

# A MAGNIFICENT VENUE

## HPAC Hosts CFA Info Session

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE — The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Cinema played host on Wednesday, July 12 to representatives from the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council, who led an information session for those interested in completing a Consolidated Funding Application for state grant monies this year. About 40 people participated.

The session, which lasted about an hour and covered topics from the application process itself to previously funded projects, was led by Empire State Development

staffers Linda Malave and Monique LeGendre.

The pair emphasized that the Mid-Hudson region, which is one of ten regions in the state for funding purposes, and includes the counties of Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange in addition to Sullivan, would welcome an increase in the number of applications from Sullivan County, which has been severely under-represented in the funding process over the years.

The CFA process is now in its 13th round, and officials say that more than 1,100 projects have been funded since the process

began, resulting in excess of \$883 million in awards, and an overall economic impact of \$4.2 billion. They estimate that previously funded projects will result in better than 24,000 jobs being created and retained in the region.

According to Governor Kathy Hochul's press office, round 13 includes "core capital grant and tax-credit funding, combined with a wide range of programs from 10 State agencies, including \$150 million in grant funds from Empire State Development, available to projects on a continuous basis."

Regional Councils are



PHOTO BY JOHN CONWAY

Linda Malave (partially hidden behind podium) begins her presentation about the Consolidated Funding Application at the HPAC Cinema in July.

## SUMMER FEST IS ON!

### Hurleyville Hub Plans Event



by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE — Following a meeting at the Sullivan County Museum last week, the Hurleyville Hub has announced that it will hold a Summer Festival this year on Thursday, August 17.

Although the plans for the event were still very preliminary as The Sentinel went to press, it is envisioned that festivities will take place from 5 to 8 p.m., and will feature free activities for kids, vendors, live music and specials at many of the Main Street businesses.

Organizers say that two other events, a Scarecrow Festival and Holiday in Hurleyville, are on the calendar for this year, scheduled for

October 8 and December 2, respectively. The Scarecrow Festival debuted last year to rave reviews, while the Holiday in Hurleyville event dates back to 2017, and has been held each year since save for 2020, when COVID forced events to be cancelled.

Speaking on behalf of Hurleyville Hub, local resident Denise Sullivan said that logistical support recently promised by town of Fallsburg officials was key in the group's decision to proceed with the August festival after previously having voted not to hold a similar July event.

Last year Hurleyville Hub, at that time a newly organized coalition of businesses, community groups, and interested volunteers, held

four festivals on Main Street, in July, August, October and December. The group had hoped to reprise a similar schedule of events this year.

The 2022 August event drew an estimated 800 visitors to Main Street, to partake in the festivities, which included jewelers, bakers, and artists, as well as rides and games, live music at multiple locations, and other attractions.

In addition to the town of Fallsburg, co-sponsors of this year's festivals are the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce, Bold Gold Media, and Thompson Sanitation, all of which partnered with Hurleyville Hub to make last year's events a reality.

## County Remains Fiscally Stable

### Independent Audit Confirms Financial Progress

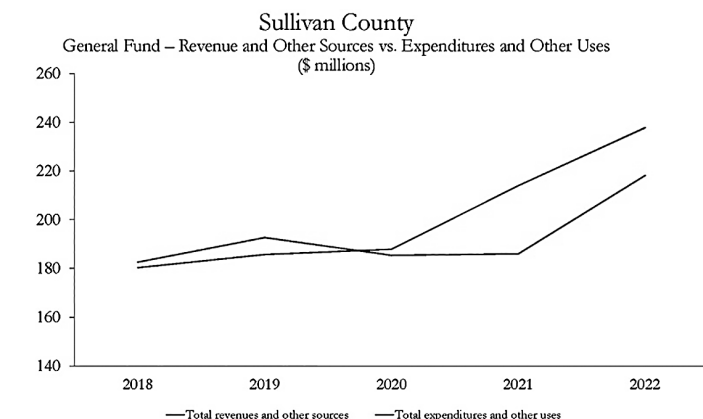


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

MONTICELLO — Sullivan County's independent auditors have informed Legislators that County government's financial picture continues to be stable, based on the results of their audit of the 2022 fiscal year.

"The amount at which revenues exceeded expenditures is about \$19 million," noted Matthew Montalbo of Drescher & Malecki, a Buffalo-based accounting firm. "In 2022, you didn't need any type of short-term financing to operate. You're only one year out from that, but when you look at your trends going forward, that's right where you want to be."

"I think the audit shows how hard we work every day to remain accountable in how we spend taxpayers' funds," County Treasurer Nancy Buck observed. "I particularly want to thank Shannan Armbrust in my office for compiling the enormous amount of data the auditors

sift through, and I thank the auditors themselves for their incredibly professional approach to this vitally important task."

"We still have challenges to manage, most notably the growing costs of operating the Care Center, for which our State and Federal funding are inadequate to cover," said Legislature Chairman Robert A. Doherty. "But at the moment, our sales, room and mortgage tax revenues are also growing significantly, helping to offset future potential property tax increases."

"Our revenues did outpace expenses last year, as shown by the audit, but it's imperative that we remain fiscally judicious and conservative in our budgeting," stated County Manager Josh Potosek. "We want to ensure — and taxpayers expect — our finances are stable and managed responsibly amidst whatever challenging conditions we face."

## SUNY Sullivan Gets Leader

### Board of Trustees Names New Officer in Charge

LOCH SHELDRAKE — The SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees has appointed Dr. Casey Crabill as Officer in Charge of SUNY Sullivan, effective July 21. Dr. Crabill was most recently President of Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, NY, retiring in 2022 after nine years in the role and more than 25 years as a community college President in four states.

"I'm looking forward to working with the outstanding faculty and staff at SUNY Sullivan through this transitional year as they continue to serve the individuals and businesses of Sullivan County," Dr. Crabill said. "I'm grateful to the Board of Trustees for the opportunity."

"The Board of Trustees welcomes Dr. Crabill to SUNY Sullivan and looks forward to working with her and learning from her experiences," said Board of Trustees Chair Nancy Hackett.

Dr. Crabill will continue as Officer in Charge until a formal search for a new President is conducted. She succeeds Dr. Ellen Galligan, who returns to her role as a member of SUNY Sullivan's Board of Trustees, effective July 21. The board extended its gratitude to Dr. Galligan for serving as Interim Officer in Charge.

Dr. Casey Crabill served as Onondaga Community



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dr. Casey Crabill

College's eighth President, beginning in 2013 and retiring in 2022. Her accomplishments there included enhancing partnerships with K-12 districts leading to better alignment; implementing an extensive array of workforce preparation programs in conjunction with regional employers; receiving multiple federal grants, including a \$4 million dollar Title III grant focused on student success; conducting a multi-year campus reorganization to increase student retention and completion; and overseeing more than \$40 million in campus redevelopment.

Prior to joining Onondaga Community College, Dr. Crabill served from 2006 to 2013 as president of Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey, where her accomplishments included record setting student en-

rollment; obtaining a \$4.6 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to train workers in new career paths; earning national awards for its Service Learning Program; becoming the first community college in the country to sign an environmental stewardship agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; being selected as one of 30 community colleges nationwide for the Achieving the Dream 2011 Cohort; and adding several new academic degree and certificate programs.

She has also served as president of the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, California from 1999 to 2006; as acting president and dean of Learning and Student Development at Quinebaug Valley Community College in Danielson, Connecticut; and division chair for Academic Development and Learning Support at Dundalk Community College in Dundalk, Maryland. Dr. Crabill received her BA in English from Skidmore College and an MS in Teaching English as a Second Language and an EdD in Curriculum and Instruction, both from the State University of New York at Albany.

Former SUNY Sullivan president Jay Quaintance left the college earlier this year.

## MONTICELLO'S BAGEL FESTIVAL HAS HURLEYVILLE ROOTS

### This Year's Event is August 13

by John Conway

MONTICELLO — The village of Monticello, officially proclaimed far and wide as "the Bagel Capital," will host its 11th annual Bagel Festival on Sunday, August 13, and, as usual, the proceedings will have a distinctive Hurleyville flavor.

That's because one of the inspirations for the festival—which began with an idea by Monticello native Jeff Siegel—was the fact that Hurleyville's Louis "Lebel" Wichinsky patent-

ed a bagel making machine in 1968.

It took Mr. Wichinsky—a Hurleyville baker and former aircraft mechanic the New York Times once described as strongly resembling Mel Brooks, another inventive personality with a Hurleyville connection—more than 20 years of tinkering to finally perfect his machine, but its output of 600 dozen bagels an hour forever linked the distinctive circular pastry to Sullivan County.

