

BRIGHT IS THE SUN, WARM IS THE RAIN

TOWN OF FALLSBURG GETS RENAISSANCE MONEY

FERNDALE – The town of Fallsburg is among eleven municipalities that have been awarded a total of \$122,500 in grant funding from Sullivan Renaissance. The funding was made available through the 2019 Municipal Partnership and Community Development grant programs. The village of Woodridge will also receive funding.

Woodridge, along with the towns of Delaware, Marmakating, Neversink and Thompson, will receive \$20,000 as part of Sullivan Renaissance's Municipal Partnership Grant Program. These five municipalities will utilize a combination of public funding and in-kind donations of goods and services to address maintenance and beautification of public spaces, code enforcement and building healthy communities.

"The Town of Thompson has proudly participated in the Municipal Partnership program for the past three years" explained Supervisor Bill Rieber. "The program has been a catalyst for so many projects which have made our area a more attractive, healthy and enjoyable place to live."

Woodridge Mayor Joan Collins commented that "We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of spring so that we may begin work. Without the financial support and expertise of Sullivan Renaissance we would not be able to make these improvements to our Village." In early August, a panel of judges from outside Sullivan County will award one of the five with a \$250,000 state grant secured by Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther. Last year's winner – the Town of Liberty – will allocate the majority of its funds toward construction of a new pavilion at Walnut Mountain Park. Prior recipients of the "Golden Feather" grant include the Town of Bethel, which purchased new playground equipment for the town park, and the Village of Monticello, which will replace the roof at the Ted Stroebel Center. Separate from the municipal grants, the towns



of Bethel, Fallsburg and Liberty will each receive \$5,000 through the Community Development grant program toward maintenance of public spaces and key gateways. The Town of Rockland will receive \$3,500 to support beautification efforts in Roscoe, and the Town of Forestburgh will receive \$2,500 to create a new pocket park on Route 42. Finally, the Village of Liberty will receive \$1,500 to support its hanging basket program. Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation. Funding for the Municipal Partnership Program is also made possible through Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther's office. Learn more at SullivanRenaissance.org.

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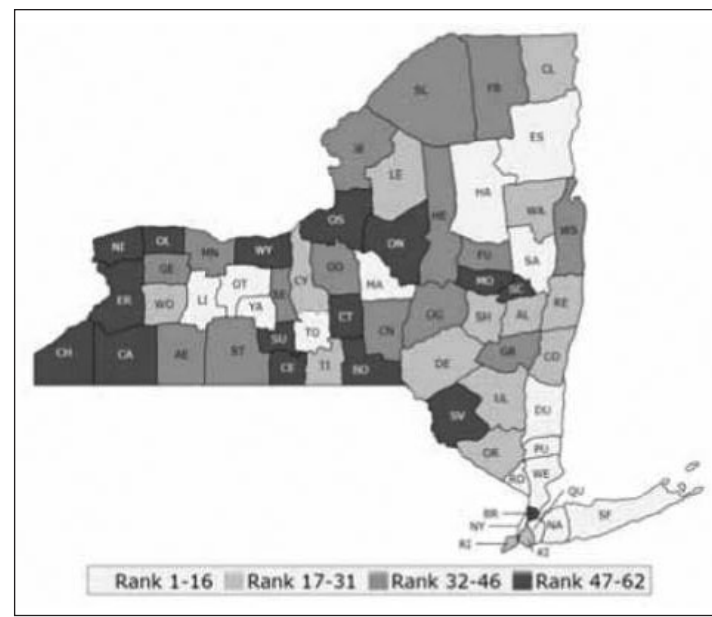
SECOND TO LAST

Sullivan County Still Near Bottom of Health Rankings

by John Conway

MONTICELLO – Despite a number of advantages that other counties cannot boast, Sullivan County is once again next-to-the-worst county in New York State in health according to a report released by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Sullivan County has been ranked 61 out of the state's 62 counties every year the rankings have been compiled. Only the Bronx has a worse record. This dismal showing comes despite Sullivan County's general lack of air pollution, an abundance of fresh water and fresh produce, an ever-growing network of hiking and biking trails, wide expanses of open spaces, and a variety of recreational



GRAPHIC PROVIDED

For the tenth year in a row, Sullivan County is ranked 61 out of 62 NY counties in health outcomes.

opportunities. And it has continued in spite of a number of measures taken specifically to improve the ranking by both county officials and numerous other

organizations. Neighboring Orange, Delaware and Ulster Counties all fared considerably better than Sullivan, ranking 18, 25 and 31 re-

spectively.

The poor showing has not discouraged County Public Health Director Nancy McGraw, who points out there have been positive trends that aren't reflected in the overall ranking.

"It takes many years of targeted focus and investment in a variety of community initiatives to change overall health rankings, but we are already starting to see some of the underlying statistics, which drive the rankings, improve," she said. "The important thing is that Sullivan County residents and leaders are taking action to improve their health, no matter what our ranking is. It's not a race to the top. It is about progress toward better health."

Sullivan Hires Deputy County Manager

MONTICELLO – Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek has announced that John Liddle is the county's new Deputy County Manager. Mr. Liddle's appointment was confirmed by the Legislature on March 21, and he will begin work on April 1.

"John's incredible experience, professionalism and collaborative ambition set him apart and will provide Sullivan County with top-notch leadership," Mr. Potosek said. "He's an innovative thinker, a quick learner and an accomplished veteran of the armed services, both at sea and on land."

A native of Pottsville, Pa., Mr. Liddle just retired from the U.S. Navy with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. During two decades in the Navy, he served on the USS Princeton during the post-9/11 Operation Enduring Freedom, on the USS Mason during two narcotics interdictions and the release and return of a freighter and 24 hostages seized by Somali pirates, and on the USS Hue City during a major fire that was extinguished while at sea, without injury to the crew.

Mr. Liddle also served at the Pentagon as Technical Support Officer and Operations Briefer to the Chief of Naval Operations. During this time, he completed a Master's in Strategic Communications and Leadership from Seton Hall University, bolstering a Bachelor's in Political



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sullivan County's new Deputy County Manager John Liddle.

Science earned at the U.S. Naval Academy. At the same time, he completed a second Master's, in National Security and Strategic Studies at the Naval War College.

After the Mason, Mr. Liddle served as Counterterrorism and Personnel Recovery Section Chief at U.S. Central Command Headquarters, earning the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. He later became Executive Officer of Naval Support Activity Washington at the historic Washington Navy Yard in Washington, DC. As part of those duties, he helped lead the recovery from a nationally known workplace shooting.

Mr. Liddle completed his Navy tenure as Executive Assistant to the Commander of Navy In-

stallations Command, establishing the Commander's Action Group.

"Much of my career has been spent leading and coordinating the crews of entire installations and ships, including mentoring and motivating staff, developing and following budgetary limits, and creating and executing innovative programs," Mr. Liddle said.

"I recently completed a very successful three-year tour as the Executive Officer for Naval Support Activity, Washington, DC. In this capacity, I supervised all aspects of running a military base, including fire, police, emergency management, public works, and Sailor and Family Services. Because of that experience, I was asked to complete my

final tour of military duty by providing executive communications and decision support to Vice Admiral Mary Jackson, who is responsible for the safe and effective operation of all 71 Navy bases (valued at \$259 billion) around the world."

Mr. Liddle plans to bring his communication and team-building skills to his role as Deputy Sullivan County Manager, overseeing all aspects, functions and personnel of County government.

"I am thrilled to be a part of a rapidly growing region in a momentous time, and I look forward to contributing my skills to the continued revitalization of Sullivan County," he said. "I consider myself a servant leader, defining my success by the success of those on my team, and I guide all of my management decisions by three words: rigor, transparency and accountability."

Mr. Liddle is relocating to Sullivan County from Virginia with his wife Laura and their two daughters, ages 12 and 8, who will attend local public schools. Both he and his wife come from small towns in eastern Pennsylvania and are eager to return to a more rural way of life close to their extended family.

"We're looking forward to starting the next chapter in our lives by getting back to the mountains in an area that already has much to celebrate ... and is on a bright path to becoming far more," he noted.

County Responds to Health Rankings Report

Officials Vow to Continue Efforts to Improve Outcomes

LIBERTY – Sullivan County leaders have responded to the release of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings and Roadmap report for 2019. "I am hopeful that we are headed in the right direction, because there are so many positive things happening that will help improve overall health and quality of life in the County in the long run," said the County's Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. "A 'Health in All Policies' approach continues to build momentum. These efforts, over time, will help to keep the momentum going in the right direction, but it takes a few years for the data to catch up with current efforts."

