Flight experience with us this spring," said Jenni-

fer DeFrancesco, HVHF Executive Director. "If you are a veteran from the Hudson Valley area, or know one who would like to participate, we want to hear from you."

HVHF provides a once-in-a-lifetime flight to Washington, D.C., where veterans are transported around the district by bus to visit the various war memorials, attend a dinner in their honor and then return home. Each veteran is escorted by a personal guardian and the HVHF flight team for the day-long trip.

ABOUT HUDSON VALLEY HONOR FLIGHT

Hudson Valley Honor Flight (HVHF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which "Honors American Veterans" for all their sacrifices. HVHF transports these heroes to Washington, D.C., to visit memorials at no cost to them. It is the local hub of the National Honor Flight Network (which consists of more than 100 independent non-profit "hubs" across America). HVHF flies multiple times a year out of Stewart International Airport and Westchester County Airport. It serves veterans from the following counties: Orange (N.Y.), Ulster (N.Y.), Dutchess (N.Y.), Westchester (N.Y.), Rockland (N.Y.), Sullivan (N.Y.), Putnam (N.Y.), Pike (Pa.), Bergen (N.J.), and Fairfield (Conn.). Veterans from other surrounding counties are considered as well. Top priority is given to those veterans of the Greatest Generation, that of WWII, followed by veterans of the Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam and all terminally ill veterans. Applications are kept on file. For more information, visit hvhonorflight.com.

A Trio of Duos at the County Museum

Top-Notch Music Returns to Hurleyville on March 11

HURLEYVILLE – Three sets of local duos will perform Saturday, March 11, at 2 p.m., as the Frederick Cook Society presents an afternoon of live Americana, folk and bluegrass music.

Performers will include Hudson Valley favorites Anne and Mike Baglione. Mike Baglione is a founding member of the bluegrass bands Tin Roof, Oxford Depot and the Jersey Mountain Boys. He has performed at coffee houses and on festival stages throughout the Northeast, and has also been heard live on radio stations WFDU, WJFF, WTBQ and WNYC. Anne Baglione plays guitar, bass, concertina, and accordion. She per-



PHOTO PROVIDED
Clancy and Steve Lane

Sloop, as part of the Clearwater Music Festival.

Also performing will be Steve and Clancy Lane. Steve Lane is a singer/songwriter who also plays guitar and banjo. Clancy Lane plays bass guitar and sings harmony.

Carol and Aldo Troiani of the band Little Sparrow will host the event. Join them for a fun afternoon of Irish soda bread, coffee, tea and live old-time music. And while you are at the Museum, be sure to check out the photography exhibition by Dr. Frederick Cook.

Admission is free - donations support the musicians. The Sullivan County Museum is located at 265 Main Street, Hurleyville. For information, please call 845-434-8044, or visit www.facebook.com/littlesparrowny.

forms throughout the Hudson Valley as part of the old-time band Breakneck Annie, and has performed on the famous Clearwater

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NEW LOOK FOR SULLIVAN 180

Non-Profit is Enhanced and Evolving

FERNDALÉ – A recent statistic from the Trust for America's Health, a Washington DC based non-profit, stated, "The United States spends an estimated \$3.6 trillion annually on health, less than 3 percent of that spending is directed toward public health and prevention."

"Sullivan 180 was struck by this staggering statistic; and with that we have turned our attention, focus and investments to prevention. What better way than focusing on our youth in their schools and in their communities," said Sandra Gerry, Founding Chair.

With this in mind, Sullivan 180 has refined our focus and set our intentions on prevention and empowering a healthier generation.

Sullivan 180 grants and programs will continue to support efforts in Sullivan County to build a healthy community, one degree at a time. Grant applications are now available for healthy community

initiatives, community development, beautification in communities and at schools. Volunteer opportunities, workshops, scholarships and internships will be announced soon.

Sullivan 180 will continue to work with our partners and a grassroots network of volunteers to address immediate health concerns, and to offer these grants and resources to promote innovative ways for all residents to live a healthier lifestyle. This encompasses not only physical, but also mental, spiritual, economic, and environmental health. Whether it's increasing access to nutritious food, creating opportunities for physical activity; finding a sense of purpose or building a sense of belonging—these all contribute to a healthy life and a healthy community.

For information about grants or how to get involved, email info@sullivan180.org or call 845-295-2680.

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THIRD TIME'S A CHARM!