Mr. Siegel used that con-

nection, and the fact that the Monticello Bagel Bakery has become a veritable institution on Broadway in the village, as his motivation for creating the first Monticello Bagel Festival in 2013. The inaugural event drew as estimated 5,000 participants, and it has grown steadily ever since.

The Monticello Village Board, the Thompson Town Board, and both houses of the New York State Legislature have all passed resolutions over the years pro-

claiming Monticello as "the Bagel Capital."

This year's event will run from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and will feature a number of diverse vendors and community organizations participating.

Organizers are promising "a day filled with an abundance of food, fun, music, shopping, a car show, and so much more," pointing out that "the Bagel Festival is an annual celebration that brings together bagel enthusiasts, community members, and visitors from far

and wide for an unforgettable experience that will tantalize your taste buds and delight your senses."

All activities typically take place on Broadway, which is temporarily being re-christened as "Bagel Boulevard."

"Whether you're a dedicated foodie, a music lover, a shopping enthusiast, or simply seeking a day filled with laughter and joy, the Bagel Festival has something for everyone," organizers say.



by Kathleen Sullivan

HURLEYVILLE — Volunteers from the Hurleyville United Methodist Church,

the Hurleyville Fire Department and Hurleyville-Sullivan First are busy this summer. Each group was awarded a 2023 Beautiful

Location Grant from Sullivan County. The grants are helping fund projects to make Hurleyville even more beautiful.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN SULLIVAN



## Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan

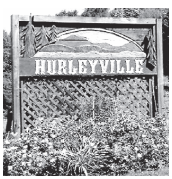


PHOTO PROVIDED

Everyone had fun at “Messy Church” at Morningside Park in July. Youngsters can enjoy the fun, games, and activities at the park again on August 5.

### HURLEYVILLE-SULLIVAN FIRST (HSF)

The flowers are blooming in the stone planters at the entrances to Hurleyville, in the stone planter at the firehouse and in the barrels on Main Street and at the post office. Please send an email to HSF if you're able to help weed and water the plants ... [izzysaunt@verizon.net](mailto:izzysaunt@verizon.net).

New solar powered strip lights have been added to the historical kiosk in the Hurleyville Firemen's Park.

The new wayfinding sign will be installed soon at the Community Gateway/Entrance to the Rails to Trail on Main Street. The sign points the way to the unique shops, fabulous restaurants and community services in Hurleyville.

The group's projects are partly funded by a 2023 Beautification Grant from Sullivan 180.

Members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First are working with the Hurleyville Hub on plans for fun festivals in “the liveliest hamlet in the Catskills” again this year:

- Summer Festival on Thursday, August 17
- The Scarecrow Festival on Sunday, October 8
- Holiday in Hurleyville on Saturday, December 2

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

### HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Youngsters are invited to attend the next “Messy Church” on Saturday, August 5 at Morningside Park. The fun will begin at 12 p.m. Don't forget to bring your bathing suit, towel and sunblock. An adult must accompany children taking part in the games and creative activities. The rain date is Saturday, August 12.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church will be open on Thursday, August 17 and on Thursday, August 24 from 3 until 5 p.m.

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

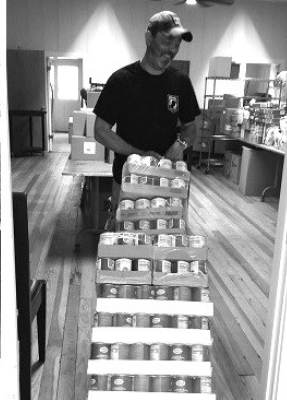


PHOTO PROVIDED

The hard working and generous volunteers at the Bread of Life Food Pantry at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church have served the community since 2002.

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

Socks, underwear and diapers are being collected for children in foster care. Paper goods are being gathered for Preventive Services. This county program supports parents in their efforts to keep their children safe and healthy in their own homes. Volunteers at the church are also gathering socks, underwear and t-shirts for local veterans. 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 Sullivan County Historical Society is taking part with the Liberty Museum on a special exhibit, A BRIEF HISTORY OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, AS EXPERIENCED THROUGH FOUND OBJECTS, ARTIFACTS, ARTISTS AND EXPLORERS.

The exhibition features a collection of artifacts from the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Basket Historical Society. A rare collection of photographs and Inuit artifacts from the Frederick Cook Society will be on display at the exhibition as well as a collection of Native American inspired ceremonial objects created by Grahamsville artist, Richard Rulli.

The exhibit will continue at the Liberty Museum through August 25. The museum is located at 46 South Main Street in Liberty. Please email [carolsmith2223@](mailto:carolsmith2223@)

gmail.com or call 845-292-2394 for more information.

The historical and genealogical archives at the Sullivan County Museum are open for exploration on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

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

Sullivan County memorabilia and books describing the history of Sullivan County are always available at the museum gift shop.

Anyone interested in genealogy and the history of life in Sullivan County can send an email to [info@scnyhistory.org](mailto:info@scnyhistory.org) to find out about volunteering at the museum.

The museum, located at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville, is open from Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

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

### COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The members of CHNA meet regularly in preparation for the next time the developer of the proposed Gan Eden Estates project on Columbia Hill appears before the Town of Thompson Planning Board. The developer has not come before the board since early 2022.

The detrimental effects of the project on the community include:

- demand on water supply
- environmental impact of wastewater discharge
- structural integrity of the on-site dam
- impact to wetlands and streams
- endangerment of wildlife habitat
- traffic
- noise pollution
- light pollution
- electric grid capacity
- threat to community character

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.

## Poetry by Mimi

### HE'LL BE MISSED

We heard such sad news in July  
The twenty-first was the date  
When a singing legend lost his life  
Two years short of ninety-eight

He was Anthony Benedetto  
We know him as Tony Bennett  
With great talent and a verve for life  
That allowed him to keep singing in it

Remember the songs that you danced to  
Or those you played by candlelight  
Like leaving his Heart in San Francisco  
Or Luck Be a Lady Tonight

He's done duets with so many others  
Some you would never have guessed  
Interesting choices kept him current  
And made him a continued success

John Mayer, Celine, Stevie Wonder,  
Lady Gaga, Tim McGraw and Elton John  
They're a few of his singing partners  
Who'll mourn their loss now that he's gone

- Mimi  
August, 2023

### Fallsburg CSD Hires Lindsay Severino as Director of Student Equity

FALLSBURG – The Fallsburg Central School District has selected Lindsay Severino to serve as their Director of Student Equity.

The newly established position was created to further the district's ongoing commitment of maintaining an inclusive environment and reducing disparities in student outcomes. Ms. Severino will play an instrumental role in advancing current practices regarding student well-being, social-emotional learning, professional development, family and community engagement, and curriculum review. Ms. Severino will also be overseeing the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) grant program, which provides support to keep young people on track as they plan for their future.

Before joining the Fallsburg community, Ms.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Lindsay Severino

Severino worked as an educator in her native city of Buffalo, NY for five years. She served as a high school English as a New Language (ENL) teacher, district summer school coordinator, and interim vice principal at Global Concepts Charter School. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Leadership and Policy at Niagara University with an anticipated graduation date of May 2026.

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## The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

Welcome to the season of slowing almost to a stop at green lights because you never know who might come barreling through their red light....or who might stop in the middle of the intersection to do a Y-turn. Gotta love summer. T is also the season (this year) of high humidity, heat, and air quality alerts. What fun!

And, even though this is hard on people like me, with asthma and a “heart thing,” it's been really hard on my elderly diabetic kitties, Lefty and his sister Missy Mags. It makes me think about all of you with furry friends and hoping they are faring well.

With the cooler evening weather allowing for more music outside, the venues seem to be booming. I went out to CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville to see a band I was totally unfamiliar with, THE FLYNN ODEL BAND. There are many things I can count on when going to CABERNET FRANK'S: good food, good company, and that whomever is on stage will never disappoint, and this group was no exception.

Their outside area was packed, and my friend Rachel and I had to share a picnic table with a gentleman and his son, which turned out to be a blessing in disguise. It didn't take long to realize most everyone had come specifically to see this band.

The group itself was large, six members. There were two guitars, a bass, drums, a keyboard and harmonica. They are a classic rock cover band, and they play songs one doesn't often hear. The lead guitarist had a special ‘tube’ connected to his microphone, something I haven't seen in a loooong time. It acts like a wah-wah pedal for a guitar, but this is specifically for vocal special effects which he used with precision to give validity to tunes like JOE WALSH'S ‘ROCKY MOUNTAIN WAY’.

We were treated to BAD COMPANY'S ‘ROCK STEADY’, ‘I CAN'T GO FOR THAT’ by HALL AND OATES, and some real blasts from the past with ‘HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON’ by ACE, and ‘TAKING TO THE STREETS’ by THE DOOBIE BROTHERS. In fact, most of their set list ran in wonderful true classics from the archives.

