

FRESH AND NEW

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW EXCITEMENT

by Amanda Loviza

TOWN OF FALLSBURG — It's that time of year—backpacks are loaded, empty hallways start buzzing, and teachers bid farewell to their quiet time. Time to go back to school, and local teachers and administrators are feeling the excitement.

Dr. Keith Pomakoy, newly appointed Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at SUNY Sullivan, had only been on campus a few days when classes began Aug. 28. He rushed to start his new post just so he could be there when the semester started.

"I really love seeing the students come on campus," Dr. Pomakoy said.

Faculty and staff put in long hours to prepare the buildings and grounds, organize curriculum and get technology up and running before a new school year. Dr. Pomakoy said, but they always consider it well worth it. SUNY Sullivan kicked off its new year with orientation and a barbecue welcome event at Morningside Park, and the semester got off to a smooth, excited start.

"It seems that the mood is contagious and the mood is very positive," Dr. Pomakoy said. "It says a lot about the faculty."

In the Fallsburg Central School District, Benjamin Cosor Elementary School is kicking off a special year, celebrating its 50th anniversary. To mark the occasion, teachers and students in the Positive Behavior Intervention Services Program (PBIS) and the Nature Trail Club organized a school-wide effort to paint rocks for an anniversary display. The school will also collect memorabilia from alumni to continue creative celebrations of the anniversary throughout this year.

At The Center for Discovery's four school campuses, each school year involves new logistical and organizational chal-

lenges keeping up with New York State Education Department requirements and coordinating with the many school districts that send students to TCFD. The pace at The Center "tends to be fast and furious," said Kerri Muzuruk, head of TCFD's Sports and Social Academy, so she loves to see the staff come back from their two-week summer break full of new energy.

"It is always so energizing to see the new and fresh ideas each teacher and their staff bring with them when they return," Ms. Muzuruk said, adding that many teachers stopped to see her and talk about their latest plans in the days before school started. "It's really great to see the expertise and creativity come to life."

Across the four TCFD schools, which have students aged 5 to 21, new projects range from adopting classrooms in Texas to send needed supplies to enriched science curriculum to employment training in the community. Tom Mead, head of the Thanksgiving Farm and Community School, is excited to see his first student start employment training. Harvest time on the farm is also exciting for everyone. Students collect and sort apples and eggs, weed the crops and package farm products that The Center sells.

"It's always exciting to see how excited the students are to get back," Mr. Mead said. As Dr. Pomakoy gets used to walking the grounds of SUNY Sullivan, he said he can feel that Sullivan County is heading places, and it's exciting to be a part of it. Community colleges are a place where he often sees young parents guiding their small children around campus with them, and he loves knowing that the school and parents are inspiring children to pursue their own education.

"We have the ability to transform people's lives," Dr. Pomakoy said.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Rocks painted by students make a "50" to mark Benjamin Cosor Elementary School's 50th anniversary. The Fallsburg Central School District will be celebrating BCES's 50 years throughout the school year in creative ways involving students, staff and Fallsburg community. Alumni, family, friends and community members are invited to participate by sharing memorabilia from 1967-2017. Please contact Principal Mary Kate Stinehour at 434-4110, ext. 3206 about the project and visit the Facebook page "BCES Celebrating 50 Years of Memories."

FCSD Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz talks about the new school year in this exclusive interview

by Eli Ruiz

FALLSBURG — As always, Fallsburg Central School District Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz has high hopes for his students and staff during this new school year.

"I'm hopeful that our upward trend of student achievement will continue," offered Dr. Katz in an email exchange with The Sentinel. "We, as a school district, have made a multi-year effort to improve instruction so that student achievement would improve. Our rising graduation rates have, in my estimation, been a direct result of these coordinated efforts."

Dr. Katz said he is also looking forward to the district's capital building project moving forward—a \$15.9 million buildout that will replace and/or repair various areas of the elementary and junior/senior high schools, as described on the district's website. Voters approved the project in May.

Students at Fallsburg have much more to look forward to this year than the recently approved building project—expected to begin sometime in 2018—though, Dr. Katz explained.

"Since early spring, we have been planning school improvement strategies for 2017-18 that will improve teaching and learning," Dr. Katz said. "The base strategy is to share and implement our 'Key Features of Instruction and Learning,' in every classroom. This strategy was developed based on our vision statement. The base strategy will detail what we expect to occur on a daily basis for every student."

A former high school English instructor with the Liberty Central School



PHOTO PROVIDED

Fallsburg Central School District Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz.

District, Dr. Katz will be entering his twelfth year as the leader of the county's third largest school district. Asked the differences, for him, between being a teacher and an administrator, Dr. Katz said he believes he's still every bit the teacher now that he was then.

"My classroom has just changed...it's bigger and involves more people," Dr. Katz said. "I look forward to working with kids, parents, staff members and the entire school community to create the best opportunities for kids that we can, in and out of the classroom."

In Dr. Katz's eyes, the classroom is just the beginning of his students' achievements.

"To our district's students, I will say that I am awed by the great things that Fallsburg graduates have done with their lives and how so many have impacted this world so positively," Dr. Katz said. "Our Hall of Fame is a testament to that. I look forward with eager anticipation to the great things our current students will do when they leave our schoolhouse gate, ready to make their mark on the world."

For more information about the Fallsburg Central School District, and for complete details on the approved building project, go to www.fallsburgcsd.net.

OUT OF CHAOS COMES NEW SIDEWALKS

by Amanda Loviza

HURLEYVILLE — Months of organized chaos have given way to smooth concrete and calm streets as the sidewalk construction and renovation project on Main Street in Hurleyville wraps up.

The new sidewalks line the east side of Main Street from Thompson Street to the municipal parking lots in the center of the hamlet, as well as filling in gaps between old sidewalks down to the Hurleyville Makers Lab. The project was funded largely through a \$100,000 grant awarded by Senator John Bonacic's office, and it began in the spring. Town Supervisor Steve Vegliante said the sidewalks look great, and they provide a great service to the community.

"Overall, it's one more improvement to a hamlet that's getting better every day," Mr. Vegliante said. "Anything we can do to increase access for people

who aren't able-bodied, that's good."

From people with disabilities to mothers with baby carriages to elderly residents, the new sidewalks make it far easier to traverse the length of Main Street. The Center for Discovery lent its expertise to the project by commissioning the sidewalk design and donating the engineering plans to the town. The width, grades and slopes of the new sidewalks are all compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, said TCFD Vice President for Operations and Administration David Fanslau, who has experience with municipal projects from his seven years as a Sullivan County manager.

Previously, steps from the municipal parking lot toward the Pickled Owl prevented anyone with mobility challenges from being able to use the sidewalk to get to businesses on that part of Main Street, Mr. Fanslau said. The foundation of the Americans with Disabilities Act is to remove physical barriers to participation, Mr. Fanslau said, such as in recreation and civic activities like visiting the Milk Train Trail, town basketball courts or the Hurleyville Arts Centre. Sidewalk renovations are a step toward the hamlet of Hurleyville realizing the public policy goals of the ADA, Mr. Fanslau said, and that's a good thing.

Construction of the sidewalks caused weeks of lane closures along Main Street and some creative access to businesses like the Hurleyville Market



PHOTO BY J. JAMES WALL

The construction on Main Street included two new parking areas. This one is on the west side of Main Street.

and the Pickled Owl. Of course residents get frustrated with construction projects, particularly during summer, Mr. Vegliante said, but it is something that must be done in a region where construction can only take place during the busy season. There were no incidents during construction that the supervisor knew of. The only incomplete section now is by the parking lot, which is not quite finished. A traffic light is also scheduled to be installed.

Evan Allees, chef and owner of the Pickled Owl, admitted that it was a bit of a burden to have sidewalk construction clogging the entrance to his restaurant, so he is glad it's over. It probably kept a few people from coming in during that timeframe, Mr. Allees said, but he says having the new

sidewalk is "absolutely" better for the future.

"It was well worth it," Mr. Allees said.

Next year will come the other side of the street—Mr. Fanslau said The Center has engaged engineering design services for the west side of Main Street, from the Hurleyville Arts Centre to Kile Farm Road. A county TAP grant has been awarded to fund the construction of those sidewalks, which will probably begin next summer.

But long before that happens, Mr. Vegliante said he hopes the contractors on the east side of Main Street have fully wrapped up and left town by mid-October, so the residents can enjoy walking the streets of their hamlet, patronizing businesses and visiting the newly paved rail trail.



PHOTO BY J. JAMES WALL

The temporary chaos of construction has yielded new sidewalks along a stretch of the east side of Main Street.

"WHAT THE HILL" WENT ON IN HURLEYVILLE?

by Kathleen Sullivan, CHNA member

HURLEYVILLE — The Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance (CHNA) hosted the third annual "What the Hill?" friend raiser festival at the Hurleyville Fire House on Sunday, August 27. The atmosphere was festive as hundreds of community residents and visitors enjoyed the perfect weather.

