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Tri **GOOINSDAN** Valley

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VOL. 10 NO. 4 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 30, 2014 FIFTY CENTS

• Mysterious Book Report -John D. McKenna Pg 4 • The Olive Jar- Carol La Monda Pg 6

Quilt Exhibit at Daniel Pierce Library



In today's paper, you will see a wonderful interview with local resident Beatrix Rexford, titled, "A Farmer's Daughter, A Scrap Quilter," written by Helena Clare Pittman.

Some of Beatrix's beautiful quilts and other hand-quilted items are on display at the Daniel Pierce Library, in the Anne Elizabeth Holt Reference Room. These beautiful items will be featured at the library until spring. This is something that you should not miss, so please come to the library during regular hours to enjoy these love-

ly works of art.

Beatrix has also very kindly donated a box of vintage and modern scraps of cotton fabric to be raffled, as well as templates for her Christmas tree ornaments. Both raffle tickets and copies of her templates are free and available at the Main Circulation Desk on the First Floor of the library. (See story on Pg. 8)

Homeowner Help Day in Ellenville



Ulster County Comptroller Elliot Auerbach speaks with Congressman Gibson at the Homeowner Help Day in Ellenville event last Thursday.

Congressman Chris Gibson joined with RUPCO and OCRDAC on Thursday at the Homeowner Help Day held in Ellenville, a day long event in an effort to help homeowners who are coping with difficult situations including lost income, illnesses and high heating fuel bills.

After opening remarks by Congressman Gibson, each homeowner had the opportunity to meet with a housing counselor for a confidential, one-on-one assessment of their unique situations.

Homeowners with concerns spent time at the village Government Center getting advice from experts on housing, employment and legal issues at a time of rising foreclosures around the region. The state Unified Court System has seen foreclosure filings increase 77 percent to 106 percent in Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties between 2012 and 2013.

Foreclosure filings in New York state last year exceeded the combined total for the previous two years, according to the 2013 report by New York's chief administrator of courts. Filings in 2011 and 2012 were slowed by procedural changes meant to combat the lender practice of "robo-signing," in which "bank representatives claimed to have personally reviewed thousands of documents in impossibly short periods of time."

(Contd. Pg. 8)

SC Chamber of Commerce names President/CEO

The Board of Directors is proud to announce the promotion and endorsement of Cathy Paty as President/CEO of the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce.

"Having served on the Board of Directors for the last 9 years and as Chairman of the Board for the last 3 years, I feel very confident that Cathy will continue to do a great job in leading the Chamber to new heights. Her efforts in the past have shown her ability and her passion will only contribute to the betterment of the Chamber and its membership." - Guy Baker (Catskill Shopper/Chairman of the Board)

Cathy is a very energetic, personable young woman. She is a local, born and raised in Sullivan County, a Monticello High School and SCCC graduate. You can hear her very apparent love of the county when she speaks and feels that her job allows her the ability to make a positive impact in her own community. (Contd. Pg. 4)

SC District Attorney and SC Sheriff Sworn into Office



DA James Farrell, his wife Nicole, Sheriff Mike Schiff, his wife Chrissy and Congressman Gibson at ceremony.

On Tuesday January 21, 2014 Sullivan County Sheriff Michael Schiff and Sullivan County District Attorney James Farrell were sworn into office by U.S. Congressman Chris Gibson, at the Sullivan County Government Center in Monticello.

The Sheriff is beginning his third term and the District Attorney is starting his second. Also sworn in at the ceremony was Undersheriff Eric Chaboty.

Winter StoryWalk® for Kids at CCE Sullivan Nature Trail

The StoryWalk® Project is an innovative way for children and families to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Preschoolers and children up to 9 years of age can enjoy a winter StoryWalk® at 4 pm on Thursday, January 30, 2014 along the Turtle Spring Nature Trail at Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Sullivan County's Gerald J. Skoda Extension Education Center on 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty. The highlighted story will be "Tracks in the Snow" by Wong Herbert Yee. After the walk, participants are invited to warm up indoors while exploring and learning about wildlife tracks through some take-home crafts. (Contd. Pg. 4)

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YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR

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- POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**
- ALL submissions** should be typewritten or in Microsoft Word.
 - Letters should contain no more than 300 words and must be typewritten. They may be emailed as Microsoft Word documents.
 - Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.
 - Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.
 - 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.
 - 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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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
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- Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$13.50 per week (\$2.25/ sq in)
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- (3" x 6") - \$40.50 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (4" x 6") - \$54.00 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$78.75 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (6" x 8") - \$108.00 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$157.50 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (Full page - 10" x 14") - (\$2.25 sq in) \$315.00 B/W
- (Color ads) - (\$3.25 sq in) (Centerfold & pg 16 only)
- (Full back page - 10" x 14") - \$455.00 B/W
- (Full back page in Color - 10" x 14") - \$665.00

Rates are based on **Camera-ready copy**. A **Graphic Designer is available at \$35.00/hr.** Call or email us for more information. Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-serve 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
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Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman on-line:
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ON THE FRONT BURNER: The bloodthirsty hate the upright; but the just seek his soul.
Proverbs 29:10

Obituary

Verna Amundsen a resident of Grahamsville passed away early Monday morning, January 27, 2014.

Funeral arrangements will be under the direction of Loucks Funeral Home, 79 North Main Street, Ellenville, NY. For further information please call 845-647-4343.

DAYS OF YORE....

Today's History

January 27, 1954 - Mr. and Mrs. Justus Asthalter of Aden have a new baby girl at their home which they plan to adopt as soon as all legal matters are arranged. They named the baby JoAnne. They received her when she was four days old and is now four months old. It will be their second child by adoption. Their first, Mary Lou, is now past her third birthday.

Come on horseback, come on foot
Ride in a Rolls Royce or jalopy.
Bargains at Krum's Store are waiting
For Momma, children and for Poppy!!
KUM TO KRUMS

January 27, 1964 - Miss Linda Rose of Grahamsville was a guest of honor on the evening of January 11th at a bridal shower held at the Sundown Methodist Church Hall. About fifty relatives and friends were present. Miss Rose, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rose and Mr. Harold Buley are to be married on March 26th.

Airman/IC and Mrs. John T. Shaut of Glendale, Arizona are the parents of a baby girl, Selena Marie, born on Sunday, January 19th and weighing 7 1/2 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Ted Shaut of the Woodbourne Road are the paternal grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Allison of Woodbourne are the parents of a son born on January 17th. Mrs. Allison is the former Joan Roosa.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lavelle of Willowemoc are the parents of a daughter born at home on Monday, January 20th and weighing 9 3/4 lbs.

January 30, 1974 - The Southeastern Sub-District FFA Public Speaking Contest was held at Orange County BOCES in Goshen on Wednesday, January 23rd. Miss Judy O'Brien, a Tri-Valley senior, was named the winner over speakers from Orange County BOCES, Minisink, and Warwick.

Mrs. Helena Erts, 73, of State Road, Grahamsville, died Saturday in Community General Hospital, Liberty after a short illness. Mrs. Erts was a lifetime resident and was born October 25, 1900 in Curry to Ralph and Nellie Everett Slater. She married the late Harrington Erts on May 11, 1922. She is survived by six brothers and several nieces and nephews.

Anniversary celebrations will be enjoyed by: the Milton Kortrights, 19 years on January 31st, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gotsch, 43 years on February 1st, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wood, 11 years on the 3rd of February.

January 26, 1984 - Ora George, 81, of Greenville Road, Sundown died Sunday, January 22, 1984 in the Community Hospital, Ellenville. Born in Sundown May 14, 1902, she was the daughter of Herman and Lorey Green TerBush. She was a member of the Lows Corners Baptist Church, the Willing Workers of that church and past treasurer of the church for over 40 years. Survivors include her husband, Raymond George, at home, two daughters, Mrs. Louise Dean, Neversink, N.Y. and Mrs. Hazel Akers of Greentown, Pa; and five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

(From the pen of Tom Higgins) - Catskill Accurate Weather Forecaster. For best results, hang this item on a nail to an outside window. If it's white, it's snowing; if it's stiff, it's freezing; if it's moving, it's windy; if it's wet, it's raining; if it's gone, it's been ripped off.

AARP Driver Safety Program

AARP Driver Safety Program at the following location: South Fallsburg Senior Center, Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg, New York on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

PLEASE ARRIVE AT 8:45 AM. NO WALK-INS To Register - Call Sonny Smith at 434-8922

(Leave Message). PLEASE CALL AFTER 9:00 AM IN THE MORNING.

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). PLEASE CALL AFTER 9:00 AM IN THE MORNING.

Oscar-nominated "Nebraska" at Callicoon Theater

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance and the Callicoon Theater present the Oscar-nominated film Nebraska starring Bruce Dern starting Friday, January 31, 2014.

An aging, alcoholic father (Bruce Dern) makes the trip from Montana to Nebraska with his estranged son (Will Forte) in order to claim a million-dollar Mega Sweepstakes Marketing prize. Their road trip gets waylaid at a small town in Nebraska, where the father grew up and has scores to settle. Told with deadpan humor and a unique visual style, Nebraska tells the stories of family life in the heartland of America. Nebraska is nominated for six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor (Bruce Dern), Best Supporting Actress (June Squibb), Best Cinematography, Best Directing, and Best Original Screenplay.

Kenneth Turan of the Los Angeles Times called the film "poignant and ruefully funny" and added, "summations can't convey the film-making delicacy that marries tart-tongued comedy with unexpected warmth in a story that touches on family, memory, getting old and staying alive. Plus allowing 77-year-old Bruce Dern the opportunity to give the performance of a lifetime."

Nebraska is rated R and will screen Friday, January 31 - Thursday, February 6, nightly at 7:30 p.m., with matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The Callicoon Theater is located at 30 Upper Main St, Callicoon, NY. Admission is \$10 (\$8 admission on Mondays and matinees) and \$7 for children under 12 at all shows.

CineArt is a partnership between Delaware Valley Arts Alliance and the Callicoon Theater that promotes and screens independent, foreign, and art films. A percentage of the profits and \$1 per person from ticket sales benefit the programs and services of the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, the Arts Council for Sullivan County. For more information, call (845) 887-4460 or visit www.ArtsAllianceSite.org.

CVFD Organizational Chart 2014
Company Officers:

President Jeff Williams 985-2748; Vice President Jennifer Pisaniello 985-2943; Secretary Amy Wynkoop 985-2514; Treasurer Glenn Vandenberg 985-2943.

Department Line Officers

Chief Glenn Vandenberg 985-2943; Asst. Chief Tom Matthews 985-7162; 2nd Asst. Chief Jeff Williams 985-2748; 3rd Asst. Chief Chris McGrath 985-2514; Captain Scott Squires 428-1654

Allen M. Browne Show at ERH Healing Arts Gallery

Allen M. Browne's paintings and photographs will be on display in the Healing Arts Gallery at Ellenville Regional Hospital through February 28. The show is free and open to the public, 8am-8pm daily. For more information about the Healing Arts exhibit or the Ellenville Regional Hospital, please contact (845) 210-3043.

Browne describes his development as an artist as lifelong process with the exploration, experimentation, research and practice of producing quality water color, oils and photographs.

Browne's motivation, throughout this process pointed him towards the natural images provided by this planet's glories. The visions provided by our natural parks, and the wild and varied terrains as first seen by the original witnesses to the beauty of this continent. The natural land forms and majestic scenery were a starting point for his photographs and paintings. (Contd. Pg. 15)

A Round About Tri-Valley

-Carol Furman

About this time every year, I have had it with winter! My driveway is icy and most days I drive down to help out in the barn. When I was younger, I didn't mind the ice, but now that I am older, I'm afraid that if I slip and fall, I'll break something. There are two things I look forward to at this time of year. One is the January thaw (which I think we've already had) and the other is receiving seed catalogs. Not that I order much from the catalogs, but browsing through them makes me think that spring is just around the corner.

Condolences to the family and friends of Bonne Kelly, formerly of Grahamsville. Bonnie passed away on January 11, at the age of 76. Bonnie worked in the Business Office at Tri-Valley School for many years and was well-known in the Tri-Valley area for making and decorating beautiful cakes. She resided in Sarasota, Florida.

Justin Swarouth, Alberto Hernandez, Jared James and Donovan Flores, all Tri-Valley Students, have been named to the fourth annual Sullivan County Democrat varsity football All-Star Team! Congratulations to all of you!

Kudos also to Katlynn Greffrath, a member of the Tri-Valley girls basketball team, who recently set two new T-V records by making nine 3'pointers and scoring 43 total points in a game against Chapel Field. WOW!

Continued get well wishes to Warren Geyer of Grahamsville who recently spent a few days in the hospital.

Several of our local Tri-Valley graduates have made the Dean's list at their respective colleges. Olivia Rehm, a music major at SUNY Potsdam, has excelled as have Patrick McHugh and Gregory Swarouth. Patrick and Greg are studying at Bryant College in Rhode Island.

