

## ANOTHER FABULOUS SPOT

### Restaurant Reborn on Main Street

by Denise Sullivan

**HURLEYVILLE** — Watching Hurleyville come alive in the spring is pure magic, and the restaurant rebirth happening at 218 Main Street is no exception.

You may not see a sign on the front of the building yet, but Taverna is open, alive, warm, and inviting. This gem had a quiet opening in late Autumn 2025, and it was packed with local folks for Holiday in Hurleyville on December 6. The Taverna Catskills Facebook page was established around the same time.

The iconic building at 218 Main Street is a space that has encouraged people to gather for decades, most recently as The Pickled Owl gastropub, which had a great run for nine years until early 2025. Taverna owner/operator Aimee Rein is no stranger to Hurleyville, having been the very first manager at the Tango Cafe at HPAC when it made its debut. Ms. Rein said she had her eye on this space for quite some time, and the hospitality experience she brings with her is robust.

Her story in the industry has always been a family affair, and includes some of the area's most beloved



Taverna's current menu

local spots. It began at the legendary Miss Monticello Diner, where she started at just 13 years old, eventually returning years later to a team that felt more like family than coworkers. Many neighbors recognize her as a familiar face behind the bar at her brother Anthony's place, Roark's Tavern (Saving the world, one beer at a time - Anthony Rein).

From the Dodge Inn to the cafe at the White Lake airport—all while simultaneously running a cleaning business—Ms. Rein has seen hospitality from every angle, starting as a “mom and pop” staffer and evolving into a consultant who helps local spaces find their true identity. A true entrepreneur at heart, her deep roots in the community are built on a foundation of di-



Taverna owner Aimee Rein

verse expertise and strong family ties.

When asked about her career path to owner/operator, Ms. Rein said that being a manager is just who she is.

“People that are entrepreneurs,” she maintains. “They just cannot really do without creating and managing something. Over

time, maybe things kind of fell that way for me - being a business owner and manager. But you have to take the risk to do it. It also has to be something that you decide you're OK with doing, you know, because it is very comfortable to just work for somebody else.”

As many new eateries have evolved over time, Taverna is growing and



The dart boards at Taverna, which hosts a number of dart leagues during the week.

changing in its own way. When asked about how to elevate the customer experience, Ms. Rein's answer was refreshingly simple.

“It's really just to give the correct hospitality,” she said. “Really make sure that things are clean, staff people are nice, you feel welcome, you feel like you're not rushed and the time is flying.”

She envisions a comfortable, vibrant atmosphere filled with locals, and aims to maintain that welcoming, neighborhood feel, regardless of the season.

Looking forward, her focus is on creating a sustainable yet evolving dining experience. Menu options right now lean toward Mediterranean food, and include a variety of shared

plates and starters, salads as sides or full meals (a favorite of mine and Ms. Rein's is the seafood salad), flatbreads, wings, burgers, and five “main dishes.”

While the kitchen may close before the bar, items like burgers and wings are available later into the evening. Ms. Rein said that her plans include analyzing sales data to refine the menu, introducing a unique mocktail program, and rotating bar offerings to keep things fresh.

Other goals in the next few months are to install the sign on the front of the building and to have a grand opening. Local artist Olivia McCarthy, whose talents can be seen on Hurleyville's large signs at the entrances to the hamlet, is working on Taverna's exterior sign. An outdoor hut, The Squirrel's Den, will sit alongside the building by the rail trail, selling refreshments to hikers.

Taverna is open Monday through Thursday 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m., and Sundays from 1 to 8 p.m. Taverna is available for booking special events and you can follow them on Facebook and Instagram - @tavernacatskills.

It's another fabulous spot in the happening hamlet of Hurleyville!

### TCFD BOARD HAS NEW CHAIR

**HARRIS** — The Center for Discovery® (TCFD) has announced the appointment of Michael Dubilier as Chair of its Board of Directors, effective December 10, 2025. Dubilier succeeds Edward Sweeney, who has concluded his tenure as Board Chair after years of distinguished leadership and will continue serving as a member of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Dubilier first joined The Center for Discovery's Board in 2019 and has played an active role during a period of significant growth and innovation for the organization. With more than four decades of experience in investment banking and private equity, he brings extensive financial expertise and governance experience to his new role as Chair.

Mr. Dubilier entered the investment field in 1983 with Drexel Burnham Lambert, where he specialized in utilities, energy, and telecommunications, becoming a partner in the Corporate Finance Department in 1988. He later worked in direct investments with Clayton Dubilier & Rice, participating in numerous acquisitions and recapitalizations. In 1994, he founded Dubilier & Company. Throughout his career, he has served on numerous corporate boards and currently serves on several, including Acrow Bridge, DC Safety, and Shaklee. He also serves as Vice Chairman of 50T Holdings and Chair of the investment committee of DanuVG. Mr. Dubilier holds degrees from Connecticut College and Thunderbird School of International Management and completed postgraduate studies in finance at New York University.

“We are thrilled to welcome Michael as our new Board Chair,” said



PHOTOS PROVIDED  
Michael Dubilier



Edward C. Sweeney

Dr. Theresa Hamlin, President and CEO of The Center for Discovery. “His strategic insight, financial acumen, and thoughtful leadership will be invaluable as we continue to expand our impact and strengthen our integrated model of care.”

“It is a privilege to serve as Board Chair of The Center for Discovery at such an important moment in its growth. The Center's commitment to innovation and improving outcomes for individuals with complex disabilities is truly extraordinary. Ed

and the board, in partnership with management, have built a runway of opportunity for The Center and I am excited to be able to contribute. I look forward to working alongside Dr. Hamlin and my fellow Board members to further strengthen the organization's impact and ensure its continued leadership in shaping the future of care,” Mr. Dubilier said.

The TCFD organization also extends its deepest gratitude to Edward Sweeney for his 15 years of service to the Board to date, including nine years as Chair. Mr. Sweeney joined the Board in 2011, and was elected Chair in 2016. During his tenure, he has been a tireless advocate for children and adults with complex disabilities and has played a critical role in advancing The Center's mission.

“Ed's leadership as Board Chair has been transformational,” Dr. Hamlin said. “He has been a steadfast champion of our work, helping to secure critical resources, elevate our voice, and guide us through meaningful growth. We are grateful that he will continue to serve on the Board and support our mission.”

Mr. Sweeney, SVP of External Relations at NRS, Inc., was honored as The Center for Discovery's Evening of Discovery Gala Honoree in 2023 in recognition of his dedication and impact.

As The Center for Discovery continues to expand its nationally recognized model of care and innovation, this leadership transition marks an important next chapter in the organization's continued growth and service to individuals with complex disabilities and medical needs.

### FCSD to Induct Three Into Hall of Fame

**FALLSBURG** — The Fallsburg Central School District is excited to announce their Class of 2026 Hall of Fame inductees: Joseph Goldstein, James Minarsky, and Albert White.

After graduating as salutatorian from Fallsburg High School in 1961, Joseph Goldstein studied philosophy at Columbia University. Upon graduation, he joined the Peace Corps, teaching English in Bangkok, Thailand, where he first became interested in Buddhism. After completing his Peace Corps service, he spent most of the next seven years in India studying and practicing Buddhist meditation. In Bodhi Gaya, India, Goldstein studied under the guidance of Anagarika Sri Munindra and S. N. Goenka, and later with renowned Burmese and Tibetan teachers. What began as a Peace Corps assignment became a lifelong journey of meditation and teaching.

