

THE CHANGING SKIES

TRAFFIC LIGHT NOW OPERATIONAL

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE – A process that started nearly three years ago is now nearly complete, and the Hurleyville traffic light became operational on March 1.

A signal warrant analysis completed in June of 2016 by the Albany, NY traffic engineering firm Creighton Manning rec-

ommended that a three color traffic light be approved for the intersection of Main Street, Mongaup Road and Railroad Avenue in the hamlet.

Because Main Street is designated County Road 104, the design and operation of the traffic signal required review and approval by the Sullivan County Legislature, and a resolution was approved on June

16, 2016. The Fallsburg Town Board awarded the contract for installation of the light to Ray Pantel Electric of Middletown in January of 2018, and that work began last fall.

All costs associated with the installation of the traffic signal are assumed by The Center for Discovery as the sole property owner within the Hurleyville Parking District.



PHOTO BY JOHN CONWAY

Workmen put the finishing touches on the traffic light on Main Street on March 1.



PHOTO BY JOHN CONWAY

Janet Carrus, Artistic Director of the Hurleyville Arts Centre (right), introduces Judy Balaban, Chairperson of the Sullivan County Human Rights Commission (left) and attorney Andrea Ogle prior to the screening of the documentary, "13th."

13TH IS A HIT AT ARTS CENTRE

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE – An overflow crowd, including a number of local politicians and dignitaries, packed the cinema at the Hurleyville Arts Centre last week for a showing of the documentary 13th, and a discussion about the criminal justice system in America.

Continuing its commitment to offering diverse, inclusive art forms and a forum for environmental and political discussion, the Arts Centre hosted the special event, which was sponsored by the Sullivan County Human Rights Commission.

"Things need to change," Arts Centre Artistic Director Janet Carrus told the audi-

ence in welcoming them to the event, and other speakers echoed and expanded upon her sentiment. Human Rights Commission chairperson Judy Balaban served as Master of Ceremonies.

Speakers included Ari Mir Pontier, formerly the Executive Director of the County's Human Rights Commission, who was representing State Senator Jen Metzger, Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther, Sullivan County District Attorney Jim Farrell, Legislature Chairman Luis Alvarez, and Bronx attorney Andrea Ogle, among others. Several members of the local "My Brother's Keeper" movement also spoke.

The 13th is a provocative

film by Ava DuVernay, in which an array of scholars, politicians and celebrities discuss the criminal justice system in America and its criminalization of African Americans. The private prison industry comes under particular scrutiny, and filmgoers are left with a distinct feeling that something is broken and that long term solutions are not anywhere on the horizon. The title refers to the thirteenth amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which abolished slavery, and the film makes the point that incarceration has become an extension of slavery, especially as it is applied to African Americans.

FALLSBURG TOWN JUSTICE HONORED

Hofstra Law School Fetes Honorable Amanda Ward

by John Conway

HEMPSTEAD, NY – Fallsburg Town Justice Amanda Ward has been honored by Hofstra University's Maurice A. Deane School of Law. Judge Ward received the Black Robe Award for her impact on the judiciary from the law school's Black Law Students Association at an on-campus ceremony on February 23. She received her Juris Doctorate from Hofstra in 2006.

Judge Ward, who was an international figure skating champion and scholastic track star in her youth, is a lifetime resident of the Town of Fallsburg and currently resides in South Fallsburg with her 10-year old daughter, Gabriela. She has been employed at The Center for Discovery for the past 12-1/2 years, and is currently the Assistant Chief of Career and Professional Development at The Center. She is also an adjunct professor at SUNY Sullivan, teaching a number of courses, including Juvenile Justice, Constitutional Law, Healthcare Law, and Ethics. She previously worked in sports management.

Judge Ward's parents, Roland and Sonia Ward of South Fallsburg, both have



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Honorable Amanda Ward with the plaque she received from her alma mater, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University.

a long history of community involvement, and Judge Ward has often credited them with inspiring a similar commitment in her.

"My extraordinary parents instilled in me a work ethic, a sense of right and wrong, and a penchant for public service," she said. "My family's deep rooted loyalty to our town and county is one of the reasons my commitment to public interest work has always been so strong."

Judge Ward was elected Fallsburg Town Justice in 2015. She is the first female and the first African American to serve in the office.

LET'S TALK SULLIVAN COUNTY

by Luis Alvarez, Chairman Sullivan County Legislature

MARIJUANA: THE HIGHS AND THE LOWS

Let's be blunt (pun intended): so-called "recreational" marijuana is coming. And we have to be ready for it.

We need rules – on how much is too much to drive a vehicle, operate machinery, care for a loved one, show up at work.

We need training – for our police officers, addiction counselors, first-responders – in how to detect and respond to marijuana's effects.

We need education – for the public on the dangers of marijuana use at any level, the signs of addiction and misuse, the symptoms of related health conditions, the best and worst times and situations in which to use the drug.

And we need money – for all of the above.

To me, that's the key sticking point. It's not about whether or not to legalize marijuana – we're long past Prohibition on alcohol consumption, and no one is arguing we go back to those days. Being caught with weed for personal use isn't even a serious crime anymore, and as a retired

police officer, I firmly believe legalizing it will allow us to control it better and put a notable dent in the illicit drug market.

Personally, I'd never use it recreationally, and I'd advocate for folks not to touch the stuff unless they have a compelling health reason to do so – and then only under the supervision of a trained medical professional. You can hurt yourself if you're not careful.

But change is sweeping both this state and the nation, with adults being asked to be treated like adults. I don't plan to stand in the way of that.

Yet, as always, there will be a cost associated with this change, and it cannot be borne solely on the backs of Counties, their health and police departments, and our taxpayers. It should be built into the market for marijuana, similar to how we've placed the burden of certain expenses on the tobacco and alcohol industries. Yes, those costs are passed on to the consumer, but if you're looking to "recreationally" use marijuana, you should be ready to pay for that privilege.

I don't speak on this topic for all my fellow County legislators. You'll need to

contact each one of them to find out where they stand on this issue. But I do think the time has come – and that we as a society are capable – to treat marijuana similarly to



PHOTO PROVIDED

Luis Alvarez is the Chairman of the Sullivan County Legislature. He represents District 6, which includes Hurleyville.

other adults-only products like cigarettes and beer. As usual, it's a matter of money, not just of what's to be made in profit, but what's to be distributed to those of us charged with responding to the consequences, good and bad.

Legislature Chairman Luis Alvarez keeps readers up to date on what is happening in county government with his regular column in the Hurleyville Sentinel.

Television Journalist Shares Her Story on Black History Month

FALLSBURG – At the beginning of Black History Month on February 6, Fallsburg Central School District's Liaison for Family & Community Engagement, Dr. Aleta Lymon invited Cheryl Willis to speak before two assemblies of sixth through twelfth grade students in the high school auditorium.

Ms. Willis is a nationally recognized award-winning television personality for national news network, New York 1 News. As soon as Ms. Willis spoke, she held the full attention of the students. As a young teen she said, "I despised social studies!" Loud applause filled the auditorium. Her main interest at that time was boys. That's what she cared about. Things soon changed.

Her father died at age 38. At the funeral, she wondered who the Willis family was. Where did her ancestors come from? What stories are there in their

history? She felt lost and not firmly planted. Why not find out what were her own roots! Her curiosity led her to research. That process led her to find her great, great grandfather Sandy Willis.

He was born in Heywood County, Tennessee in 1850. He and his mother were sold into slavery when he was a young boy. After the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, Sandy escaped with some fellow slaves and joined the Union Army. As she learned more about him, young Ms. Willis became prouder and stronger. She looked at the quiet room filled with young faces intently listening to her story and said, "You are somebody strong! Know your own history! Know the country's history!"

Ms. Willis was the first in her family to "crack the code" and gain inner strength through knowledge of her roots. It was hard to find a lot of facts



PHOTO PROVIDED

Cheryl Willis addresses students at FCSD.

about her great great grandpa, but one day it came to her in a dream that she could interview him! During the interview he told her what it had been like to be bought as a ten year old child. She held up a cotton ball to show the crop that Sandy Willis learned to pick as a young boy.

The journalist then em-

phasized the power of imagination as she said to the young people, "You can create any world you want! I went inside, and I saw myself as a journalist. The world respects someone who can see themselves in a different place, a profession. Get there in your mind first!"

Ms. Willis concluded her talk by stating that the Civ-

il War is the defining moment in American History. She asked the students to imagine the Emancipation Proclamation, a document that most slaves and descendants of slaves at the time could not read. Many had to sign legal papers with an "x" because they were prevented from learning to read or write.

