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Ye Olde TOWNSMAN

Valley

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FIFTY CENTS

Science Fiction and Fantasy FLASH - Thorn Winter Pg. 14 • Olive Muse - Charlie Blumstein Pg. 6 • The Olive Jar - Carol Lamonda Pg. 6

REMINDER: *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* will not be printed the week of Christmas or New Years. Our Christmas issue and last issue of 2011 will be December 15, 2011

Support Local Business: Gift Certificates are Available at:

Blue Hill Lodge, Fabulous food; gourmet candy, delicious delicacies and more! 1471 Denning Road, Claryville, NY (845) 985-0247

Boiceville Florist, Floral arrangements, Cards, Gifts and more- Rt. 28, Boiceville, NY (845) 657-6736

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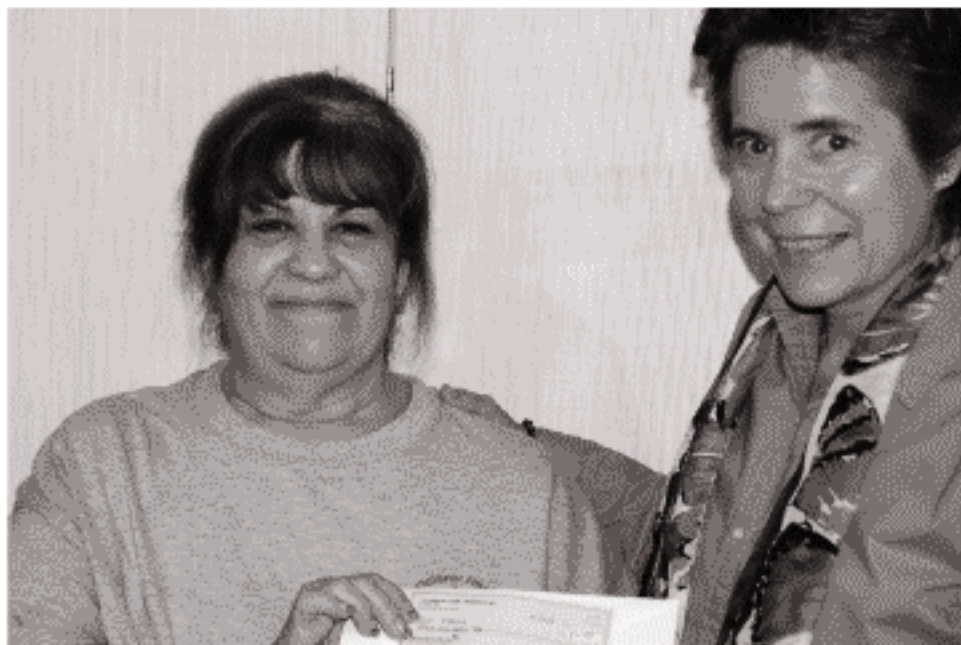
Joy Ohrvall starting at \$10 for 1 Yoga class to \$90 for 10 yoga classes; **Reiki** and **Shamanic** sessions starting at \$50. Lindholm Rd, Neversink, NY (845) 985-7870

Catskill Artists Gallery- unique and one of a kind local crafts, fine art, ceramics, glass items, photographs, wall hangings, wood craft and a wide range of jewelry. 38 South Main Street, Liberty Regular hours are: Fridays and Saturdays- 11 to 6; Sundays- 12 to 5; Additional holiday hours: December 21 & 22, noon to 6- Tel. 292-0310

... and Don't Forget Time and the Valleys Museum Shop in Grahamsville!

The Time and the Valleys Museum Museum Shop at 332 Main Street, Grahamsville, Sullivan County also has an updated on-line shop at: www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org just in time for the holiday season! Visit the Museum Shop (open through the holidays on Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m., and other times by appointment) call 845-985-7700 or write Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740, for a more information or to place an order. All purchases support the Museum and their many educational activities. To make shopping even easier, the Museum will wrap and ship your purchase with a holiday card, directly to your gift recipient!

Hurleyville-Fallsburg Lions Club Presents Donation to PRASAD



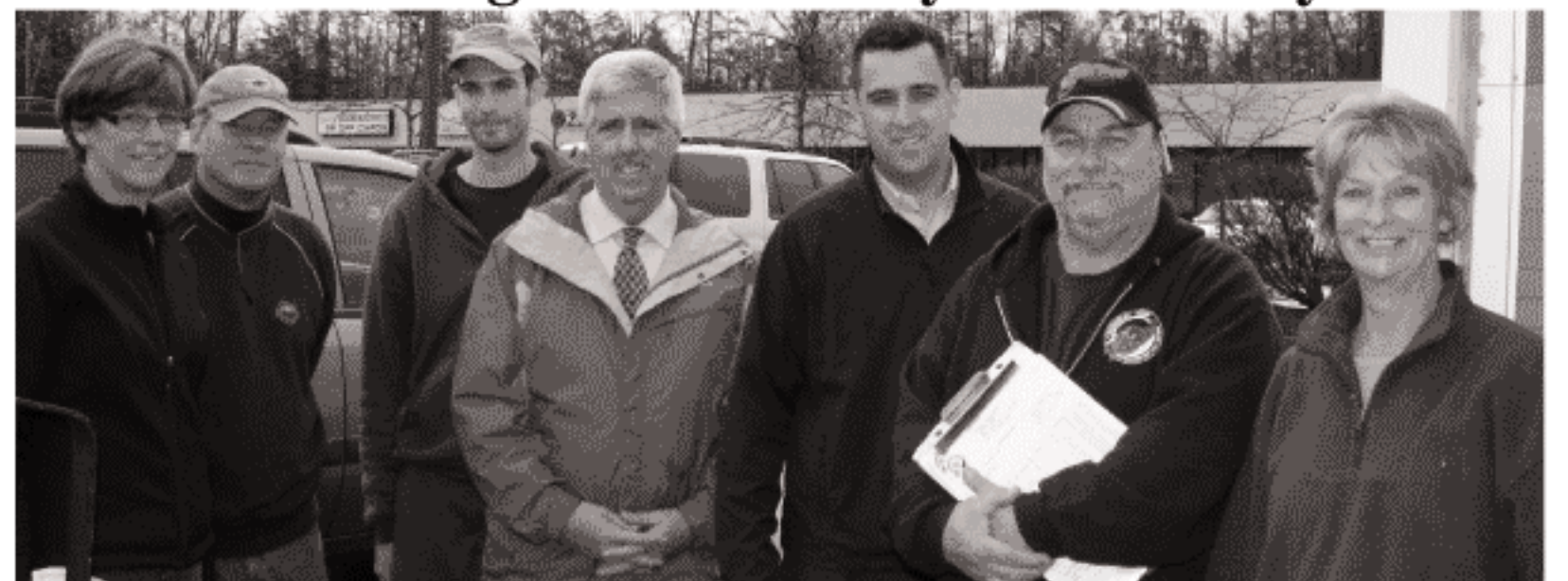
Hurleyville-Fallsburg Lions Club President, Miranda Behan, left, presents a donation to Dr. M. Cecilia Escarra, Administrator for PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program. In accepting the gift, Dr. Escarra said, "Thank you very much for this generous donation, which will greatly benefit the children of our community." This is not the first time that the Fallsburg Lion's Club has reached out to support the unique dental clinic on wheels. "The kids are our future; if we don't take care of them, we've got nothing," said Behan.

He's Making His List & Checking it Twice!



Chloe is one of many children who got to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas. Santa had a busy weekend, but took time to spend a few hours at Bi-Centennial Park in Grahamsville this past Sunday. It seems the Grahamsville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary along with Girl Scout Troop 213 made a few batches of cookies and some hot chocolate for the visitors, and when Santa heard this, he just could not resist the invitation to spend some time in Grahamsville! Thank you Ladies and Girl Scout Troop 213. You helped to put a lot of smiles on a lot of faces, including Chloe's great-grandma, Mary Lee Haag! Chloe's grandma, Louise Dayton was also there enjoying a picture perfect moment! (Contd. Pg. 3)

South Fallsburg Food Pantry Has a Busy Month



During the current holiday season, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Food Pantry in South Fallsburg has fed almost twice as many people as it normally does. People are hurting in Sullivan County-the number of homeless has risen, the number of children on free and reduced lunch is up, and the amount of unemployed and underemployed are extremely high. Ms. Cynthia Johnston, who administers the church facility's food bank, said that she had to order twice as much food for December as she ordered in November-8100 pounds! The Regional Food Bank of NENY, Latham, NY, delivers the food once a month for St. Andrews and other local pantries to pick up.

On December 6, Ms. Johnston, her husband Charles, her sister Linda Goldstein, her brother in law Greg Goldstein, and her nephew Eric Goldstein were there to meet the truck. Wizard Electric and Town of Fallsburg Lions' member Tim Pantel sent one of his workers, Matthew MacArthur, to help out along with Lions member Larry Schafman. In the future pick-ups Fallsburg Lions members will help each month by providing a truck from members Ira and Nathan Steingart and having a team of people to help with the unloading and stocking of the larder at the church.

Twice a month, people come to the pantry and fill out a simple form to show that they meet the eligibility guidelines and can receive assistance. The next few months for distribution are from 5-7 PM on Fridays, December 23; January 13 and 27, 2012; and Fridays February 10, and February 24, 2012. A package of food contains three days of meals for a family of four or the corresponding amount based on the family size. Typically part of the bag are cereal boxes, mac and cheese, cans of fruit, meats such as hot dogs, pasta and tomato sauce, peanut butter and jelly, canned juice, beans, veggies and tuna. These are from the Regional Food Bank. Locally St. Andrew's obtains food and material donations from Stewart Shoppes, MB Food Processing, Inc., and Tonges Dairy. Woodridge Kiwanis, Fallsburg Lions, Sullivan County United Way and South Fallsburg and Loch Sheldrake Seniors have been generous donors of cash and support. The Student Government Association at Fallsburg Central School District has been very supportive with their annual food drive. Private donors also contribute to the pantry.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR

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Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman (USPS #009 398 - ISSN 1558-9013) is published weekly except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's week for \$25.00 per year by Gnome Home, Inc.. Periodical postage paid at Grahamsville, NY. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to:

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DAYS OF 'YORE' - Barbara Slater
GETTING IN TOUCH WITH NATURE - Peggy DeWire
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POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

1. **ALL submissions** should be typewritten or printed legibly.
2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words.
3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.
4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.
5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN office.
6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted.

Opinions expressed in Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman belong to the writers and are not necessarily the viewpoint of Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman or its staff.

To renew or receive a new subscription to the TOWNSMAN, please fill out the form below. Mail form to the address above or place in the TOWNSMAN drop box located on the porch of the First Aid Building in Grahamsville. Make checks payable to: *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: **\$25.00 PER YEAR**

NEW _____ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. _____ Check # _____

Subscription renewals must be received by the last Saturday of the month preceding subscription renewal date to avoid interruption of the paper or renewal notices.

A change of address must be received a month prior to change in order to make the necessary changes in our computer. All changes of address, whether seasonal or permanent, are the responsibility of the subscriber.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE:

3:00 P.M. FRIDAYS • FIRM - Drop Box, FAX, Mail or Email

WEEKLY ADVERTISING RATES

Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words and 20 cents each additional word.

- 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$6.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$12.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (3" x 4") - \$24.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (3" x 6") - \$36.00 (\$2.00/sq in)
- (4" x 6") - \$48.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$70.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (6" x 8") - \$96.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$140.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (Full page - 10" x 14") - (\$2.00 sq in) \$280 B/W
- (Full back page - 10" x 14") - (\$3.00/sq in) \$420.00 B/W
- NEW offering:** (Full back page in Color - 10" x 14") - \$630.00

Rates are based on **B/W Camera-ready copy**. All display advertising will be based upon \$2.00 sq inch (1"x1"). Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-served basis on all pages except the front page, page 2 & page 3. **All advertising must be pre-paid** unless other arrangements have been made.

