

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES ABOUND IN HURLEYVILLE

HURLEYVILLE — It will be a busy December in Hurleyville, starting with a festive new family-friendly event, Holiday in Hurleyville, on Saturday, Dec. 2.

The businesses of Main Street have come together to plan a day of shopping, arts and live music to kick off the holiday season in style. The bustle will continue throughout the month with ongoing exhibits, a holiday cabaret and a winter solstice celebration.

Free activities for Holiday in Hurleyville will begin at 11 a.m., Dec. 2, up and down Main Street. The Sullivan County Historical Society will have its annual holiday open house and a theme tree exhibit at the Sullivan County Museum. Fiber on Main is hosting a pop-up shop for Buck Brook Alpacas, a Roscoe farm and fiber operation that raises alpacas and produces hypoallergenic yarn. The fuzzy animals will be visiting Hurleyville as well, set up for children's visits outside the store.

Community members can admire—and buy—their talented neighbors'



PHOTO BY J. JAMES WALL

The second annual Hurleyville Community Winter Solstice Celebration will be on Thursday, Dec. 21, with activities starting at 4 p.m.

work at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance's "Radius Hurleyville" show in Gallery 222, alongside a makers market where members of the Hurleyville Makers Lab will sell their creations. The Hurleyville Arts Centre will host two free performances by Main Street Dance, and offer free yoga sampler and essential oils classes in the afternoon. Sullivan County Historian John Conway will give visitors a taste of Hurleyville's fascinating cultural and natural history in a guided walk along the paved Hurleyville rail trail at 1 p.m. Families can

visit the Hurleyville Makers Lab for kids' crafts, a festive photo booth and Christmas train displays.

Handmade and local gifts will be for sale throughout town, and food and drink specials will be offered at the Hurleyville Market, Frankie and Johnny's and the Pickled Owl. There will be live music performances by a variety of popular local artists, including David Rosenberg, Debbie Fisher-Palmarini, Paul Kean, Lee B. Karasik "The Great Kazoo," Alan Sorensen, Kevin McDaniel, and Lion Zen, on a Party Master stage in the

center of town. Down the road at SUNY Sullivan, there will be doubleheader men's and women's basketball games.

The official lighting of the community tree will occur at 4:30 p.m., followed by a Main Street Dance encore performance and then a \$5 showing of "It's a Wonderful Life" with popcorn at 7:30 p.m. at H.A.C.

One week later, Hurleyville Arts Centre is hosting the Forestburgh Playhouse Holiday Cabaret on Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

The second annual Hurleyville Community Winter Solstice Celebration will be on Thursday, Dec. 21, with activities starting at 4 p.m. One mile of the Rail Trail will be lined with luminaria to usher in the beginning of winter. There will be a fire pit and acoustic music at the trailhead, and community members will read winter poetry on the trail. Live music, hot apple cider and films will be in the Hurleyville Arts Centre.

FALLSBURG LAUNCHES DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM

by Amanda Loviza

SOUTH FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Central School District may be small, but it's not lacking in diversity. About half of the district's students identify as Spanish/Latino, and 15 percent of the population are English Language Learners (ELL). That's more than twice the language learners the district had a decade and a half ago, and for several years it has been clear the district needed more resources for these students.

When faced with state requirements to accommodate the high percentage of language learners, Fallsburg decided to craft a program with the potential to benefit all students. This fall, Benjamin Cosor Elementary kicked off a Dual Language Program for kindergarten and first grade, offering students the opportunity to be in classes that alternate between days of English instruction and days where they are taught in Spanish. Forty students in first grade and 37 kindergarteners have enrolled in the first year of the dual language program, receiving half their lessons in each language. Just over half the students in the program are ELL, while a third are native English speakers with no Spanish proficiency and the rest are already bilingual in the two languages. In this new program, students from both language backgrounds are building the foundation of



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kindergarten teacher Veronica Serrano, who teaches her students in Spanish as part of Fallsburg Central School District's new Spanish dual language program, leads an activity in the classroom.

bilingualism.

Research shows that being bilingual has a multitude of benefits. From sharpening decision making skills and the ability to focus on a task to later preventing dementia, bilingualism improves a variety of cognitive skills, Fallsburg Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz discussed. Practically speaking, in the U.S. there are also a lot of jobs that seek individuals fluent in both English and Spanish. Fallsburg is thinking beyond graduation day, toward helping students develop skills that will lead to good careers and increased earning potential.

"There's going to be a lot more doors opened to students down the road because of this opportunity," Dr. Katz said.

In the classroom, Spanish first grade teacher Jeanne Espinoza said it's been amazing to see ELL students open up and start participating in

class more now that they can express their ideas more effectively using their native language. The same goes for parents, Spanish kindergarten teacher Veronica Serrano said. Spanish-speaking parents who were unable to help their children with schoolwork are now excited to be involved.

"I think they feel more part of our school community now," Ms. Serrano said.

It's been a huge growing experience for all the students, even in just a few months. The English speaking students have lost their deer-in-headlights look during Spanish class. For the Spanish students, Ms. Serrano said it is wonderful to see ELL students, who have been the "other," now stepping forward and being role models to the other students, helping non-Spanish speakers learn their language.

Parents of the students from

both language backgrounds have been enthusiastic in their support of the dual language program. Ms. Espinoza said she had an English speaking mother recently express her appreciation and amusement that her child now reads better in Spanish than in English, because she wants to do all her reading in Spanish. It's a real benefit to both groups to learn two languages, first grade English teacher Dominick Scanna said.

The four dual language program teachers are lucky school administrators are letting them "steer the ship," kindergarten English teacher Scott Persten said. They have the freedom to be flexible and creative, and to help shape a program that will continue to grow and benefit students for years to come.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Matthew Evans, who has been the driving force behind the dual language program, called it one of the most rewarding things he's done, personally and professionally.

Support for the program, from staff and families, has been overwhelmingly positive, Dr. Katz said, and the district will seek to expand the program.

"The drive behind this is knowing down the road that this will make a difference in the lives of kids," Dr. Katz said.

"SUPER STORIES" SELLS OUT HURLEYVILLE ARTS CENTRE

An "Aisle Seat" review by Lori Schneider



PHOTO BY AMANDA LOVIZA

From left, storytellers Peter Aguero, Ophira Eisenberg and Adam Wade present "Super Stories: Stories of Resiliency" in a sold-out Hurleyville Arts Centre on Nov. 4.

Ophira Eisenberg, Adam Wade and Peter Aguero captivated with storytelling prowess that had the audience hanging on every humorous and heartfelt word. The three have been working together for years and their camaraderie shows. They've all performed on the Moth Radio Hour on NPR and have toured North America with The Moth Mainstage. Moth Radio debuted in 2009 and is a Peabody Award-winning weekend afternoon staple airing on over 450 public radio stations.