Back to the gentleman and his son we were sharing the table with. At one point, I told them I write about live music, and asked if they knew this band. They were more than happy to fill me

in (and I thank them). Turns out, the band hails from the Hunter Lake area and that they are truly a band of brothers....some from the Flynn family and some from the Odel family....who get together and play music. I'm definitely going to keep them on my radar.

Another band this last month that was of particular note is THE CAMERAMEN, also at CABERNET FRANK'S a week later. I had spoken to them pre-COVID, and, yes, they ARE all cameramen from the City. They got togeth-

er to see if they could create a unique type of music – a combination of ZZ TOP and Surf music – and they sure did! But until last week, I hadn't seen them. There are no vocals, this is all instrumental, all original, and incredibly entertaining, with no two songs sounding alike. This too, is a trio I'm looking forward to seeing again.

I'm loving all the innovation out here, so mask up if necessary and get out of the house. See you there!

Until next time...

## FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon

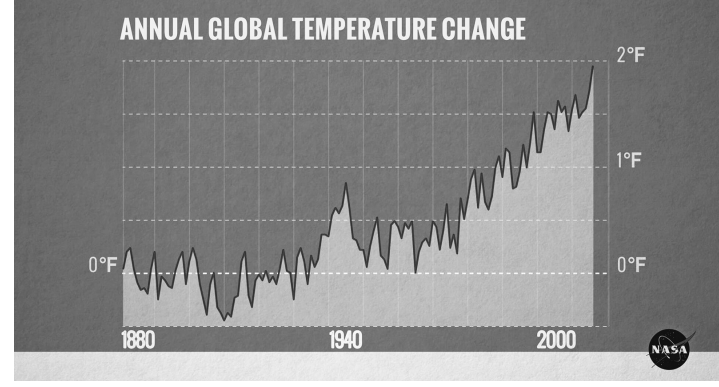
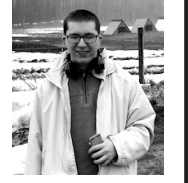


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

The terms weather and climate are sometimes confused, though they refer to events in broadly different spatial and time scales. Think about it this way, “weather is what you get, climate is what you expect.”

Weather is the state of the atmosphere that is different every day and night. When we think of weather, we think of the combination of temperature, humidity, precipitation, cloudiness, visibility, and wind. We report on weather as occurring locally over short periods of time. Climate is the weather of a specific place averaged over a longer period of time, often 30 years. Climate has to do with the trends or cycles of variability, such as the changes in wind patterns, temperature, and ocean surface. Climate can be different for different seasons.

Global warming and climate change are often used interchangeably but both have distinct meanings. Global warming refers to the long-term warming of the planet since the early 20th century, most notably since the late 1970s due to the increase in fossil fuel emission since the Industrial Revolution. Worldwide, since 1880, the average surface temperature has gone up 1°C relative to the 1951-1980 baseline. This has already gone up 0.15°C since 1750-1880. Climate change refers to a broad range of global phenomena such as the warming

to the earth's atmosphere, change in the sea level rise, ice mass loss in the Poles and glaciers, shifts in flower/plant blooming, and extreme weather events.

Is Earth's climate changing? Yes. There have been times when the Earth's climate has been warmer than it is now and there have been times when it has been cooler. These times can last thousands or millions of years. The earth is getting warmer and has risen by one degree Fahrenheit in the last hundred years.

What is causing Earth's climate to change? Many things cause the Earth's climate to change. The sun's distance from the earth, oceans can change, and when a volcano erupts, it can change our climate. Humans can change climate too, because we drive cars, we heat and cool our houses, and cook food. All these things take energy, and one way we get our energy is by burning coal. Burning coal puts gases in the air, and these gases can cause the air to heat up.

What might happen to Earth's climate? Over the next 100 years, many scientists predict that the Earth's temperature will keep on going up, which would cause snow and ice to melt. Oceans will rise higher. Some places would get hotter. Other places would get colder winters with more snow. Some places might get more rain, and other places might get less rain, and some places might have stronger hurricanes.

What can we do to help? We can learn about the Earth, which will help us solve problems. For example, we can use less energy and water by turning off lights when we leave the room, and turn off water when brushing our teeth. We can also help by planting trees.

John “the Weatherman” Simon writes a regular column on weather for The Sentinel. He lives in Hurleyville.

## THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

Covering Main Street and Beyond

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# MEET LIONEL WHITE

## Coach and Youth Mentor

by Lily Barrish

FALLSBURG — Raised in Fallsburg alongside two brothers and one sister, Lionel White is the youngest of this close-knit family. Currently, they all still reside within the town of Fallsburg, except for his sister, who lives down south. For the past seven years, Mr. White has been a teaching assistant within the Fallsburg school district, mostly helping out with math instruction. Now he's in the final stretch of becoming a certified teacher through Grand Canyon University. He recently completed his bachelor's degree and only has three more classes to go.

After several detours, working at both ARC and New Hope, he happily returned to his alma mater. Immensely proud of his upbringing, Mr. White shared, "My dream has always been to work at Fallsburg. I've put down so many roots here. The district is good to me, the town is good to me, the kids are amazing. I like the people in the community."

In the beginning of the summer, Mr. White and his co-worker, Lucille Carter-Harris, a teacher's aide, coach of track, and coach of women's basketball, were given a symbolic Key to the Town. Keys are awarded to individuals that go above

and beyond to make a meaningful impact in Fallsburg. Anyone who converses with Mr. White will immediately see that he fully deserved this recognition.

Mr. White and Ms. Carter-Harris started a K-6 youth commission for sports in the Fallsburg school district. They contacted Sean Wall-Carty, deputy supervisor of Fallsburg and vice president of the Fallsburg school board, who jumped at the opportunity to be involved. Rebecca Pratt, a member of the town board, and Mike Wiener, president of the school board, spearheaded the youth commission. The roots really do run deep in Fallsburg—once upon a time Mr. Wiener was Mr. White's basketball and soccer coach.

The youth committee is exceptional, comprising a group of people with the sole purpose of seeing kids do well.

"The goal is we want to teach kids the meaning of life through sports," Mr. White said.

In discussions since before Covid, they are finally seeing the fruits of their labor in action. Mr. White only participates in the youth commission when needed; such was the case last season when he coached the baseball team because it was difficult to find someone to fill that position.

"I'm all about collaborat-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Lionel White

ing," said Mr. White.

Currently baseball, basketball, football and soccer are offered. Soccer had the biggest turnout with 60-plus participants, basketball was second with around 50 participants, and baseball struggled a little, but by the end interest picked up. In the future, swimming and flag football will be added. Mr. White eagerly expressed that he is willing to include any sports that students desire.

The youth committee has already put together the calendar for next year and flyers will be handed out to

students at the beginning of the school year. There are plans to eventually branch out so kids in other jurisdictions can participate, as well.

"The school and district and town have been gracious, letting us use fields, providing funding and paying for insurance. We want it to be free for kids, so they have no financial burden or obligation. I rarely missed school. I loved school. Sports got me through school. I'm just trying to give it back to these kids," Mr. White said, with an ever-present smile on his face.

## SUNY Sullivan To Offer Drone Class This Fall

### Course Prepares Students to Take the FAA Exam

LOCH SHELDRAKE — Responding to the commercial demand for workers with drone skills and experience, SUNY Sullivan is launching a new Science, Technology, and Math elective course this fall that will train students to use and maintain unmanned aerial systems (UAS).

Upon completion of the course, students will be eligible to take the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot—Small Unmanned Aircraft General exam.

Drones are used increasingly by law enforcement agencies for investigations, by engineers as part of infrastructure inspections to collect pictures and data of hard-to-reach areas such as wind turbines, and by videographers in fields such as media arts, computer graphics, and marketing.

The new course, Unmanned Aerial Systems: Drones, will teach students many of the aspects of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), including their various technologies, sizes, capabilities, and limitations, as well as the Federal Aviation Administration governing (UAS). The course covers the basic principles of flying UAS (drones).



Sullivan County Community College (SUNY Sullivan)

Credit: Courtesy of SUNY Sullivan

Different UAS systems and concepts will be covered, as well as the maintenance aspects of associated support equipment. Students will maintain and fly different flight systems and learn basic troubleshooting techniques for ground control stations and maintenance.

"This new drone class will be extremely valuable to future law enforcement officers as they are used for apprehensions, search and rescue, missing persons, and other important missions," said Professor Criminal Justice Program Coordinator Robert Eiler, who said he plans to take the class. "The importance and value of this new technol-

ogy cannot be understated."

Graphic Design/Computer Graphics Associate Professor Joe Poon said graphic arts students would benefit from taking the drone class because of the strong interest these days in drone footage and "floating camera" angels in the commercial, design, and marketing fields. Poon added that aerial photography skills are needed for many jobs, including real estate photography, promotional event photography, weddings, journalistic photography, and even the filming of commercials.

