

MAIN STREET REDUX



MAKER MEMBERS MEET

On September 21st, the Hurleyville Maker's Lab held the first HML members meet – up. With over 50 members joining since opening on May 1, 2016, it was high time to have this creative group of designers, artists and tinkers meet each other, show and tell about their creations, and discuss future projects at HML.

The group members come from diverse backgrounds and careers – engineers, massage therapists, filmmakers, welders, artists, cabinet makers, machinists, food bloggers and yoga instructors were just some of the professions of those in attendance. Members come from all over Sullivan County - Hurleyville and Barryville, Glen Spey and Glen Wild, Neversink and North Branch. Most are learning new skills and processes at HML that are very different from what they already know and have mastered.

For example, Arnie Komitzky, a master carpenter, talked about learning to 3D print and then laser cut chakra designs for a decorative wall hanging. John Lashley, a designer, showed a 3D printed prototype of a set of cuff links he's creat-

ing. Chris and Margaret Helthaler are designing furniture that incorporates their photography printed on tiles and embedded in wooden tables. Amy Fisch and Terry Maxedon showed a laser cut napkin holder generated from a photo of their house.

Anyone with an idea and some stick-to-it-iveness can be a successful maker. The Hurleyville Maker's Lab invites everyone from the local and larger community to tour the facility and see what it's all about. Formal tours are conducted on Tuesdays at 6PM and Thursdays at 9:30AM. HML is open for members Monday and Thursdays from 9AM to 6PM, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 noon to 8PM, and Saturdays from 10AM to 5PM.

Upcoming classes include Introduction to the CNC Router on Oct. 5th, Introduction to Adobe Illustrator on Oct. 7th, Fun Making Hypertufa on Oct. 8th, Introduction to 3D Printing on Oct. 19th, and Watercolor Workshop on Oct. 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

All classes and information about membership can be found at hurleyvillemakerslab.org.

A VISIT WITH THE SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Heather Gibson

The old wood creaked under my feet. The hallways are long and filled with all sorts of old collectibles. I stopped to look at a wall dedicated to the Borscht Belt. An old newspaper caught my eye.

The Concord News had this headline, "World's Foremost All Year Round Resort Proudly Presents for the 1964 SUMMER SEASON." Listed below that were famous faces and their show dates. Sammy Davis, Jr. was listed, among many. I thought for a moment about this glorious time in our county's history; a time when our economy was booming due to the "Hotel Heyday."

I quickly understood that I could get lost in time here, thinking about what once was, and how I missed out on all that excitement. Could I also have had a sexy dance instructor like Baby did in "Dirty Dancing?"

Yes, indeed, a mind could wander here, so I kept moving, off to find Suzanne and Fred.

Suzanne Cecil greeted me with a cheerful smile, and Fred Fries was busy carefully leafing through a collection of old newspapers they just received. The archives room comprises what used to be two classrooms. There's even an old chalk board still on the wall. Surrounded by file cabinets, and card catalogs, I found myself in the middle of a ton of genealogy documents.

I would shortly learn that these two rooms housed family binders, birth clippings, funeral records, obituaries, post cards, cemetery listings, census binders, school yearbooks, marriage records, scrapbooks, diaries, phone books, family bibles, and newspapers galore. So, I wondered, who organizes all of this? Who collects the data?

The Sullivan County Historical Society was formed in 1886. They used to meet in the Monticello Court House. In 1929, they received their permanent certificate and became incorporated. In 1966, when The Hurleyville School closed, the Historical Society got permission to move into the space which is now The Sullivan County Museum.

Suzanne, is President Elect and has been with the Historical Society off and on for a number of years. In the late '90s, she was a board member, and president for a time. Two years



Sullivan County Historical Society volunteers Fred Fries (left) and Suzanne Cecil look through a stack of Sullivan County Republican newspapers from the Society's archives.

ago she took the genealogy position when it opened. She volunteers here four days a week.

It is the volunteers, like her, who keep it all going, and that is no small task. After all, history is happening every day, right?

In order for us to look back someday and have records to examine, we have to first collect them. Collection is a big feat and the Historical Society doesn't have the means or the volunteers to load everything into a computer database. It would take thousands of hours to bring things up to speed, but the bottom line is, they just don't have the funds. When I asked what most people call to inquire about Suzanne replied that "summer residents are often looking into the Borscht Belt history, but most people call looking for family members."

There are many ways to locate family members, or deceased family members. One is the "find a grave" website (findagrave.com) where you can type in someone's name and look for where they might be buried. For many people, it will show you an obituary and will usually show pictures of the cemetery and gravestones. Interestingly enough, Suzanne recently went to a funeral and while at that local cemetery she noted that there were way more gravestones than were listed on findagrave.com. So after the funeral, she went back with her camera and took pictures of hundreds of headstones. She then added them to findagrave.com.

Suzanne actually has a tee shirt that reads, "I seek dead people."

She's absolutely fascinated with cemeteries and the mysteries which often surround them. For example, most recently, someone called searching for a relative that may have been buried in Mongaup Cemetery. At the time,

she hadn't heard of a Mongaup Cemetery. She knew of a few in Hurleyville, but not this one. Sure enough after a bit of research she found the cemetery which is located in what looks like a farmer's field. She could only find four metal markers. Funny enough a few days later, as she's doing other research in the archive room, a folder falls off a shelf and in this folder is information on the Mongaup Cemetery.