GENERALS AVENGE TWO LOSSES TO ORANGE, CAPTURE REGION XV CHAMPIONSHIP

by John Conway

MIDDLETOWN — The SUNY Sullivan Generals men's basketball team avenged two regular season losses to arch-rival SUNY Orange on Sunday by downing the homestanding Colts 73-70 to capture the Region XV championship and advance to the District East

tournament on March 4.

The win was the 22nd of the season for the Generals, and their fourth in a row after they had uncharacteristically dropped two consecutive games—one to Orange—earlier in February. The Generals stood at 22-7 for the season as the Sentinel went to press. The seven losses were as many as the Sullivan men

suffered in the last two seasons combined.

Coach Brent Wilson's Generals had just been named the number one Division II team in the country when Orange—ranked number seven at the time—upset them 85-80 at Paul Gerry Fieldhouse on December 6. The two teams met again in Middletown on February 9, and Orange—which had risen to number four in the nation at that point—again came



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO
SUNY Sullivan men's basketball coach Brent Wilson

away with the win, this time by a 94-88 margin.

The Region XV Championship game was a different story, as the Generals raced out to a 36-30 lead at halftime and held off the Colts in the second half to win by three and

capture the crown.

Individual statistics for the game were not available at press time.

Sullivan's Lady Generals also captured the Region XV title earlier in the afternoon Sunday, crushing Westchester Community College 65-28 for their seventh win in a row. The Lady Generals had amassed a commanding

39-13 lead over the Lady Vikings at the half, and never looked back.

Coach Ben Newberg's Sullivan women also advance to the District East tournament on March 4. The site of the tournament—men and women—had yet to be announced as the Sentinel went to press.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Members of Fallsburg's 2003 Boys Basketball team, which reached the New York State Final Four.

Fallsburg CSD Recognizes Athletes Past and Present

FALLSBURG — On February 10, Senior Night recognition for the cheerleading and the boys basketball teams took place in the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School gymnasium. Senior recognition is a Fallsburg tradition that celebrates senior athletes, their families, coaches and teammates in the various sports programs. While this is always a special event that takes place every sports season, on this night it was even more special as Fallsburg also celebrated sports teams from the past who set an inspirational standard for Fallsburg sports.

Being celebrated and honored on this special evening were members of the 1998 Orange County League boys basketball champions, as well as the 2003 boys basketball team that made it to the New York State Final Four. Members of these championship teams were on hand to be honored with special Fallsburg Comet t-shirts that were made for this special occasion. Comments were made by Dr. Ivan Katz, Superintendent of Schools, and Mike Weiner, president of the Fallsburg Central School District Board of Education. Mr. Weiner stated, "In order to move forward in the present or future, one can't forget the past! Tonight, we honor

the 1997-98 OCL Conference championship boys basketball team and the 2002-03 State Final Four boys basketball team...history remembers the Fallsburg Comets! Thank you for representing us!"

Mr. Weiner, on behalf of former Comets Coach Paul Marsden, who was unable to attend this recognition ceremony, read from a statement prepared by Coach Marsden, who said: "These young men standing in front of you and those young men unable to attend tonight's recognition were always considered underdogs during their postseason runs. I recently had the pleasure of seeing some of these young men when I was back here in January. It was really gratifying to see the fine young men they have become. These young men from both championship teams always made me proud to coach them. I hope I was able to bestow life lessons along the way. I always remember the mantra that we would say prior to every game, and something I hope they carry on in their lives: play hard, play smart and have fun."

The Fallsburg Central School District is proud of its past champions, its current champions, and the champions of tomorrow!

FIFTY YEARS AGO...

Fallsburg Basketball Wins B-C Championship...by Forfeit

by John Conway

FALLSBURG — In March of 1973—50 years ago this month-- the Fallsburg Comets basketball team finished their season with a 18-2 record, clinching the Section IX Class C championship and then the B-C combined championship, but not without considerable controversy.

Fallsburg was declared the winner by forfeit over heavily favored Cornwall in the B-C game when the Green Dragons, riding a 42-game winning streak and ranked number one among small schools in New York State after their victory over Monticello in the Class B championship, failed to show up for the March 17 showdown at Ulster County Community College.

The scene was set when Section IX officials decided to move the B-C champion-

ship game from its originally scheduled 1 p.m. start to 4 p.m. The AA-A championship match-up between Suffern and Newburgh was to follow at 7 p.m.