The three performers each have a totally different style, look and delivery and yet, they complement each other beautifully with a fresh, remarkable rapport. Peter Aguero, sporting a long braid and beard is brawny, tattooed and dressed in jeans and a short sleeved shirt. Ophira Eisenberg is dressed as if she might be going to a wedding, in sil-

ver heels and a sparkly, pleated dress. Adam Wade is conservatively clad in a corduroy sport jacket (with leather elbow patches) and glasses. Wade has nerdy nervousness and insecurity down to a science - from his demeanor to tentative speech patterns. Aguero's rich voice and self-deprecating humor turn on a dime to bring on misty eyes and a lump to the throat. Eisenberg's warmth and down-to-earth approach to storytelling show off her strengths and vulnerabilities.

Unlike most productions reviewed by Aisle Seat, performances at the Hurleyville Arts Centre are one-shot deals. So, while I can't say that this production has additional performances you can catch, what I can say is two-fold; keep an eye out for these versatile performers when they appear elsewhere, and keep an ear out for future events

coming to this wonderful, local venue (and book your tickets early!)

The Hurleyville Arts Centre is located at 219 Main Street in Hurleyville. For information about upcoming events, visit them online at hurleyvilleartscentre.org or call (845) 707-8047.

Lori Schneider, an actress and director in local theatre for more than 30 years, writes independent reviews of local dramatic performances for her Facebook page, Aisle Seat. For more reviews, visit Aisle Seat on Facebook.

"UBIQUITOUS LEGISLATOR" Looking forward to 2018

by John Conway

MONTICELLO-- During his first two years in office, Sullivan County Legislature Chairman Luis Alvarez has developed a reputation for being the ubiquitous Legislator.

"People tell me they've rarely seen a legislator this visible in the community," Mr. Alvarez, who represents District 6, which includes Hurleyville, says. "It's important to me to understand the needs and concerns around all of Sullivan County, which is why I show up at town and village board meetings and travel throughout the County."

Mr. Alvarez says he is proud of the fact that under his leadership the Legislature has been able to translate many of the concerns people have voiced into concrete accomplishments, making the county a better place in which to live and work.

For example, the Legislature scheduled two public forums allowing residents to comment on the recommendations of the Charter Review Commission, two of which—adopting a County Executive form of government and staggering the terms of Legislators—seem to be on the minds of many. The hearings are a first step toward submitting the proposed changes to a public vote, which could come as early as November of 2018.

Mr. Alvarez says the Legislature has a number of high profile accomplishments, such as the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Legislature Chairman Luis Alvarez looks forward to 2018.

construction of the new jail and working with County Manager Josh Potosek to bring on much-needed new staff, and plenty of less visible achievements, including:

- Creation of an Addiction Referral Line
- Joining suit against pharmaceutical companies who unscrupulously peddle opioids
- Live broadcasting of monthly full Legislature meetings
- Participating in Sullivan 180 health partnership
- Advocating for and supporting EMS/fire volunteers, including EMS Roundtable
- Quickly and effectively responding to flooding in Livingston Manor
- Renovating and updating Government Center's heating, ventilation, lighting and sidewalks
- Strengthening the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) into a statewide role

model

He also cites improved relationships with SUNY Sullivan and with county employees, and feels as if the county government has become more open and welcoming in general.

While he has focused much of his energy on being a quiet, effective leader, Mr. Alvarez has also managed several noteworthy accomplishments as an individual, including his appointment in September to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties. He also points to the relationship he has developed with Governor Cuomo and his staff, with whom he regularly communicates in order to ensure the county's needs are heard and understood.

Mr. Alvarez seems unafraid to try things that few other Chairmen have attempted, including delivering his State of the County address in person to each of the county's 15 towns and making himself available to discuss county issues and initiatives every week on the radio.

Mr. Alvarez, who speaks fluent Spanish, has worked to increase participation in the governmental process of the county's growing Latino community, and has maintained his long running involvement in the Sheriff's office's DARE Program.

Still, he admits there is much work to be done. Mr. Alvarez produces a lengthy list of goals for 2018, headed by a concerted effort to improve on the county's

bottom-of-the-state rankings in health and wellness. Other initiatives include:

- Pouring \$10 million into bridge and road repairs/replacement, plus \$6 million for paving
- Increasing funding for local agencies involved in economic development
- Incentivizing cleanup of municipal blight
- Creating a Crisis Stabilization Center for the homeless and others
- Consolidating services as identified in the shared services initiative filed with the state
- Creating a program to financially assist towns and villages in worthy projects
- Partnering in the creation of a new Visitors Center
- Creating a Youth in Business/Government Program with Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce
- Renovations at the County Courthouse
- Replacing the Adult Care Center parking lot (and renaming the facility)
- Going as paperless as possible
- Planning for 50th anniversary of Woodstock in 2019

And Mr. Alvarez says his constituents can be sure he will remain visible and accessible.

"I want to hear what people have to say, and I want them to hear—and see—that it's not all about me but about all of us. That's my motto: 'Let's All Walk Together.'"

A Fiber Arts Studio hosting workshops for everyone, expanding the Makers Movement on Main Street.

FIBER ON MAIN
227 MAIN STREET
HURLEYVILLE NY, 12747
845.794.1400 - EXT. 6769

For registration, workshops and events listings:
www.hurleyvillemakerslab.org

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



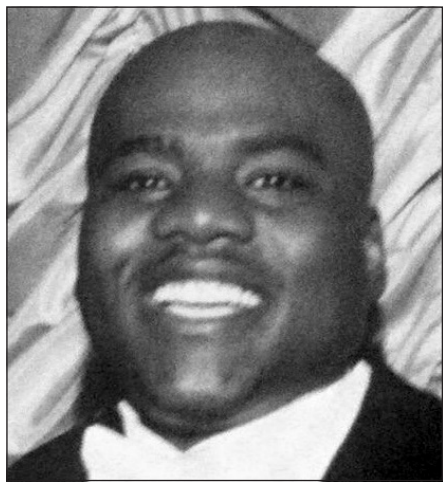
Q. What do you most look forward to or enjoy about the Christmas or holiday season?



Annie Cadden

"I always look forward to spending time with family and holiday traditions. And this year I am excited about taking part in the 'Holiday in Hurleyville' festivities."

"What I enjoy most about this time of year is giving. I enjoy giving to others; it can be gifts, or a kind word. That makes this time of year magical for me."



Sean Wall-Carty



Lily Mei (left) and Sarah Balmer

Lily Mei: "I look forward to my elf returning, to buying my family and friends presents, receiving presents and celebrating Jesus' birthday."

Sarah: "I look forward to time slowing down, helping to make wishes come true for less fortunate families, and being able to experience the wonder and magic of the season all over again through my daughter's eyes."



Morgan Van Keuren

"Christmas time just gives you this warm fuzzy feeling inside. It's the best time of the year."

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan




PHOTO BY LYNNIE PORTER

Members of the Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance continue to advocate for sustainable development by monitoring proposed developments throughout the towns of Thompson and Fallsburg.

The annual election of the Hurleyville Fire District will take place on Tuesday, December 12 from 6 until 9 p.m. at the Hurleyville Fire House. The purpose of the election is to elect one Commissioner for a five-year term, beginning on January 1, 2018, and ending on December 31, 2022. All voters registered with the Sullivan County Board of Elections on or before November 22, 2017, and residing within the Hurleyville Fire District are eligible to vote.

Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 21st Annual "Deck the Doors" Holiday Decorating Contest on Thursday, December 21. All holiday-decorated doors in the hamlet are eligible. The group will begin touring every road in Hurleyville at 6 p.m. and judge doors decorated for the holidays. Please make sure your lights are turned on. Winners of the contest will be awarded prizes provided by Hurleyville business owners and members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First. Hurleyville-Sullivan First meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hurleyville Firehouse. The meetings are open to everyone interested in the revitalization and beautification of Hurleyville. You can find Hurleyville-Sullivan First on Facebook and you can visit www.hurlevilleny.com for more information about Hurleyville and Hurleyville-Sullivan First.

The Sullivan County Museum will be decked out in holiday finery throughout the month of December. Holiday-themed trees, wreaths and exhibits created by individuals and organizations will be on display for everyone to enjoy. The Sullivan County Historical Society is now able to have its school yearbook collection digitized and made searchable. The free service is provided by Oklahoma Correction Industries to community organizations, including libraries and historical societies. OCI is a rehabilitation and jobs training program that is affiliated with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. The society currently has about 100 Sullivan County yearbooks ready to be digitized. There are gaps in the collection that the society would like to fill before shipping the yearbooks out for digitization: Fallsburg - 1951, 1958, 1965, 1968, 1972, 1973, 1980, 1983, and any before 1947 and after 1987. Liberty - 1943-1946, 1948, 1959, 1964, 1966, 1968-1974, 1976-1979, and any before 1942 and after 1980. Monticello - 1932, 1933, 1936-1938, 1941, 1965, 1969-1972, 1976, 1980 and any after 1983. Tri-Valley - 1959, 1962 and any before 1958 and after 1964. Delaware Valley - 1946, 1947, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1953, 1963 and any before 1945 and after 1968. Sullivan West - all years. Eldred - any before or after 1990. Roscoe - any before or after 1952. Livingston Manor - any before 1993 or after 1994. Jeff-Youngsville - any before or after 1949. Narrowsburg - 1962, 1963, any before 1961 and after 1964. Sullivan County Community College - any after 1974. Please contact the society if you have yearbooks you can donate to the collection. The society can be reached at 845-434-8044 or at genealogy@scnyhistory.org.

The museum also has a "gift shop" offering a collection of Sullivan County-related books, maps, posters, postcards and memorabilia. Anyone interested in volunteering to explore genealogy and the history of life in Sullivan County can call Pat Burns at the museum. The museum's phone number is 845-434-8044. The museum, located at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville, is open on from Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please visit www.scnyhistory.org for more information on the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Sullivan County Museum. All are welcome to attend Christmas Eve services at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 24 at 5:30 p.m. The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church is open each Thursday (except the first Thursday of each month) from 4:30 to 6 p.m. The volunteers at the food pantry also provide free clothing for families in need on the last Thursday of each month. Donations made to the food pantry now can help make the holidays more special for our neighbors. Services are held at the church each Sunday from 9 until 10 a.m. The church holds prayer meetings every Monday from 10 a.m. until noon. A Bible study group meets at the church every Tuesday from 7 until 8 p.m. Volunteers at the church host the Community Lunch Program. Dates for the program will be announced on the church's page on Facebook. The church hosts a Youth Group on Fridays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Young people are invited to join in a variety of activities including board games, trivia, movie nights, arts and crafts. Dates will be announced on the church's page on Facebook. Please call Katrina at 845-436-7942 for more information or if you can help with any of these activities. The members of Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance (CHNA) continue to monitor the status of the Gan Eden project on Columbia Hill and other developments in the towns of Fallsburg and Thompson. CHNA supports community growth through appropriately scaled, responsibly designed and sustainably constructed development. Irresponsible and large-scale development threaten our environment and our quality of life. Water supply, wastewater management, environmental impact, traffic, size of access roads, size of interior roads, community character and wildlife habitation are significant issues that must be considered before any development can be deemed sustainable and worthy of approval. Visit CHNA at www.columbiacounty.org or on Facebook for more information on the Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance. The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop will hold its annual holiday celebration at its winter home, the Sullivan County Museum at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville. Holiday shows will be presented on Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, December 10 at 1 p.m. The Children's Theatre Group will present "The Winter Holiday Show", a celebration of all holidays. The workshop will also continue its tradition of presenting a live radio play, "A Christmas Carol." Tickets for both shows cost \$10.00 and include coffee and dessert. Seating is limited. You can get your tickets early online at www.scdw.net or by calling 845-436-5336.

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville

by Jane Harrison



Welcome to the official "Holiday Season!" I must confess that the older I get, the more of a love/hate relationship I have with this time of year. It's joyous and wonderful, I love the lights and the decorations, the fact that everyone is filled with good cheer...just don't try driving anywhere! But I will be driving, as there are some wonderful things happening this December.

Straatsburgh, NY is definitely one of my destinations for A GILDED AGE CHRISTMAS at the Mills mansion. This, I'm sure, will be a marvelous adventure with a "wow" factor off the charts as one experiences the grandeur of what Christmas would have been like for the very wealthy of the era between the Civil War and WWI. The admission is reasonable, \$8 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors. This extravaganza runs through December 31. For more information, check out their Facebook page.

Chef Jamie at the Neversink General Store will be creating his own culinary extravaganza as he sets the menu for his catering of Christmas fare. Whether for ten, or just you (because you don't want to cook), Chef will accommodate. Go to their Facebook page or give Chef Jamie a call for more details. I will say this: if he offers Beef Wellington - I'm IN.

And speaking of extravaganzas, the Holiday in Hurleyville event is one I can walk to! From 11 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. on December 2, all of our favorite local performers will be on hand to provide the musical backdrop for the rest of the festivities, hosted in part by The Hurleyville Sentinel and two of my favorite places, The Pickled Owl and Fiber on Main.

Let me just say a few words about Fiber on Main. I first became acquainted with this through the Knit In, which Annie Cadden offers free to the public on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month. I have seen these grow from "everybody bring the project you're working on, be it knitting or crocheting" to a wonderful exchange of skills and ideas, where new friendships are formed and where experienced yarn workers like myself are allowed the ability to explore new things through the classes offered. I'm actually thinking about learning to spin my own yarn!!! Be sure you stop in and say hello during Holiday in Hurleyville! But only if you pet the Alpacas in the park FIRST!

Fridays:
Sorella: Jazz Standards with Defino and Ravdin, and great Italian food! 6-9 p.m., 3562 State Rte 55, Kauneonga Lake Cabernet Frank's, 38 Main St. (Exit 98 off 17W), Parksville; 8 p.m.

Dec 1: Handsome Johnny: A tribute to the late great Richie Havens (7:30 - 10 p.m.)

Dec 8: Little Sparrow (7 - 8 p.m.) and MIZ (8 - 10 p.m.). Put 2 stars by this and DO NOT MISS it!!!