Lane and Renee Kortright, currently residing in Liberty, are the proud parents of their first child, a son, born on January 19. Little Caleb Matthew weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces. The proud grandparents, Don and Leonna Kortright, live in Neversink. Congratulations to the Kortright Family!

Sunday, February 2, is National Boy Scout Sunday. The Grahamsville Reformed Church will celebrate this day by honoring the Scouts at their 9:30 am service. Community Boys Scouts and their families are invited to attend the service. For more information, contact Julie Furman or Pastor Paul Ruter.

Words of Wisdom: A faithful friend is a strong defense; and he that hath found him hath found a

Words of Wisdom: A faithful friend is a strong defense; and he that hath found him hath found a treasure. (Louisa May Alcott)
A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks, he becomes. (Gandhi)

CSA Fair for Local Food Producers: "Bringing Everyone to the Table"

LIBERTY-Local foods support connections between local food producers and consumers. Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Sullivan County is inviting everyone to the table for a Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) Fair on Sunday, February 16, 2014 from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm. This event is open to the public for those who wish to source locally produced food and value-added products and is to be held at the Gerald J. Skoda Extension Education Center on 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty. There is no charge for admission.

Presenters will focus on establishing food hubs, distribution, direct delivery issues, and expanding markets for locally produced food in a "round-table" discussion format. Guest speakers will include: Dr. Khin Mar Cho, CCE NYC MarketMaker Program; Beth McKellips, Pure Catskills Watershed Agricultural Council; Kathy Kreiter, Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless; SueAnn Boyd, CCE Sullivan County Eat Smart NY; and Danielle Gaebel, Sullivan County Farmers Market Association

Local producers are welcome to apply for a space to showcase their products. Interested exhibitors are urged to contact Maria Grimaldi at CCE Sullivan County for a vendor application as soon as possible, as table space is limited, by calling 845-292-6180 or emailing mal395@cornell.edu.

This special opportunity is co-sponsored by Pure Catskills, Northeast Organic Farming Association of NY, Edible Hudson Valley magazine and GreenDoor magazine.

CAS Begins Public Tour Series with Reflective Surfaces

Livingston Manor, NY - The Catskill Art Society announces the beginning of its Public Tour Series, a deeper look at the themes and subjects of its juried exhibitions in an in-depth guided tour. The 2014 season will begin with "Reflective Surfaces," featuring the photography of Julia Forrest and Flora Hogman, at the CAS Arts Center at 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY on Saturday, February 8 at 2pm. This event is free, and small donations will be accepted at the door.

The Public Tour Series provides opportunities for visitors to look deeper at the exhibitions that CAS offers. Participants are encouraged to make observations, ask questions, and experience the exhibit in a group environment, with an informed guide on hand to lead with behind-the-scenes information. Visitors of all ages are welcome to drop in. Tours last about 45 minutes.

The tour for "Reflective Surfaces" will be led by Bradley Diuguid, Executive Director of the Catskill Art Society. The exhibition "Reflective Surfaces" presents two distinctive artists with series of images refracted and reflected, revealing glimpses of inner life and environments co-existing with us, unaware. What lives and moves under the surface of our world? Whether among nature or an urban cityscape, surfaces like mirrors, windows, pools, and puddles become portals that transport us past the boundaries between worlds. No digital alteration is used, yet the subjects can seem fantastic, even surreal, blending figures and landscapes within perfectly composed photographs-sometimes by design, and sometimes by fate.

All tours are free and open to the public. No reservations are required. For more information, call the CAS Arts Center at 845-436-4227 or e-mail info@catskillartsociety.org

Volunteer Open House - Help Sullivan Renaissance Beautify Your Community

[FERNDALE] - Individuals interested in helping to beautify Sullivan County are invited to a "Volunteer Open House" on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the CVI Building at 165 Sullivan Avenue in Ferndale.

The evening offers an opportunity to learn details about how volunteers can help with hands-on gardening and beautification, outreach, publicity and fundraising - both as part of the Sullivan Renaissance Volunteer Corps and directly in local communities throughout Sullivan County.

Individuals will meet some of the 2014 Sullivan Renaissance grant recipients - already selected through an early admission process - and learn what they are doing to make a difference in their communities, and how to assist them.

Information about the 2014 Volunteer Corps program and various gardening trainings will also be presented.

"This is also a chance to meet other people who are interested in volunteering, as well as folks who are already working in their communities," said Volunteer Coordinator Cara Kowalski, "Last year we found that there were so many opportunities to help that they could fit in anyone's schedule. And even donating a half hour makes a big difference." Pre-registration is requested. Refreshments will be served.

To register, visit SullivanRenaissance.org or call the Sullivan Renaissance office at 845-295-2445. Event details can also be found on the Sullivan Renaissance Facebook and Twitter pages.

Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation.

SUNY Ulster Holds Nursing Information Session

Beginning at 3:00 p.m. on February 11, SUNY Ulster will hold an information session about its Nursing degree program in room 112, Vanderlyn Hall, on the Stone Ridge Campus.

This session will provide information on the admissions process, the program curriculum including pre-requisites and co-requisites, as well as new testing requirements.

Due to limited openings, SUNY Ulster's Nursing Program is only available to residents of Ulster County.

A seat for this session may be reserved by calling the Admissions Office at (845) 687-5022 or online at www.sunyulster.edu.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman ladies that we have lost and loved so much... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall and Polly Hill.

We still hold fast to certain traditions at the Townsman. All of Peggy's columns are classic, but there are some that just hold the right spirit and are a must and Peggy's Ground Hog Day column is one of them.

GROUND HOG DAY

By Peggy DeWire

February 2nd marks the midpoint of winter. We're halfway there! If the proverbial groundhog rouses out of hibernation and sees his shadow, folks say it predicts six more weeks of winter. Do you believe the forecast or not?

A biology professor at Pennsylvania State University, Stam



Zervanos, has discovered another reason besides weather forecasting for a male groundhog to wake up in early February: he shuffles around his several acres of territory and checks on burrows containing

females. He ducks inside each one to cuddle for the night and leaves the next morning to continue the tour.

He doesn't mate on these getting-to-know-you visits, according to professor Zervanos, because no babies show up. At the end of his walk-around the male groundhog returns to his own burrow, curls up into a furry ball for another month of hibernation. He's probably thinking like Arnold Schwarzenegger: I'll be back.

Groundhogs or woodchucks wake up for good in late march to mate and then lead solitary lives. They're vegetarians and have a hard time finding early greens.

In April 2-6 babies are born naked and blind after a month gestation.

The litter matures by autumn and lives 4-5 years if it escapes hunters, hawks, foxes and coyotes.

Groundhogs (*Marmota monax*) grow to twelve pounds and two feet long. They're brownish yellow furred animals with black feet and a short tail. Their flat top skulls with eyes and ears set low are perfect for not exposing much head poking above ground. This rodent's incisors never stop growing and can become a fatal danger unless kept worn down with constant chewing. Although groundhogs mostly graze on grass, they can climb trees and swim to forage for greenery.

They feed at sunrise and sunset, keeping out of sight during daylight hours. Groundhogs are forever alert to danger, racing back to their burrow sounding shrill alarm whistles that earn them the nickname "whistle pig." When spooked, they run 10 m.p.h.

A groundhog digs a burrow 10-15 feet long with a front entrance, spy holes, a toilet chamber and a comfortable nest room for sleeping or a nursery.

In vacant fields these burrows are refuges and homes for other small animals who aren't master diggers. However, in pastures the holes are dangerous to cows and horses. Around farms and gardens groundhogs do considerable damage to green crops.

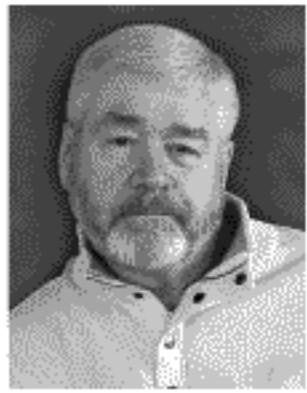
I think superstition or not, a bright spot in winter is February 2nd, Groundhog Day. And when you have a famous celebrity like Punxatawney Phil et al, the paparazzi will never let you forget.

Household Hints

Vinegar and Care for your car's carpets

A good vacuuming will get up the sand and other loose debris from your car's carpeting, but it won't do diddly for stains or ground-in dirt. For that, mix up a solution of equal parts water and white vinegar and sponge it into the carpet. Give the mixture a couple of minutes to settle in; then blot it up with a cloth or paper towel. This technique will also eliminate salt residues left on car carpets during the winter months.

The Blood of Heaven - Mysterious Book Report No. 130 by John Dwaine McKenna



In 1804, the United States was partitioned, with Spain, France and Great Britain, a young America and numerous Indian Nations laying claim to various parts of her. It was a time when America was in its formative stage, when new land and territory stretched to the western horizons, and the idea of a manifest destiny was being conceived in the minds of American statesmen and patriots. The original thirteen colonies were in the process of being made into states: whittled down to their present day dimensions, with the trimmed off lands forming new states and acting as jumping off places for further westward expansion . . . and the gigantic Louisiana Purchase was still a couple of years away. At the early part of the nineteenth century, Florida was controlled by Spain and western Florida extended in a hundred mile wide strip all the way to New Orleans which belonged at the time to France. Florida was lawless, full of subsistence settlers; squatters barely able to eke out an existence, fundamentalist preachers, negro slaves and slave masters. With absentee Spaniards in nominal charge, government was non-existent. The area was ripe for revolution. It came in the form of Aaron Burr.

The Blood of Heaven, (Grove Press, \$25.00, 455 pages, ISBN 978-0-8021-2118-9) by Kent Wescom is a debut novel that manages to catch lightning in a bottle, with which he illuminates a dark and little-known event in American history: the attempt by Burr and others to break off West Florida from the United States of America and form a sovereign nation. The story is told through the voice of Angel Woolsack, the amoral, sociopathic son of a hellfire preacher who sets off with his adopted brother, Samuel Kemper, into the disputed lands of West Florida. Desperately poor, he falls into a life of crime, and the schemes of the wealthy planters and slave owners who are attempting secession. When the rebellion falls apart, it is those at the bottom like Woolsack, who pay the price.

The novel is robust and complex, touching on subjects as diverse as family, brotherhood, love, slavery, economics, nationhood, and always with a throbbing, continuous undercurrent of crime and criminality. There's murder, mayhem and vice throughout this long and complicated novel that will enlighten every reader about a fascinating, and forgotten, element of our nation's early history . . . Like the column? The best compliment you can give is to share it with others on Facebook. [Facebook.com/JohnDwaineMcKenna](https://www.facebook.com/JohnDwaineMcKenna) --JDM

SC Chamber of Commerce names President/CEO (From Pg. 1)

She will be renewing relationships and establishing new ones as she begins her journey at the helm of this near 40 year organization. Cathy Paty is community conscious and willing to help any and all local businesses in any way she can.

"Cathy brings to the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce a blast of energy and determination that will certainly support and compliment the anticipated growth in our county. We are fortunate to have her at the helm at this time." - Helena Manzione (Watermark Communications/2nd Vice Chair)

She is in charge of recruitment and retention of the 537 current members, developing new prospect lists, organizing and promoting the networking events (i.e. First Friday breakfasts and Third Thursday Networking mixers), and other fund raising events. She also assists in developing educational programs to offer to the membership at little or no cost. She supports and assists in the direction of YEL (Young Emerging Leaders) - the young professional taskforce of the Chamber.

"Hands down, Cathy Paty was the best choice for the Sullivan County Chamber President. She has done a wonderful job as VP and Interim President with her eyes on the future" - Marie Smith, Fun With No Sun (2014 Board Member).

She helps facilitate business to business relationships by promoting a Chamber member to member discount program for new and current members. These are promoted through e-blast, e-newsletter, and website and at networking events. The Chamber is always looking for ways to enhance its membership benefits with educational and informational seminars - generally free or low cost to members. The Chamber even offers FREE hospitality and customer service training to any business - this could include a secret shop or even custom tailored training. They are also always seeking input from the membership - what do you need? What can we do to help? The Chamber also has a community calendar on their website, catskills.com, that any organization is welcome to post their events.

So, stop by the Mobile Office, or give Cathy a call - (845) 791-4200. You'll get assistance and information on the many products and services offered by the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce.

Winter StoryWalk®

(From Pg. 1) Liberty Public Library (LPL) and CCE Sullivan County are collaborating to offer this free opportunity. Interested families should pre-register for this free event by calling CCE at 845-292-6180 or LPL at 845-292-6070.

This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Laminated pages from a children's book are installed along an outdoor path. As you stroll down the trail, you're directed to the next page in the story. This StoryWalk® will be in place throughout the winter months but families are encouraged to attend this opening day.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

4-H Holds 26th Annual International Night in February

LIBERTY, NY- The public is invited to an evening of culture-inspired youth displays and performances representing diverse profiles from around the world. The 4-H Youth Development program of Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County will be celebrating its 26th Annual International Night on Friday, February 7, 2014, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This free program will be held at the Gerald J. Skoda Extension Education Center on 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty.

