

A LEGEND AND PIONEER

TCFD Leader to Assume New Role

HARRIS – The Center for Discovery (TCFD) has announced that Chief Executive Officer Patrick H. Dollard, who has led the organization for 43 years, has decided to transition into a new role as senior advisor. The Board of Directors immediately named Dr. Theresa Hamlin, the organization’s current President, to succeed him. The changes will be effective at the start of 2024.

“Patrick is a legend and pioneer who has created a gold standard for the care of people with disabilities,” said Ed Sweeney, Chairman of TCFD’s Board of Directors. “I want to pay tribute to his devotion to the families of those we serve. I have really enjoyed working closely with him over this past decade and the board is delighted he will continue to serve as a senior advisor. We have great confidence in Terry and we are excited for this next chapter as we build on the invaluable work the center does every day to improve the lives and ensure the dignity and well-being of those we serve.”

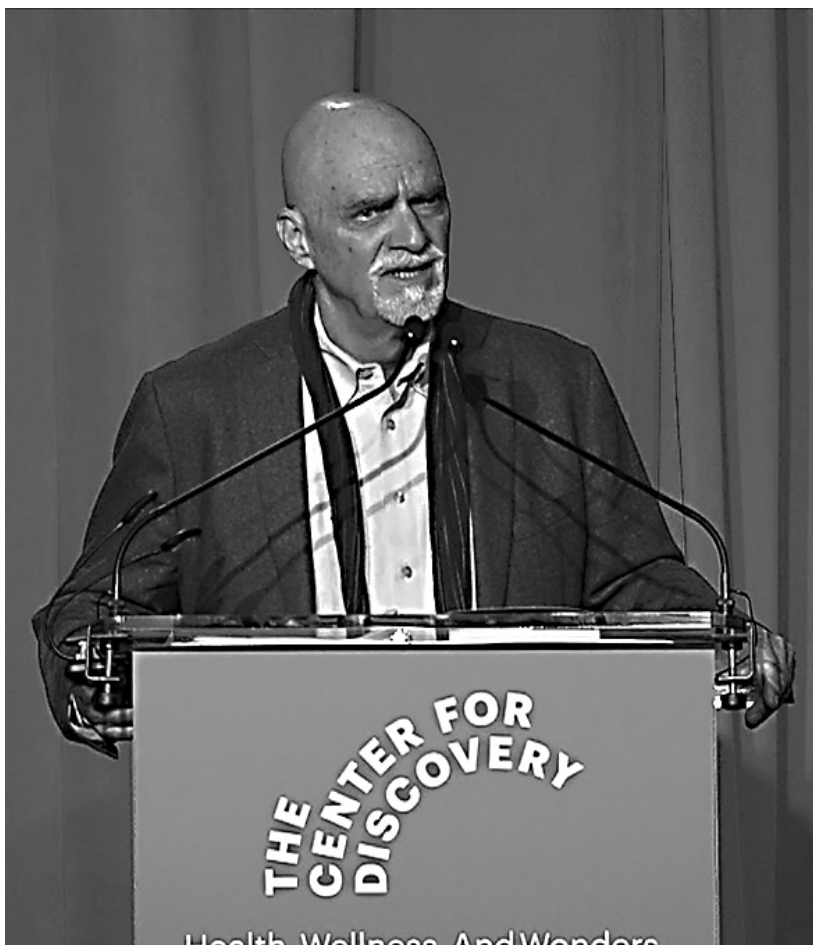
“Patrick H. Dollard is a visionary leader whose remarkable 43-year tenure as CEO of The Center for Discovery created a groundbreaking institution that has transformed the lives of thousands of individuals

with disabilities, and set a new national standard for the quality of care. A Sullivan County native, he turned a 30-person agency into the largest pediatric program in the state with 1,700 employees, offering essential educational, residential, medical, clinical, and recreational programs,” U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (NY) said. “Patrick and I worked hand in hand during the pandemic to safeguard our most vulnerable and to build NY’s first short-term inpatient assessment facility for children with complex conditions. As Patrick transitions into a senior advisory role, we are fortunate to have Dr. Theresa Hamlin assume the CEO position at the start of the new year.”

“Patrick’s vision for a compassionate care model – one that is linked to purposeful work, sustainable farming and nutrition – set a new standard for the field,” said Eileen Naughton, former Chief People Officer at Google and TCFD Board member whose son lives at The Center. “Today TCFD is recognized as a national center of excellence thanks to Patrick’s advocacy and thought leadership over four decades. He’s changed many thousands of lives for the better – and for that we are forever grateful.”

“Patrick is a visionary

without equal. His ability to see beyond the challenges of the present is truly extraordinary, and has immeasurably improved the lives of countless vulnerable individuals and their loved ones, including my brother and our entire family,” said Nelly Bly-Arougheti, a TCFD Board member and family member. “For the last 40 years, he has not only dreamed big, he has made those dreams a reality – be it using food as medicine, building green architecture and adaptive technologies, integrating with the local community in Hurleyville, conducting groundbreaking research, or designing an entirely new model of care through the specialty



Patrick H. Dollard

SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

HEAP Season Is Here

Sign Up for Benefits Starting November 1



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sullivan County’s HEAP Office is staffed by these friendly and helpful employees (left to right): Jaime Vetere, Rosemary Wolff, Dawn Anglin, Mardette Wilcox, Michelle Scanna, Ashley Boyd, and Patty Kranz.

LIBERTY – The 2023-2024 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) season has kicked off.

“HEAP’s Regular component – offering a one-time payment to help buy fuel to heat a home – begins Wednesday, November 1,” notes Sullivan

County Deputy Social Services Commissioner Giselle Steketee. “But the Heating Equipment Repair & Replacement (HERR) and the Heating Equipment Clean & Tune (C&T) components have already begun. They provide funding to have trained pro-

fessionals inspect, service and even replace furnaces, boilers, stoves and other heating equipment for the homeowner.”

Eligibility and benefits are based on income, household size, the primary heating source, and whether or not the house-

hold has a member who is under age 6, over age 60, or permanently disabled. You may qualify even if you think you won’t, so to apply for a 2023-2024 HEAP grant, go to <https://mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/begin> (on or after November 1) or call 845-807-0142.

In-person applications will be accepted at Office for the Aging and the Department of Social Services, but please call ahead to confirm.

Applications can also be obtained from the County’s community partners (please call first):

- Action Toward Independence, 845-794-4228
- Independent Living, 845-794-3322
- Sullivan County Office for the Aging, 845-807-0241

The Sullivan County HEAP Office can be reached at 845-807-0142 (hit option #2) or [heap@sullivanny.us](mailto:heap@sullivanny.us). The fax number is 845-292-4651.

STATE RECOGNITION

FOR TCFD LEADER

Dr. Hamlin Named to State Panels

ALBANY- New York State Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie has named The Center for Discovery President Dr. Terry Hamlin a representative to the state’s Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council (DDAC).

The DDAC fosters public understanding and acceptance of people with developmental disabilities. It provides recommendations for statewide priorities and goals, comprehensive planning, resource allocation, and evaluation processes for state and local services for people with developmental disabilities. The Council will also evaluate policies, procedures, and programs that were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic to determine the effects on safety. It is an important seat for Dr. Hamlin as she takes on new leadership roles in helping to shape state policy on behalf of the disability community. Speaker Heastie informed Governor Hochul of the appointment on October 3.

Additionally, Dr. Hamlin has been appointed by SUNY Chancellor John King to the Healthcare Workforce Industry and Innovation Workgroup for



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
Dr. Terry Hamlin

NYS. The workgroup is charged with promoting New York State’s health workforce to support its transition to integrated health care delivery to assure comprehensive, coordinated, and timely access to care. As the largest employer in Sullivan County TCFD faces these issues day in and day out.

“These appointments are an important opportunity for all of our children, adults, families and our workforce,” Dr. Hamlin said. “This gives The Center a seat at the table on some of the most vital issues facing the disability community today and as we look into the future. The challenges our loved ones face are great and we are determined to explore ways to tackle every one of them.”

which resulted in significant savings for the state. Patrick was – and remains – a hero and our daughter was the beneficiary. Now she could be with a dreamer who truly knew how to make dreams come true.”

Dr. Hamlin first joined the organization in 1983, and was named President in 2020. She has dedicated her career to The Center for Discovery, has been a leader in the field for more than three decades, lecturing nationally and internationally. She is the author of the book, “Autism and the Stress Effect,” a guide for parents and teachers to help children with autism regulate the debilitating effects of stress. Dr. Hamlin has developed relationships with scientists and leading universities, and built a research program at the center that has advanced studies into the effects of the environment on children with autism and other complex conditions.

