

THE ENGINE THAT COULD

NEW STUDY: TCFD HAS GENERATED \$3.1 BILLION IN ECONOMIC IMPACT

HARRIS – The Center for Discovery (TCFD) has announced the findings of its latest Economic Impact Study, which details the measurable ways the organization contributes to both local and statewide growth. Over the last 15 years, The Center has generated more than \$3.1 billion in economic activity for New York State.

In 2024, The Center for Discovery generated \$243 million in total economic output for New York State and employed over 1,700 staff, making it Sullivan County's largest employer.

TCFD employees earn, on average, 34% more than the county's private-sector average, and The Center's workforce is projected to reach 2,000 by 2026. Operating expenditures totaled \$151.8 million, with an additional \$9.2 million in construction and capital investments, for a combined output of \$160.9 million - the majority of which stayed in-state. With continued growth, The Center is on track for a \$200 million budget by 2027.

Beyond its economic footprint, TCFD continues to drive innovation in health-



PHOTO PROVIDED

care, education, and research for individuals with complex conditions. In 2024, the organization collaborated with leading institutions including Emory University/

Georgia Institute of Technology, Cornell University, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - producing three peer-reviewed journal articles with six more in progress,

and presenting at four international conferences. Key advancements include the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning

to predict high-risk medical and behavioral events, paving the way for more proactive and personalized care.

Looking ahead, TCFD

is preparing for significant growth. In early 2025, the organization received approval to expand its community day school program by up to 10 additional classrooms and 60 students. This includes the opening of the Discovery School of the Arts in Hurleyville, which will integrate education, therapy, and the arts under TCFD's SynergE6® model of care. At its Rock Hill campus, The Center will also launch the Transitional Living Community (TLC) - a first-of-its-kind demonstration project designed to meet the urgent needs of aging adults with developmental disabilities and medical fragility. Opening in 2027, the TLC will serve 40 individuals, delivering person centered, inter-

disciplinary care that enables aging with dignity and reduces reliance on hospitals.

"While our mission is always centered on providing the highest quality of care and opportunity for individuals with complex conditions, this report underscores how deeply The Center for Discovery also strengthens our region and state," said Center for Discovery President and CEO, Dr. Theresa Hamlin. "We are proud to be Sullivan County's largest employer and a statewide leader in research and innovation, while building a more inclusive and resilient future for all."

The Economic Impact Study was conducted by TEconomy Partners, LLC, which also authored previous studies in 2017 and 2021.

Hurleyville Featured On Boston Television

Borscht Belt Marker and Mel Brooks Get Attention



PHOTO BY WCVB-TV

WCVB-TV Channel 5 reporter Ted Reinstein (left) and Sullivan County Historian John Conway at the Borscht Belt Historic Marker in Hurleyville.

by Win Hadley

BOSTON – Ted Reinstein, a reporter for WCVB-TV, channel 5 in Boston, MA was in Hurleyville in July with his field producer to film a segment of his feature on the Catskill Mountains.

The five-minute-thirty-second piece aired as an installment of the regular weeknight news segment, Chronicle, billed as "an insider's guide to New England," on Monday, August 25. Among those interviewed for the part of the segment dealing with the Borscht Belt were Sentinel reporter Lily Barrish Levner and editor John Conway, the Sullivan County Historian.

It was Mr. Conway who showed the reporter and cameraman around Hurleyville.

Mr. Reinstein, who said the legendary comedian Mel Brooks was one of his personal role models, wanted to include the Borscht Belt Historic Marker in front of the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre in the piece, since it mentions

Mr. Brooks, who started his entertainment career at the Butler Lodge in Hurleyville at the age of 14.

The segment also featured a mention of Ms. Barish Levner's two mystery novels, both of which are set in the Borscht Belt.

"America has many regions known as 'belts'—the rust belt, sun belt, bi-able belt—but here in the Catskills, the only region named for a cold soup and hot comedians... Welcome to the legendary Borscht Belt," Mr. Reinstein said during the segment, shortly after footage aired showing him driving into Hurleyville.

Once shown to the location of the historic marker by Mr. Conway, Mr. Reinstein quickly found the reference to Mel Brooks, and had his cameraman zoom in on it as he pointed it out.

For those interested in seeing the segment, it is available for viewing on the station's You Tube channel by accessing this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrhphjHmVCoJQtXPp17BAQA>

PARADE SCHEDULED FOR HURLEYVILLE

HURLEYVILLE – The Fallsburg Coalition for Sustainable Growth has announced the "Love Our Land" Parade & Peaceful Protest, scheduled for Sunday, September 21 at 12 noon in Hurleyville.

In announcing the parade, the group's press release noted that the "event is both a celebration of community and a call to action. The aim is to raise awareness. For years, reckless and unchecked development has been going on in Fallsburg endangering our natural resources - the essence of our community's charm and sustenance. If we remain indifferent, we risk losing both our resources and our beloved community."

The press release continued, "we are marching to raise awareness about other urgent issues facing our town:

First responders are too often unable to reach people in need because of traffic congestion during emergency calls, putting lives in danger.

Lack of water in local fire hydrants, leaving firefighters without adequate resources.

Threats to private well water caused by unchecked development.

Environmental dangers including weakened wetland protections, septic overflow risks, and destruction of bald eagle habitats.

Destruction of irreplaceable agricultural farmland in Fallsburg."

Furthermore, the press release stated:

"Alongside these concerns, we will celebrate with music, creativity, and community spirit — including a community marching band, a break dancing crew, stilt walkers, roller skaters, and a best-dressed dog costume contest (with a \$100 gift bag prize for the winner!).

We are still looking to see if a group of people might want to participate in a roller-skating crew. Let us know if you're interested."

Parade organizers have also put out the call for volunteers and entertainers:

"Musicians (Especially Brass Players!) – We are forming the "Love Our Land" Community Marching Band, and we'd love to have as many brass players and other musicians join us as possible to bring big sound and energy to the parade.

First Responders & Safety

Volunteers – EMTs, nurses, firefighters, and others trained to support participants and ensure safety.

Route Marshals & Crowd Guides – Helping direct parade groups and keeping movement safe and orderly.

Stiltwalkers & Entertainers of All Kinds – Jugglers, dancers, puppeteers, skaters, or anyone with creative talents that will bring life and joy to the parade.

General Volunteers – Assisting with setup, water stations, performers, contests, cleanup, and more."

Those who are interested in participating in the parade are urged to:

"Bring a Sign: Please keep messages focused on public safety and environmental issues only. This is a festival of community and inclusion, let's be together and share our concerns in unity.

Dress for the Theme: Wear either an animal costume celebrating nature and wildlife, or red, white, and blue to show unity and pride.

Set Up a Table: We invite environmental organizations and social welfare groups to host a table at the event so they can connect directly with

the public, share resources, and build community engagement.

Join Us from Anywhere in Sullivan County: These issues don't stop at the Fallsburg town line. As goes Fallsburg, so goes the county. Environmental issues have no boundaries — we welcome participants from every corner of Sullivan County and beyond."

Organizers say the parade is "a community-powered event, and your participation — whether marching, volunteering, performing, or spreading the word — will help us celebrate our town, protect our land, and demand a safer, more sustainable future.

If you can volunteer, perform, join the marching band, bring a group to table, or enter the dog contest, please reply to this email with your name, contact information, and how you'd like to contribute. We'd love your help!"

For more information about the Fallsburg Coalition for Sustainable Growth, check out the group's website <https://www.fallsburgcoalition.org/> or on Instagram @farmerbrettbudde.

BRIDGE WORK BEGINS

Major Repairs Underway in Woodbourne

by John Conway

WOODBOURNE—The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has announced that a major superstructure replacement is underway on the vehicular bridge that carries Routes 42 and 52 over the Neversink River in Woodbourne.