Exhibitors provided important information on environmental issues that will arise from irresponsible development in our community, especially on Columbia Hill. These issues include

possible harm to local wells and municipal water supplies, storm water runoff, discharge of treated water into the Hurleyville marsh wetland and an unsafe increase in the amount of local traffic.

Festival-goers enjoyed live entertainment and there were fun activities for kids of all ages. Local artisans and vendors were on hand to share their creations.

CHNA extends its thanks to everyone who helped make the festival a great success, including the Hurleyville Fire Department, Perry Gips of PartyMaster, Michael Schapiro of Snow



PHOTO BY AMANDA LOVIZA

Eric B. Gordon was one of the musical acts at the What the Hill Friend Raiser.

H Productions, The Center for Discovery and the many volunteers who contributed

their time and their expertise.

CHNA volunteers are dedicated to the preservation of natural resources and the rural character of Columbia Hill and the neighboring communities in the Towns of Thompson and Fallsburg. These goals can only be achieved when steps are taken to ensure our community infrastructure is balanced and sustainable.

Visit CHNA at www.columbiahill.org or on Facebook for more information on the Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance.



PHOTO BY AMANDA LOVIZA

Patrick Dollard, President and CEO of The Center for Discovery, addresses TCFD teachers and staff at an educational conference day at the Michael Ritchie Big Barn in Hurleyville on Tuesday, Sept. 5, in preparation for the first day of school on Sept. 6.



PHOTO BY AMANDA LOVIZA

One group of vendors at the What the Hill Friend Raiser on Sunday, August 27.

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



Q. "What do you want to be when you grow up?"



"When I grow up I want to be a scientist, because I like mixing things. I pretend I'm mixing in a lab by soap and water."

Layla Hermann (Age 7)

"When I grow up I would like to be a doctor and an artist. I would love to be a doctor because I like helping children. I would love to be an artist because painting is a calming thing to me and I love doing it."



Madison Green (Age 12)



"I want to be an astro-cop when I grow up!"
(Astronaut Cop)

Greyson Torres (Age 5)

"I want to live in London and be a Youtuber and I'm not going to change my mind."



Connor Kilgore (Age 8)



"I don't want to be a fireman because they can get hurt and die. I want to be a police officer. They get bad guys, write tickets and help people. Never mind! I'm going to be a Youtuber too!"

Jameson Kilgore (Age 6)

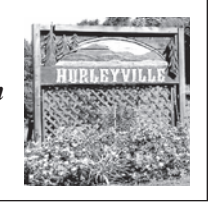


"I want to be a vet one day and help animals just like the ones stranded out in Texas."

Ariel Payne (Age 5)

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



Hurleyville – Sullivan First still needs your help to maintain the barrels along Main Street, the planters at the entrances to Hurleyville and the gardens at the Hurleyville Firemen's Park, the Community Gateway at the entrance to the Rails to Trails, St. Mary's Community Center and the Hurleyville Fire House. Please call 845-436-6887 if you have time to help.

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.

Please visit www.hurleyville.com for more information about Hurleyville and Hurleyville-Sullivan First.

The Town of Fallsburg Town Board proclaimed Saturday, August 12, 2017 as "Louis 'Label' Wichinsky Day." The prototype of the bagel making machine invented and patented by the Hurleyville inventor, composer and pilot was formally unveiled by his daughter, Ceil Wichinsky Mack, at the opening of an exhibit at the Sullivan County Museum honoring his life and other important accomplishments. The machine had been preserved by the Lerner family of Quickway Metal Fabricators. Ceil's presentation of "Memories of a Bagel Maker's Daughter" was a highlight of the event. Friends and neighbors delighted in recounting their memories of Hurleyville's own "Renaissance Man."

Other interesting and educational exhibits you'll find at the museum include:

- Sullivan County Wildlife Exhibit
- The General Store
- The Woodstock Festival
- A History of Sullivan County Farms
- The Military Room



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN SULLIVAN

Family members and close friends of the late Louis Wichinsky were on hand for the unveiling of his bagel making machine, including (left to right) Steve Lerner, Barbara Lerner, Ceil Wichinsky Mack, and Jim Mack, with Myron Gittell of the Sullivan County Historical Society.

- Early Sullivan County
- The Borscht Belt
- The Frederick A. Cook Gallery

The Sullivan County Historical Society has announced the recipients of the 2017 "History Maker" and "History Preserver" awards. The "History Maker" Award will be presented to WVOS radio, the "Voice of Sullivan County" for seventy years as the first commercial radio station in Sullivan County. Susan and Robert Schock will be presented with the "History Preserver" award for their preservation of a collection of documents from the Republican Watchman, descended from the first newspaper ever published in Sullivan County. Susan is the daughter of one of the publishers of the newspaper, and she and Robert generously donated their collection to the Society where it is available to all researchers.

The awards will be presented at the society's Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner which will be held at the Rockland House in Roscoe beginning at 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 1. Anyone interested in volun-

teering to explore genealogy and the history of life in Sullivan County can call Pat Burns at the Museum. The phone number is 845-434-8044.

The Museum, located at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville, is open on Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. and from Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please visit www.scnhistory.org for more information on the Sullivan County Historical Society and the Sullivan County Museum.

A Community Dinner will be held at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church on Thursday, September 7 from 4 to 6 p.m.

The church will host its Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner on Saturday, September 16. Volunteers at the church will begin serving at 4:30 p.m. The price for adults and all take-outs is \$12.00 and the price for children is \$6.00.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church is open each Thursday (except the first Thursday of each month) from 4 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.

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. The next date is September 15.

A Bible study group is held at the church on every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Please call Katrina at 845-436-7942 for more information or if you can help with any of these activities.

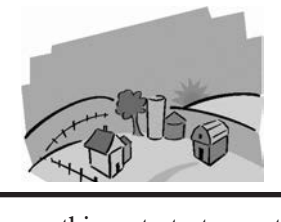


PHOTO BY KATHLEEN SULLIVAN

The bagel making machine invented by Hurleyville inventor Louis "Label" Wichinsky is now on display at the Sullivan County Historical Society.

FROM THE FARM

by Eve Springwood Minson



At long last the sweet corn, peaches and tomatoes are ripening as the days shorten and nights get cooler. Hard to believe summer is ending when it feels like it just started, but it is, after all, the Catskills!

Fortunately you can do one more planting of cool season crops to enjoy over the fall.

It's time to plant spinach, radishes, beets, kale, lettuce and other veggies you enjoyed in early spring! Clean up spring crops that are no longer producing, reinvigorate soil with compost or aged manure and plant seeds again. You'll go into fall/winter with yummy greens in your garden and if you cover with a coldframe or a hoop with row cover, a light tissue-like fabric made

for preventing light frosts and insects, you will have veggies until early winter.

After your veggie garden is tended to, you can start thinking about what did well this year and what you might need to transplant elsewhere. I already have a long list of plants to move around the garden by mid-September when temperatures cool a bit more. Some of my plants were overwhelmed by neighbors, some color combinations were not to my liking, and others just need to be replanted elsewhere. It's fun to further tweak what I thought was going to work well in spring.

As everything starts to go to seed, save some seed heads and allow them to mature on the plant. When they turn brown and look like they will soon explode, it's time to cut and put them in a paper bag to fully dry off. You can also save open-pollinated varieties of your veggies, as well. Tomatoes, peppers, squash, melons, all produce copious seeds and as long as they aren't hybrids you can save seeds for years to come.

It's also time to harvest herbs for drying if you haven't done it earlier, get your last canning tasks done and give your garden a once over cleanup. Enjoy these last golden days of summer!

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

If you sat still for any amount of time around here this summer, you would have heard live music. This is certainly the prevailing feeling. Farmer's markets, free concerts in parks, The Center for Discovery CSA pickup, as well as the established venues...the music was everywhere. Whatever your preference, you could find it.

And it's been a good summer for the venues as well. Imagine my surprise when I popped by DeFillipi's for their Sunday morning 'Music Where You Least Expect It' (the brain child of Bob Rosenberg) to find the added outdoor seating! This music offering has been so successful that the bakery remodeled back in June to accommodate the amount of people that attend and now, a front porch! And a good thing too as there were few vacant seats inside or outside. When I stopped by in late August, I had just missed Debbie Fisher (always a joy) who had sung a duet with Cheryl Roth. But what a treat to catch Lee Karasik with Voices Heard (out of Westchester), Joanna Gass solo and with Steve (the Classic) Karasik, Joe Kavanaugh singing DooWop, and Carmine Pace with some really cool blues, and Steve Schwartz, Kenny Windheim anchoring the day. I also understand there may be a new band (a blues band!) on the horizon soon. I will keep you updated as more information comes in.

I had the great pleasure of meeting and speaking with Barry Adelman recently, co-founder of Music For Humanity. If you're not familiar with this organization, you should be. Its sole purpose is to provide scholarships to students with a passion for music who need financial help to continue their studies in accredited schools. For more information, check out the website at musicforhumanity.org.