All inserts/flyers must be pre-paid. Please send the correct amount of money along with **1,500 copies** of your flyer. If the insert/flyer is printed only on one side, the rate is \$40.00 per week. If the insert/flyer is printed on both sides, the rate is \$60.00 per week. The customer must provide the correct number of pre-printed flyers. If you wish *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* to print the flyers the charge for a one-sided flyer based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$95.00; (color paper) \$125.00. If both sides of the flyer are to be printed the charge based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$145.00; (color paper) \$175.00.

Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday.

NO EXCEPTIONS

If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: tvtownsman@yahoo.com If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501.
As always, thank you for your support.

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman
P O Box 232
Grahamsville, NY 12740
Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman on-line:
<http://thetownsman.com>

ON THE FRONT BURNER: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

DAYS OF YORE....
Today's History

December 12, 1951 - Mr. Neal Terwilliger passed away on Monday at the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Miller in Ellenville. Mr. Terwilliger, the son of Meeker Terwilliger and Martha Osterhoudt Terwilliger, was born in Yeagerville on November 7 1871. At the age of two, he came with his parents to live on Lackawack Hill where he lived all his life as a farmer. He was married to Nora Van Wagner fifty-five years ago.

Millard Vandermark, an 83-year old farmer employed by George "Dewey" Scudder, shot an 8-point buck on the Scudder farm at Jeffersonville early last week. He had only been out in the woods for about 20 minutes. Mr. Vandermark, who has put his tag on several bucks in the past, said, "I just went out to show them young fellows how it is done."

Two patrolmen from the New York City Board of Water Supply, under Lieut. John J. Quinlan of Neversink, started patrolling the Livingston Manor, Lew Beach and Willowemoc area recently. They will also go to Roscoe on call, although it is anticipated that the New York State Police will take care of that section.

December 13, 1961 - On Saturday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. a very pretty wedding took place in the Baptist Church at Lows Corners when Miss Judith Marie Bevins of Woodbourne became the bride of Mr. Roland Honaker of Hurleyville. The double ring ceremony was performed by Rev. Louis Carlsen.

Mrs. Elizabeth Meyers, 85, died on Dec. 4th at the Monticello Hospital. Mrs. Meyers was born at Denning on April 1, 1876, the daughter of Martin Erts and Susanna Miller. She was married to the late John Hodge in 1904 and to the late Lorenzo Meyers in 1945. She lived in Hasbrouck. Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Nellie Cypert of Hasbrouck and Mrs. Grace Vernoy of Woodbourne; two sisters, Mrs. Catherine LaPolt and Mrs. Genevieve Wilkow; two brothers, George Erts and Frank J. Erts.

December 8, 1971 - Services were held Monday for Theodore C. Shaut, 63, of Grahamsville who died at home on Saturday. Born in Bath, N.Y. on January 31, 1908, he was the son of Frank and Belle Saltzman Shaut. He married Mary Link in 1940 at Piermont. Mr. Shaut lived in Grahamsville for 25 years. He was a retired registered nurse at the Woodbourne Correctional Institution.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clark of Grahamsville who are the proud parents of a baby girl born on November 24th.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Doug Hill married 28 years on December 14th.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hornbeck who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the 24th.

Paul Timothy Corbett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Corbett of Woodbourne, has completed recruit training in Great Lakes, Ill. He has been assigned to the Navy's Fleet Sonar School in Key West Florida for 42-58 weeks of additional training. He is a 1971 graduate of Tri-Valley Central School.

December 10, 1981 - Susie Davis of Grahamsville and Joann Oliver of Sundown will be competing in the National Junior Olympics on Saturday, December 12th in St. Louis, Missouri. Thirteen regions from the U.S., Hawaii and Japan will be represented.

Airman Joseph A. Flynn III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Flynn of Grahamsville has been assigned to Keesler AFB, Miss. After completing Air Force Basic training at Lackland he will now receive specialized instruction in the Avionics Systems field. He is a 1978 graduate of Tri-Valley Central School.

James and Wendy Muthig McCarthy of Denver, Colorado are the very proud parents of a 7 lb. 9 oz. son, Jason Lee McCarthy born November 12, 1981 at the Fritz Army Hospital in Denver. Maternal grandparents are Carol Ken Curry of Grahamsville. Paternal grandparents are Clyde and Joyce Muthig of Parksville.

Hogs, Harleys & Happiness at Head Start



For twenty-six years Head Start of Sullivan County, Inc. and O'Toole's Harley-Davidson of Wurtsboro have partnered to bring smiles and joy to hundreds of children at the annual Holiday Party in December. The Wurtsboro Chapter of the Hogs Motorcycle Club has been there since the beginning of this wonderful event in 1986. Director Tom Lovelace comes with his wife Pattie and two daughters Danielle and Elizabeth in anticipation of the excitement shown on every one of the almost five hundred children sitting on Santa's chair as he presents each of them a special wrapped present thanks to the generosity of Kohl's Distribution Center in Wurtsboro and its company volunteers.

Joining the Hogs this year were two other clubs, the Defiant Crew of Orange County and the LAMAS (Latin American Motorcycle Association) of Westchester County. O'Toole's Partner, Tom Verdiglione, has been continuing the fine work of his predecessors for the past four years. He coordinates with Charles Davis, President of the Head Start Board of Directors, and Ms. Bertha Williams, long-time Administrator for the Sullivan County Head Start Program to ensure that as she says, "Her babies feel the love given by the community." Her staff and volunteer parents and children set up the hall and prepare and serve food and refreshments for the 700 participants.

The families present will never forget the roaring sound of 41 motorcycles coming down the road into the Sullivan County Correctional Facility Activity Center donated by the facility followed closely with a Town of Circleville Fire Department Pumper Truck with Santa Claus and his elf waving to the boys and girls. When asked why O'Toole's has loyally supported this event for 26 years, Tom Verdiglione shared a story from last year. Santa, who bears a strong resemblance to Jason Parks of the Wurtsboro Hogs, was finishing his four hours giving presents and having photos taken with the happy children. An eight-year old approached him quietly, reached into his pocket, and gave him 65 cents. "Please give this to kids like him," said the boy. As Tom says, "That is what this event is all about."

NYS Acts Immediately to Remedy Economic Slowdown

Like every state in the country, New York is being hurt by the national economic slowdown and by the political dysfunction in Washington that has prevented the solutions we need.

But New York, is not waiting for Washington to act., but taking action now.

Governor Cuomo is proposing a bold and innovative plan to stimulate our economy, create jobs, and restore fundamental fairness to our economic system.

This new plan, includes incentivizing private sector job growth, continuing to link government spending to performance, and establishing a new Fair Tax Plan to make our tax code more equitable.

The state's current tax code places an undue burden on our middle class. With the Governor's reforms, 4.4 million New Yorkers would receive a tax cut, including a reduction of hundreds of millions of dollars for middle class taxpayers.

Governor Cuomo's comprehensive and balanced approach is intended to help rebuild our economy, embrace fundamental fairness over political ideology, and once again show that New York will rise above partisan gridlock to deliver results for the people.

NEVERSINK NEWS - Hulda Vernooy

Condolences to the family of Vernon (Bud) Stratton of Grahamsville who passed away on December 4, 2011.

A belated Happy Birthday to Karl Allison of Neversink. He celebrated his 88th birthday on December 1, 2011. May you be blessed with many more, Karl.

A belated Happy Anniversary to Linda and Thomas Cypert who celebrated their special day on December 4, 2011. May you be blessed with many more happy years.

Happy Holidays to everyone!
(Call Hulda at 985-2268 with your Neversink news.)

Be a "Master Gardener"

Volunteer to become a Master Gardener through Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Sullivan County. An intensive 15-week training program for Sullivan County residents will begin in February 2012 at the Gerald J. Skoda Extension Center in Liberty. Up to 20 individuals will be accepted into the program after an application process.

Begun in 1975 in New York State, the Master Gardeners Program combines a set curriculum, learning experiences and tutoring. The program provides home and community gardeners with unbiased gardening information based on research and reliable experience. Community service is required as part of this "neighbors teaching neighbors" approach.

"Master Gardener training is a core program of Cornell Cooperative Extension throughout New York State and we are pleased to be able to return it to Sullivan County," said Lydia Reidy, the Sullivan County CCE Interim Executive Director. "Now residents from all parts of the county will have an opportunity to participate in this extremely valuable community service program."

Cornell Cooperative Extension staff from both Ulster and Sullivan counties will provide the training, led by Dona Crawford, CCE Ulster's Master Gardener Coordinator. Sullivan Renaissance is collaborating with CCE to help fund the program and identify both volunteers and service opportunities.

"Sullivan Renaissance has worked with Cornell Cooperative Extension on a number of projects over the years, but this is the most exciting cooperative effort by far," said Sullivan Renaissance Director Glenn Pontier. "We often get requests for horticultural assistance. Just imagine the boost when 20 new gardening volunteers begin to assist with garden design and maintenance in communities from Long Eddy to Monticello to Bloomingburg."

Training dates will run every Tuesday from February 7 through May 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Snow makeup dates are the Thursdays following the snow days. Cost is \$200 with \$50 returned to those who complete the training and the requisite 100 hours of community service.

Volunteer applications are available from Cornell Cooperative Extension and from Sullivan Renaissance. Individuals should check "Master Gardener" in the section "Volunteer Position." Completed applications must be returned no later than January 6, 2012 to: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County, 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road, Liberty, NY 12754. Applicants may be asked for an interview and are subject to a criminal background check.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a statewide educational organization funded by national, state and county governments - that helps New York residents put research-based knowledge to work. For information call 845-292-6180 or visit <http://blogs.cce.cornell.edu/sullivan/>.

Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation. For information call 845-295-2445 or visit www.sullivanrenaissance.org.

Bonacic: Governor Should be Commended on Willingness to Address Tax Structure

In March, State Senator John J. Bonacic (R/C/I - Mt Hope) became the onl Republican in the Senate to say that the State should retain higher taxes for the wealthiest New Yorkers while giving tax relief to the middle class.

Now, nearly nine months later, Governor Andrew Cuomo appears poised to propose tax structure changes, along with the legalization of casino gaming, another Bonacic priority.

"Governor Cuomo has seen and heard what I have seen and heard and he is acting on it. I am not going to applaud him for 'changing his views', because he will argue, accurately so, that he has always focused on the middle class. Whatever you want to call the Governor's comments of the past few days, and the legislation he appears poised to introduce, I call it a step in the right direction. While the mantra (Next Col.)

He's Making His List & Checking it Twice! (From Pg. 1)



Above, Ariana Kaminski, Miss Teen International (left) shares a bit of holiday conversation with Santa, along with Sarah Levy (right). Sarah was one of the helpers from Girl Scout Troop 213 who served cookies, cocoa, and hot dogs with a big smile. Ariana, was on hand to help serve refreshments too, as she is a past member of our local Girl Scout Troop 213.

... and 'her self, the elf' could not have been more gracious nor could do a better job accepting the 'Super Stocking' filled with gifts and surprises than Sara did!



Actually Sarah's little brother, 18 month old Eddie Levy, Jr. was the winner of the huge stocking, but Eddie was taking a short winter nap when the prizes were given out.

Hanna Labogh was the winner of the girl's super stocking. Hanna was not present at the time of the drawing, but we are sure she was all smiles when she was presented with her grand stocking!

Congratulations to both, Hanna and Eddie! ...and thank you to all who helped make Santa's visit a delight for everyone!

of cutting taxes for those earning a million or more may sound good to some, what is better for all, is tax relief for the middle class and our small businesses," Senator Bonacic said.

The Senator, who represents the Catskills area, along with parts of the Mid-Hudson Valley, said the Governor's call for resort casino gaming development would bode well for the Catskills.

Bonacic is Chairman of both the Senate Committees on Racing, Gaming & Wagering - which has subject matter jurisdiction over casino issues, and also the Senate Judiciary Committee, which must approve the Constitutional Amendment necessary for resort casino gaming.

"Casino gaming in traditional resort areas can create jobs in the Catskills. I look forward to seeing exactly what the Governor is proposing, and to finally delivering casino gaming to the Catskills," Bonacic said.