Fallsburg showed up for the 4 p.m. game and went through their usual pre-game warm-ups, only to be informed shortly before the scheduled tip-off that Cornwall would not be appearing. Cornwall schools Superintendent Dr. John Battles later claimed that he had never agreed to the change in starting time, and therefore the game should never have been re-scheduled. Fallsburg fans were convinced that Cornwall declined to play because they were afraid that their long winning streak would be broken by the Comets.

Section IX Chairman Paul Zintel, longtime coach and athletic director at Jeff-Youngsville school,

seemed to agree with the Fallsburg fans.

"I really think that the only reason Cornwall didn't play Fallsburg was that they were afraid of them," he told the Times Herald-Record newspaper after defending officials decision to award the forfeit win to the Comets. "For a lousy couple of hours change, this whole thing has exploded. It's stupid," he said.

The Cornwall School Board appealed the Section IX decision to the Orange County Interscholastic Athletic Association, of which it was a member, and that council in turn passed the appeal on to the Section IX Athletic Council. The appeal was denied, and Cornwall was placed on probation for all Section IX activities through the end of the 1973-74 school year.



BALLGAME BAFFLERS

BY BRIAN

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

March Questions:

1. What are the names of the two spring training leagues major league teams play in?
2. The New York Mets train in Port St. Lucie, FL. What is the name of their spring training complex?
3. What major league team plays its spring training games at Publix Field at Joker Marchant Stadium?
4. What two major league teams play their spring training home games in Surprise Stadium?
5. The New York Yankees' spring training headquarters is George Steinbrenner Field. What was the previous name of the complex, opened in 1996?

February Answers:

1. Who scored the first touchdown in Super Bowl history? (**Max McGee, Green Bay Packers**)
2. In what year was the Super Bowl first played in February? (**2002**)
3. What city has hosted the most Super Bowl games? (**Miami**)
4. Which two teams have lost the most Super Bowls? (**Patriots and Broncos**)
5. Only two teams who have played in more than one Super Bowl have a perfect Super Bowl won-loss record. Who are they? (**Ravens and Buccaneers are both 2-0**)

There was no winner last month.

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A GOOD DAY ON THE ICE

by Jack Halchak

HURLEYVILLE — One hundred eighty-one (124 adults, 57 youths) entrants came to the ice for the 35th Annual Hurleyville Fire Department Town of Fallsburg Youth Commission Ice Fishing Contest.

Daylight broke with a stiff breeze blowing across the lake, with some clouds and a blue sky on five to seven inches of good ice. As the day progressed, the sky became cloudless and bright blue, with lots of sun. As the contest ended, so did the wind.

A number of quality bullheads were caught. Bullheads through the ice is a little unusual, but not unheard of, and this contest has produced a number of them throughout the

past years.

The Loch Sheldrake Fire Department won the firemen's contest with a total weight of 4.13 pounds of fish.

In the Adult division the winners were:

Bullhead - 1st Rich Smith, 2nd Craig Chase and 3rd Tom Post
Panfish - 1st Joe Stant, 2nd Mike Wingert and 3rd Kevin Mitchell
Perch - 1st Joe Stant, 2nd Austin

Halchak and 3rd Nick Guerette

Pickel - 1st Caleb Todd 1.88 lbs. 19.5" for a total of 21.38, 2nd Jeff Molusky 1.61 lbs. 19" for a total of 20.61 and 3rd Nick Motola 1.63 lbs. 18.5" for a total of 20.13.

In the youth division the winners were:

Bullhead - 1st Kylee Curry, 2nd Kaylie Price and tied for 3rd Shelby Stephenson and Ethan Wolfe.

Panfish - 1st Andrew Kelly, 2nd Adrian Kubis and 3rd Miguel Martire, Jr.

Perch - tie for 1st: Brody Day and Brooke Martire, tie for 2nd: Brook Martire and Xzai-



PHOTOS PROVIDED



er Yemeic and 3rd Andrew Kelly.

Pickel - 1st Logan Janiak 1.98 lbs. 19.50" for a total of 21.48, 2nd Logan Janiak 1.91 lbs. 19.25" for a total of 20.96 and 3rd Andrew Kelly 1.27 lbs. 18" for a total of 19.27.

All in all it was a good day on the ice.

Top: Bobby DeGraw with a fine Crappie

Above: Austin Halchak with 2nd place perch, Caleb Todd with winning pickel, and Mike Lauri with a fine crappie.

At left: Mike Ward, Kirk Irwin and Jack Halchak (L to R) presenting the 1st place trophy in the Firemen's Division to the Loch Sheldrake Fire Department.