Construction activities were scheduled to begin on September 2 with the erection of a temporary structure adjacent to the existing bridge to detour traffic on site while the replacement work is being done. Although the schedule of ac-

tivities is dependent upon the weather and the availability of resources, work

this fall is expected to include the construction of the temporary bridge, with

11-foot wide travel lanes, 4-foot wide shoulders, and a 9-foot wide pedestrian walkway, and the beginning of the rehabilitation work on the existing bridge.

The work will continue through the winter, weather permitting, and should be completed in the Spring of 2026 with the installation of new guardrails, curbing and sidewalks, the completion of paving work, and the installation of plantings and signs.

Questions or concerns about the project can be directed to the NYSDOT Region 9 office in Binghamton.

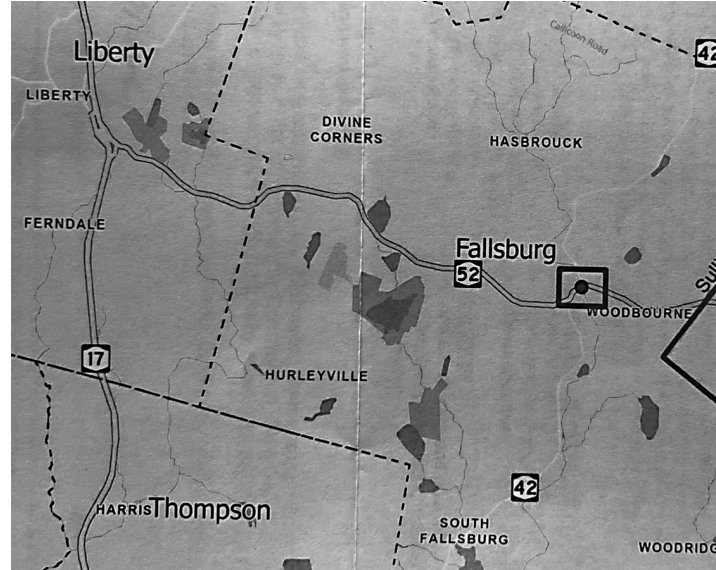


PHOTO PROVIDED

Another Historic Marker for Main Street

Old Hurleyville School Recognized

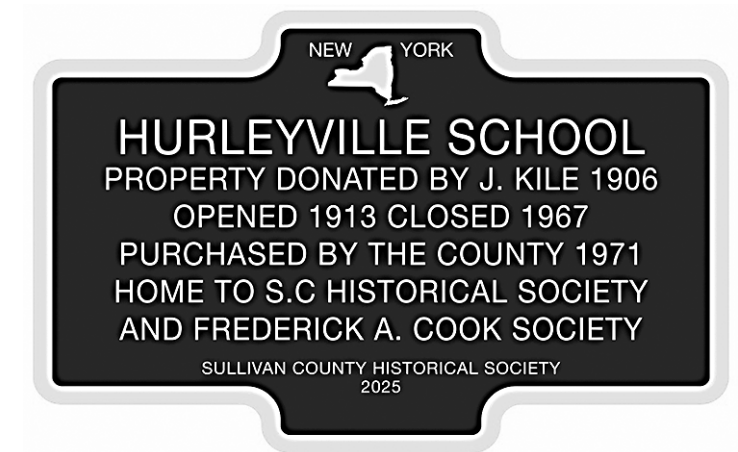


PHOTO PROVIDED

by John Conway

HURLEYVILLE – Main Street in Hurleyville has a new historic marker, to be officially dedicated on September 14.

The marker is in front of the Sullivan County Museum at 265 Main Street, and commemorates the history of the building as the Hurleyville school from 1913 to 1967.

The property was formerly part of the Kile farm, and was donated to the school district in 1906. The building was erected in 1912. It served as an elementary school for many years, and as a high school for a time. The building was obtained by the county sometime after it was closed as a school, and it became home to the

Sullivan County Historical Society in 1972.

The marker was a collaborative effort, with volunteers Henry and Gordon MacAdam playing leading roles, along with the Sullivan County Historical Society and the county's Division of Parks, Recreation, and Beautification.

SCHS president, Suzanne Cecil provided the research and text for the plaque. The funding was secured by Brian Scardefield, Director of Parks, Recreation and Beautification for the county, who also oversaw the installation.

The plaque will be unveiled on Sunday, September 14 at 2 p.m. The public is invited to attend the brief ceremony that will accompany the dedication.

ABOUT OUR HEADLINE

Over the past 20 years especially, The Center for Discovery has continued to evolve into possibly the single greatest economic engine that has ever called Sullivan County home. Economic engines are crucial factors in the growth of a region, and the best of them typically include key components such as:

- Infrastructure Development
- Human Capital Development
- Technological Innovation
- Regulatory Frameworks
- Policy and Planning

The Center for Discovery has consistently excelled in each of these categories, and the residents of Sullivan County and New York State are far better off because of it.

Governor Hochul Visits TCFD

ROCK HILL – Governor Kathy Hochul, along with Dr. Terry Hamlin, President and CEO of The Center for Discovery, VP of Development Gabby Scott, and leadership staff attended the ceremonial ribbon cutting of TCFD's Specialty Hospital in Rock Hill in August.

Governor Hochul also toured the facility with Dr. Hamlin and facility staff where they met a 12-year-old program participant and his family. This innovative facility is dedicated to providing specialized short-term inpatient care to children and adolescents with complex disabilities, such as autism. Developed over the past decade by The Center for Discovery's (TCFD) multidisciplinary team in close collaboration with the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), this facility introduces a new care model that focuses on proactive treatments to reduce the need for long-term residential placements.

"Spending time with the children, families and staff at The Center for Discovery's Children's Specialty Hospital is an important reminder of just how important investments in our health care system are," Governor Hochul said. "While Republicans in Washington continue to advance policies that jeopardize the health and safety of millions, here in New York, we will continue to stand up for our most vulnerable. We recognize the daily struggles faced by New Yorkers with complex developmental disabilities and their families, and will

remain steadfast in supporting and providing assistance to the health care workforce that empowers them to lead more fulfilling lives."

The Children's Specialty Hospital project was made possible through a \$48 million low-interest loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of Rural Development's Community Facilities Program, that Senator Schumer helped secure, as well as a \$4 million investment from Empire State Development. The project also received critical support from the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY).

Governor Hochul visited the Children's Specialty Hospital as part of her statewide tour highlighting Republicans' devastating agenda that includes an anticipated \$13 billion being cut from New York's health care system, strips 1.5 million New Yorkers of health insurance coverage, and rips away some or all SNAP benefits for more than 300,000 households. The new federal policy threatens to disrupt health coverage for more than 750,000 young children across New York State.

Under Governor Hochul's leadership, New York State has made significant strides with this innovative initiative, positioning itself as a national leader in preventive and holistic care for people with developmental disabilities. The launch of this facility reflects Gover-



PHOTO PROVIDED
NYS Governor Nancy Hochul (left) with TCFD President and CEO, Dr. Terry Hamlin.

nor Hochul's dedication to improving the lives of families across New York.

The Center for Discovery CEO Dr. Terry Hamlin said, "We are deeply honored to welcome Governor Hochul to The Center for Discovery and our new Children's Specialty Hospital — where hope meets innovation for New York's most medically complex children. Here, world-class care, pioneering research, and comprehensive family support are transforming lives and setting a new standard for how we serve children with autism and complex conditions. With the Governor's leadership and the State's continued investment, we can expand access to these life-changing programs so every child in New York has the chance to live their healthiest, fullest life. Together with the Department of Health, and through the Governor's support, we are also addressing a critical gap in long-term care by creating an Adult Advanced Medical Care program for individuals aging with complex conditions. This is more than a building — it's about creating a model of care that uplifts the most vulnerable, supports families, and inspires future health leaders. We thank Governor Hochul for her vision, her leadership, and for shining a light on communities too often unseen."