"Let that 'x' stand for excellent, be extraordinary!" she urged the audience. "Ask your grandparents and parents to tell you their stories. They are everyday people, and they have a story to tell."

Ms. Willis thanked Fallsburg for welcoming her and giving her such respectful attention. It was truly a morning where students found new meaning in the study of social studies and its importance in their lives. Maybe now instead of disliking it, like young Cheryl Willis, they will embrace it just as she did.

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



Q. "Do you have an Irish tradition? How do you celebrate St. Patrick's Day?"

Carena Collura

"I make more than six Irish soda breads for family and friends. Growing up we used to go to Bend 'N Elbow or The Nugget for corned beef and cabbage with family and friends."



Jordyn Gonzalez

"I remember St. Patrick's Day being a big holiday, just like Thanksgiving Day! All of our family would come over and it would be a huge family feast. Decorations covered the walls and everyone would show up in their green shirts. St. Patrick's Day will always be one of my favorite childhood traditions!"



Kelly Soller

"For as long as I can remember, St. Patrick's Day has always been celebrated in my house. My Dad would have it no other way! We wear green, listen to Irish themed music and enjoy corned beef and cabbage. I continue to keep with those traditions now that I have my own family. Except for that cabbage part. I don't eat cabbage nowadays. I proudly hang my Irish flag outside my home and I love to watch QVC on St. Patrick's Day for 24 hours of every Irish product you can think of."

FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



I recently became interested in a rare bird that was in the news. This strange bird is a half male, half female northern cardinal. The anomaly is known as a bilateral gynandromorph. In plain language, half its body is male and the other half is female.

"This remarkable bird is a genuine male/female chimera."

A cardinal bird is an omnivore with a life span of 15 years, a size of 8 to 9 inches and weight of 1.5 to 1.8 oz. Usually, we don't notice this, but male and female cardinals look distinct, a trait known as dimorphism. Male cardinals are bright red and the females are tan.

The news story led me to think about all the birds migrating back to Sullivan County starting in March. The birds also made me think of all the

different birds I see and hear on the Hurleyville O & W rail trail. The Ontario and Western Railway opened the Scranton division in 1888 and operated the line through northern Wayne County into New York State at Hancock until 1957. A major carrier of anthracite coal, the O&W was also an important carrier of milk and dairy products, as well as urban tourists seeking the fresh air of resorts and farm house boarding.

I don't claim to be an expert on birding, with over 450 species found in Sullivan County, but I do look forward to the arrival this March of the American robin, the bright yellow of the goldfinch, and the red-winged blackbird. I plan to be out on Hurleyville's Milk Train Trail this March, seeking out other species and maybe learning a song or two.

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

Covering Main Street and Beyond

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Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan




PHOTO PROVIDED

March is "National Red Cross Month" and a new exhibit, "Remembering the Red Cross," will be running at the Sullivan County Museum.

church each Sunday from 9 - 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 - 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 - 8:30 p.m. Young people are invited to join in a variety of activities including board games, trivia, movie nights, arts and crafts. Upcoming dates are Friday, March 15 and Friday, March 22. More dates will be announced soon 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) closely monitored the lawsuit filed by the developer of the proposed Gan Eden housing development on Columbia Hill against the Town of Thompson and the Town of Thompson Planning Board in the State of New York Supreme Court, County of Sullivan.

The town and the developer have negotiated an Order of Consent Settlement of the lawsuit. The litigation was an attempt to force the Town to rescind zoning changes and park and recreation fees that will affect the Gan Eden development under the pretext that the changes and fees are unconstitutional. The developer allowed the litigation to be dismissed with prejudice in exchange for the town's commitment that the Planning Board act diligently and

promptly with set timelines on the review of their application process.

The stipulation agreement/consent order can be viewed at www.townofthompson.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/TB-Minutes-2019-01-08.pdf.

CHNA maintains that settlement of the lawsuit does not lessen the dangers of the project. The Gan Eden project will deplete our water supply, jeopardize our streams and wetlands, alter our rural environment, and undermine the safety of drivers on our roads.

CHNA remains skeptical of who the residents of the development may be, despite both parties continuing to maintain that their full cooperation is "for the provision of 535 dwelling units to meet the urgent need for housing in the Town of Thompson due to substantial increase in local employment and related economic activity by making a substantial contribution to the stock of housing suitable to the needs of both existing residents and new employees."

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has still not announced the result of Gan Eden's permit request to withdraw millions of gallons a month from the aquifer for use as the development's public water supply. However, the Town of Thompson and the developer of Gan Eden have sent a joint letter to the DRBC indicating the resolution of the zoning litigation. This may lead to the eventual approval of the developer's application to withdraw ground water for use as a public water supply.

Visit CHNA at www.columbiahill.org or on Facebook to learn how you can help to protect your environment and your community.



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The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville

by Jane Harrison



Enough with the ice already, Winter!

We lost another fine musician recently, Tony Decicco. On Saturday, February 23, I was at Hector's Inn in Bethel for the memorial. The Johnny Jules Band and Little Sparrow, both of whom had worked with Tony on many occasions, provided the music. Tony, aside from being a wonderful guitarist in all genres, really shone as a jazz guitarist. I remember him as being the consummate gentleman, always and his wonderful smile. He will be missed.

How are you doing with your New Year's resolutions? The year is two months old and I've kept mine so far. In January, I went into NYC to the Frankenstein exhibit at the Morgan. It was incredibly well done, spanning two rooms with artwork interpretations and the stage and film adaptations of Mary Shelly's creation over the course of 200 years. I was also pleased that they included "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," as well as Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein." Not everything about a reanimated body stitched together from dead bodies needs to be serious. But geek that I am, the most thrilling moments for me were being able to gaze at pages of her original manuscript, written in her neat handwriting on blue notepaper just a hair thicker than onionskin and to see pages of the first print book with her annotations in the margins of how and what she would change for the next printing. Why does this qualify as "something new?" Well, even though I worked at 1 Park Ave, I never once went to a major exhibit there.

I have to thank my friend Joanna Gass for one of the February new experiences. She was doing a Heart-A-Thon the night of February 14, which she does every year in honor of her late husband. This year it was in Callicoon at the Callicoon Brewery. Now, I've never been to Callicoon before and my GPS hates me, so it took me the 17B way and after guiding me on this winding dark road where one expects

monsters to jump out around the next turn, one suddenly comes upon Callicoon and delightful signs of actual life. People were walking around, the streets were brightly lit by the restaurants/bars, and, of course, the famed movie theatre. The Callicoon Brewery is charming, about the size of the Pickled Owl, and three-quarters filled on a Thursday night, some, like me, there to support Joanna (who is always a joy to hear) and some, just for dinner. I will be going back there.

Although the Callicoon Brewery is not a working brewery right now, I did visit a working brewery on February 16. The Catskill Brewery in Livingston Manor was holding its Annual Winter Carnival with truly scrumptious beers and food provided by the Neversink General Store. I'm not a beer drinker at all, but I have to say their Stout could change my mind. Combine that and Chef Jaime's traditional Brazilian shrimp dish served in a bread bowl, nothing short of heaven. A couple of more firsts for my list!

One last thing before I sign off. A friend of mine has been bugging me for a year to come hear him sing Karaoke. He's been to each of these offerings around the area and most recently the Casino. So, the last Friday of February I went to see him. True singers sometimes, but not often, sing Karaoke when they are between bands. I get that. My friend was quite good because he was a singer and one of only three of the twenty I heard that didn't make my ears bleed. I have to give the DJ, Dalen Espie from Hurleyville's Partymaster, a lot of credit and I don't begrudge them the gig. After all, this IS the only entertainment offered at this Resorts World Catskills Casino.

Until next time....

Coming up in March:
Every Monday:
Dutch's Open Mic: 205 Rock Hill Dr., Rock Hill, 7 p.m.
Tuesdays:
The Greater Sullivan County Search and Rescue Orchestra

(Joanna Gass, Steve Schwartz, Kenny Windheim, and Eric Neis), Brew, 280 Rock Hill Dr., Rock Hill, 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays:
Cabernet Frank's Open Mic: March 7 with Fisher and Kean

March 14 with Jason Brian Merrill
March 21 with Little Sparrow

March 28 with Fisher and Kean
April 4 with Little Sparrow

Every Wednesday:
Cab'aroke at Cabernet Franks; 38 Main St., (Exit 98 off 17W) Parksville; 6-11 p.m. Come in costume!