Doors open to the public at 6:30 pm for an event featuring the work of 4-H clubs throughout the county. Each club or group will represent a specific country from around the globe and provide an interactive display of the geography, history, culture, and cuisine of their chosen location. Participants can "tour the world" from 6:30 to 7:00 pm and then settle down for the 10 minute presentations each club brings to the stage.

Community members are always welcome to visit this family friendly event. More information about this opportunity or the Sullivan County 4-H Youth Development program can be obtained by calling 845-292-6180 or emailing mlr34@cornell.edu.

The Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library in Monticello has Storytimes for Toddlers and Preschoolers

The Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library has weekly storytimes for toddlers, ages 20-36 months, and preschoolers, ages 3-4 years.

Toddler storytimes are every Monday at 11:00. It is an Early Literacy Program for babies, toddlers and their caregivers. This program uses rhymes, books, crafts and finger plays to develop skills that will help children get ready to read. Many activities require one-to-one adult/child interaction. Pre-K storytimes are every Friday at 11:00. This program will continue to develop early literacy skills with stories and crafts.

All storytimes are free and open to the public. Registration is requested, but walk-ins will be accepted if space and supplies permit. In case of inclement weather storytimes will be cancelled if Monticello Central School District announces a closing or delayed opening, even if the library opens at our regular time.

For more information, call the library children's room at 845-794-4660 ext. 5.

Assemblywoman Gunther Response to 2014-2015 Executive Budget Proposal

Albany, NY - In response to Governor Cuomo's 2014-2015 Executive Budget presentation, Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther released the following statement:

"I'm hopeful that for the fourth consecutive year, the Legislature will be able to work with Governor Cuomo to pass an on-time budget that continues to lower the tax burden on New Yorkers and stimulate our economy. I will continue, as I have always done, to fight for additional aid to our school districts from Middletown to Roscoe and everywhere in between.

As Chairwoman of the Assembly Committee on Mental Hygiene, I am initially encouraged by the Governor's proposal, which, for the first year in several, increases funding for mental health

services. I look forward to hearing from local mental hygiene directors, advocates and service providers on ways to improve service delivery and ensure that every person who needs care has it in their community."

CAS Presents Premiere of "Yarnslingers: Memoirs" Storytelling Series

Livingston Manor, NY - The Catskill Art Society will present the storytelling group Yarnslingers for the debut of their partnership series "Yarnslingers: Memoirs" at the CAS Arts Center at 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY on Saturday, February 15 at 7pm. Tickets are available for a suggested donation of \$10.

For the first of their year-long collaboration, storytellers from all walks of life will share pieces of their biographies each month over the course of this year-long project. From the surprising and weird to the charmingly everyday, the tales of this diverse group reveal their individual idiosyncrasies, while uniting us in their common experiences.

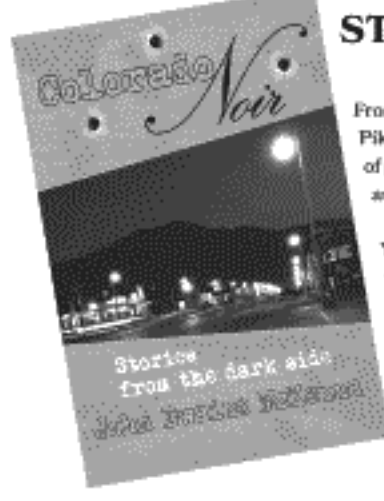
Storytellers include: Isabel Braverman; Lillian Browne; Rebekah Creshkoff; Bill Fellenberg; Ann Finneran; Jonathan Charles Fox; Ramona Jan; Marion Kaselle; and Stacy Rogers

The show runs approximately 85 minutes with no intermission. Tickets are available for a suggested donation of \$10. Advance reservations are highly recommended as seating is limited. For reservations, call the CAS Arts Center at 845-436-4227 or e-mail info@catskillartsociety.org.

Executive Budget Proposal: Statement from NYSAC President Mark Alger

County leaders share Governor Andrew Cuomo's vision of a re-imagined New York State: one that increases local job opportunities, reduces the cost of all levels of government, keeps our communities and roadways safe, offers and promotes a great quality of life, and provides care for community members in need.

What we often disagree about is which level of government should fund which service. For example, counties and county taxpayers fund more than \$12 billion worth of state initiated (and mandated) programs and services. For several years, those local costs have been on the rise, either through state action or increased demand for these services from the public. The Governor and the State Legislature have reigned in costs at the state and local level, but many other state-mandated expenses remain unchanged at the county level. More needs to be done. (Contd. Pg. 7)



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The Olive Jar - By Carol LaMonda

The Favorite Teacher

This week a retired teacher and coach from Onteora passed away. This is not an attempt to write his obituary. Bernie Stahl's daughters, Pam, Judy and Mary Ellen and Jeannie, already wrote a touching tribute to their father's love and accomplishments. The Kingston Freeman extolled his record as a track coach and founder of The Onteora Runners' Club. This column attempts to ponder the legacy of Mr. Stahl the teacher and coach.

Of course, I am saddened that Bernie is no longer here to see at scout breakfasts and church dinners. Bernie loved the camaraderie of old friends. He, Greg Gregor, Paul Werezynski, Lou Egbertson and Ron Valle would meet for breakfast at the diner in Kingston in a group called "The ROMEOs", which Bernie said stood for "Retired Old Men Eating Out."

What comforts me about his passing is his legacy. When the post went out on FaceBook, literally hundreds of friends, neighbors, former colleagues and students posted their memories. Many declared him to be their favorite teacher or coach. I began to wonder what exactly makes someone THE FAVORITE TEACHER. Bernie was a quiet gentleman with a wit and sense of humor that never harmed another. He wasn't controversial; he was even tempered. He never groused and could be counted upon for a genuine "Good Morning" and a smile that was contagious. But what made him a special teacher and coach?

Jay Brayman wrote, "Bernie had gentle leadership. Pointed out the path with one hand and pushed you toward with the other." Gary Boice added that Mr. Stahl was always positive, ready with...words of encouragement and "always a gentleman."

I remember asking Bernie, who was in his eighties, if he was still running. "Walking," he replied, unless a car goes by. Then I run for a bit. People expect it of me. After the car passes, I slow down to a steady walk.

All those memories of students and athletes had a common theme. (Notice I did not say a COMMON CORE!) Bernie connected with each and every student on a human level. He expected each student to do his or her best. He was the mentor, the guide, the coach both on and off the field. In many ways a classroom should be organized like a Track Meet. Each student has a special ability that needs to be coached out. We are not all pole vaulters to be measured at a specific height. Some of us are sprinters or have long distance endurance. That's why standardized testing doesn't really measure learning. Learning is a process. Students need to be recognized for their potential, and the teacher must be able to inspire and coax that potential to its best performance. Bernie Stahl's legacy as a coach and teacher will glow for many generations. What an honor to be declared "My Favorite Teacher."

"Siren Songs" -SIREN Baroque to Present a Concert at Olive Free Library

To celebrate the release of their album "Siren Songs," SIREN Baroque, New York's spirited all-female early music ensemble, presents a concert of music by women composers from the Baroque era at Olive Free Library on Friday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m.



In an age when most women did not have the opportunity to have a career or a public voice, some extraordinary women composers found ways to write music and preserve it for posterity. Notwithstanding the patriarchal customs of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe, these women used their educations, influential families, and individual perseverance and talent in order to thrive and let their voices be heard in their compositions. Working behind convent walls, within the royal court of Versailles under the patronage of Louis XIV, or as independent intellectuals in the literary circles of Venice, these remarkable composers created glorious and fascinating music.

The women of SIREN Baroque are proud to bring these composers to life by giving passionate performances of their works using original instruments, historically informed performance practice, and an element of modern dynamism. This concert will feature two violins, two sopranos, cello, and harpsichord.

The concert will highlight works from "Siren Songs," Siren Baroque's debut album featuring stylistically diverse music by female composers of the 17th and 18th centuries, passionately performed on original instruments.

Friday, February 21, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
Olive Free Library (4033 Route 28A, West Shokan, NY 12494); \$10 suggested donation
www.sirenbaroque.com

Program details:

Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre: Le Passage de la Mer Rouge (cantata for soprano, solo violin, and continuo) and Trio Sonata in Bb (for two violins and continuo); Antonia Bembo: Amor mio (for two sopranos and continuo); Bianca Meda: Cari musici (motet for soprano, two violins, and continuo); Barbara Strozzi: Godere e tacere (for two sopranos and continuo); Maria Nascimbene: Una fiamma rovente (for two sopranos and continuo); Isabella Leonarda: Trio Sonata in D (for two violins and continuo); and Francesca Caccini: Fresche aurette (for two sopranos, two violins, and continuo) 845-657-2482 www.olivefree.library.ny.org/director@olivefree.library.ny.org

From Ulster County Sheriff's Department

Deputies from the Ulster County Sheriff's Office report a personal injury auto accident at 8552 Route 209 in the Town of Wawarsing.

On Saturday January 25th 2014 at approximately 11:00am deputies responded to 8552 Route 209 Wawarsing for a 911 poll reporting a one vehicle rollover accident. Operator Roxanne Pangia age 25 of Spring Glen was traveling North on Route 209. Pangia lost control of her vehicle as it slid across the South bound lane and continued off the roadway. Vehicle then overturned and came to rest off the roadway. Pangia and her three children were able to extract the vehicle without serious injury. All occupants were evaluated on scene by Ellenville Rescue.

Deputies report unsafe speed and slippery road conditions as the cause.

Deputies were assisted by the New York State Police, Ellenville Fire Department and Ellenville Rescue.

Deputies from the Ulster County Sheriff's Office report the arrest of Kyle A. Fetter, 24 years old, of 112 Brimstone Hill Road, Pine Bush, NY.

Mr. Fetter was charged with the Misdemeanor of Driving While Intoxicated and the Violation of Speed Unreasonable and Prudent.

On January 27, 2014, at 4:30am, a deputy responded to a property damage automobile accident near the intersection of Route 52 and New Prospect Road in the Town of Shawangunk. A Police investigation revealed a car operated by Mr. Fetter had lost control near the intersection and impacted a telephone pole. Further investigation revealed Mr. Fetter had been driving while intoxicated.

Mr. Fetter was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated and brought to the Wallkill substation for processing. He was released with an appearance ticket and is due to return to Shawangunk Town Court on 2/25/14 at 7pm for arraignment on the charges.

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RESERVOIR MUSIC NOTES-

Fred is busy moving to 'greener pastures' and will be back as soon as he can. Looks like Fred will be in his new shop very soon and then will be back to his computer and bring us up-to-date in his column.

Tenney Applauds Release of Assembly Minority Education Plan

Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney (R,C,I-New Hartford) applauded the release of the Assembly Minority's report on education reform this morning. The report, entitled "At the Educational Crossroads - A Report on Education Reform Efforts in New York State," calls for a reform of the Common Core curriculum recently imposed on New York's students and teachers.

"The reform efforts outlined by our conference provide the much-needed solutions to the systemic problems facing our school districts," said Tenney. "It is critically important to remove the global mandate imposed by Common Core and expand local autonomy to our administrators and educators who are professionals and understand the unique needs of their students."

The report outlined the Achieving Pupil Preparedness & Launching Excellence (APPLE) Plan, which consists of solutions designed to address issues of Curriculum, Teacher Support, Funding, Student Anxiety, Special Education and Data Collection. It can be accessed at: bit.ly/educationalcrossroads.

The report was compiled following 11 forums hosted by the Assembly Minority throughout the state, where students, teachers and parents voiced their concerns and criticisms of the new educational framework imposed by Common Core. Tenney hosted a forum in New Hartford in November.

The APPLE Plan's ten points are easily accessible here: bit.ly/educationalcrossroads.

Explore a Career in Nursing Where the Employment Outlook is Great!

On Thursday, February 6th and March 5th, the Sullivan County BOCES Career and Technical Education Center will be hosting two information sessions on the BOCES LPN (Licensed Practical Nursing) Program. Potential students can choose to attend either date. Multiple sessions are offered on each day to fit busy schedules, 1:00 PM to 2:00PM or 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Sessions will be held in the Eugene D. Nesin Theatre/Auditorium at the St. John Street Education Center in Monticello. In the event of inclement weather, snow dates are scheduled for Feb 13th and Mar 12th.

Each session will include an overview of the admission process, including application requirements, admission testing, financial aid resources and other program information. The nursing faculty will be there to explain the program curriculum, competencies and clinical rotations. Career advancement opportunities and college articulation information will also be presented.

Part-time and full-time programs are available for adults and high school seniors.

Registration is required to attend. Attendance is strongly recommended for adults and high school seniors interested in enrolling in the LPN Program starting in September 2014. To register or for more information, please call (845) 295-4940.