The Specialty Hospital is designed for children ages five to 21 who meet OPWDD's eligibility criteria and require medical care, in addition to supporting their developmental disabilities. The Children's Specialty Hospital will provide inpatient treatment and conduct comprehensive medical, behavioral and clinical assessments over a maximum

of six months. Through a collaborative approach, this program is designed to help children and adolescents thrive at home, in school and remain integrated in the community.

Designed with both medical and therapeutic needs in mind, the new facility where the Children's Specialty Hospital is located includes classrooms, a health clinic, sensory rooms, a therapeutic gym for physical and occupational therapies, a café and a training kitchen. The 15-acre campus also offers outdoor walking trails, healing gardens, and a Food is Medicine greenhouse, all supporting TCFD's holistic approach to care.

After completing short-term treatment at the Hospital, patients will return home with a specialized care plan that includes training for families, caregivers and school districts. TCFD's team of experts will continue to support families as they build on the progress made during their child's stay.

The Children's Specialty Hospital is poised to establish a new benchmark for specialized care and is projected to make a significant impact both nationally and internationally. This new facility will enhance the range of services available throughout New York State, offering a model of care that has the ability to revolutionize the treatment of children with complex disabilities while providing essential support for families statewide.

This groundbreaking initiative not only improves the level of care for children with disabilities but also aims to reduce extended hospital stays, enabling them to return home more swiftly.

New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities Commissioner Willow Baer said, "Finding treatment in the appropriate setting can be difficult for children with developmental disabilities who also have complex medical needs. This new option for integrated care is a positive step towards health equity and we thank Governor Hochul for her continued investment in the lives of all New Yorkers."

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer said, "The new, state-of-the-art Children's Specialty Hospital at The Center for Discovery in Sullivan County will provide critical, life-enhancing care to children and teens. I was proud to deliver historic federal investment so this new hospital can pave the way for a healthier future for vulnerable young patients and a brighter future for the Hudson Valley and beyond. This hospital will help kids across America and expand the renowned and innovative care provided here at The Center for Discovery, all while creating 400+ good-paying jobs. I was proud to work with Governor Hochul and New York State legislative leaders to make this facility that started as a dream a reality and am thrilled that it is up and running today!"

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand said, "While the Trump administration and Republicans in Congress push policies that would devastate the health and safety of Americans with disabilities and people from all walks of life, I am proud that New York is standing up for our community in Rock Hill and across our state. In the Senate, I will continue fighting to secure funding that strengthens our health care system and supports those with complex developmental disabilities as well as their families."

State Senator Patricia Fahy said, "New York's first children's specialty hospital focusing on complex disabilities brings us even closer to building a New York State where every New Yorker, regardless of ability, can thrive. This investment illustrates how new care models can help keep New Yorkers living

with complex disabilities like autism in their homes, communities, and with their families while receiving tailored and highly-specialized care. I want to thank Governor Hochul for again advancing policies that help to break down barriers and improve care for New York's disability community."

Assemblymember Angelo Santabarbara said, "As Chair of the Assembly's Committee on People with Disabilities — and as a father to a son with autism — I know how important it is to have innovative care for children with complex needs. The Children's Specialty Hospital is a groundbreaking step forward, combining medical excellence, family support, and a person-centered approach that will make a real difference for children and families throughout New York."

Assemblymember Paula Kay said, "I was proud to champion this bill to allow the center to continue its good work at The Center for Discovery's Children's Specialty Hospital right here in my home town, Rock Hill. Their skilled care is nothing short of life-changing, and in light of the comptroller's recent report, it's more important than ever that we nurture and protect the excellent healthcare resources in our district. It's such an honor to stand beside the Governor today to celebrate this children's hospital, which is a cornerstone of our community, a driver of good local jobs, and a testament to what compassion, expertise, and partnership can achieve."

Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek said, "With the opening of the Children's Specialty Hospital, New York is setting a new standard for care that puts children and families first. This facility ensures that young people with the most complex needs receive integrated medical and therapeutic support close to home, while helping parents remain active partners in their child's journey toward better health and independence. Thank you to Governor Hochul for your commitment ensuring that all of our families receive the healthcare they need."

Child Care Providers Still Needed

LIBERTY – If you have considered working with or teaching young children, there is no better time to start! Sullivan County needs childcare throughout the county!

According to The U.S. Census Bureau, the population estimate as of July 1, 2023, is 79,920 people in Sullivan County. 6.1% of the county's population are children under the age of 5 (US Census Bureau, 2010). Making the under 5 population in Sullivan County, 4795 children. The current number of infant / toddler childcare spots available in Sullivan County is 1129. The bottom line is Sullivan County children and current providers NEED your assistance as childcare is filled with waiting lists.

Consider working from home and teaching children. You can run your own small business from home while contributing to and supporting the working families in Sullivan County!

If you're worried about start-up cost, we may be able to assist in supply costs through our Infant/Tod-

dlar program. Most training courses through our agency are FREE for Sullivan County providers!!! Please contact the Sullivan County Child Care Council for step-by-step assistance with the application process, business aspect of your program, as well as the programs and resources available when your program is established.

The Sullivan County Child Care Council, Inc. has determined an immediate need for Infant and Toddler childcare based on our referral services:

- County wide - of 44 inquiries 31 were for Infant and Toddler care

- Requests for Infant and Toddler care through our agency have been made mainly for Fallsburg, Liberty and Monticello

- Most of our providers have no infant or toddler spots available

For more information please visit our website: scchildcare.com, The Office of Children and Family Services at <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/becomeaprovider.asp>, or give our office a call at (845) 292-7166.

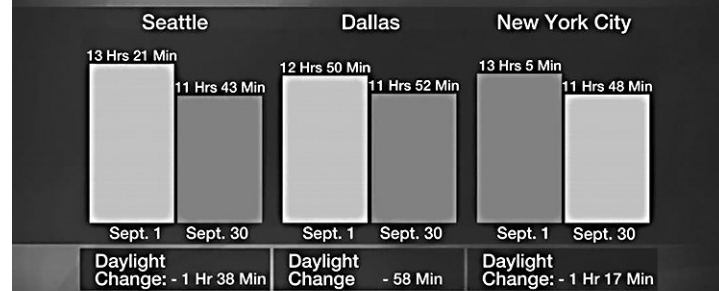
FROM THE WEATHER CENTER

by John Simon



DAYLIGHT WANES IN SEPTEMBER

Daylight Changes In September



GRAPHIC PROVIDED

In September in the Northeastern United States, daylight decreases significantly, and at its fastest rate of the year, culminating in the Autumnal Equinox, this year on September 22.

Across the Northeast, the amount of daylight lost during the month of September typically ranges from around 75 to more than 100 minutes. Northern regions lose the most daylight, with the rate of decrease peaking around the Autumnal Equinox.

Throughout the month, the sun rises progressively later and sets earlier each day, resulting in a rapid shift toward shorter, darker days. The most significant astronomical event in September is the Autumnal (or Fall) Equinox, which marks

the official end of Summer and the beginning of Fall in the Northern Hemisphere.

The change in daylight hours is a result of the Earth's 23.5 degree axial tilt as it orbits the Sun. During the summer months, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted toward the Sun, leading to longer days. After the Summer Solstice in June, the tilt begins to point away from the sun, causing the length of days to shorten. The effect is most pronounced around the Equinoxes because the Earth's position relative to the Sun is the most extreme at that time.

John "the Weatherman" Simon writes a regular column on weather for *The Sentinel*. He lives in Hurleyville.



