

A SORT OF QUIETNESS

Hurleyville Bids Good-Bye to Two Linchpins

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE — The hamlet of Hurleyville's Main Street continues its transition, as two more businesses have announced their departure.

On the heels of the thrift shop, "All That Glitters" moving out of its Main Street Mews storefront last month, the announcement came last week that the Tango Café was closing down immediately. That unexpected news was followed days later by a joint statement from the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) and The Center for Discovery (TCFD) that HPAC would be ceasing operation at the end of October.

The opening of HPAC had coincided with the rebirth of The Hurleyville Sentinel in 2016, and the nearly completed building was featured on the front page of this paper's inaugural edition as one of the linchpins of the Main Street revitalization, then just underway.

The announcement about the closing of the Tango Café was a surprise, and the decision to shutter the



The Tango Cafe

SENTINEL FILE PHOTO



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

HPAC founder Janet Carrus



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre

business immediately was attributed by management to "circumstances beyond our control." Tango had just hired a new chef, who in our July edition had talked about big plans for the future.

The announcement read: *A Heartfelt Message from Tango Café at HPAC*

It is with very heavy hearts that we share that, due to circumstances beyond our control, Tango Café will be closing its doors.

This is not the ending we hoped for, and it is difficult to put into words what this café and the support of our

community have meant to us over the years.

Tango has been so much more than a place to enjoy a meal. It has been a gathering place where friends met, families celebrated, conversations were shared, and memories were made.

We have had the privilege of welcoming so many wonderful people through our doors, and we are deeply grateful for every meal you shared with us, every event you attended, every kind word you offered, and every time you chose to support Tango.

To our incredible staff, thank you for the care, hard work, creativity, and heart you brought to Tango each day. You helped make it the warm and welcoming place our community came to know and love.

To our customers, friends, partners, and neighbors: thank you for standing beside us and supporting us throughout the years. Your kindness and loyalty have meant more than we could ever fully express.

Although we are heartbroken that this chapter is coming to an end, we

will always be grateful for the memories, friendships, and special moments created here.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of Tango Café's story. It has truly been an honor to serve you.

Just days after the Tango Café closed its doors, the other shoe dropped when Janet Carrus, the founder and chairperson of HPAC, made a second announcement.

Joint Statement from HPAC and TCFD:

After thoughtful discussion and careful consider-

ation, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) has made the decision to conclude its current operations, effective October 31, 2026. The Center for Discovery (TCFD) will work collaboratively with HPAC and support HPAC as it moves through this transition. This transition reflects HPAC's evolving priorities and strategic direction while honoring the strong partnership and shared commitment both organizations have maintained in service of the Sullivan County community.

For more than a decade,

HPAC has worked to support and celebrate the arts in Sullivan County by offering to the public a variety of cultural opportunities like cinema, festivals, youth and family programming, senior programming, educational classes, and community events. The Arts Centre is grateful to all those who came through our doors, and we thank our staff, volunteers, artists, supporters, donors, and community members who have contributed to this important work.

As HPAC transitions into this next chapter, HPAC and

TCFD remain committed to supporting the continued growth of Hurleyville, Sullivan County, and the broader arts community. TCFD will carry on this work to sustain and expand HPAC's legacy of providing meaningful arts programming in Hurleyville, including initiatives such as sensory-friendly movies, activities for seniors and children, Holiday in Hurleyville, and other community events that bring people together to gather, connect, celebrate and learn.

We are grateful for the opportunity to have worked together and look forward to continuing our respective efforts to create a positive impact and strengthen our communities.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre

Janet Carrus, Founder and Chairperson, HPAC

Upon receiving the announcement about the Arts Centre by email, The Sentinel attempted to follow up with HPAC CEO Christina Antizzo, but a request for further comment had not met with a response by the time the paper went to press.

NEW TRUSTEE FOR SUNY SULLIVAN

LOCH SHELDRAKE — Dr. Robert M. Dufour, Ed.D., has been appointed to SUNY Sullivan's Board of Trustees, bringing decades of administrative experience, a wide network of community partnerships, and a track record as a Sullivan County education leader to a role focused on expanding opportunity across the region.

Dr. Dufour most recently served as district superintendent and chief executive officer of Sullivan County BOCES, where he led efforts to provide high-quality educational programming and workforce training to the school districts and residents of Sullivan County. Prior to his tenure at BOCES, he served for seven years as superintendent of schools at the Eldred Central School District, where he built a reputation for fostering academic excellence and creating positive educational experiences for students and families. He is currently employed as a lecturer/program coordinator of the Educational Administration program at SUNY New Paltz.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Dufour to the SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees," said David Potash, president of SUNY Sullivan. "His academic insight, knowledge of our students and communities, and his commitment to workforce development and educational access make him an extraordinary addition to our board. We very much look forward to the wisdom and energy he will bring to this role."

Dr. Dufour holds a Bachelor of Arts from St. John's University, a Master of Sci-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dr. Robert Dufour

ence and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration from SUNY New Paltz, and a doctorate in Administration and Leadership Studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. His academic background is matched by an equally impressive record of civic engagement: Dufour currently serves on the Board of Directors of Sullivan 180, a non-profit in Sullivan County, N.Y., dedicated to building a healthier community. He previously served on the Board of Directors of New Hope Community and the Sullivan County Broadband Local Development Corporation, was an ex-officio board member of the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce, and was an active member of the Sullivan County Drug Task Force and the Liberty Networking Group.

"SUNY Sullivan is the cornerstone of higher education in Sullivan County, and I am honored to join its Board of Trustees at such an important moment for the institution," Dr. Dufour said. "My career has been built on the belief that education transforms lives and strengthens communities. I look for-

ward to working with my fellow trustees, the college's leadership, and the broader community to ensure SUNY Sullivan continues to grow, innovate, and serve the people of this county for generations to come."

Throughout his career, Dr. Dufour has been a tireless advocate for creating and sustaining partnerships that connect education to workforce development and economic growth, values deeply aligned with SUNY Sullivan's own strategic priorities. His extensive knowledge of Sullivan County's school districts, community organizations, and regional needs positions him as an immediate and invaluable contributor to the board's work.

"Bob Dufour has spent his entire career working to make education more accessible and more impactful for the people of Sullivan County," said Dr. Nancy Hackett, SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees chair. "His experience leading Sullivan County BOCES, his deep network of partnerships across the county, and his genuine passion for connecting education to economic opportunity will make him an invaluable voice on this board. We are truly fortunate to have him."

Dr. Dufour is a resident of Pond Eddy, where he enjoys the scenic beauty of the Delaware River Valley. In his spare time, he is an avid golfer who takes full advantage of Sullivan County's many outstanding courses.

To learn more about SUNY Sullivan and its Board of Trustees, visit sunysullivan.edu.

HARRIS — The Center for Discovery® (TCFD, The Center) is proud to announce that President and CEO, Dr. Theresa Hamlin, has been selected as the recipient of the 2026 Walter A. Rhulen Award, presented by the Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development. The award recognizes individuals whose leadership exemplifies business excellence, community commitment, and service to humanity.

Dr. Hamlin will be honored during the Partnership's Annual Meeting on October 8 at Resorts World Catskills.

For more than four decades, Dr. Hamlin has dedicated her career to ad-

vancing The Center for Discovery's mission of transforming the lives of children and adults with complex conditions through integrated clinical care, education, research, and innovation. Under her leadership, TCFD has become internationally recognized as a model for whole-person care, pioneering groundbreaking initiatives including the SynergE6® Healthspan Model and innovative approaches that demonstrate the profound connection between health, environment, nutrition, and learning.

"This recognition is truly a reflection of our entire Center community," Dr. Hamlin said. "I am deeply honored

to accept this award on behalf of our extraordinary staff, our Board of Directors, the individuals and families we are privileged to serve, and the many partners who share our vision. Together, we have built an organization that continues to redefine what is possible for those with complex disabilities, and I am grateful to be part of that journey."

Today, The Center for Discovery is one of the nation's leading providers of care for individuals with complex disabilities and Sullivan County's largest employer. Through its nationally recognized programs in healthcare, education, agriculture, nutrition, research,



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

Dr. Theresa Hamlin

and workforce development, the organization continues to improve lives while strengthening the regional economy.

"Terry's leadership has always been centered on the children and adults we serve, and the incredible team that makes our mission possi-

ble every day," said Michael Dubilier, TCFD Board Chair. "This honor recognizes not only her vision and dedication over more than 40 years, but also the collective impact of an organization that's committed to innovation and excellence in the field."

The Walter A. Rhulen Award is among Sullivan County's highest honors, recognizing individuals whose professional achievements and commitment to community have made a lasting impact on the region. Patrick H. Dollard, TCFD's President and CEO at the time, received the award in 2013.

IN MEMORIAM:

For more than a decade, Richard Rulli was a familiar sight on Main Street, Hurleyville, and his artwork, in both stone and wood, is still visible if one knows where to look. They are his legacy.

Mr. Rulli passed away in July at his home near Grahamsville.

Friends and acquaintances remember his genius for revealing figures and scenes he always said were inherent in a piece of wood and his love of the Native American culture and lifestyle.