"Our work with our partners comes together through our Public Health Department and the Sullivan County Rural Health Network, to collaboratively improve breastfeeding rates, improve access to dental care, address the opioid crisis and access to treatment, and reduce re-hospitalization rates for asthma and diabetes; these are some of the positive areas where there is progress. And we continue to work on reducing adult smoking rates, which is down to 18%, a marked improve-

ment from prior years," she added. "This is not an event – this is a process," agreed Health & Family Services Commissioner Joe Todora. "As with any process, it requires ongoing, sustained effort, and I'm confident that this County and its partners are committed to raising the rankings no matter how long it takes."

"Together, the consortium of folks in Sullivan County working with residents towards collective wellness has grown tremendously over the last few years. Projects run the gamut from peer support, increasing access to care for the mobility-impaired, building outdoor recreational facilities, getting more fresh local produce into schools and communities, and capitalizing on each other's strengths to have the greatest impact over time," noted Colleen Monaghan, executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County, a key collaborator. "We are not discouraged. Rather, we continue to be inspired and energized to work together to improve the Sullivan Catskills' health outcomes."

"Collaboration is not only helpful, but critical to establishing programs and initiatives; and to



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sullivan County Public Health Director Nancy McGraw

taking on larger policy issues," explained Denise Frangipane, executive director of Sullivan Renaissance, another key collaborator. "Working with these partners, Sullivan Renaissance brings resources to the table in the form of grants, technical assistance and experience with community development and organizing, which translates into projects that engage communities and volunteers of all ages. It is very grassroots."

"I'm absolutely convinced we are collectively making a difference and Sullivan County is moving toward building a sustainable culture of health," observed Sandi Rowland, executive director of Sullivan 180, a nonprofit focused on turning around health and wellness in Sullivan County.

She added, "Here are a few of the initiatives in

Sullivan County I think are making a difference:

- A robust worksite wellness program including dozens of local businesses and hundreds of workers throughout the County
 - Sullivan 180's community health champions who are working with groups and communities, coaching them to adopt healthier lifestyles
 - Maternal and child health-focused programs such as training of certified lactation consultants, introducing a centering prenatal care model to reduce low birth weights, and engaging women-focused community health workers
 - Cornell Cooperative Extension's Healthy Schools and Communities program, which is teaching children and families healthy eating habits, and
 - PRASAD's Children's Dental Health Program, which offers in-school dental treatment via a mobile van.
- "It's a struggle, no doubt," remarked District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajs, chair of the Legislature's Health & Family Services Committee. "But that makes it all the more important to keep going. This Legislature, this County and its partners are not giving up. We have work to do."

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



Q. "Spring is a time of new beginnings, new possibilities, and re-birth. What quality would you like to grow this Spring?"

Elesia Madden

"I would like to grow to be more disciplined when it comes to my health. I want to take full control of what I eat and I need to start exercising more often. I want to be healthy inside and out, so I can see my kids blossom into adults."



Judith Piazza

"I would like to become more focused in every aspect of my life. Areas of nutrition, career, schooling and home. I would like to meet more of my personal goals in these areas."



Campbell Lumbila

"I would like to grow the quality of empathy. I want to really understand what people are going through and how to serve them."



FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



Extreme Weather

There has been a lot of reporting on the connection between the extreme weather we've been experiencing and climate change. This led my research to the subject of ball lightning.

Ball lightning is an unexplained and dangerous electrical phenomenon. The term refers to reports of luminous, usually spherical objects which vary from pea-sized to several meters in diameter. Some of the characteristics of ball lightning are, spherical or pear-shaped with fuzzy edges, and colors can be red, orange,

and yellow. Though usually associated with thunderstorms, the phenomenon lasts considerably longer than the split-second flash of a lightning bolt. Ball lightning can have odors of ozone, burning sulfur, or nitrogen oxides. Due to inconsistencies and lack of reliable data, the true nature of ball lightning remains unknown.

I have never experienced ball lightning, but maybe someday I'll catch it. I will continue to follow climate change and extreme weather, but most importantly, be prepared for what might come.

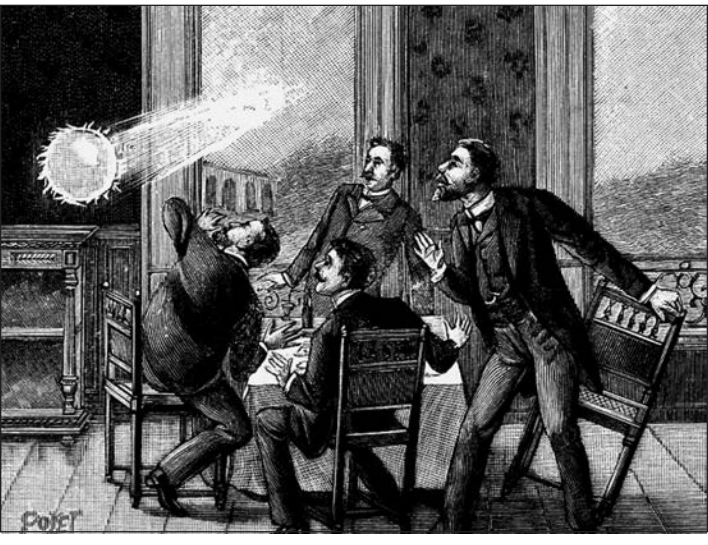


PHOTO PROVIDED

Observing ball lightning in a room in 1901.

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

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Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



The members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First will begin getting gardens, planters and barrels ready for planting in early spring. Everyone is welcome to come out and help. Work dates will be announced soon.

Hurleyville-Sullivan First meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hurleyville Firehouse on Main Street.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Bonnie Makofsky (left) and Steve Gordon are two members of Columbia Hill Neighborhood Alliance.

For more information about Hurleyville-Sullivan First, please visit us at www.hurleyvillenyc.com or on Facebook.

Sullivan County Historian John Conway will once again offer a course on the history of Sullivan County.

The six-week course will be held at the Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville on Wednesdays, beginning on April 10, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The course will begin with the Native American presence in the area and continue through the first European settlement shortly before the Revolutionary War, on through the arrival of the railroad, the rise and fall of the resort industry, and what happened "after the fall," including the Woodstock festival.

The fee for the course is \$60. Participants can also sign up for individual classes at a cost of \$10 per class. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

The course is conducted as a fundraiser for the non-profit history education group, The Delaware Company.

E-mail Mr. Conway at jconway52@hotmail.com for more information or to register for the course.

The popular "First Sunday Music and History Program" is back at the Sullivan County Museum. Sponsored by the Sullivan County Historical Society and hosted by Little Sparrow, the program showcases some of the most talented musicians in our area. Admission to the performances is free and donations are always welcome. You can find information on upcoming performances at www.scnyhistory.org or at the Sullivan County Historical Society page on Facebook.

Send an email to info@scnyhistory.org asking to subscribe to an email notification list for upcoming events at the Museum. You can also use the form at www.scnyhistory.org to send your request.

The gift shop at the Museum offers an assortment of Sullivan County-related books, maps, posters, postcards and memorabilia.

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

Family church is done differently at the Hurleyville United Methodist Church. "MESSY CHURCH" will begin on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. and will be held on the fourth Saturday of each month. Everyone is invited to come and join your neighbors for an evening of fun activities, songs, games, crafts, stories and refreshments.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry at the church is open each Thursday (except the

first Thursday of each month) from 4:30 to 6 p.m. The volunteers at the food pantry serve 40 families every week. They also provide free clothing for families in need on the last Thursday of each month.

Services are held at the church each Sunday from 9 until 10 a.m.

The church holds prayer meetings every Monday from 10 a.m. until noon.

A Bible study group meets at the church every Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

Volunteers at the church host the Community Lunch Program. Dates for the program will be announced on the church's page on Facebook.

The church hosts a Youth Group on Fridays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Young people are invited to join in a variety of activities including board games, trivia, movie nights, arts and crafts. 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) continue to closely monitor developments in the proposed Gan Eden Estates housing development on Columbia Hill.

The deficiencies and harmful effects of the proposed project are a danger to our community. The Gan Eden project will deplete our water supply, jeopardize our streams and wetlands, alter our rural environment and threaten the safety of drivers on our roads.

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.

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

The Sullivan County Retired Teachers' Association will hold their next meeting and luncheon on Wednesday, April 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Frankie & Johnny's Presents Nardi's in Hurleyville.

The meeting program presented by James Farnham will be "Everything You Want to Know about Medicare".