MY RIDE UPSTATE

Couldn't read, couldn't sleep during my ride upstate
A woman talked for more than an hour
Seems like this was just my fate

Another woman also thought we should
be privileged to hear
What her caller had to say; boy,
did her voice really blare!
So, I was forced to declare,
"Turn off your open speaker, please."
'Cause her chat I did not want to hear

There are very few bus drivers working today
Who announce before the ride
"Keep music and cell phone calls brief and low."
"Be respectful of those by your side."

I'm delighted when passengers hear
"What you bring in you take out."
It's annoying to put your hand on chewed gum
Or feel the bottle that rolls all about

A friend of mine made a suggestion
To help me tune out any noise
Use earbuds or earplugs the next time I ride
I'll be able to read or take a quick nap
Without hearing anyone else's voice!

- Mimi
September, 2025

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

Covering Main Street and Beyond

227 Main Street
Hurleyville, NY 12747

845-707-6000
hurleyvemt@hotmail.com
www.hurleyvillesentinel.com

Editor-in-Chief John Conway
Website Editor Kathleen Sullivan

Contributors: Kelly Adams, Walker Budde, Mira Comstock, Luna Daugherty, Brian Dennis, Win Hadley, Jack Halchak, Jane Harrison, Jasper Lantz, Lily Barrish, Levner, Rose Mandelbaum, Lydia McArdle, Mimi, Eve Minson, Allegra C. Ramirez, Jack Robbin, Emmett Schwalb, Jonathan Shimkin, John Simon, Denise Sullivan, Kathleen Sullivan

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This project is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature and administered by Delaware Valley Arts Alliance.

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SURVIVORS EXHIBIT & DISCUSSION WITH CHILDREN OF SURVIVORS

by Lily Barrish Levner

MONTICELLO — Hadassah Catskill Mountain Chapter hosted an exceptional panel at Temple Sholom last month. The program was made possible by Dr. Hope Blecher Croney, the founder of Hope's Compass.

Voices of Survivors is an initiative born of that undertaking. Dr. Blecher Croney approached Bonnie Mitzner and Lauren Miller, co-presidents of the Catskill Mountain Chapter of Hadassah of Sullivan County and then the idea began to evolve.

"We did not think we would get this many people to speak. If we had had four, we would've been happy," said Ms. Miller.

On the bottom floor of the temple, Dr. Blecher Croney organized an exhibit with paintings, books, writings, and so much more related to survivors. The evening started with a tour given by her.

Eight children of survivors shared their stories in five-minute allotments.

"We did not talk about it; we were different; it was difficult," were repeated phrases used by all the speakers. Speaking Yiddish at home and fake aunts/uncles to replace the ones they had lost were common themes. "We are all affected by the same people. We all have the same issues I'm seeing," said Dr. Richard Stein. "It's time for the witnesses of the witnesses to step up."

Dr. Stein added that when he first heard that quote, it resonated with him.

One panel member had never talked about this subject before. Another spoke about leaving Germany at one-and-a-half-years-old, immigrating to the US, knowing nobody but their parents. Some recalled watching their parents eating quickly or being thrifty, and teaching them how to put things into perspective.

To wrap up the night, Ms. Mitzner asked each panel member to come up with one thing that they wanted the audience to take away from what they shared. Here are their insightful an-



PHOTO BY LILY BARRISH LEVNER

swers:

Dr. Rick Stein: If you have a friend saying something antisemitic, hold them accountable.

Erika Blume Ribaud: You have to talk about it. Silence is deadly and hurtful and creates issues you don't want.

Dr. Peter Chester: Share the teachable moments. Understand the word survivor takes on many different

meanings. People survive when they overcome adversity. It's important for people to share inner strength. In less than 10 years, no Holocaust survivors will be left. We have a responsibility as Jews and as human beings; this means never again.

Mimi Werner: When you begin telling a story about the Holocaust, sometimes people will say, 'well

my family was smarter to get out.' I can't explain how hurtful this is. It wasn't a question about smart or clairvoyance of knowing. It had nothing to do with smart. Killing was random, and we shouldn't be smug. We are Jews, and it happened to our people, so it happened to all of us.

Monica Bennett: Judgment. We judge how people look—their style their reli-

gion. Stay out of judgment. It's a tough thing to do. Find the similarities, and get out of judgement and ask questions.

Eileen Garchik: I think we have to talk about it. You can't forget there was a Holocaust. We have to keep talking and explaining. It's not taught in schools. We have to talk.

Libby Apatov: We were always surrounded by pain, sadness and happiness. My mother told me this could happen again, and I looked at her like she was crazy. When I now hear the antisemitic rhetoric, I cringe. I even went to my mother and apologized for how I felt before. (Libby's mother is still alive at age 99!)

Shain Fishman: I have a podcast with my daughter called 'Listen To My Mother.' It's about the idea of communicating. Communicating isn't just telling your story; it's having a conversation.

Don't just talk to your kids—listen to your kids.

The stories shared were rich with emotion and vulnerability. Never Forget!

AKTION CLUB BUSY WITH SUMMER ACTIVITIES



PHOTO PROVIDED

Aktion Club members and staff taking a short break from washing cars.

The Aktion Club of Sullivan County was on the move during June, July and August hosting several enjoyable events. They held a basketball hoop-athon on June 21st at New Hope Community in Loch Sheldrake, NY and raised \$420, which was donated to the United Way of Sullivan County along with a large amount of non-perishable food items.

On July 15th, an awesome talent show took place at New Hope Theater where very talented Aktion Club members entertained guests — and each other — with great songs, dances and playing musical instruments. An enjoyable time was had by all. The following week several members participated in the Bethel Woods Hello Inclusion Festival and took turns manning the Aktion Club Informational Table. This is an annual free, one-day music festival event in celebration of Disability Pride Month.

The good times continued on July 26th with the Aktion Club celebrating their 10th Year Anniver-

sary with a Spring Fling Dinner Dance held at the White Sulphur Springs Firehouse. A lot of dancing, eating and good times were had by all.

On August 16, they held their Annual Car Wash at the SullivanARC location on lower Broadway in Monticello, New York. The members warmly greeted each customer and did an outstanding job washing the cars, tires and windows with sponges and brushes followed by hosing and wiping the cars down to a deep shine. There was no charge for the car wash; however donations and tips were gladly accepted and \$400.00 was raised. This will help the club fund various community service events.

The Aktion Club of Sullivan County is comprised of adults affiliated with the ARC-Greater Hudson Valley, New Hope Community and The Center for Discovery and is comprised of individuals with various degrees of disabilities. It is sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge.

Music and Art to Honor Survivors and Their Rescuers Through the Generations

MONTICELLO — The exhibit "Honoring Survivors and Their Rescuers Through the Generations," featuring a diverse array of artworks, including paintings, poetry, prose, books, photographs, and more, that reflect a broad range of experiences and emotions, will open at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 14, at Temple Sholom, 5 Dillon Road, Monticello.

Through the songs performed by Lourdesa Hunt and the artistry painted on location by Allison Luci, attendees can smile, tear up, hug, and share. Both Lourdesa and Allison will engage with the audience, share their connections with the theme of the exhibit, and the audience will be invited to do so, too.

Lourdesa Hunt is a passionate, classically trained vocalist and performer whose artistry is rooted in her unwavering belief in the power of love and humanity to bridge divides. Her personal mission is to

spread joy, connection, and hope through the universal language of music—a medium that transcends barriers and speaks directly to the soul when words fall short. For Lourdesa, music is not just an art form but a profound way to unite people in shared emotion and understanding. She is deeply honored to participate in this event, celebrating the extraordinary legacies of survivors and rescuers. To her, this opportunity is not only powerful and meaningful but also a chance to amplify the stories of resilience and courage that continue to inspire generations.