"Richard Rulli doesn't choose what he's going to carve into a piece of wood. He'll tell you that he sees what is already in the tree, and uses his woodwork-



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

Richard Rulli with his white buffalo artwork.

ing tools to uncover what is there," reporter Amanda Loviza wrote in the June, 2017 edition of this newspaper.

His body of work lives on. Among his most impressive works are a buffalo, a turtle,

and a moose, all handcrafted out of concrete and steel, and dozens of wood carvings and sculptures, including a magnificent eight-foot-tall eagle.

A private memorial service is being planned. Rest in Peace, Mr. Rulli.

ABOUT OUR HEADLINE

Our headline for this August edition reflects the grief that many people are feeling in the aftermath of the announcement that the Tango Café has closed and that the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre will soon be shutting down, as well. The quote comes from the C.S. Lewis masterpiece, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" as part of a passage describing the emotional aftermath of deep sorrow. The passage reads: "I hope no one who reads this book has been quite as miserable as Susan and Lucy were that night; but if you have been - if you've been up all night and cried till you have no more tears left in you - you will know that there comes in the end a sort of quietness. You feel as if nothing is ever going to happen again." In this context, the "quietness" that Lewis describes does not refer to the absence of sound, but rather a profound stillness in the soul, the sense of emptiness that follows an emotional—and permanent—good-bye. It reflects the way deep sorrow can leave a lingering sense of hush, as if the world has slowed to a standstill. It appears to be a feeling we're all stuck with, at least until something "happens again."

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



HURLEYVILLE-SULLIVAN FIRST (HSF)

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

Hurleyville-Sullivan First continues to work with local community groups and businesses on the ongoing revitalization of "the liveliest little hamlet in the mountains".

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

HURLEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church will be open on Thursday, August 20 and on Thursday, August 27 from 3 until 4:45p.m. Visitors to the food pantry are asked to please bring a bag. The volunteers at the food pantry always appreciate the support of the community.

The church will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, September 5. Proceeds from the yard sale will be used to help defray the cost of heating fuel at the church.

Everyone is invited to participate in "Prayers in Person" at the church every Thursday from 10 a.m. - Noon and from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Volunteers at the church are collecting socks, gloves, hats, underwear and diapers for children in foster care. They are also gathering newspaper goods for Preventive Services. This county program supports parents in their efforts to keep their children safe and healthy in their own homes. Please contact Cookie at 845-428-5871 or Goldie at 845-467-1641 for more information.

Anyone who needs community service hours can call 845-434-5097 for information.

You can visit the church's

page on Facebook for more information on services and activities at the church.

THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Big Sky Productions and the Sullivan County Museum will present a dramatic reading of "Closets", an original play written by William Duncan at the Museum on August 1 at 2 p.m. and on August 2 at 2 p.m.

Directed by Carol Montana, the cast includes Ellen Pavloff, David Dann, Albee Bockman, Paul Ciliberto, Jazon Dole, Laurie Valentine, Lourdes Hunt, Pamela LeConey and Bob Bliefer-nich.

Tickets for the presentation are \$12.00 and will be available at the door. Refreshments will be available.

"Covered Bridges of Sullivan County", a display of photos by local photographers is now available to view at the Museum.

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...info@scnyghistory.org.

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 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 - 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.scnyhistory.org or on Facebook.

COLUMBIA HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE (CHNA)

Members of CHNA met with the Fallsburg Town engineer, Ken Ellsworth and other Fallsburg personnel including Arthur Ronsenshein, chairman of the Fallsburg Planning Board, on July 23.

Mr. Ellsworth report-

ed that he is still trying to reach out to his counterpart in Thompson re: the proposed Gan Eden project. The meeting focused on environmental concerns with the project including:

- Should the Town of Fallsburg have been designated as an involved party rather than an interested party? Fallsburg supervisor, Nathan Steingart, will get in touch with Thompson supervisor, Scott Mace, re: this question. Is this a reversible decision under SEQRA?

- Misrepresentations by the developer in their DEIS were discussed including the discharge route for the treated effluent from the package plant WWTP into the Class B stream on the site and the potential effect on the Fallsburg portion of a designated flood plain in Hurleyville.

- The developer never responded to Thompson's request for more information on Gan Eden's 2022 DEIS. No required public hearing was held.

- Mr. Steingart will get in touch with Mr. Mace to ensure that Fallsburg is kept in the loop re: any information on the Gan Eden project.

The proposed project will endanger the community and the environment in so many ways including:

- Scope of the project - 534 townhouses, 89 buildings, community center, pool, athletic courts and fields, 400,000-gallon water tank, over 2 miles of interior roads
- Threat to municipal and private water supply - primary wells for Gan Eden are in the Town of Fallsburg
- Harmful effect on neighboring wells as far away as Mongaup Road
- Adverse effect on neighboring wetlands and wildlife
- Dangerous effect on firefighting needs
- Destructive effects of runoff - flooding on Main Street, Columbia Drive and Mongaup Road, danger to downhill wells, flooding of Congregation Anschei Cemetery
- Wastewater treatment plant failure - a threat to residences, Fallsburg town wells, Congregation Anschei Cemetery, the Hurleyville Rod and Gun Club

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- Questionable structural integrity of on-site dam with 3-acre pond
- Hazards of increased traffic
- Hazards of entrances to the development

Members of CHNA continue to meet monthly to focus on the proposed Gan Eden Estates project on Columbia Hill. The meetings are open to all in the community concerned with the protection of our environment and with responsible and sustainable development. The meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hurleyville Firehouse.



Alex Prizgintas

PHOTO PROVIDED

Woodstock 1969: Two Cello Shows of Peace, Love, and Music
Alex Prizgintas Presents

LIBERTY - Building from his existing electrifying rock 'n roll cello programs, such as his popular British Invasion show, Alex Prizgintas is preparing his latest electric cello show to resonate at the heart of the Hudson Valley's rich cultural history.

"Woodstock: 1969 has been an exciting journey," says Prizgintas, whose cello shows are shown more than 200 times annually across the Hudson Valley. "Though some classics from existing shows will be featured in this new program, the bulk of material being presented is fresh and new, covering the depth of artists featured at the Woodstock Festival. Among those I am excited to share, especially with a unique electric cello sound, include the musicians Joe Cocker, Janis Joplin, The Who, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Jefferson Airplane, Mountain, and Credence Clearwater Revival."

What has perhaps been even more exciting in this journey is crafting the historical narrations that accompany each selection to blend history and harmony. This allows Alex to bring in a few artists that, while not present at Woodstock, such as Joni Mitchell, contributed in important ways to the sentiments of that era.

The unique sound of Alex

Prizgintas and his amplified cello will be shown twice across Sullivan County in August. First, Woodstock 1969 will come to the Liberty Public Library on Thursday, August 13th at 6:00 PM. Then, Alex's show will travel to the Makating Public Library in Wurtsboro on Tuesday, August 25th at 5:00 PM. Classically trained, he employs non-classical tools like distortion, delay, and the iconic "wah-wah" guitar pedals symbolic of 1960s Rock n' Roll bands--all in conjunction with a looping station.

Equally comfortable with intimate and stadium settings, Alex can craft his own wall-of-sound through his 1,000-watt amp. Accompanied by a narration that reveals some of the back stories of baroque, jazz, folk, and Rock n' Roll classics, he immerses his audience in a journey through musical history.

As Alex says, "in these shows, not only do I gather music but also reinterpret it with tools such as a looping station, guitar effect pedals, a mixer, and an amp, and share it in a format that is part drama, part concert, a bit of storytelling, and mostly a show."

For more information, check out Alex's website at alexprizgintas.com.

FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



THE WEATHER IN AUGUST

At the risk of stating the obvious, the weather in New York state in August is typically hot and humid. But what would you find if you examined it a little closer?

Much the same, as it turns out.

According to WorldWeatherOnline, New York weather in August features an average of ten rainy days. And the average temperature ranges from 21 - 28 degrees Celsius, or 70 - 82 degrees Fahrenheit, although the temperature can shoot up above 92 degrees Fahrenheit on a scorching day.

And humidity? The average humidity in New York in August tends to hover around 70 per cent. Thunderstorms occasionally pop up during the afternoon or early evening in August. The UV rating for



New York in August averages around 6.

As you might expect, the average snowfall in New York during August is negligible. Atmospheric pressure in New York in August averages 1015.5.

So, as they say, now you know the rest of the story.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

The following is an opinion piece, and 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.

A Troubling Start to the Summer

Dear Friends and Neighbors

The 2026 summer season had only just begun when Fallsburg's water system experienced two separate events that raised renewed questions about the reliability of the Town's municipal water supply.

On July 3, residents were notified that a major water producing well had been taken out of service after a power surge damaged a recently installed pump. The Town requested water conservation while repairs were being completed, and the pump was restored the same day. This serves as a reminder that water systems depend on many interconnected components working properly, wells, pumps, storage tanks, transmission lines, and distribution infrastructure. Every summer, Fallsburg experiences increased seasonal population, higher demand, and additional stress on these systems.

Five days later, on July 8, the Town issued a boil-water notice after storage tank levels became critically low. Water pressure fell below required standards in portions of the water district. Residents were asked to boil drinking water and conserve usage. Although these were separate events, they occurred within the same early summer period. This highlights an important question: How much capacity and resiliency does Fallsburg's water system have when unexpected challenges occur during periods of increased demand?