"I would prefer to see property tax relief, but anything that reduces the cost of living in New York on the middle class, is a welcome step. I am pleased the Governor appears to be taking that step, I know it is a hard one to take, but relief for the middle class is certainly necessary. I look forward to seeing the final version of his proposals, and hope we can all support them," Senator Bonacic said.

How Deer in Grahamsville Get Winterized

By Peggy DeWire



Our whitetail deer were enjoying the first snowstorm of the season. I watched yearlings frolicking around their family herds until they drifted deeper into the woods. Whitetails had prepared for winter in three main ways.

The first is to grow heavier, darker fur coats with each hair hollow to trap warm air next to the body for insulation. This keeps a warm-blooded animal's body temperature fairly constant, regardless of the surrounding weather.



All North American deer do this, from the biggest - a moose at seven feet tall and 1800 pounds - to the smallest - a Florida Key Deer at two feet tall and 50 pounds. The very littlest deer in the world today is the rabbit deer or Pudu that lives in the Andes Mountains of South America. It is one foot tall and weighs 20 pounds and it is the most prolific of the deer as it can have up to seven young at a time, though its usual is five fawns.

The second winter readiness is when male deer lose their antlers after the mating season and rejoin family herds in "deer yards" when snow is deep. The outstanding feature of whitetail bucks is the antlers which are shed in winter and regrown completely six months later. This regrowth puts an enormous strain on the buck's vitality since a large pair of antlers can be a fifth of total body weight.

Female caribou or reindeer are the only ones in the deer family that grow antlers. In Asia two species of primitive deer have no antlers.

True deer that grew deciduous antlers first appeared about ten million years ago. They were cat-size mammals with clawed feet. One line stayed in Europe and became the Red Deer group.

Another line migrated from Asia a million years ago across the Bering Straits and became the New World of moose, elk, caribou and white tail deer.

Today there are thirty-two kinds of deer worldwide divided into four sub-families. Our whitetail belongs to Cervinae.

In China, a small primitive deer in another sub-family lives along waterways. It has no antlers but does have long vicious incisor tusks. It can eat fish.

The third way Grahamsville deer prepare for winter is to alter its digestive system to handle the seasonal change in diet from green leaves and grass to tree buds, twigs and moss.

Whitetails took a million years to perfect their winterizing tricks of growing heavier coats, shedding antlers and digesting seasonal diets. But they did it so well that they survive comfortably all over the United States.

Helpful Hint from Mary

Ice Cubes for that Holiday Punch

Make giant ice cubes in muffin tins, a bundt pan or plastic margarine bowls. These are perfect for using in your holiday punch bowls or where ever ice is needed. They look pretty and keep your drinks or food cold longer.

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT NO. 29 By John Dwaine McKenna



I'm pretty sure you'll be reading MBR NO. 29 just before Christmas, and it'll be the last one of 2011. I hope you've all enjoyed the ride, as I have, and look forward to next year . . . when we'll explore more mystery, murder and mayhem; thrillers that have the world as we know it hanging in the balance, the outcome depending on the abilities of the unlikeliest of protagonists. We'll meet the good, the bad and the ugly, heroes, heroines and villains, vampires, ghosts and aliens, maybe even a few thinking machines with human feelings, in every kind of setting imaginable. The Neversink Chronicles will continue to be a topic of discussion, and, don't tell anybody 'cause it's a secret right now, but my second book, *The Colorado Noir Chronicles* will be out next fall. Hang on ladies and gentlemen, it's gonna be one helluva trip. Like the lady stripper told the wide-eyed lad, "You ain't seen nothin' yet!"

I wasn't able to find a novel about criminality that represented the spirit and values of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or the holiday season in general, so I went for an old favorite of mine, a man whom many consider to be one of the best crime writers who ever lived. His name is Elmore Leonard, and he is indisputably a giant among genre writers. He's a writer I hold in highest esteem; the author of somewhere around fifty books; a man with an absolute command of language, and a pitch-perfect ear for dialog. I chose one of his novels at random because, yes Virginia, there are great writers still, whose books are all equally good. Elmore Leonard is one of them. The book is *Road Dogs* (William Morrow, \$26.00, 262 pages, ISBN 978-0-06-173314-7) by Elmore Leonard.

Road Dogs is prison slang. It describes a pair of prisoners using the buddy system to protect themselves from gangs, assassins and crazies while incarcerated. The road dogs in this case are cell mates Jack Foley, "the most notorious bank robber since John Dillinger," and Cundo Rey, a wealthy Cuban ex-patriot criminal sent here on the Mariel boat lift when Castro emptied out his jails and sent all the convicts in them to America. In appreciation for his friendship and protection, Cundo arranges for Jack's thirty year sentence to be reduced to three months, and Jack is released two weeks before Cundo. They agree to meet up in California at one of two houses Cundo owns in Venice Beach, where his common-law wife Dawn Navarro is living and waiting. It all sounds good on paper, but, problem is, not one of them trusts any of the others; they're all criminals after all. The plotting is tight, and the dialogue has the master's touch. You'll love it. Better still, it may make you, like me, an Elmore Leonard enthusiast.

And save some enthusiasm for the Time and the Valleys Museum and the Daniel Pierce Library, where you can learn about the history of the place where you live. Check it out, you'll be glad you did, because you either "Read, or surrender to ignorance." Confucius, (551-479 BCE.)

The Neversink Chronicles are here! You can get a signed copy at *Cannie D's* in Neversink, the Time and the Valleys Museum in Grahamsville, or you can order it on my website: johndwainemckenna.com where you'll also find all of the Mysterious Book Reports, a free story, book lists, news and information about me or Rhyolite Press. You can comment, ask questions, complain or make suggestions. You can even let me know what you're reading. I may mention it in the column . . . you never know. You can get in touch the traditional way at: POB 2406, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Would appreciate your liking me on facebook too.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas, I'll see you next year. --JDM

Undercover Investigation Showed Telemarketers Routinely Lied to Donors During High-Pressure Calls

NYS Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today announced that a Connecticut fundraising company and its owner have been permanently barred from soliciting charitable contributions in New York State. Under an order, signed in Supreme Court in Albany, Stage Door Music Productions, Inc. (Stage Door), with headquarters in Waterbury, Connecticut, and its owner, Robert J. Donato, 53, of Middlebury, Connecticut, are permanently barred from soliciting charitable contributions from New York State residents and businesses. Stage Door operated its main New York call center out of Albany, New York.

As a result of the Attorney General's settlement, Stage Door was ordered to pay the state \$1.2 million and Donato has been ordered to pay \$40,000. Stage Door, a Connecticut fundraising corporation, had raised over \$11 million in the State of New York since 2005. It had been registered to fundraise since 1985. Stage Door engaged in fundraising activities in New York on behalf of various charities, primarily public safety organizations such as police benevolent associations and firefighter associations. They used telephone campaigns that targeted New York residents and businesses.

"This fraudulent scheme involved fundraisers manipulating sympathetic donors in order to raise money, not for the greater good, but instead for their personal financial benefit," said Attorney General Schneiderman. "My office will not tolerate the exploitation of generous New Yorkers and we will continue to put these operations out of business, while safeguarding the integrity of charitable giving throughout the state."

It is illegal to fundraise in New York State using deceptive or misleading practices. Anyone soliciting for charities in New York must, among other things, provide a clear description of the programs and activities for which donations are requested or state that such information is available from the charity; disclose the name of the fundraising company; disclose the name of the individual telemarketer; and disclose the fact that the telemarketer is being paid. In addition, fundraisers are required to register and file reports with the Attorney General's office. It is illegal to fundraise in New York State using deceptive or misleading practices. Anyone soliciting for charities in New York must, among other things, provide a clear description of the programs and activities for which donations are requested or state that such information is available from the charity; disclose the name of the fundraising company; disclose the name of the individual telemarketer; and disclose the fact that the telemarketer is being paid. In addition, fundraisers are required to register and file reports with the Attorney General's office.

SC DPW Commissioner Bob Meyer Named Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee of the NYS County Highway Superintendents' Assoc

Sullivan County DPW Commissioner Bob Meyer has been named Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee of the New York State County Highway Superintendents' Association.

Sullivan County Manager David Fanslau is pleased to announce that Sullivan County DPW Commissioner Bob Meyer has been named Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee of the New York State County Highway Superintendents' Association. Meyer has previously served for the past several years on the Association's Executive Committee.

The New York State County Highway Superintendents Association represents New York State's 57 Commissioners of Public Works and Highway Superintendents.

For over 100 years the Association has promoted the construction and maintenance of a safe and modern system of more than 20,400 miles of county highways and over 9,000 local bridges in New York State as well as other transportation infrastructure maintained by county government.

The NYS County Highway Superintendents' Association links county highway officials with industry professionals as well as state and federal government officials and lawmakers to exchange ideas, share knowledge and promote county infrastructure needs.

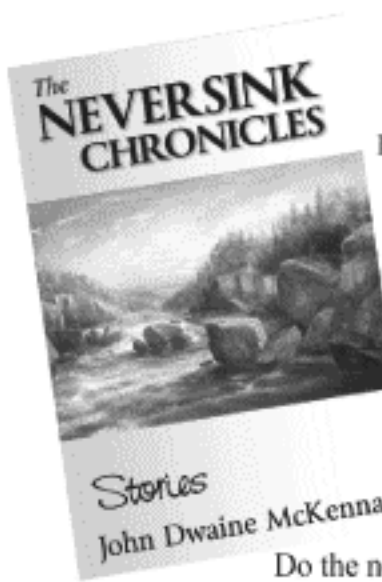
SC Prescription Discount Card

Sullivan County Manager David Fanslau has announced that the Sullivan County Legislature wants to remind all Sullivan County residents that they have the opportunity to save money on their prescription drug needs. "In February of this year, the Legislature approved the introduction of the Sullivan County Prescription Discount Card Program that is provided free to all residents in Sullivan County through a partnership with ProAct Inc," said Fanslau. The Sullivan County. (Next Col.)

Discount Card program provides residents valuable savings on their prescription medications, typically ranging from 10% to 50% depending on the medication and brand. Although the discount card benefits the uninsured and underinsured the most, all residents in the county are eligible to use this program. There are no prerequisites or medical forms to fill out, simply present the card at your local pharmacy and start saving immediately. The discount card program also offers discounts on hearing, vision, and LASIK services. The cards can be used at any pharmacy in the area and at over 56,000 pharmacies nationwide.

To ensure that all residents have the ability to access the discount card program, Sullivan County and ProAct have supplied local pharmacies with a supply of discount cards to be given out to residents who currently do not have a card of their own. Cards are also available at the Sullivan County Public Health Services Office on 50 Community Lane in Liberty, NY 12754, Sullivan County Community Services at 20 Community Lane, Liberty, NY 12754 along with the Office of the Aging and the County Legislative Office at the Sullivan County Government Center, both at 100 North Street Monticello, NY 12701. For residents who have access to the Internet, they can log onto www.NYRxDiscountCard.com to print out their own card. For questions, please call the Sullivan County Public Health Department at (845) 292-5910, or the Sullivan County Community Services Department at (845) 292-8770.

"Sullivan County is one of 47 counties across New York State that utilizes the Prescription Discount Card Program. To date, residents across the state have saved more than \$67 million dollars and have filled more than 2.3 million prescriptions. Since the implementation of the program in Sullivan County in February of 2011, residents have already saved more than \$150,000 by filling more than 3,200 prescriptions. Residents are currently saving an average of 53%, or \$45.79, on each of the prescriptions that they fill," concluded Fanslau



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The Olive Jar

By Carol LaMonda

Yes, Virgil. There is a Santa. No, it's not the jolly old man dressed up in red velvet with the wide black belt around his ample middle. That Santa has become the trademark of Walmart, Hallmark, and retailers everywhere. That Santa brings presents according to one's income status. I, for one, get upset at seeing the commercial with the a \$50,000. car in the driveway with a big red bow. That Santa has some prejudices and money issues.