Allison Luci is a joy-driven artist who celebrates animals and color through vibrant, feel-good art. As a two-time cancer survivor, she believes in the power of positivity and lives by her motto: "Make your own happy!" Allison's work aims to uplift, inspire, and spark smiles with every brushstroke. Her artwork can be viewed at <http://www.allisonluciar.com/>



PHOTO PROVIDED

Allison Luci

www.allisonluciar.com/

This artist-singer program is part of a collaboration between Hope's Com-

pass, a local nonprofit, and Temple Sholom. A \$15 suggested donation will help Hope's Compass Fund and Temple Sholom continue bringing artists, musicians, panel discussions, and exhibits to the community. Contact Pat at Temple Sholom, or make your donation at the door.

Funding for Music and Art has been provided by Sullivan 180's Community Development Grant, Resorts World Gives, and individual donations. To see more and to support the continuation of Honoring Survivors programming, go to www.HopesCompass.org.

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Out Divine Corners Way

by Jonathan Shimkin

The ducks are moving single file toward the east end of the pond. I'm watching from a bench along the shore. At some designated moment (was there a signal?), the back half of the line turns around and heads off in the opposite direction. Now there are two lines of ducks. At the next designated moment (was there another signal?), both lines swerve 90 degrees and head toward shore. Then they turn yet again, reforming their original line and resuming their eastward course.

I'm baffled and delighted by the ducks' synchronized-swimming routine. Even after they've paddled out of view, I stay seated, my attention continuing to register odd details of the scene before me: the lily pads faintly stirring in the subdued motion of the water; occasional ripples across the pond's surface like aquatic contrails, hinting at the life beneath. I'm experiencing the equanimity of a fully deployed span of attention, open and receptive; there's no distraction because everything is included. Such a state of attentiveness is like an unclenched fist: abjuring force, opening wide, grasping nothing. If "absolutely unmixed attention is prayer," as Simone Weil wrote, then perhaps I've been praying.

The moment reminds me of Mrs. Morel, in "Sons and Lovers," sitting by the cricket ground after yet another domestic battle: "Before her, level and solid, spread the green cricket-field, like the bed of a sea of light." She sees the men practice in the distance, hears the chock of the ball, watches the sun set: "It was one of those still moments when the small frets vanish, and the beauty of things stand out..." In such a moment, our attention, freely bestowed, hovers, and we hover within it — suspended, alert, percipient. The small frets vanish because the fretter vanishes, at least for a short while; attention dilates outward from our center, away from the self, toward the world, allowing the beauty of things to stand out without reference to their significance or utility to the observer. The ducks on the pond are not referred back to me; they're simply swimming in their own avian nature.

Attention can be bestowed — given like a gift. It can be paid — directed toward an intended end. Sometimes we say our attention is "captured" or "caught" — not freely given, but commandeered. In

our hyper-mediated era, attention is not only caught, it is taken hostage by algorithmic forces that slice-and-dice it in order to wring maximum financial advantage from its deployment. It's a CPC (cost-per-click) world: the more time we spend scrolling and swinging trapeze-like from link to link, the more money accrues to the corporate entities controlling the sites. The compulsive quality of this activity — taken together with the steady impingement of calls, texts, and IMs; rings, pings, and vibrations; the slew of spam and the omnipresent allure of clickbait — gradually erodes our capacity to attend. We skitter like water-bugs over the surface of a pond, never alighting, less and less able to attend to tasks that demand longer arcs and deeper commitments of attention. This is a dangerous state of affairs; it leaves us vulnerable, manipulable, and defenseless against whatever content streams we swim in, or are swamped by.

Those moments in which "the small frets vanish, and the beauty of things stand out" are vital nourishment, moments when attention slows down, dilates, and we come into the fullness of our human capacity to attend. The traditional restoratives for attentional deficits are nature and art which elicit our deepest reserves of awareness and tutor us in becoming skilled perceivers of our world — and of each other!

The acts of attention that take in our loved ones, our neighbors, our fellow citizens — national and global — are the most vital of all; that's where the stakes are highest. To attend to another person with the same openness and receptivity with which I take in the ducks, or Mrs. Morel took in the cricket-field, is to see them distinctly, clearly, unclouded by our own needs and agendas; it is to give them their proper due — respect. "How we act depends on how we see," a philosopher has said, "principally on how we see other people. Our key moral activity is not choice but attention." Nothing is less indulgent or frivolous than cultivating such moments of attentiveness, moments that are life-enhancing and, in our fretful and reckless time, even life-saving.

Jonathan Shimkin, writer and editor, may be contacted at jonathanshimkin@gmail.com, or via his website: jonathanshimkin.weebly.com.

Main Street DANCE STUDIO

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From the Firehouse

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



PHOTO PROVIDED

Honorees Rob Lombardi (left) and Jack Halchak with their awards.

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

Another firefighter has joined our ranks, Shawn Reid. Welcome aboard Shawn. Shawn has already started helping where he can.

The Fire Department held its annual family picnic in early August. More than 100 members and their families came out to enjoy the day.

Awards were handed out for 2024. Rob Lombardi received the "Attendance Award." You can count on Rob to make fire calls at all hours of the day or night and he doesn't miss a drill night or a special assignment. Like taking a truck for fuel or putting up tents. He is there!

I was honored by being named the "Firefighter of the Year." I was truly surprised by the award with so many others doing so much throughout the year.

The "Community Service Award" went to Eric Cristine of Haight Fire. Eric is our salesman for fire gear representing Haight Fire. This is an award that

sometimes you help the fire department for years or do something spectacular one time. Eric has been helped us out for years as our top-notch salesman always willing to go the extra mile to take care of us.

In addition to these awards "Years of Service" pins were given out: Tom Becerral five years, Rosemarie Froehlich 20 years and Jim Kaufman 30 years. A pin is presented on completion of every five years.

Congratulations to all the recipients on their awards.

As I stated last month, there were an extraordinary number of vehicle accidents and pedestrians getting hit. August was no different. I see people walking three and four abreast on our dark narrow back roads. This is not safe. Carry a light. Why are people walking in the road when there is a sidewalk? The number of people blowing through stop signs and red lights is just crazy. Then there are the e-bikes, scooters, hoverboards and other electric modes of transportation. Being used by both adults and children. Riders are flying down Hurleyville Main Street with complete disregard for traffic or the safety of others. This is not just happening in Hurleyville but all over the County. Let

us use some common sense and ride safely.

Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVAs) occur daily at an alarming number. People are passing on solid double lines, making a right on red where prohibited by a big sign in plain sight, Just stopping in the middle of the road to take a phone call or being distracted by being on the phone.

The impact of an accident on the victim's family and the poor person just driving down the road obeying the traffic laws is horrible. Then what about the first responders, firefighters, EMS, police and any other personnel that may be needed at an accident scene. What is the effect on them when they have to cut a dead body out of mangled car, sometimes it is people we know. I know of a few firefighters that walked away and never came back because it was too much to handle.

Activated alarms are still high on the list of calls to which we are responding. Please maintain your alarm system.

It is not too early to schedule a furnace or chimney cleaning. Get it done now so I do not have to write about you in November.

Stay Safe Out There

FROM THE FILES OF...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburg

September 13, 1916 News of the Week

George Calhoun, formerly superintendent of highways for the Town of Fallsburg and who supervised the building of the stone road from Fallsburg Station to the Thompson town line as well as the stone road from Centerville to Glen Wild, has been engaged by Superintendent Wm. Nelson to operate the steam roller on the macadam extension which will be constructed on the Sackett Lake Road this fall, work which will be begun in the near future.

Clarence Baker is preparing to open an electrical supply house in Hurleyville and is prepared to install Western Electric stationary lighting plants. Now that we have electricity, Hurleyville is in need of just such a man as Mr. Baker, who can always be found and can be relied upon to do the right thing and we trust that the people will give him the patronage that such a business needs for support.