The meeting and luncheon are open to all retired teachers. The cost is \$20 per person. Please call 845-439-4706 or 845-482-3563 to make a reservation.


Hurleyville United Methodist Church

263 MAIN ST. HURLEYVILLE, NY 12747

Start Date: April 27th 2019 @ 5:30pm

Messy Church will be held every fourth Saturday.

Come and join us for:



Activities

Songs

Food

Crafts

Games

Stories

Family Church Done differently

FROM THE FARM

by Eve Springwood Minson



It's officially Spring – even if it doesn't really look like it yet. Congratulations – you made it through a long and mighty Catskill's winter! The slow crawl of Spring this year has all of us anxious to get out, move around, smell the thawing soil, enjoy the pussy willows and the early Spring bulbs. When you finally see the first crocus, you will smile! And so it begins...but hopefully you have been busy indoors getting ready with seedlings for another summer of glorious gardens.

When the snow thaws and soil dries a bit, you can happily putter around the garden. I still have last year's perennials and grasses to cut back, annuals to pull, compost to move and enjoyment to be had working in the Spring sunshine. My compost pile needs a total overhaul – turning it, seeing if any of it is ready for use and mixing it with leftover composted manure from last year.

Then I can clean my tools, clean out my garden shed which I didn't do in the fall and get excited about the new

things I will do, plant and re-design for this year. I've decided to add gorgeous and super hardy David Austin shrub and climbing roses this year, along with more elderberries, strawberries and shrubs to fill in holes I've got here and there in my landscape. I'm also super excited about all the new seedlings I am growing in my greenhouse. Growing plants from seed takes more time but you can save a ton of money on annuals, vines, veggies and perennials which are getting pricier each year, and also have the supreme pleasure of growing your own beautiful plants and having extras to give to your favorite people!

Within the next few weeks when soils thaw and temps come up, you can think about planting peas and pansies, but don't push it. Take it slow and enjoy the daily revelation of the world coming back to life around you starting with the first bulbs blooming and feeding hungry bees. I'm sure you're going to have a great garden this year!

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville

by Jane Harrison



Spring is upon us, and you know what that means...more schedule and less babble from me!

Saturday night, I actually got to see my friends in The Johnny Jules Band again. I love Cabernet Frank's and that Johnny, with Dave D'Arcy on bass and Bobby D on Dobro was performing there, well, can we talk about how fun exists in my life? The band was totally on the money, as usual. If you're not familiar with their music, it's Bluesy, Country and a little bit Rock and Roll. It is toe tapping, bouncy, heart endearing. I'll keep you posted on his upcoming dates and venues. Get yourself out to see this band, you won't be disappointed in the least.

This band would be perfect for Heartbeat, The Music Hall of Grahamsville, which opens its doors for its second season on Saturday, April 13 with Southern Fried Soul. Speaking with them last year as they closed for the season, they were thinking of reopening in May or June, so the earlier opening is a very pleasant surprise.

After a very, very long week, I went to the Pickled Owl for dinner on Saturday, March 9 and whatever musical offering they had. What I got was David Milner. How in heaven's name have I not seen this gem of a performer before? I'm positive that he toned down, because it is the Pickled Owl, but his last set was ultimate fun. When things go wrong in a performance (equipment failure, strings breaking, etc.) one can call it a night (which I've seen) or make it work. And David certainly did the latter, which was impressive. Also impressive was the incredible array of different artists he covered. Most solo performers pick songs in the same vein, but not this man. I'll be letting you know when he's performing again, too. He's definitely on my "must see" list.

And what's up with The Pickled Owl? I know they have live music but I have not been able to get a comprehensive schedule with who is performing in a while. I'll keep them on my schedule for now, but don't be surprised if they disappear.

March 19 was the SPCA benefit at the Brew in Rock Hill, with The Search and Rescue Orchestra providing the music. The Brew was packed. I ended up standing most of the evening, but that was OK with me. The SPCA had just rescued a whopping 60+ doggies and puppies from horrific conditions. Even though I'm a cat person, I was more than happy to contribute to this most worthy cause.

And what new thing did I do to keep my New Year's Resolution? I played a Theremin! I've heard them, I've seen them played, but thanks to my friend, Kevin McDaniel, I actually played one! (Ok, badly, but I did it.) Happy Birthday again Kevin!

And now on to the most egregious con yet, around the Bethel Woods Music and Culture Festival (the 50th Anniversary of the original 1969 Woodstock, but they can't use the name. That belongs to Michael Lang, and he won't allow it.) Some Rockland County resident named Steve Gold claims to have the original stage from the original

festival and is willing to part with pieces of it for a mere \$99 to \$499 as reported in a full page article in New Jersey's Bergen Record's Sunday Arts and Leisure section written by Jack Howland, whose website traces to the Poughkeepsie Journal. Gold also claims that these pieces of the stage were used after the festival to create a paddle ball court in an unnamed bungalow colony in an unspecified area of Sullivan County.

Those of us who live here know what happens to wood exposed to 50 years of weather. Yet suddenly, the stage is "discovered" relatively intact now? I'm highly skeptical, but apparently some of these "boards" will be used in the building of a mock stage at Bethel Woods, on which mannequins with vintage instruments will be displayed behind glass.

Check this out for yourselves: [Peace Of Woodstock Stage \(on Facebook\)](http://peaceofwoodstockstage.com)

Until Next Time....

Coming up in April:
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: 7 p.m.

April 4 with Little Sparrow
April 11 with Fisher & Kean

Fridays:
Every Friday: Sorella: Jazz Standards with Defino and Ravdin and great Italian food! 6-9PM, 3562 State Rte. 55,

Kauneonga Lake Cabernet Frank's; 38 Main St., Parksville
April 5: Side F/X
April 12: Red Neckromancer

April 19: David Kraai
April 26: Cats Out of the Bag

May 3: David Kraai
Saturdays:
Every Saturday: Sorella: Jazz Standards with Defino and Ravdin, 3562 State Rte. 55, Kauneonga Lake; 6 p.m.

Pickled Owl, 218 Main St., Hurleyville; 6-9 p.m.
Heartbeat, The Music Hall of Grahamsville, 304 Main St., Grahamsville

April 13: Southern Fried Soul (Laura Garone, Steve Schwartz, Kenny Windheim); 7 p.m.

April 27: The Country Travelers
May 11: Fisher & Kean; 7 p.m.

Cabernet Frank's, 38 Main St., (Exit 98 off 17W) Parksville 7 p.m.

April 6: Yasgur
April 13: (To be announced)
April 20: Paprika!
April 27: Slam Allen
May 4: Albi Beluli

Sunday:
May 5 for Cinco de Mayo: BJ and Dave; 1 p.m. (and hopefully it will be nice enough to sit outside)

Every Sunday:
Music Where You Least Expect It: 11 a.m. – 1:30ish, DeFillippis Bakery, 506 Broadway, Monticello
The Catskill Distillery: Barry and Friends, Jazz Brunch, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., 2037 State Rte. 17B, Bethel

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EARTH DAY RAISES AWARENESS

In Hurleyville As Well As Internationally

by Heather Gibson

HURLEYVILLE – The United Nations website states Earth Day is celebrated to remind each of us that the Earth and its ecosystems provide us with life and sustenance.

The Earth and its ecosystems are our home. In order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social, and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth.

“Mother Earth” is a common expression for planet Earth in a number of countries and regions, which reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species and the planet we all inhabit.

This day also recognizes a collective responsibility, as called for in the 1992

Rio Declaration, to promote harmony with nature and the Earth to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations of humanity.

International Mother Earth Day provides an opportunity to raise public awareness around the world to the challenges regarding the well-being of the planet and all the life it supports.

Many communities celebrate Earth Day by holding Spring clean-up efforts. Kathleen Sullivan of Hurleyville-Sullivan First says, “We celebrate Earth Day every day. We will be getting the planters, barrels, and gardens ready for planting soon, but we have no date set yet.”

One of the more simple ways to help your community would be to pick up a few pieces of garbage



along the road. Especially as the snow melts, garbage is often uncovered that was buried all winter. In Hurleyville, we are extremely lucky to have Roger Betters, Elaine Corrington and my mom, LouAnn Rexford who litter pluck all the time. Together, they make sure we truly have one of the cleanest hamlets in the Town of Fallsburg. How lucky we are to have community members who give so much of their time to better our environment.

Other activities include planting a garden or a fairy garden, teaching children and adults the importance of re-cycling, learning how to make a compost bin, and having kids re-cycle trash to make creative art pieces by using Styrofoam or egg cartons as paint brushes!