"Graphic designers also are involved in presenting scientific data in a concise, user-friendly and visual manners so drone flying skills can be applied to a designer who can retrieve and seek visual data for environmental, ecological, scientific, and natural aesthetic purposes," Professor Poon said. "Graphic Arts students also have tangential interests in video game design, so video

footage from a drone could

## Notary Test on September 14

### All Seats Filled

MONTICELLO — The Sullivan County Clerk's Office, in conjunction with the NYS Division of Licensing Services, is offering a Notary Public Test on Thursday, September 14, at the Monticello Elks Lodge, but both morning and afternoon sessions are already filled to capacity. A waiting list is being developed in case of last-minute openings.

"Becoming a notary public is a great service to the community. We'll all need one at various points in our lives," acknowledged County Clerk Russell Reeves. "My office is proud to provide a local location to take this required test."

Seating is limited, and walk-ins will not be permitted, so potential test-takers are encouraged to immediately email their name and telephone number to nota-

ryexam@sullivanny.us to be interpreted in their portfolio of work in animation and video editing.

Unmanned Aerial Systems: Drones is running on campus this fall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5:15 p.m. No prerequisite is required. For more information about SUNY Sullivan's fall course offerings or to register, visit [sunysullivan.edu/fall-registration-2023](http://sunysullivan.edu/fall-registration-2023) or call the Office of Admissions at 845-434-5750, ext. 4287, or email [admissions@sunysullivan.edu](mailto:admissions@sunysullivan.edu).

ryexam@sullivanny.us to register. If emailing is not feasible, test candidates can call 845-807-0425 to be registered.

An exam fee of \$15 will be required at the site on the day of the test. Cash cannot be accepted, so payment must be via credit/debit card, personal check, or money order.

Other items to bring to the test site (please arrive 15 minutes prior to your exam time):

- Two #2 pencils
  - A current form of government-issued identification containing your signature (like a driver's license, military ID or certificate of citizenship)
- For more information, contact the NYS Department of State at 518-474-4429.



## Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

One day in early June, and again in late June, and yet again in July, our county's air took on a peculiar yellow cast, thick enough to obscure Slide Mountain Wilderness to the north and turn the sun into a glaring orange thing that looked like a baleful eclipse. This was due to air sweeping down from Canada, bearing smoke and a noxious brew of particulate matter. There were weather advisories against outdoor activities. For some, breathing became an issue. The reappearance of surgical masks was a reminder that the last time the air was so suspect was 2020, at the start of the pandemic. Now, the smoky air was adding insult to the injury of Covid-pummeled lungs.

Air is the sea we live in. Just as fish are said to be unaware of water, so are we, for the most part, unaware of air. It's invisible and odorless, too big to be an object of perception. What I know about it I know more from reading than from direct observation.

I know that air has weight (it exerts pressure), density (it thins with altitude), and a complex chemistry made up of nitrogen, oxygen, argon, etc. What we take to be empty space is not empty at all. Air occupies space, substantial and massive in its own right, the medium that sustains our life on the planet.

I know that we live in a singular state of intimacy with air, engaged every second of our lives in an exchange of elements through the act of breath-

ing. Our lungs are air pumps; our blood distributes the elements we inhale and collects for recycling the elements we exhale. When this exchange with the enveloping air, respiration, ceases, we die, we "vanish into thin air" — a trope for nothingness, though air is never *that* thin, never nothing.

I know of poets who laud the reciprocity between the air we contain and the air that contains us. Emerson called air "a cordial of incredible virtue," meaning, by virtue, not moral excellence but effective power, a vital force. Wallace Stevens was "Celebrating the marriage / Of flesh and air" in "Harmonium" (1923), and Stevens's biographer glossed the notion: "*Atmos* means 'steam' or 'vapor.' Earth's atmosphere is composed of the continuous exhalations of all living matter on the planet. The atmosphere is our exchange with the cosmos. It was an essential part of Stevens's understanding of the work of poetry to make us aware of this ordinary miracle."

And I know this ordinary miracle in the guise of the air around Divine Corners. It's not always imperceptible. Mists and fogs make it manifest; the sun sets it shimmering; wind renders it audible and visible — the forest rustles, the trees sway. Watching a hawk ride the thermals, one can see the circulation of the air written in the graceful curve of its motion.

The air of the Catskills was once promoted for its purity and curative prop-

erties, back in the Silver Age of the region's development, in the early years of the twentieth century, the era of the sanatoria, when tubercular patients fled the compromised air of the cities and sought (as the advertising of the day had it): "A Region of Absolute Health at Moderate Cost. Pure Air. Pure Water. Pure Milk." The region, in a sense, was built on air.

One hopes the tonic air of the Catskills will ultimately prevail. At the moment, it's in the wind: the summer's bad air can move wherever the currents take it. When the currents take it away, Slide Mountain becomes visible again and the sun assumes a more familiar form. All that haze has made at least one thing clear: we've taken air for granted for far too long. It's not an inexhaustible resource. There are no inexhaustible resources.

The wildfires are still burning. Carbon emissions are still growing. We carry on monitoring the weather advisories and the Air Quality Index, tracking the color-coded days and planning accordingly. If "the marriage of flesh and air" is to continue as a cause for celebration and not as a calculated risk requiring daily, anxious assessment, then what can be done, what must be done, to repair that stressed relationship?

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

## FCSD Hires Assistant Principal



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Assistant Principal  
James Mort

FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Central School District is proud to announce that James Mort has been selected as their newest junior-senior high school assistant principal.

Before joining Fallsburg, Mr. Mort served as an English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Language

Learner (ELL) teacher for 16 years. He taught at P.S. 208 and P.S. 185 in New York City, Park Avenue Elementary School in Westbury, NY, and, most recently, Hudson Senior High School in Hudson, New York. In addition to teaching at the elementary and high school level, James was also a Master's level adjunct instructor for aspiring ENL teachers at CUNY City College.

"I am really excited to be a part of the Fallsburg family," Mr. Mort said. "It's my first administrative job, and I'm excited for it."

The district is delighted to welcome Mr. Mort as a member of the Fallsburg community and wishes him best of luck in his new leadership role.



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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.

Big fires in Sullivan County were still happening in the month of July. In Summitville eight buildings burnt at the old Homowack Hotel. This fire involved numerous fire departments for a number of days. The roofs and walls fell into the basements and kept rekindling. Jeffersonville along with a number of departments were kept busy at the Jeffersonville Adult Home as a vacant three-story building caught fire.

With the increase in visitors to the area for the summer there has been an increased number of motor vehicle accidents (MVAs). There have been a couple of fatalities that firefighters had to deal with.

It appears that Hurleyville's famous Morning-side four corners light has

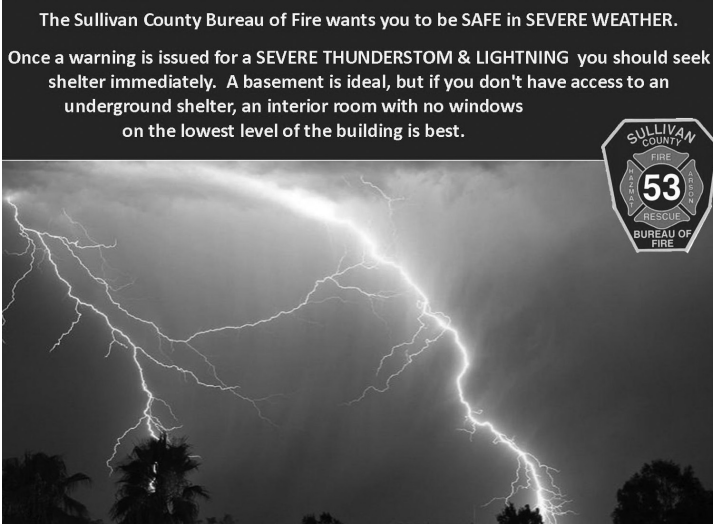


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

changed. Only about four cars can make it thru going towards Loch Sheldrake or Hurleyville on County Road 104. In addition, I have witnessed numerous vehicles going through the light when it was red and vehicles making a right hand turn on red which is prohibited at that intersection.

Activated alarms still continue to keep fire departments busy. Just today two departments were dispatched to an activated alarm that turned out to be unfounded. But while in

route the departments got a call for a motor vehicle accident with possible entrapment.

Monitoring the radio, I am hearing a lot of 911 hangups. When this happens a police agency must investigate the source and location of the call. This takes up valuable time and resources because of these hangup calls.

Hopefully when a fire department is responding to a false activated alarm and a police agency is responding to a prank 911 hangup we are not needed for a real emergency.