Dec 15: Those Guys "Christmas Show" Modern Mountain music from 7:30 - 10 p.m.

Dec 22: The Johnny Jules Band; hot rockin' blues and a Dobro! (7:30 - 10 p.m.)

Every Saturday:
Sorella: Jazz Standards with Defino and Ravdin, 3562 State Rte 55, Kauneonga Lake; 6 - 9 p.m.

Saturday December 2: Holiday in Hurleyville with Lion Zen, Debbie Fisher, Alan Sorensen, Lee Karasik (The Great Kazoo), and many more! 11

a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Pickled Owl, 218 Main Street, Hurleyville; 6 - 9 p.m.

Dec 2: Chrissy Alventi (Acoustic Variety)

Dec 9: The Acquaintances (Jazz to Rock) Another show not to miss!!!

Dec 15: Those Guys (Modern Mountain)

Dec 23: Marc Delgado (Solo Acoustic)

Dec 30: Rare Form (Funk Rock)

Dec 31: New Year's Eve; Talking Machine (8 p.m. - ??)

Cabernet Frank's, 38 Main Street (Exit 98 off 17W), Parksville

Dec 2: Ruby Rae; The Berkeley Place calls it "Wonderfully Creepy" (you KNOW I'll be there!); 7:30 - 10 p.m.

Dec 9: The Barn Cats; Back by popular demand! 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Dec 16: Peter Florence & the New Kings; 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Check out their website, or give them a call for details on their New Year's Eve Bash!

Every Sunday
Music Where You Least Expect It: 11 a.m. - 1:30ish, DeFillipis Bakery, 506 Broadway, Monticello

The Dancing Cat Saloon: #ShineOn, Jazz Brunch, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Dancing Cat, 2037 State Rte 17B, Bethel

Every Monday
Dutch's Open Mic: 205 Rock Hill Dr, Rock Hill, 7 p.m.

Thursdays:
The Dead End Café, Parksville: Defino and Ravdin; Songs from the Great American (Jazz) Songbook

Thank you all for your patience and support. May your holidays be blessed and soul affirming.
And Happy New Year!!!!
Until next time...

FROM THE FARM

by Eve Springwood Minson



Now that days are short, there is time to be busy indoors without guilt that the outdoors needs attention. This time of year I enjoy taking care of things I've neglected for months, like houseplants that need repotting or getting new amaryllis bulbs and Paper-White Narcissus for a winter thrill! These also make lovely holiday gifts for your plant-loving pals.

If it's not too cold you can still clean up your bird feeders for winter by soaking in a tub with soap and then dunking in a dilute vinegar solution for an hour. Rinse off and hang. Most birds waste grain mixes looking for sunflower seed so I just feed sunflowers. Thistle seed is fed to finches in a thistle feeder. Birds also love suet, along with fruit and nuts, though the squirrels and chipmunks might get the fruit before the birds do, so I put out fruit and veggie trimmings for them in winter far from the bird seed.

If you are crafty you may have already made jams, salsas, herb-infused vinegars and oils for yourself and as holiday gifts. Make nice labels and put festive ribbons around jars and bottles. Other DIY holiday gifts include wreaths and holiday arrangements. Use evergreen boughs, dried branches of Winterberry, red and yellow-twig Dogwood and others which look great in

containers by your front door or painted silver or gold in arrangements. Place creatively into outdoor containers before the soil freezes along with juniper, cedar, curly willow, dried flowers and seed pods, pine cones and colored ribbons. Use only plastic containers outdoors in winter as pottery will crack and break when frozen.

If you saved culinary or tea herbs and dried flowers, you can

now work these into gift ideas. Friends will also love seeds from your favorite flowers. Write the name of the plant and year on the decorated envelope. There are many other fun winter DIY kitchen crafts you can now enjoy like soap-making or creating herbal salves or lip balms. You'll be so happy with what you've made with your own hands.
Happy holidays!

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.
Covering Main Street and Beyond

243 Main Street
Hurleyville, NY 12747
845-707-6000
hurleysent@hotmail.com
www.hurlevilliesentinel.com

Editor-in-Chief John Conway
Associate Editor Amanda Loviza
Sports Editor Angelee Santillo
Photo Editor J. James Wall

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Theresa Hamlin

AUTISM AND THE STRESS EFFECT

A 4-STEP LIFESTYLE APPROACH TO TRANSFORM YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND VITALITY

In "Autism and the Stress Effect," Dr. Theresa Hamlin, Associate Executive Director at The Center for Discovery, explores a revolutionary life-style approach to treating autism that can benefit the whole family.

TCFD USES GRANT TO STUDY HOW CREATIVE THERAPIES IMPROVE BRAIN HEALTH

by Amanda Loviza

HURLEYVILLE – Sometimes it's hard to see connections between scientific research and progress in everyday life. But a unique three-year grant at The Center for Discovery is allowing a team of creative specialists to implement a program that draws connections from neurological research to the creative activities many intuitively love to do, tracking how positive things like dance and gardening actually improve neurological health.

In residential care for children with disabilities, the federal government mandates enrichment activities, but many of those programs stop being funded once a person turns 21. The lack of funding often leads to severely reduced recreational therapies that are beneficial no matter what the person's age. Over the last 18 months, The Center has put together a team that includes a dance therapist, recreational therapist, music therapist and horticultural specialist, along with support staff like gardeners, musicians, dancers, and more, to work with a group of 28 residents who have some of the most complex disabilities and medical frailties at The Center. Through this intensive, creative program, TCFD is gathering ev-



PHOTO BY J. JAMES WALL
Visiting sound healer Ayi Mayzel, of Shanti Sounds, teaches staff at The Center for Discovery how to play crystal bowls for sound healing in a swimming pool. Sound healing in the water is one of many creative therapies The Center is tracking to monitor neurological benefits.

idence that "healing arts" are not just fun, but can also noticeably improve a person's neurological health.

There is often a misconception that when a person with disabilities cannot communicate in verbal sentences, "there's no one in there," dance therapist Jamie Yasgur said. That is completely false.

"This is a person with a personality," Ms. Yasgur said. With expanded resources under their current grant, the four therapists draw on their own creativity to improve the 28 residents' quality of life. A man who could only stand

and pivot from a wheelchair to another seat can walk for 20 minutes in a swimming pool. Listening to and feeling the vibrations of crystal bowl sound healing in that same swimming pool soothes a woman's anxiety. Another woman, who typically has a difficult time focusing, hones in on a dance lesson now that she has found her passion for dancing.

Nick Sherman, a music therapist, said it has been incredible to see residents able to express themselves, their joy and their anxieties, as they are given access to these

additional outlets.

"They have that canvas to express themselves, and it's one of the most important things you can ever do," Mr. Sherman said. "They need to express themselves just like everyone else."

These activities are not just "fun," though every person regardless of abilities deserves to have fun. Engaging in increased physical and creative activities, and finding a passion, is improving the residents' health. The Center is tracking clear improvements in the areas of social, cognitive, communication,

Bots to Battle at Fallsburg High School

FALLSBURG-- Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School will host the Second Annual Catskill New Bot Battle—VEX Robotics Competition on Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by the Fallsburg and SUNY Sullivan Robotics Teams. It has been moved to the High School gymnasium in order to make room for new teams from the area, and additional teams from throughout New York State. Admission is free for spectators.