The Warning Signs Were Already There

The July events did not occur without prior warning. For more than a year, residents, engineers, and public officials have been examining Fallsburg's water supply, infrastructure and future growth. The concerns involve two separate but connected issues.

First: Infrastructure. Can the Town store, move, and deliver enough water through its existing system? This includes storage tank capacity, pump reliability, water lines, leaks, pressure and the ability to maintain service during equipment failures or peak demand.

Second: Water Source Reliability. Does the Town have verified, dependable groundwater available to meet current and future demand? In a fractured bedrock environment, the answer is not determined simply by drilling another well. A drilled well does not automatically create a reliable water source. Groundwater yield must be demonstrated through testing, monitoring, and long-term analysis.

The difference is important. Finding water underground is not the same as proving that a water system has dependable additional capacity.

What the Engineering Information Shows

The concerns regarding Fallsburg's water system did not begin in 2026. On November 19, 2024, Ken Ellsworth presented a System Analysis identifying challenges within the municipal water system. The analysis documented concerns including peak summer demand pressures, storage limitations, infrastructure issues, and a reported deficit of approximately 266 gallons per minute during summer peak conditions, even with Loch Sheldrake contributing supply.

On June 5, 2025, Keystone Associates completed a Groundwater Availability Assessment examining the Town's groundwater resources. The assessment raised concerns regarding sustainable yield and the ability of existing groundwater sources to support additional demand while protecting current users.

Both these evaluations raise a broader issue. A water system must be evaluated not only by the amount of water that may exist underground, but by how much water can be reliably produced, stored, and delivered under real-world conditions.

Public Statements and Public Reality

At a Town Board meeting just one week before the boil-water notice was issued, Supervisor Nathan Steingart stated that Fallsburg had "a tremendous amount of water in the ground" and explained that the Town's primary challenge was not water availability, but rather the aging infrastructure needed to move that water through the system. That statement raises an important distinction. Fallsburg may have significant groundwater resources. However, the long-term reliability of a municipal water system depends on more than the existence of groundwater beneath the surface.

The Questions Residents Have Been Asking

- How much groundwater can be sustainably produced?
- How much additional capacity has actually been verified?
- How much storage does the system have during peak demand?
- Can the system maintain required pressure when equipment fails?
- Are future development decisions based on actual water usage?

This is not about whether Fallsburg should grow. These are questions about whether growth is being matched with responsible infrastructure planning.

Before Additional Demand Is Added, Capacity Must Be Proven

These concerns were pre-

sented to the Town Board before additional water and sewer-related resolutions were considered in February 2026. Water system improvements are necessary. The issue was whether additional demand should be added so the Town could verify that it had sufficient dependable capacity to protect existing residents. Responsible planning requires looking at the entire system: current well production, sustainable groundwater yield, storage capacity, peak seasonal demand, drought conditions, committed but unbuilt connections, infrastructure needs, and actual water consumption data. Planning based on assumptions creates risk. Planning based on demonstrated performance creates confidence.

This Is Bigger Than One Boil-Water Notice

The July 2026 boil-water advisory was not simply an inconvenience. It was a reminder that water systems have limits. The question facing Fallsburg is not whether there is water somewhere underground. The question is whether the Town has a complete, reliable, and sustainable system capable of serving residents today and tomorrow. A community's water security depends on more than wells. It depends on the entire chain: source -> production -> storage -> distribution -> delivery. When one part of that chain is stressed, residents deserve clear answers about whether the system can function.

The Path Forward

Moving forward, Fallsburg residents deserve a comprehensive public assessment of the Town's water system, including: current well production, sustainable groundwater capacity, storage levels and emergency reserves, peak summer demand, infrastructure deficiencies, future development impacts and the financial plan needed to maintain and improve the system. This is a call to ensure that development proceeds responsibly and that it pays for itself. Water is too important to be managed through assumptions or optimism alone. It requires accurate information, transparent decision-making, sound engineering, and long-term planning. The warning signs are no longer limited to reports, meetings, and planning documents. They have reached into residents' homes. The time to ask whether Fallsburg is prepared is over. It is time to demonstrate that it is prepared now.

The warning signs are now reality. Fallsburg's water crisis has arrived.

Signed,
Fallsburg's Future

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TO BE READ

by Lily Barrish Levner

Late Summer Reading Transition Back to School with a Debut Novel

First Day Back: Hearts & Homicides Book One by LV Albuquerque

A Teacher. A Cop.
Dead Body in the Classroom.
What could go wrong?

Lynn Albuquerque has lived in Sullivan County for five years now. Taking on a new chapter of her life, in the beginning of the summer she added the title of author to her resume.

“Murder, mystery, and a little romance – served with sarcasm, strong coffee and just enough danger to make the school year interesting.”

Q&A

1. **LBL:** How has it been going so far?

LV: It's exciting, a little nerve wracking being new to this author world.

2. **LBL:** How many books will there be in the series?

LV: Currently I have six written. My publishing consultant wants me to publish three next year. That's ambitious. I definitely will do my best to get at least two more out. They all need fine tuning and editing.

3. **LBL:** How long have you been working on this idea?

LV: Around 4 years. I started writing about 5 years ago after I broke my ankle. I started reading a lot and book ideas just starting popping into my head. I am a retired teacher and a true “science geek”. I feel like this is my life's third and final act.

4. **LBL:** Will they all be set in the classroom?

LV: No. Actually the next book's setting is in the Poconos during a winter break vacation.

5. **LBL:** What inspired the series?

LV: My time in the classroom. I had some very interesting students over the years. We laughed every day. Maybe the teacher market will appreciate this story since I'm sure they've been through something silly too.

6. **LBL:** Where do you like to write?

LV: I prefer to work at home. Currently my dining room table is the spot. I'm still setting up my office. It's not quite finished yet but I'm getting there.

7. **LBL:** Besides writing, what else keeps you busy these days?

LV: I've been a Monticello Library Board Trustee for several years. I also have a dedicated weekly Mah Jongg game.

8. **LBL:** Where can we catch you in person and learn more



PHOTO PROVIDED

V selling her books at the Hurleyville Museum.

about your books?

LV: September 19 I'll be at the Milford (PA) Readers & Writers Conference. On September 22, I'm having an author talk at the Monticello library, *First Day Back* is available at: Amazon.com, B&N.com. Signed copies are available at Well Worn Books in Middletown & Kristi Kelly in Monticello.

EXCERPT

It took its own sweet time, but Friday afternoon was finally here. Thank. The. Dear. Lord. Some weeks flew by. Others not so much. This was one of those others-not-so-much weeks. It dragged. I felt like I'd aged dramatically during these last five days and was hesitant to look in a mirror, afraid of finding a colony of gray hair squatting on my scalp. Instead, I packed up my stuff and shuffled out to my car, exhausted.

Why did I bring all this crap home to grade? I'd find every excuse not to do it. Then I'd be schlepping it all back again on Monday morning, ungraded. Twelve years in and I didn't think I would ever learn. As I threw my bag onto the passenger seat my phone pinged.

Hot Detective: Hello. It's Erik. Do you have time to meet? I realize it's Friday and you probably have plans. I'd like to run some things by you. Sorry. I know it's last minute.

It immediately pinged again.

Hot Detective: It's okay to say no.

Okay, so yeah, that's how I saved his contact number in my phone. Whatever. The more urgent point was—what did I do now? Did I have plans? Of course I didn't, but I could pretend I did. Why wouldn't a

ingful connections to people, nature, movement and the arts can improve overall health and well-being. Her message reflects Sullivan 180's mission of building a healthy community through people, places and policy through connection and collaboration.

The Speaker Series concludes on November 6, with a professional development program led by Brian Williams, founder of Think Kindness. Designed for educators and school staff, the program will focus on building positive school culture, strengthening relationships, and fostering kindness and leadership among students and staff.

“The Sullivan 180 Speaker Series brings nationally recognized voices to our community to spark meaningful conversations and inspire action,” said Denise Frangipane, CEO of Sullivan 180. “The series is built on the principle that everyone has a role to play in changing the health outcomes of Sullivan County.”

Additional event details and registration information can be found at www.Sullivan180.org.

smart, vibrant, gainfully employed, attractive woman with a great personality have plans on a Friday night, right?

Non-Fiction Fans A Brand-New TBR for Your Fall Bookshelf

Stories Carry: We All Carry Them. Some Even Carry Us by Dena Schusterman

Dena Schusterman currently lives in Atlanta, but she has strong ties to Sullivan and Ulster counties. She has written her first memoir, debuting on September 1st.

“For readers drawn to deeply human stories about faith, inheritance, and legacy, *Stories Carry* offers something rare: not just a window into another world, but a mirror into their own.”

Q&A

1. **LBL:** Where did you spend your time in the Catskills?

DS: As a native Californian, I still spent six childhood summers at Camp Emunah in Ellenville. My father would fly out to visit me, and we'd spend Visiting Day eating pizza in South Fallsburg, wandering through Woodbourne, and visiting random cousins in their bungalows. During the second half of many summers, I'd stay with my maternal aunt and uncle at their house on Sackett Lake in Monticello.