Brew, in Rock Hill, will be continuing Odd Tuesday with the Search and Rescue Orchestra every Tuesday through September. The names may be tongue-in-cheek but this band of consummate professionals have rocked the house so successfully that Odd Tuesday went from every other Tuesday to every Tuesday through the summer.

Hurleyville's own Pickled Owl will also continue their live music offerings both Friday and Saturday nights through September. Their continued success is a combination of their warm atmosphere, the choice of music and great food – all without the pretentiousness of similar restaurants. Still one of my favorites!

Cabernet Franks continues to be a bright beacon in Parksville. They too will be open and continuing to offer live music through September. I'm excited about the new venue that is expected to open this spring in Grahamsville. Still sworn to secrecy, that's about all I can say. As I'm given the go-ahead with more information, I'll get it to you in a heartbeat.

The Johnny Jules Band is winding up their very busy summer in some very cool places. Former Hurleyville resident Johnny, bassist Dave D'Arcy and Bobby D on Dobro will be up at Sand Beach in Highland Lake on Sept. 2 and

on Sept. 9, they'll be performing at the Birds of a Feather Nature and Music Festival at Grafton Lake State Park, a festival in support of the Berkshire Bird Paradise Sanctuary. Check out the Facebook page for the festival and follow their link to the YouTube video of the work the Sanctuary does.

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

Every Tuesday
Odd Tuesday with The Greater Sullivan County Search and Rescue Orchestra, Brew, 280 Rock Hill Dr., Rock Hill, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursdays
Thursday Summer Concert Series at the Gazebo Park, Kauneonga Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.
Sept. 7: Season Finale

Fridays:
The Pickled Owl, 218 Main St., Hurleyville; 6-9 p.m.

Sept. 1: John Slaver (acoustic variety)
Sept. 8: The Acquaintances (Jazz, rock variety)

Sept. 15: Mark Visconti and Justin Sutherland (acoustic folk, rock, pop)

Sept. 22: Cathy Paty and Company (acoustic variety)
Sept. 29: Albi (solo acoustic variety)

Sorella: Jazz Standards with Defino and Ravdin, and great Italian food! 6-9 p.m., 3562 State Rte. 55, Kauneonga Lake

Sept. 1: Joshua Tree, Cabernet Franks, 38 Main St., Parksville

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

Pickled Owl, 218 Main St. Hurleyville 6-9 p.m.

Sept. 2: Shlomo Franklin (solo acoustic variety)
Sept. 9: Gary Myer

Sept. 16: Handsome Johnny (acoustic guitar and congas duo)

Sept. 23: Debbie Fisher (roots, folk, blues and originals)

Sept. 30: Those Guys (modern mountain music)
Oct. 7: Moonshine Creek (bluegrass)

Sept. 2: Joshua Tree, Sips and Sounds, Clearview Vineyard, Clearview Lane, Warwick, 2-5 p.m.

Sept. 2: Johnny Jules Band, Sand Beach, 318 Lake View Dr., Highland, NY

Sept. 16: The 88TH Music for Humanity free performance, Noble Coffee Roasters, 3020 State Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 30: Johnny Jules Band, Birds of a Feather Nature and Music Festival, 100 Grafton Lakes State Park Way, Crocksyville (in support of the Berkshire Bird Paradise Sanctuary)

Sept. 30: Debbie Fisher, Tunes In The Vines, Christopher Jacobs Winery, Pennington Vineyard, 320 Crawford St., Pine Bush (for HONOR; Helping Others Needing Our Resources) For more information: <http://honorhelpingothers.org>

Every Sunday
Music Where You Least Expect It: 11 a.m.– 1:30ish, DeFillipi's Bakery, 506 Broadway, Monticello


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

Sept. 24: Debbie Fisher, Rhinebeck Porchfest (for more information: rbporchfest.com)

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SCHOOL'S IN AROUND THE WORLD

A FONDNESS FOR NEWSPAPERS

by Heather Gibson

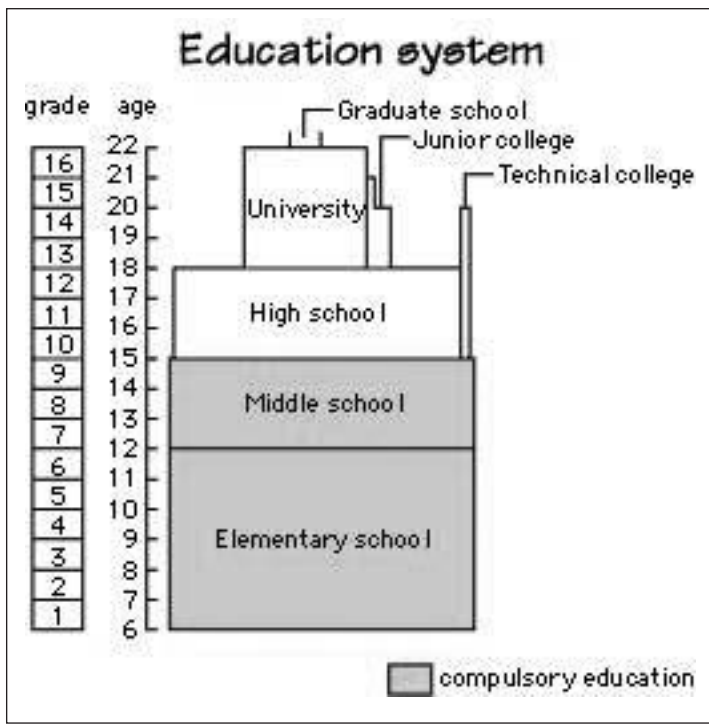
HURLEYVILLE – “Back to school, back to school!” “Back to class and homework and following the rules. And lunch and gym! Hey, it’s very cool, I’m glad to be back in school.”

Children all over the world just began the new school year, just like you did! Do you ever wonder about schools around the world? How are they different from our schools here in New York?

In France, math and science – especially physics – are only studied by those students with the very best grades. Students attend every long school days from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and even go to school on Saturdays. However, they get Wednesdays off and have two hour lunch breaks.

School is free in France and this is especially helpful to college students who wish to study. Grades are posted publicly on bulletin boards outside of the classrooms, so anyone can see what grade you just received! While this might be embarrassing to some, it is certainly good incentive to keep those grades up.

In Spain, there are mixed levels of ability and age in each classroom. There are no AP classes. This makes it harder for brighter children to advance, but it also cuts down on bullying. When you enter a classroom, you are with those kids of all different ages throughout your school years, and so you become like a family to one another in many ways. Due to the continued close friendships, these students tend to get along better and stick up for one another. Students in classrooms stay put, and it’s the teachers that move around from classroom to classroom. There



GRAPHIC COUTESY WEB-JAPAN.ORG
In Japan, children are required to complete just nine years of education. However, almost all students (98% in 2014) go on to high school.

is a split session during the day, which allows students to go home for lunch, because you can’t bring your lunch to school.

In India, the biggest difference is how many classmates a student has in class. While we average about 20-30 kids per class here in the USA, children in India share their classroom with 50 other students. Sports and extra-curricular activities are offered but they aren’t deemed very important. Students aren’t praised for being a good athlete; instead they are praised for being bright students.

Therefore, the structure of study and the school day is very rigid. Public schools often lack good infrastructure and facilities and so most parents prefer to send their kids to private school, though it is very expensive. Students in India do not have lockers for their books. They carry their heavy books everywhere they go. In India, unlike in France, math and science is not an option, but the main

area of study. In Japan, there are no school buses to ride, and 99% of students walk or ride their bikes to school. Most of them don’t ride very far because there is a school every few miles. In high school, they may attend school across town and take a bus or train. The teacher is in full control of the class and discipline is decided by that teacher. There is no getting sent out of the room to the principal, because in Japan there is a rule that you can’t ask a student to leave your class.

In the Japanese culture, one takes off one’s shoes upon entering a Japanese family’s home. In school, it is the same. There are no lockers for books, but there are shoe lockers at the front doors which hold all students’ shoes until the end of the school day. Students in Japan never leave their homeroom class and when it is lunch time they can eat in homeroom or go home for lunch, but there is no cafeteria.

There is also a strict no junk food policy, so what comes into school must be approved food. However, they say there are a few rebels that sneak junk food into their book bags. There are no janitors in the Japanese school system, instead the chores of cleaning are the students’ responsibility and

built into the school day. This allows each student to work on vocational skills, which are so important as they enter the work force.

The students in many of these countries wear uniforms to school, though some only have uniforms in private schools, just like in our country. Most countries typically get a summer break, and some countries take a break every few weeks.

There are countries in Africa that are struggling to maintain a school system for children. They lack teachers, supplies, and the infrastructure to operate a school system. While Africa is constantly trying to improve its education system, the class system and basic survival in local villages often depends upon the children working at home from a very young age to help with things like farming.