Fridays:
Every Friday: 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., Parksville
March 8: EOL (Empire of Light)

March 15: Acoustic Anonymous
March 22: Darren Steele

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

Saturday March 9 and April 6: Open Mic/Home Grown: host Kevin McDaniel, WJFF 90.5FM, 12-1 p.m.

Pickled Owl, 218 Main St., Hurleyville; 6-9 p.m.
Cabernet Frank's, 38 Main St, (Exit 98 off 17W) Parksville 7 p.m.

(These are the confirmed so far for Saturdays. Please check their FaceBook page for additions)

March 9: Side F/X
March 16: The Alyx Coe Trio

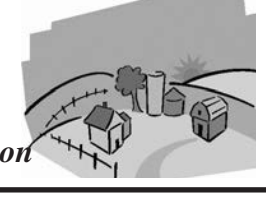
March 23: (To be announced)
March 30: LLL Showcase (Look, Listen, Laugh)

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

The Catskill Distillery: Barry and Friends, Jazz Brunch, 11a.m. - 2 p.m., 2037 State Rte. 17B, Bethel

FROM THE FARM

by Eve Springwood Minson



Although the days are finally longer, our winter has made me feel like Spring will not come a day too soon. I can only hope that Punxatawny Phil was right and that an early Spring is around the corner!

This morning as I stepped outdoors I heard birds singing which was music to my ears! Even though it doesn't feel like it yet, the world around us is slowly awakening, the sap is starting to flow and with each warmer day tree buds will begin to swell.

Soon enough we will see the first bulbs like crocus and snowdrops blooming and then winter will be behind us. I hope by now you've purchased your seeds and are thinking about what to start indoors which should start soon. Now is the time to start perennials, cuttings from existing plants you want to multiply (remember to mist daily!), and annuals that take

a while to germinate. By the end of March you can start peppers and then tomatoes and basil a couple of weeks later. Don't rush the warm season plants because you can't put them out until mid to late May anyway, and you don't want to damage or lose them entirely to a late frost. Make a schedule for yourself and follow it week by week.

I've started making a list about what plants I need to buy to fill in areas on my property - shrubs, perenni-

als, vines and maybe another fruit tree - and all the new ideas I want to try out including a dry creekbed for drainage, a blueberry hedge and putting up the barn quilts I've been painting this winter. If you've ever driven through Grahamsville or Neversink you'll know what I'm talking about! When the soil dries up a bit it'll be time to clean up plants from the fall. Cut back perennials, pull annuals and put plant debris on a new compost pile, turn the old one, rake the beds gently and let Spring sunshine do its work before you do more. Before long you won't have a free minute. Happy almost Spring! Think positive!



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Using 21st Century Skills to Create Solutions

by Denise Sullivan

HURLEYVILLE – Thirty students from four local school districts came together at THINC on January 26, to meet, share, eat and solve problems.

This year's TEAMS Challenge (Technology, Engineering, Art, Math & Science) program is well underway, and the mid-year event was an opportunity to get together for a mini-challenge and some show-and-tell.

TEAMS Challenge is an afterschool club program started in 2016 and open to all middle and high school students (grades 7-12) in the eight Sullivan County school districts. With a focus on the development of problem solving, design thinking, collaboration and presentation, each school fields a team of 5 to 15 students who work together to devise solutions to authentic challenges. These "real world" problems, often found right inside their

local school buildings, range from scanning and 3D printing machine parts, to environmental improvement design.

Staff at the THINC Lab offer support and training to each group, building partnerships and teaching students to work collaboratively with other organizations. Challenges culminate in a meet-up on June 1 at the Hurleyville Arts Centre, where teams present their solutions to supporters and a panel of local experts, who judge the competition.

The 2019 TEAMS are from Sullivan West, Liberty, Roscoe and Tri-Valley schools. At the January mid-year event, they presented their chosen projects, reporting both progress and obstacles.

Two teams – Roscoe and Tri-Valley – are building 3D printers for their schools. The printers, built from kits containing hundreds of parts, will give the students a granular understanding of how they function, as

well as the ability to trouble shoot and repair their new machines. At one-fourth the price of a pre-assembled printer, this project also helps the schools save money. Once assembled, the students will be able to prototype ideas and solutions, using software to design and create small objects, as well as to replace any small plastic cogs or gears needed to repair school machines.

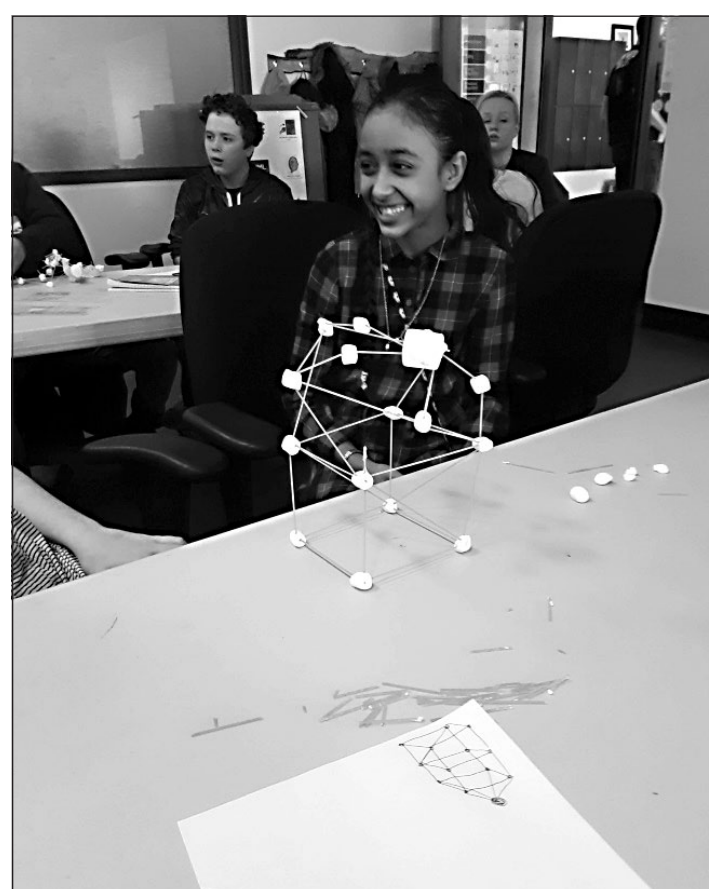
Sullivan West and Liberty both chose projects that will assist students and staff in their schools with schedule and building navigation.

Sullivan West TEAMS found that many students (and some staff) had trouble tracking daily classes in the rotating 6-day school schedule. With each day assigned a letter and color, this all-girl team is building a system of lighted signs that will be hung throughout the school and controlled in the main office. With simple keystroke input, the correct letter and color of the day will be vis-

ible in key locations.

The Liberty TEAMS club adopted a project that will help new students navigate their school building. Especially important for fourth grade elementary kids who are moving up to middle school, this 3-D mapping project will enable users to take a virtual tour of their new homeroom, enabling them to become familiar before actually having to negotiate and memorize rooms and offices. This 15-member group is using a Samsung Go 360 camera and Cupix, cloud-based software that helps users build state-of-the-art 3-D virtual tours. The group can then expand the virtual tour offerings to include other campuses in the future.

The young innovators in the TEAMS clubs are energetic and enthusiastic. We wish them luck as they power through the final semester, working collaboratively to build solutions, relationships, problem-solving skills and grit.



TEAMS members worked together to build towers from spaghetti and marshmallows.



The TEAMS club from Sullivan West school district makes their presentation at the Technology Hub and Incubator.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED!

Sullivan Renaissance extends its efforts into residential neighborhoods.

FERNDALE – Sullivan Renaissance has announced a new initiative to work within neighborhoods in support of community revitalization efforts. The Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Program supports projects that involve beautification, block revitalization and, community engagement in culturally diverse residential neighborhoods.

"If we truly want to revitalize communities we need to empower residential areas so that they can enact the change they want to see, which in turn gives



them a sense of pride. That is infectious and can spread like wildflowers," said Juan Journet, Sullivan Renaissance Neighborhood Revitalization Coordinator.

This Neighborhood Revitalization Program will involve planning, coordination and implementation of projects in partnership with

culturally diverse communities. Sullivan Renaissance will partner with residents, local agencies, elected officials and community stakeholders to identify housing and community development opportunities and solutions.

This is a reimbursement grant up to \$1,500 depend-

ing on the size and scope of the project for block revitalization, pocket parks, community gardens, street art, Safe Streets, neighborhood-based events that encourage interaction and communication, as well as cultural celebrations. Grants are accepted on a rolling basis as funds are available.