No, the Santa I believe in puts out luminaries and decorates the house with greens and pinecones. The Santa I know searches for that special gift that will delight someone. That Santa buys and wraps gifts for a family in need. That Santa collects turkeys to bring to the Darmstadt Shelter. That Santa donates Poinsettias in memory of someone they loved. That Santa visits the nursing home to sing Christmas Carols. Santa can look a lot like Garwood Klein, Lane Stowe, Frank Carle, Donna Van Kleeck, Carol Merante, or the girls at the Town Office.



Santa and one of his trusty elves at the Breakfast with Santa that was held on December 10, 2011 at the Boiceville Inn.

Sometimes Santa dons an apron and bakes cookies to raise money for a church. The Olivebridge Methodist Church, the church on the hill on Route 213, will have its cookie sale on Saturday, December 17 from 9-3. With one week to Christmas, this may be the way to have a nice platter of cookies to serve to guests. I always bake ahead, which means we nosh on cookies leaving empty "crumby" tins in need of refills by the holidays. Supporting the church and having cookies to share seems like a plan.

The best things of the season are not the ones purchased with a charge card. It is the season of egg nog, cookies, music, lights, and giving. All these traditions set the stage for the real event of Christmas. It is the season to love one another as Christ loved us. So, Virgil, there is a Santa. He is the symbol of what is good in all of us when we care and share.

Olive Musq- Jew Boy in Goy Town

- Charlie Blumstein

A couple of years ago I had the great pleasure of reading "Jew Boy in Goy Town", by H. Charles Bluming, who wrote of his coming of age and rites of passage as a young boy growing up in the Catskills circa 1916. After the boarding house owned by his family in Sullivan County burned to the ground, they moved to a relatives farm on Pataukunk Rd. in Mombaccus, a hamlet located between Kerhonkson and Samsonville, where they ran a subsistence farm and enlarged the house in order to cater to the summer vacation trade.

According to Bluming, the population at that time was about 30% Jewish, making for the occasional spat due to religious differences. Arising well before dawn in order to feed and care for the livestock, Charles and his brother would then hitch the wagon and set off for school in Kerhonkson, some 5 miles down the hill. When he came of high school age, he and the other students from the area would take the steam powered train from Kerhonkson to Ellenville.

The family names he recounts sound like a who's who of old line families that are still here today. His account of the building of the Kerhonkson Synagogue is bittersweet as he first describes a melee between the Jewish farmers building the synagogue and some less than tolerant congregants from a local church. The troublemakers were a distinct minority who slunk off to nurse their wounds after a particularly large Jewish farmer used a big stick to clear the street of troublemakers on one particular Sunday morning after church.

The highlight of the synagogue building effort

came when the two congregations came together for a service in the new building to celebrate its completion. That relations between those of the Jewish and Christian faith were a little more complicated than is commonly thought was illuminated by Bluming's account of a set of wheels and tires taken from the Bluming families new Ford Model T car which was parked in the barn by thieves in the night.

Upon arrival at the State Police barracks in Ellenville, Bluming's father was informed by the state trooper that essentially, the Clan was the law in the Kerhonkson area. As it happens, Bluming's next door neighbor happened to be the head of the clan in the area. Upon stopping by the farm next door to visit and discuss the matter, the clan leader told Bluming's father that there was a new family in town that seemed to be less than trustworthy and that he would look into it. A couple of days later the wheels turned up back in the barn.

On the other side of the clan leader's farm was a farm owned by the Golub family, who were decidedly not members of any religious group. Mr Golub could often be heard out in the yard exclaiming "Jeesuss Cri!", which was not well received by the clan leader. One night, after a number of warnings from the clan leader not to use the Lord's name in vain, Golub's barn inexplicably burned to the ground. The next morning, Golub loaded his family and possessions into their truck and drove off, never to return. A realtor sold off the farm soon after. Respect for the viewpoints and religious practices of others seemed the crux.

Bluming's description of the goings on in the two-room schoolhouse he attended with his brother could have been written today and includes his ribald account of a teacher's dalliance with a student out in the wood-

shed. Sadly, the strapping young student who got involved with the teacher did not survive the beating he received from his father when he found out.

Bluming recounts his visit back to Mombaccus in his later years and visiting with Mrs. George Schwab whose husband ran a sawmill and later the local school bus company. When I first landed in Accord, I had the very good fortune to fall in with and work under the tutelage of Barney Rothberg, who worked for George Schwab back in the 1930s, hauling lumber from Schwabs mill up to the Navy docks in Albany in a Model A flatbed truck. He said that forty miles an hour on the downhill was about the limit in those days. Knowing some of the individuals and families mentioned in the book brought Bluming's stories alive and he has lent a new perspective to age old religious rivalries.

In the forward, Mr. Bluming's wife writes: "This story is about the rites of passage of a young boy growing up in the Catskill Mountains before it became the "Borscht Belt". The author shares his lusts and loves, his young hopes and dreams, his fears and feats of bravery ... It is also the story of a family's struggle to overcome poverty and to cope with neighbors who were sometimes hostile because of religious differences, and sometimes gracious despite religious differences. The author looks back nostalgically at the interdependence of siblings despite their rivalries, and the unquestioning love and cooperation within a family struggling to succeed through emergencies, catastrophes, and aggravations. It is a well-rounded history of love, hope and aspirations, and the down-to-earth experiences of dealing with life in the not so long ago past."

Have a sweet holiday season and see you in the new year! Waverider75@earthlink.net



RESERVOIR MUSIC NOTES-

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Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, Jeff Beck, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Jimi Hendrix, and Billy Gibbons, so much so that Mick Jagger and Keith Richard insisted on paying 100% of his funeral expenses!

Hubert was Keith to Wolf's Mick. He played on the original versions of all of Howlin' Wolf's songs that were later made famous by The Stones, Hendrix, The Doors, Jeff Beck Group, The Electric Flag, The Grateful Dead, Cream, The Yardbirds, and so many others. Songs like "Smokestack Lightning", "Back Door Man", "I Ain't Superstitious", "Spoonful", "Killing Floor", "Built for Comfort", "Little Red Rooster", "Goin' Down Slow", and "Wand Dang Doodle"! Songs that have become staples of every rock and blues band in the world for the last fifty years, and Hubert Sumlin played on them all! Amazingly, he also found the time to spend six months playing in Muddy Waters band!

Born in Greenwood, Mississippi in 1931, and raised in Arkansas, Sumlin made his first recordings in 1953 at Sun Studios with the legendary Sam Phillips producing! His first meeting with Howlin' Wolf took place when Hubert was 10! Sneaking out of his mother's house to go see Wolf at an Arkansas juke joint, (the kind of place that Levon Helm named his Midnight Rambles after) Hubert, who was too young to get in, was standing on some Coca Cola crates trying to look into the room, when the crates shifted and young Hubert fell through the window, landing on the 6 foot 6, 230 pound Wolf, who then gave him a place of honor on the stage, and afterwards drove him home and convinced his mother not to punish him for sneaking out!

The recipient of four Grammy awards and numerous Blues Music awards, Mister Sumlin was also a member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame and was recently named #43 on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the One Hundred Greatest Guitarists of All Time! When Howlin' Wolf went to London to record an album with an all star crew of young British musicians who were influenced by and exponents of his music, Eric Clapton refused to participate in the sessions if Hubert wasn't there! The Stones brought him on stage at Madison Square Garden in 2003 to sit in with them and he also was a frequent guest at Woodstock's own, Levon Helm's.

Mister Sumlin also recorded more than a dozen albums as an artist in his own right, often with guests like Keith Richard, Eric Clapton, Levon, and David Johansen guesting! There's even an unreleased Blues album that Keith conceived and produced with Hubert and many of the aforementioned guests that, hopefully, will be unleashed on the waiting Blues community and fans one day soon!

I was privileged to see the man perform quite a few times, and there was really no one like him!

He is survived by his second wife, Evelyn, a son, three daughters, and two sisters. Another son predeceased Hubert. The world is now a poorer place! RIP Mister Hubert Sumlin. You will be missed, but your music will live on as long as the human race survives, and maybe longer!

We also lost the great soul singer, Dobie Gray, most famous for his rendering of the classic song, "Drift Away" (which, by the way, The Stones also recorded, but never released), and his smash hit from the 60's, "The In Crowd", a great record if there ever was one! In his later years, Mister Gray moved to Nashville and focused on songwriting, penning hits for artists as diverse as Ray Charles, George Jones, Julio Iglesias, and Charley Pride! Strangely, nobody seems to know Dobie's birth name, birth place, or birth date, but by most accounts, he was 69, 70, or 71! Really!

And tragically, Barbara Orbison, Roy's wife, lost her battle with cancer on the 23rd anniversary of her husband's death, December 6, at the age of 60.

Perhaps not coincidentally, or perhaps because it's the week before Christmas, but this is a fairly barren week for live music. Here's all I've got for you.

Thursday, December 15 - The great CHRIS ISAAK stops by the Tarrytown Music Hall tonight. Highly recommended.

Friday, December 16 - DONNA THE BUFFALO is at the Bearsville Theater. Bearer of one of the strangest names of any band ever, I haven't really heard their music, but they did make an album with my buddy, Jim Lauderdale, and that's good enough for me!

Saturday, December 17 - The highly acclaimed JOHNNY MONSTER BAND returns to the Bearsville Theater for a free show, CHRIS ROBINSON of The Black Crows pulls into Irving Plaza in Manhattan, and DAVID KRAAI AND THE SADDLE TRAMPS continue to carry the torch for Cosmic American Music at The High Falls Cafe.

Monday, December 19 - British Ska masters, THE ENGLISH BEAT make an appearance at Irving Plaza in Manhattan.

Some of you may remember my column of March 17, 2011, in which I picked my top ten artists who should be in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but aren't. Well, this year's inductees have just been announced, and of the 6 new inductees, three of them were on my list! In addition, the great and immortal Tom Dowd, who I've advocated for induction for the past ten years or so, was also in this year's class! It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Have a great week!

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Ho, Ho, Holy Night! A Holiday Happening in Phoenicia!
Friday December 23rd Santa will arrive at 3:00pm in Phoenicia. At 4:00 Uncle Rock and Friends will be performing a Free Holiday Concert at STS Playhouse. Then join Santa in some Christmas Caroling around the bonfire at Mama's Boy and enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies. At 6:00 pm the Christmas caroling will continue along Main Street.
Handel's Messiah will be performed by the Phoenicia Community Choir at 7:30 pm at the Wesleyan Church at 24 Main Street.
Remember that stores will remain open late for that last minute gift shopping and please don't forget those in need. Please bring non-perishable food items to Mama's Boy to be donated to the Helping Hands Food Pantry.
This event is sponsored by the Ulster Savings Bank, SHARP and the Emerson Hotel and Spa

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To all those whose prayers have helped me in recent months, may this holiday season be joyful for you and all of those you love.

POLLY HILL



May the Love, Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year

Frank & Linda Comando



Merry Christmas Everyone!

Barbara L. Barkley

Holiday Greetings from Texas!

Glenda, Gene, Samantha, Melba, Preston & Carl

Holiday Greetings to all! Grateful Thanks to my History Friends!

Carol Smythe, Historian

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a bright shining New year!

Olive Scouts Troup 63 www.OliveScouts.org

Happy Holidays

Frank & Maureen

The Townsman Staff wishes you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

- Barb Barkley Gloria Beavers
- Carolyn Coombe Martha Ahrens
- Karen Curry Claire Rennison
- Charlie Blumstein Joe Ronkose
- Maryanne Ronkose
- Jean Helthaler Barbara Slater
- Hilda Vornoy Barbara Purcell
- Frank Comando Fred Perry
- Linda Comando
- Polly Hill
- Carol LaMonda

Merry Christmas to all our family and friends

Brianna, Brandon & Robert Worden, Jr.