If you have an emergency CALL 911, stay on the line so the dispatcher can get vital information from you. Do not hang up until told to do so by the dispatcher.

There is a lot of construction on Main Street Hurleyville. Please obey the flaggers. If there is a fire or emergency call, a reminder that firefighters are responding to the firehouse with flashing blue lights. The flaggers have been great in getting the firefighters and firetrucks through the construction. Listen to them so that they can help the emergency services respond.

This summer there have been quite a few pop-up thunder and lightning storms. The have been a number of people in the area that have been struck by lightning.

Here are a few tips on what to do for a thunder / lightning storm from the National Weather Service.

NO PLACE outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area!

If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you.

When you hear thunder, immediately move to a safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with windows up.

Stay in a safe shelter for at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

Stay off-corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.

Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.

Stay away from windows and doors and stay off porches.

Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

Do not forget the 12th Annual Bill Carlson Golf Classic is Saturday, August 19 at the beautiful Tarry Brae golf course with a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

Be Safe Out There.

## COUNTY PLANNING HAS NEW LEADER

### Legislature Confirms Appointment

MONTICELLO – The seeds of Heather Brown's success were planted inside a particularly famous Kauneonga Lake store. Known simply as Vassmer's, it was the heart of the lakeside hamlet for nearly 100 years, offering assorted goods and sundries atop its well-trodden wooden floors – including to thousands of passing young people one fateful August in 1969.

Ms. Brown wasn't yet born when those hot, crowded, rainy days made history in nearby Bethel, but she can tell you most every tale associated with her late grandfather and store proprietor, Art "Mr. Woodstock" Vassmer. After all, she worked under his gentle gaze in the years that followed.

"I was raised running a small business with my family," she nods with a warm smile reminiscent of his.

The insights gained from that memorable childhood remain with her today, as she takes on the duties of Sullivan County's Commissioner of the Division of Planning. "I love my home, first and foremost," Ms. Brown acknowledges. "And I think I can do a good job in this role. I have a pretty universal view of the County, considering all the roles I've already been in."

She's talking about far more than sweeping floors and stocking shelves at Vassmer's. In her 19 years in Sullivan County government, Brown has served as a research analyst in both Planning and Management & Budget, as a junior planner and environmental specialist in Planning, as the first and only director of the groundbreaking Office of Sustainable Energy, and most recently as deputy commissioner of Planning.

Such work has brought her into contact with the vast majority of municipal officials serving Sullivan County, keeping her at the cutting edge of local governance, development, sustainability and the challenges thereof. Indeed, she considers one of her primary skills to be her

FALLSBURG – The Fallsburg Police Department has announced the promotion of Officer John Chevalier to the position of Provisional Detective.

Recognizing his exemplary dedication, exceptional skills, and unwavering commitment to serving the community, Officer Chevalier's promotion comes as a well-deserved milestone in his career. Chief of Police Simmie Williams expressed his confidence in Officer Chevalier, stating, "Officer Chevalier has consistently demonstrated exceptional professionalism, integrity, and a deep understanding of investigative procedures. His promotion to the role of Provisional Detective is a testament to his outstanding performance and the trust we have in his ability to handle complex cases."

With extensive experience in the field, Officer Chevalier has consistently exhibited a strong work ethic and a keen eye for detail. His commitment to public safety has been exemplary, and he has been instrumental in several successful investigations. As a Provisional Detective, he



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Heather Brown

listening ability, particularly when it comes to the 14 co-workers she supervises (not to mention dozens of seasonal employees).

"I can put myself in their shoes because I've been there," Brown says.

The Office of Sustainable Energy is just one of four agencies she now oversees. As Commissioner, she's also in charge of the departments of Planning, Grants, and Parks.

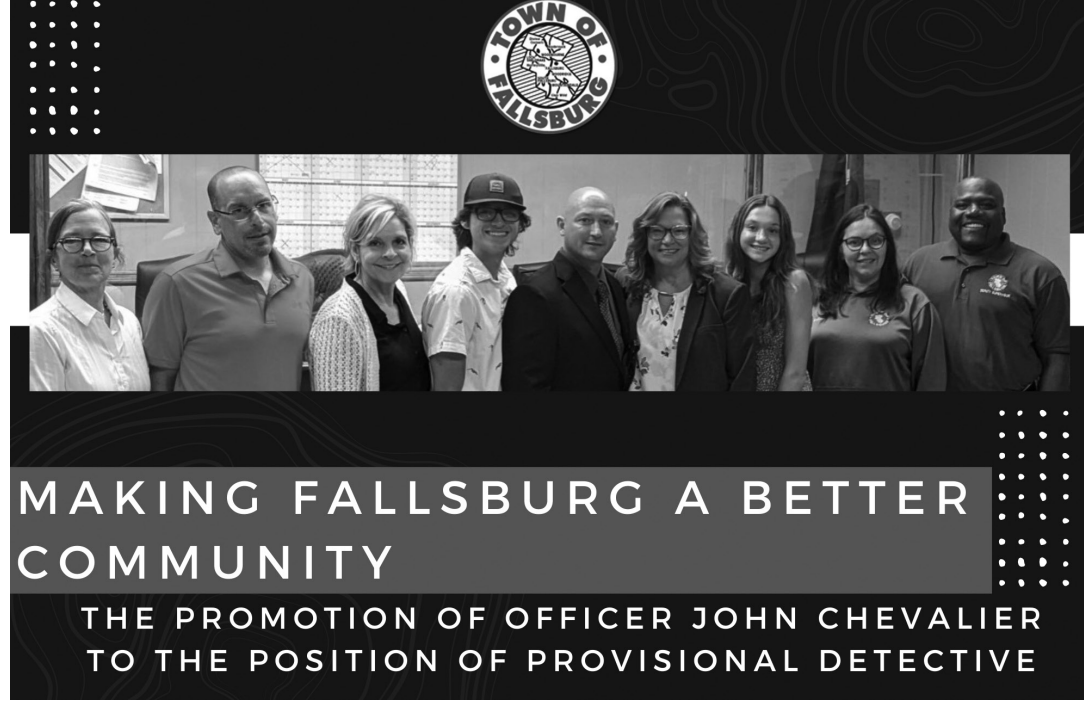
"All four of these offices have seen an incredible increase in not just their workload but the public's focus on their workloads," she notes. "While I will continue to oversee the Office of Sustainable Energy, I'll work closely with the directors of the other offices."

That includes a to-be-hired Director of Planning, a new position that will be filled by a certified planner.

Brown, a graduate of Monticello High School, possesses a bachelor's degree in biology from SUNY Binghamton, and her two decades of County government experience have led her to identify three priorities on which she'd like to focus: the buildout of the O&W Rail Trail and other recreational opportunities, the housing crisis, and the judicious use of local water resources.

"I'm talking about the quality, location and infrastructure to support development while at the same time protecting the environment," she explains. "That's critically important, as Sullivan County is currently facing a lot of development pressure."

## FALLSBURG POLICE PROMOTE CHEVALIER



## MAKING FALLSBURG A BETTER COMMUNITY

THE PROMOTION OF OFFICER JOHN CHEVALIER TO THE POSITION OF PROVISIONAL DETECTIVE

PHOTO PROVIDED

will be assigned to handle a wider range of cases, further enhancing the department's investigative capabilities.

Fallsburg Supervisor Kathy Rappaport expressed her congratulations, saying, "John Chevalier's promotion to Provisional Detective reflects his dedication and commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. His accomplishments thus far have been remarkable, and we have no doubt that he will continue to excel in his new role. The

FROM THE FILES OF...

## THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

August 11, 1909

### Monticello Fire Business District Completely Destroyed; Both Sides of Broadway For Nearly Quarter of Mile Lay Flat

About eight o'clock last night fire started in the Power House at Monticello, and in a short time the whole business section was ablaze.

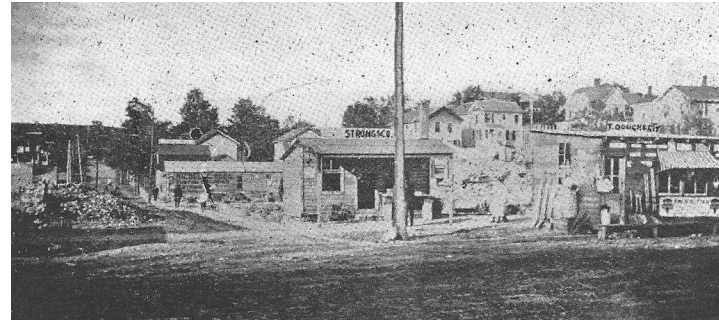
There was a strong wind at the time and although the firemen and everyone else worked with might and main, the flames gained rapid headway and it looked at one time as though the whole village was doomed.