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PROSILIO

The Family Memoir, PROSILIO...
... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. As summer approaches, the story of a carefree vacation in the Catskills should be added to your summer "must-read" list. The memoir is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*

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Statement from NYSAC President
(From Pg. 4) We applaud the Governor's continued focus on property tax relief, especially because local taxpayers still contribute over \$12 billion to maintain the state mandated programs currently in place at the local level. Property tax relief is needed and the Governor has advanced a plan for local governments, special districts, and school districts to reduce local expenditures through shared services and consolidation. Local government officials embrace modern and efficient government and look forward to working with the state legislature to develop property tax reform that's truly achievable, without jeopardizing important and vital local services.

Counties support efforts to provide universal pre-kindergarten, and we look forward to working with the state to transition all of our preschool special education students to a more accountable and structured school setting. This move will help ensure students have a better chance of success throughout their school years in New York, and realign the program with the appropriate level of government.

We look forward to working with Governor Cuomo and State Lawmakers as the budget review process begins and negotiations unfold over the next two months.

Senate Education Committee Meeting
Senator John J. Bonacic attended the Senate Education Committee meeting in Albany on Wednesday, January 23 with Chairman Senator John Flanagan, where Commissioner John King answered questions from Senators concerning the Common Core.

"Most of my colleagues," notes Senator Bonacic, "are hopeful that the Commissioner will take the many suggestions offered to make changes to the Common Core, to alleviate the concerns of superintendents, administrators, school boards, teachers, parents and students. We all want our kids to succeed, and we will make sure that the Common Core gets it right, even if it means the process has to be temporarily put on hold until all the kinks are worked out."

SkillsUSA Roast beef Dinner & Career & Technical Education Expo
LIBERTY: On Tuesday, February 11th, the SkillsUSA chapter of Career and Technical Education Center at Sullivan BOCES will host a Roast Beef Dinner at the Rubin Pollack Education Center in Liberty. In the event of inclement weather, the snow date is Feb 12th. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00. Take out dinners will be available between the hours of 3:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M.; sit down dinners will be available from 5:00 P.M.

to 6:30 P.M. Community members will also have the opportunity to participate in the Career & Tech Expo, which will contain various program displays, student projects, and demonstrations, in addition to blood pressure screenings by our Health Occupations students and parafin dips and manicures from our cosmetology students.

For more information on dinner or the programs available through the Career & Tech Center, visit our website at www.scbores.org or call 295-4152. For program updates, like Sullivan County BOCES on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Tutor Training at the Literacy Center
New Tutor Training begins Wednesday, March 26th at 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm and continues over six consecutive Wednesdays: March 26th, April 2nd, April 9th, April 16th, April 23rd, April 30th. Classes will be held at the Literacy Center, 63 North St, Monticello, NY. If you would like to become a tutor or know someone who does, please call us at 845-794-0017.

Sunday, Feb. 16th is our Dessert Extravaganza to benefit the Bethel Literacy Center and Past Perfect Book Store. It is being held from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at Friends Restaurant, 278 Sergeant Andrew Brucher Rd, Smallwood, NY, and is \$15 per person or \$25 for 2 people. It should be a sweet afternoon! Call Connie if you plan to attend or have questions at 845-794-0017.

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have interest rates that will begin to reset, causing higher payments. For these reasons, homeowners need advice and counsel on how to deal with their mortgage payments.



RUPCO's Vice President of Housing Services Kathy Germain said

people can benefit from other professional services they may not have access to or be able to afford in addition to counseling on foreclosure. Many who attended the free Homeowner Help Day included homeowners who were having difficulty or behind with their mortgage payments or had a mortgage modification that will be adjusted this year; were having trouble applying for a mortgage modification or getting an answer regarding a modification; behind on property taxes; concerned about their mortgage, foreclosure or bankruptcy; needed information due to under or unemployment; worried about the tax implications of foreclosure, short sale or deed in lieu of other debt and need to understand their consumer rights

In addition to housing counselors, homeowners met with other information and service providers learning valuable information on how to reduce monthly costs when facing reductions in income. Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, the Empire Justice Center and Ulster Savings Bank were just a few of the participating firms and agencies joining the effort.

Ulster County Comptroller Elliot Auerbach and Ulster County Legislator T.J. Briggs were also present at the event.

RUPCO is the region's leading provider and advocate of quality, affordable housing and community development programs aimed to provide opportunity and revitalize communities. Through its work, the agency strengthens homes, communities and lives. More information on RUPCO is available by calling 845-331-9860 or visiting www.rupco.org.

A Farmer's Daughter, A Scrap Quilter
An Interview with Bea Rexford
by Helena Clare Pittman

Bea Rexford is a woman of accomplishment. We met to talk about her life as a quilter, in the local history room at the Daniel Pierce Library. She was surrounded by her family, and her magnificent quilts. Nearby, shelved in the reference section at Daniel Pierce, are Bea's quilt books -- a collection of more than a hundred books. She has graciously donated them. When Bea began quilting, there were no such books. Today, we refer to quilters as Fiber Artists, and recognize the transcendence of pattern into art. This holds true for Bea

Rexford's work.

As she spoke, I was so impressed by her bearing, her quiet focus, her seriousness and passion about her work, the way she connected by her gaze. "Here is a wonderful teacher," I thought, as she told her story, described the way she works.

"Do you know what I mean?" "Do you know what I'm saying?" she'd stop to say, wanting to be sure I'd understood the thing she was describing: the way she placed the sheet metal templates, made by her son, onto her fabric, drew her lines, cut her pieces, put them face to face -- leaving a quarter inch of fabric for seams. Bea Rexford is someone who has taught many, and I could see why so many wanted to study with her. Quilting is her passion. As it was passed to her, she has passed it to others.

Examining the careful hand-stitching on the underside of a quilt she handed to me, all the edges of its shapes perfectly aligned, I got the impression of time. Of quiet hours of hand-sewing, of Bea's life as a quilt artist, the space she'd made for herself to construct these beautiful, powerful designs. Yet she spoke very modestly, not without the pride of confidence in her work, but most serious about conveying carefully to me, her interviewer, what she had done.

These quilts are not ordinary. Not just patterns. They aren't conventional. Nor do they appear standard in any way. Rather, though part of a time-honored tradition, an art and craft that has grown up in this country, Bea Rexford's quilts struck me as something completely original. As soon as I entered the room and saw them folded on the table, draped on chairs, I said to myself, "This is art."

"I'm a scrap quilter," she announced by way of introduction. "It doesn't all go together. No two pieces are the same!"

That was it. The color in each of the quilts worked as the color in a very good, knowledgeable painting works, a painting in which every color had been mixed individually so that it will shimmer with the colors around it. The colors move rather than appear static. It takes an artist to figure that one out. The impact of these quilts rests on their shape and configurations, pattern, color, organized by an artist's aesthetic, an artist's eye. They are designs that are visually unified, another mark of fine art.

The art of quilting has been passed through this family's generations. Bea's mother and grandmother quilted. Bea remembered her grandmother talking about quilting to her and the other children in the family, in the big living room of her grandfather's farmhouse. She remembered being put into her grandmother's big bed on an afternoon when she wasn't feeling well, napping under a quilt her grandmother had made.

"It was a Crazy Quilt, sewn of odd-sized pieces -- velvets and satins, edged with embroidered lines. I remember saying to myself, 'When I wake up, I'm going to feel better.'"

On Sundays, after walking from Hasbrouck to Woodbourne to church, the family spent the afternoons in the farmhouse living room. Her mother and grandmother knitted and quilted. Handcrafting, using the materials available -- old clothes, scraps from hand-sewn clothes, cloth shared by neighbors -- was part of the life of Bea's family.

After high school, Bea went to Vassar Nursing School. She married, had her six children and had no time for anything else. When her children were grown, she began her nursing career, practicing in Loomis Hospital's maternity ward. "When I wasn't busy, I had the time to think about quilts."

Bea used graph paper from the nursery charts and began working with

Homeowner Help Day in Ellenville (From Pg. 1)

In his opening presentation Congressman Gibson ascertained, "By partnering together, I'm hopeful this event will provide valuable information to my constituents who need assistance with their home mortgages. As we continue to push for policies that grow our economy, we need to ensure an adequate safety net for our friends and neighbors who are going through a tough time," said Congressman Gibson.



UC Legislator T. J. Briggs

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as of the third quarter of 2013, 8.8% in Ulster and 11.1% in Sullivan county mortgages are in foreclosure. This indicates a substantial need to assist distressed homeowners. Housing counselors have been successful in reducing the percentages of mortgages actually in foreclosure since 2012. But many homeowners are still struggling. Major factors affecting the ability of homeowners to maintain their mortgage payments include loss or reduction of income, increase in taxes and expenses or other life events. Energy costs, health issues and other factors may also impact homeownership.

People still need help, said RUPCO's CEO Kevin O'Connor. The Federal Reserve Bank reports that household debt is on the rise, and HAMP modifications that were approved in 2009 all



Kevin O'Connor RUPCO's CEO introduces Congressman Gibson

a pencil to design shapes. "I fiddled around with arrangements until I pleased myself," she said.

She began with a pot holder, a six inch square. Then she explored shapes for twelve inch squares. For six months she just designed. Her thought was that she didn't have time for the making of quilts. And with six children, fabric was too much of a luxury. Until one day her mother came to her door with a feed sack full of fabrics -- fabrics from her own quilts, her grandmother's quilts, scraps from making clothes, and scraps of old clothes, scraps passed by other people.



"People still sewed then," Bea told me.

"Some of them were faded, or dirty. I dumped them into the washing machine, then ironed each piece and sorted them by color." And she began cutting them into the shapes she'd designed in her thinking time.

"There were no books on quilting then," said Bea. "I had to figure it out all by myself."

It was the mid-1950s. She began simply, with a star pattern, and put together her first quilt on her living room floor.

The color was random. "I didn't think an awful lot about it," she said. "They all sewed," said Bea. "A lady up on Thunderhill sewed -- she gave me her scraps."

Bea constructed her pieces of these scraps of precious colors, sometimes sewing pieces of half-inch squares. Tiny cast-offs, leftovers that became beautiful blankets; things that could be used and savored. She sewed quilts for children as birthday gifts -- no two squares alike, and included a book of nursery rhymes. Bea showed me one, a quilt of squares printed with elephants. She asked if I saw anything surprising. Then she pointed out the direction of the elephants' tails, the way the movement of a tail seemed to enter a square from one edge, or leave it from another.

An elephant seemed to peek into the quilt from another square. The quilt was crafted to be a game for a child, things hidden, exciting to find, working almost like a kind of animation. "When you sew for children, put in a surprise," said Bea, wisdom passed to her from her grandmother and mother.



There were no quilting classes in the 50s and 60s. But in those early years, groups of women interested in learning quilting began gathering around Bea. In the 70s she began in Wiltwick. She found a space at the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Sullivan County, then located on the third floor of the bank building in Liberty, where they'd move two tables together to work on a quilt top.

"Sullivan girls didn't know anything about it!" she told me. And Bea knew that she could teach them. Her classes grew bigger and bigger.

Along with designs for quilt tops, she designed decorations, projects she could teach others to sew -- a wreath on a coat hanger, for instance. "Someone's pajamas!" she told me about the underside of one she showed me, useful cast-offs, "pieces you never want to see!" A holiday bow, smooth, graceful, no knot to tie. Ornaments made from half-inch squares, no two squares with the same fabric, so that the color seems to twinkle.

When the new Extension building was built on Loomis Road, she approached Mr. Wilde, the director, for a space for the quilting classes.

"There were two large, beautifully lit rooms that would accommodate them

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there," Bea told me, "requiring no cost to them." And by now, the quilting group had grown big enough to fill them. Interest in quilting was spreading. Bea's group had become a chapter, part of the larger group of quilters in an area covering five counties, and one day they sat down to choose a name. They agreed on "Calico" for the first word, the name of the fabric print. "Geese" became the second word, for the flock of geese that crossed the sky as they sat together that afternoon. Bea Rexford, their teacher, was dubbed "Mother Goose."

Their flag is hung in the Farmer's Museum in Cooperstown. And, in 1992, Bea was installed in the Quilters Hall of Fame. (Contd. Pg. 10)



Please join us for **Love Your Heart Day** - a roundtable discussion with **Saeeda Mahmud, MD, Director of Cardiology** and **Dawn Scribner, Registered Dietitian & Certified Diabetes Educator**

Friday, February 14th from Noon - 1:30pm

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A Farmer's Daughter (From Pg. 9) I found all of Bea Rexford's quilts beautiful, and being a painter, I was fascinated by the way the color worked. I was amazed by the beautiful way she used yellow, and told her so. As a color teacher, I know that the study and use of yellow is very particular. Because it is the most reflective, or luminous color that we can see in the spectrum, if it is not used carefully, in just the right amount, it will take over. It will look like electric light and will overpower the colors around it. Bea took my compliment in stride. She said that green was the color that challenged her.