In 1974, Goldstein returned to the United States to become one of the first instructors at the newly founded Naropa Institute in Boulder, Colorado, one of the first Buddhist-inspired universities in the United States. After teaching there and leading retreats throughout North America and Europe, Goldstein joined fellow teachers Jack Kornfield and Sharon Salzberg in envisioning a retreat center dedicated to insight meditation. In 1976, they co-founded the Insight Meditation Society (IMS) in Barre, Massachusetts, which has grown into an internationally recognized meditation retreat center. In 1989, Goldstein helped establish the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies, and in 1993, the Forest Refuge, a center for long-term personal retreats.

Joseph Goldstein has become one of the most respected and influential teachers in the Insight Meditation community. He is widely credited with

helping introduce insight meditation and mindfulness—rooted in the early teachings of the Buddha—to the West. He has written numerous internationally beloved books, many regarded as foundational introductions to meditation and the Buddha's teachings. Colleagues and students alike hold him in high regard for his clarity, humility, and warm sense of humor.

James “Jim” Minarsky, a 1958 Fallsburg graduate, left behind a remarkable legacy as a dedicated servant to his community. Early in his adult life, he started working for the Fallsburg Gas Company as a propane mechanic alongside serving as a volunteer firefighter for the Fallsburg Fire Department. He later joined the Grahamsville Fire Department after nine years of service, where he was eventually elected to Chief.

Soon after serving his term as Chief, he was appointed Deputy Fire Coordinator for the Sullivan County Bureau of Fire. Some notable accomplishments include consolidating the county's emergency services into one dispatch center, providing new radio systems and fresh gear for firemen, and ensuring that all Sullivan County Fire Departments submit their reports to the State.

His decades-long service earned him tremendous respect within the community and beyond. He was named honorary Chief of the Hurleyville and Fallsburg Fire Departments, became a lifelong member of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firefighter's Association, and served on the Fireman of the Year committee.

He also led a highly fulfilling career at the Fallsburg Gas Company, earning the moniker of “Master Propane Mechanic”. People looked to him for his expertise on propane safety and pro-

pane-related fire emergencies.

James passed away on June 15, 2020. However, his impact on the community will endure for many years to come.

When it comes to Fallsburg sports figures, one name stands out among the rest: Albert White. His most notable accomplishment, as a member of the school's track and field team, was being crowned New York State champion in the 100m in 1997, and the 200m in 1998. He was also a two-time State Runner-Up and eight-time Section IX champion in track and field. His school records in the 100m, 200m, and the high jump, remain unbroken.

In addition to competing in track and field, he was also a member of the school's soccer and basketball teams. He helped lead his basketball team to the OCL Championship and earned a spot as one of fifteen players on the Times Herald-Record All-Star team.

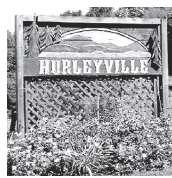
After graduating in 1998, he attended the University of Rhode Island on a track and field scholarship. He competed in the 55m, 4x100, 4x400, and 200m races throughout his collegiate career. He was awarded Atlantic-10 All-Conference and All-New England honors.

After many years as a leader on the field, he is now a leader in his own community. He has worked for New Hope Community since 2005, serving as a Staffing Specialist. He has transformed the lives of countless residents of Sullivan County by providing stable employment and mentorship. He also continues to carry his passion for sports by volunteering to coach youth sports programs.

The Hall of Fame ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 27 at 6 p.m. at the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School cafeteria.

# Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



**LEND A HAND IN HURLEYVILLE!**

It's almost time to plant our planters and barrels. Work dates will be announced soon!

Visit Hurleyville-Sullivan First at [www.hurlevilleny.com](http://www.hurlevilleny.com) or on Facebook.

**HURLEYVILLE-SULLIVAN FIRST (HSF)**  
The members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First continue to work with local community groups and businesses on the ongoing revitalization of "the liveliest little hamlet in the Mountains". Everyone is invited to come out and help plant annuals and perennials in the barrels on Main Street and in the stone planters at the entrances to Hurleyville and at the Hurleyville firehouse. Work dates will be announced soon.

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

## HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Bread of Life Food Pantry will be open on Thursday, March 19, and on Thursday, March 26, from 3 until 4:45 p.m. Visitors to the food pantry are asked to please bring a bag or a box. More than 75 families are served by volunteers at the food pantry each week. Donations of clothing, household items and personal care items are always welcome. The support of the community is always greatly appreciated.

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

"Messy Church" will begin on Saturday, April 11 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. All children are invited to take part in the fun and creative activities and must be accompanied by an adult. Please call 845-434-5097 for information.

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

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

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

Donations of diapers, new socks, new underwear and new t-shirts for children in foster care are being collected at the church. The volunteers at the church also collect 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 Lonnie at 845-798-4809 for more information on services and activities at the church. You

can also visit the church on Facebook.

## THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

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

You can visit the Sullivan County Historical Society and Museum at [www.scny-history.org](http://www.scny-history.org) or on Facebook.

## COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

The Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance (CHNA) was formed in 2012 by a group of local residents dedicated to sustainable development, responsible development, protection of our water supply, preservation of our rural environment and safety of wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Members of the group have met regularly since then in order to be prepared for when the developer of the proposed Gan Eden Estates project on Colum-

bia Hill appears again before the Town of Thompson Planning Board. The group meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Hurleyville Firehouse. The meeting is open to all residents in the community who demand responsible and sustainable development.

The group will meet with Town of Fallsburg Engineer Ken Ellsworth on Thursday, April 23 to discuss concerns with the proposed Gan Eden Estates project:

- dangerous impact on water supply... municipal and private
- adverse effect on neighboring wetlands
- perilous effect on fire-fighting needs
- harmful effects of runoff
- wastewater treatment plant discharge
- wastewater treatment plant failure

Fallsburg Supervisor Nathan Steingart is also expected to attend the meeting.

The site of the project has a history of causing runoff flooding of roads and neighborhoods in Hurleyville. The planned over-building of the project: 89 buildings, paved roadways, numerous parking spaces, basketball/tennis courts and pools will only exacerbate the situation. The developer claims that retention ponds and vegetated swales will address the issue. Those components already exist on the site but haven't proven effective.

The developer of the proposed Gan Eden Estates project has received approval from the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) for water withdrawal from the wells at the site of the proposed project. The wells are in Hurleyville. Now that the request for water withdrawal is approved the project's developer will have to work with the Town of Thompson on approvals for the project.

The impact on noise, traffic, electric capacity and air quality will affect the entire neighborhood. The development is in the Hurleyville Fire District. The Hurleyville Fire Department will be responsible for the protection of lives and properties at the development.

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



## THE ESSENCE OF SPRING

It's the scent of a newly mown lawn  
Yes, grass and pollen will be in the air  
Anyone who is allergic will feel the onslaught won't be fair

The sneezing and the tear-filled eyes  
And the nose that constantly runs  
Make spring a difficult season to believe that you'll have fun

But, then there's the fragrance of lemons  
With its tartness on display  
Kids squeeze them, add water and sugar  
Put a sign up that says what we'll pay

What about the smell of a hot dog?  
Caressed by a hot dog bun  
What a treat it is to eat one while taking in the rays of the sun

We don't really smell ice cream  
While it's in the glass-covered case  
We certainly do like its smell and taste as it gets closer to our face

This season also brings the bees and wasps  
Along with the birds that sing  
So, let's sum it up by saying  
How glad we are that it's finally spring!

Mimi  
April 2026

## FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



### APRIL WEATHER



PHOTO PROVIDED

You may be happy to hear that the April weather in New York State may see warmer than normal temperatures this year, at least according to the TimesTelegraph.com website.

Continuing a trend from March, New York has equal chances to see normal spring temperatures in April, but part of the State is more likely to receive above average precipitation. The eastern part of the Empire State, including New York City, Long Island, and the lower Hudson Valley, has equal chances to see normal precipitation.