Years later, after I married and moved to Georgia, I returned to the Catskills with my own children. When my older children began going to overnight camp, I rented a bungalow in Monticello so I could be close by and give my younger children the “bungalow colony life” experience. I also spent three summers in Tannersville, where many of my relatives have homes.

2. **LBL:** This is a book soaked in memory. Do you have a specific memory of the Catskills you can share?

DS: Probably the rushed runaway days we would spend in Woodbourne. Somehow, we would get there from camp. I don't think we hitchhiked—maybe our counselors arranged camp vans? We would pile out onto the main drag in front of Mom's Knishes and zigzag from the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dena in red polka dots at Camp Emunah, Ellenville, NY, circa 1986. She and her friends are washing their hair in the rain.

knish store to the tchotchke store, where you could order sweatshirts with your counselor's name ironed onto the back, or posters that said, “Your mom doesn't work here. Clean up after yourself.”

We'd buy gifts for our parents and siblings. I think I bought my mom a plaque that said, “Mom's Rules,” with the bottom line: “Mother is always right.”

Then we'd end up at the kosher pizza joint, which had an annex with an old-fashioned jukebox that played modern 1980s songs. We'd play air hockey with “Sign Your Name Across My Heart” playing in the background.

3. **LBL:** Do you have family that lives in the area?

DS: Lots of family spend their summers all over the area—in White Lake, Monticello, and Tannersville. My sister owned a home on Sackett Lake for a few years, behind my aunt and uncle's new home. The old house was demolished, along with all my memories.

4. **LBL:** How long have you been thinking of writing a memoir?

DS: It was never something I had thought about. Then one day, I decided I wanted to share the stories my father, my Aba, had told me growing up. My friend, noted author Zoe Fishman, told me I wasn't too young to write a memoir, and the idea was planted. The writing took longer.

5. **LBL:** How has the journey to publication been?

DS: I would say smooth. I kept a meme in my pocket that said, “Studios rejected The Queen's Gambit for 30 years because they thought no one would be interested in chess. Please persevere with that thing you are making.”

I got my rejections, and each time I told myself, “Good. I am one step closer to getting a yes.”

6. **LBL:** This book is clearly a Jewish story — and yet you've said, “you don't need to be Jewish to connect, you just need to have a family.” What is the thread that you believe will reach a reader who has never set foot in a Chabad House?

DS: The stories that shape how we move through our lives. By telling my stories, I hope the reader will think about their own, and perhaps even rethink their meanings. There is a lot of growth that can happen when we go back to the stories of our childhood and see them through adult eyes. What we saw then, and what we learned to believe about the world, can change when we return to those stories with the wisdom of who we have become.

7. **LBL:** Where do you like to write?

DS: At 4:30 am at my desk in my small home office, and during daytime hours, in coffee shops around my neighborhood.

8. **LBL:** This area seems like the perfect audience for your book, will you be giving a talk anywhere around here?

DS: I would be honored! Please invite me to speak or do a book signing. I would love to come back to the Catskills and share *Stories Carry* with the community.

EXCLUSIVE MEMOIR EXCERPT

Stories Carry
by Dena Schusterman
Mercer University Press

1979, Berkeley, California
“Hello! Anyone home?”

“It says ‘Chabad House’! Does that mean people live here?”

“Sure doesn't look like Temple Isaiah!”

“Oh cool! Look, there's a cat! Another one! A temple with a cat, I like it already!”

“This Shabbat is sure gonna be interesting!”

“Quiet down!”

“Wait, look over there, I bet that's where they keep the Torahs.”

“Aw, yeah, baby, like a living room that's a sanctuary.”

I jump up and run downstairs

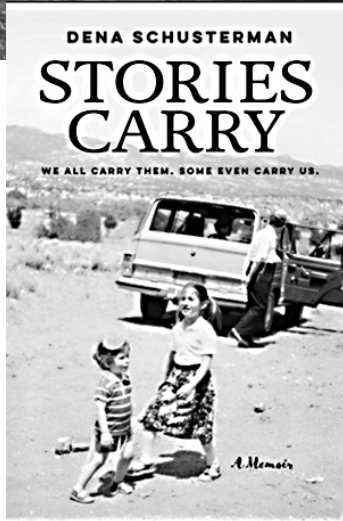


PHOTO PROVIDED

to find my parents or Ahuva, my big sister. The loud kids spill inside the building with their dufls and their rolled-up sleeping bags. There are so many of them.

“Good Shabbos and welcome!” Aba's voice booms. I grab his hand.

One of the young men helping Aba tells him that the kids who came for the weekend are not behaving well—they ripped a box of toilet paper and buried themselves in it. Aba shrugs his shoulders and says it is okay.

I leave Aba's side and find the kids huddled together near the entrance, talking loudly.

“Jeepers creepers, this place is so weird.”

“But the rabbis seem normal.”

“What about that intro to Shabbat? No turning on and off lights? No ripping toilet paper? Phhh, that's their choice; I'm gonna turn on and off all the lights I want. I'm not peeing in the dark!”

“And I'm not sleeping with the lights on!”

“Did you see how many times Eric flipped the lights on and off? Until the little rabbi finally asked him to stop. It was hilarious, didya see their faces?”

“Wait! What about the ridiculous ‘no toilet paper ripping’ rule? Man, I feel bad for these people! Now they have enough ripped toilet paper for a month!”

“This is crazy!”

No! You are weird! I yell inside my head as I run into the room.

Sullivan 180 Launches Speaker Series

LIBERTY—Sullivan 180 has announced its inaugural Speaker Series, featuring nationally recognized speakers to inspire, spark meaningful conversations, and strengthen our collective work to build a healthier community. Through presentations for schools, community organizations, leaders and residents, the Speaker Series will explore issues related to lifelong health, well-being and stronger communities.

On August 20, An Evening with Chef Ann Cooper: “The Renegade Lunch Lady” will kick off the series with an interactive community conversation around the importance of healthy school meals through scratch cooking; and how this can shape lifelong healthy habits. Parents, educators, school leaders and community members are encouraged to attend and learn more about the opportunity to shape lifelong health through school food.

On September 23, Sullivan 180 will host its Autumn Celebration featuring bestselling author Julia Hotz who will share the concept of social prescribing and how mean-

BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY

Thursday, August 20th Thursday, August 27th

3:00pm - 4:45pm

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July 1st – October 28th
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
+
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Corner of Hasbrouck Rd. & Route 52
Loch Sheldrake, NY
July 1st – October 28th
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

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June 25th – September 24th
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Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

There is a house on Francis S. Currey Boulevard, north out of Hurleyville, that is being consumed by vegetation. Although I've passed it hundreds of times, I took notice only recently. From the front, it looks as if a bed of shrubbery, in a burst of irrational exuberance, has billowed nearly to the roof. This could be mistaken for deliberate, if eccentric, gardening. But go around to the side and the nature of the house (abandoned) and its condition (terminal) becomes apparent. The building has turned into a three-dimensional trellis for the vines that have penetrated its windows and doorways, reaching into the interior, prying apart seams, wrapping around a chimney that seems poised to topple. A home built to stay the elements is instead succumbing to them.

It's a melancholy and beautiful spectacle, in the way of ruins. Looking at it in the hot sunlight of a high-summer's day, I felt a shiver run through me; I felt I was in the presence of something uncanny.

The classic essay on uncanniness, “Das Unheimliche,” was written by Freud in 1919, just after the end of World War I. “Heim” translates as “home,” so, in German, uncanny literally means “un-home-ly”—the antithesis of the comforts of home. As Freud defines it, the uncanny violates boundaries between, say, that which is alive and that which is not, or the human and the nonhuman. “It tends to coincide,” he writes, “with whatever excites dread.”

Drawing on the fantastical stories of E. T. A. Hoffman, Freud cites as examples “wax-work figures, artificial dolls, and automations,” to which we might add chatbots (Claude, Alexa – hello?), robots, and Terminators. Are they conscious or not? When that question insists on being raised, we're in the realm of the uncanny. In the instance of the Hurleyville house, the confounding is between the constructed and the natural; the house has become a surreal fusion of the two.

The archetypal uncanny dwelling is the haunted house — an ambiguous space, hard to find one's way around in, or out of. I don't know if the Hurleyville house is haunted by anything other than the

specter of its own mortality, but that's more than enough to induce a shiver in an observer.

In dreams and works of art, a house often symbolizes a self; it's a type of exoskeleton, or second skin — an extension of our person. We adapt to the houses we inhabit, and they to us. After my mother died, I had a series of dreams about her that were peculiar as she never appeared in person yet was palpably present. Each dream centered on the apartment we lived in when we first moved to New York City. I woke up knowing I had dreamt about her and that the apartment had become emblematic — the person and the space were one. If deep within the psyche a building can equal a self, it's no wonder that a derelict house registers as haunted.

In his essay, Freud writes, “The better oriented in his environment a person is, the less readily will he get the impression of something uncanny in regard to the objects and events in it,” i.e., in disorienting times, the index of the uncanny can be expected to rise. We all yearn for a better orientation to our environment; we all want to be at home in the world. It's no coincidence that Freud's essay came out of an era of extreme dislocation brought about by the First World War, an era in which borders were erased, social orders redrawn, and entire countries (homelands) disappeared — an era of destruction on a scale that changed the temper of our times. We live in such an era once again, and one wonders if not only houses but entire countries can become *unheimlich*.