“I am honored to lead an organization that is making such a powerful difference in so many different ways,” Dr. Hamlin said. “Patrick deserves enormous credit for having set us on this course. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but with our incredible staff, nothing is beyond reach. We have exciting plans for the future and I am honored and eager to take on CEO

responsibilities in January, and continue the great work that we do here.”

“A smooth transition is the key for any successful and healthy organization, and we are passing that test with flying colors,” Mr. Sweeney said. “We are grateful to Patrick for his bold vision and leadership, and fortunate to have someone as qualified, enthusiastic and ready for the future as Terry.”

“With the Children’s Specialty Hospital in Rock Hill about to open, we couldn’t be better positioned for these moves,” Mr. Dollard said. “The future is bright because of our amazing staff, our families, and the folks we care for who have taught me so much since we started taking people out of the institutions more than 40 years ago. I have more gratitude than I can even express to all of them. In my new role, I will support Terry and the center and focus on special projects that are near and dear to me. It is also an invaluable opportunity for me to focus on the challenges I have tackled at the center on a statewide level. I want to help support the entire field at a time it is facing so many critical issues. This is a significant next step for the center and the field. I am grateful for this challenge and thank the Board for the opportunity.”

Holiday Fun in

“The Liveliest Little Hamlet

in the Mountains”



by Kathleen Sullivan

HURLEYVILLE - Save the date! Plans are underway for this year’s “Holiday in Hurleyville,” scheduled for Saturday, December 2, from noon until 5 p.m.

The annual event, hosted by the Hurleyville Hub, will feature live music at the Sullivan County Museum and performances by Main Street Dance at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. Sullivan County Historian John Conway will present another Holiday History Hike on the Hurleyville O&W Rail Trail at 1 p.m. The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre is planning two showings of a holiday-themed movie. Vendors at the Sullivan County Museum and at shops on Main Street will

offer unique holiday gifts for everyone on your list. Youngsters will be able to visit Santa at the Tango Café.

The Holiday Theme Exhibit at the Sullivan County Museum will feature holiday-themed artificial trees, Hanukkah displays, and Kwanzaa displays created and decorated by individuals, businesses, and organizations.

A tree-lighting ceremony will be held at the entrance to the rail trail at 5 p.m. Visitors will be able to enjoy an enchanted walk along the trail lined by luminaria.

This is an event in progress...watch for more details on the Hurleyville Sentinel website, ([hurleyvillesentinel.com](http://hurleyvillesentinel.com)) and at “Holiday in Hurleyville 2023” on Facebook.



## Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



### HURLEYVILLE-SULLIVAN FIRST (HSF)

Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 27th Annual “Deck the Doors” Holiday Decorating Contest on Monday, December 18. Judging will begin at 6 p.m. Make sure your lights are on! All holiday-decorated doors in the hamlet, both residences and businesses, are eligible. Winners of the contest will be awarded prizes provided by Hurleyville business owners and members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First.

The group will prepare the barrels and planters for winter this month.

Hurleyville-Sullivan First continues its collaboration with the Hurleyville Hub on events that contribute to the ongoing revitalization of the hamlet. The 2nd Annual Hurleyville Summer Festival was held on August 17, and the 2nd Annual Hurleyville Scarecrow Festival was held on October 8. The group is now planning “Holiday in Hurleyville,” which will be held on Saturday, December 2.

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

### HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Food for Thanksgiving will be distributed at the Bread of Life food pantry at the church on Thursday, November 16 from 3 until 5 p.m. Donations for the Thanksgiving food distribution would be greatly appreciated, and should be at the food pantry by 2 p.m. on November 16.

The food pantry will be open again on Thursday, November 30 from 3 until 5 p.m. Youngsters are invited to participate in the fun and creative activities held at “Messy Church.” Upcoming dates for “Messy Church” are Saturday, November 4 from 3:30 until 5 p.m., Saturday, December 9 from 5 until 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, January 13 from 5 until 6:30 p.m. All children taking part in the fun activities must be accompanied by an adult.

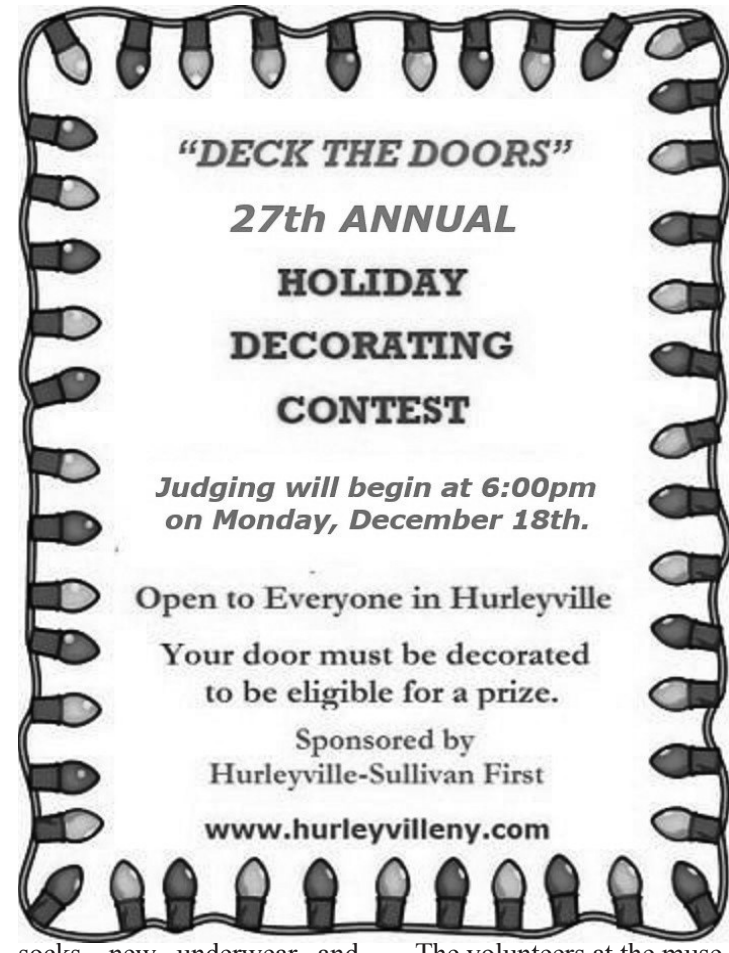
Sunday services are held at the church at 9 a.m. Children of all ages can attend Sunday School at the church during services.

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

All are invited to pray with others over the phone on the church’s prayer line on Sundays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. The prayer line phone number is 605-472-5491 and the access code is 251678.

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

Donations of diapers, new



socks, new underwear and new t-shirts for children in foster care are being collected at the church. The volunteers are also collecting new t-shirts and new underwear for veterans along with new clothes for women who are starting over after escaping from domestic violence. Please contact Cookie at 845-428-5871 or Goldie at 845-467-1641 for more information on the program.

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 will open its annual Holiday Theme Exhibit at the Sullivan County Museum at the 2023 Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 2. The event, held in conjunction with “Holiday in Hurleyville,” will feature holiday-themed artificial trees, Hanukkah displays, and Kwanzaa displays created and decorated by individuals, businesses, and organizations. The trees and displays can be set up between November 21 and December 1. Trees and displays may be removed after January 3, 2024 or by appointment. Please call 845-434-8044 or email [cecil@scnyhistory.org](mailto:cecil@scnyhistory.org) for 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...behind the scenes and regular exhibits...are available. There is no charge for the hour-long tours but registration is required. Please call 845-434-8044 to make a reservation.

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

The volunteers at the museum work on a variety of activities including research and exhibits. Anyone interested in exploring genealogy and the history of life in Sullivan County can contact the museum for information on volunteering.

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

Visit [www.scnyhistory.org](http://www.scnyhistory.org) to see the newly redesigned website for the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum. You can also visit the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum on Facebook.

### COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The members of Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance (CHNA) are dedicated to the group’s mission of sustainable development in our community. The issues that must be considered before development can be deemed sustainable and worthy of approval include lack of water resources, damaging rain and sewer runoff, dangerous road conditions, loss of rural character and wildlife habitat depletion. Sustainable communities are places where people want to live and work, now and in the future.