Celebrating “Mother Earth” can be a lot of fun! I think one of the best ways to appreciate our planet is to take a few minutes to simply take it all in.

Take a walk on the rail trail, bask in the sun. Enjoy the warmer weather by playing on the playground or hosting an outdoor dinner party or BBQ. Who doesn't get excited for the first BBQ of the warm season? I do!

Whatever you chose to do with your time outside, take a moment to think about all the ways in which we can give back to a planet that keeps giving freely to us!

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Whatever you chose to do with your time outside, take a moment to think about all the ways in which we can give back to a planet that keeps giving freely to us!

Last Call for Catskill Hotel Staff Reunion

CALLICOON – All former staff members of the once-thriving Sullivan and Ulster County Borscht Belt/Catskill hotels and bungalow colonies are invited to attend a long overdue, once-in-a-lifetime reunion that is being planned for Saturday evening, May 4 from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Villa Roma Resort, in Callicoon. The cost is \$90 per person, and includes hors d'oeuvres and cold stations, a dinner buffet, live band with David Winograd and Friends, and Music Masters DJ Entertainment. There will be comedy entertainment, as well as special guests. Jackie Horner, the dancer who is said to have inspired the hit movie “Dirty Dancing” and the wife of the late Mr. Simon Says, Lou Goldstein, will be in attendance.

The Villa Roma is offering a special group rate for those who would like to spend the

night or make it a weekend getaway. Additional activities and programs will be offered throughout the weekend and will include a meet-and-greet piano sing-along on Friday evening, a multi-media presentation by former “tumbler” Larry Strickler (A Catskill Tumbler Looks Back 50 Years), a movie, “The Mammoniks: Catskill Style,” and trivia, all on Saturday before the big evening event. On Sunday morning, there will be an Authors' Hour featuring three individuals who have published books about the Borscht Belt. They will share what inspired their writing and invite participants to share their own special memories.

This is most likely the last chance that as many former Catskill staff will gather together under one roof. For additional information, contact rmkauff100@cox.net.

Borscht Belt Staff Reunion Weekend
May 3-5, 2019/Villa Roma Resort

Friday Evening, May 3rd

- 5:00 PM Happy Hour in the Mezzanine Piano Bar
- Dinner/Your choice
- 8:00 PM Sing-Along in the Mezzanine Piano Bar with Mel Simons
- 9:30 PM Showtime in the Club Forum
- Schmooze in Marty's Lounge after the show!

Saturday, May 4th

- 11:00 AM Movie: The Mammoniks: Catskill Style (Marty's Lounge)
- Lunch/Your choice
- 2:00 PM Multi-Media Presentation: A Catskill's Tumbler Looks Back 50 Years Larry & Shelly Strickler (Marty's Lounge)
- 3:30 PM Trivia: Anthony Pinque (Marty's Lounge)

SATURDAY EVENING REUNION EVENT, MAY 4TH 7:00 PM - 12:00 PM

- 5:00 PM: Happy Hour in the Mezzanine Piano Bar
- Shuttle transport for hotel guests to the Clubhouse
- 6:45 PM: Doors open for check-in
- Hors D'Oeuvres & Dimmer Buffet
- Live Band (David Winograd & Friends)
- MC and DJ (Music Masters DJ Entertainment w/ Danny Mitro)
- Photo Booth
- Comedy Entertainment (3 Stand-Up Comedians)
- Prizes, Trivia and More Surprises

RAFFLE: FREE WEEKEND FOR 2, INCLUDING BREAKFAST AND DINNER, AT THE VILLA ROMA RESORT

Sunday, May 5th

- 11:00 AM Authors' Hour: Join three accomplished authors who will share what inspired them to write about the Borscht Belt. Bring along and share your best stories and memories of your experiences in the Borscht Belt. Your book deal could be next!

**A videographer will be present to video the reunion. DVD's will be available for purchase at a later date.

CATSKILL ART SOCIETY PRESENTS KIDS SESSION

LIVINGSTON MANOR – The Catskill Art Society is presenting the annual CAS Kids Spring Break session, completely free arts education for children during the public school spring break session on April 15 – April 19 from 9:45 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. at the CAS Arts Center at 48 Main St., Livingston Manor.

By providing an intensive, high-quality slate of courses in multiple visual art mediums that develop a broad range of skills for ages 4-12, CAS Kids helps children develop creative thinking, emotional intelligence, and cooperation through painting, drawing, collage, sculpture, and pottery. In so doing, CAS Kids provides an excellent and free out-of-school learning opportunity during the school spring break session, removing economic and cultural barriers to the arts in our rural, low-income communities.



PHOTO BY JONATHAN CHARLES FOX

The Catskill Arts Society sponsors its CAS Kids Spring Break program this month in Livingston Manor.

CAS Kids programming offers families intensive arts education combining art making and historical context. Past course work has focused on historical development and stylistic context of the 20th century, exploring concepts of surrealism, cubism, and abstract expressionism. Students learned of surrealism and cubism through creating work inspired by Marc Chagal's “I and the Village”. Liquid watercolor and drip bottles were employed to mimic the gestural movement painting abstract expressionist artist, Jackson Pollock is best known for. For the most technically challenging project, children recreated Alberto Giacometti's “Walking Man” series with pipe cleaners and aluminum foil. Their malleable sculptures were elongated and stylized like that of the great 20th century artist's iconic figures.

Registration is required in advance of spring break. Please call 845-436-4227 or email info@catskillartsociety.org for more information.

This program is made possible through generous support of Fullen-Smith Foundation, Thalia and George Liberatos Foundation and Robyn Gerry.

About the Catskill Art Society

The Catskill Art Society is a non-profit organization cultivating public interest, participation, and enjoyment of the arts. Through its multi-arts center, CAS explores contemporary art practices and facilitates creative and professional development for established and emerging artists. Located in Livingston Manor, the renovated 4,500+ square foot facility includes visual art galleries, a multi-purpose teaching studio, a clay studio, and an art library with digital learning resources. For more information, please visit www.catskillartsociety.org.

Funding for CAS is provided in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

TOWN OF FALLSBURG LIONS CLUB CONTINUES ITS MISSION TO SERVE

by Kathleen Sullivan

FALLSBURG – The members of the Town of Fallsburg Lions Club meeting.

In February, the Club presented Fallsburg resident Ally Steingart with a donation of \$500 in support of her participation in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation “One Walk” to cure type 1 diabetes.

Leah Exner, Coordinator of the Hiking Trail Project behind the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School in Fallsburg, was the guest speaker at the March meeting.

The club presented Mrs. Exner with a donation of \$300 for the project. The trail will be open to all during non-school hours.

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Pictured at the February meeting of the Fallsburg Lions Club: Tri-Valley Lions Club President, Donna Schick, Town of Fallsburg Lions Club member, Renee Kates, Lions Immediate Past District Governor and Lions Zone A Chair, Ilene Wizwer, Town of Fallsburg Lions Club member, Patricia Behan-Gibson, Town of Fallsburg Lions Club Secretary, Miranda Behan, Town of Fallsburg Lions Club President, Steven Vegliante, Town of Fallsburg Lions Club members, Bobby Kaplan, Nathan Steingart, Tim Pantel and Bruce Perlmutter. Seated is Senator Jen Metzger.

Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

A stack of old boards – planks and larger pieces that were once part of walls, door-frames, pallets – leans up against a tree by the side of our cottage, at the lip of the slope down into the forest. The boards have been here a lot longer than we have. They're what you'd call “weathered” or “seasoned,” apt terms given the transformations they've undergone through many cycles

of seasons and extremes of weather. They seem part of the landscape, the way old barns and stone walls do; lumber-clutter, yet part of the order of things, elements of a landscape to which they once contributed in the guise of buildings and fences.

When we walk in the woods behind our cottage – an area large enough to get lost in – we find the forest produces its own form of clutter. The forest floor is strewn with branches

and upended trees; you have to walk carefully to negotiate all the debris. We see plenty of animal tracks in the snow; few human. Are we interlopers here, disturbers of nature's habitat, or citizens and in our element? Deep in the woods we come upon the remnants of a stone wall, a sign that this land was once cleared and turned to agriculture. The wall is a border of some sort, marking pasture or property lines, and the forest is second-growth, not primary – it has been formed, even in its wildness, by human culture as well as natural process. The flora and the fauna of the region, including the human, have shaped each other through a long process of mutual adaptation.