For more information, call Juan Journet at 845-295-2445, or email info@sullivanrenaissance.org. Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation.

EVERYONE IS IRISH ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

by Heather Gibson

IRELAND – I recently travelled to Ireland, and now I know why they call it The Emerald Isle. I have never seen such a lush and more vibrant shade of green. Those I met there kept reminding me, "This is what rain does." Let it rain! Let it rain!

There are acres and acres of farmlands, rolling hills, and shamrocks; lots and lots of shamrocks. I spent quite a bit of time outside our thatched roof cottage, looking for a four leaf clover. How cool would it be to find one in Ireland? That would be extra lucky, but I already received good luck when I found out I was going to Ireland for my 40th birthday, so who was I to ask for more?

I let my husband drive the standard stick shift rental car with the steering wheel on the wrong side of the car, and the car on the wrong side of the road. Or is it the right side of the road? Most of the world drives like this. Perhaps it's us who have it backwards?

I closed my eyes a lot during our road trips. Wowzers, people fly here! There's



The Airbnb where the author stayed in Ireland, a traditional thatched roof cottage with an adjoining field of Shamrocks.

also no shoulder to any of the roads, so it's hard to pull over. I could literally reach right out my window and touch a shrub, or a farm animal. There are no red lights to sit at. All intersections are round-a-bouts. I keep telling everyone, "Once an Irishman sits, he will stay there for a while. But boy does he rush to get where he sits!"

Our meals were hearty. I ate a lot of root vegetables, brown bread, and butter. And soup; lots and lots of soup! Most soups are made with root veggies. Soup is especially good in the rain, isn't it? I really enjoyed breakfast there. I'm a huge tomato lover, so to see cooked tomatoes on my plate for

breakfast was a welcome surprise. Mostly though, the homemade scones and fresh jam were unbelievably tasty. Each person thought their scones were the best in Ireland. That was a treat left out for us at several of our Airbnb homes.

I was taken aback by how safe I felt. I watched school children walking home from school in small groups without adults anywhere in sight. At first, it's a bit alarming, but if you watch just a little closer, they were under the watchful eyes of adults the entire time; store owners, crossing guards, and people passing by. Community is front and center, and people are friendly.

I was also taken aback by a painted billboard I saw outside a hospital. It was a fundraiser for an MRI machine. In doing further research, I learned that most acute care hospitals; even those with ICUs, do not have MRI machines. Patients often travel over an hour to get an MRI in Ireland. So while

healthcare is free in Ireland, they are still quite far behind when it comes to advanced care and necessary medical equipment.

The Irish are most loyal to their country when it comes to sports, and they also are loyal to their county teams. Most homes and businesses sport some type of hurling, rugby, or soccer flag. I still think about a rugby game we came across. It was pouring rain, and the cars were lined up and down the streets. I looked at the crowd and couldn't believe my eyes. There were so many people with rain gear and umbrellas. So many times back home we would cancel a game, or we would say to ourselves, "It's nasty outside today, I'm not going out in that." But in Ireland, it's always raining, so if they let the rain spoil their fun, they would never go outside. Despite the weather, life goes on. I purchased a Shamrock umbrella to remind me of just that!

A Dublin hotel, a thatched roof cottage, a Mongolian yurt, a modern farm home, and our final night at Bunnary Castle, where we attended a medieval feast, made for the most amazing accommodations along the way. Each stay was better than the last! But, the absolute best part of Ireland was checking "Kiss the Blarney Stone" off my bucket list.

Happy St. Patrick's Day. And remember, everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day!

OUT DIVINE CORNERS WAY

by Jonathan Shimkin

At 30 below zero, my mind stops worrying about the cold; it stops doing much of anything; it seizes like a car engine in the arctic air and sputters in disbelief. So it was, in January this year. When the PSAs began leading with "Frostbite Alert" instead of "Weather Advisory," we entered a new phase of winter. Pictures of Lake Michigan iced over as if it were the size of Loch Sheldrake introduced an unprecedented scale of weather event. Animal life receded into the depths of the forest and left the world looking uninhabited (rabbits excepted). The windshield fluid in my Corolla froze. The Polar

Vortex, I read, is like an uncaged beast, usually held in check by thermal and ocean currents. These currents are weakening under the stress of global warming, causing the one big Vortex to split off into multiple smaller vortices, each of which spirals off to stress, in turn, some unaccustomed part of the planet – like Sullivan County, for instance. I stopped making calculations about the cold and just kept out of it as much as possible.

Vortices appear in nature in many guises – in whirlpools, in the swirl of leaves in autumn wind, in the canny design of a nautilus shell – and its spiraling shape, as natural fact or metaphor,

has its aficionados. Vorticism was heralded by Ezra Pound, back in 1914, as the poetic mode of the future; he defined a vortex as "the point of maximum energy... a radiant node or cluster... through which ideas are constantly rushing." The wind was all that rushed through our Polar Vortex. The energy exhibited was that of the majesty of nature herself, asserting her prerogative over our best-laid plans.

The aforementioned rabbits continued to make an appearance each morning, even at peak freeze – a pair of them, like grace notes in their thick fur and unconstrained tumult, leaping around each other just

beyond our front porch and nibbling at the remains of summer flowers, brown and brittle in the porch urns. I whistle to the rabbits and they get very still, ears twitching and heads turning, scanning their perimeter for the source of this new sound: whistle – twitch; whistle – twitch... This can go on for several minutes before they grow impatient and bound off back towards the woods, where I trust they have warmer quarters. They return each day, just around sunrise, two radiant nodes of energy through whom a resilient life-force swirls to meet and counter-balance the extremity of this frozen world.

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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 to 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 and gear for free.

The 31st Annual Ice Fishing contest is history. The morning broke with clear skies, sun and a brutal wind. The wind did not let up all day and made for a rough day on the ice. The diehards were there; we had 131 adults and 20 youths competing. To make matters worse, the fishing was not the greatest. The big fish of the day was caught by Nick Price of Woodridge. It was a 21.5 inch, 2.70 pound pickerel. In the Firemen's Contest, the Neversink Fire Department defended its title with 2.24 lbs. of fish, followed by some newcomers: Second Place was the Florida Fire Department with 1.6 lbs. and third was the Pine Island Fire Department with 1.12 lbs. of fish.

Here are the rest of the results from the day:
 Adult Bullhead: 1st place Peter Chiavelli, 2nd place Ray Muthic, 3rd place Phill Howerd
 Adult Panfish: 1st place Keven Janiak, 2nd place

Frank Torres, 3rd Place
 Frank Torres
 Adult perch: 1st place Peter Chiavelli, 2nd place Peter Chiavelli, 3rd place Scott Havner
 Adult pickerel: 1st place Nick Price 21.5 " 2.70 lbs. = 24.2.0, 2nd place Mike Fant 18.5" 1.59 lbs. = 20.09, 3rd place Murt 18.5" 1.46 lbs. = 19.96

Youth Bullhead: 1st place Logan Janiak, 2nd place Ayden Brown, No 3rd
 Youth panfish: 1st place Logan Janiak, 2nd place Logan Janiak, 3rd place Ryleigh LaMantia
 Youth perch: 1st place Nick Guerette, 2nd place Xavuer Yenic, 3rd place Nick Guerette
 Youth Pickerel: 1st place Hailo Hannold 17.5" 1.41 lbs. = 18.91, 2nd place Hailo Hannold 16.00" 1.00 lbs. = 17.00, 3rd place Logan Janiak 16.00" .98 lbs. = 16.98

Firemen's Contest:
 1st place: Neversink Fire Dept. they won last year 2.24 lbs.
 2nd place: Florida Fire Dept. 1.61lbs.
 3rd place: Pine Island Fire Dept. 1.12 lbs.

Next event will be the Morningside Fishing Classic on Saturday, June 15 (first day of bass season) from 5 a.m. - 1 p.m.