The printing offices of the Watchman and the Sullivan County Republican were both destroyed. The walls of the bank stand, but everything inside is burned.

The fire when it was discovered, consisted of a small blaze in the Power House in the rear of the Palatine Hotel, that being the place where it originated. There were fine stores upon the westerly side of the street where the fire started, but packing cases had been thrown in the yards in the rear and these fed the flames. In a short space of time the Masonic Building, the Surrogate's Office, the Bank Building, Heath's, Crane's, Thornton & Miller's Drug Store, Hammond & Cook's Store, Burns & Taylor's Store, Strong & Co.'s Store, the Palatine Hotel and everything below it to the Monticello House were in flames.

The wind then carried the flames across the street and soon the Rockwell, one of the finest hotels in this part of the state, was also in flames.

There they swept to Johnne's Hardware Store, the Republican Printing Office Building and Dr. Curlette's. There is not a building standing within this section.



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

**Broadway and Landfield Avenue in Monticello after temporary buildings were erected in the aftermath of the great 1909 fire.**

### Loss About a Quarter of a Million

The loss will probably reach at least \$250,000 and it was only partially covered by insurance. The shade trees which had made Monticello one of the prettiest places in this section have been destroyed, and can never be replaced. Judge Smith's law library valued at \$3,000 was entirely destroyed without a dollar of insurance, as was also Melvin H. Couch's. In fact, there is not a law office in Monticello, every attorney being burned out. Neither is there a law library.

Both newspapers are burned out. The Surrogate's records of this county, which are of incalculable value, are destroyed.

### Help From Port Jervis

Early in the evening it was discovered that the Monticello Company did not have hose enough to cope with the flames and a call was sent to Port Jervis and Middletown for aid. The Port Jervis firemen responded promptly and chartering a special train, came to Monticello with a thousand feet or hose and worked heroically by the side of the Monticello firemen to quell the flames. No plans have yet been made known as to the rebuilding, but doubtless the business property will all be rebuilt. It is the most disastrous fire Sullivan County has ever experienced.

### Local and Personal News

On account of the fire in

Monticello the DeRue Brothers Minstrels lose their date there and in consequence will stay over their time in Hurleyville, holding a dance in Lawrence Casino tonight, with music by their seven piece orchestra.

John H. Knapp of the Columbia House of this village is enjoying his new Cadillac car to his heart's utmost desire. His latest feat is carrying calves to stock his farm. No doubt this calf holds the record for mode of transportation in Sullivan County.

August 25, 1909

### Hurleyville Creamery Burned

Last Thursday morning about one o'clock, fire completely destroyed the Hurleyville creamery which was situated nearly opposite the depot. The cause of the fire is not known as there had been no fire in the boiler since two o'clock Wednesday afternoon. The fire was first seen by John O'Neill who went to his barn and saw nothing of any signs of fire but upon coming out of the barn not more than three minutes later saw flames bursting out of the roof, and the whole building seemed to be one mass of flames. Nothing was saved but twenty-six cans. It will be rebuilt at once, but this time out of concrete blocks. Considerable ice was melted but work was commenced next day upon a temporary building to cover the ice.

Still we have no fire protection. When it is too late the property owners of this place will begin to talk about fire protection. Had this fire occurred before the rain there would not have been enough left of Hurleyville to shelter an old hen.

Wake up – Or burn up!

August 2016

### GAN-EDEN BACK BEFORE THOMPSON PLANNING BOARD

It appears to be a bit smaller than originally proposed, but the Gan-Eden housing development planned for the old Columbia Hotel property is apparently moving forward.

Developers of the proposed project appeared before the Town of Thompson Planning Board last month to present a new and slightly altered site plan. As currently configured, the project would comprise 388 apartments, including 124 three-bedroom and 264 two-bedroom units, in 33 buildings. There are also 147 three-bedroom town house units, a swimming pool, clubhouse, tennis courts, walking paths and more than 1,100 parking spaces.

Developers say they expect the residences would be occupied year around.

## HPAC ALL SUMMER!

July 28 - Aug 6  
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August 11  
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Septembe 1 - 3  
**Barbie**

**Senior Cinema Social Presents**

August 10  
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## TANGO CAFÈ MONTHLY EVENTS

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**HURLEYVILLEARTSCENTRE.ORG**

**HPAC** Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre



An original short story by O. Henry

This particular newspaper was, according to its custom and design, an educator, a guide, a monitor, a champion and a household counselor and vade mecum.

From its many excellencies might be selected three editorials. One was in simple and chaste but illuminating language directed to parents and teachers, deprecating corporal punishment for children.

Another was an accusive and significant warning addressed to a notorious labour leader who was on the point of instigating his clients to a troublesome strike.

The third was an eloquent demand that the police force be sustained and aided in everything that tended to increase its efficiency as public guardians and servants.

Besides these more important chidings and requisitions upon the store of

good citizenship was a wise prescription or form of procedure laid out by the editor of the heart-to-heart column in the specific case of a young man who had complained of the obduracy of his lady love, teaching him how he might win her.

Again, there was, on the beauty page, a complete answer to a young lady inquirer who desired admonition toward the securing of bright eyes, rosy cheeks and a beautiful countenance.

One other item requiring special cognizance was a brief "personal," running thus:

DEAR JACK: -- Forgive me. You were right. Meet me corner Madison and -th at 8:30 this morning. We leave at noon.

PENITENT.  
At 8 o'clock a young man with a haggard look and the feverish gleam of unrest in his eye dropped a penny and picked up the top paper as he passed Giuseppi's stand. A sleepless night had left him a late riser. There was an office to be reached by nine, and a shave and a hasty cup of coffee to be crowded into the interval.

He visited his barber shop

and then hurried on his way. He pocketed his paper, meditating a belated perusal of it at the luncheon hour. At the next corner it fell from his pocket, carrying with it his pair of new gloves. Three blocks he walked, missed the gloves and turned back fuming.

Just on the half-hour he reached the corner where lay the gloves and the paper. But he strangely ignored that which he had come to seek. He was holding two little hands as tightly as ever he could and looking into two penitent brown eyes, while joy rioted in his heart.

"Dear Jack," she said, "I knew you would be here on time."  
"I wonder what she means by that," he was saying to himself; "but it's all right, it's all right."

A big wind puffed out of the west, picked up the paper from the sidewalk, opened it out and sent it flying and whirling down a side street. Up that street was driving a skittish bay to a spider-wheel buggy, the young man who had written to the heart-to-heart editor for a recipe that he might win her for whom he sighed.



ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

The wind, with a prankish flurry, flapped the flying newspaper against the face of the skittish bay. There was a lengthened streak of bay mingled with the red of running gear that stretched itself out for four blocks. Then a water-hydrant played its part in the cosmogony, the buggy became matchwood as foreordained, and the driver rested very quietly where he had been flung on the asphalt in front of a certain brown-stone mansion.

They came out and had him inside very promptly. And there was one who made herself a pillow for his head, and cared for no curious eyes, bending over and saying, "Oh, it was you; it was you all the time, Bobby! Couldn't you see

it? And if you die, why, so must I, and --"

But in all this wind we must hurry to keep in touch with our paper.

Policeman O'Brine arrested it as a character dangerous to traffic. Straightening its disheveled leaves with his big, slow fingers, he stood a few feet from the family entrance of the Shandon Bells Cafe. One headline he spelled out ponderously: "The Papers to the Front in a Move to Help the Police."

But, whist! The voice of Danny, the head bartender, through the crack of the door: "Here's a nip for ye, Mike, ould man."

Behind the widespread, amicable columns of the press Policeman O'Brine receives swiftly his nip of the

real stuff. He moves away, stalwart, refreshed, fortified, to his duties. Might not the editor man view with pride the early, the spiritual, the literal fruit that had blessed his labours.

Policeman O'Brine folded the paper and poked it playfully under the arm of a small boy that was passing. That boy was named Johnny, and he took the paper home with him. His sister was named Gladys, and she had written to the beauty editor of the paper asking for the practicable touchstone of beauty. That was weeks ago, and she had ceased to look for an answer. Gladys was a pale girl, with dull eyes and a discontented expression. She was dressing to go up to the avenue to get some braid. Beneath her skirt she pinned two leaves of the paper Johnny had brought. When she walked the rustling sound was an exact imitation of the real thing.

On the street she met the Brown girl from the flat below and stopped to talk. The Brown girl turned green. Only silk at \$5 a yard could make the sound that she heard when Gladys moved.

The Brown girl, consumed by jealousy, said something spiteful and went her way, with pinched lips.

Gladys proceeded toward the avenue. Her eyes now sparkled like jagerfonteins. A rosy bloom visited her cheeks; a triumphant, subtle, vivifying, smile transfigured her face. She was beautiful. Could the beauty editor have seen her then! There was something in her answer in the paper, I believe, about cultivating kind feelings toward others in order to make plain features attractive.