Yesterday afternoon about two o'clock the barn of Charles Spitzer's farm near Divine Corners caught fire and was completely destroyed with about 40 tons of hay and farming implements, involving a total loss of \$2,000, there being but \$600 insurance on the building. It is not known how the fire started as there was no one in the building and Mr. Spitzer had just



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

The Hurleyville Arts Centre hosted a "sneak peek" event in September 2016.

gone to Divine Corners and was on his return when he saw the smoke. It was with difficulty that the home was saved although there was plenty of water.

September 27, 1916 News of the Week

Centerville Station is to be the scene of the first Jewish newspaper to be published in this section if not this side of New York. We wish the new venture success.

Mr. Decker, who conducted a hardware store in Hurleyville several years ago but who moved to Poughkeepsie, selling his business to E G Pierson, was in town last week calling on friends.

We understand Asa Kortright and Mrs. Walter Lawrence were united in marriage this week and she has moved her family from Hurleyville and joined his family at Divine Corners.

September 10, 1937 Quietest Labor Day for Sullivan County

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

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

Some of the large hotels engaged cantors to conduct

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

Annual G.O.P. Picnic Marks Opening of Election Campaign

Lewis K. Rockefeller of Hudson, Republican designee for Congress, William A. Chandler of Neversink, candidate for Assemblyman, District Attorney Henry Hirschberg of Newburgh, William R. Ryan, candidate for County Treasurer, Special Judge Henry F. Gardner of Callicoon, P.V.D. Gott of Goshen, and others will be among the speakers Saturday evening, September 11 at the annual Republican picnic and rally at the Sackett Lake House, three miles from Monticello. Republicans from all 15 towns are invited to attend, Chairman Howard Beecher said today. The picnic is under the auspices of the Town of Thompson Republican clubs.

Prominent Democrat Passes Away

Political friends and foes alike paid tribute on Wednesday to the memory

of John K. Evans of Bloomington, former Assemblyman and leader of Sullivan County Democrats for more than 40 years, who died Saturday at Horton Memorial Hospital in Middletown.

September 2016 Community to Get Sneak Peak at Exciting New Venture

The afternoon of September 10 is destined to become a milestone in the hamlet's history as the day the community will get its first opportunity to tour the new Hurleyville Arts Centre.

The public is invited as the Arts Centre, to be hereafter referred to as HC Arts, will open its doors for an informal gathering and a special preview of things to come. This special event begins at 1 PM, and guests will be free to mingle and enjoy light refreshments, as well as get a sneak peak at the cinema in action. A series of live performances will commence at 1:45 PM sharp, and will include local speakers, talented young performers from Hurleyville's own Main Street Dance, a demonstration by New York City based Tango artists Diego Blanco and Ana Padron, and an innovative presentation by Heidi Latsky's internationally renowned dance company.

Pilates Now at HPAC



PHOTO PROVIDED

Aly Steingart

by Lily Barrish Levner

personal trainer and teaches several classes there.

It was Ms. Steingart who reached out to the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre and inquired about a weekly class.

"We were very much open to bringing wellness and people together to be able to do selfcare and making it affordable for the community," said Megan DeWitt,

program coordinator at HPAC. "As long as Aly wants to continue, HPAC has no intention of stopping the classes."

"My Pilates class is a little different, I put my own spin on it - it's more Pilates, hit kinda flow," said Ms. Steingart.

The class is nice and slow, but also challenging. Some attendees are brand-new to Pilates such as Shelly Kleinberg who said, "it was harder in the beginning, now it's a little easier. I know where to push and where to slow down until my body gets used to it. I'm energized when I leave."

Class is held every Friday at 9:30 a.m. Next up for Ms. Steingart is completing her TRX certification.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pilates with Aly Steingart will now be offered to the public at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre.

CONGRATULATIONS, JACK!

HURLEYVILLE – The Hurleyville Sentinel salutes and congratulates Jack Halchak, one of our longest serving contributors, on being selected last month as the Hurleyville fire Department's Firefighter of the Year.

Mr. Halchak is most deserving of the honor, and it is heartening to see his dedication, expertise, and longevity recognized. He is a valued asset to the community and we are proud to feature his column, From the Firehouse, in our paper each month.

Keep up the great work, sir!

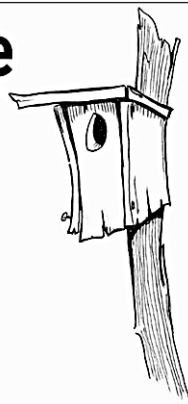
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THE HONEYMOON MURDER PART II

An original Bronco Kelly Adventure
by Jack Robbin

In August of 1936, Sol Goldstein, a young gangster trying to go straight, was on his honeymoon in Sullivan County when he disappeared, never to be seen or heard from again. This short story, by local author Jack Robbin, is based on that real life incident. Last month, in Part I of our story, Fallsburg Constable Bronco Kelly was visited by Sol Goldstein's mother, who asked for his help in locating her son, who had disappeared. At the urging of his wife, Irene, Bronco agreed, and has made a trip to the Sheriff's office in Monticello. That's where we resume the story...

My name is Brendan Alastair Kelly—my friends have called me Bronco for as long as I can remember-- and I'm a constable for the town of Fallsburg, in New York's Catskill mountains. Of all of the cases I have had to deal with in my many years on the job, none was any more frustrating than an incident that began in August of 1936, when there was a knock on the door of my Hurleyville home early on a Sunday morning.

Walking into the Sheriff's office behind the Courthouse, I was greeted by my old friend Jay Lass, a deputy sheriff who this day was dressed in his Sunday finest.

"I didn't expect to see you here, today, Jay," I said, knowing that Jay spent every Sunday morning at Mass in St. Peter's

Church.

"I didn't expect to be here, today," Jay said. "But Walt asked me to come in special to look into a missing person case. What brings you here?"

"That missing person case wouldn't involve a man named Sol Goldstein, would it?" I asked.

Jay glanced down at a small piece of paper in his left hand, and then looked up at me.

"How did you know that?"

"Because that's why I'm here," I said. "His mother just left my house, after begging me to find her son. She said she has spoken with Flynn, so I figured I'd stop by here and see what you guys might already know."

"Well, we know enough to say with certainty that Sol Goldstein was not always the 'good boy' his mother claims he was. He's had some trouble in the past, and up until recently, he was working at the Fulton Fish Market. You know what that means."

"Are you saying he is tied up in the rackets?" I asked, not having seen that one coming.

"That's exactly what I'm saying," Jay said. "Let's grab a cup of coffee, and I'll fill you in."

Jay and I walked the short distance over to Phil's Lunch on Landfield Avenue, where John Schueren was just finishing up the Sunday breakfast rush. I held the door open for a family of five, including a toddler on wobbly

legs, who were leaving the little eatery as we were entering, and watched as two older men made their way by us on their way to the door once we were inside. We sat at the counter, and Johnny poured hot coffee into thick mugs for us while Jay mumbled, more or less to himself, about whether or not he wanted to order breakfast.

"Tilly made pancakes this morning," he mused, "but I didn't get a chance to finish mine."

"How about I make you a short stack?" Johnny asked, and Jay nodded vigorously. "I got some fresh blueberries that were just dropped off this morning I can top them with."

I chuckled to myself at the smile of contentment that gradually spread across Jay's face, and it occurred to me that he was an awfully big eater for someone so thin. Just a few inches shy of my six-and-a-half foot height, Jay was probably a good 50 or 60 pounds lighter.

John Schueren turned his attention to the grill opposite the counter, pouring a thick batter in three small heaps amazingly equal in size, and I turned my attention back to the matter at hand.

"So tell me about Sol Goldstein," I finally said to Jay after we both had a swallow of coffee.

"Well, he's got quite the list of offenses," Jay answered. "Mostly from his teenaged years, up to about a year-and-a-half ago. Seems like he's been



ILLUSTRATION PROVIDED

on the straight and narrow since then."