The forest is the source

of our planks and pallets; the pile by our house turns to friable splinters and soil at the same slow rate as the fallen trees and branches on the forest floor. Lumber returns to earth; whatever we appropriate is ultimately given back to its source, in fact or in kind. Our willingness to be part of that cycle, to take our place within it, is one strong guarantor of the health of the whole. Exemption from the cycle is not an option, and claiming it comes at a price the whole planet is now finding to be as high as it is exacting. The boards, in their humble state of dilapidation and decay, stand their ground, leaning along the border of house and woods, between the domestic and the wild – a kind of gateway to both.

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Michael Gold

“Raining Delusions is brilliant. You write unsparingly and are fearless with your bawdy, ribald, shameless, often hilariously poignant dialogue and character descriptions. (Eat your heart out Woody Allen). The whole book is spot-on accurate. I know these people, and although I didn't live their life, my cousins did. From first page to last, the story is incredibly rich in emotion and your Fall Power and Authority chapter is a standout worthy of an Isaac Bashevis Singer tale. Resoundingly wonderful!”

—Hester Mundis, former head writer for The Joan Rivers Show, author and co-author of twenty-five books, four-time Emmy-nominated daytime TV writer and stand-up comic.

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From the Firehouse

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



The Hurleyville Fire Department is always looking for help, to fight fire or support those who do. We even supply all of the gear and provide all of the training needed, for free. Stop by any Monday night and find out how you can help.

Not only is the Hurleyville Fire Department looking for help, so are most fire departments in Sullivan County and throughout New York State. One way the fire service is trying to make the public aware is a program that the Firemen's Association State of New York (FANSY) rolls out each April called "RecruitNY 2019." Many fire departments in New York State will hold open houses on the weekend of April 27 & 28. Recruiting is more than just bringing in new members to the organization. It is about meeting the needs of the department, the prospective new member and the community all at the same time. So, if you are interested in joining the Hurleyville Fire Department or your local department you can contact me at (jack.halchak@co.sullivan.ny.us) and I will point you in the right direction.

I have often written about smoke detectors and "change your clock, change your batteries" in your smoke detectors and CO detectors. Please check your detectors. The law changed on April 1, 2019. As

of that date, all smoke detectors sold in New York State MUST have a nonremovable sealed battery and last for 10 years. The law says that starting April 1, 2019 all new or replacement smoke detectors in New York State must be powered by a 10-year, sealed, non-removable battery or hardwired to the home. Homeowners and landlords must upgrade their smoke detectors before selling or renting homes and apartments in New York State." I can't tell you how many times I have been to an incident and the smoke detector had no batteries in them, way too many.

Last month I announced that the New York State Burn Ban would start on March 16 and end on May 14. March 16 was a Saturday, and by Sunday we had two illegal burns and a brush fire. By Monday, we had a five company brush fire. As I write this column, we just had some rain and snow. Parts of our county received over a foot of snow. The lower part of the county is brown. The week ahead looks like we will get a lot of melting and drying. Conditions will be ripe for brush fires. There is no open burning during the burn ban.

The Sullivan County Bureau of Fire launched a Facebook page a few months ago. In addition to putting our

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You may also contact jack.halchak@co.sullivan.ny.us

training class schedule on it, a new fire prevention message is posted every Monday. I have been posting about the burn ban in recent weeks. Help me get the word out on the burn ban by visiting our page Sullivan County New York Bureau of Fire@scbu-

reauoffire and sharing it. Planning ahead: The Morningside Fishing Classic is on the first day of bass season, Saturday, June 15. The contest runs from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. REMEMBER NO OPEN BURNING!!!!!!

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

April 7, 1909

New Court House

The Board of Supervisors last week, by a vote of 11 to 3, adopted a resolution to build a new court house and jail to take the place of the one now rapidly going to decay. The court house problem has been a serious question for several years. The State Prison Department has repeatedly recommended more sanitary quarters for the prisoners and better facilities for handling them, but owing to the small building which has been in commission for about half a century, it was impossible to meet the demands of the Department. The walls of the old building began to crack and bulge and it became apparent that it was "up to" the county legislature to do something.

It is to the credit of the Board that it took a broad business view of the situation.

An architect was employed and when it was found that it was impossible to enlarge and repair the old building so as to have it meet the growing needs of the county, it was decided to erect a new and modern fireproof building, one that would be large enough for the years to come.

Under the present condition of the buildings our records are exposed to the danger of being destroyed by fire, while, when the new court house is erected, this danger is eliminated.

The Board has a plan by which no taxpayer will feel the cost of the building and the constant expense of patching up the old court

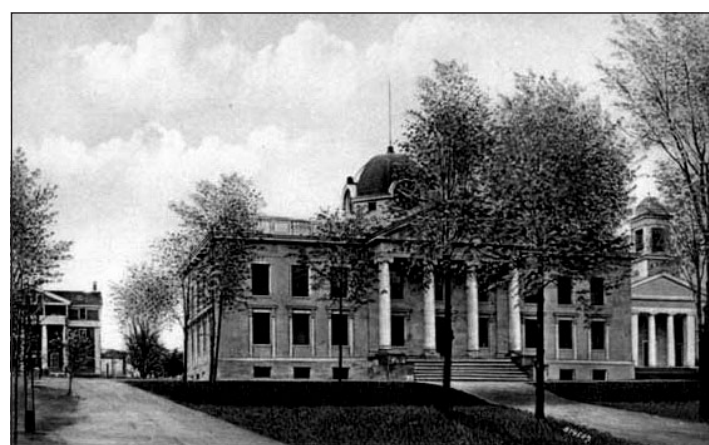


PHOTO PROVIDED

The third (and present) Sullivan County Courthouse, circa 1911.

house will be stopped.

The Board is to be congratulated on its foresight and wisdom in taking a broad view of the matter, and of every man will become familiar with the situation before expressing criticism of the Board's action, as he should, no fault will be found by anyone with what has been done.

April 21, 1909

Fred Lawrence's Store Robbed

Last Thursday night shortly after midnight the store of Fred Lawrence was entered from the rear and a ham and several shad were taken. When the clerk, Ernest Ratcliff, went to work Friday morning, he discovered the door had been broken in and immediately notified Constable Farquhar who set about to catch the guilty one.

During the forenoon, while Fred Hornbeck and Dan Smith were working on the former's farm, his dog came out of the woods dragging a ham. Mr. Hornbeck took the ham home and later in the day Frank Raisner came along and accused Dan Smith of taking his ham.

Upon learning these facts, Constable Farquhar secured a warrant for Mr. Raisner and he was given a hearing that night. He pleaded guilty to intoxication and taken to Monticello to await the action of the grand jury in June.

April 21, 1909

Local and Personal News

Fred Robinson seems to be trying to get all the enjoyment he can out of his life. Not long ago he purchased an automobile and the first adventure was a

collision with the barn door. Next, the water in the cylinders refused to run out when Jack Frost came in and the result was a broken cylinder.

The last straw, so to speak, happened Monday when he was returning home from Sheldrake where he teaches school. As will be remembered, there was a cool and refreshing breeze that afternoon and when he passed George Mitteer's, there came another little breeze, slightly stronger than the rest and Mr. Robinson was lifted, together with his wagon, clear from the ground and laid gently but firmly in the dirty, muddy road. Luckily for him he retained his hold on the reins and the horse dragged him to safety on dry grounds. We hope and trust he is none the worse for wear and take the liberty of suggesting that he have his wagon well ballasted in the future.

April 28, 1909

Contract for Building the New Court House Let

The contract for building the new court house at Monticello was awarded Saturday morning for \$142,000 to Cantwell & Dempsey of Kingston, New York. It will be built of Ohio stone.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sullivan Renaissance Grants Project Coordinator Colleen Emery (left) and Fallsburg Life Skills Class Teacher Karen Larson.

FALLSBURG LIFE SKILLS CLASS EARNS GRANT FOR GARDEN PROJECT

FALLSBURG – The Life Skills program at Fallsburg High School is a self-contained special education classroom for students with severe disabilities in grades nine through twelve plus. The class provides a combination of experiences encompassing academic skills, daily living skills and social skills necessary to transition and participate as independently as possible in their community.

Recently the Program applied for and received a Sullivan Renaissance Healthy Community Initiative Grant in the amount of \$400 for a garden project. The students will

create several raised bed vegetable gardens on the Fallsburg CSD grounds. Additionally, students will grow ornamentals along the edge of the garden to enhance the visual appeal. Students will create pallet artwork as background and trellises for climbing plants. The food grown in the garden will be used in Wellness events and in recipes that

will be sold in the cafe that the students currently run as part of the class curriculum; the Stone Soup Cafe. The vegetables will particularly be used in Stone Soup, a delicious vegetable soup that is the cornerstone recipe of the cafe. Our Stone Soup recipe and Cafe is inspired by the classic folk tale that teaches people that sharing what you have creates community and that strangers can become friends over a shared meal.