The labour leader against whom the paper's solemn and weighty editorial injunction was laid was the father of Gladys and Johnny. He picked up the remains of the journal from which Gladys had ravished a cosmetic of silken sounds. The editorial did not come under his eye, but instead it was greeted by one of those ingenious and specious puzzle problems that enthrall alike the simpleton and the sage.

The labour leader tore off half of the page, provided himself with table, pencil and paper and glued himself to his puzzle.

Three hours later, after waiting vainly for him at the appointed place, other more conservative leaders declared and ruled in favour of arbitration, and the strike with its attendant dangers was averted. Subsequent editions of the paper referred, in coloured inks, to the clarion tone of its successful denunciation of the labour leader's intended designs.

The remaining leaves of the active journal also went loyally to the proving of its potency.

When Johnny returned from school he sought a secluded spot and removed the missing columns from the inside of his clothing, where they had been artfully distributed so as to successfully defend such areas as are generally attacked during scholastic castigations. Johnny attended a private school and had had trouble with his teacher. As has been said, there was an excellent editorial against corporal punishment in that morning's issue, and no doubt it had its effect.

After this can any one doubt the power of the press?

## Second Graders Receive Books from Monticello Kiwanis Club

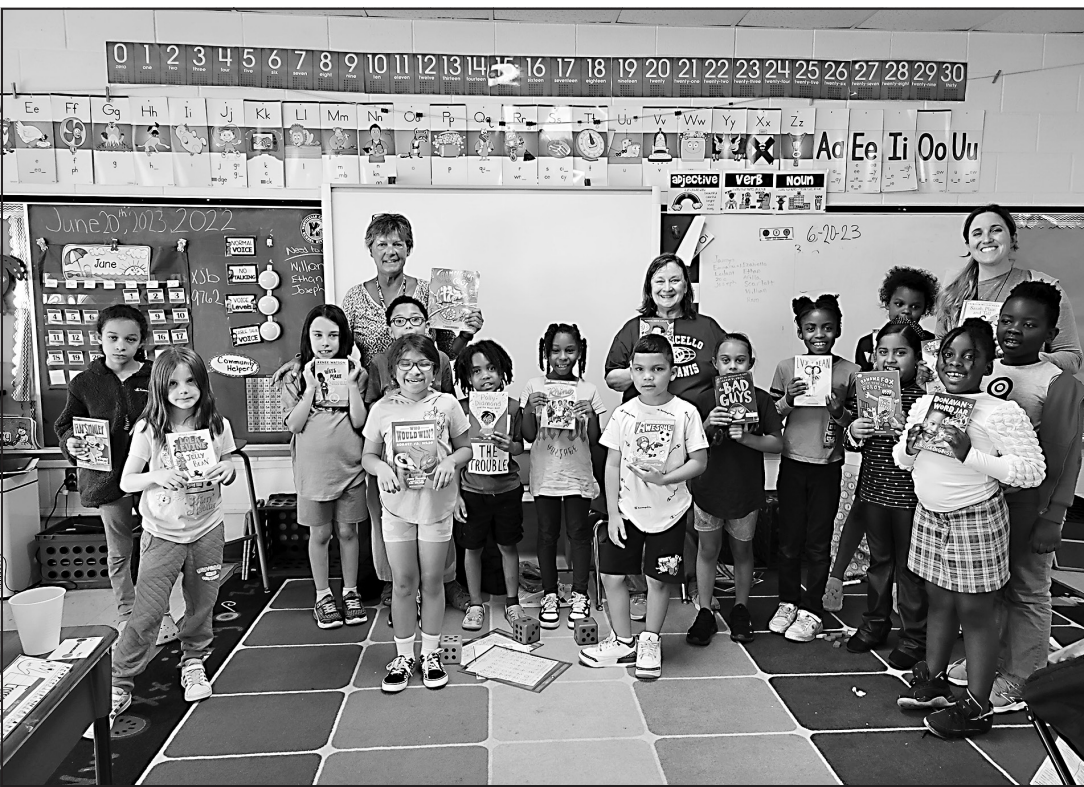


PHOTO PROVIDED

L to R - Teacher Cindy Shope, Kiwanis Member Doris Motl and Teacher Michele Savarese with their happy students. Absent from picture was Jane Sorensen.

MONTICELLO - The Monticello Kiwanis Club recently delivered books to 11 second grade classes at the George L. Cooke Elementary School. During the school year, the students were introduced to reading books with chapters so they were very excited when they were advised that the Kiwanis Club was presenting each one of them with a "chapter" book for their summer reading pleasure. The teachers were all very happy and grateful as well. The students were encouraged to read out loud to their friends and family members, as well as for the enjoyment of their pets. Doris Motl, retired Rutherford Elementary School teacher and Kiwanis member, organized this event. She was accompanied by Jane Sorensen, EPIC Family Engagement Program Manager and Past Distinguished President of Monticello Kiwanis Club.

This project fits perfectly with the Kiwanis mission of improving the world one child and one community at a time. The Monticello Kiwanis Club meets the first Monday of the month at Al-

bella's Restaurant. For further information, visit Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook Page.

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## BowWO&W ON THE Rail Trail

Celebrate the dog days of summer with a community dog walk

LIBERTY - Come out and celebrate the dog days of summer at the 2nd annual BowWO&W Dog Walk on Thursday, August 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the Liberty segment of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail, meeting at the Bridge and Tunnel Brewery, 50 Lake Street, Liberty. Bring your leashed dog and the whole family for a walk.

"We are thrilled to have the BowWO&W meeting place in Liberty's own Bridge and Tunnel Brewery. The Bridge and Tunnel is a dog-friendly establishment, so go out and enjoy the beauty of our wonderful segment of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail and come back in with your pup and enjoy a nice cold award-winning brew," said Town of Liberty Supervisor Frank DeMayo.

"The BowWO&W is an excellent opportunity to

explore the Liberty section of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail, meet other trail users and get you, your dog and your family out for a summer evening walk," Shannon Cilento of Sullivan 180, a member of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance, said.

A reminder to please bring supplies to clean up after your pup. Visit the event Facebook page at bit.ly/SullivanBowWOW or call (845) 807-0531 for more information.

The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance grew out of the 2019 Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Feasibility Study and is a partnership of local government entities, non-profits, and volunteers, which serve as the stewards for the trail. For more information about the O&W Rail Trail and the work of the Alliance, visit www.SullivanOandW.com.

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## THIRTY YEARS!

Anniversary Celebration at Shandelee Music Festival

SHANDELEE - The traditional gift to celebrate a 30th anniversary is pearls. So, it's very appropriate that the Shandelee Music Festival (SMF) celebrates the 2023 season - its 30th - with six stunning pearls from the classical music world.

First up in the popular Sunset Concert Series is "An Evening of Chamber Music" with violinist Misha Keylin and pianist Ilya Kazantsev performing the music of Mozart, Bartok, Saint-Saens and others. This Saturday, August 5 concert is a return engagement by two members of the Grammy-nominated Hermitage Piano Trio.

The following Thursday, August 10, concert goes to the top with "An Evening of Piano" - a performance by Fei-Fei, a top finalist at the 14th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Fei-Fei will perform music by Beethoven, Chopin, Rachmaninoff and more.

Jazz lovers will rejoice on Saturday, August 12 as Eliane Elias (jazz piano) and Marc Johnson (double bass) take



PHOTO PROVIDED

Fei-Fei

the stage for "An Evening of Jazz." Elias is the 2022 Grammy winner for Best Latin Jazz Album. This is an "all improv" program, which will be announced from the stage during the performance.

Moving into the SMF's second week, New England's Period Instrument Ensemble, the Arcadia Players will perform in "An Evening of Chamber Music" on Tuesday, August 15. The program includes songs, sonatas and other works by Francesco Barsanti and Francesco Geminiani.

Ukrainian concert pianist Anna Federova will perform "An Evening of Pia-

no" on Thursday, August 17. Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Anna has been completely dedicated to organizing benefit concerts for victims of the war. Her program will include the music of Chopin, Sylvestrov, Grieg and Schumann.

Wrapping up the SMF's 2023 Sunset Concert Series on Saturday, August 19, is "An Evening of Chamber Music" by the Colorado Cello Quartet. Cello lovers do not want to miss the opportunity to see and hear four cellos on-stage performing the music of Mozart, Massenet, Debussy, Haydn and more.