I have taught many people in my career, and I recognize in Bea Rexford a colorist, someone who understands color intuitively. One quilt stays before me as I write. I was thoroughly taken with its beauty. Blue is its unifying theme. The pattern begins in one way at the top. As the rows progress to the bottom, the pattern alters. The blues are endless and the nuances are rich and subtle. Bea had put the blues together randomly. And yet, an artist always brings their eye, always orders colors and shapes to their aesthetic, to their sense of how something must look for it to be as unified and beautiful as that blue quilt.

I don't know which quilt of Bea Rexford's quilts the internationally known quilt and fabric designer, Jinny Beyer, saw, but she saw one of them, and Bea told me she praised it. Bea Rexford's artistry has influenced many quilters, students of quilting and lovers of beautiful quilts. Meeting her, listening to her, seeing her work has had its impact on me.

And that feed sack of fabrics her mother brought to her door more than sixty years ago so that Bea could sew her designs and grow to be the artist she has become, is still not empty. Having seen her quilts, I know that they will continue to have an impact, will influence other quilters and artists, anyone who is fortunate enough to see them.

Elizabeth Evans Speaks to Global Studies Classes at Fallsburg Junior Senior HS

Elizabeth Evans, the wife of assistant superintendent for instruction Matthew Evans, spoke to three global studies classes about South Africa and the death of Pres. Nelson Mandela.

Ms. Evans gave the students the context of the diverse cultures that make up the nation of South Africa dating back to the 1600s when the Dutch merchants landed at the Cape area. It was also around this time that the religion of Islam was introduced. Even though slavery existed, slaves intermarried so differences between the many African tribes were not so large. Another example of mixing of cultures came with the foods that different peoples introduced. The Dutch language became adapted to the area in the form of Afrikaans or kitchen Dutch language.

Jumping ahead to 1833 Ms. Evans described the British's seizure of the Cape. They abolished slavery, but they continued the policy of white supremacy. The Boers fought the British and maintained a strong Dutch/German presence. In 1909 the Union of South Africa was formed as part of the British dominion.

Ms. Evans mother is British and her father an Afrikaner. Afrikaans became an official language in 1925. It was known as the People's language. The first segregation laws were applied to certain percentages of the land during this period. The African national Congress or ANC was formed in 1912 under the influence of Gandhi, who was then a resident of South Africa. This organization preached nonviolence. The organization would undergo a shift in 1944 when it began to focus on African nationalism. This shift corresponded with the introduction of apartheid laws in the late 1940s. Apartheid literally means separation.

In 1950 with strong calls for greater freedom for all peoples and with the declaration of South African independence, there was great tension in the nation. Political groups

were criticized, attacked, and even banned as communist. Such was the case with the ANC. This group's freedom charter called for whites, colored and Africans to live together in peace and harmony. During the early 1960s acts of sabotage against the regime and turmoil led the government to take more drastic measures, including the arrests of antigovernment leaders. In 1963 Nelson Mandela and other ANC members were arrested. Instead of taking the stand in a trial, Mandela gave a rousing three-hour speech about the fight for freedom and change in South Africa.

After 27 years of incarceration, Mandela was released unconditionally in 1990. Ms. Evans reflected here on her own experiences growing up as a teenager in apartheid South Africa. In 1976 high school students took to the streets to protest separation policies. New textbooks in Afrikaans and new laws became part of the society.

-In 1985 the Congress of African trade unions was formed between Zulus and min-ers

- a state of emergency was declared the course of the fears of the ruling powers

- as a child, Evans remembers traveling on school buses with soldiers carrying automatic weapons

- other nations began calling for anti-apartheid laws (including the United States)

- it was becoming more normal for white women to bring black servants to their churches; this was part of the resistance to signs throughout the country of whites only - restaurants that had signs whites or colored only used signs with the language "we reserve the right to seat patrons" to get around changing laws

- fortunately for Ms. Evans her father was well known in the area of northeast South Africa where they lived, and she lived a life with less discrimination because of color. She also described her father, who was an engineer and a gold miner, was a "raging liberal" so she grew up as a very accepting young person.

- It was common in the early 1990s for black children to be beaten up in the communities for no apparent reason other than the color of their skin. During the period of Nelson Mandela's release from prison, people were preparing for Civil War - there was increasing fear throughout the land. Then it was unbelievable when he came out and spoke up for harmony for all people. There was no fighting in the streets there was no Civil War. White people began to gravitate towards and embrace Mandela's message. In 1994 Mandela was elected president in the first true democratic election in South Africa. It was the first time that Elizabeth Evans voted. It was a jubilant day. It was okay for blacks and whites to be standing walking side-by-side. This was what Ms. Evans and other young people were fighting for. People were amazed that this man could preach peace after so many years in prison. His motto was "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul."

"My children are citizens of both South Africa and the United States," said Ms. Evans. She wants them to know about the cultures and history of both nations. Her girls have been following all the news surrounding Nelson Mandela's death. People throughout South Africa have been saying goodbye with the words "my hero and my president."

She was 23 when she left South Africa and a lot of changes have taken place over those years. She never knew Mandela personally but many of her friends had contact with him. He never shyed away from being with people. He was very accessible. He made the country more accessible compared to when children were not even allowed to create friendships and relationships during the period of apartheid simply because of skin color or racial origin, she recounted a story of an Indian doctor, who had a white wife. She had to "reclassify" in order to marry her husband. This is what happened if you fell in love with someone of a different race. Ms. Evans grew up hearing stories and seeing firsthand how her father's family were active freedom fighters trying to end the oppressive system of apartheid. This system was more than just a word. It prevented South Africa from progressing with other countries in the world. Children educated under this system were brainwashed.

Mandela was willing to fight for what he saw as wrong. He saw that we are ultimately responsible for what we see as wrong in the world and make every effort to make it right. When South Africa hosted the World Cup soccer after Mandela's release and elevation to presidency, it was the first time that people saw people of all races together in a large gathering. Truly South Africa is becoming that rainbow nation where differences were secondary. People were different, and it was okay. Mandela fought for the good of our people, the good of our children. People were now addressing the bigger issues in this society. "Mandela is sleeping at peace finally."

In addressing the questions of students after her talk, Ms. Evans made many more points. She stressed how jubilation occurred and the feeling of fear dissipated with Mandela's release from prison. The background for this change to Mandela began in 1986 when de Klerk overthrew the existing government. It was de Klerk who would welcome Mandela back from prison and help lead the way to democracy.

South Africans are very stubborn people, including her father. Many cultures are squished together, and people are seeing that they can live side by side. Mandela's children are still active and outspoken. It has been truly amazing for her to see world leaders from over 90 nations come together to celebrate Mandela, the man. One of the great lessons of his legacy is "everyone deserves a fair trial."

Governor Announces NYS Presence in Super Bowl XLVI-II - Nearly 100 New York Vendors and Restaurants with "Taste NY" Products will be featured at all Super Bowl Host Committee Events- "I Love NY" Multi-Sensory installation will be on display on Super Bowl Boulevard

As the co-host Governor of Super Bowl XLVIII, Governor Cuomo is using the international event as an opportunity to promote "Taste NY" products and tourism in Upstate New York. New York products will be prominently featured at Super Bowl events throughout the week leading up to the game. More than 5,000 local, national and international media and more than 1 million attendees will have the opportunity to taste the best products New York has to offer as well as be introduced to New York's wealth of tourist attractions, especially in Upstate. In total, nearly 100 New York vendors will be featured across all the Super Bowl Host Committee events.

"New York State is proud to co-host Super Bowl XLVIII and we want to ensure that all of our visitors get the full New York experience by sampling our world class products and getting to know the unmatched beauty of our state," said Governor Cuomo. "We are lucky to live in a place that has tourist attractions like none other in the world, especially in Upstate New York. The Super Bowl is our opportunity to show off our state and encourage all of our guests to visit the many locations across New York. Visitors and New Yorkers alike will not be able to attend a Super Bowl event without seeing an ad for NY State Tourism or sampling a NY State product. I can guarantee that once tourists see all we have to offer, they will keep coming back for more."

"Super Bowl XLVIII offers an unprecedented opportunity to showcase all the exceptional products and tourism opportunities our region has to offer to the world," said Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., President and CEO of the NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Committee. "We are proud to partner with Governor Cuomo to shine a spotlight on the entirety of New York, in their important effort to continue to drive tourism to the area."

Super Bowl Host Committee Media Party- Tuesday, January 28th -More than 3,500 members of media will be hosted at Pier 60 at Chelsea Piers, in Manhattan. The party will provide an unprecedented platform to feature and promote "Taste NY" products, including food, wine and spirits.

The Taste NY station and activation at the Media Party will be among the most prominently featured at the event and will be serving dishes prepared by chef Marc Murphy of Landmarc, using only ingredients made or grown in New York from Cascun Farm, Eli's Bread and McCadam Cheese. The station will also be serving wine and spirits from Wolfer Estate Vineyard, Standing Stone Vineyards, and Prohibition Distillery.

Super Bowl Boulevard- Open January 29th to February 1st

As a host state, New York will have a strong presence on the Super Bowl Boulevard, a thirteen block section of Broadway in Times Square that is expected to attract approximately 1,000,000 visitors. In partnership with the Super Bowl Host Committee, the "I Love NY" campaign will install a Video Park, a multi-sensory walkthrough installation featuring various attractions throughout New York state. Staff from various New York state tourism partners will be on hand to interact with the public and promote tourism in the state. Visitors will also receive an individually numbered ski wicket featuring the Super Bowl Host Committee and "I Love NY" logos along with information on where to learn more about winter activities in New York State. The wickets also contain information on discounts at Upstate ski areas and contests to win ski prizes.

NY/NJ Lounge at Super Bowl Boulevard- Open January 29th to February 1st

The Lambs Club will serve as the venue for the Super Bowl Host Committee's NY/NJ Lounge at Super Bowl Boulevard. They will be serving locally sourced food and New York State beverages and is admittance only with a SBHC-issued credential.

NY /NJ Super Bash- A Night of Thanks- Wednesday, January 29th

The Super Bash, an event to thank all the Super Bowl Host Committee partners involved in the planning and execution of Super Bowl XLVIII, will be attended by 1,000 to 1,500 people and will feature both "I Love NY" decor and Taste NY Products. The main level of Gotham Hall will have a custom "I Love NY" station serving items made with New York State products, such as Murray's Chicken and Gosman's Fish Market that are being used by Pinch Food Design, based in New York. And the mezzanine will feature New York State spirits from Tuthilltown Spirits and wines from Salmon Run Winery and Bully Hill Winery.

Taste of the NFL-Party with a Purpose- Saturday, February 1st

Super Bowl XLVIII marks the 23rd Annual tasting event featuring chefs and NFL players representing all 32 NFL teams. The chefs will be assisted by students from the Institute of Culinary Education (ICE) and CUNY Culinary Arts Program. There will be banners outside of the venue with the Taste NY logo as well as displays of "I Love NY" and "Taste NY" advertising inside. In addition, New York state will have a Welcome Row that includes food from local New York City restaurants. The funds raised at the charity event will be distributed to hunger relief organizations, with emphasis on New York City organizations, including: Bed-Stuy Campaign Against Hunger, City Harvest, Food Bank of Western New York and Food Bank for New York City.

Super Bowl Host Committee Pre-Game Party- Sunday, February 2nd

The NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Committee will throw a 2,500 person pre-game party at Meadowlands Racetrack Clubhouse, with themed rooms such as Greenspaces, Transit, City Life, Boardwalks and Beaches, Home Grown, Towns and Boroughs. New York State food will be featured in the Home Grown room including products from Lobel's Meat Market, Katchkie Farms, Murray's Cheese and Ronnybrook Farm Daily and drinks using spirits from Prohibition Distillery will be served in the Pre-Game Lounge.

In the 2013-2014 Executive Budget, Governor Cuomo and the legislature allocated a \$5 million grant to the Super Bowl Host Committee.

Statement from UC Exec Mike Hein Regarding Passage of Sales Tax Bill

"I want to thank Senator Larkin and Senator Tkaczyk, Assemblyman Skartados and Assemblyman Lopez for their tremendous efforts in limiting the damage caused by the 'Cahill Crisis.' Senator Larkin was right, when today, on the floor of the Senate he highlighted the impact of State mandates and said 'When we dictate something in a bill, I think we have the responsibility to come up with the check to cover it.'

In the end, Kevin Cahill accomplished absolutely nothing, except to harm the people of Ulster County. His deceptive attempts to link sales tax with the Safety Net Program were done solely to cover his desire to bully local government. In addition to the County of Ulster which lost millions of dollars, the City of Kingston was also a casualty of the 'Cahill Crisis,' as the hundreds of thousands of dollars of Safety Net relief we provided to them in 2013 was almost entirely wiped away by the loss of sales tax revenue at the hands of Kevin Cahill.