On the other hand, according to the "Farmer's Almanac", mostly cold temperatures are forecasted to linger into April, with some parts of New York to get heavy snow. Also, frosty mornings may

persist longer than usual in our State.

"The Old Farmer's Almanac" is predicting below normal rainfall in New York State, which may see warm and dry weather conditions in April. New York, which has portions of the State within four of the 18 different weather regions the nation is divided into, will experience warmer than average temperatures this Spring, particularly in May.

"Spring is expected to arrive at an unhurried pace, taking its time before fully stretching into warmth," the "Farmer's Almanac" predicts.

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

**MESSY CHURCH**  
Believe CHURCH DONE DIFFERENT

Saturday April 11th 4:00pm - 5:30pm

CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, SONGS, FOOD, STORIES & GAMES

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The following is an opinion piece written by the taxpayer group, Fallsburg's Future. It does not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper, its publisher or its staff. The Hurleyville Sentinel will happily print opposing or supporting views as they are received.

## Church Road: A Mendacious Development with Major Red Flags

Dear Friends and Neighbors

There is a proposed development at 40 & 44 Church Rd., in process for the last three years. The developers have evaded filing proper plans, stonewalled building code inspectors and have continually changed what type of development is occurring. According to the latest request, it will now function as a yeshiva. It is unknown if it will be year round or summer only. There will be 103 students living on premises under conditions yet to be specified. There is no mention of what classrooms will be available. There is no mention of the commercial kitchen needed to feed these students on a daily basis. There are major safety and fire road access issues for the expected traffic. All previous work was done without approval and proper inspection for this new use as a yeshiva. The 2 properties were individual properties under different ownership, one a seasonal bungalow colony, the other a single family home.

Below is a synopsis of all the issues involved.

- These concerns show the extent that the developers have managed to obfuscate their plans, evade legal requirements, all in hopes of rushing through their "new" development to open this summer without proper and necessary safeguards.
- YKS: Proposed Yeshiva - 40 & 44 Church Road
- 1. Unpermitted Construction Still Unresolved
- Shul, decks, bungalow renovations and alterations were built without permits. There are No documented final inspections
- No certificate of occupancy reflecting current or proposed use exists
- \*The building permit and CO was issued for a 1-family house "owned" by Kathy Farris, who had had sold the property and could not have legally applied for a building permit.
- A "new application" now under consideration does not erase prior illegal construction
- The Board cannot lawfully approve a new use until baseline compliance is ver-

- ified
- 2. Change in Occupancy Classification, a Critical Issue
- The current proposal shifts usage from a seasonal bungalow colony (low-density residential use) to an institutional Religious school, including Dormitory housing, and Assembly use (shul)
- This means entirely different code classifications under NYS Building & Fire Code:
- Educational occupancy, Residential group occupancy and Assembly occupancy
- Each classification carries different requirements for:
- Sprinkler systems, Fire alarms, Fire separation ratings, Egress width, Emergency lighting, Smoke detection and Occupant load calculations
- No documentation has been provided showing compliance with any of these requirements.
- 3. Dormitory Use in a Former Single-Family House
- A single-family dwelling is being proposed to function as a dormitory
- There is no evidence of:
- Required fire separation walls between sleeping rooms, Secondary means of egress, Code-compliant stairways, Fire alarm system, Sprinkler system nor an inspection verifying safe conversion
- 4. Fire Truck Access is Inadequate
- A 5-foot fence blocks fire access to house and there are Gates in the areas where fire trucks would need to stage
- Road width within former colony is insufficient for Fire Ladder trucks and 45-foot buses
- No formal fire access plan has been submitted nor is there any documentation of Mountandale fire department review or approval
- 5. Occupant Load Transparency Failure

- Statements at the last meeting referenced:
- 10 families and 103 students with a Possible 150+ people on site
- None of the below requirements have been fulfilled:
- No formal maximum occupancy declaration, No documented occupant load calculation, No fire flow analysis and especially No sanitation load verification tied to occupancy
- 6. No Independent Fire Safety Review has been Submitted
- Despite prior concerns, there has been:
- No stamped life-safety plan, No fire protection engineering report, No emergency evacuation plan, No supervision plan for minors nor Any nurse/medical response protocol
- 7. Special Use Permit Requires Heightened Scrutiny
- Although a school is a permitted use in the HR zone:
- A special use permit is nonetheless mandatory and requires the Planning Board to affirm that:
- Public health is protected, Public safety is protected, Fire protection is adequate, Access is safe and that this use will not endanger the community
- Key Questions for the Planning Board
- Has the Town received written confirmation from Code Enforcement and the Fire Department that:
- Are all existing structures code compliant?
- That all unpermitted work been inspected?
- Does the proposed dormitory use meets fire and life safety codes?
- Is Fire truck access adequate?
- Do occupant load calculations comply with NYS Code?
- If the answers are no, the Board must refuse to grant approval.

# GIFT BINGO

To Support the Woodridge Senior Citizens Club

May 16, 2026

Woodridge Village Hall

2 Dairyland Road  
Woodridge, NY 12789

Admission \$5 for 2 cards

Door opens at 2:00 PM; Games begin at 3:30 PM

Refreshments Sold, All New Items, Penny Social Table, 50/50 Raffle and more



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# THINGS ARE HAPPENING

## Busy Month At the Tango Cafe

by Lily Barrish Levner

HURLEYVILLE – A lot has been going on at the Tango Cafe—a new chef, new menu & new programs! The public is giving it two thumbs up again. March offered a variety of events, all requiring tickets ahead of time.

The month started off with a comedy night hosted by the Corner Store Comedy Troupe. Five comedians traveled from around the area to deliver an evening of laughs. A special menu with bar bites was available during the show. Local musician Greg Castro performed for the crowd, singing and playing his guitar.

“It was a pleasant night out,” said Howie Perlman, who attended.

In mid-March the students from SUNY Sullivan’s culinary program hosted the sold-out MediterrAsian Fusion: A Culinary Experience at the Tango.

A \$30 ticket included a three-course family-style meal. Chef Jason DiSimone assisted the students and the professors. SUNY Sullivan



President David Potash told the crowd that the college is committed to increasing student enrollment and to success.

“The culinary program is an example of how talented our students are. We know we can do more. We have an obligation to the community. We welcome your feedback

in any format. Thank you for coming and showing support for the college,” he said.

The month wrapped up with a celebration for Women’s History Month called “Women in Jazz Night.”

Accomplished female jazz musicians filled the space with exceptional music composed by women over the



years. “Struttin’ with Some Barbecue,” written by Louis Armstrong’s second wife, Lillian was a fan favorite.

The Steam Fund sponsored the event, for which the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre expressed its gratitude.

“The Steam Fund supports musicians, artists and

the venues where they share their gift, said Judy Siegel, co-founder of the foundation with her husband, Gary. “When HPAC talked to us about female jazz artists, we said we’d love to be the sponsor! It’s the second year we sponsored the event and we love the opportunity to support HPAC.”

PHOTOS BY LILY BARRISH LEVNER

Above left: Jamie Hendrickson on right, Isabelle Mentnech on left. Culinary Arts students.

Above right: Drummer and founder Kim Peralta, saxophonist Kate Anderson, bassist Lew Scott, (who stepped in for Jennifer Vincent) and pianist Sarah Jane Cion.

### Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

- 1) WAR
- 3) WEATHER

The war was greeted with enthusiasm. There were big parades. People assumed it would all be over in a few weeks, that it would be a lark. “Our boys will be home by Christmas” was the common refrain.