All performances in the Shandelee Music Festival's Sunset Concert Series begin at 8 p.m. The festival grounds are nestled on 75 acres of tranquil natural beauty in the Catskill Mountains of New York State. The intimate setting of the indoor, climate-controlled Sunset Concert Pavilion contributes to an exhilarating environment where every seat is a great seat for quality listening and enjoyment. The venue, located at 442 J. Young Road in Livingston Manor, NY is fully accessible.

Regular tickets are \$35, Shandelee Music Festival members pay \$30, and students aged 17 and under, or with valid college I.D. pay \$10. Advanced reservations are required. Visit Shandelee.org or call 845-439-3277 for member or sponsorship information and ticket reservations.

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# SENTINEL SPORTS



## BETTER THAN THE GYM

### SOME SAY RAIL TRAIL OFFERS SUPERIOR EXERCISE

by Win Hadley

**HURLEYVILLE** — Going regularly to the local gym may still be the most popular way for Americans to exercise these days, but places like the Milk Train Trail in Hurleyville or other sections of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail can provide an attractive alternative, experts say.

While gyms typically feature equipment for working various muscle groups and in many cases offer professional instruction in exercise techniques, they can be expensive, monotonous, and, in almost all cases, they are indoors.

And, in a country where a recent study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, reported in Time magazine in 2018, found that the average American spends 93% of his or her time indoors, that can be a real disadvantage.

“If you normally only work out at the gym, walk the same predictable paths, or follow any fitness regime that doesn’t include long walks, add trail-walking to your routine,” the Rails to Trails Conservancy suggests in a recent blog post. “Trails with inclines and declines and a gravel surface can challenge your muscles in a potentially new way (and offer more cushioning for joints if you are accustomed to walking on asphalt),” the article continues. “Being outside surrounded by trees can provide a much needed stress reliever, and walking in the sunshine versus a sterile gym can improve mental health. The change of scenery (or the addition of it) can make a humdrum walk an exciting excursion, making every trail outing a new experience.”

The advantages that trails like the Milk Train Trail can



PHOTO BY WIN HADLEY

**The Milk Train Trail features a paved surface, interpretive signs, and plenty of greenery, making it an attractive alternative to the gym for daily exercise.**

offer are numerous, the article notes.

“The biggest problem for people sticking to an exercise routine is that it

can be monotonous or just plain boring. But it doesn’t have to be. Rich in history and often lined by greenery, rail-trails have a fascinating

past. Before you head out, spend time learning about the railway history of your route and, while out on the trail, look for remnants of

the corridor’s former use. Bring along binoculars to spot wildlife, plan an outing to take advantage of trail-side attractions, or just log some steps on your Fitbit. Whatever you do, rail-trails provide a much more scenic alternative to walking on a treadmill.”

There is no question that the Milk Train Trail is steeped in history, and the presence of the interpretive signs erected by The Center for Discovery several years ago certainly adds to that. In addition, when a trail is surrounded by abundant greenery, as the Milk Train Trail is, it offers even more advantages.

Research conducted by the Japan Forestry Agency has shown that people who have walked in natural surroundings have much lower levels of cortisol, the stress hormone, in their blood than people who have walked the same distance on a street.

Other research has indicated that people experience a decrease in blood sugar and blood pressure after spending just two hours in nature.

In its blog, the Rails to Trails Conservancy points out that studies by The American Journal of Preventative Medicine “have shown that regular walking helps prevent chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, colon cancer, and diabetes, among others. Try to walk for at least 30 minutes a day to get your heart rate up for improved cardiovascular health. Fitbits are a popular tool for mon-

itoring heart rate, tracking distance, calories burned, and more, and can be a great incentive to incorporate regular walking into your fitness routine. But really, all you need is a good pair of comfortable shoes or sneakers for a low-cost but highly beneficial outing.”

So next time you are ready to get some exercise, consider an excursion on Hurleyville’s Milk Train Trail—or any other section of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail-- as an alternative to going to the gym. You’ll be glad you did.

### ABOUT BILL CARLSON



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

Bill Carlson

by Jack Halchak

**HURLEYVILLE** – The 12th Annual Bill Carlson Golf Classic is fast approaching.

For those of you who never knew or met Bill you missed out. Bill is a Past Chief of the Hurleyville Fire Department and was well respected in the Firematic community, and, for that matter, Sullivan County and beyond. As Chief, Bill led us to a Blue-Ribbon Trophy in the County Parade. I am proud to say that I was a young lieutenant in the department at the time.

Bill retired from Schmidt’s Wholesale, and went right to work as a greenskeeper at the Tarry Brae Golf course. Put him on a mower, and he was

happy. For years, the fire department talked about hosting a golf tournament. Upon Bill’s passing we decided that “now is the time.” What better way to honor a man, than to name a golf tournament after him?

Join us Saturday, August 19 at the Tarry Brae Golf Course. Entrance fee is \$100 per person, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Entrance fee includes green fee, cart, lunch, awards dinner, and cold drinks all day.

There will be a hole-in-one contest and a longest drive contest. We are also looking for tee box sponsors and donations for the raffle. You can contact John Jaycox, the Event Chairman, at (845) 866-6431 to answer any questions and to sign up.

### FIFTY YEARS AGO...

#### Dr. J. Wows Crowd at Stokes Game

by John Conway

**MONTICELLO** – It was August 14, 1973—50 years ago this month—and although his team lost decisively, a young Julius Erving had everyone talking at the 16th annual Maurice Stokes Benefit basketball game at Kutsher’s Country Club.

An estimated 2,500 fans crowded into the fieldhouse at Kutsher’s Sports Academy to see some of the best basketball players in the world play to raise money for the Maurice Stokes Memorial Fund, which aided former professional basketball players in need, but it was Erving, better known in basketball circles as “Doctor J.,” who left them wanting more.

The 6’6” forward from the New York Nets scored

14 points in limited play, but demonstrated a bevy of moves rarely seen before on a basketball court. Despite his performance, Erving’s Gold team, coached by New York Knicks’ center Willis Reed, lost to the Red Auerbach coached Green team by a 105-89 score.

Boston Celtic guard Jo Jo White, who contributed 24 points to the Green’s final tally, was chosen the game’s most valuable player, while Charlie Scott led the Gold team with 27 points.

“Doctor J. gave them the feint, the dunk, the unbelieveable moves that earn him raves as possibly the best forward in all of basketball,” sportswriter Al DeSantis wrote in the Times Herald-Record’s August 16 edition.

“Just seeing Doctor J. was worth all the pushing

and shoving I endured to get into this game tonight,” New York businessman Jack Kirschenbaum, who was vacationing at Kutsher’s, told DeSantis. “I had heard he was something special. Now I believe everything I have read about him.”

The game raised an estimated \$17,500 for the Memorial Fund, which was established following the death of Maurice Stokes in April of 1970. Proceeds from the first 12 annual games at Kutsher’s had gone to defray the hospital and living costs of Stokes, the Cincinnati Royals star who was left paralyzed following a game in 1958.

The following two days after the Stokes game, many of the same players participated in the Dubonnet Golf Classic at Kutsher’s.



PHOTO PROVIDED

by John Conway

**AKRON, OHIO** – It was a banner year for Sullivan County Soap Box Derby racers.



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

#### August Questions:

1. In what year was Major League Soccer founded?
2. Which team has won the most MLS Cups?
3. Which player holds the record for the most goals scored in a single MLS regular season?
4. What current MLS team has the largest stadium in terms of seating capacity?
5. Which city is home to the first Canadian MLS team?

#### July Answers:

1. What year was the first Wimbledon Tennis Championship held? (1877)
2. Who was the first African American player to win a singles championship at Wimbledon? (Althea Gibson in 1957)
3. What are the traditional Wimbledon colors? (Green and purple)
4. Who was the first male player to wear a pair of shorts at Wimbledon? (Bunny Austin in 1933)
5. Who was the youngest woman ever to win a singles title at Wimbledon? (Charlotte “Lottie” Dod, 15 in 1877)

There was no winner last month.

For the first time ever, all of the local participants at the annual FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championships in Akron, OH advanced beyond the first round. The races were held during the week of July 16.

Mason Smith of Liberty was the top local finisher, taking seventh place in the Masters Division on Saturday, July 22. Moreover, he recorded the fastest time recorded for the day in one of his heats. Earlier in the week, Smith had finished second in the Local Masters Challenge races. It is the best Akron finish for Sullivan County racers since Brianna Roth of White Sulphur Springs captured the

Super Stock World Championship in 2017 and Morgan Van Keuren of Liberty took a second place in the World Rally Championships in Akron in 2021 and a third place in the Masters Division in 2019.

Other Sullivan County racers to compete in the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championships in Akron this year were Steven Padin in the Stock division, Hudson Danzilo in Super Stock, and Rally qualifiers Ava Diehl and Brooke Nichols.

In all, more than 300 boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 20 from around the U.S, as well as Canada and Japan competed.

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