The record speaks for itself: the Ulster County Legislature and my administration solved the Safety Net problem in 2012. Kevin Cahill owes the people of Kingston, as well as all the people of Ulster County, an enormous apology for his disgraceful behavior but unfortunately, his ego and shameful history virtually ensures that he will not deliver."

News from the Ulster County Legislatures Democratic Caucus

The Ulster County Legislature's Democratic Caucus met on Wednesday evening and a majority of Legislators endorsed two important resolutions that will be coming up for a Legislative vote on January 30, 2014:

Resolution #10 introduced by Legislator Wishnick, asks that the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency refuse to grant \$32+ million in property tax reductions for a student housing project to be built and operated near SUNY New Paltz. A majority of Legislators in the Democratic Caucus feel this is a "home rule" issue wherein the Town of New Paltz supports the project, but insists that the developer pay their taxes. The Ulster County Supervisors & Mayors Association also opposes this PILOT as does the New Paltz Central School District and the Town of Gardiner.

Majority Leader Gregorius stated, "New York is a 'home rule' state which means that government closest to the people should be making the decisions on issues that directly impact their jurisdictions. It is entirely inappropriate for the county to override town objections to property tax subsidies that their constituents must pay for."

Resolution #29 opposes the closure of the Social Security office, currently located in Lake Katrine, was introduced by Legislator Provenzano and will add the Ulster County Legislature's voice to all who are calling for a Social Security office to remain in Ulster County. The Democratic Caucus believes it is totally unreasonable to ask elderly and disabled people to travel outside of our county to seek assistance with issues related to that agency.

Majority Leader Gregorius emphasized, "The Social Security website and phone assistance is just not good enough in many instances to resolve complex issues." He, and

the Democratic Caucus, believe that assistance for the most vulnerable among us is the wrong place to be looking for cuts.

These resolutions will be voted on by the full Ulster County Legislature on Thursday, January 30, 2014 at 7:00 PM on the 6th floor of the County Office Building on Fair Street in Kingston, New York. The public is always invited to attend and provide comments.

Omnibus Appropriations Bill Includes Strong Investment Pushed by Gillibrand for Disconnected Youth in Need of Educational Opportunities and Employment

Washington, D.C. - With more than 15 percent of youth unemployed, including about one-third of the nation's minority youth, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today announced that a \$20 million investment to help increase employment among at-risk youth is included in the omnibus appropriations bill that passed Congress and was signed by the President.

Senator Gillibrand pushed for this federal funding to help prepare more New York youth for employment, particularly those who have dropped out of high school or have been subject to the criminal justice process. The funding will be used by national and regional non-profit organizations, in partnership with local affiliates, to provide job training and education initiatives, as well as support services to prepare this population of youth for the job market.

"Supporting education and training for our youth is a smart investment that can help rebuild local economies and pay dividends over the long term," said Senator Gillibrand. "This effort would give organizations the tools and resources they need to help our youth prepare for future jobs, find employment opportunities, and reach their full potential. The skills they would acquire through this program are invaluable. Helping our youth compete in this difficult economy will have a lasting, positive impact on our community."

"The National Urban League applauds Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's commitment and leadership in securing bipartisan support in the omnibus appropriations bill for critical program funding needed for services to young ex-offenders and school dropouts to get them back on track toward employment," said Marc Morial, President and CEO of the National Urban League, headquartered in New York City. "Such funding places a laser focus on this population of severely disconnected youth who live in high crime, high poverty areas. The return on this investment will mean productive lives that contribute to our nation's economy and social wellbeing," Morial said.

At more than 15 percent, the youth unemployment rate is more than twice the unemployment rate for people of all ages. The average unemployment rate for minority youth under age 25 is approximately 27 percent for African Americans and 17 percent for Hispanics. Of the estimated 10.6 million youth under the age of 25 who are not fully employed, 1.6 million lack a high school diploma, facing significant barriers to employment, with the labor force participation rate for youth without a high school diploma about 15 percentage points lower than the labor force participation rate for high school graduates.

Lengthy periods of unemployment early in a young person's work

life can have lasting negative effects on future earnings, productivity, and employment opportunities. Funding initiatives like this would assist youth in obtaining the education and skills necessary for success in the labor market, helping reduce youth unemployment and strengthen the economy.

Congressman Gibson Receives 'A' from National Education Association Perfect Score Reflects Commitment to Working to Ensure an Education System that Best Serves Students

Washington, DC - Congressman Chris Gibson (NY-19) earned a perfect grade of 'A' from the National Education Association for his work in Congress in 2013.

Congressman Gibson was one of three House Republicans to earn an 'A.'

"Representative Chris Gibson is a prime example of a leader who listens to his district and responds by working to enact policies that assist educators and the students they serve. His bold leadership on working to lessen the negative impact of standardized assessments is just one example of his leadership on behalf of students, families, and educators," said Mary Kusler, Director of Government Relations, National Education Association.

"As a graduate of the local public school that my three children now attend, ensuring that our education system best prepares our students for the challenges of the 21st Century is a priority of mine. Unfortunately we have too often seen over-federalized education that places more unfunded mandates on local schools, squeezing out other local programs," said Congressman Gibson. "In addition, over-testing has contributed to the widespread frustration many teachers, parents, and students feel. We can do better, and I will continue to work with our teachers and parents to do just that."

You can read more about the Congressman's views on education here:

<http://www.troyrecord.com/opinion/20131126/rep-chris-gibson-empowering-local-schools-the-case-for-reform>.

The National Education Association (NEA), the nation's largest professional employee organization, is committed to advancing the cause of public education. NEA's 3 million members work at every level of education-from pre-school to university graduate programs. NEA has affiliate organizations in every state and in more than 14,000 communities across the United States.

The National Education Association (NEA) Legislative Report Card measures Members of Congress' overall support for public education and educators, with each Member receiving a letter grade of A, B, C, D or F. Letter grades are based on their voting records on selected votes in 2013 and on five additional criteria:

- Cosponsorship of bills critical to advancing NEA's identified legislative priorities;
- Behind-the-scenes work to advance or impede NEA priority issues;
- Committee votes in support of or against NEA priorities;
- Accessibility of the Member and staff in Washington, DC to NEA staff and leaders; and
- Accessibility and education advocacy in the Member's home state or district.

Additionally, emphasis continues to be given to votes and other actions involving union rights.

POLITICAL SLANT

By Frank Comando

POLITICAL SLANT

By Frank Comando -

Press release: Pres. George Bush's *NEW WORLD ORDER*

Outlook for the Global Economy is "Cautiously Optimistic", say Financial Leaders. Europe is on the road to recovery while economies in the UK, US and Japan are rebounding

Despite the recovery, risks are present and 2014 may be a year of volatility

The agenda for 2014 is to complete financial reform.

The theme of the 44th World Economic Forum Annual Meeting is, the *Reshaping of the World: Consequences for Society, Politics and Business*

For more information about the Annual Meeting, visit <http://wef.ch/Davos> *Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, 25 January 2014* -

The outlook for the global economy is "cautiously optimistic", leading financial experts told participants on the last day of the 44th World Economic Forum Annual Meeting. They warned, however, that old and new risks are still present and the coming year will bring volatility.

Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, *INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND*, said the recovery is in a consolidation process, taking place at different rates and in different areas. Old risks persist that have not been fixed. "Financial market reforms are under way and are not yet completed," she said. "A second risk is unbalanced growth. More interesting are the new risks, such as the issue of how tapering takes place, at which speed, how it is communicated and what spillover effects it has." For the full release and supporting information, please visit: http://www.weforum.org/nr_geo14_40

HEAVYWEIGHT DAVOS PANEL ON 2014 GLOBAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK STEALS SPOTLIGHT

January 25, 2014,

A heavyweight Davos panel featuring several central bankers stole the spotlight Saturday, as attendees skipped a day on the slopes to hear about the global economic outlook for 2014.

Bloomberg

Mark Carney, governor of the Bank of England, speaks at Davos

The seven-person panel included the heads of the Bank of Japan, Bank of England and European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund, as well as a lone voice from the private sector, BlackRock Inc. Chief Executive Laurence Fink. Other speakers included Montek Singh Ahluwalia, deputy chairman of India's Planning Commission and Wolfgang Schäuble, Germany's federal minister of finance.

IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde discussed new risks to the global economy, which include the Federal Reserve's plan to reduce monetary stimulus and deflation.

The risk from the Fed includes the speed at which the central bank slows the rate of its bond purchases, also called tapering, how the process is communicated, and the spillover effect on emerging-market, she said. Another new risk is the chance of deflation in the euro zone, she said, noting that the region's inflation is "way below target," according to Reuters.

ECB President Mario Draghi acknowledged the subdued rate of inflation and reiterated that the ECB was ready to ease further if needed. The moderator, Martin Wolf of the Financial Times, introduced BOJ Governor Haruhiko Kuroda as the "most exciting central banker in the world" at the moment.

Kuroda said he was "quite optimistic" about economic growth and Japan's ability to meet its 2% inflation goal within two years, according to the BBC. He added that there's still a way to go and there could be risks from Japan or other countries. The BOE's Mark Carney said stimulus still "remains very relevant," according to the Reuters report. Carney said Friday at Davos that the BOE will update its forward guidance on interest rates in February as the unemployment rate has declined much faster than expected. ?!

This space is also for you;

To have your comments and/or questions, space allowing, and Townsman guidelines adhered to, as listed in the masthead on Pg. 2. Email politicalslant@yahoo.com

WOODBOURNE FIRE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 2, 2014

7:00AM - 12:00PM
WOODBOURNE FIRE HOUSE
ADULTS - \$7.00
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER - \$4.00
CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER - FREE
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 434-6763
OR RALPH AT 796-8820
TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE



Tri-Valley Lions Club
Chartered November 18, 1977

Gift Card/Gift Certificate Raffle

One Winner to be drawn at our February 4, 2014 Meeting by a non-lion attendee. Lions and their spouses are not eligible to participate in this drawing.

Gift certificates and cards were donated by these wonderful friends of the Tri-Valley Lions:

In Liberty, NY: Shoprite; Trading Post; Rite Aid; Agway Pet Center; Tractor Supply; Second to None Restaurant; The Medicine Shoppe; Golden Shears Salon; Dollar General; Advance Auto (detailing kit); Dunkin Donuts; McDonalds; Last Licks; Eureka Café in Grahamsville; Marcos Restaurant in Loch Sheldrake; Nardis (Frankie & Johnnies) in Hurleyville; Cannie D's Market in Neversink; Citgo Gas Station in Woodbourne. Gift cards may be used at these establishments subject to the store's rules.

Cards/Certificates range from \$10 to \$25, for a total of over \$400. Tickets are \$5 each. Buy one, or buy several and give them as gifts for your family or friends.

Please help support this Tri-Valley Lions Fundraiser by buying one or more tickets today from any of the Tri-Valley Lions you know, or call Esta Jacob at 845-985-2927 after 5:30 pm

Or use the form below (to send for your ticket) by mailing to Esta Jacob, Director, Tri-Valley Lions Club, 8141 State Route 55, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Be sure to include a check in the amount of \$5 for each ticket desired, and we'll be sure to enter you into this fabulous raffle drawing. 100% of each ticket purchased will go right into The Tri-Valley Lion's Charity account to help us support the sight and hearing impaired, the local community, including local food pantries, the Tri-Valley School backpack program, plus organizations including Guiding Eyes For The Blind, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, American Cancer Society, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and so many more.

CLARYVILLE FIRE DEPT. ALL YOU CAN EAT



PRESIDENT'S DAY
Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, Feb. 16

Serving 7:00 until 12:00 Noon

ADULTS \$7
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YRS. \$3
UNDER 5 YRS. FREE
\$50 FROM EACH MONTHLY BREAKFAST IS
DONATED TO THE CLARYVILLE REFORMED
CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

TIME & THE VALLEYS MUSEUM



Time and the Valleys Museum has copies of every Townsman printed since the beginning (1947) classified by year for anyone to research.

985-7700
timeandthevalleymuseum.org

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

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

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
845-794-6325

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION

The Little Church with the Big Heart

Sunday, 8:15 am Service of Holy Communion

Music by Susan and Fred Van Wagner

Coffee hour follows service

All are welcome!

5277 State Rt. 42
South Fallsburg
845-436-7539

www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org

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, NY

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)- 8:30 am (starting Sept. 3 - 8:50 am.)

Saturday afternoon confessions: 4 to 4:45.

Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.

Science Olympiad at SUNY Ulster

High school students interested in all STEM fields will compete at SUNY Ulster at the regional competition of the nationwide Science Olympiad on Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Stone Ridge campus. Open to the public, the competition will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with most events taking place in the Senate Gymnasium. Coaches should meet at 7:30 a.m. at the College Lounge with participating students going directly to their team room or the college cafeteria. The award ceremony is scheduled to begin about 3:30 p.m., in Quimby Theater. The snow date is Feb. 9.