Sometimes children aren’t very happy about going back to school. Summer is filled with a lot of fun activities like swimming, and camp, so it’s understandable that the freedom of summer is preferred by most to the structure of a school day. However, it’s important to guide all students in a way that allows them to visualize their future just a bit. Questions like, “what do you want to be when you grow up?” allow children to understand how school can help them attain that goal.

Extra-curricular activities are a great way to continue the summer fun by getting involved with sports teams or after school clubs. The sky is the limit when children tap into their imagination and creativity. They should all reach for the moon, and if all else fails they will land upon a star!

Although the classroom and students may look different from country to country, one thing is for sure, every student has a dream and many of them will look up into the night’s sky and wish upon the same star; whether a student in France or Spain or India or Japan, or a student in Hurleyville.

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE – Myron Gittell admits he has a fondness for newspapers. That’s one of the reasons the Board member of the Sullivan County Historical Society spearheaded the recent exhibit of old Sullivan County newspapers at the County Museum in Hurleyville.

“We’ve got thousands of newspapers in our archives,” Mr. Gittell said. “No one could ever imagine the extent of the collection. Even those who use the archives for research likely only see a fraction of what we have, so I thought we should show it [the collection] off.”

So Mr. Gittell spent a recent Saturday greeting dozens of visitors to the Museum and sharing with them various anecdotes about more than a century of newspapers, dozens of which were mounted under glass or on display boards in the Museum’s expansive exhibit area.

Mr. Gittell says that, while most people would be hard pressed to name more than a handful of them today, Sulli-



PHOTO BY JOHN CONWAY
Myron Gittell of the Sullivan County Historical Society explains to visitors one of several displays in the Society’s newspapers exhibit.

van County has been home to more than 30 different newspapers over the years. These include the Sullivan County Whig, the county’s first paper, which began publishing in Bloomingburg in 1821, before eventually moving to Monticello and morphing into the Republican Watchman, and the Evening News, which was for a short time

during World War II the only daily newspaper ever published in the county.

As unlikely as it might seem today, Mr. Gittell points out, dozens of communities in the county once supported their own papers, including Wurtsboro, White Lake, Livingston Manor, Narrowsburg and Hurleyville. And a few communities have had more

than one paper at the same time.

For example, Monticello, the county’s largest community almost from the beginning, has been home to the Chronicle, the Herald, the Republican, the Republican Watchman, the Bulletin, and the Evening News. The Independent, the Register, the Gazette, and others have been published in Liberty. Douglas, the only city in Sullivan County’s history, once had the Journal and the Gazette. Jeffersonville was home to the Record, as well as the Volksblatt, a German language paper. The hamlet of Callicoon was also at one time home to two newspapers, the Callicoon Echo and the Sullivan County Democrat.

One by one these newspapers fell by the wayside, and while as late as the 1960s, there were still nearly a dozen papers in Sullivan County, nearly all of them were gone by the end of the Century. Now, thanks to the Historical Society’s recent display, at least they are not forgotten.

Fallsburg Schools Begin Second Year of Volunteer in Classroom Program

FALLSBURG – After a successful introduction of the Volunteer in the Classroom (VIC) Program last year, Fallsburg Central School District is inviting community members to become volunteers at both Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School and Benjamin Cosor Elementary School.

On Monday, September 11, 2017 at 10 a.m., Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz will welcome prospective volunteers and explain the formal training involved. A few returning volunteers will speak about their experiences supporting teachers and children during the past year.

Feedback on the VIC Pro-

gram from building Principals, teachers, staff and students has been very positive. The initial class of volunteers was excited about the opportunity to serve the children and the District. They look forward to the new year and a chance to share their enthusiasm with members of the community.

Light refreshments will be served at the September 11 meeting in the Board Room of the Jr/Sr High School. For further information, to respond to this invitation, or to receive a volunteer application form, please contact Dr. Katz at (845) 434-6800, ext. 1215.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Fallsburg’s Volunteers in the Classroom from 2016-2017 were honored by the Board of Education. In the photo (left to right) are Sonya Smith, Diosdado Santiago, Heather Manor, Fallsburg Board of Education President Debra Barbiani, FCSD Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz, Hermine Abreu, Christina Frunzi, and Shawn Ferris.



PHOTO BY AMANDA LOVIZA
Kebba Darboe, left, picks fresh basil for Sunset House chef Shay Moloney. Ms. Moloney takes fresh herbs and vegetables straight from the garden to include in meals for The Center for Discovery residents at Sunset House in Harris.

GARDEN THRIVES AT SUNSET

by Amanda Loviza

HARRIS, N.Y. – The staff at Center for Discovery is hoping that their excitement over their garden will catch on with other TCFD houses and the community at large.

TCFD staff member Kebba Darboe started a raised bed vegetable garden for the residents at Sunset House with just two boxes. This year they’ve already expanded the garden to five raised beds, and he hopes it will continue to grow. Sunset House houses about a dozen men, who are mostly wheelchair-bound but love to get outside and water the garden and monitor the plants’ progress.

Gardening is good for anyone, said Mr. Darboe, who comes from a farming family.

“We are so happy about our garden,” Mr. Darboe said. “This is something we enjoy doing. We

use it as an activity for our guys.”

The Center for Discovery already grows fresh vegetables for residents at its Thanksgiving Farm, but the hands-on approach is more interesting for residents, Mr. Darboe said. And house chef Shay Moloney loves being able to walk outside and grab fresh basil or mint for a meal. Her kitchen scraps are creating a very effective compost.

Ms. Moloney found some old potatoes in the pantry, and they planted them in the garden as an experiment; the potatoes are now overwhelming their boxes. It’s all been one big experiment, Mr. Darboe said, and they look forward to improving it each year. It gets the residents outside, and produces quality food. He hopes that others, at The Center and beyond, will be inspired by their garden and create their own.

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A Summer of Learning

FALLSBURG – For the past several summers, the Migrant Education Program at Fallsburg Central School District has provided a three week teaching program to support the learning of children from migrant families living in the District and in Liberty. This summer, 33 students came from Fallsburg and 11 from Liberty. Daily classes at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School went from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from Monday to Thursday, July 5 through July 27. On the evening of July 25, Director of Mid-Hudson Migrant Education Maryellen Whittington-Couse welcomed families to celebrate the successes of the children.

The program’s main purpose is to reinforce skills in common core subjects and review previously learned material from the school year. FCSD Teacher Veronica Serrano administered the program with the support of Migrant Ed staff Malvina Saavedra and Greysy Iraheta. Three classrooms for grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 were run by Saira Aigala, Evan Jenkins and Melissa Antunes. District employee Isabel Mejia and Valerie Cascino were SUNY New Paltz student interns in each classroom.

The evening celebration fea-



PHOTO PROVIDED
Fallsburg sixth grade student Aryany Mercado (left) and Migrant Ed teacher Ms. Malvina Saavedra.

tured singing, dancing and plays by the three student sections, much to the delight of the families. Visits to each classroom showed beautiful posters and collages demonstrating the rich cultural heritages of the different Central and South American republics that are the native homes of these students. It was special to see parents and siblings sitting at desks and reading the posters amidst the smiles of the proud students.

The evening ended with pizza in the school cafeteria. It was a sweet way to conclude an evening of family and cultural pride, and the honoring of learning by some very happy children.

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From the Firehouse

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



The Hurleyville Fire Department is always looking to recruit new members. You can stop in on any Monday evening at 7 p.m. to get an application or see what we are all about. If you don't want to fight fire we can use fire police or you can work behind the scenes and support the front line fire fighters. We do more than just fight fire. We even provide all of your training for free.

The Fire Department held its annual member/family picnic early in August and more than 130 were treated to lunch and a fantastic dinner. After dinner the awards for 2016 were given out. First up was an Appreciation Award for firefighter Mike Shapiro. Mike is our sound man, he sets up a sound system for all of our events. The Halloween Parade, the Dworetzky Parade and fishing contest are just a few examples of Mike's hard work. Thanks Mike.

John O'Neil received the Attendance Award. John doesn't miss too many Monday nights (our drill night) or other functions, such as meetings, parades or any other special event the fire department is involved in. Thanks John for all of your efforts.

Next came the Community Service Award. The fire department recognizes a person, organization or business that helped out or supported the many fire department endeavors in a special way or ways. Sometimes it is one great help and sometimes years of special support. This year's award was presented to Steve Gottlieb of the Liberty Trading Post for his years of supporting our many raffles and events. Steve is a firefighter in Rock Hill and a real community minded person. His staff at the Trading Post is always ready to help out with all of your needs. Thank you, Steve.

Years of service pins were handed out to a num-

ber of members. A pretty special 5 year pin was given to both Josh Conlon and Austin Halchak. Both of these guys joined as junior members when they were 16 years old and still in high school. Well done, to both of you.

Then came the heavy hitters:

Past Chief Roy "Porcky" Worden, Past Chief George Price and Past Chief Steve Dainack were recognized for 53 years of service each.