Research and experience have shown that a garden is a gateway to get students involved in developing life-long healthy eating habits. This garden project is designed to help the students become more self-sufficient in obtaining and providing healthy food for themselves and for their families. An additional goal is to further integrate the students into the school community by generating interest and sharing the bounty of the gardens for Wellness and other events.

FROM THE FALLSBURG LIBRARY

by Kelly Wells & Amanda Letohic



April is National Poetry Month, so there's no better time than now to announce that the Sullivan Public Library Alliance is seeking a Poet Laureate to promote "The Spirit of Sullivan County" – someone who would help to increase public appreciation of the reading and writing of poetry for children and adults. This is a one-year appointment with a modest honorarium.

To be eligible, applicants must reside in Sullivan County (full or part-time), have a body of literary work, and be available for year-round engagements during the duration of a one-year appointment (June 1 – May 31). Deadline for applications is midnight, April 30, 2019. The winner will be announced June 1, 2019 at a public ceremony. To receive application guidelines, interested parties should visit mamakat-inglibrary.org or call any Sullivan County public library.

In the meantime, check out these great programs that we have coming up:

On Wednesday, April 3 at 6 p.m., bring the whole family to make a Galaxy in a Bottle! Thursday, April 4 at 6 p.m. our monthly Ladies Night project will be canvas painting. Be sure to sign up so we can save a space and a canvas for you.

Preteens & Teens ages 11+ can stop in on Wednesday, April 10 to make a fun Jelly Bean Bracelet in time for Easter. On April 25, kids ages 7+ can come in and do some fun S.T.E.M. projects with leftover candy. Monday, April 1 and April 8 at 6 p.m. we'll be finishing up our Messy Kid Art program series. Monday, April 22 at 6 p.m. we will start our regular Children's Craft Nights again. As always, Tuesday mornings at 10 are Preschool Story time. However, on April 15 and 16 we will not have any programs.

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!

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OVER UNITY

Chapter Three – Residence of MacArthur Quint, Lake Greer, NY

MacArthur Quint stared at Janice Lamb, who sat across the kitchen table from him and chuckled to himself.

"Quint's Glint?" he repeated.

"That's what he called it."

Quint had not heard the term before, but he knew that a comment Dietrich Lamb had made to him more than twenty years before had spawned it. He would never forget the day he had described to D-Lamb the theory behind an idea he had for a revolutionary battery. D-Lamb had ridiculed the idea, and concluded his litany of reasons why it would never work by admonishing Quint that should he ever figure out how to make the battery a reality D-Lamb could always say he "knew him before it was even a glint in his eye."

Now Janice was telling him that D-Lamb had apparently done it. He had built the battery.

Quint's Glint.

Could it possibly be true?

"Janice, if he really built that battery, and 'Quint's Glint,' by the way, was his derisive term for the idea, it would change the world. It was that revolutionary."

"Something they would kill him over?"

"No, that's ridiculous," he said, but almost as soon as the words had left his mouth he realized how silly the statement was. He physically shuddered as he thought about numerous assignments he himself had carried out over the years doing just that: killing people simply because someone decided the world would be better for it.

"So, you're saying I'm crazy? Paranoid?"

"I'm not saying that at all. You've suffered a trauma, and it's natural to want to make sense of what happened, to find a cause, to assign the blame."

"That's not at all what I'm doing. I thought you of all people would understand. I guess I was wrong about that, but I am certain I am not wrong about D-Lamb's death."

"You thought I would understand? You can't possibly be serious..."

Quint stopped himself mid-sentence. He really wasn't prepared to go into anything with Janice at this point. He had zero interest in rehashing that part of his life. He was curious about the battery, though, and he couldn't help but wonder if his idea had really been brought to fruition, grudgingly admitting that if anyone could have accomplished that it would be his



After three hours of searching, Quint stumbled upon an entry in a blog written by one of the internet's many conspiracy theorists.

erstwhile partner.

"I'll tell you what," he finally said. "I am not sure what you had in mind when you came here, what you thought I could do for you, but I will look into this. I am not going to promise anything, but I will see what I can find out."

"That's all I can ask," Janice said, and smiled slightly.

"I am going to need some more information from you," Quint said, retrieving a pad and a pen from a nearby shelf. "Finish eating so we can get to work."

Over the next hour he was able to get some details from

Janice, including the time and date of D-Lamb's death, the names of the investigating officers, the hospital where the body had been taken, and the name of his personal physician. She was less helpful when it came to providing information about the work D-Lamb had been doing. She reiterated what she had said about "Quint's Glint," but didn't seem to know much about what that actually was. He asked for the address of D-Lamb's workshop and was surprised to learn it was the same place where the two of them had started their partnership

so many years before. He knew he was going to have to make a trip to Atlanta, but he hoped to be able to fill in a few more blanks before he did.

After Quint showed Janice to one of the upstairs bedrooms he never used, he returned downstairs, and opened his laptop. There was much work to be done.

He began searching for any newspaper articles that mentioned D-Lamb, hoping to gain some insight into what he was working on, what he was thinking about, or at least what he might be

sharing with the public, or about how he died. There was precious little.

He knew there were numerous internet sites that dealt with alternative energy advancements, purported government suppression of technology, and the like, and those were his next stops. There wasn't much to be found, but after more than three hours of searching and reading, he stumbled upon an entry in a blog written by one of the internet's many conspiracy theorists.

He was skimming blog after blog, reading only a few key words here and there, when

he came upon it. The headline caught his eye, and a paragraph in the article itself stunned him.

"ANOTHER MURDER, ANOTHER TECHNOLOGY SUPPRESSED"

Another in a long list of murders intended to suppress disruptive technology may have taken place in Atlanta, Georgia recently. Dietrich Lamb, a theoretical physicist and engineer who had been working on alternative power for decades, was found dead in his crashed automobile on Route 29 near East Point, Georgia, the victim of an apparent heart attack. It has long been rumored that Lamb was on the verge of a breakthrough in battery technology, and his death is eerily similar to those of other pioneers of alternative energy technology, all of which have been ruled accidental or from natural causes. More on this as it develops.

Unfortunately, there was nothing else in that blog or any other relating to D-Lamb or his work. The newspapers carried nothing about the accident, and Quint could find no obituary. In fact, the only other mention he found of D-Lamb other than a very old article profiling him as a professor was a brief note in the Georgia Tech campus newspaper about his death,

which the paper attributed to a heart attack suffered while driving.

Satisfied that he had found whatever he was going to, Quint clicked over to his email server and quickly typed out emails to three of his oldest, most trusted friends. The first was to Peabody Smith, the smartest man he had ever known, other than D-Lamb. The message was simple: "Need to meet at the earliest opportunity. Where and when?"

The next was to Ed Enfield, the Presbyterian minister in Lake Greer. He was a giant of a man, standing nearly seven feet tall and weighing nearly 300 pounds. Above all else, Quint knew he could keep a secret. His message to Enfield was similarly short: "Need your help. Stop by the house?"

Finally, he wrote to Gracie Morgan, the postmaster in Lake Greer and the third generation of her family to serve as editor and publisher of the local newspaper, the Gazette. It said, "Need a favor. Coffee at 8?"

It appears as if MacArthur Quint is now totally committed to finding out more about the death of his old partner, Dietrich Lamb. More surprises ahead when Over Unity continues.

Spotlight on a Hurleyville Treasure

by Paul Lounsbury

DAD

Born on January 10, 1923, my father, Harry "Jim" Lounsbury, was the third of four children born to Daniel and Grace Lounsbury, whose family farm was at the intersection of Whittaker and Anawana Lake Roads on Columbia Hill, overlooking Hurleyville.

He attended the Columbia Hill one room school, which is still standing at the same intersection. His eldest sibling, Alida Brinckerhoff, is 99 and currently resides in Middletown. The others have passed on to their new homes in Heaven.

Dad was raised in a hard-working and loving family. His father was a carpenter by trade, and a dairy farmer by necessity. Each of his parents had 11 siblings, and family was always around. His paternal grandmother was Carrie Applebee of the Applebee Farm on Old Liberty Road, which is now owned by The Center for Discovery. His paternal grandfather, Daniel A., had a farm a bit farther down Whittaker Road. They took in boarders each summer, participating in the birth of what would become a regional resort destination due to the proximity of the O & W Railway in Hurleyville. The family worshipped at the Hurleyville Methodist Church. Dad and his father were Elders there. During my young days in the 1950's and '60's, Dad was the Su-



Harry "Jim" Lounsbury in 1944.

perintendent of the Sunday School and, at its peak, 88 children would gather each Sunday morning for religious education and training. Dad loved all people, especially children.