More than 25 high school teams will compete. Last year's first place winning team was from The Mount Academy; second place, Spackenkill High School and third place, John Jay High School.

Teams and individuals will compete in up to 23 events in the New York Mid-Hudson Regional Division C competition. Events, which are often interactive and hands-on, will be held in anatomy and physiology, astronomy, chemistry, geology, biology, forensics, aeronautics, physics, engineering and other sciences. Students will compete for four slots at the state competition. Volunteers at SUNY Ulster help judge and coordinate logistics of the event.

The regional competition is part of the nationwide Science Olympiad, one of the premiere science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to nearly 7,000 teams in 50 states. Science Olympiad's ever-changing line-up of events in all STEM disciplines exposes students to practicing scientists and career choices, and energizes classroom teachers with a dynamic content experience.

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COVERED DISH
SUPPER

SUNDOWN
METHODIST
CHURCH

Church Hall
Feb. 1, 2014
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 p.m.

Grahamsville
United
Methodist
Church

Thrift Sale
& Soup Lunch
Feb. 15, 2014
9 am - 1 pm

Fellowship Hall
Rt. 55, Grahamsville, NY

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Worship Service 9:30 A.M.

Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor

845-985-7480

Letters to the Editor:**Letter to the Editor - An Opinion**

We Americans are facing a catastrophic breakdown of our monetary system. People are now becoming aware of this after losing their jobs, or homes in foreclosure, and facing increased effects of inflation and taxes. And inflation hasn't been fully played out yet!

There is a paradigm shift in the economy which started during previous administrations going back even to the Wilson, Roosevelt, Nixon and Johnson administrations.

Why and how did this happen? Well for one thing, you can blame the government and its politicians for the ever increasing spending habit they have with money they don't have. Next, Congress made a terrible mistake back in 1913 by creating the Federal Reserve Act (the FED). Roosevelt seized our Gold in 1933, and Nixon closed the Gold window internationally in 1971, - but we still had good money in till 1964 when Silver was withdrawn from circulation. Since then our money has no backing and is just printed paper or keyboard entry bank deposits. This so-called Money is created two ways: - by borrowing it, or by creating it out of nothing. Our borrowing also has been exhausted and we now resort to printing it. We don't have any real money since our Gold and Silver stock has been exhausted or compromised. We don't know how much we have or if any at all as an audit has not been made since the Eisenhower administration. Our politicians have allowed this to happen and are directly responsible for the results we now experience. What is the solution? Is the solution the same old tired use of deficit spending and borrowing, or printing money? No! The solution remains with resolving the currency, the US Dollar, in terms of real Gold and Silver money.

What is necessary to correct this? First, all present mortgages must be adjusted so that Americans don't lose true equity in their homes and businesses. All debts will have to be adjusted in real terms. Next, the US Dollar must be defined in terms of Gold and Silver that the US Constitution requires. The Dollar must be backed by Gold. Only then can the monetary system be restored in any sensible way and America be brought back again to prosperity.

What can you do about it? First, get informed by researching the internet (not the Boob tube); then learn how the FED has stolen our wealth by creating assets out of thin air by printing money and making us debtors to international bankers. Join with liberty minded groups like the Tea Party, the Oathkeepers, Citizens for Liberty (C4L), FreedomWorks, or others. Once you understand all this then act upon it by insisting Congress repeal the Federal Reserve Act and put the money back in the peoples hands where it belongs. Until this happens we all will continue to suffer until our liberty and freedom is totally decimated. So put this on your do list now! May God bless America!

Submitted by: Paul Henderson,
257 Yeagerville Rd.,
Napanoch, NY

Letter to the Editor:

I have lived in Grahamsville for thirty-five years and have always marveled at the way our town highway department has taken care of the roads in bad weather. Like many other people in this area, I live on a hill and have never had a problem making it home. These employees and their supervisors are dili-

gent, reliable, and extremely professional. I am fortunate to live in an area that makes safety a priority.

Thank you.

Anita Jones
Grahamsville, NY

Safety Net Takeover Secure - Assemblymember Cahill Works With Local and Senate Officials To Get The Job Done

Assemblymember Kevin Cahill (D - Ulster, Dutchess) announced that with today's passage of Senate Bill S. 6296 by the New York State Senate, the stage is set for a complete takeover of local Safety Net costs by Ulster County later this year. The bill is the companion to Cahill's A. 7949B which passed the Assembly last week. The Assembly delivered the bill to Governor Cuomo and Assemblymember Cahill, along with other members of the Ulster County legislative delegation have urged the Governor to sign the bill into law as quickly as possible.

As a result of this legislation, the County of Ulster will now finance the Safety Net Program consistent with every other county in the state. The reinstatement of the temporary additional one percent sales tax county officials say they need is now conditioned upon the county certifying the takeover before January 1, 2015.

"I thank many of my Assembly and Senate colleagues for working diligently and moving this important legislation forward as quickly as they did," said Cahill. "It was a long road, but now we can pause and reflect on this will correct an unfair funding mechanism."

Contrary to earlier false reports, the delay was not related to substance or form of the bill's language, which had been examined and approved during drafting by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. This legislation was set to be passed on Wednesday but was held up when some members of the Senate wanted to consider adding separate provisions which would affect New York City's ability to collect income taxes.

"Ulster County Legislature Chairman John Parete contacted me about the Senate issues yesterday and asked that I approach Temporary President and Majority Coalition Leader Jeff Klein to expedite consideration and to separate it from any New York City issues. I acted quickly and spoke personally with Senator Klein yesterday and conveyed to him the importance of the Safety Net provision and the tight timeline for passage. He understood the need for a swift enactment and was grateful for an explanation of the unique circumstances of Ulster's Safety Net financing. As a result, Leader Klein agreed to expedite the bill in the Senate on Thursday.

"I applaud Chairman Parete for rising above the endless stream of negative rhetoric coming from the County Executive and reaching out to get this legislation passed. I am always willing to work with officials at any level regarding matters of state and local importance. This is proof that the government operates in the public's best interest when good people come to the table to do the people's business," said Cahill.

Local elected leaders and stakeholders from across Ulster County voiced support for the bill:

-- John Parete, Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature said, "This has been a long and arduous process, but when the dust settles ultimately we want to make sure the people get the best government possible. The clear beneficiaries of this action are the towns and municipalities who will no longer be burdened by the cost of something for which the County should have always assumed responsibility. I thank Kevin Cahill and everyone else who worked hard to

make this happen."

-- James Quigley, Supervisor of the Town of Ulster said, "I want to thank Assemblymember Cahill for supporting the towns and correcting this injustice that has impacted our budgets so greatly."

-- David Donaldson, Ulster County Legislator said, "This action is a long time coming. I have been attempting to get the County to take over the cost of the Safety Net Program for nearly 15 years. I applaud Assemblyman Cahill for continuing to fight for what is best for the people he serves. Ulster County will finally join every other county in New York in absorbing the cost rather than passing it on to our municipalities."

-- Joseph G. Croce, Supervisor of the Town of Plattekill said, "I am thankful that the cost of the Safety Net Program will no longer be a financial burden for the Town of Plattekill."

-- Diane McCord, Town of Esopus Councilwoman said, "I am thankful that in the end perseverance and persistence paid off. The Town of Esopus in particular will benefit greatly from this action and I am happy to see that the County and municipalities are now heading in the right direction."

-- Jeremy Wilber, Supervisor Town of Woodstock said, "I am very happy that everything has been resolved and life in the County will go on."

-- Merle Borenstein, anti-hunger and animal activist said, "Thanks to this legislation Safety Net recipients will no longer be forgotten and placed in motel rooms unfit for long-term living. The County will now have a good reason to provide jobs to those who are able and want to work and agencies like Family of Woodstock will be able to run effective and efficient operations."

"Last spring I pledged to all concerned that I would work to correct this injustice, no matter what the cost to me personally. I am proud of this accomplishment and grateful to all who worked to make it happen," The Assemblymember concluded. Assemblymember Cahill represents several towns and the City of Kingston in Ulster County and the towns of Rhinebeck and Red Hook in Dutchess County.

Companies Agree to Stop Collecting Illegal Interest, Pay Penalties and Restitution- Schneiderman: This Agreement Will Provide Relief To Thousands Of New York Consumers

NEW YORK - Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today announced that his office has reached a settlement agreement with Western Sky Financial, LLC, CashCall, Inc., WS Funding, LLC, and their owners, Martin Webb and J. Paul Reddam, for violations of New York's usury and licensed lender laws in connection with personal loans they made over the Internet. Under the terms of the settlement, the companies and their owners will cease collecting interest on outstanding loans made by Western Sky to New York consumers, provide refunds to New York borrowers who have paid back more than the principal of their loan plus the legal interest rate of 16%, and pay \$1.5 million in penalties.

The companies charged New Yorkers annual rates of interest ranging from 89% to more than 355%. These interest rates far exceed the maximum rate allowed under New York law, which is limited to 16% for most lenders not licensed by the state. None of the companies that were sued were licensed in New York.

"With this agreement, thousands of New Yorkers exploited by Western Sky and CashCall will get

the relief they are owed," said Attorney General Schneiderman. "As individuals in New York and across the country continue to face tough economic times, we must keep up the fight against those who exploit and scam them. Illegal collectors and lenders, in particular, must pay a price for their behavior and pay back the New Yorkers they harmed."

Under the terms of the settlement, Western Sky, CashCall, and related companies will modify all outstanding loans Western Sky made to New York consumers. The companies will cease all collections from New York consumers who have paid more than the principal of the loan, and cease all collections of interest from all other New York consumers. In all, the settlement could provide more than \$35 million in debt relief to New Yorkers. A proposed order and judgment reflecting the terms of the settlement has been submitted to the court.

The settlement also creates a settlement fund, managed by Ken Feinberg of Feinberg Rozen LLP, to distribute refunds to New York consumers who have paid more than the principal of their loan plus the legal interest rate of 16%. Consumers who are eligible for a refund will be contacted by the fund administrator within 90 days of the court's approval of the settlement and asked to submit a claim.

Respondents are also required to stop their illegal lending practices and stop lending to people in the State of New York until they comply with New York State law and are properly licensed. The parties will also pay a penalty of \$1.5 million to the Attorney General's Office.

The companies, located in South Dakota and California, targeted vulnerable New Yorkers through television and internet advertising that promised "fast cash" to consumers in urgent need of money. The companies took advantage of these customers by charging extremely high interest rates that were above New York State's usury caps. For example, consumers who received loans of \$1,000 were charged an interest rate of more than 234%, and had to repay as much as \$4,942 in interest and principal over just two years.

New York borrowers who questioned the legality of these loans were falsely told by the companies that New York law did not apply. Some consumers were also targeted with deceptive debt collection calls in further violation of New York law.

Since 2010, the companies have made more than 18,000 loans to New York consumers, lending nearly \$40 million in principal.

Many who fall victim to short-term, high interest rate loans are individuals with rising debt and few financial alternatives. These people are least able to secure traditional forms of credit. New York State has some of the toughest lending laws in the nation. New York's civil usury law prohibits most non-bank lenders that are not licensed by New York State from charging more than 16% interest on small unsecured loans. Lenders that are licensed by New York cannot charge more than 25% under New York's criminal usury laws. Lenders that set up shop out of state, overseas, or on tribal lands in an attempt to evade state regulation are still subject to New York laws when lending to New York consumers.

New York consumers that have questions about the agreement can call the Attorney General's Consumer Helpline at: (800) 771-7755.

The case was handled by Assistant Attorneys General Jordan Adler and Clark Russell, under the supervision of Bureau of Consumer Frauds and Protection Chief Jane M. Azia and Executive Deputy Attorney General for Economic Justice Karla G. Sanchez.

Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Department

www.townofneversink.org
(845) 985-2262 extension 312

January & February - Every Sunday (1/5, 12, 19, 26 & 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23) **Skiing/Snow-boarding- Holiday Mtn** 10 am - 5 pm

Feb. 7 **Family Game & Pizza** - 5:30 pm at Daniel Pierce Library Community Room. \$5 TVCS students & residents/\$12 per family non-residents. Must be paid by Jan. 28.

March 2 - **Beauty & the Beast** Leave Town Hall at 1:15 return approx. 8:30 pm. \$28 TVCS students & Neversink Residents/\$53. non residents.

May 3 - **Ringling Bros Barnum & Bailey Circus.** Leave Town Hall 1 pm return approx. 8:30 pm. \$25/Neversink Residents & Tri-Valley Students; \$40 non residents. Must be paid by Tuesday, March 18.

June 7 - **Botanical Gardens & Lunch** - Leave Town Hall 8 am. Must be 21 yrs old to attend. Includes garden buffet. \$40/Neversink Residents-\$80 non-residents. Must be paid by Tuesday, March 25

FREE FUN every FRIDAY afternoon 1- 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Tow 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.

VETERANS always **Free** search of the Archives for family or history of Sullivan County at the **Sullivan County Museum**, 265 Main St., Hurleyville, NY. For information call 845-434-8044.