Mendy Greenspan has 54 years of service

Vic McCarthy and Joe LaRuffa were recognized for 55 years of service.

Joe was the secretary of the fire department for many, many years.

Gary Charnow was recognized for 57 years of service.

Past Chief Nelson Durland was recognized for 60 years of service. Nelson is also a Past President of many different firematic organizations.

George Fedun was honored for 62 years, and Fred Turner for 63 years.

Then we got to our senior members: Oscar Pavloff was Chief of the Fire Police for many years, is pushing 95 years in age, and has 65 years of service. He is our oldest living member. Ed Orlosky has 69 years in the Hurleyville Fire Department, making him our senior member with the most years of service.

Each of the members with 50 years of service or more was given a Certificate honoring them for their service to the fire department and their community by:

FASNY – Firemen's Association State of New York

OFPC – Office of Fire Prevention and Control

HVVFA – Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association

The FASNY and OFPC certificates were presented by John P.Farrell Jr. 2nd Vice President of FASNY.

Then came the highlight of the afternoon:



Hurleyville Chief Alan Price with first place trophy from Hortonville parade.

Firemen of the Year.

It was with great honor that all those members honored for 50-plus years of service were the 2016 Hurleyville Fire Department Firemen of the Year. Each member was given a plaque with their name on it to commemorate their accomplishment. Well-deserved and congratulations to all of you.

On a sad note, my Dad's service of remembrance was held with full Military Honors and a Firematic Service. The Loch Sheldrake and Fallsburg Fire Departments brought their laddertrucks to hang a large (20' x 40') American Flag in back of the firehouse. Terry Mullen played the bagpipes as the firefighters marched in and Hurleyville Fire Department Chaplains Melvin Boone and Jim Kaufman presided over a service my Dad would have been proud of. Thank you to all who honored my Dad that day.

As you get this paper it will be very close to 9-11. Pause and think about those who lost their lives that day. The Monticello Fire Department will hold its remembrance service

on Monday 9-11 at their firehouse at 7 p.m. The Wurtsboro Fire Department, in conjunction with the American Legion - Mamakating Post 1266 will be hosting its annual service also on 9-11 at 7 p.m. in at their park in Wurtsboro. Both of these event are open to all.

You will be reading this in September, and I must announce that Fire Prevention Week is October 8 - 14. This year's theme is Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out.

More on this topic in October.

As I write this article we only had one call at the Morningside Four Corners since I last wrote.

However we had a couple of cool nights and the county had its first chimney fire of the season.

The last bit of good news for this month is that the Fire Department traveled to the Hortonville Field Day and Parade and won a trophy for 1st place marching. Congratulations to Chief Alan Price and those who marched. The next parade is the Sullivan County parade in Wurtsboro on Saturday, October 7.

From the files of...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburgh

Compiled by Sullivan County Historian John Conway

SEPTEMBER 10, 1937 \$700 Stolen from Local Pharmacy

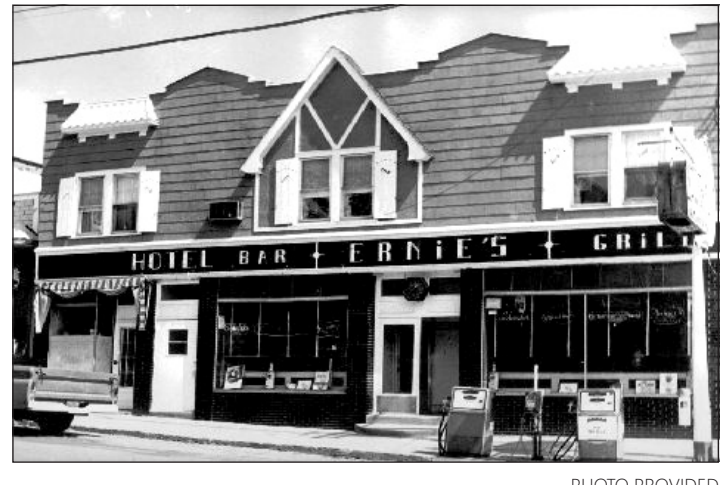
Early Tuesday morning, thieves broke into the Hurleyville Pharmacy and stole about \$700 in cash from a box in the prescription room. The store, owned by Max Berman and Al Sakofsky, was closed by Berman about two o'clock Tuesday morning. The theft was discovered by a clerk, Max Rosenstein, when the store was re-opened in the morning. It is believed that the thieves gained entrance through a side window. Nothing else in the store was disturbed and several checks and money orders left with the money were untouched.

State Police, headed by Sergeant Thomas Mangan, have been investigating and are checking fingerprints taken from a filing cabinet in an effort to apprehend the guilty persons.

Fire on former Seidlin Property

Fire which broke out shortly before noon on Wednesday destroyed a barn on the former Seidlin property opposite the New York Telephone Company building in Hurleyville, damaged a summer kitchen of the house and at one time threatened to burn the house. The present owner is Murray Goldman.

Hurleyville and Loch Sheldrake firemen quickly respond-



Ernie's Bar and Grill was a Main Street landmark since it opened in 1937.

Quietest Labor Day for Sullivan County

The quietest Labor Day holiday ever to occur since Sullivan County became famous as a summer resort was experienced over the past weekend. Although several opinions were heard as to the date of the last concurrence of the Jewish New Year and Labor Day, all were agreed that it was before the present century.

Stores took a three day holiday which started Sunday and extended until Tuesday night. Even restaurants open twenty-four hours daily were closed for the duration of the Jewish holiday. Somewhat similar conditions prevailed in Monticello,

South Fallsburg, Liberty and Woodridge.

Some of the large hotels engaged cantors to conduct religious services while in almost every other resort laymen took charge. Sports and dancing were kept to a minimum, but even though these conditions had been anticipated, all hotels were liberally patronized, though perhaps not quite so heavily as on other Labor Day weekends.

Work Started on New Feinstein Building

Work has been started this week on the new building to be erected by Ernest Feinstein, local business man. The building, to be located on the lot next to the Hurleyville Pharmacy, will include a bar and grill on the first floor and hotel rooms on the second floor. It is expected that the construction work will be completed within two weeks.

OCTOBER 1, 1937 Jewish Farmers Association to Hold Annual Conference

Outstanding in importance and interest is the forthcoming event which Sullivan, Ulster, and adjoining counties will witness on Sunday, October 3. This is the Annual Conference and Agricultural Exhibit held by the Jewish Farmers Associations of

these sections. This year, other Jewish Societies and Organizations, in cooperation with the Jewish Agricultural Society, are sparing no effort to make this convention the most successful in the history of the "Mountaintains."

The affair takes place Sunday, October 3 (all day) in the Auditorium of the Mountaintale High School, Mountaintale, New York. In the forenoon, organization matters will occupy the attention of the assembled delegates, and this part of the program will be under the leadership of Dr. Gabriel Davidson, General Manager of the Jewish Agricultural Society.

After the luncheon, served by the Ladies Auxiliary, Dr. Philip R. Alstate, of the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York City, will deliver an address on "The Partition of Palestine."

2000 and more farmers are expected to attend.

FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Kelly Wells and Amanda Letohic



It's time to say goodbye to the summer heat and welcome the crisp autumn air, which also means...it's time for back to school!

To help prepare you and your child for "back to school," why not stop into the Fallsburg Library to sign them and yourself up for a library card? If you live in the Fallsburg Central School District, you and your children are eligible for a free library card. All we need is your current photo ID and proof of physical address within the school district. As a way to celebrate "Library Card Sign-Up" month, you will be entered into a raffle for an AMC movie gift card if you sign up for a library card between September 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017. So

what are you waiting for? Stop in and sign up for your card today.

With your new library card, you'll have access to tens of thousands of books within the Ramapo Catskill Library System (47 member libraries), thousands of movies, and e-books. Your library card will also give you access to a variety of online databases which can aid you and your child in their various school projects. To see what databases we have to offer just go to our website, www.fallsburglibrary.org and click on the "Research" tab then click on "Databases."

Start the school year off right by getting your library card today. In the meantime, check out these great programs we have coming up in September - and remember all of our programs are FREE and open to the public.

For adults, on Wednesday September 13 at 6 p.m. we are making a Terra Cotta Scarecrow

- please note that registration is required for this program. On Wednesday September 20 at 7 p.m. you can bring the family to make some caramel apple pops. Wednesday September 27 at 7 p.m., teens are invited to come make a no-bake mini apple pie. On Thursday September 28 at 6 p.m., kids of all ages are welcome to our S.T.E.A.M. Apple Races.

As always, our preschool story hour takes place on Tuesdays starting September 12 at 10 a.m. Toddlers are welcome, too. We also have our weekly children's craft night Mondays at 6

p.m. You can check our online calendar to see what craft we'll be doing each week. Please sign up for these programs in advance so we can be sure to have supplies for everyone.

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!



The American flag hangs between the ladder trucks at the memorial service for Jack Halchak Jr. with the Sullivan County Veterans.