VEX Robotics Competitions focus on teamwork and problem solving through STEM-based education. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Educators are advocating for renaming STEM to add Art and Design, making the new acronym STEAM.

There are currently over 180 robotics teams in New York State. That is 60 more teams than last year, with more to come. The Fallsburg and Monticello teams will both be adding additional teams in December. While most New York teams are concentrated in the Albany, Syracuse, Binghamton, and NYC areas, the Catskill New Bot Battle is an opportunity for all of the teams in these areas to get together with

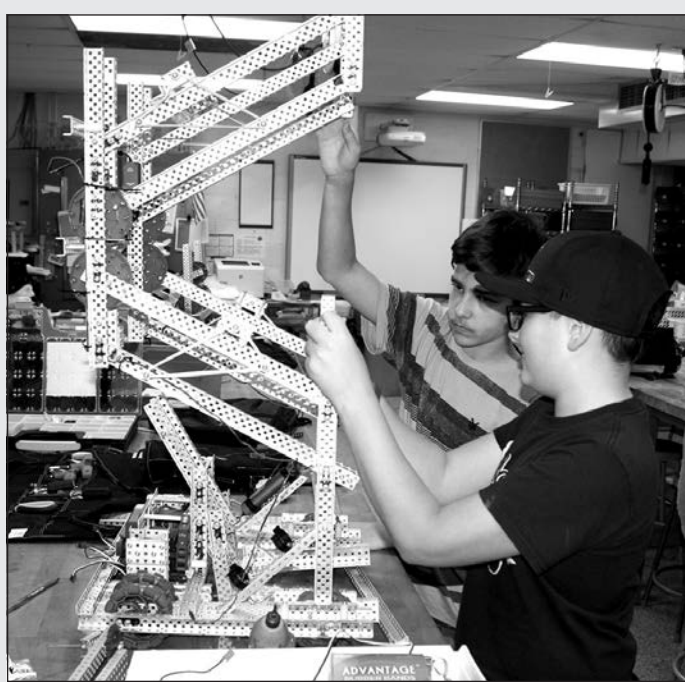


PHOTO PROVIDED
Seventh graders Michael Storms (background) and Hunter Doty (foreground) prepare their robot for the December 2 competition.

minimal travel. This strengthens the ability of all New York teams to compete in this world-wide competition. This competition encourages other local schools to start and grow their own programs. For example, Minisink Valley has gone from zero teams to six in the past three years.

The students at Fallsburg have learned team-building, communication, project management, coding, engineering and mechan-

ical skills as they have prepared for and competed successfully in events around New York State.

To find out more about the competition or to see how you and your business can support these young people who are bringing international recognition to the Fallsburg and Sullivan County communities, contact Mr. Don Thomas at 845-434-6800 or dthomas@fallsburgcsd.net.

Good Health and Good Company Highlight Benjamin Cosor Thanksgiving

FALLSBURG--Thanksgiving was a great time for creativity, learning and celebration at Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School this year. Student paintings of turkeys and brightly colored autumn scenes filled the hallways.

Second grade teacher Leah Exner made a giant "turkey" from fruits and vegetable at home. In the classroom, Mrs. Exner combined eating healthy foods with a math lesson. Supported by FCSD teaching assistant Cynthia Swinden, the children were shown the giant turkey as well as images of vegetable turkeys on the classroom smartboard. The class went through skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s before writ-

ing the numbers in their writing journals.

Then, they were given a tray of vegetables and fruits to create their own individual turkey. While creating the turkeys, the students noted how many vegetables they had been given to use and they were also given two step problems in addition and subtraction to solve that were built around vegetable and fruit vocabulary.

Later in the afternoon of November 21, the Dual Language Kindergarten classes of Ms. Veronica Serrano and Mr. Scott Persten had a delicious Thanksgiving feast that was lovingly prepared at home by the teachers, assistants and aides. The meal included a huge roasted turkey, gravy,



PHOTO PROVIDED
Second graders in Mrs. Leah Exner's class with Teaching Assistant Ms. Cynthia Swinden holding up the vegetarian turkey Mrs. Exner made at home.

mashed potatoes, candied yams, rolls, corn, cranberry sauce, stuffing and desserts.

The children sat patiently at festively adorned tables while the teaching staff served each student. It was an opportunity to enjoy traditional American Thanksgiving food, converse in English and Spanish and enjoy being a family on this special day of thanks.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Two tables of Dual Language Kindergarten students await the serving of the Thanksgiving Feast by teachers and staff.

FCSD STUDENTS PERFORM



PHOTO PROVIDED
On Friday, November 17 and Saturday, November 18, three Fallsburg High School students were selected to perform in the Zone 9 Area All-State Band and Mixed Chorus at Tri-Valley High School. Pictured are (standing, left to right) Fallsburg Students Elisabeth Lake, Guillermo Grandos, and Brittany Lent and Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School Band Director Ms. Danna Clear (seated left) and FJSHS Choral Director Mrs. Colleen Barber (seated right).

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Peace on Earth
The SCDW Children's Theatre
The Winter Holiday Show
A Multi-Species Celebration
By our children, for our children
Directed by: Bunny Woloszczak Authors: John Heath & Ron Fink

From the Firehouse

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



Greetings from the Hurleyville Firehouse and Happy Holidays to all!

We are always looking for help to fight fire or support those who do fight the devil fire. We even provide free training and gear. Stop by any Monday night and see what we are all about.

If it is the fourth weekend in October it must be Sullivan County Weekend at the State Fire Academy in Montour Falls. This year, 80 firefighters from 17 fire departments (Bloomingburg, Callicoon, Grahamsville, Highland Lake, Hortonville, Hurleyville, Jeffersonville, Kauneonga Lake, Liberty, Monticello, Narrowsburg, Rock Hill, Roscoe, White Lake, White Sulphur Springs, Wurtsboro and Yulan) attended the six different classes offered.

They included Fire Officer Refresher, Truck Company Refresher, Live Fire Class B Foam Operations, Fire Ground Strategies and Tactics and Tactical Fire Ground Simulations.

These are classes that are not offered at our training center, so this is a great opportunity to get exposed to training that we would not normally be able to experience.

One of the highlights of the weekend is the Saturday night banquet of prime rib. The instructors eat with us and the networking with Chiefs, firefighters that we don't usually work with, is just as educational as the classes are.

Ryan Green and I made the trip to the Academy From Hurleyville. I took the Truck Company Refresher class where we breached doors, vented roofs, did rescue drags, use of the stokes basket and securing a patient to name a few and spent time in the classroom as well.



A plume of propane-fueled fire shoots skyward during the Live Fire Class B Foam class at the State Fire Academy in Montour Falls.

Ryan was in the Live Fire Class B Foam class, where they did some live fire burns. Propane was used and flames were forty feet in the air. In the classroom the math was done to determine how much foam would be needed and for how long you would have to flow it to put the fire out.