He met the love of his life, Barbara Mariner of Monticello when he was in his late teens. They intended to marry, but had to wait.

When America went to war in 1941, Dad enlisted in the U.S. Navy to serve and protect our nation and our freedom. He was assigned to serve on a troop transport ship, the USS Goodhue, in the Pacific theatre. His ship was one of many that delivered Marines, Army personnel and their support supplies to the beachhead battles in that part of the world. He became a "Radarman 3/c." Thankfully, he made it through the war without injury. Like most war veterans, Dad never

wanted to talk about what the war was like. However, he always reminded us of the anniversary of the day when his ship was struck by a Japanese kamikaze (a fighter plane). Many, including close friends, were killed in the attack.

Upon his discharge, Dad returned to the farm in Hurleyville. He married Barbara, and began working as a professional carpenter.

His first significant job was working on the building of the Neversink Dam and Gatehouse facility for New York City.

I recall him later working on the construction of the Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary School in Monticello and on bridges for the new Route 17, the "Quickway." As a union carpenter, he had to travel to wherever the union sent him. There were very few union jobs at home, and Dad traveled each day "down the line" to Orange County, Rockland County, Dutchess County and New Jersey. He would get up at 4:30 each morning to make his commute and often not get home until 7 p.m.

Because of the excellence of his work, the owner of the construction company would keep my father employed during the winter on small jobs. He wanted to make sure that Dad would be there to work for the company when the construction season resumed in the spring.

Summer time was filled with weekend camping trips



Jim and his sisters and brother in 2011: Rear – Joan, Front – (left to right) Alida, Albert (Bud) and Harry (Jim).

to Beaver Kill State Park with our cousins, and then to Mongaup Pond State Park when that park opened in the 1960s.

Because of the construction business, vacations during the summer months were never an option for our family. Occasional vacations to Daytona Beach in Florida provided an escape from the New York winters.

In the late 1950s, my grandfather sold his farm to a farmer from Monticello whose farm was taken by the "Quickway" project. My father and grandfather then remodeled "Uncle Henry's" "old house at the three-way intersection on Columbia Hill. They converted it into a two-family house. Our family lived upstairs, and my grandparents lived on the first floor. Dad and my grandfather renovated or built several bungalows on the same property for their summer tenants who had visited the farm for decades.

Dad had a lot of buildings and lawns to care for

each day after working and commuting so far.

I will always remember the constant flow of visitors...my grandparents' family members on Sunday afternoons and the visitors in neighboring bungalows during the summer.

As the years passed, Dad became a trustee and later the chairman of the Hurleyville Cemetery Association until his declining health forced him to pass the torch.

Dad was always working on the property at the Methodist Church and participated in local VFW events.

He retired from the carpenters' union twice... I don't recall the dates, but he just wasn't ready the first time.

My parents erected a modular home on the vacant lot just to the east of the family home after Dad's retirement and the death of his parents. Due to health reasons, my parents eventually sold the last parcel of land

of the Lounsbury tract and moved to Kinnebrook Park near Monticello.

Dad was always involved in the Hurleyville beautification projects. He enjoyed working with Vivian and David Ginsberg and others in the beautification group.

My mother, Barbara, passed away in January 2010. My father spent his final days at the Sullivan County Adult Care Center because of his struggle with COPD. Even at the nursing home, he was one to befriend those who needed a friend, share a shoulder to cry on, and lend an ear that would listen. The nurses there all fell in love with him and fussed over his beautiful blue eyes. He was given the nickname of "Harry Blue Eyes." Pastor Susan Woodworth of Hurleyville was his best buddy. Everyone loved "Harry Blue Eyes!" Not surprisingly, he took on the beautification of the flower gardens at SCACC and brought them back to a level of beauty.

On August 23, 2013, his fourth great grandchild was born.

With my wife and I, his sister Alida, and his nephew and wife at his bedside, Dad breathed his last on August 26, 2013 at SCACC. He was buried with military honors in the family plot in the Hurleyville Cemetery.

My father was a true Hurleyville treasure. Visit www.hurleyvillen.com for more Hurleyville treasures.

RAINING DELUSIONS IS IRREVERANT BUT REAL

New Book Provides Laughs and Tears

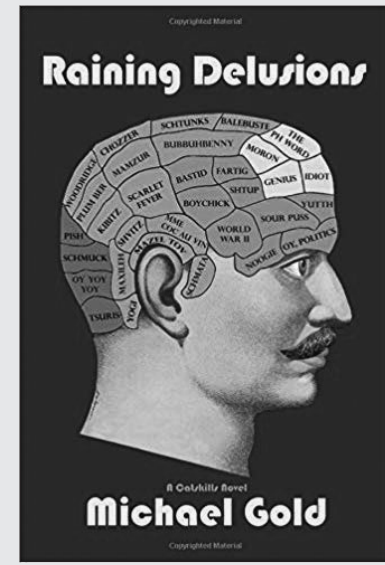
by John Conway

It would be easy to dismiss Michael Gold's new book, "Raining Delusions" as a hyperbolic fictional look at the story of Jewish migration to the Catskills played strictly for laughs. But that would be missing the point.

Mr. Gold has deftly managed to walk a fine line between fact and fiction and between history and burlesque, without resorting to cliché or parody, and the result is a ribald, yet poignant portrait of the life of the newly arrived Jews and their shaping of the world around them over multiple generations.

In a manner of speaking, then, "Raining Delusions" could be viewed as the fictional offspring of Stefan Kanfer's "A Summer World" meets Joey Adams' "The Borscht Belt."

Mr. Gold's cast of characters is colorful and imaginative, but not at all unlike the folks one would have encountered had one wandered into a Woodridge soda fountain during the heyday of the Sullivan County resort industry. Alternately comic and tragic, both monumental and mercurial, sometimes desperate but never despicable, these



folks are as complex and satisfying as an old-fashioned egg cream, and just as hard to find in today's homogenous world. But make no mistake about it: they—or at least reasonable facsimiles of them—did exist back then, and not just in Woodridge.

Anyone who lived through the experience that was Sullivan County when 538 hotels and 50,000 bungalow colonies were feeding a robust economy will find themselves nodding vigorously as they recognize scenario after scenario, while those who have only heard or read about that erstwhile era will gain an insight that could not come any other way. In short, "Raining Delusions" has something for virtually everyone.

Kudos to Mr. Gold. "Raining Delusions" is available in paperback and in a Kindle edition from Amazon.

SENTINEL SPORTS



SUNY SULLIVAN BASEBALL STARTS STRONG

WEATHER AMONG TOUGHEST OPPONENTS AS SIX EARLY GAMES ARE CANCELLED

by Win Hadley

LOCH SHELDRAKE – The recent early start to the Major League season notwithstanding, baseball in March is always a risky proposition in the Northeast, and April is sometimes just a little bit better, as the SUNY Sullivan nine has discovered this season. The Generals first five games were cancelled, after which they travelled to Brooklyn to kick off the season with a doubleheader sweep of Kingsborough Community College. Sul-

livan took the first of two seven-inning games by an 11-5 score and then scored three runs in the top of the final inning to capture the nightcap 7-4. In the opener, freshman pitcher Jordan Kazen, a right-hander from Notre Dame High School in Ottawa, Ontario, went six innings, allowing just five hits and no earned runs while striking out nine and not walking a batter. On the offensive side, Pedro Abreu, Justin Mateo, and Giovanni Diaz each drove in three runs



PHOTO PROVIDED
Jordan Kazen

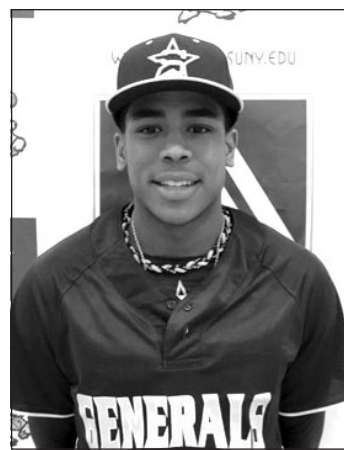


PHOTO PROVIDED
Devin Edwards

for the Generals, while sophomore first baseman Bryan DeAza knocked in a pair.