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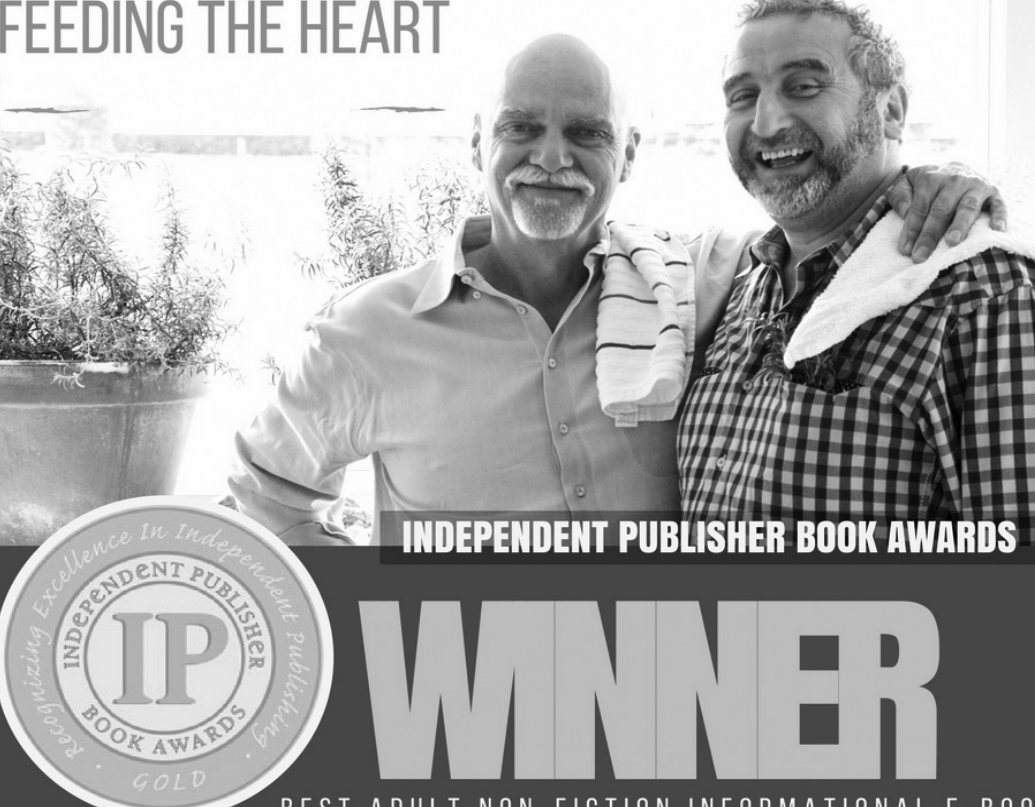
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HIT AND RUN PART IV

Fallsburg Constable Bronco Kelly has his hands full investigating the death by hit and run driver of Sidney Grant "Doc" Van Keuren in Hurleyville. And now we know why Bronco is taking Doc's death so hard. But what about that second hit and run death in Liberty? Is it connected? Will the driver (or drivers) be apprehended? Here is Part IV of our story...based on actual events:

I slept restlessly, awakened from time to time by the sound of the sleet pounding against the house. When I finally got up, the storm had intensified, with a fierce wind blowing and thick layers of ice forming on the electrical and telephone wires. By mid-afternoon Saturday, many of the roads had become impassable and communication had become sporadic, as reports of downed wires trickled in, mainly by word of mouth.

Although traffic was incredibly light because of the storm, my day was mostly taken up with responding to numerous fender benders and filling out reports for each, and directing traffic around live wires that had come down. My telephone service eventually went out, but not before Jay Lass called right around supper time.

"Happy New Year, Bronco. I hope I'm not interrupting your meal, but I wanted to talk to you while we still had phones."

"You sound as tired as I feel, Jay. Busy day?"

"Haven't slept since I saw you. Electric's out in quite a few places around the county and the roads have been a mess, so plenty to do. And the Sheriff is pushing hard to come up with something on



Jay Lass didn't wait for food or even coffee, but shoved a piece of paper with a pencil sketch across the table to me.

the two hit and runs."

"Got anything new on them?"

"Not a thing. How about you?"

I explained to Jay that I hadn't had much of an opportunity to follow up on Doc's death, and shared with him my suspicions that someone had run over Doc intentionally. He didn't seem surprised. "I have the same impression about the Liberty incident," he said.

We talked about trying to find any possible connection between the two victims, agreeing that it seemed improbable, promised to keep each other informed of developments, and hung up.

The ice storm was certainly taking its toll on the electric and telephone lines all over the county, and by Saturday night, virtually the entire area was without power and phones.

In Hurleyville and Loch Sheldrake, trees were down in a dozen places, taking lines down with them. Throughout the night Saturday into Sunday, men with axes worked to clear the trees, aided only by

the lights provided by nearby campfires they had built. I helped the best I could, even wielding an axe from time to time.

When I finally returned home shortly after dawn on Sunday, Jay Lass was waiting for me.

"I have something you just might find interesting," he said excitedly as I got out of my car.

"And good morning to you, too, Deputy," I said wearily, trying to sound peppier than I felt.

"Really, Bronc, this could be something important. Can we go inside?"

We went into the house, where Irene greeted us both and went about making coffee and scrambling eggs for breakfast.

"You men aren't sleeping, but you have got to eat!" she said.

Jay Lass did not wait for food or even the coffee, spreading some papers on the kitchen table.

"I was restless, and could not get these two hit and run incidents off my mind," he

said. "So I did something that I have never done before. I was in Liberty anyway, helping out with detouring traffic around downed trees and electric lines, so I decided to stop by the hospital. The body of the Liberty hit and run victim, Michael Noeth, was in the morgue, waiting for an autopsy, so I did some snooping."

"Snooping? What exactly does that mean?"

"I started looking over the body, just to see if there was anything unusual I might notice. And this is what I found."

He shoved a piece of paper with a pencil sketch across the table to me.

"Could be nothing, but could be something."

"What is it?" I asked, rotating the paper on the table, trying to find the best light in order to determine what the sketch was supposed to depict.

"Darned if I know," Jay said. "But that was the shape of an indentation right in the middle of his back. I'm no Doctor, but it looked fresh."

"From the car that hit him, possibly?" I asked.

"Could be. Maybe we will

know more when the autopsy is done. I heard Gerow say Dr. Gain will be doing it first thing tomorrow."

Jay stayed for breakfast, but we ate in silence, sitting in the semi-darkness of the kitchen, basking in the steam of the piping hot coffee.

Finally, I spoke.

"Do you want to take a ride?"

Jay swallowed a forkful of scrambled eggs and looked at me quizzically.

"Where do you want to go?" he finally asked, but he asked in such a way that I got the feeling he already knew.

"I'm thinking of maybe taking a ride over to Monticello and having a look at Doc's body. Maybe we'll find something like this on it, too."

"We could just wait for the autopsy," Jay said.

"You're right," I said. "Makes sense to wait."

An hour later, we gingerly pulled up the driveway to the Monticello Hospital.

The place was quiet, and nearly dark. Kerosene lamps provided the only light in the interior sections, where the daylight couldn't reach. We walked down to the morgue without being noticed and quickly found Doc's body.

I carefully uncovered it, and was shocked at how much smaller Doc looked. He had been a big man in life, as tall as me and nearly as broad. Now he looked more like a child. The body was mangled, and both arms and legs seemed askew. His legs both appeared to be badly broken just below the knee. We turned him over, and Jay turned his flashlight on.

Both of Doc's calves had two large horizontal indentations running across the back

of them, a couple of inches separating them vertically, like straps a few inches long and a couple of inches wide. His back was clearly broken, but there did not seem to be any marks at all, certainly nothing like the indentation Jay had found on the Liberty victim.

"Damn. I was sure we'd find that mark here, too." I said as Jay turned the light off and helped me turn the body back around.

"Hey, wait a minute!" he almost screamed. "Hold him right there."

He fumbled with the light and got it lit again, shining it on the right side of Doc's torso, on his ribcage, about midway between his waist and his underarm.

"My God." "If that isn't the exact same imprint, then I'm crazy." Jay said. "In fact, it's even clearer than the one on Noeth's back."

I stared on the mark for what seemed like a long time before I allowed myself to speak. I couldn't believe what I was seeing, and I was afraid if I looked away it wouldn't be there when I looked back.

Finally, I turned to face Jay. "I think I know what this is. And if I'm right, I also know who hit our two victims."

The New Year's day ice storm that paralyzed much of Sullivan County in 1932 has not stopped Constable Bronco Kelly and Deputy Jay Lass from doing a little detective work, and possibly solving the hit and run deaths of "Doc" Van Keuren and Michael Noeth. Don't miss the thrilling conclusion of "Hit and Run" in the next edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel!