"Serious stuff? You said he worked in the rackets?"

"Well, he was employed at the Fulton Fish Market for quite a while, and while none of the charges that stuck stemmed from his work there, it does seem like he was always in the middle of any fracas that broke out at the place, which was often."

"You mean when the mob decided to strong arm the vendors, that kind of fracas?"

"Yeah, that kind of fracas. Bronco, I'm not sure if you are aware, but there is a high level investigation going on even as we speak into the operation of the Fulton Fish Market. Some mob guy allegedly runs the place, and there have been dozens of com-

plaints about intimidation and price fixing, vendors being threatened and beat up, large shipments of fish being sabotaged, that kind of thing."

"And Goldstein was involved with all of that?"

"Exactly; at least on some low level. But there seems to have been an incident at a Brooklyn pool hall that is what set Solly straight. He has had no brush with

the law since then, and that was about 18 months ago."

"What was that about?" I asked.

Jay paused while John Schueren slid a plate of pancakes on the counter in front of him. He poured some syrup over the short stack already covered with blueberries, and cut a hefty piece, speaking before inserting it into his mouth.

"According to the police report, there was a fight in the pool hall over a girl. Apparently, Goldstein took quite a beating. His face was rearranged pretty good, it seems."

"And let me guess...

when he healed up he all of a sudden decided to go straight? I'm not sure I buy that."

"Well, there's a little more to it than that," Jay said in between mouthfuls of pancakes and fruit.

"Do tell."

"Well, it seems that shortly after the fight, Goldstein quits the fish market and gets a job delivering paint for some hardware store. He must have gotten over the girl he took a beating for, because he meets another woman, gets en-

gaged, and that appears to be the end of his criminal career."

"So you think it was the woman who gets him to straighten out? Is that the woman he married, and was honeymooning with when he disappeared?"

"One and the same. But there is another reason that probably influenced his decision to distance himself from the rackets at that point."

"And that is?"

"The man who beat the snot out of him in the pool hall was Harry Strauss," Jay said dramatically, and stuffed another fork full of pancakes into his mouth.

So just who is this Harry Strauss, and what impact did his beatdown of Sol Goldstein have on the latter's decision to go straight and/or his disappearance? You'll have to read the next chapter of our story to find out. Don't miss Part III of "The Honeymoon Murder," based on an actual incident in Sullivan County in 1936, in the next edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel.

BACK TO SCRATCH

School Food Service Professionals Gather for Second Annual Conference

LIBERTY – School Food Service Professionals from throughout Sullivan County gathered at SUNY Sullivan in August for a full day conference where they participated in a series of workshops to promote scratch cooking and programming around farm to school efforts. The conference was presented by the School Nutrition Action Coalition, a network of organizations and Sullivan County schools working together to bring two free, healthy, plant slant meals for every student, every day in Sullivan County schools.

Food service staff engaged in discussions and hands-on learning, exploring how cooking from scratch with whole, fresh ingredients can provide students with delicious and nutritious meals. Conference workshops were led by Chef Michael Benedetto and Chef Foteini Handrinos of SUNY, along with Katie Sheehan Lopez of Harvest New York. Sessions included Cutting Edge: Chop, Slice, and Dice Like a Pro, where participants refined

knife skills, practiced safe use of kitchen tools, and prepared fresh, farm-forward menu items; Back to Scratch: Stirring Up Something Real, which introduced the classic Mother Sauces and guided participants through preparation, production, and everyday menu applications; and Jump on Board: Promoting Your Farm to School Program, an interactive session that explored strategies to engage the school community with realistic, achievable ideas for the cafeteria.

"For some students, school meals are the healthiest meals they will have all day, because of school activities; for some, all week due to family schedules; and for some, overall because of food insecurity," said Denise Frangipane of Sullivan 180 and the SNAC Committee. She further explained and emphasized the importance of the work of food service staff, adding, "Today we want to thank you for this important work."

Attendees took a tour of Hope Farm at SUNY Sul-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sullivan 180 CEO Denise Frangipane

livan to see firsthand the origin of some of the fresh foods they had prepared together. They then enjoyed lunch together, prepared by A Single Bite, who shared the interactive Real Food Taste Testing they are doing in Sullivan County Schools. Key Bank sponsored lunch with most of the ingredients being sourced from Somewhere in Time Farm, Parksville, Hope Farm at SUNY Sullivan and other regional producers.

Many shared what they love about working in school food service:

"What I love the most about working at the

school (especially in the elementary school) is giving children education on their food and where the ingredients come from. Many children are unfamiliar with farming and gardening. I love having a few minutes to talk to them about the food we are serving them each day," said Kayla from Monticello Central School District.

"I love interacting with the kids and being able to put a little smile in their day," said Oliva from Fallsburg School District. "I love working in the school food service setting because I can make a difference in how at least some

of the students view food. Making healthy, nutritious food is my goal," Karen from Rockland Central School District.

"We were honored to host this year's conference of Sullivan County's dedicated food service professionals at SUNY Sullivan," said Justine Hoskin, Director of Catskill Hospitality Institute at SUNY Sullivan. "Partnering with incredible local farms and motivated organizations made the day truly special, as we celebrated and enriched the men and women who nourish our K-12 students every day. The energy, collaboration, and commitment to healthier school meals was inspiring to be part of."

The School Nutrition Action Coalition includes leadership from: A Single Bite; CCE Sullivan; Harvest New York; Sullivan BOCES; Sullivan 180; Sullivan County Youth Bureau; SUNY Sullivan; The Center for Discovery, Fallsburg, Liberty, Livingston Manor, Monticello, Roscoe and Sullivan West School Districts.

County HHS Commissioner at Monticello Kiwanis

MONTICELLO – Sullivan County Health and Human Services Commissioner John Liddle recently attended a Monticello Kiwanis Club Meeting. He spoke about several of the programs that provide services to children in our county.

Mr. Liddle also spoke about housing issues in the county and the impact on the children who are homeless and residing in hotels until more permanent housing alternatives become available. His presentation underscores the reason why Monticello Kiwanis has reached out to the Health and Family Services Foster Care and Protective Services Units to assist the children through our "Sweet Dreams Project."

This program provides chil-

dren who are removed from their homes and transitioned into new surroundings with back packs filled with comfort personal items such as blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, toiletries, games, books, toothbrush, socks, etc. This really helps them get through some difficult times.

The mission of Kiwanis is to improve the world one child and one community at a time. For more information about the Monticello Kiwanis Club, visit our Facebook page at Monticello, NY Kiwanis Club.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Monticello Kiwanis Club President Marvin Rappaport (left) and Board Member Linda Barriger (right) thanked Commissioner John Liddle with a 75th Anniversary Monticello Kiwanis mug.



Sullivan County to Host 2025 Workforce Summit

On Inclusive Hiring and Ability Awareness

MONTICELLO - The Sullivan County Center for Workforce Development, in partnership with the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce, is proud to announce the 2025 Sullivan County Workforce Summit: Employer Educational Forum, taking place on Wednesday, October 15, from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Water Park's Grand Ballroom, 555 Resorts World Drive in Monticello.

Held during National Disability Employment Awareness Month, this



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO
Ramone Wilson

free employer event will highlight the importance of inclusive hiring and workplace practices for individ-

uals of differing abilities. Employers will walk away with practical strategies, training certifications, and toolkits designed to create stronger, more inclusive workforce systems.