D. H. Lawrence recalled that first day, in August of 1914: “Then we came down to Barrow in Furness, and saw that war was declared. And we all went mad. I can remember soldiers kissing on Barrow station, and a woman shouting defiantly to her sweetheart ‘When you get at ‘em, Clem, let ‘em have it,’ as the tram drew off.”

But the boys weren’t home by Christmas, nor for many Christmases thereafter. The fronts locked into unyielding the fighting would ever end; it was beyond control. In a sense, it didn’t end, and we live still in a shadow cast by the civilizational rupture of the Great War.

“The War finished me,” Lawrence wrote, “it was the spear through the side of all sorrows and hopes.”

- 2) WILL

“Our boys will be home by Christmas...”

The delusion of control — that through force of will, through personal intention alone, the behavior of complex systems can be influenced and the outcome of complex events determined — is a consoling fiction. Simone Weil traced that delusion as far back as “The Iliad,” in which the outcomes of battle are so unaccountable they can only be attributed to Apollo and Athena & Co. The current of force favors one side, then the other, in see-saw fashion. But who controls the current? Each side, in their moment of possession, has the hubris to think that they do.

“Thus it happens,” Weil wrote, “that those who have force on loan from fate count on it too much and are destroyed.”

“The Weather Is Getting Wilder,” a recent headline of March 2026, could be referring equally to our civic life, to global strife, and to climate change. The article states that “key impacts are exceeding what models predicted when it comes to extreme weather.”

March, a month of erratic weather at best, has been spikier than usual this year, a strobe-like succession of hot and cold days. Weather systems, untethered from their accustomed patterns, thrash wildly about, showing “signs of intense stress,” the article says: “Things are getting really outside of what humans have ever seen.”

To help humans see it, forecaster Ben Noll created a graphic to track the fronts of March, a digital globe swathed in red bands for warm currents and blue bands for cold. Then he set it in motion. It’s a startling display: the fronts swirl around each other like over-caffeinated yin-yang symbols, jostling, squooshing, supplanting one another — force in pure form, answerable only to the physics of its own momentum, beyond human control.

“Drill, baby, drill!” — hubris is a red flag flapping in the wind till a white one is hoisted in its place.

- 4) WAR

“Our boys will be home by Christmas...”

A week before the fall of Saigon, in April of 1975, the American Colonel Harry Summers Jr. said to one of his North Vietnamese counterparts, Colonel Tu, “You know, you never defeated us on the battlefield.” Col. Tu replied: “That may be so, but it is also irrelevant.”

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

## THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR FILM FESTIVAL

### Semiquincentennial Commission Hosts at Narrowsburg Union

NARROWSBURG - The Sullivan County Semiquincentennial Commission is proud to announce the Revolutionary War Film Festival at the Narrowsburg Union on April 24, 25, and 26.

The festival will feature three films with Revolutionary War themes, a social hour, exhibits and displays, an introduction, a Q&A, and much more, all free of charge, made possible by the sponsors, The Delaware Company, the Narrowsburg Union, and the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance.

On Friday evening, April 24, the film festival kicks off with a showing of “April Morning,” the 1988 movie adaptation of the novel by Howard Fast about the battles of Lexington and Concord through the eyes of a 15 year old boy who is inadvertently drawn into the war.

The movie stars Tommy Lee Jones, Robert Ulrich, and Chad Lowe, with a good supporting cast including Rip Torn.

On Saturday evening, April 25, it is “The American Revolution,” the PBS documentary by Ken Burns’ Florentine Films. Episode 4 will be featured, which includes footage shot at Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg.

Episode four covers the period from January of 1777 through February of 1778, and focuses on the Battles of Oriskany and Saratoga. While Saratoga was a major turning point in the war, and convinced the French to enter the conflict on the side of the Americans, Oriskany featured militia and Native Americans on both sides, and proved to illustrate how the Revolutionary War pitted neighbor against neighbor. It also splintered the Iroquois confederacy, as tribes chose up sides.

On Sunday afternoon, April 26, the popular 2000 Roland Emmerich film, “The Patriot,” with Mel Gibson and Heath Ledger will be featured. In addition to the lead actors, the movie boasts a strong supporting cast led by Jason Isaacs, Tom Wilkinson, Joely Richardson, and Chris Cooper.

“We screened a number of movies before selecting the three we’ll be showing,” said John Conway, Sullivan County Historian and co-chair of the Semiquincentennial Commission. “We chose ‘April Morning’ because we think a lot of people are not familiar with it and will be seeing it for the first time. We were very fortunate to be given access to the Ken Burns’ episode, and



we are grateful to Florentine Films for the opportunity to show it, especially since it includes shots of Fort Delaware. And while some people love to criticize ‘The Patriot’ for its historical inaccuracies, it is a popular film with a great cast and a surprising local connection. It is entertainment, and should be viewed as such. I always advise people not to get their history from Hollywood.”

Each of the movies will be preceded by a social hour in which attendees can mingle with each other and with re-enactors in colonial attire while enjoying complimentary refreshments and browsing exhibits and merchandise for sale. A brief introduction of the films will follow, and then the movie. Each session will conclude with a short Question and Answer period.

The Friday and Saturday events begin at 6 p.m., with

the films showing at 7. The Sunday afternoon session begins at 2 p.m., with the movie screening at 3.

Pre-registration is required for each session, and seating is limited. Email [info@thedelawarecompany.org](mailto:info@thedelawarecompany.org) for more information and to register for one or more of the sessions.

The Narrowsburg Union is the reimagining of one of Narrowsburg’s most iconic buildings as a multi-use commercial facility that builds on the existing strengths of the Upper Delaware River Valley region and communities, while providing an environment for new ideas to germinate and flourish. It is located at 7 Erie Avenue in Narrowsburg, NY.

The Delaware Company was founded in 2012 as a non-profit history education group based in Barryville, NY. Its mission is to promote and support the history and historic landmarks of the Upper Delaware River Valley and beyond. Among other undertakings, it has operated Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg since 2021. The Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, based in Narrowsburg, is a non-profit platform for artists, and funds local creatives and cultural organizations through its role as the Arts Council of Sullivan County



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Time for Spring Cleaning, Sullivan County!

### Annual Litter Pluck Runs through Oct. 31

MONTICELLO – Sullivan County’s Annual Litter Pluck, which launched April 1, runs all the way through October 31, 2025. By resolution of the County Legislature, the disposal fee is waived during that time for roadside, public trail, and water bodies/shoreline litter at County-operated transfer stations.

This popular annual event is coordinated by the County’s Parks, Recreation and Beautification Department and the Division of Public Works.

“This is a great way to ‘clean ourselves up’ as we get ready for spring, summer and fall,” says Legislature Chairman Nadia Rajs. “One of the first impressions we make on anyone – residents and visitors – is the state of our roads. We can

really put the shine on this beautiful area, and keep it that way!”

Residents who wish to participate in the Litter Pluck may pick up their free disposal coupons, along with program guidelines, at their town or village hall, any County-operated transfer station, or the Sullivan County Parks, Recreation and Beautification Department in the Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello. Participants will be asked to register at the County-operated transfer station at the time of disposal.

For more information about the Litter Pluck, please contact the Sullivan County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Beautification at 845-807-0287 or email [scsparks@sullivanny.gov](mailto:scsparks@sullivanny.gov).

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## DUCKS RETURNING

Woodridge Kiwanis Hatching Mystery Event

WOODRIDGE – Those crazy duckies are at it again! What could they be up to? Can’t they sleep?? Can’t they let their neighbors sleep???