A sack full of Christmas Joy to our family and friends

Joe & Sara

"Joci'gus Ziemsve'tkus un Laimi'gu Jauno Gadu"

"Linksmu Kaledu"

"MILAD MAJID"

"Christmas-e-shoma mobarak bashad"

"Vrolijk Kerstfeest"

"Glædelig Jul"

"Velike Vanoce"

"Urime Krishlindjer" "Gesëimle Kerstfees"

"Sheng Pankuai Le"

"Mo'adim Lesimkha. Chena tova"

"MALIGAYANG PASKO"

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

"Buon Natale"

"Hauskaa Joulua"

"Shub Badadin"

"Nollaig Shona Dhuit"

"Froehliche Weihnachten"

"Sung Tan Jul Chuk Ha"

"Boldog Karácsony"

"Joyeux Noël"

"Tamil Nadu - Christmas Vaazthukkal"

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Surviving the Holidays: Coping Skills For The Family Caregiver

To help caregivers deal with holiday stress, the Ulster County Executive and the Office of the Aging will present Surviving the Holidays: Coping Skills For The Family Caregiver. County Executive Mike Hein and the Ulster County Office of the Aging invite family caregivers to the Holiday Inn in Kingston on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 from 11 AM to 3 PM for brunch and the Surviving the Holidays: Coping Skills For The Family Caregiver conference.

"The holidays can be stressful for everyone, but are more frequently difficult for the family caregiver," said Ulster County Executive Mike Hein. "The additional chores associated with the holidays can be a challenge to a caregiver already stretched both physically and emotionally. This conference is designed to provide these compassionate individuals with helpful tips."

The event will feature keynote speaker William Collagrande, MS, who will discuss strategies for caregivers to make the most of the holiday season. Office for the Aging Caseworker Evelyn Flynn will also provide useful information. The cost is free but reservations are required. Please call the Office of the Aging at (845) 334-5169 to make your reservation.

SUNY Ulster Accepting Entries for "Water" Regional Juried Exhibition

SUNY Ulster is accepting entries from Hudson Valley artists for its new regional juried exhibition, "Water," opening in 2012 at the Muroff Kotler Visual Arts Gallery that will feature artwork inspired, created or conceptually driven by the multifaceted and timely subject of water. The deadline for submitting entries to the College for the show that will be judged by local painter, photographer and installation artist Portia Munson is Jan. 18. The exhibition will open with a reception on March 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery and run through April 13.

Munson is known for her "Pink Projects," made up of thousands of pink plastic objects that explore "the marketing of femininity" and for her large flower prints, scanned configurations of flowers collected from her garden. A resident of Greene County, she earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Cooper Union in New York City and a master of fine arts from Rutgers University in New Jersey. Her work has been exhibited throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe, and she has been awarded numerous fellowships and residencies. All media will be accepted from artists 18 and older working within Ulster, Dutchess, Columbia, Greene, Orange and Sullivan counties. Works will be judged from Jan. 23, to 27, and artists will be notified by email from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3. SUNY Ulster's Muroff Kotler Visual Arts Gallery is open Mondays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and by appointment. It is closed March 12-16 for spring recess and all other college holidays. Events are free and open to the public.

For more information and to receive the prospectus, contact Jeffers at jeffers@sunyulster.edu or (845) 687-5113, or go to www.sunyulster.edu/water.pdf for requirements and an entry form.



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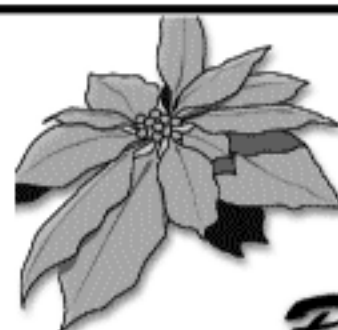
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Thorn Winter's SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY FLASH

THE STORY OF MR. ACLIMONT

By G. Walter Werner

The docent waits to begin his presentation while the tour group enters the Welcome Center. The last guest sits down, triggering sentimental music enhanced to stimulate a sense of well-being for the duration of the program. Lights dim and the docent begins, "Welcome to Rotodel Corporation's original A-priori Monad

Encrypting Plant in Gates-lab, New Illinois. I'm not going to bore you with an explanation of A-Priori Monad Encryption, I'm sure you all know everything there is to know about it by now. What I will do is get straight to the famous accident that happened here." A canned chuckle sparks polite laughter from the audience. The docent smiles, appearing to make eye contact with the audience and resumes, "What I'm going to do is get right to it, and play the original day-journal log presentation of the chain of events that lead to establishing the Journeyman Caste."

The lights in the room fade to black and everyone in the theater finds themselves standing outside the entrance to the plant. The docent stands next to a worn caste iron plaque. He is pointing at the words molded in relief at the top, "On This Site." The somber tone of a respected entertainer's voice begins to speak in mid-sentence, the program's introduction now lost. "...here where Mr. James Acimont works for the Rotodel Corporation in their Subterranean Awareness Plant II under the north face of Cauldron's Ridge outside Gates-lab, New Illinois, Mars. This address is important because eighty-seven years from this day the greater Gates-lab Historical Society will erect a plaque at the entrance to the plant that will include Mr. Acimont's name with a brief description of what took place shortly before his lunch break on this day."

The tour group finds itself at the entrance of one of the primary production chambers of the plant. The cavern walls are coated with a thick layer of impenetrable Enviro-Plast used in low cost "Dig and Skin" construction of industrial facilities during the early Mars Republic.

The narrator resumes, "Mr. Acimont is a Developmental Tracking Technician, colloquially called a Bee Keeper. On this day he is ten minutes late."

A recorded image of Mr. Acimont hurries through the crowd of tourists to the door of the production chamber. "This is enough time for a small contingent of a-priori monads slated for an order of Ice Miners to become errant. Their attention drifts from the holo-curriculum being downloaded."

A bubble expands above the tourists. An encryption grate filled with rows of egg shaped monads fills the bubble. Indicator diodes on almost half are not fluctuating properly.

"Mr. Acimont enters the production chamber, greets several fellow employees, enters his work station, sits at his desk, swivels in his chair to reach the controls of his monitoring console, enters his identity codes, and activates his implanted link with the production grid."

"Mr. Acimont notices the errant monads and returns the attention of all but two back to the holo-curriculum. We think these two monads are only intermittently errant. An Attention Gyro malfunction is overlooked since they happen to be func-

tioning when scanned. Production appears normal for the remainder of the scholastic imprinting portion of the encryption process.

tioning when scanned. Production appears normal for the remainder of the scholastic imprinting portion of the encryption process. "Shortly before his assigned break, the imprinting is complete. Following approved protocol, Mr. Acimont taps his own synaptic patterns to lock the sub-conscious modifiers in the monads and safeguard their identity routines. We now believe that one of the

two errant monads launched a hyper-wipe routine when conjoined with Mr. Acimont's synaptic patterns initiating a slow monad transference.

"At lunch Mr. Acimont eats half of his raza bean scoop-pocket when the final hyper-wipe takes place. He chokes to death on his lunch. The cause remains a mystery for eight years."

Mr. Acimont's twitching body and the entire lunch chamber in which the tour group stands dissolve and before them forms an icy plane seen through the huge open hanger doors of an ice-cutter maintenance bay. In the distance, lightening bleeds from a gravity slip that continually drops massive blocks of raw ice into space for the journey back to the inner planets. In the corner of the bay, two typical ice miners are working at a monad activation unit. One removes an A-priori monad from storage and places it into the unit's lock-up that stands at eye level with the miners. The second miner punches some commands into the unit's control panel and after a short soft hum the lock-up releases the monad which stays suspended in place.

After a second sharper tone the monad begins to create its genomic protoplast projection. In a moment, the projection of a third identical miner is complete, encasing the monad in its head. Terrified, the new miner screams, "Where the hell am I?"

"It is now eight years after the mishap at Gates-lab. Mr. Acimont turns up as an Ice Miner on Europa. Without means to return home he establishes himself in the mining operation. After thirty years without mishap the Department of Monad Transference declares transference for commercial service in hostile environments legal. Growing volunteer enlistment from End of Life facilities gives rise to the Journeyman Caste, opening Cognizant Life Projection to lower castes. Today, CLP is available to everyone through the Outer Planet Industrial Service Corps of Rotodel Corporation."

The music swells as the Maintenance bay dissolves, and the tourists find themselves seated again in the Welcome Center.

The docent speaks. "I hope you enjoyed that nostalgic presentation from the early days of CLP. Can you believe it's been over fourteen hundred years since the dawn of the Acimont Epoch? I always ask, are there any original Journeyman Caste here today?"

Several people raise their hands.

"We have quite a few." The docent notes, "It's likely that some of you initially made transference to an A-priori Monad manufactured right here. To you, let me say, 'Welcome Home!'"

© G. Walter Werner

Glenn Werner is an Author, Artist, Designer, and Poet. He lives in Beacon, NY. He can be contacted at gww@mongrelpoet.com.

Greetings True Believers!

Wow! What a fan-plastic future! Be sure to check us out next week for yet another weird tale!

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UC Executive Mike Hein, Empire State Development Corporation President Ken Adams, Mayor Jim Sottile and Mayor-Elect Shayne Gallo Announce a Plan for Business Retention in UC

Stavo Industries and Wolf-Tec, Inc. will partner at new mid-town Kingston site to create and retain Ulster County jobs.

Kingston, N.Y. - Ulster County Executive Mike Hein, New York State Empire State Development Corporation President Ken Adams, City of Kingston Mayor Jim Sottile and Mayor-Elect Shayne Gallo announced today a plan to keep two Ulster County manufacturers in New York State retaining over 100 jobs and creating 41 new positions. The deal leverages over \$12 million in private sector investment to redevelop a former vacant industrial building in the City of Kingston.

Stavo Industries and Wolf-Tec, Inc. are partnering to redevelop 132 Flatbush Avenue in Kingston, New York. The project will subdivide the property formerly occupied by Colony Liquor into two separate lots and two separate manufacturing spaces.

Plans for site plan approval, subdivision and variances are being filed with the City of Kingston Planning Board for review and approval today, Monday, December 5, 2011. Simultaneous submissions are also being filed by the City of Kingston for Ulster County Shovel Ready Bonding and by each company with the County's Industrial Development Agency. Stavo's and Wolf-Tec's investment commitment in the Kingston location is dependent upon these applications as well as addressing infrastructure and access issues for the site.

"This is an important day for the City of Kingston as well as all of Ulster County. Stavo and Wolf-Tec represent some of the best of Ulster County manufacturing and I am pleased that Ulster County was able to coordinate a competitive package of benefits to retain and grow them here. Governor Cuomo's ability to leverage New York State assistance to keep New York companies here and help them grow has been instrumental. By keeping taxes down and streamlining Ulster County's economic development process, we are working to create a more business friendly environment for Stavo, Wolf-Tec and all Ulster County employers," said County Executive Mike Hein.

"Stavo looks forward to an expansion in Kingston. We greatly appreciate the strong leadership of County Executive Mike Hein, Mayor Jim Sottile and Mayor-Elect Shayne Gallo in assisting us by leveraging resources from New York State, Central Hudson and Ulster County IDA," said Stavo Industries President George Quigley.

"Ulster County and New York State have made strides to be more business-friendly. Only under the reforms to County government brought by County Executive Hein would Wolf-Tec even consider staying. Wolf-Tec appreciates the package of benefits assembled to encourage us to stay and ensure that Wolf-Tec does not leave Ulster County like Colony Liquor/Empire Merchants North," said Wolf-Tec President Ralf Ludwig. "Wolf-Tec looks forward to working with the City, County and State on addressing outstanding access and storm water issues to make the site suitable."

City of Kingston Mayor James Sottile noted, "I am pleased to have been working to retain two exemplary manufacturing companies in Kingston and to re-populate the former Colony Liquor Distributor facility. Their potential new investment in Kingston shows the confidence they have in the area. I also want to thank the Andretta family for the assistance they have provided to make this project a reality. This is certainly a positive moment for Kingston as I leave office."

I appreciate Mayor Sottile involving me in this project shortly after the election to insure the continuity of the process," said Mayor-Elect Shayne Gallo. "My hands-on approach to bring this project to fruition is indicative of my approach towards good projects like this. I want to thank the Mayor for inviting me to assist, as well as the representatives from the state, county and Central Hudson for their work on this effort."

Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature's Economic Development Committee James Maloney said, "This is a tremendous win for the people of Ulster County. It is imperative that we create a business friendly environment where we can retain and grow jobs."

"Central Hudson is pleased to assist these important customers to remain within our service territory. Using our economic development program as part of a team approach to keeping business in New York will benefit the region," said Central Hudson President James Laurito.

Lance Matteson, President of the Ulster County Development Corporation (UCDC), said, "Wolf-Tec and Stavo Industries are two terrific manufacturing firms run by two terrific families - the Ludwigs and the Quigleys. We're doing all we can to deliver the infrastructure, services, and supportive climate that will allow companies like these - and their hard working employees - to compete and thrive here. UCDC is proud to be centrally involved in a team effort to keep these high quality and growing jobs in Ulster County."

David O'Halloran, Chair of the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency (IDA), said: "This is a perfect example of economic development in Ulster County. Two years ago the IDA extended funds to do engineering work to explore multi-tenant alternative uses for this once vibrant building, and today we are seeing the fruits of those early efforts. We're delighted to now see IDA applications from these two world-class Ulster County firms, both of which have attractive options in other places. The IDA uses its funds and incentives to keep and grow jobs here, and that's what this project is all

about. There's more work to do, but the very real prospect of filling the old Colony Liquor building with good jobs and growing companies is the best kind of holiday gift we could ask for."

Both companies have received aggressive offers from other states attempting to entice them to relocate their operations. Wolf-Tec currently has operations in Georgia in Germany. Under the leadership of Ulster County and the City of Kingston, incentive packages have been leveraged to retain both companies in New York State and actually create new jobs in our community.

Stavo Industries manufactures liquid filtration equipment for the food, beverage and pharmaceutical industries. Wolf-Tec develops, manufactures and distributes highly automated industrial food processing equipment. Both businesses sell products to a world-wide customer base. Stavo has 47 current employees and the expansion will lead to the addition of 14 employees. Wolf-Tec employs 69 employees at their Kingston site and the proposed expansion will lead to the addition of 27 employees.

Empire State Development Corporation has offered Wolf-Tec a capital grant of \$350,000 and Stavo a capital grant of \$300,000 to maintain operations in New York State. In addition, both companies are Empire Zone Certified and the proposed new location at 132 Flatbush Avenue is within the Kingston Ulster Empire Zone and will provide Empire Zone benefits to each company. Benefits are dependent upon both job creation and investment performance.

Central Hudson has offered both companies economic development assistance including building revitalization grants of \$100,000 for each company, job creation grants of \$1,000 per job for each high-paying job created and \$62,500 in infrastructure assistance for the site.

The Ulster County IDA has offered each company a cash grant of \$50,000 as an incentive to remain in Ulster County. In addition, the Ulster County IDA may provide certain tax benefits based upon the applications filed.

Governor Cuomo Announces \$785 Million in Economic Development Funding Through Regional Councils

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that \$785 million has been awarded through the Regional Economic Development Council initiative, continuing the Governor's efforts to redesign the way state government works in order to drive economic growth and create jobs.

Announced in July, Regional Councils represent a fundamental shift in the state's approach to economic development from a top-down development model to a community-based, performance driven approach which empowers individual areas to develop comprehensive strategic plans that invest in regional solutions to create jobs and economic growth. As part of the Regional Council process, a Strategic Plan Review Committee was chosen to analyze and rank the strategic plans for each region competing for \$200 million in specially targeted economic development funding.

"Regional collaborations and planning is a roadmap to get New Yorkers back to work," Governor Cuomo said. "The plans submitted by all ten regions were truly extraordinary. For the first time, we are putting the power of the State Government behind the innovation of our people, giving them the tools to rebuild our economy."

Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy said, "Under Governor Cuomo's transformative Regional Council initiative, New York finally has the strategic economic development planning to change the way it does business. By engaging the expertise of those who know their regions best we can capitalize on each region's greatest assets to maximize job creation and economic growth."

The plans are the result of months of consideration by the Regional Councils and input from the public in each region. The process included holding over 100 public meetings, forums and community workshops across the State. Thousands of New Yorkers contributed to the development of the plans through these events.

In addition to the strategic planning grants made available through the Regional Council initiative, a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) was created to give businesses and other entities streamlined and expedited access to economic development funding from nine state agencies and 29 existing programs. Awards for CFA projects were based on the endorsement of the local Regional Council and the technical scoring of various state funding agencies. Additionally, approximately 800 eligible applicants will receive funding from NYSERDA's energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Consistent with the Governor's Executive Order issued earlier this year to increase Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) participation in state contracting, all projects awarded grants through this initiative must use best efforts to reach the goal of 20% MWBE participation.

Hinchey: 175,000 New Yorkers Saving \$650 Per Year on Prescription Drugs Through Health Care Law Congressman Continues Call for Additional Reforms to Reduce Prescription Drug Costs

Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today reported that 175,000 New Yorkers who participate in the Medicare Part D program saved an average of \$650 this year on prescription drugs as a direct result of the health care law he helped pass last year. The law provides a 50 percent discount on brand-name drugs to Part D participants who fall into the coverage gap known as the donut

hole. The health care law, also known as the Affordable Care Act, has also provided free preventive care to over 1.4 million New Yorkers who are enrolled in the Medicare Part D program.

"One of the biggest problems with the Bush administration's prescription drug plan is that it created a huge coverage gap known as the donut hole," said Hinchey. "The reforms I voted for last year are closing that gap over time, and this year alone 175,000 New Yorkers are saving an average of \$650. The reforms also eliminated co-pays and fees for preventive services, helping 1.4 million Medicare participants in New York. These are big steps in the right direction, but now we have to continue moving forward. I'm continuing to fight to end the ban that prohibits the federal government from negotiating bulk rate discounts on prescriptions purchased through Medicare Part D. Doing so would save \$156 billion over ten years, helping to preserve Medicare over the long run."

According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), 2.65 million people nationwide with Medicare have saved more than \$1.5 billion on their prescriptions. As of the end of November, more than 24.2 million people with Medicare have taken advantage of at least one free preventive benefit - including the new Annual Wellness Visit - made possible by the Affordable Care Act.

Hinchey voted to pass the Affordable Care Act, noting that the bill was not perfect and would require substantial improvements. Hinchey has targeted several areas where the Affordable Care law could be improved to further lower costs and improve the system as a whole. In addition to calling for the negotiation of prescription drug rates through Medicare Part D, the congressman has also cited a need for an expedited timeframe with regard to provisions that create greater choice and competition and noted his continued support for a public option that the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says would further reduce costs.

POLITICAL SLANT- Frank Comando - Help for Hudson Valley Catskills

As the Town of Denning Democratic Chair, I applaud New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo's steering of the states business as an open-minded Governor, and share in the needed concern the Governor for the states small business and working class in these tough economic times. Your belief and your carrying out the idea that "New York State is comprised of distinct regions that each enjoy unique economic strengths and face separate and different individual challenges."

You based this on the simple-truth that no one knows their regions better than the people who live and work there, you created ten Regional Economic Development Councils earlier this year. Made up of local business, labor, education, and community leaders, these Regional Councils empowered each area of the state to set their own priorities for economic development.

Over the last several months, the Mid-Hudson Regional Council has worked to develop a comprehensive strategy to grow the economy in the Mid-Hudson. The plan also identifies priority projects that have the greatest potential to create jobs.

Governor Cuomo announced historic investment in the Mid-Hudson to support this transformational plan. The Governor is awarding the Mid-Hudson \$67 million to support 61 priority projects. Some of the innovative projects include: More than \$30 million will go toward the development of affordable housing and community revitalization throughout the region. \$4 million for the development of the New York Medical College's Biotech Incubator Center for Advanced Research in Westchester County. This project will stimulate partnerships among scores of biotech companies not only in the Mid-Hudson Region, but also in Rochester, the Capital District, and the SUNY academic centers. Over \$3 million will go toward critical infrastructure investments for local municipalities. New Jobs, and vital research for the Mid Hudson valley, Great job Governor Cuomo.

NEW JOBS

The U.S. is fast becoming the vacation capitol of the world, and Sullivan County needs to be the vacation capitol of NY State once again, **GAMBLING FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY CATSKILLS**, will revitalize this depressed community. Economic help for this area is direly needed, with increasing unemployment and declining incomes, a push to create vacation infrastructure, small businesses, and create jobs here in Sullivan, Ulster counties, is essential. Gambling for Catskills? I say it is about time.

Have something to say send it; it must be less than 200 words, e-mail politicalslant@yahoo.com.

Local Churches Christmas Services and Events

GRAHAMSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH:

The Grahamsville pageant will be on Sunday, December 18, following the pot luck lunch after 10:30 worship.

Christmas Eve Services: Sundown

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Pageant "St. Nicholas Comes to Sundown!" and Candlelight Service

Grahamsville

7:00 and 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Christmas Day:

One service, 10:30 am in Grahamsville

The Hurleyville and Woodridge United Methodist Churches invite you to these special services on Christmas Weekend:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:30 pm Woodridge
7:00 pm Hurleyville

Christmas Day

One service, at 10:30 am in Woodridge.

Immaculate Conception Church for Christmas- Woodbourne

Archdiocesan Confession Day

Monday, December 19th
3:00 to 3:30 pm, 4:30 to 5:15 pm and 7:00 to 8:00 pm
Between 3:30 pm and 4:30 pm ring the rectory doorbell and Father will come to the room and hear that penitent's confession.

Confessions

Saturday, December 24th - 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Ending promptly at 4:15 pm

Masses - Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th
5:00 pm & 10:00 pm

Christmas Day- Sunday, December 25th -10:00 am

Feast of Mary, Mother of God- Saturday, December 31st - 5:00 pm; Sunday January 1st -9:00 am & 11:30 am

Christmas Services at Claryville Reformed Church

Saturday December 24, 2011 7:00pm start

Claryville Reformed Church Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day Sunday December 25, 2011

11:00am (After 10:00am Church Service)
Children's Birthday Party for Jesus with Carol Singing in the Church Hall
All Invited.
Free. or Suggested donation for local food pantry.

Claryville Reformed Church

946 Claryville Rd
Claryville, NY 12725 845-985-2041

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN
(Never known to fail) Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3x). Holy Mary I place this cause in your hands. (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as I confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. LMC.



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Current exhibits

- Impact of Water on the Life and the Growth of the Valleys
- The Rondout and Neversink watersheds: Before, During and After
- Photo exhibition on view entitled: *A Glimpse into the Building of the Rondout and Neversink Reservoirs and Connecting Tunnels*: Photos from the DEP Archives.

Time and the Valleys Museum has copies of every *Townsmen* printed since the beginning classified by year for anyone to research.

Open Saturdays 12-4, and other times by appointment. Research by appointment Adults: The current admission is \$2, Children under 16 -\$1, and children under six are free. For more information call: 845 - 985-7700 or go to the website: timeandthevalleysmuseum.org

The Hurleyville and Woodridge United Methodist Churches invite you to weekly worship:
9 am in Hurleyville,
10:30 am in Woodridge.
For more information, call Pastor Susan Woodworth 985-2283

CrossWay Assembly of God

Service Times

Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service/ Children's Church 10:30 am
Monday Night Home Bible Study 7 pm
Tuesday Night Youth Home Bible Study 7 pm
Friday Youth Night 7 pm



Ismael Berrios
Lead Pastor

P. O. Box 480
507 Hasbrouck Drive
Woodbourne, NY 12788
845-434-8263

Email: crosswayaog@aol.com
www.crosswayaog.com

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION
The Little Church with the Big Heart
Sundays 8:15 a.m. - Communion
Music by Susan and Fred Van Wagner
Coffee hour follows service
All are welcome!
For Information: Mother Joan LaLiberté 845-887-4742
5277 State Rt. 42 South Fallsburg

Sundown United Methodist Church
Sunday Worship Service • 8:30am
Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Sunday Worship Service
10:30am
985-2283

RAMSAY'S FUNERAL HOMES, INC
Serving Sullivan County Since 1896
66 John Street, Monticello, New York (845) 794-2700
275 S Main Street, Liberty, New York (845) 292-7100
Route 55, Kauneonga Lake, New York (845) 583-5445

Loucks Funeral Home
Geoff and Heather Hazzard & Anthony Perito
79 North Main Street
Ellenville, New York
(845) 647-4343

Claryville Reformed Church
Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041
Bible Class 9:00 am
Worship Services @ 10:00 am
Rev. Paul Nulton
John Bult, Organist

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)
6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne.
Weekend Mass schedule:
Saturday afternoon: 5:00.
Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am
Holy days of obligation: as announced in church bulletin.
Daily Mass schedule:
Monday afternoon 5:45 (Holy Rosary at 5:30); Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday mornings: (includes Morning Prayer)- 8:50 am
Saturday afternoon confessions: 4 to 4:45.
Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.