The classes were excellent and instructors were well versed in the topics presented.

We are already planning next year's weekend.

The deadline for this article was November 22. I always think what I was doing on that day when President Kennedy was assassinated. As I have stated last year I was in my seventh grade English class when I found out about it over the PA system.

As you read this paper it will be very close to December 7, "Pearl Harbor Day", I was not yet born, but I am sure there are readers out there that remember it like yesterday.

By now ALL of you have had your furnace cleaned, chimneys cleaned and inspected, and you are ready for the heating season. (RIGHT?)

I for one do not think Christmas decorations should be put up or in stores before Thanksgiving. This year I saw them in stores way before Halloween. So by now I am sure you are starting to put yours up.

Each year we read about people suffering injuries such as burns and death due to holiday decorations and CARELESSNESS. I am quite sure that you hear and read about all kinds of safety hints for the holidays.

Let me tell you firsthand what I have witnessed over the last 48 years as a firefighter during the holiday season:

- Chimney fire from throwing wrapping paper in the wood stove or fireplace.
- Faulty extension cords that shorted out and burned the house down.
- Don't use an indoor extension cord outside.
- Candles setting decorations on fire and burning the house down.
- Dried out Christmas trees becoming flaming torches and causing major damage to the house
- Don't over crowd the kitchen and knock a hot pot on to someone causing serious burns

ing serious burns

• Don't put the Christmas tree up in a way that it will block a way out.

• Do not over load any of the electrical circuits with your holiday lights.

• Be careful going on the roof and have someone hold the ladder for you.

I could go on but you get the picture. **BE CAREFUL.**

Finally an update on Morningside four corners, it was another safe month no accidents.

But I do have a question: The last weekend of October I measured seven (7) inches of rain in my rain gauge. Many roads in and around Hurleyville were flooded. The road by Morningside Lake was flooded and not passable. So if you approached Brickman Road by the Morningside four corners and saw traffic cones across the road, a road flare or two, saw horses across the road and a BIG Orange sign that said "Road Closed Ahead" what would you do? Drive around all of the obstacles and drive into the flooded section of the road and get stuck and need to be rescued by the fire department, or would you go a different way? We did have a rescue on that section of the road when a car stalled as it went into the flooded section of roadway. The signs and markers are there for a reason. They mean it is not safe to proceed.

You never know if the road is even under the water. Why would you take a chance of driving into the water hazard and risk your car and or your life?

Let me close by wishing everybody a Happy and SAFE holiday season, and a Merry Christmas.

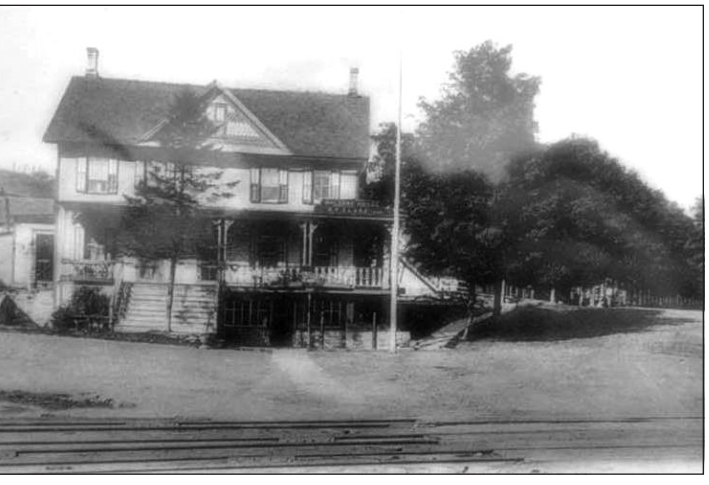
FROM THE FILES OF...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

COMPILED BY FRED FRIES FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE Sullivan County Historical Society

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when local newspapers were arguably at the peak of their popularity, it was common for papers to publish so called "Industrial Editions" that featured what would later be termed "advertorials" describing the merits of local businesses. As far as we can determine, the Hurleyville Sentinel never produced one of these publications, but both the Republican Watchman and the Sullivan County Republican, larger circulation newspapers published in Monticello, did. Over the next few months, we will occasionally reproduce excerpts describing Hurleyville businesses taken from the January 28, 1898 Republican Watchman special edition.



Morris Meinhold was one of several owners of the Waldorf House over the years.

The Waldorf accommodates about 40 people, the rooms are large, airy and comfortable, the veranda large, cool and pleasant, and the service rendered cannot be excelled. It has always been the aim of Mr. Meinhold and his estimable wife to make this one of the excelsior hotels of Sullivan County and the stay of guests pleasant and homelike, and that they succeeded in doing this is indicated by the large and steadily increasing patronage with which they are blessed. The popularity of this house extends far and wide over this country and from our observation and experience it fully deserves all that can be said in its favor.

The dining rooms are large and comfortable and the tables always plentifully supplied with everything that is good and healthful, which is well cooked and properly served.

The bar is well supplied with a choice line of wines and liquors, of both home production and foreign importation, ale, lager and a porter on draught, and a fine stock of all the choice brands of foreign and domestic cigars, and this department is looked after by the pleasant and affable Wm. H Wallace, a hotel man of considerable experience, and who is very popular with patrons and guests.

Located about a five minutes' walk from this hotel is a large pavilion about 42x70 feet, erected by Mr. Meinhold in a pretty grove and which is a popular resort for our town and summer people to while away the pleasant hours in dancing and other amusements. Hops are held at intervals throughout the summer months, and they are attended by the best classes of people, as the management is under the direct supervision of the proprietor and the best of order maintained.

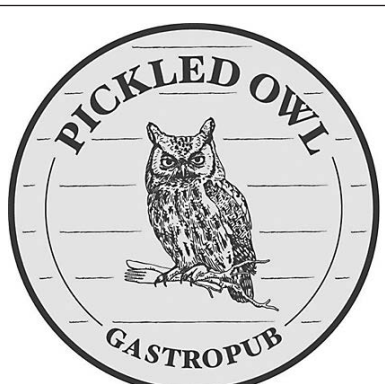
Adjoining the hotel is situated Meinhold's Opera House which has a convenient floor

space and an adequate stage, where entertainments and theatricals are held, as well as the dances in unfavorable weather. This is an attractive building, neat in its construction and headquarters for all kinds of amusements of the neighborhood.

The stables in connection with the Waldorf are first-class in every respect and transient and boarding horses are given the best of care at the hands of careful stablemen.

To say more in regard to this house would be superfluous, to say less would be unjust, but let us add that for all-round superior management, excellence of cuisine and general adaptability to the trade, it cannot be excelled by any hotel within a radius of many miles.

Personally, Mr. Meinhold is a wide-awake, shrewd and progressive young business man, and excellent landlord and caterer, popular with all classes of our people, and is universally regarded with the respect and esteem of the whole community and all who know him.