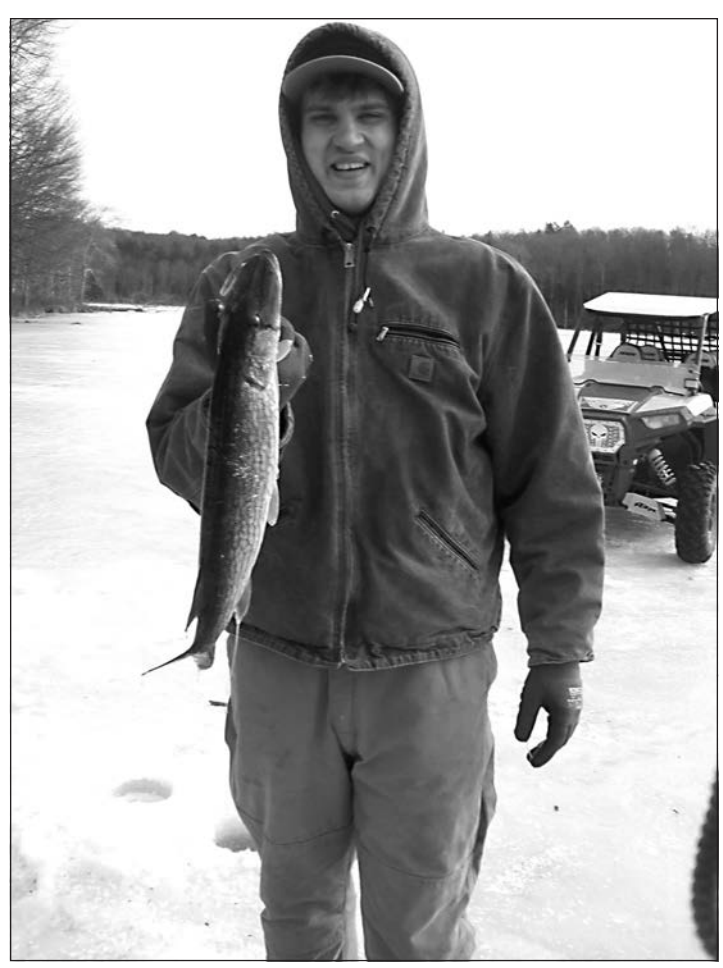


PHOTO PROVIDED
Nick Price of Woodridge with his prize-winning 21.5 inch pickerel.

As I write this month's column, we are under a Winter Weather Advisory. The paper will be out in March and starting on March 16, as in past years, there will be a "Burn Ban in Effect."

The "Burn Ban" is from March 16 thru May 14. During this time frame there is **NO OPEN BURNING**.

Every year, we go from snow to mud to very dry until everything greens up. Mother Nature will determine how long each of these phases will last. It doesn't take much to start a brush fire. Please! **No Open Burning**.

Mother Nature will also dictate if we will have a period of flooding with the "Spring Thaw." When we get the warm weather and spring rains with snow on the shoulder of the road we get what is called ponding (big puddles on the road). This is a dangerous situation. You don't know if the road is washed out under the water or how deep the water is. My advice is **DO NOT Drive** through it.

In the past, the Town and Fire Department has put up barricades, cones, ropes and flares and yet people drive over and around them. They get stuck and put themselves and the Emergency Responders in danger needlessly. In Hurleyville, there are a couple of spots that I can almost guarantee will flood (pond) if the conditions are right. The bridge on Brophy Road, the bridges on Mongaup Road, Brickman Road by Morningside Park, and a new one the last couple of rain storms is by the Morningside Four Corners traffic light. Take care in approaching these dangerous spots during the **Spring Thaw**.

Last month I talked about activated alarms. I must add a new one to that list, and that is the Fire Department responding to an activated alarm when a technician is on site changing a battery.

Why is the Fire Department dispatched? Who is not doing their job?

Be safe out there and use common sense.

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

The original Hurleyville Sentinel ceased publication in 1942 and became part of the Bulletin-Sentinel, a weekly newspaper published in Monticello. The following items appeared in that publication:

March 3, 1959

Fallsburg Plans New Town Hall

Fallsburg will have a new Town Hall to relieve overcrowding at the present town office which has been used for 22 years.

Monday night the Town Board approved a proposition which will allow the Fallsburg Parking District to renovate the former O&W railroad station into a town hall.

The proposal includes provisions for the township to lease the building at a cost of \$2,000 annually plus interest. Total cost of the renovation is not to exceed \$40,000.

Fallsburg officials point out that the one room presently used by the township is far too small for the various departments. Everything must be kept in the one room and there is no privacy for those coming to see officials.

The new building will have supervisor's office, utility office, water department office, room for the town clerk, a 24 by 24-foot courtroom for trials and public meetings and a jury room. Also there will be a room for the police and an assessors' room.

Plans call for advertising for bids next week. Officials hope to receive bids by the end of the month and start of the project this spring.

March 10, 1959

School Addition Work Delayed

The 387-foot addition to the Grahamsville School will not be completed by the September first deadline, it was



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Morningside Hotel in Hurleyville suffered a disastrous fire on February 21, 1964.

learned today from W. Eugene Ross, Tri-valley Central School principal.

Reason for the delay was the extremely cold weather this winter, the school head stated. The contracts were awarded October 23 but contractors were unable to do any ground-moving work since. Thus it will be nearly a year before the work can be completed the school head indicated.

The new construction will be on the back of the present building which is along Route 55 east of Grahamsville. At the far end of the wing will be 14 elementary classrooms and between the new rooms and the old building will be a new cafeteria and gymnasium.

According to the principal, there is a total enrollment of 618, which is expected to jump to at least 650 next year. The capacity of 825 for the new building is expected to be reached by 1965, the principal noted. There are now 65 pupils in the kindergarten. The faculty has 29 members, including Mr. Ross.

Tri-Valley started out as a consolidated district, with 13 school districts, in 1945. Total number of students was 142. In July, 1946, it became a union free school and in 1960 three district, Bradley, Hasbrouck and Thunder Hill, were taken in.

This was reduced to a total of 15 when Tri-Valley lost the

Lackawack District to Ellenville Central after a court battle. However, Divine Corners was added in 1951. In February, 1957, three Claryville districts were added, and in May, 1957, the state allowed the district to centralize. There now are 22 former districts in the Central School.

March 17, 1959

Corporation Buying Morningside Hotel

Sale of the modernized Morningside Hotel property between Hurleyville and South Fallsburg was disclosed by a deed filed at the county clerk's office last Wednesday.

Earlier that day it had been learned from Mack Weiner, formerly comptroller at Monticello Raceway and former operator of a hotel at Livingston Manor, that he was president of New Morningside Associates, Inc., owner and operator of the hotel.

The deed gave purchasers of the resort property as HenRo-Lil Realty Corp. of South Fallsburg.

Mr. Weiner said several others were associated with him in the purchase. No names were given, however. Seller was the Morningside Hotel Corp. of Hurleyville and the deed was signed by Louis Zuch, as president.

The deed also notes that the

transfer is made of the rights and privileges of the seller to use of the golf course located on the premises of Morningside Park Development Corp.

The hotel, which is undergoing a million dollar renovation and rebuilding program, has to be seen to be appreciated. Last year a 60-room luxury unit was constructed by Farber. Each room is heated and has individual air conditioning control. Directing the construction for Farber is Henry Farber of South Fallsburg, president.

The main building on the premises was renovated with such things as a juggler's lounge, with circular bar and striking color scheme. There is an orchid room adjoining which has the intimate touch so sought after for small parties and gatherings.

The resort has all the other features in a modern resort, such as night club, a rebuilt swimming pool, beautiful lobby and auxiliary rooms. The buildings are on the east side of the lake which has some of the area's best bass fishing.

Being torn down is the original 65-room main house of the resort, which is across the highway from the new buildings. Like most big resorts in the region, the new owners are looking toward the future and are thinking of such things as an indoor pool, ski runs and winter operation. 18-hole golf course north of the lake will be completed this spring.

Mr. Weiner, who brings to the resort several years of hotel operating knowledge, is planning a program to make the resort one of the best in the mountains.

There are accommodations for 400 and everything will be ready for the opening just prior to Decoration Day. Mr. Weiner said that the resort will cater to local banquets and gatherings. Its resort menus will be built around an international cuisine which will feature shrimp and lobster.

FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Kelly Wells & Amanda Letohic



We're so excited that it's March and that spring is just around the corner! March is also NYS budget time and we're hoping that you'll help us out again.

Governor Cuomo has once again proposed drastic cuts to Library Aid and Library Construction Grants in his budget. Cuts in Library Aid can lead to increased service fees paid to the Ramapo Catskill Library System to keep all services that are offered, including but not limited to, 3-times-a-week deliveries, consortium e-book purchasing, which allows for a larger e-book collection for all member libraries, and access to databases like Rosetta Stone and JobNOW. Cuts in Library Aid may also lead to a cut in the services offered by the Ramapo Catskill Library System - such as maybe only getting deliveries once or twice a week.

So how can you help, you ask? Email, Tweet, and/or write to your local NYS Assembly person and State Senator and tell them how important the library is to you! Use the #NYLALAD19 in your Tweets and posts to social media. You guys did a great job last year, and we're hoping for your support again! You can find some draft letters that you can edit and send to your respective representatives by visiting www.nyla.org and clicking on the 'Advocacy' tab. Your voice matters!