The Gan Eden Estates project on Columbia Hill threatens Hurleyville and the towns of Thompson and Fallsburg. The full build out of the development could result in more than 3,000 new residents on Columbia Hill. Flawed planning decisions, faulty water quality testing and irresponsible environmental considerations will lead to disaster in our community.

Even though there has been increased well-related activity on the site of the proposed Gan Eden development on Columbia Hill the developer of the project has not appeared before the Town of Thompson Planning Board since early 2022.

The members of CHNA continue to meet regularly and will be prepared for the next time the project is on the board’s agenda.

Homeowners who experience troubles with their



### YOUR FAVORITE CHAIR

What kind of chair is your favorite chair?  
Is it the typical dad’s chair for you?  
The plushy recliner that has a pocket  
And holds a remote or two

Or is it a bean bag chair from the past?  
You do know that they might come back  
They are so comfy for a seat on the floor  
A hard surface is what they lack

A rocking chair in the nursery  
Helps lull babies right to sleep  
The back and forth movement can help reduce stress  
Such that the adult falls asleep

Do you prefer a hard surface  
On which you can rest your tired back?  
It produces the support that one might require  
To keep one’s posture intact

And how about those who like to sit on a stool  
To work on their laptop or eat  
Somewhere to sit without arms or a back  
Just a sturdy seat for their seat!

- Mimi  
November, 2023

## FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



### El Nino

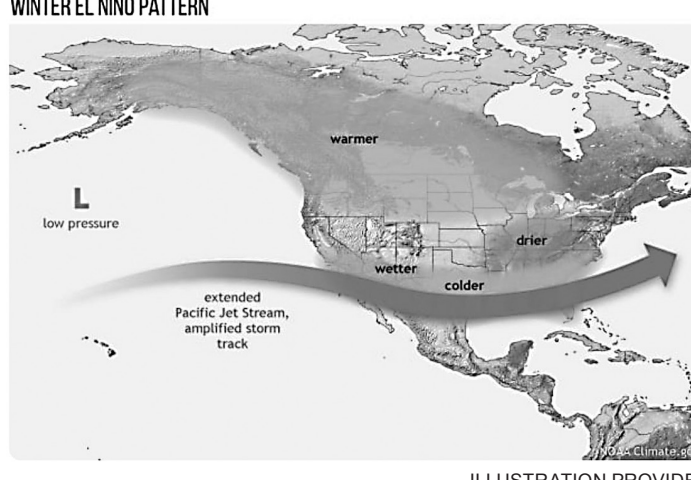


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

According to CNN, El Nino is a climate pattern that originates in the Pacific Ocean along the Equator and impacts weather all over the world. Warm water is normally confined to the western Pacific by winds that blow from east to west, pushing it toward Indonesia and Australia. During El Nino, however, the winds slow down, and can even reverse direction, allowing the warmer water to spread eastward all the way to South America.

Scientists are still searching for an answer to why this happens, but the slowing of these winds can last for weeks or months sometimes.

El Nino in Spanish means “little boy” and is the opposite of the La Nina climate pattern, which means, “little girl.”

El Nino can affect U.S. rainfall and Pacific fish because more rain falls in the southwestern and southeastern United States, while

wells due to the well-related activity at the proposed Gan Eden development should contact the building departments in the Town of Thompson (845-794-2500, extension 321) and the Town of Fallsburg (845-434-8811).

Visit CHNA at [www.columbiacountyalliance.org](http://www.columbiacountyalliance.org) and on Facebook to learn how you can help to protect your environment and your community by demanding responsible and sustainable development.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

### FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH AND ALZHEIMER’S ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Dear Editor:

November is National Family Caregivers Month. In New York, 546,000 family caregivers are providing care worth over \$19 billion to their loved ones with dementia. Though these caregivers provide significant savings to the state, they are not getting enough support in return. The funding for New York’s Alzheimer’s Disease Community Assistance Program (AlzCAP), which offers care consultations, support groups, educational programs, and other services, has been stagnant for years, while the number of caregivers who need these services has continued to grow.

As a facilitator for a caregiver support group, I have heard many stories about how lonely and frustrat-

ed caregivers can become. They can’t go places like they used to and people stop visiting them. Sometimes their only socialization is the monthly support group meetings where they can share their stories and comfort each other. These individuals are well respected citizens who helped out in their community; now, in their time of need, the community should support them. Not only will such support mitigate their financial, emotional, and physical struggle, but it will also be less of a financial burden for the state than costly nursing home care.

Taking care of someone with Alzheimer’s is expensive. One study found that 47% of family caregivers have cut back on their food, transportation, and healthcare expenses to pay

for a loved one’s care. And many caregivers struggle with mental health issues, such as depression, and oftentimes do not have the financial resources to take care of their own physical health. Unfortunately, we have seen too often where the caregiver passes before the loved one they are caring for due to their stress and health issues.

New York can do better in supporting people who take on this vital role. Please join me in calling on Assembly-member Aileen Gunther and the other members of the NYS Legislature to increase funding for AlzCAP.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Lashinsky  
Volunteer Advocate  
Alzheimer’s Association

## SYDA to Honor Barbi Neumann-Marty



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Barbi Neumann-Marty** a Bachelor of Arts from Mount Saint Mary College. She worked for the Monticello School District for ten years.

Ms. Neumann-Marty is currently the Senior Unit Director of the Town of Walkkill Boys and Girls Club, which serves north Orange and Sullivan Counties. In this role, she helps children and youth navigate the challenges of transitioning into adulthood by providing a supportive after-school environment. She is passionate about guiding young people to explore their options after graduating high school, often providing resources and mentoring.

Ms. Neumann-Marty also works as a community provider for the Liberty branch of the Children’s Home of Wyoming. She facilitates access to mental health services and teaches coping and emotional processing

skills, social skills, conflict resolution, and life skills to children in need. She does this in part by encouraging them to offer community service themselves.

She is an active volunteer in the community, and has been a member of the Liberty Rotary Club for over 14 years, often organizing efforts to help neighbors in need. She is also a board member at Catskill Animal Rescue, which takes care of unwanted, abused, and neglected animals.

Ms. Neumann-Marty lives in Parksville with her husband, Dan, and two daughters, Dianna and Sofia, who have embraced the family value of service and are active volunteers themselves.

The SYDA Foundation Community Service Award presentation will take place on Wednesday, November 15, at 1 p.m. at the Sullivan County Government Center, Legislative Meeting Room at 100 North Street, Monticello, NY 12701 and will be simultaneously live-streamed. Everyone is invited to attend.

To request to be added to the list to receive the link to the live stream, email [csa@syda.org](mailto:csa@syda.org).

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# MEET SHAINDY POLLAK AND MICHAEL KATZ

## CO-OWNERS OF LIBERTY FINE FURNISHINGS & UPHOLSTERY

by Lily Barrish

HURLEYVILLE — For the past 5 years, Shaindy Pollak has lived in Hurleyville. Previously, she resided in Mountaintale and grew up in Brooklyn. In her former career, she was a chef for over a decade at several restaurants scattered throughout New York City.

"I wanted to be a chef my entire life, but I love what I'm doing now ten times more," she said recently.

Ms. Pollak met Michael Katz while buying Benetton bedroom sets for her two daughters in Mountaintale. Mr. Katz was the owner of the furniture store on Main Street there. At that time, Mr. Katz wasn't in residential furnishings, he had sample prototypes and commercial only, specializing in furniture reupholstery, fabrication, and repairs for the hospitality industry. So, Ms. Pollak pointed out that he had all this empty warehouse space, why not do retail, too? Ms. Pollak saw an opportunity for them to work together, and Mr. Katz was on board to try something new.

Mr. Katz grew up in Rockland County. He currently lives in Mountaintale with his two dogs, JJ

and Lilly.

"They are the real bosses of the store—they decide when it's lunch time and break time," he said.

Born into the business, he's the fourth generation following in his family's footsteps.

During COVID, Mr. Katz's business closed, because the hospitality industry was so affected by the pandemic. He and Ms. Pollak consulted with a realtor who found an abandoned retail building that was going to auction. The timing was perfect—they were able to restore the building during the pandemic shutdown. It took six months to remove old carpet and bring out the original wood floors. Sanding the walls to remove old wallpaper was no easy feat, either.

Liberty Fine Furnishings & Upholstery opened in 2020. Upholstery at 199 South Main Street in Liberty is hand done as opposed to mass production. Specialized services in refinishing, repairs and restoration are executed by experts.