St. Augustine's Chapel
Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY
Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month
Rev. George W. Hommel, Pastor

Covered Dish Supper
To be announced
Sundown United Methodist Church
at the Sundown Church Hall

Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Jan 21, 2012
Trift Sale Only
9 am-1 pm -

Grahamsville Reformed Church
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Worship Service 9:30 A.M.
Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor
845-985-7480

LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICES**TAX COLLECTOR LEGAL NOTICE:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I, **Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector for the Town of Neversink, County of Sullivan and the State of New York, will collect taxes according to the following schedule:**

MONDAY thru FRIDAY: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM (excluding holidays) at the: TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE LOCATED IN THE NEVERSINK TOWN HALL, 273 MAIN ST. (RT. 55), GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740, PHONE: (845) 985-2262 x307

SATURDAY: Neversink Town Hall on the following date: January 28, 2012 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Taxes collected until the 31st day of January, 2012 without interest. All taxes postmarked after January 31, 2012 will be subject to late penalties as listed below. **LATE PAYMENT PENALTIES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

SCHEDULE OF FEES:

Jan. 1 - Jan. 31 No Penalty
Feb. 1 - Feb. 29 1% of Tax Amount
Mar. 1 - Mar. 31 2% of Tax Amount,
plus \$2.00 unpaid notice fee; sent 3/2

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector

TO PAY BY MAIL IN FULL: Send **ENTIRE TAX BILL** with payment to: Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

• Upon receipt of payment the top portion of your tax bill will be marked paid and returned to you for your records. It is for this reason that it is **important to return the entire bill.**

INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN: May be paid as follows:

- January - 50% due by 1/31/2012 at 0% interest. Send "Payment #1" stub with your check.
- February - 25% due by 2/29/2012 at 1% interest. Send "Payment #2" stub with your check.
- March - 25% due by 3/31/2012 at 2% interest plus \$2.00 unpaid notice fee. Send entire bill.
- Receipts will be mailed to you after every payment

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING DISPOSAL FEE:

The County has imposed an annual fee to pay for solid waste/recycling disposal. This fee appears as a separate line item on your tax bill and is payable along with the tax. Please direct all questions to the County Treasurer's office at (845) 807-0200.

AFTER MARCH 31st: TAXES ARE PAYABLE TO COUNTY TREASURER; CALL (845) 807-0200 FOR AMOUNT DUE OR CONTACT THEM AT: Sullivan County Treasurer's Office, 100 North St., PO Box 5012, Monticello, NY 12701.

• If you no longer own this property, please return bill to collector with the new owner's name and address; or forward the bill to the rightful owner.

• If your address has changed, please note your correct mailing address, along with your SBL# and return it with your tax bill.

• You may obtain a duplicate tax bill/receipt or check the status of your payment via the Internet at www.taxlookup.net/neversink.

For information regarding Veteran's, Senior Citizens or Star Exemptions please contact the Town of Neversink Assessor's Office:
Gene Froehlich (845) 985-2262 x 323
Joan McNeill (845) 985-2262 x 319
Hours are Mon. to Thur. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Or by Mail at: PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

12/15: 1/5/11

NOTICE:

Notice is hereby given that the annual inspection for 2011 of the Tri-Valley School Buildings for fire hazards which might endanger the lives of students, teachers, employees therein, has been completed and the report there of is available at the office of Tri-Valley School District for inspection by all interested persons.

12/8/11

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The Town of Denning Organizational Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725, scheduled to begin at 7 P.M. prior to the Town Board Meeting.

BY THE ORDER OF THE DENNING TOWN BOARD

Joy Ann Monforte
Town Clerk

12/14/11

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT

There will be a RECESSED MEETING of the Town of Neversink Town Board to be held at the Town Hall, 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY at on **Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 5:30 pm.**

The purpose of the meeting is to approve year end vouchers as well as any other business that may legally come before the board.

NOTICE:

Notice is hereby given that the Reorganizational Meeting for the Neversink Fire District will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Neversink Fire House, Route 55, Neversink, New York.

This notice is pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York.

BY ORDER OF THE NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ALLISON M. RUEF, DISTRICT SECRETARY

12/15/11

**THE TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A Regular Board Meeting
Will be held

On Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
An Audit Committee Mtg. will be before the regular meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.
In the Secondary School Lower Library Level,
Grahamsville, New York

**I would like to thank
all the residents of
the Town of Denning
who voted for me.**

**Also a BIG thanks to all those
who helped in my campaign.**

Sincerely,
Grace Rivera

Holiday Hours at the Town Hall

The Town of Neversink will observe the following Holiday Hours. The Town Hall will close at noon on Friday, December 23rd & all day on the Monday, December 26th for Christmas and will also close at noon on Friday, December 30th and all day on Monday, January 2nd for New Years. The Transfer Station will be open from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday, December 24th and Saturday, December 31st. Please plan your Transfer Station and Town Hall business accordingly. The Town of Neversink wishes you a very Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Statement from Assemblymember Cahill on Tax Reform Flood Relief and Employment Assistance Legislation

Assemblymember Kevin Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess) released the following statement:

"Reforming the personal income tax structure is by far the most economically sensible and fair solution to balancing the budget while providing tax relief to our struggling middle class and much needed disaster and infrastructure aid to our communities.

"Over the course of the last three decades, the tax burden has shifted dramatically from an equitable distribution of the cost of government across all income classes to a system that heavily favors the wealthy. Without the reforms acted on today, the 2013 personal income tax levy in New York would have remained essentially flat, with families making \$40,000 required to pay the top rate. This is an important step toward reversing that trend by reducing the burden on hard working New Yorkers that have been shouldering a disproportionate share for far too long.

"These reforms allow us to take immediate action to address critical issues that have been weighing down our economy, particularly in those areas devastated by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. The flood assistance fund will provide much needed property tax relief, resources for cash-strapped municipalities and grants to businesses, not-for-profits and farms not covered by federal programs or private insurance.

"The package expands the Flood Assessment Relief Act I passed in 2005 by giving localities the option to adjust assessments on heavily damaged properties and provide tax refunds where appropriate. The bill also allows school districts, if they choose to do so, to accept tax payments in installments and request advanced payment of state aid. The \$50 million Flood Assistance Fund will give counties access to resources for flood prevention and mitigation projects while providing the state with the flexibility to address unmet disaster costs. It will also allow the state to cover the local share of Federal disaster assistance, a move for which I have been and will continue to be an advocate.

"A new tax credit will be offered to larger businesses impacted by flooding in return for commitments to maintain employment levels at or above pre-storm levels. The bill will create new jobs by expediting state construction projects designed to repair and replace storm-damaged infrastructure.

"The reduction and, in some cases, permanent elimination of the unfair MTA payroll tax is a step in the right direction for the unduly burdened businesses, schools and not-for-profits in Dutchess County. I have been opposed to this tax since its inception and I am pleased that we are finally making progress towards its elimination.

"The legislation passed during the special session will also provide a significant boost to the state's private sector workforce. Struggling manufacturers will be eligible to apply for tax reductions and credits will be made available to businesses that hire at-risk or disadvantaged youth. Funding is being dedicated to workforce development programs to enhance access to higher education, occupational and technological training, and summer youth employment.

"Action had to be taken to address our economy and help those still struggling from the floods. The measures voted on today are a direct result of the Assembly's leadership on the issues of tax equity, disaster relief and employment assistance. There are still many challenges ahead, but the legislation we passed will provide a boost for communities in the Hudson Valley and all New Yorkers."


Cahill made the following statement regarding the Tax Relief Package, "I am pleased to see that the agreed upon tax package includes relief, particularly for those who reside in MTA service counties. I have been fighting for equity for my neighbors in Rhinebeck for a long time, and this development is welcome news.

"The additional money to aid victims of the severe floods caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee will provide much needed resources to the many families, businesses and farms still struggling with the damage caused by these extreme weather events."

Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Department
www.townofneversink.org
 (845) 985-2262 extension 312

Watch the *Townsmen* for future events of hosted by the Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation Department.

Don't forget **FREE FUN** every **FRIDAY** afternoon 1- 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Town Hall.



Daniel Pierce Library hours of operation beginning September 1, 2011.
 Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday and Monday: Closed
 If you have any questions, please call the library at 985-7233.
The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm.

AL-ANON MEETINGS -
<http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>
Monday 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty
Thursday 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne
Saturday 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty

Frost Valley YMCA Winter Break Day Camp
 December 26 - 30th
 Bus will be provided from:
 Great American-Liberty: 8:00am/5:25pm
 Neversink Bus Garage: 8:20am/5:05pm
 Tri-Valley School: 8:35am/4:45pm

Still Need to do Holiday Shopping? Check Out the Pine Hill Community Center

Still have some holiday shopping to do? Or do you want to bring back the days when the best gifts and ornaments were the ones you made yourself? Both needs will be met on the weekend of December 17 and 18th at The Pine Hill Community Center. On Sat. from noon - 5 pm, there will be vendors of crafts perfectly priced for your last minute shopping needs. The Morton Memorial Library will be hosting a free ornament workshop at the Center for kids and adults from 1-3 pm. Amber Certain, the Morton librarian, will have all the supplies on hand to make a variety of colorful ornaments to hang on the tree or to give as gifts. There will be chili and other goodies to warm hearts and tummies, and representatives from the Cornell University Cooperative Extension will be on hand to show off the Center's grass pellet burning stove and to explain the fascinating process from hay to heat -the creation of renewable local energy economy from grass biomass. Ann Epner, Pine Hill Community Center's Executive Director, says, "Our grass pellet stove keeps the whole front of the Center toasty for only pennies a day, and it's beautiful, too!"

There is still some space available for crafts vendors. The exhibition space is free. 15% of proceeds to the Center. Call to reserve a space.

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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- 12/14/11 Town of Neversink Board Meeting
- 12/15/11 Dept. of Motor Vehicles Neversink Town Hall 10:00 am - 2:30 p.m.
- 12/20/11 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals
- 12/21/11 First Day of HANUKKAH
- 12/21/11 Neversink Fire District Monthly Meeting 7:30 -Public Meeting 8:00 pm
- 12/23/11 Neversink Town Hall will close at NOON for Christmas
- 12/25/11 CHRISTMAS
- 12/26/11 Town of Neversink Christmas Holiday
- 12/27/11 Town of Neversink Parks & Rec Meeting - 7 pm Neversink Town Hall

GAMES & SOCIALIZING -FREE FUN every **FRIDAY** afternoon 1- 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Town Hall.



To All: Municipalities, Civic Organizations, Churches, etc. Please remember to send us your Events Calendar for 2012 so that we may continue to post your meetings and events throughout the coming year.



Have a wonderful and Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year! See you on January 5th!