The house on Francis S. Currey Boulevard will eventually vanish, either by force of nature or by civic fiat. There's a bright green “NOTICE” posted on its front door, courtesy of the Code Enforcement Office of the Town of Fallsburg: “Upon inspection, a violation has been documented on this property...” The notice is reassuringly rational, though there is no one home to heed it, and it does little to diminish the chill in the air.

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

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From the Firehouse

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



The Hurleyville Fire Department is always looking for help, to fight fire or support those that do. We even supply all the gear and provide all the training needed, for free. Stop by any Monday night and find out how you can help.

Summer is in full swing and as you read this month's column. With the increase of the population during the summer months with second homeowners, campers, visitors, so do the emergency incidents that fire departments respond to. Activated alarms are still tops on the list followed by motor vehicle accidents (MVA).

Fortunately, there has only been one drowning so far this summer season. Lost and injured hiker incidents are also down and most important structure fires are also down.

If it wasn't for all of the MVAs it would appear to be a safe summer so far.

With that said I say that while directing traffic (which is dangerous) motorists fail to listen to firefighters and fire police directing traffic. I have had numerous motorists blow right by me ignoring my instructions. The road is closed for a reason that concerns the safety of ALL emergency services responders and the public. While I realize that you need to go down the closed road, YOU CAN'T. It is closed for everyone's protection and safety. You driving down the road only causes more of traffic jam and creates more congestion when you get to the emergency scene.

What are you going to do when you can't go any further? Please listen to the firefighters directing traffic, they will help you find another way to your destination.

Weather incidents of trees and wires have been

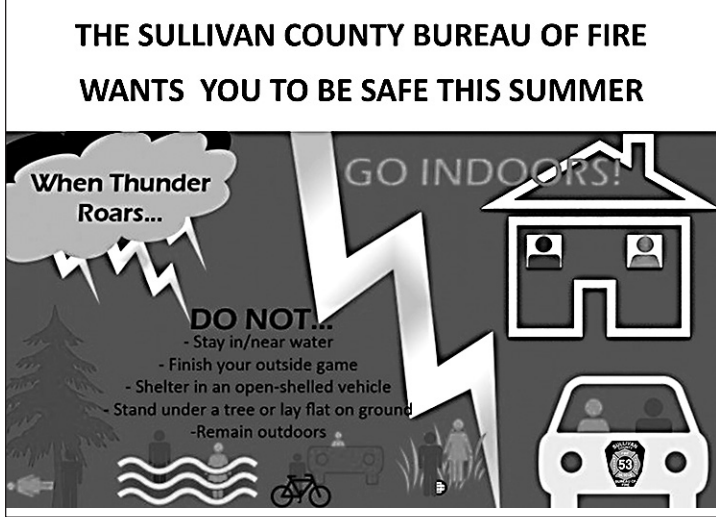


ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

about the same as the last few years. We have had a few rain events but nothing too serious. Are you ready for the next weather-related event?

Remember periods of severe weather can happen at any time and bring heavy rain, strong winds, and localized flooding. Some of these intense storms can pop up at any time with little warning.

Let's look at two of the most common events that can happen in one of these storms.

Trees and wires down across a road and roads flooding.

Use extreme caution around downed power lines. Treat every downed power line as if it is energized and extremely dangerous. Never touch or drive over a downed wire. Stay at least 30 feet away. Call 911 immediately.

If a power line falls on your vehicle, remain inside if it is safe to do so until emergency responders arrive. Exit only if there is an immediate danger, such as fire, and leave by jumping clear without touching the vehicle and the ground (road) at the same time. It is very important not to touch your vehicle and ground at the same time! You can be shocked and or electrocuted.

Flooded roads can also pose a problem in a storm.

Floodwaters can hide damaged roadways, washouts, debris, and dangerous currents. Just a few inches of moving water can cause a vehicle to lose control, while deeper water can sweep away even larger vehicles.

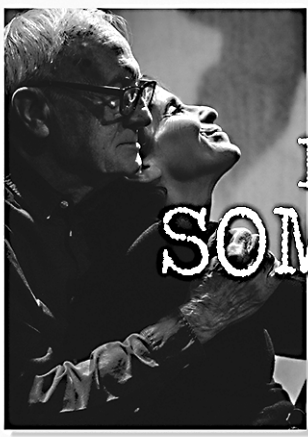
Never drive through flooded roadways or around barricades. Find an alternate route if water covers the road, you are traveling on. Be especially cautious at night, when flood hazards are more difficult to see. If your vehicle becomes trapped in rising water, abandon it if it is safe to do so and move to higher ground.

Emergency responders urge everyone to monitor local weather forecasts and heed all emergency warnings. Taking a few extra minutes to avoid hazardous conditions can save a life.

The 15th Annual Bill Carlson Golf Classic is right around the corner. Saturday, August 15 with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. on the beautiful Tarry Brae golf course. The \$125.00 entrance fee includes lunch, awards dinner and cold drinks all day. There are also many raffles to win. Call John Jaycox to register, sponsor a Tee Box or donate a raffle prize. (845) 866-6431.

Be Safe Out there

Growing up Brooklyn...a father/daughter tale.



BEING SOMEBODY

Written and RePerformed by Howard and Marla Mase
Directed by Elizabeth Browning
Music by Marla Mase and Tom's Becker

Thursday, August 6, 2026 @ 7:00pm*

*Talk back after the show.



TICKETS \$20

Join us for Being Somebody, a heartfelt and humorous show starring 90-year old psychologist, Dr. Howard Mase, and his daughter, recording artist, Marla Mase. This father/daughter duo takes audiences on a nostalgic journey through storytelling, music, and movement - from growing up in the post-war gleam of 1940s/50s Brooklyn to the disco 1970s - evoking laughter, tears, and unforgettable memories.

FOR INFORMATION CALL: (845) 985-4722



Hurleyville Performing Arts Center
219 Main St, Hurleyville, NY 12747
hpcacny.org

Being Somebody: Growing Up in Brooklyn... A Father/Daughter Tale Celebrates Family and Roots at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre

Hurleyville, NY — Audiences are invited to take an unforgettable journey from the streets of Canarsie to the Catskills without ever leaving their seats as the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) proudly presents the one-night-only performance of Being Somebody: Growing Up in Brooklyn... A Father/Daughter Tale, a touching theatrical production that celebrates family, nostalgia, and the moments that shape our lives.

Performed by real-life father and daughter Dr. Howard Mase and Marla Mase, Being Somebody follows the story of a father and daughter across several decades, spanning the 1940s through the 1990s. Through heartfelt storytelling, music, photographs, and letters discovered in a drawer, the performance explores childhood, coming of age, love, friendship, and the enduring bonds between generations.

Audiences will recognize pieces of their own lives in the production, from neighborhood streets and Catskills bungalow colonies to family celebrations, reunions, and treasured memories captured in old photographs. The production offers a nostalgic and deeply personal experience that resonates with anyone who has reflected on family history or rediscovered

memories tucked away in a photo album or a stack of letters.

Following the performance, guests are invited to stay for a special Talk Back featuring Howard Mase, Marla Mase, and producer Elizabeth Browning. This interactive discussion gives audience members the opportunity to ask questions, share their own stories, and connect with the artists behind the production.

"This is more than a theatrical performance. It's an opportunity to reflect on the people, places, and memories that make us who we are," said Christina Antizco, CEO of HPAC. "We are excited to bring this one-night-only event to Sullivan County and invite our community to experience this moving story together."

Performance Details

What: Being Somebody: Growing Up in Brooklyn... A Father/Daughter Tale

Where: Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, 219 Main Street, Hurleyville, NY

When: Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Admission: \$20 General Admission

Talk Back: Immediately following the performance with Howard Mase, Marla Mase, and producer Elizabeth Browning.

To purchase tickets, visit www.hpcacny.org

FROM THE FILES OF...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY **Sullivan County Historian John Conway**

July 11, 1906 THE SENTINEL CHANGES OWNERSHIP

The Editor of the Sentinel, finding that his law practice will not permit his giving the paper the attention necessary to conduct a publication, such as he desires to see conducted at Hurleyville, has sold the same to Scott Hoagland of Greene County, who will assume the Editorial chair July 16.

The writer has known Mr. Hoagland for many years both having been brought up in the same neighborhood and attending the same school. He is an energetic young man, of good address, an ardent Republican and a first-class printer. His father was an editor before him, and he has been reared in a printer's office.

He will be assisted in his work by his brother Guy who is also an excellent newspaper man. Guy is a hustling young Republican, now a Page in Washington, and the two will conduct an up-to-date wide awake Republican organ. We have no fault to find with the newspaper business, or with the patrons of our paper. During the short time we have conducted The Sentinel we have received the most hearty support and encouragement from our townsmen, and the patronage we have received has been more than we expected. As proof of this we have four at work in the office at the present time and are unable to keep up with our orders. Our sole object in selling is to give us more time for the practice of law.