High-end floor samples, design-curated furniture, and rich fabrics are on display throughout the 22,000 square foot space. Upstairs holds upscale one-off prototypes. It's all real wood, real stainless steel. Nothing



PHOTO BY LILY BARRISH

Mr. Katz, Lilly and Ms. Pollak at their store.

is hollow or fake. Everything about the establishment has a big, modern, clean feeling, mixed in with eclectic pieces that are both vintage and reimagined furniture. Original artwork created by local artists is exhibited on the walls.

Ms. Pollak and Mr. Katz are in the business of bringing people's visions to life. They've split their roles, with Ms. Pollak in charge of reupholstery and "fabulous finds," a/k/a interesting pieces from estate sales. Mr. Katz focuses on the commercial side of ho-

tels and restaurants.

"My parents had the same furniture since the day they got married. Back in the day they made good furniture. I knew I wanted to sell furniture that lasts," said Ms. Pollak.

"This whole thing is about fabulous finds. It's a quality at its best. You'll find old world craftsmanship here," said Mr. Katz.

Ten full-time employees consisting of upholsterers, designers, seamstresses and carpenters are on premises. They also have several consignment accounts.

Their interior designer, Paul Giordano, was introduced to them as a client at first. Now he consistently brings them high-end jobs and designs their specialty window displays. Paul lives in Hurleyville, and keeps a residence in New York City, too.

In recent months, Mr. Giordano helped Ms. Pollak reupholster a wingback chair in hot pink velour for a customer. Ms. Pollak posted a picture of the finished product on social media. Janet Carrus, founder & artistic director

at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, saw it and wanted one just like it for the lobby of the HPAC during the Barbie movie in September.

Together, Ms. Pollak and Mr. Giordano chose two chairs they had on site and reupholstered them in the same hot pink material. One was set up at HPAC for people to take selfies in while attending Barbie. The other one remained at the store. They can be sold separately or as a set.

"I think every piece of furniture they have is art. I'm in awe when I go in there. I want every single piece," said Tialisa Whipple, sponsorship & special events coordinator at HPAC. Ms. Whipple accompanied Ms. Carrus on the first visit to inquire about the Barbie chair.

In the beginning of October, Liberty Fine Furnishings & Upholstery sponsored the costumes that the HPAC employees wore during the showing of Paw Patrol (Marshall and Skye). Mr. Katz, a champion of animal rescue, threw his support behind the event when he found out that part of the proceeds from popcorn sales would be donated to Catskill Animal Rescue, Inc.

More movie partnerships

would delight the crew in Liberty. They enjoy helping and being involved locally. Another project they are working on is the drapes at HPAC.

Ms. Pollak stresses how important art is to the community. She credits Ms. Carrus with bringing back culture and creating a haven where kids want to grow up and settle.

Both Ms. Pollak and Mr. Katz eat at the Tango Café often, as well as frequenting other businesses on Hurleyville's Main Street. Ms. Pollak shares how she loves the sense of commu-

nity here.

"It's peaceful and quiet, and there's always something going on. You can always walk into the Hurleyville General Store and get a smile when you need one," Ms. Pollak said.

If you want to transform your aging sofa or remodel your entire bedroom, look no farther than Liberty Fine Furnishings & Upholstery. With keen eyes to detail, a talented team, and quality at every corner, your customized experience among their extensive collections is sure to be outstanding.



### Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

England has its Land's End, and France its Finistère (from the Latin, "finis terrae": the end of the Earth). These are terminal points, where a country's extremities end and you can go no farther, unless you go to sea. Such place-names are more than descriptors, they're lures. Wanderers and pilgrims are drawn to such spots, perhaps by a humbling desire to come up against their own limits, or perhaps just for the satisfaction of arriving at a conclusion.

The pilgrimage route of the Way of St. James, in Spain, doesn't end at the Cathedral housing the Saint's remains, but extends another 50 miles to Cape Finisterre, as if there were additional spiritual merit in pushing through to the end of the known world. Many countries have their variants on the theme of *Land's End*, though it should be noted that Lands' End, the clothing merchant with a pluralizing apostrophe (as if it were the end of all lands at once), is headquartered in Wisconsin, a good distance from both coasts.

The Catskill version of Land's End would be a mountain-top — the peak of Slide Mountain, say, 4,180 feet above it all. But you're still surrounded by land up there, with no end in sight. And so, avid to reach a true terminal point, we make our own annual pilgrimage, in late autumn, due east, as straight and as far as we can go, till we come to a halt by a lighthouse overlooking the Atlantic at the very tip of Long Island. This is Montauk Point, our Finistère, known across the peninsula as "The End."

As we draw near The End, we're met by flat unimpeded horizontals, a sheer space stirred by the motion of the sea, and with air that leaves a salty condensate upon your skin. Here the land swells, at its highest point, to all of 200 feet. The combined forces of wind and tide continually work upon the shoreline, giving the coastal cliffs new shapes each year, clearing-off and cluttering-up different stretches of beach in turn. We search those beaches for scallop shells and the lovely bits of colored glass the sea deposits

upon them.

My father loved it out here. Eventually, he had a boxy old cottage on the western side of Lake Montauk, where I spent much time when I was younger. So I feel a pilgrim not only to the last of the land — that precarious lighthouse, once 300 feet inland and now surrounded by a retaining wall of rock and concrete to keep it from slipping into the sea; I feel a pilgrim, as well, to a sense of the past.

My father's cottage was torn down soon after he sold it, in the last year of his life. The only thing left standing was the mailbox across the road, with its driftwood sign and the house number still painted on it. A year after he died, I was walking past the vacant plot and, by habit, opened the mailbox. There was a letter in it! It was from my father, the envelope marked "return to sender," which meant it was mailed at least a year earlier and had been sitting there all the while. Inside was a typed page with his familiar scrawl of a signature at the bottom. It felt like some sort of uncanny communication.

He chose to be buried in Montauk, in Fort Hill Cemetery, a peaceful spot overlooking Fort Pond. It's one of the prescribed stops on our pilgrimage route. I always bring a stone from the mountains to place on his grave, following a traditional bereavement practice. Maybe this completes the circuit of communication initiated by his letter.

From the cemetery, we look out at Fort Pond, an enclosed freshwater body, and beyond that, to the level ocean. The land is so narrow here; the divide between the known and the unknown seems very thin, porous enough for things to seep through. The end of the land is inescapable, visible in three directions; the fourth direction, west, is our route home, for after arriving at the end of things, what else can pilgrims do but turn around, retrace their steps, and begin anew?

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## Monticello Kiwanis Recognizes Key Club Faculty Advisor



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kiwanis Board Member Sheila Lashinsky, Key Club Faculty Advisor Steven Raabe (holding plaque) and Kiwanis President Marvin Rappaport.

MONTICELLO — Mr. Steven Raabe, outgoing Faculty Advisor to the Monticello High School Key Club, was recently recognized for his eight years of dedicated leadership to the Key Club, which is a service leadership program sponsored by the Monticello Kiwanis Club. Kiwanis Club President Marvin Rappaport presented Mr. Raabe with a plaque thanking him for his many years of dedication and commitment in providing leadership training to Monticello High School students.

Under Mr. Raabe's supervision, Key Club members participated in many community service projects, including: food collection and holiday gifts for needy families, donating items to the SPCA in

Rock Hill, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, visiting and entertaining residents at local nursing homes, participating in litter plucks, raising money for the WSUL Heart-A-Thon, assisting at Kiwanis Roast Beef Dinners and at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and sending greeting cards to veterans.

"We thank Mr. Raabe for the wonderful job he has done as a role model and coach to so many students during his tenure as Key Club Faculty Advisor," Mr. Rappaport said.

Kiwanis is a service organization of local volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. For further information, visit Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook Page.

## RING IN THE NEW... Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Presents New Years Eve Celebration

HURLEYVILLE-- The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) will be hosting a New Year's Eve, Eve celebration in an elegant and modern 1940s night club setting infused with an art deco vibe. Festivities include a night of dinner, dancing, and entertainment in the Grand Ballroom. The event will take place on December 30, 2023. Tickets are on sale now at [www.hurleyvilleartscentre.org](http://www.hurleyvilleartscentre.org)

New Years Eve Eve at HPAC promises an unforgettable evening. Guests will be greeted with a one-hour open bar and delightful hors d'oeuvres, followed by a sumptuous A-Thon, assisting at Kiwanis Roast Beef Dinners and at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and sending greeting cards to veterans.

"We thank Mr. Raabe for the wonderful job he has done as a role model and coach to so many students during his tenure as Key Club Faculty Advisor," Mr. Rappaport said.