Event Highlights

• **Keynote Speaker** – Featuring Ramone Wilson, newly appointed Executive Director of Human Rights for Sullivan County

• **Educational Business Panel** – featuring employer case studies and professionals with lived experience

• **Ability First Training & Certificate** – hosted by the NYS Office of Mental Health, offering evidence-based best practices for inclusive hiring and workplace culture

• **Action-Oriented Takeaways** – Attendees will leave with draft action plans and tools to implement inclusivity in their organizations immediately

• **Networking Opportunities** – Employers, job seekers, service providers, and advocates will come together to build connections and share resources

Complimentary hot breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m., provided by the Sullivan County Center for Workforce Development.

This event is free, but advance registration is required. For more information, contact The Center for Workforce Development at (845) 794-3340 or email scwd@sullivanny.us.

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SENTINEL SPORTS



SOCCKER RETURNS

SUNY SULLIVAN TO FIELD TEAM AGAIN

by John Conway

LOCH SHELDRAKE—After a prolonged absence, intercollegiate soccer is returning to SUNY Sullivan. Both men's and women's teams are expected to begin play in the Mid-Hudson Conference of the National Junior College Athletic Association's Region XV in the fall of 2026.

Sullivan had previously fielded a men's soccer team, but the program ended so long ago that few officials at the school were even aware that it had ever existed.

SUNY Sullivan Athletic Director Simon Clement told the Sentinel that the school "is hiring the coach-

es and beginning the soccer program this year; there will be no season or official games until Fall 2026. This year, coaches will begin training sessions, recruiting, and guiding student-athletes on academic requirements and eligibility requirements."

As the paper went to press, Sullivan announced the hiring of a coach for the women's team, Scott Goodman. Mr. Clement said the hiring process for the men's head coach was about to commence, and advised that "if anyone is interested in applying, they can do so from our website [<https://sunysullivan.edu/2025/05/head-mens-soccer-coach/>]."

Mr. Clement said there is plenty to do between now and the time intercollegiate competition begins next year.

"There will be meetings, training sessions, study halls, academic check-ins, and pick-up games throughout this year," he said. "The official team will be formed in Summer 2026, with practices starting in August 2026, and full season [games] in Fall 2026."

Mr. Clement noted that the implementation of the soccer program now was largely in response to the growing popularity of the sport on the local high school level, as the college attempts to provide opportunities that



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

SUNY Sullivan Athletic Director Simon Clement

haven't been available previously, and to be reactive to student demand. "Through communica-

tion, outreach, and observations, it was identified that soccer has been rapidly growing in Sullivan County over the last few years, and that local school districts have growing soccer programs and have been fielding multiple teams," he noted. "There was no opportunity for student-athletes to advance their soccer career while getting a college education without leaving the county and we were looking to change that and provide local talent more local opportunities for both education and athletics."

In the early days of the college's existence, Sullivan often fielded strong soccer teams. In 1966, for

example, the Generals compiled a 9-4-2 overall record and battled their way to the finals of the Region XV postseason tournament, where they bowed to Nassau County Community College by a 3-1 score. Two Generals were named to the NJCAA All-America team following the season.

The following year, Sullivan finished with a 9-3 record, and was again favored to advance to the Region XV final against perennial power Nassau, but was upset 5-1 in the quarterfinals by Mitchell Junior College of New London, CT.

In subsequent years, while arch-rivals Orange and Ulster were building nation-

ally recognized soccer programs, Sullivan, although competitive for a time, went into decline. Still, as late as 1970, they were still contending for Mid-Hudson Conference titles, although competition was stiffening.

In 1971, although the Generals captured third place in an early season Corning Invitational Tournament, they ended up the season in last place in the Mid-Hudson Conference, behind Westchester, Orange, Ulster, Rockland and Dutchess Counties. By 1975, the team was regularly finishing closer to the bottom of the conference standings than to the top.

Sun and Birdies make for a Perfect Golfing Day



PHOTO PROVIDED

The winning foursome poses with golf pro Mike Decker.

by Jack Halchak

HURLEYVILLE — The score cards for the 14th Annual Bill Carlson Golf Classic have been added up and put in the book.

On a beautiful sunny day on the Town of Fallsburg's Terry Brae Golf Course, pro Geoff Walsh had everything in order for the 1p.m. best ball shot gun start for the 72 golfers ready to go.

After a fine lunch put on by Mike Decker and his staff, it was on to the links.

Once back in the clubhouse Mike Decker and



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mike Kushnetsky (left) with pro Mike Decker.

his staff put on an excellent awards dinner.

Mike Kushnetsky had a momentous day on the course. He was closest to

the pin on the par-3 seventh hole. He was 39 inches from the cup. He also had the longest drive on the 16th hole. With a day like that, how could he not help his team win? His team of himself, Keith Shaddock, Misha Kolakoski and John Hinkley shot a sizzling 19 under par to win the classic.

Second place went to the team of Rodney Jester, Chris Rodriguez, Justin Green and John Brewer. They shot a respectable 17 under.

There were many prizes to raffle off after dinner.

On behalf of the Hurleyville Fire Department and Chairman John Jaycox, thanks to all who showed up to play, those who bought Tee Box sponsors, and all the merchants who donated to the raffle.

There is no doubt that Bill and his Buddies were looking down on us and nodding, "Good job guys, good job."

NOT REAL...BUT COULD BE! Rail Trail Bridge Coming Soon

SOUTH FALLSBURG — Work is well under way on a restored Neversink River crossing of the long-defunct New York, Ontario & Western (O&W) Railway

between Woodridge and South Fallsburg.

According to Sullivan County Manager Josh Potossek, "the water, rocks, trees and stone pier in the accom-

panying photo currently exist, but the bridge is just a rendering of what we hope to inaugurate next year."

As guided by the Sullivan County Planning Division,

led by the Town of Fallsburg, and funded by nearly \$3.8 million in grants, contractors are diligently clearing and grading the old right-of-way on the west

side of the Neversink.

By this time next year, pedestrians and bicyclists may enjoy what generations of rail travelers once saw on their way to our mountains!



PHOTO PROVIDED

FCSD is Accepting Wall of Coaching Distinction Nominations

FALLSBURG — The Fallsburg Central School District has announced that it is accepting nominations for the Wall of Coaching Distinction. Unlike the Hall of Fame, the Wall of Coaching Distinction exclusively honors athletic coaches who have made a lasting impact on the Fallsburg community.

To be considered, candi-

dates must have served as a coach in the Fallsburg Central School District for a minimum of five years. Nominees will be evaluated based on their coaching accomplishments, contributions to the district, and their demonstration of high standards in effective coaching, leadership, ethical conduct, and moral character.

Additional information

and the nomination form are available online at www.fallsburgcsd.net/district/wall_of_coaching_distinction. Required application materials include:

- At least three letters of recommendation (one from the nominator and two from individuals familiar with the nominee's qualifications)
- Supporting materials such as newspaper clippings, magazine articles, or other relevant documents

The submission deadline is Tuesday, September 30, 2025. For questions about the nomination process, please contact the Superintendent's Office at (845) 434-6800 ext. 1215 or ikatz@fallsburgcsd.net.

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**BALLGAME
BAFFLERS**

BY BRIAN

Here are five ballgame bafflers for your consideration. The first person to email the most correct answers to hurleysent@hotmail.com will win a prize. Have fun!

September Questions:

1. What major college football team once scored 222 points in a single game, winning 222-0?
2. What is the most points scored in a single quarter of a Division I college football game?
3. The most points scored by a team in a regular season of Division I college football is 726. What school?
4. What Division I college football team recorded the largest average margin of victory for a season?
5. Entering the 2025 season, only one Division I college football team has recorded 1000 or more wins in its history. What school?

August Answers:

1. In what year was the first Little League World Series played? (1947)
2. How many teams play in the LL World Series each year? (16)
3. What was the first town in New York state to win the LL World Series? (Schenectady in 1954)
4. What international city was the first to be represented in the LL World Series? (Montreal)
5. What was the first foreign country to win the LL World Series? (Mexico... Monterrey won in 1957)

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