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

SUNY Ulster Students Join Campaign to Reduce Distracted Driving

As Governor Andrew Cuomo cracks down on distracted driving among teens in New York, SUNY Ulster students are leading others in the campaign to stop driving while texting and/or talking on cell phones.

At an event on Jan. 29 to kick-off the spring semester, students can experience the dangers of distracted driving by trying a computerized driver simulator; and participating in "Distract O Match" activities that lets them attempt to perform driving tasks while texting or otherwise being distracted.

Students also will sign cards pledging "It Can Wait" and representatives will be on campus from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, which provides grant funding to SUNY for Comprehensive Community Traffic Safety Programs in Ulster County. Student groups, including the Veteran's

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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- 2/1/14 Sundown Methodist Church **Covered Dish Supper** - 5:30 pm Church Hall
- 2/2/14 Woodbourne Fire Dept **Annual Pancake Breakfast** 7 am - 12 noon Woodbourne Fire House 796-8820
- 2/4/14 **Tri-Valley Lion's Gift Card/Gift Certificate Raffle** (see pg 13 for information to purchase raffle tickets)
- 2/4/14 Town of Denning Town Board Meeting 7:00 pm Town of Denning Town Hall
- 2/5/14 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting- 7:00 pm
- 2/11/14 Town of Denning Town Board Business Meeting 7:00 pm Town of Denning Town Hall
- 2/12/14 Town of Neversink Board Meeting - 7:30 pm
- 2/13/14 Dept. of Motor Vehicles Neversink Town Hall 10:00 am - 2:30 p.m
- 2/15/14 **Grahamsville United Methodist Church Thrift Sale Only** (9am-1pm) (also Soup Lunch)
- 2/16/14 Claryville Fire Dept. **All You Can Eat Presidents' Day Pancake Breakfast** - 7 am to Noon.
- 2/17/14 Grahamsville Fire Dist. Board of Fire Commissioners - 7:00 pm
- 2/17/14 Town of Neversink Holiday - **PRESIDENTS' DAY**
- 2/18/14 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals - 7:30 pm
- 2/20/14 Neversink Fire District Meeting at 7 p.m.; Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 3/1/14 Sundown Methodist Church **Covered Dish Supper** - 5:30 pm Church Hall
- 3/13/14 Dept. of Motor Vehicles Neversink Town Hall 10:00 am - 2:30 p.m

Save the Date!

July 12, 2014- 10 am- 3 pm **Community Yard Sale Craft & Vendor Fair** - Grahamsville Fairgrounds. Spots \$15 a piece. Rain or Shine. Free Admission & Parking. All welcome!

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

- VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake) •
- WOODBOURNE - CITGO STATION • MO'S GAS STATION • P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE
- LIBERTY - LIBERTY FITNESS • CHARLIE'S PIZZA • AGWAY (Liberty) • J.B. MAK (Liberty) JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY
- SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP LIBERTY SHOPRITE • ELLENVILLE SHOPRITE DR. LONSTEIN'S OFFICE
- GRAHAMSVILLE DELI EUREKA MARKET & CAFE **LOCATIONS in the TOWN OF OLIVE & SHANDAKEN** MATTHEW'S PHARMACY
- CANNIE D'S Joma Cafe (West Shokan) • Boiceville IGA • Boiceville Florist • Reservoir Music • Snyder's ELLENVILLE CITGO
- BLUE HILL LODGE Phoenixia Hardware • Phoenixia Pharmacy • Phoenixia Deli • Mama's Boy • Brio's • Emerson Resort NAPANOCH APPLIANCE
- 3 GOLDENS Big Indian Market & Deli • Colonial Inn Pine Hill • Pine Hill Community Center PETER'S MARKET

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Unless otherwise noted, all **Town Board meetings** are held at the Town Meeting Hall, Bostock Road, Shokan at **7:00 pm.** Town Board Meetings are the **second Tuesday of each month** with the **audit/workshop meetings** being held the **Monday preceding the second Tuesday.**

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.

Club, Student Government Organization (SGO) and student aides from Health and Safety/Continuing Education, are leading the efforts to encourage their peers to drive safer by having driver safety activities at student events.

Cuomo has proposed tough new measures intended to keep dangerous drivers off the road by taking their licenses. The governor wants a one-year license suspension for anyone under 21 caught texting while driving.

In his annual state address, Cuomo said texting remains the chief cause of young drivers' fatal crashes despite previous measures and penalties against it.

February is National Career & Tech Month

LIBERTY: Career and Technical Education (CTE) has a long and rich history in the United States. CTE Programs have evolved from a limited number of vocational programs into a broad system that encompasses a variety of challenging fields in diverse subject areas, which are constantly evolving due to the changing global economy.

Today's CTE provides students: Career pathways that link secondary and post-secondary education; Academic subject matter taught with relevance to the real world; Employability skills, from job-related skills to workplace ethics; Education for additional training and degrees, especially related to workplace training, skills upgrades and career advancement; Second-chance education and training

Studies have shown that high school students who attend career and technical training during high school demonstrate higher levels of success in post-secondary education and employment. During a time when many college students can't find a job after graduation, this group of high school seniors is catching the eyes of future employers.

In Sullivan County, 33% of high school juniors and seniors attend the Career and Technical Education Center

at Sullivan BOCES. Even though each student chooses to enter their respective CTE program for a different reason, they are laying the groundwork to a successful future whether their path leads them to college or straight into the workforce.

The CTE Program at BOCES offers high school students the opportunity to learn job skills through instruction and hands-on experience in eighteen different career and tech programs, as well as a pre-tech career exploration program. Each program enables students to learn the essentials for a specific career or trade while meeting industry and learning standards, giving them the edge over other job seekers.

Among the wide variety of programs offered at the Career & Tech Center are: Animal Science, Auto Body, Auto-motive Technology, Broadband Aca-demy, Community Based Work Pro-gram, Computer Networking, Con-struction Technology, Cosmetology, CORE, Culinary Arts, Precision Mach-ining Technology, Early Childhood Education, Health Occupations, Internet Business and Web Design, Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN), Natural Resources, New Vision Animal Science, New Vision Health, and Public Safety Services.

Upon successful completion of an approved two-year CTE program, students may earn up to three credits towards graduation in English, Math or Science. All CTE programs provide Technical English/Language Arts, which meets the requirements for English 12 and Career & Financial Management, which is also a required NYS graduation requirement. Most programs offer Technical Math and Technical Science as well.

All of our SED approved programs include articulation agreements with colleges or trade schools. This affords successful students the opportunity to earn credit toward an associ-

ate or bachelor degree while still in high school, which is a significant financial savings for parents/students. Upon completion, students enter the workforce, participate in apprenticeships, continue in post-secondary programs and/or enter the military.

The Career & Tech Center at Sullivan BOCES strives to work with students to help them transform into responsible, qualified professionals. We pride ourselves in preparing the youth of our county so they are able to continue to college or go out into the workforce to become our leaders of tomorrow.

For more information on the programs available through the Career and Technical Education Center visit our website at [www.scboeces.org](http://www.scbooces.org) or call 295-4152.

Allen M. Browne Show at ERH Healing Arts Gallery (From Pg. 2)

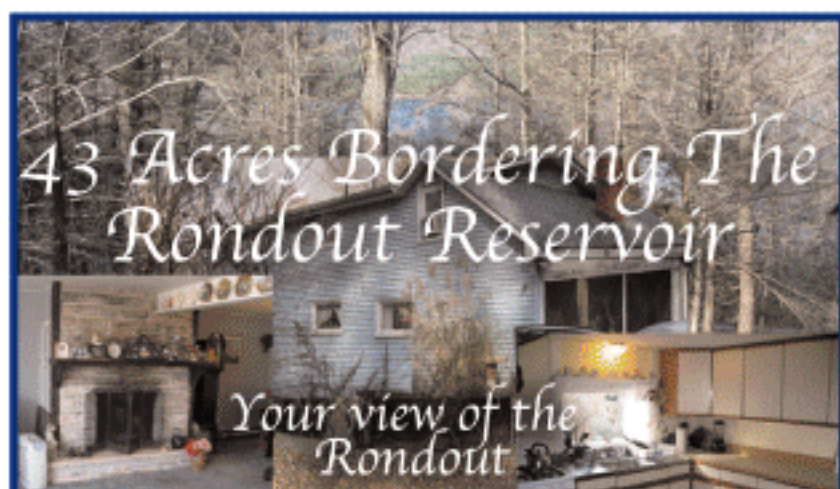
Through the years of searching for the right image at the right time, something occurred to him - what he began to see was "Man's intrusions" (civilized attempts) at remaking the planet by showing what "He" could accomplish. Now, in the main, much of "Man's" efforts have provided a wealth of architectural excellence that he has photographed.

That has been Browne's target of opportunity. His creative philosophy informs him "the what, where, when and how", these visions provide the subject matter. Because his selection process and reach demand the highest quality he can produce - It is here that he begins his work.

Ellenville Regional Hospital is located on Route 209 in Ellenville. For more information about the Healing Art exhibit or the Ellenville Regional Hospital, please contact (845) 647-6400.



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- 2BR/2BA cottage w/sunroom, stream, sunny deck, front porch near Mongaup Pond in Livingston Manor. \$199k
- Charming 4BR + cottage on 100 acs w/stream. \$299,000
- REDUCED Private 3BR/2BA cabin w/grt room, deck, finished walk-out basmt/apt/guest quarters, on 2+acres \$229k
- UNDER CONTRACT 108 acs with 3 BR farmhouse. \$425k
- SOLD Bright 5 BR/3BA contemp log home on 3.5 acs.
- Cute 2BR seasonal cabin on 3 acs w/fpl, screened prch \$99k

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Located on a quiet country road, this charming **two-story Cape Cod** includes kitchen, living room, dining room, spacious den w/ fireplace, lots of windows, red oak floors throughout and a large yard adjacent to DEP/NYC land. Best school district in Sullivan County . 1,700 sq ft. Total Taxes: \$2,500./Yr. \$150,000. (845) 985-0370

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The economy is still in rough shape and so are our pocketbooks!! In order to help our readers who may have an item or a few items they wish to sell, we are once again offering affordable advertising during the months of February and March.

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If you have an item(s) that you would like to sell and list in *The Townsman*, send your listing of 10 words or less for each item along with your check (\$1 per item, per week) payable to:

The Townsman, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740 or drop it in the Drop Box at the Grahamsville 1st Aid Building.

You may email your information, but the ad will not be published until payment is received.

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Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia

MR. SMITH GOES TOWASHINGTON
 (Drama, 1939)



Corruption in politics, an idealistic Senate replacement takes on political corruption. Director, Frank Capra Cast: Jean Arthur, James Stewart, Jean Arthur, Claude Rains, Edward Arnold, Guy Kibbee, Thomas Mitchell, Eugene Pallette, Beulah Bondi, Harry Carey, H. B. Warner, Charles Lane, Porter Hall, Jack Carson. Stewart is young idealist who finds nothing but corruption in U.S. Senate. Fine Capra Americana, with Stewart's top performance bolstered by Arthur as hard-boiled dame won over by earnest Mr. Smith, and a stellar supporting cast; Carey is magnificent as the Vice President. Brilliant script by Sidney Buchman; however, Lewis R. Foster's Original Story received the Oscar.

See this film on TCM.3:45 PM PM, Sunday evening, January 30, 2014, C-130 min, Rated TV-G,

- Quiz:** 1. Who played the President of the Senate?
 2. Who played Chick McGann?

What's Going On In The Gnome Neighborhood™ This Week? -

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM'S GALLERY LINK

Gallery Link hosts monthly exhibits by local artists, a permanent collection of paintings by Cragmoors artists and display cases with historic exhibits of local culture and industry. Year-round, Monday - Thursday, 10am - 8pm; Friday, 10am - 5pm; Saturday, 10am. 40 Center Stree Ellenville 845-647-5530

HURLEYVILLE - FALLSBURG

SULLIVAN COUNTY DRAMATIC WORKSHOP

The SCDW announces open auditions for "Holy Holy Holy" - an original play written and directed by Bill Duncan. The play will be presented May 02, 03 & 04, 2014, at the Rivoli Theatre. Auditions will be Saturday and Sunday February 1 & 2, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. at the Sullivan County Museum, 265 Main Street, in Hurleyville, NY. (Snow dates, February 8 & 9). If you are unable to make it to the auditions, call Bill Duncan at 434-7134 to set up an appointment.

Ancient Order of Hibernians

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(A worth while project feed the hungry)

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) is the oldest Catholic lay organization in America. Officially formed in New York in 1836, the local AOH Chapter keeps the culture alive with the annual Hooley on the Hudson(tm) Celtic Celebration every September and has established the Feed the Hungry Project to help combat those who are less fortunate. for donations please contact, PO Box 2026, Kingston, 845-338-6622

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ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA
 1. Harry Carey
 2. Eugene Pallette