Pub fare, Craft brews

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HOLIDAY IN HURLEYVILLE

HOLIDAY IN HURLEYVILLE SCHEDULE

Kick off the holidays in "the liveliest little hamlet in the Mountains!" Main Street will be bustling with free, festive activities and holiday cheer for all ages.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pop-Up Shop with Buck Brook Alpacos (Fiber on Main)	3:30 and 5:30 p.m. Performances by Main Street Dance (Hurleyville Arts Centre)
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Crafts, Christmas Trains & Photo Booth (Hurleyville Makers Lab)	4:30 p.m. Community Tree Lighting (Center of Town)
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Holiday Open House & Theme Tree Exhibit (Sullivan County Museum)	7:30 p.m. Popcorn & Movie (\$5) "It's a Wonderful Life" (Hurleyville Arts Centre)
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pop-Up Art Show DVA's Radius Hurleyville & HML Makers Market (Gallery 222)	The Hurleyville Market, Pickled Owl, and Frankie & Johnny's will be offering food and drink specials. Locally made holiday gifts will also be available!
1:00 p.m. History Walk with County Historian John Conway (Hurleyville Rail Trail)	Support for POTTERY FOR KIDS WREATH MAKING (Hurleyville Arts Centre)
1:00 p.m. Essential Oils Class (Hurleyville Arts Centre)	
2:00 p.m. Yoga Sampler Class (Hurleyville Arts Centre)	

MAINSTREETHURLEYVILLE

FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Kelly Wells and Amanda Letohic



Since the holiday season is upon us and 2017 is rapidly coming to an end, we wanted to take some time to give thanks and to reflect on the year we have had.

First we would like to give a huge thank you to John Conway and the staff and editors of The Hurleyville Sentinel for welcoming the Library to such a fantastic family. We love that there's a free newspaper highlighting our great little community and we're so thankful to be a small part of it.

We would also like to thank our community and patrons for the continued support of our Library and all we have to offer. We're here and able to offer what we offer because of you! We've been working throughout the year on making little improvements to our appearance, which we plan to continue through the winter. We hope you stop in to enjoy these little improvements and to check out some of the great programs we're offering this month.

On Wednesday December 6, bring the family to make some chocolate cov-

ered pretzels. Wednesday December 20, the family can come back to make some adorable and delicious Snowman pops. On December 13, adults ages 18 and up can come and make a No-Sew Sock Snowman. Please bring one white sock and one colorful sock for this craft. Kids Night this month is December 21 at 6 p.m. and we're making Snow Slime. We recommend that kids be ages 6+ to attend this program.

Our annual Christmas Party is Thursday December 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be crafts, refreshments,

stories and lots of other fun things to do. Monday, December 18 we will have a Hanukkah Program starting at 4 p.m. This program will include a story, a craft, and refreshments. Teens can stop in on December 27 at 7 p.m. to prepare for 2018 with some 2017 Trivia, and kids can be ready for the New Year by stopping in on December 28 at 6 p.m. to make a S.T.E.A.M. Confetti Eruption.

As always our Children's Craft Night is every Monday at 6 p.m. and our Preschool Story Hour is Tuesday at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

As you can see, we have many great things coming up at the Fallsburg Library! Some programs have limited spots, so please call, email, or stop in to sign up. Here's a reminder of our contact information, call: 845-436-6067, email: fbr@rcls.org, stop in: 12 Railroad Plaza, South Fallsburg, NY, or follow us on social media.

As we enter winter with unpredictable weather, please be sure to visit our website, Facebook page, or call for up to the date information about delays and/or cancellations.



HURLEYVILLE MARKET ON MAIN

The Hurleyville Market is a warm and welcoming gathering space on Main Street. Open 7 days a week, the Market offers artisan breads, baked goods, locally roasted coffee, specialty and organic items, and a variety of handmade gifts.

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Angelee Santillo, Sports Editor



PICKLED OWLS BRING FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TO HURLEYVILLE

by Bridge Morris

HURLEYVILLE – On the chilly night of November 13, the Sullivan County Women's Flag Football League wrapped up their fall season with a one-night playoff series at Morningside Park that saw the Pickled Owls come out victorious in their hometown of Hurleyville. The Owls' win marks the first time since the league's 2015 inception that a team other than Lesbehonest (now renamed Brew Billionaires)

has taken the coveted prize, and the team did it without suffering a single loss.

The Pickled Owls' undefeated season earned them a first seed in the playoffs, and they faced fourth-place Black Widows in their first game of the evening while Brew Billionaires and Luzon Environmental, second and third place respectively, competed for the other place in the championship round. By the time the final game kicked off, Brew saw themselves in their fourth consec-

utive championship game, and the Pickled Owls in their first.

After an Owl-dominated first half that saw quarterback Katie Burns maneuver running back Jotty Torres and receiver Stephanie Mead to a 20-6 lead, Brew came back with touchdowns by receivers Jasmine James and Jess Stant to tighten the gap to 20-19.

Owls running back and receiver Angelee Santillo returned the second half kickoff 65 yards to set the Owls



PHOTO PROVIDED

Following their victory, The Pickled Owls team gathered at their namesake sponsor's gastropub on Main Street to celebrate.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Hurleyville's own Pickled Owls team uncorks the champagne on the field after clinching the 2017 Sullivan County Women's Flag Football League championship.

close to the endzone, and they quickly struck for another touchdown and successful conversion.

The Pickled Owls' defensive line did not have an easy task, as they held the formidable Brew offense at bay for the majority of the game, never allowing them to gain a touchdown on offense. This defensive unit, made up of Jackie Litwak, Tara Reifenheiser, Dania LaScola, Amanda Goddard, and safety Bari Allor, was instrumental in holding off two

close calls in the end zone in which Brew's quarterback Jamie VanderMeulen nearly hit their fastest receiver, Jasmine James, behind the line. Brew eventually reciprocated with another touchdown but failed to get the two-point conversion that would have tied the game, and with the clock running down the final seconds and the ball turned over, Jotty Torres found herself open for a short pass and ran into the end zone to solidify the Owl's first-ever flag football

championship.

After celebrating on-field with champagne before heading to the Pickled Owl gastropub down the street to celebrate with owner and sponsor Evan Allees, the women reflected on their hard-earned winning season.

"It was a long time coming," said offensive center and defensive linewoman Amanda Goddard. "It feels really good to finally take the whole thing."

"We're all phenomenal athletes," added running back/wide receiver Angelee Santillo, "but it's the comfort of being able to look to our coaches for strategic plays in the moment that really made us such a successful team this season."

Returning coach Eric Williams and new co-coach Paul Reifenheiser of SUNY Sullivan hope to develop the squad further to see more successful seasons and ultimately bring more championships to the Pickled Owls' name.



PHOTO PROVIDED

SUNY Sullivan Athletic Director Christopher D. DePew

SUNY Sullivan Announces Move to Division II

LOCH SHELDRAKE – SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance has announced that the College has opted to compete at the NJCAA Division II athletic levels in men's and women's basketball beginning with athletes enrolling for fall 2018.

SUNY Sullivan already competes at the Division II level in baseball. The remainder of the college's sports programs will remain at the Division III level.