EMS Beat

by Albee Bockman, AEMT-P



"NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER MONTH"

The month of September has been designated as "National Prostate Cancer Month" in North America. Health experts, health advocates, and individuals have combined their efforts to increase public awareness of the importance of prostate health. We all know how important it is to be educated on all aspects of our health, but nothing is more important to men than knowing risk factors and symptoms of prostate related diseases.

Listen, guys: As personal as this subject may be, there is nothing more personal to our loved ones than to make sure we all live long, healthy, productive lives. Although this particular disease can affect our "personal" life - - and you know what I am talking about - - so much has been done through research and treatment allowing us to continue having a fulfilling and satisfying sexual relationship with our loving partner.

However, we must be alert and vigilant in recognizing the signs and symptoms of prostate issues:

1. Frequent urges to urinate;
2. Getting up 2, 3, or maybe 4 times over night to urinate;
3. Difficulty commencing and maintaining urination;
4. Pain or burning during

- urination;
5. Blood in the urine;
6. Lower back pain;
7. Difficulty achieving or maintaining your "stamina" during sexual activity.

Risk factors:
1. Over 50 years of age;
2. Genetics. 60% more common in African-American men;
3. Diet and obesity.

It is so very important we see our physician on a regular basis. Yearly physical exams are to include a PSA test and rectal exam. The prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test measures the level of a protein made by cells in the prostate gland in a man's blood. PSA levels rise when there is a problem with the prostate. It is normal to have a low level of PSA - - 0.0 - 4.0. Having prostate cancer can increase it - - usually PSA level over 4.0. Not all readings over 4.0 mean one may have the disease, but it is an alerting mechanism to seek further medical intervention and advice.

There are many different colored ribbons signifying various causes in America. This month's color is "light blue". Let's celebrate National Prostate Cancer Month with public awareness and education!

Stay well, Hurleyville!

H.M.L.
Hurleyville Makers Lab.org
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The Hurleyville Makers Lab is a place for people who like to build, invent, tinker and learn new skills using rapid fabrication tools, software as well as traditional tools, all in the spirit of the makers movement.

SPOTLIGHT ON A HURLEYVILLE TREASURE

by Kathleen Sullivan

"JOHN 'JACK' HALCHAK, JR."

John "Jack" Halchak, Jr., the son of John Halchak and Mary Mudry, was born on August 26, 1927 in Derby Connecticut.

Upon graduation from high school he joined the United

States Navy where he proudly completed his military service. The GI Bill enabled Jack to continue his education at Arnold College in Connecticut (University of Bridgeport today) where he played on the school's football team.

Upon graduation from college, Jack embarked on an out-



Jack Halchak taught at Fallsburg for 32 years, coaching a number of sports, including baseball.

standing career in education and athletics.

Jack played semi-pro football in Ansonia, Connecticut. Allan Webb and Rosey Grier of the New York Giants, Nick Pietrosante of the Detroit Lions and Andy Robustelli of the Los Angeles Rams were among the football legends Jack played with.

Jack taught physical education and driver education in the Fallsburg School District for 32 years. While at Fallsburg he was always ready to coach any sports team. Baseball, basketball, swimming and golf were among the sports he coached. He earned recognition for his ardent support of the DUSO League.

A lifetime member of the Hurleyville Fire Department for 57 years, Jack served as president of the department from 1967-1972. He was a charter member of the

Hurleyville Emergency Relief Squad and past president of Sullivan County ARC.

Jack was also able to find the time to manage the health club at the Raleigh Hotel where he supervised adult physical education and swimming programs.

A longtime member of Kiwanis, Jack and his wife of 37 years, Aileen, the Lt. Governor of Kiwanis, continued to participate in service projects and fundraising efforts to provide for the needs of children worldwide.

Jack participated in a variety of sports, but he especially favored golf and hunting. He played in the Twilight Leagues on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Lochmor Golf Course. He loved golf so much that he built a putting green in his backyard in Woodbourne. Jack also enjoyed owning and racing horses.

A third baseman for the Hurleyville Fire Department softball team, Jack bowled with the department, too. He also played for the Bend-N-Elbow Old-Timers in the Monticello softball league.

A great sense of humor and the ability to live life to the fullest always made Jack the life of the party. He was well-known by chefs at the casinos where he liked winning games and enjoying a good meal.

Jack and Aileen retired to Florida where he worked at Boca West Golf course and continued to relish playing rounds with

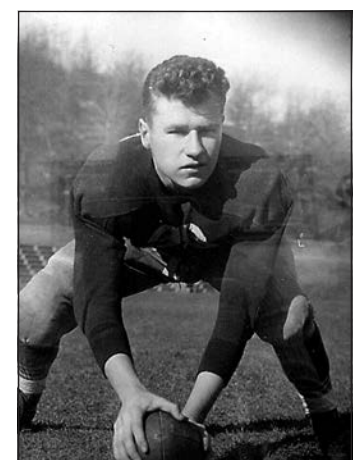
friends.

He will always be remembered with great fondness by his family, his friends, his teammates and his players.

"My dad enjoyed coaching and retirement to the fullest," remembers his son, Jack. "Look up coaching in the dictionary and you'll find his picture. Look up retirement and you'll find his picture again."

Jack was eighty-nine when he passed away on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 in Boca Raton, Florida, after a valiant battle with heart disease.

Jack is one of Hurleyville's many extraordinary treasures.



Jack played football in college and in a semi-professional league.

Visit www.hurlevillenyny.com to find more treasures in Hurleyville.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Upon retiring to Florida, Jack Halchak worked at the Boca West Golf Course where he relished playing golf with friends.

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SENTINEL SPORTS

Angelee Santillo, Sports Editor



SOFTBALL SEASON ENDS IN FALLSBURG-AREA VICTORY

By Angelee Santillo

Going into the 2017 Sullivan County Women's Softball League season, two teams from the Hurleyville surrounding area, The Center for Discovery Diamonds and Bum & Kel's, were early favorites to finish atop the A and B divisions, respectively. As the final games came to a close in late August, after one of the longest seasons the league has seen in years, Bum & Kel's clinched the B-division championship prize for the second year in a row, and the Discovery Diamonds finished the A-division in second place.

Bum & Kel's made it out of the B-division as one of the top four teams, but the regular season saw another Fallsburg-area group, New Hope, finish first in the division. Going into the playoffs, Bum & Kel's played team Courtyard of Roscoe, a contest that became a grueling three-game series. After barely defeating them the first night 19-17, Courtyard came the next day and served Bum

& Kel's a 26-11 defeat that many believed would stun the Loch Sheldrake team into another defeat in game three and knock them out of the series. But Bummies came back the next night and rallied to win the playoff round and advance into the championship. Team New Hope, the B-division regular season champions, were kicked out in the playoff round by Matson Bar & Grill.

With a trophy on the line and the pressure to win a repeat title as the reigning B-division champions, things didn't get any easier for Bum & Kel's in the final games. Matson Bar & Grill, an unlikely contender that proved themselves as the underdogs that could, took Bum & Kel's to another three-game series with a valiant effort that tested the division favorites until the very end. However, the seasoned team was able to escape the series with a final win over the newly assembled Matson team to be crowned, for the second year in a row, the B-division champions of the Sullivan County Women's Softball



PHOTO PROVIDED

L&B Tack outlasted the Discovery Diamonds to win their fifth consecutive A-Division championship.

League.

Unfortunately, the Discovery Diamonds did not have as successful a run. Although an early favorite to take the division this year, the shadow of reigning champions L&B Tack remained over their heads the entire season. Going into the season, the coaches and players knew that L&B, a team

that had remained A-division champions for four consecutive years, would not let them swipe the title easily.

By the end of the regular season, although finishing in second place to L&B Tack in the division, the Discovery Diamonds were actually the only team to beat L&B—twice. They also ended the season without having been defeated more than once by a single team in either division. With stats that impressive, the Diamonds headed into the playoff round against new rivals, team Welsh Cabin of Jeffersonville and, although the games were very close (17-13 the first night and 12-11 the second), were able to defeat Welsh's in just two games, avoiding a third. L&B defeated league veterans Charlie's Angels in two games that were also fairly close, and the A-division championship round saw a rematch of last year's series.

The first night was played at the White Sulphur Springs Firemen's Park, an unusual place for A-division championship games traditionally played at Collins Park, but the change in location did not keep fans from coming out to see final game between the two teams

widely regarded as some of the best the league has ever seen. In front of such a large crowd, L&B Tack came out to defend that four-year title with a fury, winning 12-2 in seven innings with the only Diamonds runs scored on a single home run hit.

Hoping to force a game three and save face from the previous night, the Discovery Diamonds dug deep as the home team of the night to give L&B Tack a hard run into the final inning. With the score at 11-10 L&B, after holding the reigning champions at bay the entire game, the Discovery Diamonds failed to capitalize on their last-ups and convert any additional runs. L&B Tack came out victorious in one of the hardest games and teams they have faced in years to remain the A-division champion of the Sullivan County Women's Softball League for the fifth year in a row, an impressive showing that has been applauded across the league.