Kiwanis is a service organization of local volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. For further information, visit Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook Page.



vegetarian options. Dessert and a champagne toast to the New Year follows. The night will be set to live music from a 10-piece New York City based band, ensuring a night of dancing and revelry. Guests are encouraged to dress in their finest festive or cocktail attire, adding to the glamor-

ous ambiance of the event. For those looking to indulge in additional beverages, a

cash bar will be available. Janet Carrus, founder, and president of HPAC, expressed her excitement about the event.

"At HPAC, we believe in celebrating the human spirit through dance, music, and film," Ms. Carrus said. "The New Years Eve Eve Celebration embodies the essence of joy and camaraderie that we foster at our center. It's not just a night of entertainment; it's an experience that will create lasting memories for everyone attending."

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## From the Firehouse

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



THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUREAU OF FIRE

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- ✓ Store tanks in flat, dry location out of the sun.

**✗ DON'T**

- ✗ Allow tanks to roll during transport.
- ✗ Leave your cylinder in your car or trunk.
- ✗ Store indoors or in an enclosed space.
- ✗ Store tanks near flammable materials.

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.

I traveled to the 26th Annual New York State Fallen Firefighters Memorial in early October. William “Billy” Steinberg’s name was added to the memorial wall for his Line of Duty Death (LODD) January 15, of 2022.

Governor Kathy Hochel, State Fire Administrator James Cable and Commissioner of New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Jackie Bray all spoke about the fallen firefighters and the sacrifice they made in serving their communities. State Fire Administrator Cable also mentioned the fact that 343 firefighters were lost on 9/11, and as of today, 343 firefighters have passed in the years since from working the pile.

The most heart wrenching part of the ceremony was when the Honor Guard presented an encased flag that flew over the wall to the family members. This was done 29 times, once for each LODD in 2023.

As the Honor Guard presented the flag to Billy’s mom, Laurie, the Sullivan County contingency rose as one as she accepted the flag, and Billy’s dad, Jim, returned the salute to the Honor Guard.

We went outside to the Wall and the memorial to see Billy’s name.

While there, I looked for the name of David F. Murray from Hurleyville. Panel 12, top. LODD December 21, 1984. David saved his sister in a fire in their home, and then died trying to put it out. I took a rubbing of his name from the wall, and it is next to his picture in the firehouse.

In recent weeks, there have been two explosions possibly due to propane leaks. One in Orange County, at United Orchids in Bullville, and one in Sullivan County, in Patio Homes in Monticello. One person was injured in the Orange County explosion, and three in the Monticello incident. The Patio Homes explosion also damaged other homes. A number of us heard the explosion here in Hurleyville.

Propane is commonly used in our area for heating, cooking, and your Bar-B-Q grill. Closer to big cities natural gas is commonly used.

Propane is heavier than air, so it will settle low, and has no odor. Because it has no odor, a harmless chemical, mercaptan, is added. This is the rotten egg odor that you smell. You may smell

it briefly when your tank is refilled, or when it is low or about empty, or if there is a leak.

### When you smell gas:

- Immediately extinguish all smoking materials and open flames
  - Get everyone out of the area where you suspect the gas is leaking.
  - Turn off the gas supply valve of your propane tank if it is safe to do so.
  - Once away from the leak, contact your propane supplier. If you cannot reach them, call 911.
  - Do not return to the area until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified service technician determines it is safe to do so.
  - Get your system checked. Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, your propane retailer or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak-free.
- Here are a few other safety tips in the use of propane:
- Do not use or store portable propane tanks in basements or living spaces.
  - Properly secure portable propane tanks when transporting.
  - Do not leave portable propane tanks in cars or closed vehicles.
  - Secure temporary tanks when used for building heat, hot water, or cooking.
- We have already had a few chimney fires. If you have not serviced your heating unit yet, DO IT NOW! Happy Thanksgiving. Be Safe Out There!

## PATH TO SUCCESS *Catskill Hospitality Institute Culinary Dinner Series*

by Lily Barrish

LOCH SHEL-DRAKE – The Catskill Hospitality Institute hosted their latest dinner on Thursday, October 19. Tickets to the event located inside the Paul Grossinger Dining Room sold out in advance. The four-course meal was offered at a very reasonable price of \$25 per guest. The main entrée selections consisted of maple teriyaki salmon, smoked pork loin, and eggplant involtini.

Culinary students, assisted by chef instructors, met curriculum requirements, received hands on experience, and introduced the culinary arts program to the public. Justine Hoskin, director of the Catskill Hospitality Institute said the evening was a success.

“Success is when students have the opportunity to put their skills to the test with practical applications. It was by no means a flawless evening, but this is where we can make mistakes and work

## Obituary for the Best Dog Ever Molly Dingo Sullivan 11/15/08 - 3/24/23

by Denise Sullivan

Molly, Queen of the rail trail, passed peacefully this past March. She did not go down without a fight, and carried a blue and orange Kong ball until her last day. Cancer could not extinguish her energy or the light in her eyes.

A working breed dog born to fetch, she was an Aussie mix of Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Shepherd, and, we were convinced, part dingo.

Molly was one of a litter acquired by the good people at Stonewall Farms in Jeffersonville, who nurtured her until she was the last multicolored pup to find a home. Living on this wonderful teaching farm until she was 10 weeks old, Molly was named Heidi by the Animal Science students who traveled there to learn each day (shout out to Career & Tech kids everywhere). Heidi / Molly spent her days with Pepe, a mature male rat terrier, and Cupcake, an orphaned baby goat. They taught her well to watch out for predators, protect her family, and enjoy the outdoors. She was part of that little posse of three until we brought her home to Hurleyville in February of 2009, where she lived her entire best life on our dead-end street with plenty of room to run, fetch and explore. Molly was predeceased by Spot, the former stray and boss black cat of the house. Spot taught Molly that there’s more than one way to get sliced by a cat, and she circled cats widely after a few painful lessons from her feline brother.

Molly taught us that her job was to fetch, constantly dropping balls at our feet or onto our laps, sometimes stealthily placing her ball onto a guest’s lap from under the patio table. She fetched thousands of balls so well that she wore out a knee by the age of 8, then sailed through knee repair, which allowed her to fetch, swim and roll in gopher poop well into her senior years. Molly also wore out two Chuck–It sticks, those brilliant arm-saving inventions that let you snap a ball to throw it higher and further for fetching. She also caught Kong frisbees in mid-air many hundreds of times in her puppyhood. We provided her with a runway (aka my patio garden) so she could launch herself into the air, stretching to her longest, most aerodynamic profile before making the perfect catch and landing on grass below. I regret that cell phones were not yet ubiquitous enough for us to record the flying, fetching dog with huge ears. In my mind, I see a perfect, slow motion Kodak video of my girl - a sleek, airborne, hyper-focused beauty.

Molly had an extensive vocabulary, fetching correctly to “bone”, “stick”, “frisbee”, “ball”, or “other ball”. She barely passed a basic obedience class because she knew the word “heel” but could not fully comply until she was tired enough.

I like to think her intelligence was the reason Molly was never sprayed by a skunk, never spiked by a porcupine, and never annoyed dogs that were bigger than her. She never ran into traffic, and only ran off



PHOTO BY DENISE SULLIVAN

Waldorf Avenue once to get away from some noisy fireworks, teaching us to secure her in the house with the TV blaring every Fourth of July. As a tiny pup, she was nearly grabbed by a hungry bald eagle on a sunny day as I was gardening. Sitting still in the grass while staring up at the sky was far from her usual behavior, so I looked up to see an eagle circling and sizing her up for a grab-and-go snack. I’m now sure she would have outrun the eagle, but I dropped my trowel and threw her ball towards the house, knowing that was the fastest way to get her indoors.

Molly was the best off-leash dog, except for when a rabbit or squirrel needed to be chased to her chosen borders, or until a UPS truck drove onto our street, at which point she lost her mind and her dignity. Leash walking was necessary only to get us to the rail trail, or from a parking area to another Sullivan County trail. Molly loved trotting on the Hurleyville rail trails in all kinds of weather, both before and after they were paved. She often carried a stick on the trail. If it was hot or sunny, she went swimming in an adjacent swamp or pond, and we threw the stick as far as we could into the clear, colder water. Sometimes a couple of geese would “chase” her, honking loudly, which she ignored.