Early to bed...early to rise. It seems that Maddie McDucky has been up at the crack of dawn these days pushing her progeny to get more exercise in preparation for the upcoming BIG EVENT! They are out and about at the crack of dawn each day doing push-ups, squats, flapping their wings and running in place-- making all kinds of racket and waking the neighbors with their

quacking. If they just could have been quieter! Now the entire neighborhood has figured it out, and not wanting to be left behind, they are busy preparing to catch up with the McDuckys in the exercise department. Good thing the weather is starting to warm up and the ice is thawing off the stream. It means good days ahead for the swimming exercise they will all need to be ready for the BIG EVENT! Watch for more updates on the BIG EVENT from Maddie McDucky, exercise guru extraordinaire, coming soon!

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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.

Two people stopped by and joined. Delia Brannan and Belter Reyes are now members of the Hurleyville Fire Department. Welcome aboard Delia and Belter!

The month of February was pretty rough on the Fire service in the County. There were two fire related civilian deaths in Yulan and one in Bloomingburg. In addition, there was a double fatal motor vehicle accident in Wurtsboro and one in Woodridge.

On a positive note, the Roscoe Fire Department made a great save of three civilians at a structure fire in Roscoe.

Those calls were in addition to 27 structure fire calls, 38 motor vehicle accidents and 140 activated alarms that departments responded to in February. Along with those calls, we have already responded to a few brush fires.

Remember the "NYS BURN BAN" is March 16 thru May 14. No open burning is permitted during that time frame.

As the snow melts, it leaves us with mud. The surface grasses and brush are very dry at this time of the year, and it does not take much to get it burning. A little wind and a glowing ember are all it takes to start a brush fire this time of the year. To help keep your home safe follow these helpful suggestions:

- Keep debris well away from your home.
- Dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings to reduce fuel for fire.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and on or under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home.
- Remove dead vegetation and other flammable materials, especially within the first five feet of the home.
- Move construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least thirty feet away from the home and other

THE SULLIVAN COUNTY BUREAU OF FIRE  
WANTS TO REMIND EVERYONE  
**BURN BAN IN EFFECT**  
MARCH 16TH — MAY 14TH

**Burn Ban In Effect**  
During this time period, no open burning shall be allowed.

ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

outbuildings.

Spring is in the air. Here are some spring cleaning and safety tips:

- Use/store flammable and combustible liquids with care.
- Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used near an open flame.
- Never smoke when working with these liquids.
- If you spill liquids on your clothing, remove your clothing and place it outside to dry. Once dry, clothing can be laundered.
- Keep liquids in their original containers. Keep them tightly capped or sealed. Never store the liquids in glass containers.
- Inspect your grill to ensure it is in good working order.
- Inspect your grill carefully and make sure it is free of grease or fat buildup. Clean out any nests, spider webs, or other debris you may find.
- For propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year.
- Use/store flammable and combustible liquids with care.
- Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used near an open flame.
- Never smoke when working with these liquids.
- If you spill liquids on your clothing, remove your clothing and place it outside to dry. Once dry, clothing

can be laundered.

- Keep liquids in their original containers. Keep them tightly capped or sealed. Never store the liquids in glass containers.
- Never mix cleaning products together.
- Clean out your clothes dryer.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe for your dryer is not restricted and that the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. This includes making sure the outdoor vent flap is not covered by snow or other debris.
- Move things that can burn, such as boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, away from the dryer.
- Clothes that have come in contact with flammable substances like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

I am starting my 57th year in the fire service, and have responded to all types of calls. Some of the above safety hints that were not followed created a lot of those calls. Once again make sure you have working smoke and CO detectors in your home and make sure you can get out of you house if your normal way is blocked (have two ways out).

Be Smart & Safe Out There!

## "Shorts & Sweets for April Fools" coming to Roscoe

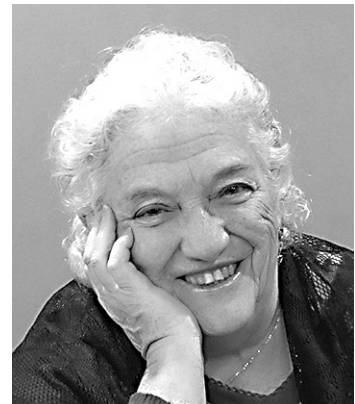


PHOTO BY JONATHAN CHARLES FOX  
Carol Montana

ROSCOE – April 2026 is here, and what better time for some risqué jokes?

"Shorts & Sweets for April Fools" is by far Big Sky Productions' most requested program. This "adults only" presentation will be performed by Big Sky's Laure Valentine and Carol Montana at the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

This program of funny, devilish, bawdy and slightly off-color short stories, anecdotes and jokes will be accompanied by sweet treats and beverages provided by the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library director and trustees.

Laure Valentine is a resident of Livingston Manor who currently works at the Monticello Central School District as a Speech/Language Pathologist. She has appeared on screen in the pilot for "The Manor." Laure loves performing for Big Sky Productions, which is where she met her honey



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Laure Valentine

Mike nearly 30 years ago during their production of "On Golden Pond"!

Carol Montana, Artistic Director of Big Sky Productions has a Master's Degree in Dramatic Form and Structure from the University of Connecticut. She's directed over 60 plays for several area theatre companies and schools. Carol has worked as a journalist, library clerk, public relations director and theatrical technical director, as well as a newspaper editor. She is currently the freelance Media Manager for Action Toward Independence and Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County.

The Roscoe Branch of the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library is located at 85 Highland Ave, Roscoe, NY. Registration is suggested at lmr-library.org, but walk-ins are always welcome. Admission is free!

For more information, call Big Sky Productions at 845-985-3175 or the Roscoe Library at 607-498-5574.

FROM THE FILES OF...

# THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

COMPILED BY Sullivan County Historian John Conway

## April 9, 1913 New School Recognized

Mr. B.F. Evans, Trustee of the Hurleyville school, has received the following letter from Frank H. Wood, Chief of the Inspection Division of the New York State Education Department regarding the new school: Dear Sir – I am pleased to advise you that Mr. Hall reports that the test and inspection of your new school building were entirely satisfactory.

The Test showed that the amount of fresh air received and the amount of foul air exhausted were in excess of requirements. The district is to be congratulated on the possession of such a good modern school building. Very truly yours, Frank H. Wood

## Mud on Hilldale Road

Numerous complaints have been received at this office in regard to the condition of the Hilldale Road. It is stated that no less than five automobiles have been stuck in the mud at the Lehigh place during the past week.

There is probably little sympathy felt for the man with an automobile who gets stuck in the mud there, but those who have to travel this road daily are becoming very indignant. Residents of the Hilldale



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO  
The Elm Shade Hotel in Fallsburg as it looked in 1937.

Road who answered the call last fall for volunteers to permanently repair the road near the four corners feel that those who did not turn out at that time should be willing to do just a little work on the road adjoining their property.

## April 15, 1938 Fire Destroys Elm Shade Hotel in Fallsburg

Fanned by a strong wind, flames destroyed the 110-room main building of the Elm Shade Hotel near Fallsburg on Sunday. The loss was estimated at \$125,000.

The hotel had recently been opened in preparation for a busy Easter week and seven guests had already arrived when the fire was discovered, shortly after 11 a.m. Most of them, as well as the dozen employees and family of the proprietor, lost all their possessions as the flames spread quickly through the stucco-covered frame building.

Aside from Joseph Stern, South Fallsburg police chief and fire captain, who was overcome by smoke in the cellar where the fire is believed to have started, no one was injured. Chief Stern was picked up by other members of his department who brought him outdoors, where he was quickly revived; he returned to fight the fire, the cause of which was undetermined.