Bum & Kel's, New Hope, and The Discovery Diamonds all finished the 2017 softball season at the top of the divisions and played incredible softball, a feat each team should be immensely proud of.



PHOTO PROVIDED

The team representing Bum 'n Kels from Loch Sheldrake captured its second straight B-Division crown.

EXPLORERS END SEASON ON POSITIVE NOTE

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – The Sullivan Explorers ended their second season of play in the Empire Professional Baseball League in August with a doubleheader sweep of the Old Orchard Beach Surge, winning 13-5 and 2-1 on their home field.

The doubleheader sweep of the league's regular season champions enabled the Explorers to close the season with five wins in the final seven

game set with the Surge at Generals Park, and gave them a total of eight wins in the second half of the season.

It was a positive finish to a rather dismal year. Not only did the Explorers fail to defend their 2016 champion-

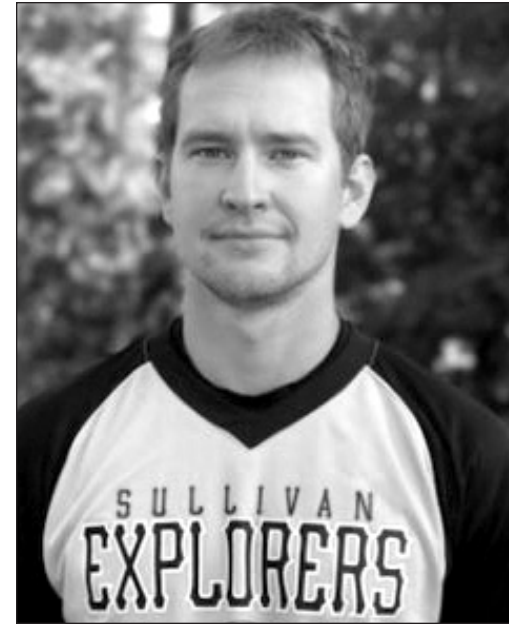


PHOTO PROVIDED

Pitcher Phillip Richmond

ship, they did not make the playoffs this year, finishing in last place overall. They had finished the first half of the regular season with a 15-15 record, tied for second just three games behind the Plattsburgh Redbirds, and seemed poised to repeat the strong finish they rode to the postseason crown last year.

They never got on track after the All-Star break, however, and ended up the season with a 23-35 record, 10 games out of first. There were some bright spots on the year, though, as relief pitcher Phillip Richmond posted a 5-1 record with 8 saves and a 2.97 earned run average. Billy Felo ended up 5-2 on the year, with 65 strikeouts in 62 innings pitched. Samuel Carter ended the season with a .342 batting average and Luc Pomales finished with three home runs and 27 runs batted in. Pomales also won the league's Home Run Derby at the All-Star game.

The management and players of the Sullivan Explorers would like to thank all of the fans, players, families and friends for their support and look ahead to a great season next year.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Third Baseman Luc Pomales



PHOTO PROVIDED

Outfielder Samuel Carter

Nominations sought for Special Coaching Award

FALLSBURG – Fallsburg Central High School has a long history of athletic achievement due in large part to the many excellent coaches that have mentored student athletes. In 2016 the Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) Board of Education created a Wall of Coaching Distinction Plaque.

In this first year of recognition, the District invites nominations from the school community. Please take a moment and think about a Fallsburg coach you believe deserves this new recognition. The Board is in the process of creating the plaque that will, ultimately, be placed by the gymnasium for all to see upon entering. More detailed information about the Wall of Coaching Distinction Plaque is on the District website www.fallsburgcsd.net

or accomplishments stand out as unique, enduring, and impacting, the Board of Education will consider adding the names of deserving individuals to the Wall of Coaching Distinction Plaque. In 2016 the Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) Board of Education created a Wall of Coaching Distinction Plaque policy to honor those coaches who have made extraordinary contributions or experienced superb accomplishments as members of the Fallsburg school community. To that end, the District has established a Wall of Coaching Distinction Plaque as a place of honor. In those instances where an individual's contribution

fallsburgcsd.net under the District Menu item. A short one page nomination form is included. The only other material required are three letters of recommendation and 5-7 pieces of support information on the candidate. If you have any questions, please contact Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz who can guide you through this process. He can be reached at 845-434-6800, ext. 1215 or ikatz@fallsburgcsd.net. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the outstanding men and women who have made a difference in the lives of so many young people on the athletic fields of Sullivan County and beyond.

SUNY SULLIVAN GRAPPLERS POISED FOR BIG YEAR

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – The SUNY Sullivan Generals wrestling squad will open its second season under the tutelage of Coach Anthony Ng on Friday, November 3 at the Ithaca Invitational Tournament in Providence, Rhode Island.

The two day tournament will be a stern test for the Generals, as it typically features twelve teams from around the northeast. Ithaca College, which sponsors the event at Providence's PC&T Center, is the defending champion, having crowned six individual champs last year, including 197-pounder Carlos Toribio, who was named Outstanding Wrestler. Coach Ng had a busy off-season, signing a number of accomplished wrestlers to stock his fledgling program. The team this season will feature four wrestlers who qualified for last year's New

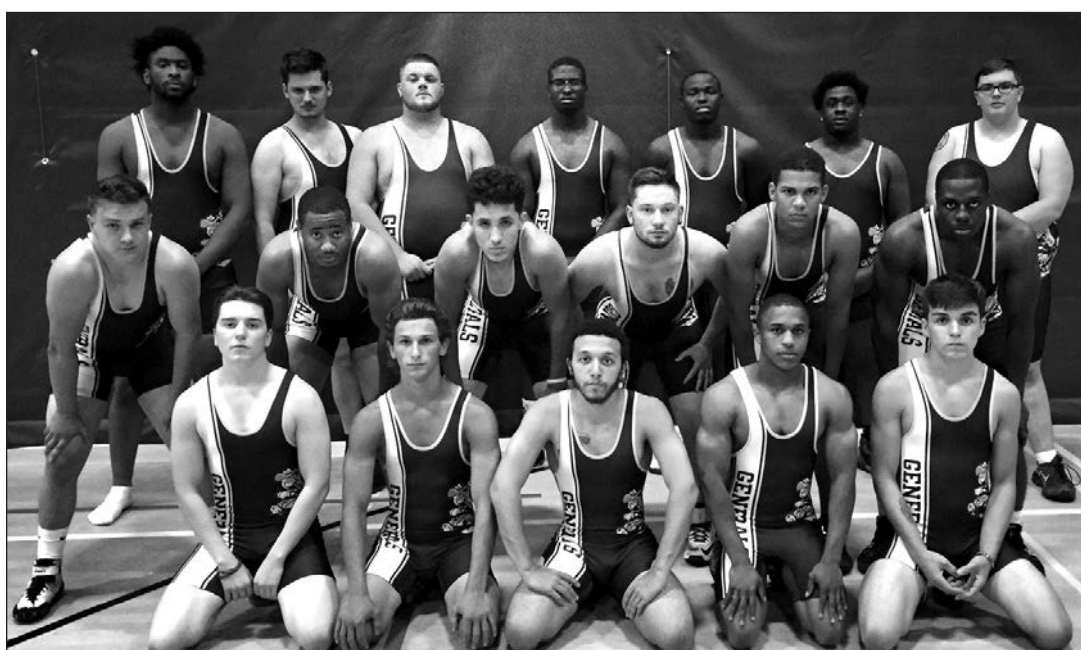


PHOTO PROVIDED

2017-18 SUNY Sullivan wrestling team

York State High School Division I championships.

Coach Ng is particularly deep at 165 pounds, 197 pounds, and 285 pounds, where he has three capable wrestlers in each. Former Middletown standout Horace Duke, a Section IX Division I champion and NYS qualifier

last season leads the way at 285, where he will be pushed by two upstaters, Nate Rose from Fonda-Fultonville High School and Cody Swartout of Coxsackie-Athens.

Joshua Jean-Baptiste of East Ramapo High, Omar Yasin of Albany and Jake Aberk of Long Island will vie

for the 197 slot and Kahhar Rouffai of Brooklyn, Anwaar Francis of the Bronx and Alen Reyes of Mount Vernon will compete at 165. Coach Ng hopes that Sullivan will be able to field a full squad this year for the first time since the program began.

The Generals follow up

their season opening two-day trip to Rhode Island with a dual meet at SUNY Ulster in Stone Ridge on November 10 and then participate in the New York State Intercollegiate Championships at Cornell on November 20. They open their home season with a dual match against the College of Mount Saint Vincent on November 30.

The only other home appearance for the season will be a return match against SUNY Ulster on January 24, 2018.

In addition to its dual match schedule, the Generals will participate in three other tournaments in 2017-2018, including the Bob Quade Cyclone Open in Hackettstown, New Jersey on December 3, the Long Island Open at SUNY Nassau on December 17 and the Wilkes Open at Wilkes College in Wilkes Barre, PA on December 22.