Molly’s herding instincts were somewhat distorted by not having sheep or other live animals for her to gather. She sometimes tried to “push” slow moving cars as if they were sheep on our dead-end street, barking and lunging like she owned the place. When friends came to visit, she was reluctant to let them leave, nipping at their shoes or ankles. Only those who really “got her” knew to look her in the eye and say “no” with authority. For all the others, I said a quick goodbye and then lured her away from their moving ankles with treats.

Molly knew she was a good girl because she heard us tell her a million times. And she knew she was loved when she let me kiss her face, which I miss enormously.

Agnes Sligh Turnbull said, “Dogs’ lives are too short. Their only fault, really.”

I couldn’t agree more.



PHOTO BY LILY BARRISH

### Chefs and students after a successful dinner.

through challenges, all within a “classroom” setting,” she said.

Covid shut the dinner series down for a couple of years, but they were able to resume in fall of 2022. Restaurant Operations is always held in the fall and Banquet & Catering is in the spring.

Currently, there are 28 students enrolled in the program at SUNY Sullivan. While a majority of the students are recent high school graduates, there are also adult learners choosing a new career, such as an ironworker who retired last January and decided to

go back to school to follow his passion of cooking.

Two chefs, both graduates of the program, ran the evening behind the scenes: Chef Michael Benedetto, and Chef Foteini Handrinos.

“It’s an incredibly meaningful experience for me to return to SUNY Sullivan,” Mr. Benedetto said. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to come full circle and share my knowledge and passion for culinary arts with the next generation of aspiring chefs. It’s a chance to give back to the institution that helped shape my own culinary jour-

ney and to guide students on their own path to success.”

The guests in attendance gave favorable reviews. After the first course, guest Ginny Palmer, said, “I loved the French onion soup. I try it everywhere I go and that was good!”

Following the dessert course, Ms. Palmer said, “Delicious. I like the lemon on top,” referring to the cheesecake.

“I made the cheesecake, start to finish, with assistance from the chefs,” said student and server for the night, Brian Carey, who then shared his process of using egg yolks, butter, sugar and lemon zest to create the lemon topping.

There are six of these events each semester. Earlier this semester, the Culinary program did two takeovers of the Catskill Brewery’s Catskill Food Truck. The next dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, at 5 p.m.

FROM THE FILES OF...

# THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

### November 8, 1916 News of the Week

The Methodists are putting a new roof on the church here, having secured permission from the Baptist Association to do so.

One platform upon which both presidential candidates might share: “Save us from our friends.”

Now is a good time to look at the figures after your name on the Sentinel and see if it is paid in advance as it should be. Pay up now while you have the money.

Where are our correspondents? If you need stationery let us know. If you expect to read the news of the nearby villages in which you are interested, you must also consider that others might like to hear from your village and the only way is to send in the news.

### November 22, 1916 Local and Personal Items

The next meeting of the Midland Grange will be held Friday evening of this week. All members are urgently requested to be present.

The corporation “M. E. Gardner, Inc.” of Hurleyville has been chartered by the secretary of state to conduct an insurance agency. The capital stock is \$4,000, consisting of shares of \$100 each and the directors for the first year are as follows; Marvin Gardner and Sadie Gardner of Hurleyville and Milton Gardner of Loch Sheldrake.

I. T. McNally of Hurleyville has secured the agency for the Grant Six. Come in and look over the 1917 model. Immediate delivery. Let us tell you more about it. There is nothing that can be compared with it for anywhere near the price of \$825.

To the public, I wish to announce to my friends, patrons and general public that I am moving my grocery business from its present location to the new and larger quarters in the Slausen building next door which I recently purchased. In the future I shall handle a complete line of groceries, butter, eggs, vegetables, dry goods, shoes and in fact everything in the line of general merchandise. Thank you for past favors and soliciting new business, I remain respectfully yours. A. Newberg, Hurleyville

There are lots of things you want for Thanksgiving, such as favors, postcards, etc., and the place to get them is at Wood’s Studio.

### November 29, 1916 Local and Vicinity News

W. J. Prince & Son are putting up their saw mill on their large wood tract near Strongtown today and expect soon to have it in operation and will then be in a position to furnish wood as well as coal.

The Murray Electrical Co., has set poles and run wires up the hill to Lawyer Baker’s residence.

Brenner’s new feed mill is nearly ready to commence operations and makes a very nice appearance from the outside.

### Farmers, Attention!

Do not spoil yours and



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
**NYS Senator John Bonacic**

your fellow farmers’ interest by selling milk to shippers at present. We do not ship to New York. We pay \$2.15 per hundred for 3.6 milk for October. We pay 3c for each one tenth of a percent above 3.6 and deduct 3c for each point below. We pay twice a month. We will pay the League’s prices as soon as shippers will be forced to sign with the Dairymen’s League.

We sympathize with the great work of the Dairymen’s League. We are a co-operative, organized by farmers for the benefit of farmers. We will do our utmost to help the farmers gain their rights. Do not dump your milk; bring it to the co-operative Jewish Farmers Creamery, Hurleyville.

### November, 2016 New Sidewalks Coming to Town

A portion of Hurleyville’s Main Street will soon be getting badly needed sidewalk improvements as the result of funding obtained by NYS Senator John Bonacic.

Mr. Bonacic (R/C/I-Mt Hope) has announced that he has secured a \$100,000 grant for the Town of Fallsburg to help with the installation of sidewalks in Hurleyville. The grant was secured as part of the State Municipal Grant Program, funding for which was appropriated in the 2016-2017 State Budget.

The \$100,000 grant will be dedicated to the construction of new sidewalks and curbing along the easterly side of Main Street, between Thompson Street and Cunes Road. The scope of the work includes demolition and removal of existing concrete sidewalks, new concrete curbing, relocation of one fire hydrant, asphalt paving, and restoration work including topsoil, seeding, and mulching in disturbed areas.

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dancing and live music.**

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# THE VERDICT PART I

*The Verdict was originally published in 1908. It is in the public domain.*

The Verdict was originally published in 1908. It is in the public domain.

I HAD always thought Jack Gisburn rather a cheap genius--though a good fellow enough--so it was no great surprise to me to hear that, in the height of his glory, he had dropped his painting, married a rich widow, and established himself in a villa on the Riviera. (Though I rather thought it would have been Rome or Florence.)

"The height of his glory"--that was what the women called it. I can hear Mrs. Gideon Thwing--his last Chicago sitter--deploring his unaccountable abdication. "Of course it's going to send the value of my picture 'way up; but I don't think of that, Mr. Rickham--the loss to Art is all I think of." The word, on Mrs. Thwing's lips, multiplied its "r"s as though they were reflected in an endless vista of mirrors. And it was not only the Mrs. Thwings who mourned. Had not the exquisite Hermia Croft, at the last Grafton Gallery show, stopped me before Gisburn's "Moon-dancers" to say, with tears in her eyes: "We shall not look upon its like again?"

Well!--even through the prism of Hermia's tears I felt able to face the fact with equanimity. Poor Jack Gisburn! The women had made him--it was fitting that they should mourn him. Among his own sex fewer regrets were heard, and in his own trade hardly a murmur. Professional jealousy? Perhaps. If it were, the honour of the craft was vindicated by little Claude Nutley, who, in all good faith, brought out in the Burlington a very handsome "obituary" on Jack--one of those showy articles stocked with random technicalities that I have heard (I won't say by whom) compared to Gisburn's painting. And so--his resolve being apparently irrevocable--the discussion gradually died out, and, as Mrs. Thwing had predicted, the price of "Gisburns" went up.

It was not till three years later that, in the course of a few weeks' idling on the Riviera, it suddenly occurred to me to wonder why Gisburn had given up his painting. On reflection, it really was a tempting problem. To accuse his wife would have been too easy--his fair sitters had been denied the solace of saying that Mrs. Gisburn had "dragged him down." For Mrs. Gisburn--as such--had

not existed till nearly a year after Jack's resolve had been taken. It might be that he had married her--since he liked his ease--because he didn't want to go on painting; but it would have been hard to prove that he had given up his painting because he had married her.

Of course, if she had not dragged him down, she had equally, as Miss Croft contended, failed to "lift him up"--she had not led him back to the easel. To put the brush into his hand again--what a vocation for a wife! But Mrs. Gisburn appeared to have disdained it--and I felt it might be interesting to find out why.

The desultory life of the Riviera lends itself to such purely academic speculations; and having, on my way to Monte Carlo, caught a glimpse of Jack's balustraded terraces between the pines, I had myself borne thither the next day.