Arthur Williams, the hotel's bell-boy, discovered the fire in the cellar near the oil-burner and sounded the alarm. South Fallsburg companies responded first and laid two lines to the Neversink River, 1,000 feet away. Next in order came companies from Woodridge, Mountaineer, Monticello and Woodbourne, but the flames soon escaped control despite efforts of all firemen.

The blaze roared through the building and ate through floors and ceilings. As floors and walls of the four-story structure collapsed, steam radiators dropped through to the basement or fell

out through the crumbling walls.

A hotel built on the same site in 1920 burned a year later. It was reconstructed. In 1929, it was greatly altered and enlarged, so that its 210-foot frontage then made it the widest hotel in Sullivan County. It was at that time valued at considerably more than \$100,000.

When the Monticello firemen arrived, Chief Robert York and Assistant Chief Floyd Brown concluded that the main building was beyond saving; they directed their men to keep the fire from spreading to the nearby social hall, a large structure that was saved and then turned to the main building.

The fire continued to burn till after dark Sunday evening. South Fallsburg firemen, last to leave the scene, returned home tired and hungry.

Morris Kaufman was owner of the hotel, and his partner in its operation was Harry Cherkoff, both of whom lived in New York for the winter. The Kaufman family had been at the hotel more than a week, however, to prepare the place for Easter occupancy. Cherkoff arrived just before the fire started.

## April 2020 County Cautious in Countering Corona

As confirmed cases of the Corona virus continued to mount toward the end of March, Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek and Public Health Director Nancy McGraw advised non-residents against coming to the county and Legislators met in an emergency meeting to add personnel to deal with the emergency. Commencing Monday, March 23, 2020, the Sullivan County Clerk's Office and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will be closed to the public until further notice. Drop boxes will be located in the lobby of the Government Center for both the DMV and the Clerk's Office.

## YOUTH BUREAU OFFERS FUNDING

Proposals Seeking Monies Due by April 10

MONTICELLO – The Sullivan County Youth Bureau welcomes proposals from local youth, community, school and municipal groups interested in obtaining funding for their 2026 programming.

"The Sullivan County Legislature has provided \$200,000 for my office to distribute to youth-oriented programs and activities across the County, and we want to allocate every cent," said Youth Bureau Director Cathie Paci. "This money is meant to improve the lives of our children and teens throughout the rest of 2026, so I encourage eligible groups, schools and municipalities to apply

now!"

Eligible applicants are community-based organizations, nonprofits, school districts and local municipalities that will be offering programming that aims to improve at least 10 young people's (under 21) physical/emotional health, community connections, academic achievement, resilience and/or access to services between May 1 and December 31, 2026. Priority will be given to intergenerational activities, development of youth leadership skills, physical/emotional health activities, family-centered activities and conflict resolution, especially with marginalized

youth.

Proposals are due by April 10. To obtain the full details about submitting a proposal – or for any questions – contact the Sullivan County Office of Purchasing & Central Services at purchasing@sullivanny.gov. Please include "RFP: #R-26-15" in any correspondence.

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# THE LOVER AND THE TELLTALE PART II

A Whilomville Story by Stephen Crane

*The Lover and the Tell-tale is a short story by the great American author Stephen Crane (1871-1900), who spent much of his life in Sullivan County. The story, originally published in Harper's New Monthly Magazine in October, 1899, is one of Crane's so-called Whilomville stories, fiction set in a thinly disguised city of Port Jervis, where Crane's family lived when he was a boy. The story is in the public domain. In Part I, we met young Jimmie Trescott, who is agonizing about writing to his girlfriend without his schoolmates discovering it. Unfortunately for him, a particularly outgoing student, Rose Goldege, has found out and announced it to the entire playground. Here is the conclusion to the story...*

of the male sex against laying warrior hands upon their weaker sisters. But, of course, this voice from the throne hindered Jimmie in what might have been a berserk attack.

Even the little girl was retarded by the voice, but, without being unlawful, she managed soon to shy through the door and out upon the play-ground, yelling, "Oh, Jimmie Trescott's been writing to his girl!"

The unhappy Jimmie was following as closely as he was allowed by his knowledge of the decencies to be preserved under the eye of the teacher.

Jimmie himself was mainly responsible for the scene which ensued on the playground. It is possible that the little girl might have run, shrieking his infamy, without exciting more than a general but unmitigated interest. These barbarians were excited only by the actual appearance of human woe; in that event they cheered and danced. Jimmie made the strategic mistake of pursuing little Rose, and thus exposed his thin skin to the whole school. He had in his cowering mind a vision of a hundred children turning

from their play under the maple-trees and speeding towards him over the gravel with sudden wild taunts. Upon him drove a yelping demoniac mob, to which his words were futile. He saw in this mob boys that he dimly knew, and his deadly enemies, and his retainers, and his most intimate friends. The virulence of his deadly enemy was no greater than the virulence of his intimate friend. From the outskirts the little informer could be heard still screaming the news, like a toy parrot with clock-work inside of it. It broke up all sorts of games, not so much because of the mere fact of the letter-writing, as because the children knew that some sufferer was at the last point, and, like little blood-fanged wolves, they thronged to the scene of his destruction. They galloped about him shrilly chanting insults. He turned from one to another, only to meet with howls. He was baited.

Then, in one instant, he changed all this with a blow. Bang! The most pitiless of the boys near him received a punch, fairly and skilfully, which made him bellow out like a walrus, and then



The other students surrounded him, shrilly shouting insults.

Jimmie laid desperately into the whole world, striking out frenziedly in all directions. Boys who could handily whip him, and knew it, backed away from this

onslaught. Here was intention—serious intention. They themselves were not in frenzy, and their cooler judgment respected Jimmie's efforts when he ran

amuck. They saw that it really was none of their affair. In the mean time the wretched little girl who had caused the bloody riot was away, by the fence, weeping because boys were fighting.

Jimmie several times hit the wrong boy—that is to say, he several times hit a wrong boy hard enough to arouse also in him a spirit of strife. Jimmie wore a little shirt-waist. It was passing now rapidly into oblivion. He was sobbing, and there was one blood stain upon his cheek. The school-ground sounded like a pinetree when a hundred crows roost in it at night.

Then upon the situation there pealed a brazen bell. It was a bell that these children obeyed, even as older nations obey the formal law which is printed in calf-skin. It smote them into some sort of inaction; even Jimmie was influenced by its potency, although, as a finale, he kicked out lustily into the legs of an intimate friend who had been one of the foremost in the torture.

When they came to form into line for the march into the school-room it was curious that Jimmie had many admirers. It was not his

proress; it was the soul he had infused into his gymnastics; and he, still panting, looked about him with a stern and challenging glare.

And yet when the long tramping line had entered the school-room his status had again changed. The other children then began to regard him as a boy in disrepair, and boys in disrepair were always accosted ominously from the throne. Jimmie's march towards his seat was a feat. It was composed partly of a most slinking attempt to dodge the perception of the teacher and partly of pure braggadocio erected for the benefit of his observant fellow-men.

The teacher looked carefully down at him. "Jimmie Trescott," she said. "Yes'm," he answered, with businesslike briskness, which really spelled out falsity in all its letters.

"Come up to the desk." He rose amid the awe of the entire school-room. When he arrived she said, "Jimmie, you've been fighting."

"Yes'm," he answered. This was not so much an admission of the fact as it was

a concessional answer to anything she might say.

"Who have you been fighting?" she asked.

"I dunno, 'm."

Whereupon the empress blazed out in wrath. "You don't know who you've been fighting?"

Jimmie looked at her gloomily. "No, 'm." She seemed about to disintegrate to mere flaming fagots of anger. "You don't know who you've been fighting?" she demanded, blazing. "Well, you stay in after school until you find out."