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman is available at the following retail stores and restaurants:

SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP
 GRAHAMSVILLE DELI
 GRAHAMSVILLE AUTOMOTIVE
 CANNIE D'S
 BLUE HILL LODGE

ARATI GIFT SHOP (Brickman Rd.)
 VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake)
 WOODBOURNE CITGO STATION
 MO'S GAS STATION (Woodbourne)
 P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE (Woodbourne)
 AGWAY • J.B. MAK (Liberty)

JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY
 MATTHEWS PHARMACY
 NAPANOCH APPLIANCE
 PLEASANT STONE FARM
 PETER'S MARKET

NEW LOCATIONS in the TOWN OF OLIVE & SHANDAKEN

The Good Stuff Cafe • Boiceville IGA • J & G Log Homes, LLC • Ange's • Tetta's • Boiceville Florist • Reservoir Music • Snyder's
 Phoenicia Pharmacy • Phoenicia Deli • Mama's Boy • Ricciardella's • Emerson Resort

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Town of Olive Board Auditing Meeting every **second Monday of each month**. This meeting is open to the public and all bills being reviewed are available for the general public to see.

Town Board meets **every second Tuesday of each month**. Both meetings begin at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY.

Town of Olive Planning Board meets the **first and third Tuesdays of each month**. Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY. You can contact the Town Building & Zoning Department to confirm a meeting date if you would like to attend at 657-2015. If there is nothing on their agenda, they will cancel meetings.

On Sunday, from 1-3 pm, Bonnie Schaedle will lead a workshop in the creation of a fresh flower and greens centerpiece that will last through the holidays and enhance any table or sideboard. Bonnie is the genius who creates the centerpieces for the annual Harvest Moon Ball, and her classes regularly fill up quickly. Enrollment is limited, so reserve by December 14th. \$25 includes all materials.

Jeff Bank 2013 Photo Calendar Contest

Announcing the Jeff Bank 2013 Photo Calendar Contest - Jeff Bank is seeking photographers interested in submitting up to 4 color images (preferably depicting the four seasons) for their 2013 Calendar. Organized by the Catskill Art Society, the theme of this year's contest is the Four Seasons of Nature & Landscapes in Sullivan County, NY. Contest entry dates are from February 24 - April 20, 2012. All entries must have a completed application form (available at all Jeff Bank branches, online at www.jeffbank.com or by contacting Kathryn@catskillartsociety.org), a maximum of four images in digital, horizontal JPEG format with the largest file size available (preferably 16M or larger) on CD. There is a contest entry fee of \$5 payable to CAS. All entries must be delivered to CAS, 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY by April 20th or send by post to CAS, PO Box 991, Livingston Manor, NY 12758. Please note that this is not a postmark deadline.

This initiative was created by Jeff Bank to support CAS and the Arts Community. If you have any further questions please contact Kathryn at 845-436-4227 or Kathryn@catskillartsociety.org.

MoveOn Sullivan NY Rally in Liberty

This past Sunday MoveOn Sullivan NY members rallied at the Shop Rite Plaza in Monticello at 12 Noon. They represent the 99%, expecting that the 1% should pay their fair share in taxes. Aware that the Supreme Court's decision known as Citizens United has deepened the already corrupting influence of corporate money in our electoral system, they stand in solidarity with the Occupy Movement in what they believe is all about democracy. They will not gather on December 25 nor on Jan 1 but every on every other Sunday they are hoping many will bundle up, make a sign or hold up one of theirs and join them. Democracy is in the streets! For more information go to moveonsullivanny.wordpress.com or contact them for more information at: moveonsullivanny@gmail.com.

Ah--an Old fashioned Christmas--what a pleasant thought!

Just imagine--no more traffic jams or frantic shoppers, none of those after Christmas returns ..And just think, no more credit-card bills arriving on February 1st! Seem impossible? Not really. For, you see, there WAS a time like that...
 And WE KNOW, because in a dusty old attic, care-

Town of Denning Message Board: <http://www.denning.us>
Town of Neversink Website: <http://townofneversink.org>
Daniel Pierce Library - <http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org>
Time and The Valleys Museum - <http://timeandthevalleysmuseum.org>
Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman On-Line Edition: <http://thetownsman.com>
 To find out what is happening at Tri-Valley CSD: <http://tvcs.k12.ny.us>

fully tucked away in the corner, we found a diary that tells of a very different kind of Christmas... a Christmas that we would like to share with you.

The Liberty Free Methodist Choir would like to invite you to join us for "An Old Fashioned Christmas" 2535 Route 52--Liberty, NY on Saturday December 17th at 7:00 pm; Sunday December 18th at 3:00pm.

In case of inclement weather, the performance will be held on Monday December 19th at 7:00 pm

For more information call the Church office .. 845-292-5227

AARP Driver Safety Program

The AARP Driver Safety Program at the following location South Fallsburg Community Center: Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg, New York on Saturday, December 17, 2011 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 a.m.. Please arrive at 8:45 a.m. To Register - Call Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message).

Sonny Smith, an AARP- Certified Instructor, will give this course in one full day session, which will consist of a lecture, discussion and video presentations. Participants will receive a certificate which entitles them to apply for a discount on their automobile insurance. For information, phone Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message).

The fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members; make checks payable to AARP, and mail to Sonny Smith. Please enclose your phone number with payment. Classes are limited to 35, so apply early. This course is instructed by a Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R&SVP) volunteer and is sponsored by the Sullivan County Office for the Aging.

UD Department of Health Adviosry

The manufacturer of the Alcohol Prep Pads, included in the tick removal kits distributed by the Ulster County Department of Health this summer and fall, has issued a voluntary recall of the Pads due to the potential presence of low levels of a bacteria microorganism, *Bacillus cereus*. The Prep Pads were manufactured by Professional Disposables International, Inc. (PDI) and were sold under both the PDI and McKesson Brand names.

As a precautionary measure, residents and visitors who may have acquired tick removal kits from UCDOH are advised to remove and dispose of the Prep Pad packets as soon as possible. It is not necessary to dispose of any other components of the tick kits. Regular Isopropyl Alcohol, which can be obtained over-the-counter at pharmacies and other retail outlets, can be used in place of the Prep Pads to sanitize tweezers before use, and to treat tick bite areas of the skin after tick removal.

Further information can be obtained by called the Ulster County Department at 845-340-3160.



GRAHAMSVILLE REALTY

New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker
135 Peekamoose Road
Sundown, NY 12740
grahamsvillerealty@yahoo.com

<http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com>

LISTINGS WANTED



845-985-0501

FOR SALE: Prime Commercial Property in Grahamsville



NEW! - Just listed - Private, out-of-the-way, 3 bedroom, on 3 acres along the banks of the East Branch of the Neversink River.

If privacy is your game, this property is situated in one of the most private parts in Ulster County on a dead end street.



7991 State Rte 55
Grahamsville, NY
845.985.5116

Grahamsville/Claryville/Sundown/Napanoch:

- Basic hunting cabin with stone fireplace on 3.6 acs adjacent to hundreds of acres of State Land. \$49,500
- **REDUCED** 3 bed/1 ba cottage on 4.5 acres adj State. \$99k
- Working farm featuring 163 bucolic acres, farmhouse with exceptional views, barns, sugar house, etc.. \$1.378m
- 3BR/1BA authentic log cabin on 20+ acs with stone fireplace, skylights, woods that end at the Neversink River. \$319k
- Darling 3BR/1BA cottage on quiet rd near G'vl. Charm galore, fireplace, picture windows, lawns. \$195k
- **REDUCED** Immaculate 3 BR/2 BA on 5 private acs, built 2005. Fireplace, radiant floor heat, a/c, large garage. \$279k
- **REDUCED** Spacious 4-5 BR/2BA turnkey colonial on 5+ level acres w/lg sep garage, in quiet Grahamsville n'hood. \$287,000
- Beautifully-updated 3 BR G'vl Victorian in town with outbuildings, ample parking, creek and lawn. A gem. \$219,000
- 3BR/2BA contemp farmhouse on 100+ acres with spectacular views, 2 ponds, adj to Fire Twr, +cottage. \$669,000
- 3BR/2BA Wonderful home privately set on ~8 acres with screened gazebo, fireplace, 1 mi to Rondout. \$299,000

For our full roster of real estate listings, visit our site:

www.CountryHouseRealty.net

Jennifer C. Grimes • Licensed Broker • GREEN® • CBR

Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia - Bringing Up Baby (1938)



A wonderful comedy, about a mad-cap heiress (played by Katharine Hepburn) that was masterfully directed by Howard Hawks. This is a nonstop hilarious pursuit by Hepburn that does not allow you to leave your TV, as she sets her sights on an absent-minded, strait-laced, zoologist, expertly played by Cary Grant. Hepburn inadvertently proceeds to make a shambles of Grant's life. "Baby" is her pet leopard. Starring, Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn, Charlie Ruggles, May Robson, Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Catlett, Fritz Feld, Ward Bond See it on TCM Saturday, December 17, 2011 at 8:00 PM 102 min, rated, TV-G.

Quiz:
A. Who played Major [Horace] Applegate?
B. Who played Mr. Gogarty?

What's going on in the Gnome Gneighbourhood™ this week?

NEVERSINK - In a tough economy like today's, getting quality for every cent spent counts! Get the best buys at **SUPERIOR LUMBER, a local business that gives back to its community.** SUPERIOR LUMBER also offers **Christmas Gift Certificates on quality products.** Get your gift card at SUPERIOR LUMBER today, for that hard to buy for, highly creative, person in your life.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN his happy to announce that it has obtained the services of **noted NY Science Fiction and Fantasy Writer Thorn Winter, and his friends.** Read the second flash offering, **"The Story Of Acimont" by G. Walter Werner** in this issue on page 10, If you missed their first flash, see last week's issue. Enjoy!

NEVERSINK - 12/23/2011 NEVERSINK TOWN HALL WILL CLOSE AT 12:00 NOON FOR CHRISTMAS and also Monday, December 26th.

LIBERTY - Need a great Pizza or tasty Stromboli try **Charlie's Restaurant & Pizzeria** 77 North Main Street, Liberty NY 12754, (845) 292-1112, Don't forget, **Charlie says, "One Bite & We Gotcha,"** and he is right! See menu and ad in this issue.

HURLEYVILLE - NADIA'S, LIVE MUSIC Thursday - Sunday, great buffet, and JAZZ!
BOICEVILLE - Get your **Christmas gift certificates,** and don't forget **Holiday Poinsettia** while they last, a steal at the **BOICEVILLE FLORIST**

PHOENICIA - Looking for a great place to live try **RICCIARDELLA REALTY** in the heart of the Catskills, on the Boardwalk, on Main Street Phoenicia, New York 12464 Tele: 845 - 688 - 7233 or Email them: ricciardellarealty@gmail.com

THE TOWNSMAN WILL BE BACK ON JANUARY 5TH, 2012. , MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR,

Enjoy The Holiday Season
Knarf Odnococ
Gnome

*A. Charlie Ruggles
B. Barry Fitzgerald*

RENTALS

BUILDING FOR RENT: In Grahamsville (Old Post Office) Rent - 985-7411.

FOR RENT: 1 - 2 bedroom apartment 1 - 3 bedroom apartment. Call 845-985-0107.

Charming 3 bedroom house for rent on Denman Mt. Road. This two-story Cape Cod includes a kitchen, living room, dining room, den with fireplace and a large yard adjacent to NYC DEP land. Beautiful red oak floors throughout the house and lots of windows. \$1,000/month. (845) 985-0370

2nd Floor in town. Quiet single preferred. \$650 includes heat. No pets. Available soon:

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2 Bedroom trailer: No pets- \$700 + utilities

2 Bedroom duplex Huge bedroom up, large bedroom 1st floor. \$700 + utilities. No Pets, Security & References 985-2941.

1+ bedroom house in woods, private; long driveway, 30+ acres. Available after November 1. Wood stove & oil heat. \$800 + utilities. Security, references. 693-4464 b2/23dt

FORSALE

Oak Entertainment Unit - 54" wide x 50" high fits a 36" -38" TV (included). Excellent condition. \$100. Call 845-985-2263.

Electric Guitar Jackson Kelly 6-string Black & Blue Striped Coffin Case - for more information call 845-866-0699. tfn

Black Leather Couch - 91" - 2 years old. Excellent condition. \$500.00 -985-7189

FOR SALE: office/computer/exercise equipment; washer and dryer must go. Great prices on Total Gym, bike and treadmill. Just in time for Christmas. Call Linda at 985-2921"

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