In the meantime, check out these great programs

that we have coming up:
 On Monday, March 4, we'll be starting our 6-week program series, Messy Kid Art. Every Monday evening from March 4 through April 8, kids ages 6+ can come in and do a couple of fun art projects each week. Call or register online to sign up! (You do not need to attend all program sessions...but it's so fun, why wouldn't you?)
 On Wednesday, March 6 at 6 p.m., adults ages 18+ can come in and make a fun St. Patrick's Day ribbon wreath. On Thursday, March 7 at 6 p.m., it's Ladies Night! Ladies age 18+ can come in to paint a birdhouse.
 On Wednesday March 13, families can come in to make a few shamrock pretzel pops. Thursday, March 14, we'll have Jill Hubert-Simon from Sullivan County Public Health here to teach everyone about emergency preparedness.
 Wednesday, March 20, everyone can come in and make a fun little "grass head." As always, our Preschool Story Time is Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. March is packed with fun programs so don't miss out. Be sure to call, stop in, or register on our online calendar to sign up and save your spot.
 Here's a reminder of our contact information, call: 845-436-6067, email: fbr@rcls.org, or stop in at 12 Railroad Plaza South Fallsburg, NY or follow us on social media.

FCSD SCHOOL NURSE HONORED

FALLSBURG - Prior to the Fallsburg High School girls basketball game versus Cornwall on February 1, the FCSD honored nurse Lonnie Lindsey for her long and faithful service to the District. Having the ceremony before a sports event was totally appropriate because Mrs. Lindsey has been responsible for making sure all Fallsburg athletes had their physicals prior to eligibility and attended to many injuries and illnesses affecting the players after games during the school week.

The cheerleaders acknowledged Mrs. Lindsey with a skit, with one of them playing the nurse and others coming to her for treatment of various injuries and maladies. The overacting had the audience laughing along with Mr. Lindsey. The Retirement Celebration Program thanked her for her dedication to her job for 29 years.

The District honored the retiring School Nurse



PHOTO PROVIDED

FCSD Director of Athletics Suzanne Lenzian, School Nurse Lonnie Lindsey, and Teacher's Aide Lisa McAdoo (l - r) on the occasion of Ms. Lindsey's retirement after 29 years of service.

with balloons, flowers and a lovely plaque. The most memorable honors of the evening were the words of gratitude from two colleagues, Lisa McAdoo and Sue Lenzian. Ms. McAdoo grew up in Fallsburg, starred on the school's basketball team, and is currently a Teacher's Aide. She attends most of the sports events and assists in scorekeeping and whatever else is needed. Ms. Lenzian is FCSD's Director of Athletics. They thanked Ms. Lindsey for her profound effect on each of

their lives.
 In acknowledging the retiring nurse, Ms. Lenzian's words capture Ms. McAdoo's and countless others: "Lonnie, your dedication, commitment and love for Fallsburg will never be forgotten. You have touched so many lives in this community, including mine. I appreciate all you have taught me, all you have supported me through, and for all the love you have shared. We wish you a huge congratulations and best of luck."

THE CENTER FOR DISCOVERY JOB FAIR



March 25, 2019
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Fallsburg Senior Center
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Fallsburg, NY 12733

For more info contact:
845.707.8301
peopleoperations@tcfcd.org
thecenterfordiscovery.org

The Center for Discovery is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Who We Are
 The Center for Discovery is remarkable for its more than 60 years of service to children and adults with severe disabilities, medical frailties and Autism Spectrum Disorders. The Center offers educational, clinical/health, residential, family supports in addition to other programs and services. The Center features universally designed facilities specifically built to meet the physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and creative needs of children and adults it serves.

What We Do
 The Center for Discovery is a national specialty center for the advanced care and treatment of children and adults with significant disabilities, medical complexities and autism spectrum disorders.

Working Here
 We have over 1,600 employees, many of whom started their careers with us and are now expert farmers, whole-food chefs, teachers, clinicians, doctors, and celebrated leaders. Our growing reputation for excellence has attracted talented staff from all over the world. The possibilities here are limitless - join our team today.

OVER UNITY

Chapter Two—Residence of MacArthur Quint, Lake Greer, NY

MacArthur Quint stood there silently, stunned by the news he'd just heard.

Dietrich Lamb, his old college roommate and business partner was dead, and his wife—widow—was saying she thought he had been murdered.

Quint wasn't even sure if he should really care, after all that had happened among the three of them—Quint, Lamb and his wife, Janice—so many years ago. His own nasty break-up with Janice had literally changed the direction of his life, and so dramatically that he could never have imagined where he would go and what he would do.

The emotions battled within him, with part of him wanting to tell her he was sorry, but he wasn't interested in helping her, so have a nice life, and another part wanting to know more about what had happened, not just with D-Lamb's death, but with both of them over the past twenty-odd years. He thought he should be fuming at this woman, and was not sure why he wasn't.

"Why don't we go inside?" he finally said, and led the way to the house.

As he reached the top of the steps to the front porch, he paused, waiting for her to catch up.

"I really need to use your bathroom," she said as she stepped onto the porch. "I drove straight through, and only stopped for gas."

"You drove straight through from Atlanta?" he asked incredulously. "Why?"

"Frankly, I was afraid someone might be following me," she said.

He unlocked the front door and stepped aside so she could enter, but not be-

fore he took a quick look around the perimeter of his property. He caught himself, and decided he was being paranoid. Entering the house, he turned on the light in the foyer and pointed to the small bathroom just off the hallway. A few minutes later she had joined him in the kitchen, looking like she had splashed cold water on her face.

"I'll make some coffee," he offered, starting the process. "And you'll tell me what this is all about. Are you hungry? I can make you some eggs."

"To tell you the truth, I'm starving," she said. "Do you still make those incredible omelets like you used to?"

"No."

"Scrambled will be fine," she said, sitting on one of the stools at the breakfast bar.

Quint prepared the eggs and some toast while the coffee maker did its thing and when everything was finished he set the meal in front of her. He poured a little milk in a second cup, filled it the rest of the way with coffee and sat down across from her.

"So let's hear." She swallowed a forkful of eggs and took a bite of toast before speaking. He couldn't help but notice she did not look him in the eye when she started talking.

"D-Lamb was on the verge of a breakthrough," she began. "You probably don't know that he has been teaching—had been teaching—at Tech for about the last ten or twelve years, and continued to run the company you guys started on the side. The arrangement worked out well for him, because he got to use the Tech facilities and equipment when necessary and got a lot of students to help him out in his work."

"Lately, he had been spending more and more time at the shop, working into the

morning hours almost every night. He worked all day last Sunday, and Monday morning he didn't come home. At first I didn't think that much about it, but then he missed a class—his teaching assistant called the house looking for him—and I got worried. I drove to the shop; his car was there, but the place was closed up tight. Then I noticed that the car he and the students had been working on—he always referred to it as his "Lamb-orgini"—was gone."

"I wasn't sure what to do, so I went back to the house, and the police were there when I pulled in. They told me D-Lamb was dead. He had failed to make a sharp curve going south on 29 near East Point and ran into a bridge abutment, completely demolishing the car. I was sure something on the car had failed, and caused him to lose control. But they later told me they discovered that he had a heart attack while he was driving."

"I'm sorry."

"Mac, I don't think he had a heart attack. He never had any heart issues. You know D-Lamb didn't drink or smoke. He had just had a physical a couple of months ago. Something just doesn't sound right."

"Who told you he had a heart attack? How did they determine that? Autopsy?"