In the second game, Diaz drove in two runs and pitcher Steven Colon struck out 12 in five in-

nings of work. Still, it took a late rally to propel Sullivan to the victory and the sweep. Following a 4-2 loss to Monroe College in New Rochelle on March 12, the Generals embarked on a southern road trip that took them to North and South Carolina for 12 games in six days. The trip started with a wild 21-19 win over Craven Community College in New Bern, North Carolina. The Generals raced out to an early lead, then scored seven runs in the top of the eighth in-

ning to seemingly put the game away, only to give up four in the home half of the frame to tighten up the game again. Sullivan pushed across two more runs in the top half of the ninth, but Craven made it interesting by striking for five runs before they could be retired in the ninth. Third baseman William Ramirez drove in five runs for Sullivan in the contest, while Diaz accounted for another three. Diaz also recorded the final out of the game on the mound to pick up the save.

On Saturday, March 16, at Ebbets Field in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the Generals swept a doubleheader from Jefferson Community College 12-0 and 12-2. They started off the following day with a 9-2 win over Schenectady County Community College before falling Sunday evening to Garrett College of Maryland by a 4-3 score. The Generals went 2-5 the rest of the trip. A March 22 game against Valley Forge Military Academy in Wayne, PA was can-

celled, leaving Sullivan with an 8-7 record heading into the last week of March. Sophomore outfielder Elijah Ervin leads the Generals in the early going with 19 hits, including 3 home runs, and a .452 average, while driving in 14 runs, the same number as Diaz, tied for second best on the team. Bryan DeAza has 17 RBI. Kazen is 3-0 with a 1.06 ERA to lead the Generals mound corps, while Devin Edwards is 2-0.

FALLSBURG BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL TEAMS IN GOOD HANDS

by Angelica Rodriguez

FALLSBURG – Spring is around the corner, which means softball and baseball seasons are here. Heather Clausen, the Fallsburg High School softball coach, is also a teacher at the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School. This is her first year coaching a varsity level team at Fallsburg. She coached another team for Hendrick Hudson School District and is very exhilarated to see what her past students have become. Ms. Clausen is watching these girls become young adults and is super proud of them. “I also love being able to work with students outside of an academic setting. It is wonderful to watch how much the players progress in a season,” she said. Although they haven’t used the softball field yet this spring because of weather conditions, players still work hard and show their full potential in practice. “Ultimately, the goal of



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RODRIGUEZ
Coach Heather Clausen

every season is for every player to learn and grow as student athletes,” Ms. Clausen said. “Not only are students expected to work hard to become better softball players, they are also expected to become better individuals and citizens.” The softball team’s first game was on April 1, as The Hurleyville Sentinel was going to press. Dominick Scanna is also a teacher at the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School. He recently saved a student’s life by using the



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RODRIGUEZ
Coach Dominick Scanna

Heimlich method and has been honored for his actions. Mr. Scanna has been the boys varsity baseball and football coach for years now. This year, he has big plans for the baseball team. Over the years the boys baseball team has lacked experience, but slowly more boys are joining and participating. This year, Fallsburg is having a junior varsity (JV) team. Having a JV team helps improve the boys’ skills needed for varsity. Mr. Scanna is very excited for the future of these boys.

“Having a JV team is huge,” he said. “We had two modified teams last season, and a lot of those guys have moved up. This allows us to play most of our ninth and tenth graders against competition that will hopefully give them opportunities to be more successful than if they were forced to play varsity before they were ready. Our JV coach, Ryan Koval is also a great leader for this team.” Mr. Scanna is very excited to see what his team brings this year, although they go up against very difficult and talented teams, he doesn’t doubt his team. “These young men are a pleasure to coach. Their families should be really proud of the men they are becoming and the effort they are making,” Mr. Scanna said. Their first game will be on April 2nd. Good luck to both teams this season! Go Comets!

Fallsburg Robotics Teams Triumph at NYS Championships

FALLSBURG – Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School sent six qualified teams to the New York State VEX Robotics Championships in Syracuse on March 2. Four of the teams came back with major trophies. Teams 99561A and 99561D were the NYS Middle School Robotics

Tournament Champions. Team 99561A also won the Skills Competition, and they are currently ranked Number One in New York State and 92 out of 2087 teams worldwide. Team 99561E were Tournament Finalists and Design Award Winners. The Judges Award win-

ners were Team 99561B. The team members and Coach Don Thomas could not have been happier with the incredible results. Parents of the team members have been great supporters of their children. They are all waiting to hear what Fallsburg teams will be invited to Louisville, Kentucky on April 24 - 27 for the VEX Robotics World Competition. Coach Thomas is grateful for the overwhelming support offered by the FCSD and the Board of Education. Everyone in the District is basking in the pride of these young people’s achievements.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Team 99561A is one of the NYS Middle School Robotics Tournament Champions. Left to right are Kristian Huttenmeyer, Christos Vernezos, Nicholas Muscia, Amanda Murtagh, Jaedon Espinoza, and Haris Basic.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Team 99561D is also a NYS Middle School Tournament Champion. Left to right are in the back Savannah Doty, Nicholas Plaza, Cecelia Norris-Yares, Ariana Wall-Carty; front row: Danica Morris, Meredith Anderman, and Alexandria Ruiz.

NIAGARA ENDS GENERALS’ BASKETBALL SEASON 73-72

Darius Lee’s 20 points, 11 Rebounds Not Enough

by Win Hadley

BUFFALO, NY--Darius Lee scored 20 points to lead four SUNY Sullivan players in double figures, but the Generals were unable to hold off Niagara County Community College in the District semi-finals, losing 73-72.

Niagara advanced to the NJCAA national tournament as well as to the Dis-

trict finals with the win. Sullivan finished the season, the school’s first competing at the Division II level, with a 22-8 record. The Generals, fresh off their Region XV championship, took a three point lead at halftime against Niagara, but couldn’t withstand a furious comeback by the Thunderwolves, who hit a big three-point bucket with 15 seconds left to seal the

win. Sullivan had a couple of chances to reclaim the lead as the clock wound down, but could not convert close to the hoop. Darius Lee led a balanced Sullivan scoring attack with his 20 points, while Kendall Robinson contributed 14 and Kevin Smith 13. Anthony Lopez scored 10 for the Generals. Lee also hauled in 11 rebounds to top Sullivan, while Robin-



PHOTO PROVIDED
SUNY Sullivan freshman forward Darius Lee

son grabbed seven. Lee, Robinson and Lopez are all freshmen, and should return for another season at Sullivan while Smith is a sophomore.

SUNY SULLIVAN ADDS THREE WRESTLERS

Middletown’s Jenkins, Beacon’s Maldonado and Sovic to be Generals

By John Conway

LOCH SHELDRAKE – The SUNY Sullivan wrestling program continues to build on recent successes, as head coach Anthony Ng has announced the signing of three more wrestlers to letters of intent. Middletown High School’s Jeremy Jenkins was a two-time All-Section IX wrestler, wrestling most recently at 138 pounds. He finished the 2018-2019 season by advancing to the quarterfinals of the Section tournament. He is expected to compete at 138 pounds in college. He will be majoring in Liberal Arts.

Two wrestlers from Beacon High School, Joe Maldonado and Adam Sovic, have also signed to compete for the Generals next season. Maldonado was the team captain, and compiled a 26-4 record as a senior, earning all-league honors for the second straight year and also being named to the All-Section I team. Adam Sovic also earned all-league honors at Beacon last season, competing at 170 pounds. Both he and Maldonado signed letters of intent last Friday. Coach Ng and assistant coach Richard Dennison have been aggressively recruiting for next year, and last week expressed confidence that they would be adding still more talent to their roster for next season. “We have some great people behind this pro-

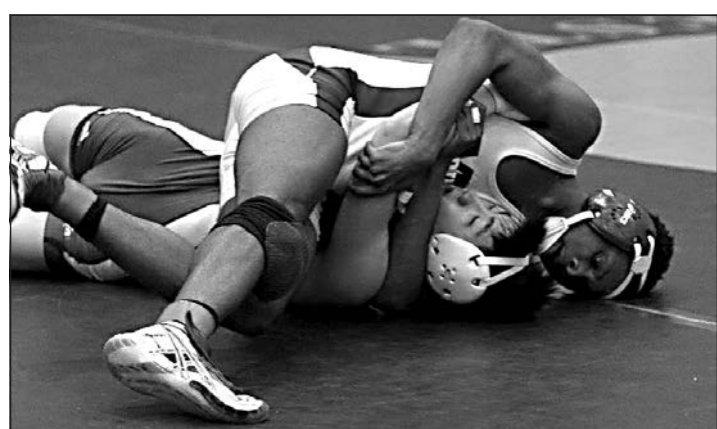


PHOTO PROVIDED
Jeremy Jenkins

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