We ask all our patrons to give to these young men their hearty support and assure them that they will receive a clean up-to-date paper in return.

Again thanking our friends and patrons for their support and encouragement and soliciting a continuance for our successor, with this issue we turn The Sentinel over to Mr. Scott Hoagland.

July 19, 1916 THEATRE IS OPEN

The New American theatre across the track nearly opposite the depot is open for the season and showing twice daily with all the latest and best pictures.

July 11, 1941 HURLEYVILLE EAGLES PLAY TONIGHT AT HOTEL EVANS

The Hurleyville Eagles basketball quintet will play their third game of the week tonight at the new Hotel Evans indoor court with the Evans' team furnishing the opposition. The Eagles, regarded as one of the best quintets in this section of the State in winter competition, showed their prowess Sunday night at the Hotel Nemerson where they lost by a mere one point mar-

gin to a team composed almost entirely of NYU players. Last night (Thursday), the Eagles, representing the Morningside Hotel, played the formidable Klein's Hillside team of Parkville, composed of CCNY performers. The Evans team will consist of the same aggregation that brought the Ohrbachs of New York City the high rating it attained this past winter in A.A.U. circles. The Hurleyville lineup will be composed of Hesh Podberesky, Milt Levine, Rod Gordon, Murray Dambrot and Nate Ruderman. It is also expected that Frank Turner and Bob Davidoff, both NYU regulars will be in Eagles uniforms for this game.

July 18, 1941 POLICE SEIZE SLOT MACHINES IN RAIDS IN THIS VICINITY

In the first raids of the season in this section, slot machines were seized in four hotels during the earlier part of the week. Sergeant Joseph Miller and Trooper L. W. Freer of the Woodbourne sub-station opened the drive on Sunday with the arrest of Daniel Neuman, concessionaire at Schenk's Paramount in Thompsonville. Taken before Magistrate Arthur Kyle in Monticello, Neumann pleaded guilty and paid a fine of \$25. The machine was confiscated and the contents, amounting to about \$30 in coins, was turned over to welfare authorities.

On Monday, Harry Berg and Joseph Schwartz, men in charge of the concessions in Loch Sheldrake hotels were arrested and arraigned before Magistrate Moses L. Kove. Schwartz pleaded not guilty and was released on \$25 bail pending a hear-

ing set for Monday, July 21. Berg paid a fine of \$15 imposed the Magistrate Kove, after he had admitted his guilt. The machine contained \$9.50 in coins.

Joseph Walter of the Murray Hill House concession in So. Fallsburg was arrested on a similar charge Wednesday afternoon. Taken before Magistrate Herbert Sakofsky in South Fallsburg, Walter pleaded guilty and paid a fine of \$10. The machine had apparently been emptied over the week-end since only \$1.50 was in it at the time of the raid.

The authorities smashed the four machines involved all of which were the one-armed bandit type. Commenting on the amount of aluminum used in the construction of the devices, police expressed the possibility that they might prove worthwhile in the aluminum drive to be conducted by the County Defense Committee beginning July 21.

July 2017 HISTORIC MARKER FOR OLD HURLEYVILLE SCHOOL

Back in 2014, brothers and lifelong area residents, Gordon and Henry MacAdam published the first volume of their Irish family's more than century-long history in Sullivan County.

Through the extensive research they did for their initial project, the brothers discovered a grossly neglected aspect of Sullivan County history: chronicling the existence of dozens of one-room schoolhouses dating back to the 1800s. Seven of those schoolhouses still stand in the Town of Thompson.

One is right here in Hurleyville.

MONTICELLO KIWANIS DONATES TO CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

MONTICELLO — The Kiwanis Club of Monticello recently donated more than 200 books to the Sullivan County Child Advocacy Center in Liberty. The donation aims to provide comfort and literacy resources to children visiting the facility. Each child has the opportunity to choose a book to take home, giving them something positive to hold on to as they begin their healing journey from their experiences endured in a cycle of neglect and abuse.

Child Advocacy Center Coordinator Rachel Waldman was very appreciative, stating "Thank you Monticello Kiwanis for believing in our mission and for helping us create moments of comfort, courage and joy for children when they need it most."

It did not take long to rally the Kiwanis members to gather books from their families and friends — including Diana D'Agati, a friend and supporter of our Kiwanis projects, as well as Ethelbert Craw-



PHOTO PROVIDED

From Left - Kiwanis P.R. Coord. Sheila Lashinsky and Club Sec. Kathy Garlick pose with Library Director Mary Paige Lang-Clouse and Diana D'Agati, who support Kiwanis missions and donated many books.

ford Library Director Mary Paige Lang-Clouse, both of whom donated an ample supply of books.

The books ranged from interests for toddlers, young children and teenagers. The members and our community supporters were very happy to help out with this project.

In addition to this project, Kiwanis provides books to all the second graders at the George L. Cooke Elementary School each year and gives personal items to children going into foster

care in order to assist with their transition. All of these projects directly support the Kiwanis mission to improve the world one child and one community at a time.

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello meets the first Monday of the month at Albella's Restaurant in Monticello at 6 p.m. For more information about the club and its activities, please check out its Facebook page at Monticello NY Kiwanis Club.

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PATRIOTS ARE BORN PART IV

An Original Story by John Conway

It is May of 1775, and our young brothers, Andrew and Morgan Worth, their big black dog, Boson, and a passenger, wealthy statesman Alexander McDougall, have taken a raft of timber down the Delaware River to Philadelphia, where McDougall is hoping to persuade New York's representatives to the Continental Congress to vote in favor of independence. They have just pulled over for the night when they are surprised by a group of armed men, presumably the same men who had been pursuing McDougall...

We had just finished our supper, and the three of us were sprawled on the ground talking about the relative merits of declaring independence from England, when Boson sprang to his feet and began barking at the darkness.

We rose, but before we could react further, what must have been a dozen men advanced toward us from all sides.

"You'll do well to remain still and not make any sudden movements," one of the men said as he walked toward us. "You're surrounded."

Boson stood firm, eyes riveted on the man, and his barking turned to a low growl.

"Who are you and what do you want?" Morgan blurted out.

The man moved a bit closer, his musket fixed on McDougall.

"It doesn't matter who we are," he said. "We know who you boys are, and we have no quarrel with you. We are willing to let you be on your way. We just want this here traitor."

"You know nothing of being a traitor," McDougall said in a raised voice.

"Why don't we let the local magistrate decide, then," the armed man said. "That's where we're taking you, to Mr. Robert Land."

I noticed that Boson's growling had changed a bit and found it odd that his focus had shifted from the man with the musket to the brush to our left. I couldn't see anything, but it sure seemed like he sensed something was happening there.

Suddenly, an ear-piercing war whoop broke through the night, catching all of us off guard. The man with the musket turned his attention from McDougall for a split second, looking in the di-

rection of the yell. At that moment, Boson launched his 175-pounds at the man, knocking him down. The man lost his grip on his musket, and McDougall was able to get hold of it.

Meanwhile, two natives, screaming loudly, burst forth from the brush, brandishing clubs, crashing into a number of the other men before they could react. McDougall fired the musket into the air, and the men began to disperse, wasting no time running into the brush. A snarling Boson still straddled the leader, who was flat on his back, one leg pinned awkwardly under him, so that he was not going anywhere.

Morgan wasted little time grabbing his own musket and getting it primed and loaded. I grabbed one of the lanterns, lit it, and held it aloft, providing the dimmest of light, just enough to see who the two natives were who had come to our rescue.

"Ben Shanks!" I exclaimed to the taller of the two. "We are in your debt."

The long-legged man, clad only in a deerskin loin cloth and waistcoat, bowed in a mocking gesture.

"Happy to assist, Andrew Worth," he said in nearly



ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

"You'll do well to remain still and not make any sudden movements," one of the men said as he walked toward us. "You're surrounded."

perfect English. "As is my friend, Canope."

The other native, considerably shorter and stockier than his companion, nodded almost imperceptibly.

McDougall stepped toward the two men and spoke.

"My name is McDougall, and I wish to add my gratitude for your actions to that of my friend. I, too am in your debt, as is the cause of freedom."

"We don't much believe in causes," Ben Shanks

said. "We believe in people. Andrew Worth is one of our people. We did this for him."

"Hey, don't forget about me," Morgan piped up, advancing from the shadows. He and Ben Shanks exchanged a bear like embrace. "We were lucky tonight that you two were in the vicinity."

"We are trapping up and down the river," Ben Shanks said, and Canope nodded. "We have many pelts. Will trade them soon for food."

"We are on our way to Philadelphia," I said. "Our raft is over there. Those men have been following us."

Boson barked at that point, reminding us that he still had the leader of the men pinned to the ground.

"Get this dog off me, he's breaking my leg," the man finally said.

McDougall leaned over the man and roughly grabbed his lapels, pulling him up and provoking a growl from Boson.

"Get your treasonous hands off me," the man told McDougall through clenched teeth.

"So, you are going to take me to the magistrate, are you?" McDougall replied. "I think not. But here's something you can take to him. You can tell him that the Continental Congress is meeting in Philadelphia and I, Alexander McDougall from Albany, plan to be there advocating for independence. We are the Sons of Liberty, we aim to be free, and you can join us or die!"