As he returned to his place all the children knew by his vanquished air that sorrow had fallen upon the house of Trescott. When he took his seat he saw gloating upon him the satanic black eyes of the little Goldege girl.

*Stephen Crane spent much of his youth in Forestburgh, and when he had achieved international acclaim with the publication of The Red Badge of Courage in 1895, his biography noted that he "lived in Hartwood, in Sullivan County" where his older brother owned a huge tract of land.*

## NEW TAX PARCEL PORTAL LAUNCHED

Platform Allows Users to Search for Property Info

MONTICELLO – Sullivan County's Department of Real Property Tax Services announces a new tax parcel information portal is now available to the public.

"Known as 'Beacon,' the portal is a user-friendly, simple-to-understand web application that makes it easy to locate any public data about properties in Sullivan County – location, acreage, structures, purchase date(s), taxes, maps, aerial photos and a lot more," explains Real Property Tax Services Director Christopher Knapp, noting that the County's Division of Information Technology Services was instrumental in implementing this upgrade.

"This offering replaces our longtime Image Mate

Online program but remains accessible in the same location: <https://www.sullivanny.gov/Departments/RealProperty/PropertyAssessmentData>," adds Sullivan County Treasurer Kathleen Lara, whose office oversees Real Property Tax Services. "Beacon makes it easy to search for property records across the County, and I'm proud of how hard Chris and his crew have worked to update this vital, heavily-used service."

"While the portal is designed to be intuitive, my office understands that people may have questions, and we are happy to assist," Knapp says. "All questions and comments can be sent to [taxmap@sullivanny.gov](mailto:taxmap@sullivanny.gov), and we will respond promptly."



Past and present photos of the Ashokan Reservoir.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## NYC'S CATSKILLS PARTNERSHIP Presented at the Time and the Valleys Museum

GRAHAMSVILLE – On Sunday, April 12, at 2 p.m., staff from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) will give a talk: "New York City's Catskill Partnership" at the Time and the Valleys Museum, on St. Rt. 55 in Grahamsville. This discussion will cover the NYC DEP's mission to protect water quality within the watershed while fostering continued partnerships with local communities in the Catskills. The talk will take a deep dive into the history of the DEP's watershed protection and localized economic development efforts and how the evolving science and regulatory changes are shaping how those programs and relationships will look in the future.

Admission to this program is FREE for Museum Members and \$5 for non-members. Admission to the program also includes light refreshments and Museum admission. The Museum Shop will also be open.

About the Time and the Valleys Museum: Connecting Water People and the Catskills, the Museum is open Memorial Day through September, Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., and other times by appointment. Located at 332 Main Street in Grahamsville (St. Rt. 55), Sullivan County, admission for adults is \$10, children under 16 \$2, and children under six are free.

Museum exhibitions are interactive and both fun and educational for all ages:

- Water and the Valleys, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This exhibition includes interactive activities such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a

mortar and pestle, videos and more.

- Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.

- 1930s Lost Catskill Farm, a farmhouse, out-house, barn, electric plant, milk house, working waterwheel and many other buildings help visitors ex-

perience life in the 1930s through displays, videos, games and hands on activities.

The Time and the Valleys Museum is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, providing free admission to active duty military members (with ID) and up to five family members. For more information call 845-985-7700, e-mail [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org) or visit [www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org). To schedule a field trip for schools, or group tour for children or adults, please call 845-985-7700.

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Volunteer with a Sullivan 180 Project to be Eligible

LIBERTY – The 2026 Sullivan 180 Scholarship application is now available. The scholarship program recognizes volunteer efforts in projects that support the Sullivan 180 mission to build a healthy community through people, places, and policy; with an intentional focus on prevention and empowering a healthier generation. Communities and organizations participating in the 2026 Sullivan 180 grant program welcome volunteer assistance in various activities, including but not limited to gardening, beautification, caring for public spaces, project documentation, outreach, or fundraising.

The Community Foundation of Orange, Sullivan and Rockland, through a donor-advised fund established by Sullivan 180, offers a limited number of scholarships to Sullivan County residents who volunteer in a significant way with a Sullivan 180 project.

William Cooper of Rock Hill, a 2025 Sullivan 180 Scholarship recipient, shared about his volunteer experience, "Seeing the garden transform into

a functional space for students and teachers was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life."

Applications are due by August 25, 2026, and must be completed electronically via the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan's Online Portal. Applicants should submit a personal essay explaining the volunteer experience and how it impacted them personally, a letter of recommendation from the Sullivan 180 project leader, a letter of recommendation from a member of the community or other non-relative and photos from the volunteer experience. Visit [Sullivan180.org](http://Sullivan180.org) for directions and links for applying. Scholarships are announced in September; and are applied toward the 2027 spring semester at an undergraduate college of one's choice.

For more information on the scholarship program or how to get involved in a Sullivan 180 project, contact Anne-Louise Scandariato, Director of Community Engagement at 845-295-2405 or [Anne-Louise@Sullivan180.org](mailto:Anne-Louise@Sullivan180.org).

## FCSD to Host Spring Family Engagement Day

FALLSBURG – The Fallsburg Central School District is excited to announce that they will be hosting their Spring Family Engagement Day on Saturday, May 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School. All are welcome to attend the free-of-charge event, which will include live music, fun games for the children, food, and raffle prizes! There will also be a clothing drive and community organizations providing informational resources.

Free transportation by Rolling V Transportation Services will be provided for this event. Here are the

following pick-up times and locations:

- Bus One
  - 10:15 a.m.: Mountaindale Post Office
  - 10:30 a.m.: Woodridge Town Hall
  - 10:45 a.m.: Woodbourne Fireman's Parking Lot
- 2 p.m.: Drop-Off – Return in opposite direction
- Bus Two
  - 10 a.m.: Loch Sheldrake Municipal Parking Lot
  - 10:15 a.m.: Hurleyville Post Office
  - 10:30 a.m.: Laurel Avenue by Apartments
  - 10:40 a.m.: Griff Court
  - 10:50 a.m.: Main Street Houses in South Fallsburg
- 2 p.m.: Drop-Off – Return in opposite direction

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# SENTINEL SPORTS



## PLACE MATTERS

### MORGAN OUTDOORS OPENED IN HURLEYVILLE IN 2022

by Lisa Lyons

HURLEYVILLE – I can't believe it's been 21 years since I started Morgan Outdoors in the nearby town of Livingston Manor where I've lived for 32 years. When I moved the store to Hurleyville in April, 2022, I was thrilled to find Main Street alive with the sounds of spring! Morgan Outdoors' new home at 234 Main Street was right on the flight path of Canada Geese landing on the nearby pond. They flew low enough that I could see their eyeballs. Wetlands, ponds, and forested areas are close enough to Main Street that birdsong and squawks from returning migratory birds fill the air. To get closer to the action, all we need to do is walk a few steps. The store is

adjacent to the O&W Rail Trail, also known as the Milk Train Trail, an 8-foot wide paved pathway that provides easy access for a wide range of abilities into a natural world away from cars and automation. (See details about a guided Spring Stroll for all abilities in an accompanying article in this edition.) The store is also less than 20 miles from the trail to Red Hill Firetower with stunning 360-degree views of the Catskills. Morgan Outdoors map wall features these trails from easy to more challenging; we keep Catskill Trail maps handy so we can show you details. We also carry National Geographic trail maps from Maine to California. Morgan Outdoors' four-season business pro-

vides footwear, clothing and gear for easy walks, hikes, and snowshoes outings. But it is best known for 30 years of knowledge of local trails and gentle guidance to match each person's outing with their abilities, trail conditions, and the weather. During April, the store experiences its annual Spring Makeover. Good-bye winter boots and thick warm socks; hello sandals, spring hiking footwear, mud boots, and lightweight socks and pants. Lots of colorful walking shoes are finding their way to the shoe department shelves too! Morgan Outdoors is known for its custom shoe and boot fitting. We carry a variety of brands so we can fit a variety of feet, including wide ones! If you're