I found the couple at tea beneath their palm-trees; and Mrs. Gisburn's welcome was so genial that, in the ensuing weeks, I claimed it frequently. It was not that my hostess was "interesting": on that point I could have given Miss Croft the fullest reassurance. It was just because she was \_not\_ interesting--if



Edith Wharton

NY TIMES PHOTO

I may be pardoned the bull--that I found her so. For Jack, all his life, had been surrounded by interesting women: they had fostered his art, it had been reared in the hot-house of their adulation. And it was therefore instructive to note what effect the "deadening atmosphere of mediocrity" (I quote Miss Croft) was having on him.

I have mentioned that Mrs. Gisburn was rich; and it was immediately perceptible that her husband was extracting from this circumstance a delicate but substantial sat-

isfaction. It is, as a rule, the people who scorn money who get most out of it; and Jack's elegant disdain of his wife's big balance enabled him, with an appearance of perfect good-breeding, to transmute it into objects of art and luxury. To the latter, I must add, he remained relatively indifferent; but he was buying Renaissance bronzes and eighteenth-century pictures with a discrimination that bespoke the amplest resources.

"Money's only excuse is to put beauty into circulation,"

was one of the axioms he laid down across the Sevres and silver of an exquisitely appointed luncheon-table, when, on a later day, I had again run over from Monte Carlo; and Mrs. Gisburn, beaming on him, added for my enlightenment: "Jack is so morbidly sensitive to every form of beauty."

Poor Jack! It had always been his fate to have women say such things of him: the fact should be set down in extenuation. What struck me now was that, for the first time, he resented the tone. I had seen him, so often, basking under similar tributes--was it the conjugal note that robbed them of their savour? No--for, oddly enough, it became apparent that he was fond of Mrs. Gisburn--fond enough not to see her absurdity. It was his own absurdity he seemed to be wincing under--his own attitude as an object for garlands and incense.

"My dear, since I've chucked painting people don't say that stuff about me--they say it about Victor Grindle," was his only protest, as he rose from the table and strolled out onto the sunlit terrace.

I glanced after him, struck by his last word. Victor Grindle was, in fact, becoming

the man of the moment--as Jack himself, one might put it, had been the man of the hour. The younger artist was said to have formed himself at my friend's feet, and I wondered if a tinge of jealousy underlay the latter's mysterious abdication. But no--for it was not till after that event that the rose Dubarry drawing-rooms had begun to display their "Grindles."

I turned to Mrs. Gisburn, who had lingered to give a lump of sugar to her spaniel in the dining room.

"Why has he chucked painting?" I asked abruptly.

She raised her eyebrows with a hint of good-humoured surprise.

"Oh, he doesn't have to now, you know; and I want him to enjoy himself," she said quite simply.

I looked about the spacious white-panelled room, with its \_famille-verte\_ vases repeating the tones of the pale damask curtains, and its eighteenth-century pastels in delicate faded frames.

"Has he chucked his pictures too? I haven't seen a single one in the house."

A slight shade of constraint crossed Mrs. Gisburn's open countenance. "It's his ridiculous modesty, you know. He says they're not fit to have

about; he's sent them all away except one--my portrait--and that I have to keep upstairs."

His ridiculous modesty--Jack's modesty about his pictures? My curiosity was growing like the bean-stalk. I said persuasively to my hostess: "I must really see your portrait, you know."

She glanced out almost timorously at the terrace where her husband, lounging in a hooded chair, had lit a cigar and drawn the Russian deerhound's head between his knees.

"Well, come while he's not looking," she said, with a laugh that tried to hide her nervousness; and I followed her between the marble Emperors of the hall, and up the wide stairs with terra-cotta nymphs poised among flowerers at each landing.

In the dimmest corner of her boudoir, amid a profusion of delicate and distinguished objects, hung one of the familiar oval canvases, in the inevitable garlanded frame. The mere outline of the frame called up all Gisburn's past!

**Part II of The Verdict will appear in the December edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel.**

## GROWING OUR OWN

### A Look Inside Fallsburg's Administration Internship Program

FALLSBURG -- School administrators play a significant role when it comes to the efficiency of the education system. They're responsible for providing resources for teachers, promoting an inclusive school environment, and improving the quality of education. However, in recent years, districts throughout the Hudson Valley region have seen a decline in certified and available school administrator candidates.

With this becoming a significant concern among many districts, school leaders are left to their own devices to figure out ways to reverse the issue. Some have implemented their own initiatives with the hope that they can incentivize teachers to pursue certification. But there's one district that has seen signs of optimism with their efforts to increase the number of administrators, and that is the Fallsburg Central School District.

Fallsburg's "Grow Our Own" administrative internship program, sponsored in part by the Mid-Hudson School Study Council and supported by SUNY New Paltz, is the district's newest initiative to encourage more teachers to pursue an administrative role. Each intern is assigned to work under the guidance of an administrator and take on a variety of tasks related to the administrative position they are interested in pursuing.

The first slate of interns for this program consists of seven teachers, Carlye Bertholf, Anthony Cordero, Laura DeGraw, Regina Giordano, Isabel Mejia, Daniel Redmond, and Jaime Walsh, and one



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jessica Scanna (left) and Regina Giordano (center) meeting with their internship supervisor, Leighanne Russell.

high school speech-language pathologist, Jessica Scanna. These interns are mentored under current administrators; elementary principal Mary Kate Stinehour, high school principal Shana Bruestle, and Director of Pupil Personnel Services Leighanne Russell.

One of the program's primary goals is to ensure that interns are comfortable enough in the role of an administrator before officially deciding to pursue a job in administration. The interns can pursue certification but are not obligated to finish the entire process, as it can be an overwhelming experience for teachers to make the leap from leading in a classroom to leading in a building.

"I believe the challenges of recruiting staff for administrative roles are the same as when I started. Some may lack confidence in moving into this type of position, others have young children or family commitments, which make it more difficult to devote the time needed to be an administrator," said Mary Kate Stinehour.

The program has been designed to accommodate the intern's busy schedules and be cost-effective. It consists of Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) courses that last four semesters, with two classes required per semester. Interns typically meet with their supervisor 2-3 times per week and have the opportunity to work on their own time.

The Grow Our Own initiative has also allowed interns to gain a well-rounded understanding of the education system and its challenges. This is especially true for Ms. Giordano, a high school special education teacher, who has experienced some of those challenges while working with Ms. Russell and the Pupil Personnel office.

One of Ms. Giordano's primary responsibilities was to help place students needing an alternative education outside of the district. She would seek out a suitable school for the student and attempt the transition process. But certain circumstances, like arranging transportation and connecting with family members, have been

challenging to navigate. "We have not been all that successful in placing these students yet," said Ms. Giordano. "But, it's insightful to see how many steps are needed just to do one thing that sounds so simple."

Despite the challenges, the interns have found this program extremely valuable for their professional development. Even if they do not plan to become an administrator soon, the experience has made them more prepared for the role and better educators overall.

"Taking all of these classes has been helpful in teaching me to see the other side of the coin that I don't always see as a teacher," said Regina Giordano. "It has made me a better teacher because I have a better understanding of the whole system instead of just my classroom system."

The Fallsburg Central School District plans to continue the program with hopes of inspiring more teachers to take on an opportunity that could change their future career paths.

## Memorial Trees Planted to Honor Past Fallsburg CSD Employees

FALLSBURG -- On October 17, the Fallsburg Central School District held a memorial ceremony on the front lawn of the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School to honor the many teachers, administrators, and staff members who have passed. As a

living tribute to those employees, the district planted two dogwood trees, one at the Junior-Senior High School and the other at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School.

Several school community members, including Superintendent of Schools,

Dr. Ivan Katz, and Board of Education president, Michael Weiner, shared their remarks about the legacies of the past employees.

"Let us celebrate the lives they lived and the profound influence they had on all of us," Mr. Weiner said. "May this tree

stand as a living tribute to their memory, a testament to the enduring power of education, and a reminder that their legacy will continue to grow and flourish through the students and fellow staff members they inspired."

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# SENTINEL SPORTS



## TAKING DOWN THE BEARS

### FALLSBURG FOOTBALL BESTS TRI-VALLEY 38-32

by Win Hadley

FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Comets raced out to a 16-0 lead over the visiting Bears of Tri-Valley on October 27, and held off a furious second half rally to come away with a 38-32

victory. The win improved the Comets record on the season to 5-2. Tri-Valley fell to 3-6 with the loss.