At that point, Boson yielded, and McDougall yanked the man to his feet. He reached inside the man's coat and pulled out a large knife, which he then used to cut the strap of the man's

powder horn, which was slung over his shoulder.

"You won't be needing these," he said, holding the tip of the knife directly under the man's chin. "Now away with you. And don't forget to deliver my message to Mr. Robert Land. Join us, or die!"

This raft trip to Philadelphia isn't over yet, and it just might turn out to be the most perilous journey Andrew and Morgan Worth have ever taken. Don't miss the next exciting chapter of our story, Patriots Are Born, in the next edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel.

HPAC Hosts Music in Common

An Evening of Music, Film, and Storytelling



PHOTO PROVIDED

HURLEYVILLE — The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) is proud to welcome Music in Common back to Hurleyville on Thursday, August 13. Following a memorable Black History Month appearance at HPAC earlier this year, the nationally acclaimed nonprofit returns with an all-new program that continues its mission of using music, storytelling, and conversation to foster understanding across communities.

The evening begins with the premiere screening of Black LP, a new documentary highlighting the Black Legacy Project, a musical celebration of Black history that promotes racial healing and deeper community understanding through music. The film explores the creative process behind the project and the artists whose work reflects the enduring influence of Black history and culture.

Following the film, audiences will experience "Songs & Stories," Music in Common's signature performance that blends music, spoken word, and personal storytelling into an uplifting and thought-provoking journey. Rooted in Americana, soul, folk, and hip-hop, the performance invites everyone to see the world through a new lens by celebrating the common ground that unites us across backgrounds and generations.

For more than two decades, Music in Common has used music as a catalyst for social connection. Through performances, educational programming, and collaborative artistic projects, the organization has worked with communities across the United States and around the world to inspire empathy, reduce prejudice, and build stronger relationships through the universal language of music.

A portion of ticket proceeds will benefit Sullivan County NAACP Chapter 2187-B, supporting its ongoing work to advance civil rights, educational opportunity, civic engagement, and equity throughout Sullivan County. By attending, guests will not only enjoy an inspiring evening of music and film but also help strengthen important initiatives that serve our local community.

This event welcomes audiences of all backgrounds and offers an opportunity to celebrate culture and engage in meaningful conversation

through the arts.

Community Sponsorship Opportunities

HPAC is currently seeking community sponsors to help make this special evening possible.

Support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals will help offset artist fees, hospitality, and other event expenses. Sponsors interested in covering the cost of student tickets are also welcome, helping ensure more students have the opportunity to attend regardless of financial circumstances.

While schools, educators, youth organizations, and community groups are especially encouraged to attend, this event is designed for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Through the combined power of film, music, and storytelling, it offers a unique opportunity to explore history, culture, and the experiences that shape us as individuals.

Sponsors will be recognized throughout the event's marketing and promotional efforts as partners in making this extraordinary evening possible. Your support brings nationally acclaimed artists and filmmakers to Sullivan County, creating an opportunity for attendees to experience powerful stories, explore the enduring influence of Black history and culture, and take part in conversations that continue long after the final note has been played.

"Music has an extraordinary ability to bring people together, even across our differences," said Christina Antizzo, CEO of the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. "We're honored to welcome Music in Common back to HPAC and to share an evening that encourages reflection and conversation while supporting the important work of the NAACP."

Event Details
Music in Common – Songs & Stories: Film Screening & Live Concert

Date: Thursday, August 13, 2026

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: HPAC Cinema

219 Main St.

Hurleyville

Tickets: \$10 General Admission

A portion of every ticket sold benefits Sullivan County NAACP Chapter 2187-B.

Beer, wine, and concessions will be available for purchase.

Benjamin Cosor Welcomes New Principal and Assistant Principal

FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Central School District is proud to announce its newest elementary school principal, Pamela Carr and assistant principal, Kimberly Patete.

Ms. Carr has served as an assistant principal for Benjamin Cosor Elementary School for the previous four years. Prior to her administrative career, she was a teacher at the Minisink Valley and Middletown school districts for over 16 years.

When asked about her priorities in her first year as principal, she intends to build from her experience and focus on programs that

meet the needs of students, such as their project-based learning initiatives and the newly implemented statewide Portrait of a Graduate program. Ms. Carr said, "It is a process in which students are, in a sense, in charge of their own learning and growing. It really helps them become an effective communicator, lifelong learner, and good citizen."

The district wishes her the best of luck in her new role and looks forward to the impact her leadership will have on the Fallsburg school community. "I'm truly excited to continue my role in education here," said Ms. Carr.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kim Patete

"I'm excited at the ability to impact so many students."

Ms. Patete is a graduate of the Tri-Valley Central School District, and she also served as a teacher for the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pamela Carr

district since 2012. She was also briefly the school's interim assistant principal last year.

When asked about her most significant accom-

plishments as an educator, she shared that she played a crucial role in introducing more science-based extracurricular programs to elementary students. One program in particular was hydroponics, which is a method of growing plants without the use of soil. Her initiative to bring new ideas allowed for teachers to grow in their confidence and students to become more excited about learning.

Her first set of priorities is to help guide students in a positive direction that di-

rectly meets their needs. She believes that the school culture, which prioritizes deep community bonds, will help her make a significant impact.

"I've been welcomed with open arms and people have been wonderful," said Ms. Patete. "I love seeing everybody's smiling face and I am beyond excited to be here."

The Fallsburg school community wishes both Ms. Carr and Ms. Patete the very best of luck in their new roles.

PRIMETIMERS PLANNING BUS TRIPS TO WIND CREEK CASINO & OUTLETS AND NEW YORK CITY

MONTICELLO — The Primetimers of Temple Shalom of Monticello are planning several trips this summer.

The trip to Wind Creek Casino & Outlets in Bethlehem, PA is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5. Enjoy a day of gaming, dining and shopping at outlet stores for a cost of \$50 and get \$30 back in free play. Reservations must be received by July 31.

The New York City trip is via Leprechaun Lines

on Wednesday, August 19. The bus leaves the temple parking lot on East Dillon Road at 8:15 AM and will leave the city at approximately 5 p.m. The drop off location will be 48th St. and 8th Ave. The cost is a donation of \$55 round trip, including gratuity. Reservations must be received by August 12.

Checks should be made out to Primetimers. Call Paula for further information and reservations at 561-504-7192.

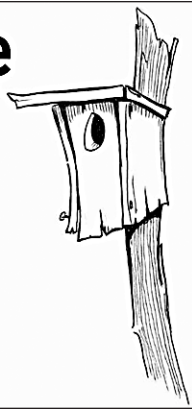
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SENTINEL SPORTS



A WALKING CHALLENGE JOIN THE MOVEMENT: STEP INTO WELLNESS

LIBERTY — Sullivan 180 is inviting businesses, organizations, schools, municipalities, community groups, families and friends to Join the Movement: Step into Wellness, a countywide walking challenge taking place throughout National Wellness Month, Aug. 1-31.

Designed to make healthy routines simple and accessible, Step into Wellness encourages teams of two or more people to walk together at least once a week throughout August.

Step into Wellness builds on Sullivan 180's commitment to building healthier communities by degrees; and by making it easier for people to connect through

a simple, everyday activity. Participants are encouraged to explore local parks, trails, neighborhoods and public spaces while making movement part of their weekly routine and sharing photos and stories from their walks. Walk Together. Build Connections. Create Healthy Routines.

"Step into Wellness is an invitation to walk with coworkers, neighbors, friends or family and discover that improving health doesn't have to be complicated. Sometimes it begins with taking a walk," said Anne-Louise Scandariato, Director of Community Engagement. "Rather than focusing on competition, the challenge

celebrates participation, consistency and community connection. There are no required steps or miles; allowing teams to participate in a way that works best for them."

Registration opened on July 22 and will remain open throughout August. Teams may represent businesses, nonprofits, schools, healthcare organizations, municipalities, emergency services, libraries, civic groups, families, friends or any group of at least two individuals. To register or learn more, visit Sullivan180.org. Participating teams will be recognized during Sullivan 180's Autumn Celebration on Sept. 23 at Bethel Woods.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Walk Together. Build Connections. Create Healthy Routines.

Why Step into Wellness?

Walking is a simple way to add movement to your day, spend time with others, explore new places, enjoy the outdoors and

build healthy routines.

Who Can Participate?

Teams can be established representing:

- Businesses and workplaces
- Nonprofits and community organizations
- Government agencies and municipalities

- Schools and youth-serving organizations
- Healthcare organizations

- Fire departments and emergency services
- Libraries and civic organizations
- Families, friends
- Walking clubs
- Sports and recreational groups
- Neighborhoods
- Any group of at least two people

How It Works

- Create a team of at least two people and identify a team captain or co-captains.

- Register through the Sullivan 180 website here.
- All team members should complete the

pre-challenge survey before their first walk.

- Walk together at least once each week throughout August.
- Submit each walk through the Sullivan 180 website here.
- All team members should complete the post-challenge survey by August 31.

The full team does not need to walk together each time. Smaller groups can walk at different times, but each walk must include at least two team members.

To Submit Walks

Submit each walk through the Sullivan 180 website after it is completed. All walks for the week are due by the following

Monday.