PHOTO PROVIDED

Morgan Outdoors proprietor Lisa Lyons

in the area, stop by to see what we have. We also love Leki hiking poles and adjustable single staff poles; I am trained to fit them for use from sidewalks to mountain summits so people can safely stay active longer. We also rent them, along with other gear, so

you can try them out. Gardening and foraging books are now on the display table as you walk in, along with hiking, trail maps and guidebooks. We have some goodies for time indoors. Our local history bookshelf includes some unique titles in celebration

of the country's 250th anniversary from local publisher Purple Mountain Press. The children's bookshelves are filled with fun, including a basket of animal, bird, and amphibian finger puppets that can add action to many children's books. Popular demand inspired a "bug table" featuring books and insect catchers for the budding entomologist. Next to it, there's a Cecropia Moth on display that hatched on our ribbon-cutting day in 2022 and is now a beautiful natural history exhibit, along with its empty cocoon. To find more about Morgan Outdoors, check our website [morgan-outdoors.com](http://morgan-outdoors.com), Instagram or Facebook. We are open all year, 5 days a week, with rental gear for year-round outdoor fun. 845 693 4181.

### SPRING STROLL SCHEDULED

Sponsored by Morgan Outdoors

HURLEYVILLE – On Wednesday, April 15 at 12 Noon, the public is invited to join a stroll on the Milk Train Trail in Hurleyville with Lisa Lyons of Morgan Outdoors and Denise Sullivan of Hurleyville Sullivan First. Participants are encouraged to move at their own pace on a beautiful, paved section of the O & W Rail Trail. Adults with rolling walkers and children in strollers are welcome. Faster walkers will take the lead. We will enjoy the sights and sounds of spring as we head through the wetland to the rock cut. There will be geese and mallards nesting nearby, a wide variety of songbirds, perhaps a Great Blue Heron or Bald Eagle fishing. It's an opportunity to meet new people in a relaxed setting. After the stroll, Aimee at Taverna Catskills (formerly the Pickled Owl) will offer water, tea, and coffee on the restaurant's back deck for strollers to enjoy! Please RSVP to Lisa at Morgan Outdoors (email [morganoutdoors@hancock.net](mailto:morganoutdoors@hancock.net) or phone 845-693-4181) by Monday, April 14 to receive an updated forecast and meeting spot in Hurleyville. The inspiration for this gathering was our Main Street neighbor and friend Elaine Corrington who passed away in 2024. After a fall, she used a rolling walker to get around. She was an avid walker and kept active and engaged. This gathering is a tribute to Elaine!

### Celebrate Spring at the 1st Annual FO&WL

Enjoy a bird walk on the Historic O&W Rail Trail in Hurleyville




SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

The first annual FO&WL walk will start from the Trailhead east of Main Street in Hurleyville.

HURLEYVILLE – The arrival of Spring in the Catskills is marked by increased bird activity as temperatures rise, signaling migration and mating season. To coincide with "Go Birding Day" and "Celebrate Trails Day" – two national events traditionally held on the last Saturday in April – the Sullivan County Audubon Society and the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail have joined up to host an inaugural bird watching event in Hurleyville on Saturday, April 25, 2026. Trail walkers and bird watchers are invited to gather at 8:00AM at the trailhead located at 214 Main Street in downtown Hurleyville. Sullivan County Audubon Society President Maura Muller and local birder Kathy Scullion will lead participants on a leisurely one mile out-and-back hike along Shaddock Pond – a hotspot for several species of migratory birds and waterfowl. "Early morning is the best time to view birds," explained Muller, "and we're sure to see and hear local favorites

such as White-breasted Nuthatches, Northern Cardinals, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Mourning Doves, Black-capped Chickadees, Carolina Wrens and American Goldfinches." To which Scullion remarked, "If we're lucky, we may also spy a Great Blue Heron, some Wild turkeys, or one of the many species of waterfowl common in our area." After the walk, participants are invited to enjoy a complimentary beverage and a snack at the Forage & Gather Cafe located at 234 Main Street (while supplies last and redeemable on April 25 only). In addition, all participants will be entered into a drawing to win a copy of "A Birding Guide to Sullivan County New York" by John. H. Haas courtesy of local business owner Lisa Lyons of Morgan Outdoors. Fire Departments participating in the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge will receive 3 points for attending with five or more active members.



**2026 LIFEGUARD COURSES**  
OFFERED BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION & BEAUTIFICATION DEPARTMENT

Course	2026 Course Dates	Schedule	Sullivan County Resident Fee	Non-Resident Fee
Lifeguard Certification	March 10, 12, 17, 19	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$350	\$400
Lifeguard Certification	April 14, 16, 21, 23	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$350	\$400
Lifeguard Certification	May 5, 7, 12, 14	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$350	\$400
Lifeguard Certification	June 22, 23, 24, 25	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$350	\$400
Lifeguard Recertification	March 26, 27	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$175	\$225
Lifeguard Recertification	April 30, May 1	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$175	\$225
Lifeguard Recertification	May 19, 21	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$175	\$225
Lifeguard Recertification	June 4, 5	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$175	\$225
CPRO Recertification	March 27	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$100	\$125
CPRO Recertification	May 1	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$100	\$125
CPRO Recertification	May 21	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$100	\$125
CPRO Recertification	June 5	3:30-9:30pm each day	\$100	\$125

All courses are Blended Learning with online requirements. A minimum of 5 participants is needed for us to offer the course. Courses may be canceled if the minimum number of participants is not met. Courses dates & times may be subject to change.



**BALLGAME BAFFLERS**  
BY BRIAN

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

**April Questions:** (These questions are all taken from the 1984 book, "Trifles & Poppycock: Not Just Another Trivia Quizbook" by John Conway)

1. What player hit a home run in his very first Major League at bat and never hit another despite playing 21 seasons in the big leagues?
2. Who is the only person to play in the Major League Baseball World Series and average 30 points per game as a major college basketball player?
3. Every baseball fan knows that when a batter is hit by a pitch, he is awarded first base...most of the time. Under what three circumstances is a batter who is hit by a pitch not entitled to first base?
4. Even today, Abbott & Costello's comedy routine, "Who's on First" is well known to almost everyone. What one position don't they mention when doing the routine?
5. Who was the first Little League graduate to play in the Major Leagues?

**March Answers:**

1. In what year did the concept of Spring Training for Major League Baseball originate? (1870)
2. In what city were the first spring training games held? (New Orleans, LA)
3. What city is generally regarded as "the birthplace of spring training"? (Hot Springs, AK)
4. How many current spring training venues host more than one team? (14)
5. What innovation is making its debut during spring training games in 2026? (The Robo Umpire)

No winner last month



PHOTO PROVIDED

### RAIL TRAIL BRIDGE PROJECT CONTINUING Summer 2026 Completion Expected

WOODRIDGE—The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance said last week that work on the Neversink Crossing in Woodridge is continuing. This is the project to reinstate the bridge, which will be for pedestrian traffic only, over the Neversink River to link two sections of trail and provide a continuous trail from Fern-

dale to Mountindale. The Rail Trail Alliance notes that the crane pads have been installed, the abutments have been prepped for concrete, and the blocks for

the retaining wall are starting to arrive on site. The project is now in its final phase, and completion by the end of summer 2026 is expected.

The retaining wall are starting to arrive on site. The project is now in its final phase, and completion by the end of summer 2026 is expected.