Fallsburg's 3-1 league record puts the Comets in second place behind undefeated Sullivan West, while the Bears 2-2 league mark has



nine tackles on defense in the game, second on the team to Ethan Dunn.

After shutting out Tri-Valley in the opening stanza, Fallsburg surrendered 12 points in the second quarter while scoring eight themselves, to lead at halftime by 24-12. Each team put eight points on the scoreboard in the third quarter, after which the game score stood at 32-20, but the Bears managed to outscore the Comets in the

closing quarter by 12-6 to make it close at the end.

Fallsburg finishes out its season on Friday, November 3 with a visit to Lake Huntington to take on Sullivan West in a 7 p.m. contest. The Bulldogs already own a victory over the Comets this year, capturing a 32-16 win in September, the first of two consecutive losses for Fallsburg, which has righted itself with two straight wins since.

#### BALLGAME BAFFLERS

BY BRIAN

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

#### November Questions:

1. The first college football game played on Thanksgiving Day featured Yale and Princeton. What year was it?
2. What two college teams, at the time ranked first and second nationally, played a memorable Thanksgiving Day game in 1971 that turned out to be one of the most exciting college football games ever?
3. What two teams traditionally host NFL games on Thanksgiving Day?
4. In what year did the NFL add a prime time game on Thanksgiving?
5. What two teams played in the first NFL Thanksgiving game to go into overtime?

#### October Answers:

1. In what year was game 3 of the World Series postponed due to an earthquake? (1989)
2. What player holds the record for most World Series home runs in a career? (Mickey Mantle)
3. Which is the only franchise from outside the USA to win the World Series? (Toronto Blue Jays)
4. Who was the first manager to win a World Series with teams from both leagues? (Sparky Anderson)
5. In what year was the first scheduled night World Series game played? (1971, Game 4, Orioles and Pirates)

There was no winner last month.

JENA YOUNG

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them in third place, ahead of Eldred (1-3) and Livingston Manor-Roscoe (0-4).

Junior quarterback Nick Storms again led the way for

Fallsburg, completing 14 of 22 passes for 195 yards and a touchdown. Senior Isaiah Young was also effective through the air for the Com-

ets, connecting on four of five passes for 29 yards and a pair of scores. Young also caught five passes for 75 yards and a touchdown.

Freshman Jadiel Monche led the Fallsburg ground game, carrying the ball eight times for 72 yards. Monche also contributed

## HONORING VETERANS WITH A HIKE

### Highland History Hike at the Minisink Battleground

BARRYVILLE—The Barryville based non-profit history education group, The Delaware Company will mark Veterans Day this year by sponsoring a history hike at the Minisink Battleground Park, site of the Revolutionary War Battle of Minisink.

The Highland History Hike is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 11 and will last approximately 90 minutes. Sullivan County Historian John Conway, president of The Delaware Company,

will provide the narration.

“Those who were killed at the Battle of Minisink on July 22, 1779, were among our very first fallen Veterans,” Delaware Company Executive Director Debra Conway said. “The fact that their remains were left on the battleground for 43 years simply adds to the solemn nature of the park, and we will honor that before starting the hike.”

Topics to be covered during the hike include the culture, language and legacy of the indigenous

Lenape people, the early European settlers, the timber rafting industry and its impact on the river valley, the impact of the Revolutionary War on the region, an account of the battle itself, and an update on The Delaware Company's ongoing Minisink Marker Project.

Participants will meet at the Benjamin Tusten Memorial Pavilion by the parking lot, where a moment of silence will be held for the fallen prior to commencing the hike. In

the event of severe weather, the event will not be held. Any announcements about the cancellation will be made on The Delaware Company's Facebook page.

The Highland History Hike is free and open to the public. The Minisink Battleground Park is located at 58 County Road 168 in Barryville. The park is owned by Sullivan County with historical programming provided by The Delaware Company.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO...

### Sullivan Cagers Eye Conference Crown

by John Conway

FALLSBURG— It was November of 1973—50 years ago this month—and the basketball team at Sullivan County Community College had high hopes for their best season ever.

Coming off a 20-10 record the year before that included an 8-4 slate in the Mid-Hudson Conference, the Generals were being discussed as the odds-on favorite to capture their first ever conference title.

Coach John Webster's Sullivan contingent returned its top two scorers from the previous season, the virtually unstoppable Mike Hay, the nation's eighth leading scorer at 27.1 ppg, and 6-foot 2-inch swingman John Dickson, who pumped in 24.4 points per contest. All three of the Generals' other starters from the year before—a season during which Sullivan scored better than 100 points in 12 games—were also returning.

But it wasn't just the returnees that buoyed the hopes of the squad for a championship. Two former

Newburgh Free Academy standouts, Ron Smith and Beverlis Robertson, were expected to crack the starting line-up along with Hay and Dickson, as was 6-foot 4-inch freshman Curtis Daniels from Franklin D. Roosevelt High School in Brooklyn. That left former Liberty star Errol Smalls, who had averaged 11 points and 14.5 rebounds for the Generals the previous season, and Ken Haskins, who contributed 10 points and 11 rebounds to the Sullivan attack, battling for playing time off the bench.

With all the firepower on the offensive end—Smith had the highest single-season scoring average ever in the Tri-County region while at NFA—Webster made it a point that defense would be the hallmark of this current team.

“We had an atrocious defense last year, and we really want this year to be different,” he told Reg Gale, a sports writer for the Times Herald-Record newspaper. “We've decided to set a limit of just 80 points for our opponents.”

Sullivan captured their first game of the season on November 17, a 110-81 victory over Kingsborough Community College of Brooklyn on the Fallsburg High School court. Smith led the way for the Generals with 24 points—20 in the second half—while Hay and Daniels each scored 19 and Dickson added 18.

Sullivan won its next game—the conference opener against Rockland County Community College in Suffern—by an impressive 101-57 margin. Smith again led the way, scoring 20 points, while Dickson added 16 and Robertson 14. Mike Hay scored just seven points in the game.

On November 29, the Generals closed out the month on a downbeat, dropping a home game against

non-conference foe Broome County Community College by a 79-78 score. Broome scored with 12 seconds left to capture the win. Mike Hay scored just five points for Sullivan in the game. Smith hit for 22 to lead the offense, and Daniels and Haskins chipped in with 14 apiece.

Sullivan would also drop its next game, opening the month of December with a 110-97 loss to conference foe Post Junior College of Waterbury, CT. The defeat left the Generals with a 2-2 record on the young season, and seriously set back the team's hopes for the Mid-Hudson crown. Shortly, it would be revealed that dissension was racking the squad, with Smith's propensity for shooting too much at the center of it.

## GETTING OUTSIDE

### Even a Short Saunter on the Rail Trail Can Improve Your Health



PHOTO BY WIN HADLEY

The Milk Train Trail is a great place to visit year around, but particularly in autumn.

by Win Hadley

HURLEYVILLE— Numerous studies over the years paint a disturbing picture of the typical American's relationship with the great outdoors.

For example, a 2001 study funded by the Environmental Protection Agency showed that the average American spends approximately 93 per cent of their lives indoors. And another more recent study, entitled “The Nature of Americans National Report,” found that “more than half of adults reported spending five hours or less in nature each week,” and perhaps more shockingly, that they were satisfied with “this small amount of time spent outdoors.” The report noted that the parents of children 8 to 12 years old said that “their children spend three times as many hours with computers and televisions each week as they do playing outside.”

With an asset like the Milk Train Trail section of the Sullivan O & W Rail Trail so close at hand, there is no excuse for people living in and around Hurleyville to be part of those statistics.

And the lure of the trail, as well as the benefits of even a short walk along it, does not decrease with the

departure of summer. In fact, there are few things as physically appealing as the Milk Train Trail in autumn, and even in winter there is much to recommend about taking time to hike, stroll, saunter, or roll on the trail.

SnowBrains.com notes in a 2022 blog that “people often think that we get colds and flu more often in the winter because it's cold out. False. We get colds and flu more often in the winter because we are inside more often and exposed to higher concentrations of airborne pollutants, including cold and flu viruses. Being inside also means we don't see the sun and end up vitamin D deficient, a vitamin that is essential for our immune system.”

A study in the Journal of Environmental Science and Technology, authored by Robin Mejia, states that “[i]n a meta-analysis of ten studies, they found that getting outside—and moving—for as little as five minutes at a time improved both mood and self-esteem.”

So no matter how hectic your day, there is no excuse not to visit the Rail Trail several times a week all year around, if only for a few minutes at a time.

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