For each walk, provide:

- Team name
- Date walked
- Location of walk
- Number of participants
- One photo from the walk

- Optional approximate miles
- Any additional information about your team's walk

The challenge does not track steps or minutes.

Recognition

Participating teams are acknowledged at the Sullivan 180 Autumn Celebration on September 23 at Bethel Woods. Sullivan 180 shares team photos, stories and highlights throughout the challenge.

SUNY SULLIVAN HIRES SOCCER COACHES Goodman, Miret Named

LOCH SHELDRAKE — SUNY Sullivan has named Scott Goodman and Lenny Miret as the first head coaches of the college's brand new intercollegiate soccer programs. Varsity men's and women's soccer

launch this fall.

Goodman will lead the women's soccer program and Miret will head the men's soccer program. Together they are building SUNY Sullivan's newest athletics programs from

the ground up. The programs will expand opportunities for student-athletes to compete at the collegiate level while pursuing a SUNY education close to home.

"These programs reflect our commitment to enriching student life and creating new opportunities for our student-athletes to excel both on the field and in the classroom," said David Potash, president of SUNY Sullivan. "Coach Goodman and Coach Miret bring exactly the right experience and passion to the task." Potash added that conversations with local high schools made soccer a priority for the college.

Goodman, a U.S. Soccer Federation-licensed coach with nearly three decades of experience in soccer programs at the youth, collegiate, and professional levels. He is the Executive Director and a Head Coach of Hudson Valley Athletic Club, a nonprofit he helped establish, and serves as the Director and a Head Coach of the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association's Olympic Development Program North. In 2025, Goodman guided twelve players to the East Regional Camp and three of the players were selected to the ODP National Team.

"I can't think of a better time to launch a women's soccer program at SUNY Sullivan," said Goodman. "We want to develop not just great players, but confident, driven young women who will thrive long after their time on the field." Miret, a lifelong soccer player, coach, and referee, brings experience in player development, training, officiating, and community engagement. He has led soccer training camps and clinics for middle and high school athletes, with a focus on technical skill, tactical awareness, teamwork, and sportsmanship. He previously served as

stewardship coordinator at Catskill Mountainkeeper, where he managed volunteer programs, coordinated training and mentorship, and supported community engagement initiatives.

"Young players who grew up dreaming of playing at the collegiate level now have a home here at SUNY Sullivan," said Miret. "We're going to build something special."

Recruitment for both programs is underway.

Prospective student-athletes interested in men's soccer may contact Lenny Miret at lmiret@sunysullivan.edu or 845-707-1753.

Prospective student-athletes interested in women's soccer may contact Scott Goodman at sgoodman@sunysullivan.edu or 845-434-5750 X3206.

SUNY Sullivan is also hiring a men's soccer assistant coach and has additional openings in its athletics department. Details are available at <https://sunysullivan.edu/suny-sullivan-careers/>.

COACHES BIOS

About Scott Goodman

Scott J. Goodman is an accomplished soccer coach, administrator, and attorney with nearly three decades of experience developing players and building programs at the youth, collegiate, and semi-professional levels.

He currently serves as executive director and head coach of Hudson Valley Athletic Club, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit he helped establish that provides free tuition to underserved youth players and opportunities to compete regionally and train overseas. He also serves as head coach of the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association's Olympic Development Program, where, in 2025, he guided nine players to Regional Camp, approximately three times the program's typical selection rate.

Goodman's coaching career includes assistant coaching roles at the University at Albany during its transition from Division II to Division I, as well as a general manager and assistant coach role with the Hampton Roads Mariners. As head coach of the Empire State Games Men's Open Soccer Team, he earned a bronze medal in 1999.

Goodman holds multiple USSF and United Soccer Coaches licenses and diplomas, a Juris Doctor from Albany Law School, and a B.A. in Political Science, cum laude, from the University at Albany. He is a licensed attorney and is proficient in Spanish.

About Lenny Miret

Lenny Miret is a lifelong soccer player, coach, and mentor with experience as a competitor, trainer, and referee. He has designed and led soccer training camps and clinics for middle and high school athletes, emphasizing technical skill development, tactical awareness, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

A former collegiate club soccer player who continued competing in adult leagues, Miret brings an athlete's perspective to his coaching philosophy. He has also officiated competitive soccer at the collegiate level, giving him a strong understanding of fair play, game management, and the rules of the sport.

Beyond the field, Miret has demonstrated leadership as a stewardship coordinator with Catskill Mountainkeeper, where he managed volunteer programs, coordinated training and mentorship, and supported community engagement initiatives. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Recreation Management from Appalachian State University and is certified in CPR/First Aid and Wilderness First Aid.

Celebrate the Dog Days of Summer on the O&W Rail Trail

Bring your dog and check out the Fallsburg Railroad Tunnel!

SOUTH FALLS-

SBURG — For the third year in a row, the Town of Fallsburg is hosting the BowWO&W dog-themed hike along the O&W Rail Trail. Due to the event's growing popularity, the hike is scheduled for a Sunday afternoon — rather than a weekday — to allow participants more time to explore with their furry friends.

Participants should plan to meet at the Dog Patch Town Park at 14 Old Country Road in South Fallsburg at 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 9.

From the trailhead, it is a 2.2 mile out-and-back hike (1.1 miles each way) along the Tunnel Bypass Trail to the entrance of the historic Fallsburg Railroad Tunnel.

The Fallsburg Tunnel, also known as the Neversink Tunnel, is one of only four tunnels that were constructed by the New York Ontario & Western Railway and the only one that is publicly accessible. The 1,123-foot tunnel was completed in 1886 by blasting through solid rock.

Although the tunnel itself is partially collapsed and fenced off for safety reasons, the tunnel entrance has been improved and is a perfect spot to take a selfie! Keep in mind that because the trail "bypasses" the tunnel, it is not flat like the rest of the O&W Rail Trail. Be prepared to tackle some hills and moderately steep grades. Volunteers will be there to greet you at the tunnel entrance with cold water, snacks and giveaways.

Fire Departments participating in the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge will receive

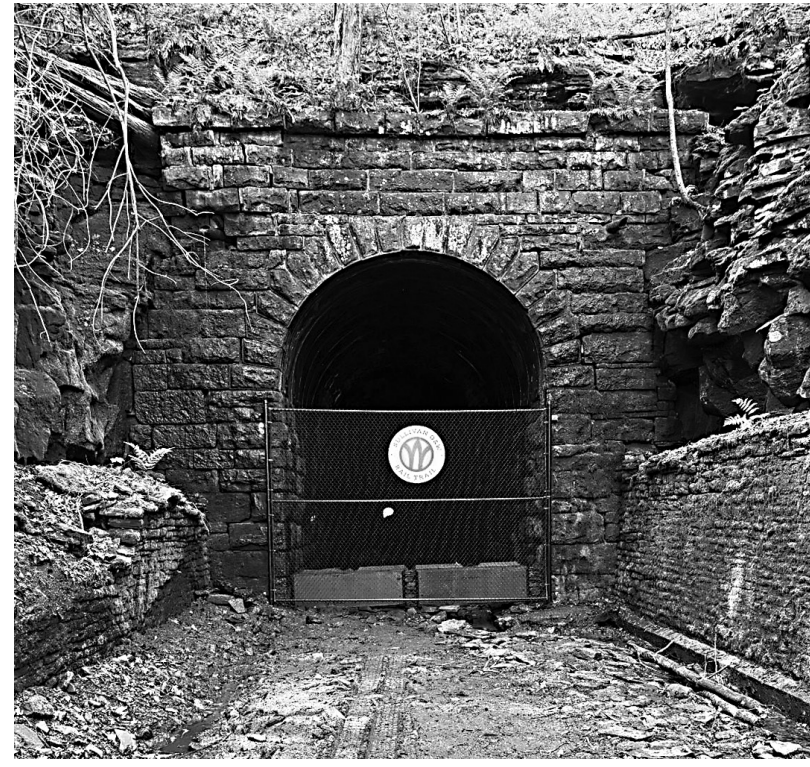


PHOTO PROVIDED

The Fallsburg Tunnel remains closed and a temporary bypass has been constructed around it.

three points for attending with five or more active members. Visit www.SullivanOandW.com/Events or visit the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance on Facebook for up-to-date event information.

Please note: The "Bridge and Tunnel Trail" that

will connect the Fallsburg Tunnel to the Neversink Crossing Bridge is still under construction, so participants are urged to turn back at the tunnel. The new trail and pedestrian bridge are expected to be open to the public in September.

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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!

August Questions:

1. In what year was the first U.S. Open tennis tournament held?
2. What was the forerunner of the U.S. Open called?
3. Who won the men's championship at the first U.S. Open tennis tournament?
4. Who lost the men's finals match that year?
5. Who won the women's championship in the first U.S. Open?

July Answers:

1. In what year was the first World Cup soccer match played? (1930)
2. What country has won the most World Cups? (Brazil – 5)
3. Only one player has ever won three World Cups. Who was it? (Pele)
4. Which World Cup star was known as "the Black Panther?" (Eusebio)
5. What was particularly unusual about England's 1966 World Cup triumph? (It is their only World Cup and they were the host country.)

There was no winner last month...