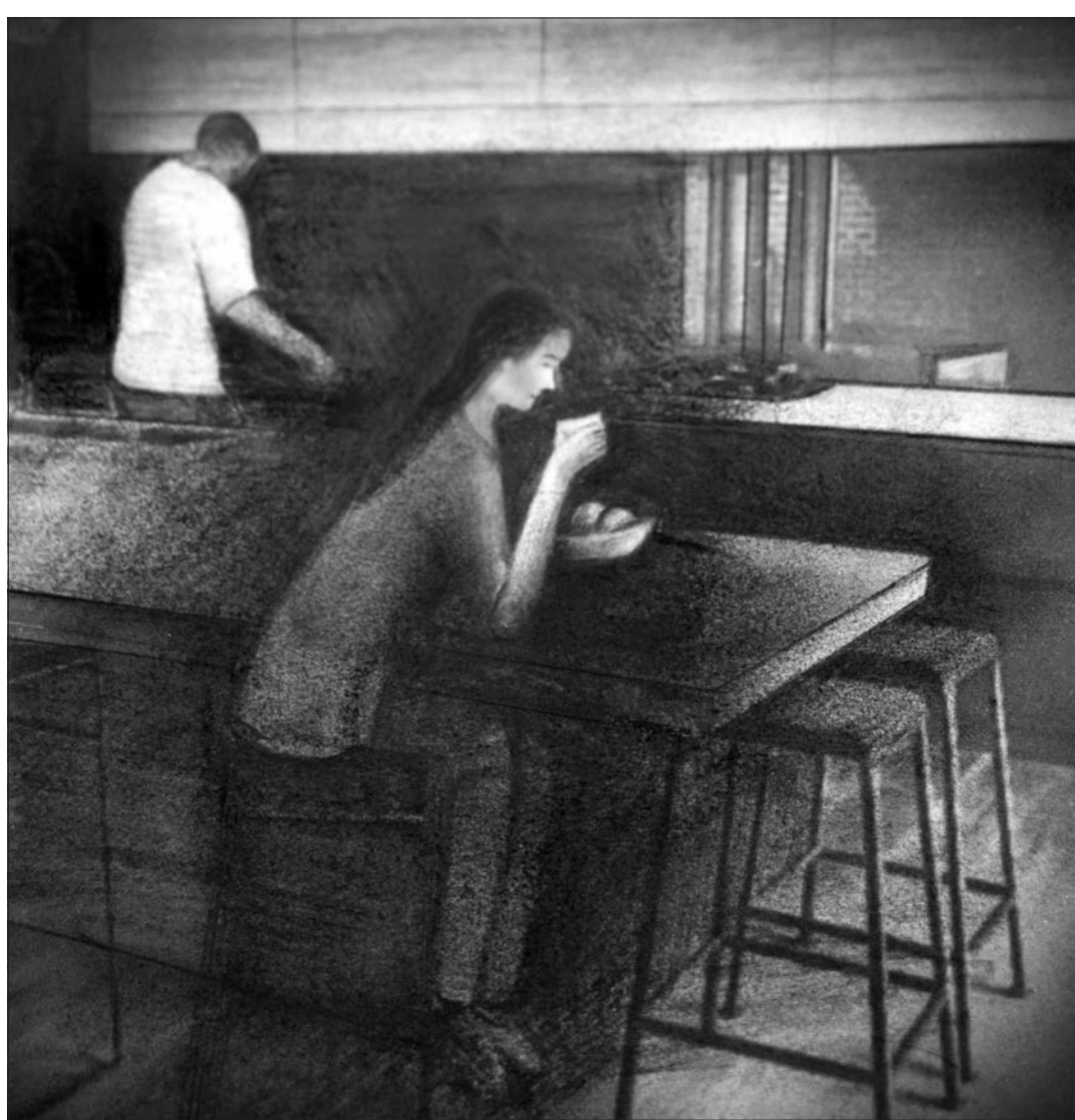
"Well, they did an autopsy, of course. Someone from the medical examiner's office told me when I went to retrieve his personal belongings. I just don't believe it."

"Those things do happen, Janice."

"I can't help it; I just think something isn't right. And then there was the break-in."

"The break-in?"

"Yes. The day after the funeral, I went to the shop with a couple of the students he had working for him. They wanted to collect



their things, and so on. So I let them in, and they told me a lot of stuff was missing. Computer files, some videos, a few other items that were too technical sounding for me to repeat to you."

"So the place had been burglarized."

"Not that anyone would notice. I called the police, and they could not find any sign of forced entry. The students made them a list of the stuff that they knew was missing, and they said they would investigate. I haven't heard anything back from them since."

"You said D-Lamb had been on the verge of a breakthrough. What's that about?"

"You know I don't really understand anything at that level, Mac. Something with

Quint prepared a breakfast of eggs, toast and coffee while he waited for Janice to tell him the story of D-Lamb's death.

a battery. He had been working on it for years, and two weeks ago he told me he had "figured it out." That's all he said, that he had "figured it out."

"But you have no idea what?"

"No, but I thought you might know, and that's one of the reasons I decided to come here."

"You thought I would know? I haven't spoken to D-Lamb in more than twenty years. How would I know what he was working on?"

"I thought you would know because he called it your battery. He always referred to it as your battery. For years now, he has always called it 'Quint's Glint.'"

You have been reading an excerpt from the novel in progress, Over Unity. Stay tuned for further installments in future editions of The Hurleyville Sentinel.

Spotlight on a Hurleyville Treasure

by Kathleen Sullivan

ALICE HALCHAK

The daughter of William and Adele Navetski, Alice Marie Halchak was born in New Haven, Connecticut on August 26, 1927.

Alice moved with her husband, John, and their children from Connecticut to Woodridge, New York in 1957. The family moved to Hurleyville in 1958.

Raising six children kept Alice busy. She was the mother of two daughters, Nancy and Leslie, and four sons, Jack, Richard, Tom and Craig. Alice spent years caring for Nancy, Leslie and Craig...victims of a genetic disease that took their young lives.

Alice was devoted to her job at Sullivan County ARC. She loved working with the clients and worked there for many years until she passed away in 1997.

The family operated coffee shops at several hotels and bungalow colonies, including the Olympic and Lansman's. They all had different work schedules, but Alice was still



PHOTO PROVIDED

Alice Halchak

able to take good care of her family.

Her son, Jack, remembers, "Mom kept a spotless house. She could make a bed with you in it and vacuum the house in a flash. My friends and, of course, Richard, Tom and I, called her 'Vacuum Cleaner Alice.' True story, you could take a clean shirt out to change into, shower, and the shirt would be in the wash before you could put it on."

Alice was an excellent cook and some of her family's favorite dishes were braciolo and galumpkis. No one was ever hungry when they left Alice's kitchen.

She faithfully took Jack, Richard and Tom to all their Little League practices and games.

Jack remembers one of his first races as a freshman on

the Fallsburg swim team, "My Dad was the coach. He had me swim the 400-yard freestyle. I won and could barely drag myself out of the pool. My Mom was yelling for him to help me...he didn't."

Alice loved her grandchildren. She traveled to Rhode Island and Florida to visit with them. She watched Austin, her grandson who still lives in Hurleyville, whenever she could.

A charter member of the Hurleyville Emergency Relief Squad, Alice rode on many ambulance calls with the squad.

Alice was a member of the Hurleyville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary, too. Jack remembers the main building of the bungalow colony behind the old firehouse (MobileMedic's home today) was on fire on a cold and nasty day, "Another favorite meal that Mom made was homemade clam chowder and grilled cheese sandwiches. We were going to have it for supper that day. I don't know how she did it but everyone at that fire got clam chowder and grilled cheese sandwiches for supper that night."

Alice led a fulfilling life and left us way too soon on November 24, 1997.

Alice Halchak is one of



PHOTO PROVIDED

Alice Halchak (right) with her son, Jack and his wife Mary-Ann.

Hurleyville's many wonderful treasures. Please visit www.hurleyvillen.com to discover more treasures.

TCFD TO HOST CAREER FAIR

by John Conway

SOUTH FALLSBURG – The Center for Discovery will be hosting a career fair for prospective employees in South Fallsburg this month. The Center's Director of People Operations, Dr. Sean Wall-Carty, says it is the first time The Center will host such an event in the Town of Fallsburg.

"This local event will have representatives from People Operations as well as the residential program on hand to answer any questions prospective employees might have," Dr. Carty said. "We will also have computers on site so people who are interested can apply and be interviewed on site."

Lynka Rivera, from The Center's People Operations office adds that the event is a grass roots recruitment effort "providing members of the com-

munity an opportunity to familiarize themselves with what The Center has to offer, not only from a professional stand point but also from an education perspective."

Ms. Rivera said that "we find there's a small percent of locals that are unfamiliar with what The Center offers, not only to our staff and residents, but also to our communities. The goal is to not only meet with prospective applicants but also seek out those who may not necessarily know about our agency. Many of whom become future medical, farming, administrative and or culinary staff. The majority of our long term employees started in an entry level position and found their passion and successfully developed a career path here."

The Center for Discovery is a national specialty center for the ad-

vanced care and treatment of children and adults with significant disabilities, medical complexities, and autism spectrum disorders. It is the largest employer in Sullivan County, with over 1600 employees, and expects to add another 400 by the end of 2020.

The career fair event is scheduled for Monday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fallsburg Senior Center, 12 Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg. It is open to the public. Ms. Rivera noted, but is designed to inform those attending about what The Center offers the community.