The move from Division III to Division II will provide SUNY Sullivan and its students with several advantages.

"The move to Division II athletics now allows the college to provide athletic scholarships to qualified students -- something that is not an option in Division III sports," Mr. Quaintance said. "Additionally, it will allow the College to serve dozens more students via our athletic programs because we will now field both junior varsity and varsity teams for our Division II sports."

Division II colleges may offer athletic scholarships for tuition, books, fees, and up to \$250 in course-required supplies. SUNY Sullivan will begin offering scholarship during the 2017-18 recruiting season, which is currently underway.

Overall, it is expected that the move to Division II sports will add up to 60 additional full-time athletes to the College's rosters with the addition of junior varsity teams: 30 additional stu-

dents to compete in men's and women's basketball, and up to 30 for baseball.

"The SUNY Sullivan Generals men's basketball team has won the national championship a record four times and our women's basketball team has won numerous regional championships and competed multiple times in the national championship throughout the last five years," said Athletic Director Christopher D. DePew. "We feel this is the perfect time for SUNY Sullivan to make this move, which in essence increases the competitive level of play."

High school coaches from throughout the region expressed their support for SUNY Sullivan's move to Division II play.

"This is a great move on the part of SUNY Sullivan because it will give local athletes the opportunity to receive a scholarship and reduce tuition. That's extremely important for our local athletes," said Chris Russo, boys basketball coach at Monticello High School and Deputy Executive Director of the Basketball Coaches Association of New York (BCANY). "This move will enhance an already super-successful basketball program."

Jim Kelly, Middletown High School's boys basketball coach said, "This is great for basketball in our area, not only offering more scholarships for kids in a very competitive league, but it will raise the level of play in Orange and Sullivan County."

Fallsburg Interact's First Volleyball Tournament

by Julia Batista

FALLSBURG – On November 18, the Fallsburg Interact Club hosted a volleyball tournament in their home gym to raise money for local food drives that help families afford Thanksgiving meals. Students from across the county were invited to play, and although it was unfortunate that schools like Liberty and Ellenville weren't able to put teams together, three Monticello and four Fallsburg teams were able to compete.

The tournament began at noon, and each round consisted of a 20-point game, with the last two surviving teams playing to 25 points, or a full-length volleyball game.

"The inspiration that I had for creating this tournament was to help the charity that we were planning on donating the money to, and uni-

fyng the school districts by creating school rivalry and spirit all at once," explained Sadie Caballero, president of the Interact Club. "The purpose was [a way] to keep kids busy on a weekend that would contribute to our donation to local charities."

The event was successful in encouraging many kids to come out on a Saturday afternoon to play against one another. At the tournament there was music, a concession stand, and a number of volunteers who came to help set up and support the fundraiser. The price to play was \$5 and to spectate cost just a dollar. Teams were allowed a limit of six players with two substitutions, and gift cards to nearby restaurants were given out as prizes.

"My sister and I are members of the Monticello Varsity volleyball team and also part of our school's Interact Club, " Allie LaRuffa com-

mented about her Monticello Panthers team. "Once we heard about the tournament that Fallsburg's own Interact Club was holding, I thought it'd be a great idea to get my school's team to come participate and contribute to such a great cause."

Jacqueline Maxwell, a player representing Fallsburg's Varsity volleyball team, also shared her reasons for participating in the event.

"I came out to play because I really missed playing with my own team after volleyball season ended," she confessed. "Today would be the last time that I get to play along with my girls before we graduate and move on into college."

In total, the Fallsburg Interact Club was able to raise \$264, all of which was donated to local food drives ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. Interact Club president Sadie Caballero was pleased with the outcome.

"I am extremely satisfied with the way things turned out, knowing that my secretary and I prepared the tournament two weeks in advance," she shared. "It took a lot of effort and dedication to plan something like this, especially since we had so little time to pull everything together."

"I'm just very happy with the fact that so many people from each district that I've never seen before, supported one another," Ms. Caballero



PHOTO BY MARCOS RIVERA

Action from the Fallsburg Interact Club's Super Spike Volleyball Tournament.

added.

Although an overall success for a great cause, members of the Fallsburg High School community expressed some disappointment in the turnout for the event.

Ms. Kaplan, one of the advisors attending the tournament, offered a silver lining to the lower-than-expected participation.

"The tournament turned out good, but I had hoped that many more teams and kids would come out to participate," she said. "Although I do wish that more kids come out, having a small amount of teams reduced potential trouble."

"I hope something like this continues on after many of my seniors graduate," Ms. Kaplan continued. "I'm very happy to see that the girls in

charge of this did the best job they could possibly do. As long as I'm a Rotarian, I will support the activities of the Fallsburg Interact Club."

The Fallsburg Interact Club and its officers believe that it is truly important for the community and its school districts to create strong relationships with one another, a mission they hold at the heart of their programming. Looking ahead to the rest of the school year, they plan on hosting another tournament similar to the organization of the volleyball tournament, with basketball as the potential sport. This is currently being worked on, and planned for the end of basketball season to ensure as many students as possible are able to participate.

GENERALS' VENABLE ERUPTS FOR 39 AGAINST BMCC

Men Stand 6-2 On the Year; Women Improve to 2-5

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – SUNY Sullivan forward Goree Venable scorched the nets for 39 points as the Generals downed Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York by a 94-86 margin on November 11.

Mr. Venable's total is the most points scored by a Region XV men's player this season.

The sophomore connected on 17 of 25 field goal attempts and added five free throws in his 34 minutes of playing time. He also grabbed a team high 12 rebounds.

With the win, the Generals improved their record to 4-1.

Returning home for a game against Dutchess County on November 14, the Generals improved to 5-1 with an impressive 94-67 victory. It was

the fourth time this season Sullivan scored 90 or more points. Mr. Venable again led the way with 15 points, while Jamari Lewis added 14.

On November 18, the Generals travelled to Bayside to take on a tough Queensborough Community College squad, and came away on the short end of a 76-71 score, dropping them to 5-2 on the year.

Sullivan welcomed the SUNY Orange Colts to Loch Sheldrake for a 7 p.m. contest on November 21 that resulted in a 77-61 Generals victory, improving their slate to 6-2, which is where they stood at press time.

Following a November 28 road trip to Suffern to square off against Rockland, Sullivan returns home on December 2 for a 3 p.m. game against Nassau Community College.

The Lady Generals, meanwhile, have won two games in a row after a slow start to the season that saw them sink to 0-5.

A tough 42-38 home win over Dutchess broke the winless streak on November 14, and a resounding 78-51 win in Bayside over a winless Queensborough squad followed on November 18. The Lady Generals are next in action on Saturday, December 2 when they host Nassau in a 1 p.m. contest at the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse in Loch Sheldrake.

Freshman Ardella Brown has been the leading scorer for Sullivan through the early going.

The Lady Generals return to action on December 2 when they host Nassau Community College in a 1 p.m. contest.



PHOTO BY MARCOS RIVERA

The Fallsburg Interact volleyball tournament raised money for local food drives that help families afford Thanksgiving meals.