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CORNED BEEF DINNER
Traditional St. Patrick's Day Menu
Saturday, March 9th
4:30 until the food is gone!
Snow date - Sunday, March 10th
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SENTINEL SPORTS



REGIONAL CHAMPIONS!

SULLIVAN MEN, WOMEN CAPTURE REGION XV BASKETBALL TITLES

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – This year’s move up to Division II status did not

deter or derail the SUNY Sullivan basketball program in the least, as both the men and women’s teams captured Region XV tournament championships at Paul Gerry Fieldhouse last weekend.

In their tournament final, the women outlasted the Community College of Rhode Island 77-70 in overtime, despite playing much of the extra stanza without leading scorer and team leader Traynise Delaney. The 5’5” freshman guard from the Bronx injured both ankles—the left as the fourth quarter was winding down and the right in the opening minutes of overtime—and was forced to watch the

end of the nail-biter from the Lady Generals bench.

Ms. Delaney, who has led Sullivan in scoring in virtually every contest this season, had played one of her best games of the year, accounting for 21 points, seven rebounds, six steals and four assists.

Forward Jordan Meaurio Pickett added 20 points for the Lady Generals, along with 19 rebounds. Jade Walls had 12 points for Sullivan, while Jayda Allen contributed 10 points and 11 rebounds. Hope Harris had 10 points, and Samantha Bellinger grabbed 17 rebounds in the winning effort.

The Lady Generals next play Lackawanna College

on Saturday, March 9 at home.

The men’s team, meanwhile, had a bit of an easier time of it, recording an 83-73 win over Orange County Community College in its championship game. Forward Kendall Robinson led a balanced Sullivan scoring attack with 16 points. Darius Lee and Kevin Smith both contributed 15 points, while Jamarr Joseph had 13. Arafat Shaibu grabbed 11 rebounds for the Generals, to go with his 7 points.

The top-seeded men had beaten Ulster County Community College 92-85 on Saturday, March 2 to advance to the championship game, while Or-

ange had upset second-seeded Westchester in an overtime contest to earn its berth in the final.

The Generals now advance to the NJCAA Division II District 2 tournament at Erie County Community College in Buffalo, where they will take on Niagara County Community College at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 9. Niagara beat the Generals in the Philly Tournament back in January by an 86-68 score.

The Generals are currently 22-7 on the season, including a perfect 16-0 at home. Niagara County stands at 23-7.



The Paul Gerry Fieldhouse scoreboard tells the story of the Generals men’s victory over OCC in the Region XV championship game on Sunday, March 3.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Traynise Delaney scored 21 points in the Lady Generals’ overtime win before leaving the game with an injury.

PHOTO PROVIDED

GENERAL WRESTLER JHAVON INNOCENT IS ALL-AMERICA

Three Sullivan Grapplers Compete in National Tournament

by John Conway

LOCH SHELDRAKE – Sophomore Jhavon Innocent has become the first ever SUNY Sullivan wrestler to earn All-America honors with his performance this month at the NJCAA tournament at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Innocent, a sophomore from East Ramapo High School in Spring Valley wrestling at 174 pounds, won four straight matches in wrestle back competition after losing his first round match, and ended up finishing eighth overall. The top eight finishers in each weight class at the national tournament are named to the All-America team.

Sullivan 141-pounder Rob Satriano, a sophomore from Valley Central High School, and 149-pounder Dan Mandic, a freshman from Goshen High, had also qualified for Nationals by placing in the top three in their weight classes at the Eastern District tournament



PHOTO PROVIDED

SUNY Sullivan 174-pounder Jhavon Innocent (far right) finished 8th in the nation at the NJCAA Championships and was named a JUCO All-America.

at the end of February. Both wrestlers lost their opening round matches in Iowa, then each advanced past the first round of the wrestle backs in their respective weights before losing. Neither wrestler ended up placing in the top eight.

Satriano had finished second in his weight class at the Eastern Districts to earn the trip to Iowa, as did Innocent. Mr. Mandic was third in his. It was the second trip to Nationals for both Satriano and In-

nocent; neither placed in the tournament last year.

SUNY Sullivan head coach Anthony Ng was ecstatic over the results at Nationals. It had been a tough season for the Generals, with injuries depleting the squad in the second half of the year, but through it all the sophomore leaders, Satriano and Innocent, had sparkled. Innocent had suffered a devastating knee injury in a match against Castleton College in January, which severely hampered his late

season performance, but had served notice at the Eastern Districts that he was ready to go.

“These guys have been great Generals,” Coach Ng said of the two sophomores. “Both have received attention from four-year schools and will continue their wrestling careers next year.”

Coach Ng said that while he is pleased with the progress he has made in his short tenure at Sullivan, he knows there is still work to be done to attain his goal of building a national JUCO power.

“I am still focused and committed to making Sullivan a national powerhouse,” he says. “I remain optimistic and I am fortunate to have such a capable and likeminded assistant coach, Rich Dennison, to help us move forward.”

Coach Ng knows that losing the two sophomores, Satriano and Innocent, will leave a big hole. Trying to replace an All-American is never easy.

SULLIVAN BASEBALL OPENS SEASON

By John Conway

LOCH SHELDRAKE – The SUNY Sullivan baseball team hopes to rebound from a disappointing 2018 season when they open play this weekend, taking on nationally ranked Monroe College in New Rochelle on Friday, March 8, followed by a doubleheader in Brooklyn on Sunday against Kingsborough Community College.

The Generals had been scheduled to open the season last weekend with a four game series against Cecil College in North East, Maryland, but the games were cancelled.

After a game against Monroe-Bronx in Chester, NY on Tuesday, March 12, the squad embarks on a six-day, 11-game spring trip through North and South Carolina that runs through March 21. Opponents on the trip include Craven

Community College, Jefferson Community College, Schenectady County Community College, Garrett College, Chesapeake College, Southern Maryland, Montgomery County Community College, Ocean County College, and North Central Missouri College.

The Generals do not play at home until Saturday, April 6, when arch-rival Ulster County Community College visits The

Diamond at Generals Park for a twin bill beginning at 12 noon.

Coach Ryan Snair’s Generals had a rude introduction to Division II baseball in 2018, losing more than 20 games, but with an influx of promising newcomers joining a few key holdovers, he is optimistic for a more successful season this year.

We’ll have a closer look at the Generals baseball team in the next edition.

All Six FJSHS Robotics Teams Make NYS Tournament

By John Conway

FALLSBURG-- For the first time in its four year history, all six teams representing Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School competed in the New York State Championships on March 2 in Syracuse. Coach Don Thomas is very proud of the students, who have put considerable time and effort into accomplishing this prestigious standing.

A total of 35 students are participants. Four of the six teams are middle school teams, and three of the teams are considered “Girl Powered” (all females). VEX Robotics

that sponsors state, national and international competitions is committed to increase participation of female students. Last year the ratio world-wide was one to five for girls versus boys. Fallsburg’s numbers are 11 girls and 19 boys! It has been a very exciting season, especially with all six teams qualified for the NYS Championship. A few of the teams even have the potential to earn a spot at the World Championships.

PHOTO PROVIDED

At right: Coach Don Thomas works with three students from one of the Girl Powered Teams in preparation for the State Tournament.



Running for Success

by Angelica Rodriguez

FALLSBURG-- Dolce McPherson is a runner for the Fallsburg Central School District track team. This year she is the winner of section IX Class B for the 55 and 300 meter dash and only in 10th grade. Ms. McPherson is a hard working student who strives for success. She learned throughout her journey that school comes first always she keeps her grade point average at a steady 94. She always gets school work done in time and works diligently.



PHOTO PROVIDED

FCSD track star Dolce McPherson School District. There are times where Ms. McPherson feels pressured by going against older runners, but she doesn’t let it bring her down.

Ms. McPherson said, “Being able to call myself one of the fastest in my division and my community means a great deal to me. Running is my passion, and I’m very grateful to have the opportunity to compete side by side against so many gifted athletes and to represent Fallsburg Jr. Sr. High School.”

She is supported by her fellow track team members and her coach, Jennie Verdi, who is a gym teacher for the Fallsburg Central

“In the days leading up to the Section IX meet, saying I was nervous would be an understatement. The competition was intense and the intimidation of older athletes and bigger schools made things quite ‘scary.’ When the day eventually came, all I could do was pray, trust in my training, and run my best race. That I did, and I’m thrilled to be able to call myself Section IX Class B champ for the 55 and 300 meter dashes.” Ms. McPherson said.

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