What she learned is there are many more buried there, but many of them have no namesake and quite a few are babies. She learned this was a pauper's cemetery, most likely people buried there were on welfare and perhaps a few of them remained unclaimed because they relocated here to work in the hotels. There are many questions still left unanswered surrounding this discovery, but she loves the challenge of trying to put the pieces together. Her husband, who sometimes accompanies her on these cemetery runs, jokes with her a lot about her hobby. Suzanne jokes back, "I think of it like visiting someone, who may have never had a visitor at their grave. For just a few minutes they have my company."

Being an educator first, one of her biggest disappointments is that the schools no longer visit the museum. She said the curriculum changed some time ago, and they no longer study local history. She also stated that funding and testing pressure make it harder and harder for schools to take field trips.

Personally, I remember visiting the museum on a field trip and I remember learning about Dr. Frederick Albert Cook, who was the first American to explore both polar regions, and the first man to reach the highest summit in North America; standing on top of the world! I remember learning about

Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke, his commitment to justice and to Sullivan County. I remember seeing replicas of early Sullivan County, and learning about the old antiques and what they were once used for.

The thought of the local schools not coming here was sad to me, too. The museum is in their backyard. After all, many of these students will eventually move out of Sullivan County and it reminded me of this quote, "sometimes it is impossible to know where you are headed without reflecting on where you come from. Understanding your heritage, your roots, and ancestry is an important part of carving out your future."

Suzanne and Fred shared with me that the Travel Channel had recently visited as part of their "Mysteries at the Museum" series. They were interested in a small wooden shovel which belonged to Frederick Cook. They've also had some visits from paranormal experts who discovered "howling" in the Frederick Cook wing. For the most part though, the museum is a quiet place these days. Soon the Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop will join them, as they do every winter, for rehearsals. The museum does host a number of theater shows and events.

The Historical Society publishes a newsletter called The Observer, which is a quarterly publication filled with historical information, features about local residents, and information about upcoming events. This coming October they will have their Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner. Every year they honor a History Maker and History Preserver. This year's History Maker Award is going to retired SUNY-Sullivan professor Thomas Lambert, and the History Preserver Award to the Callicoon Center Band. The journal for the dinner is SCHS's largest fundraiser. If you would like to advertise in the journal, or want to volunteer with SCHS, please contact Suzanne Cecil at 845-434-8044 or genealogy@scny-history.org.

It wouldn't be a trip to the museum nor would I fully understand the impact history has on a person unless I looked up my own family roots before I left. Fred was kind enough to point out Quinlan's History of 1872, which is Sullivan



New York City Tango artists Diego Blanco and Ana Padron performed a "Tango for All" as part of the Hurleyville Arts Centre soft opening on September 10.

LARGE CROWD TOURS ARTS CENTRE FOR SOFT OPENING

Janet Carrus says it all starts with the arts. The woman behind the magnificent new Hurleyville Arts Centre believes the arts, especially dance, is a sure way to bring a community together.

And that is exactly what happened last month when Ms. Carrus and Arts Centre Creative Director Erin Dudley hosted a large crowd for an introductory tour of the new facility, including a number of dance routines.

Community members and local dignitaries got their first look at the state-of-the-art, 130-seat cinema, the expansive ballroom and performance space, and the first-floor studios that are already occupied by outside businesses, such as Main Street Dance, which relocated this summer from Liberty. Sullivan County Legislature Chairman Luis Alvarez, whose District 6 includes Hurleyville, was among those in attendance at the opening, and he came away impressed. "It is a remarkable building," he said. "And it promises to be a real asset to the community."

Another attendee, Robert Dadras, an architect with offices in Liberty and Manhattan, was even more effusive.

"What a creative and generous gift this is to the people of Sullivan County," Dadras said. "After fifty years of slow

decline, Hurleyville has become whole again."

Mr. Dadras, who currently serves as president of the New York State Main Street Alliance, a group dedicated to main street revitalization and creating vibrant places for people to live, work and recreate, also noted that "with the completion of the Arts Centre, Hurleyville is on its way to becoming the most important Main Street in the entire region." Bradley Diuguid, the Executive Director of the Catskill Arts Society, added a unique perspective, commenting that "the dance performances were amazing and showed off the flexibility of the gorgeous ballroom space. The venue is beautifully, artistically crafted as well as practical. I can envision a great variety of theatrical and dance presentations fitting in very well, a great boon to our community." Longtime Hurleyville resident Vic McCarthy said he found the building "magnificent."

"In my nearly seventy years of living in Hurleyville the Arts Centre is the most profound addition," Mr. McCarthy said. And Monticello architect and musician David Rosenberg thought "this building and its programs will mean so much to so many generations yet to come. This is more than just a wonderful asset for

LOOKING FOR INFO



This distinctive medicine bottle was recently found behind the building at 222 Main Street in Hurleyville. The writing on the bottle says "Goodelman's Rexall Drug Store Hurleyville, NY Loch Sheldrake, NY." The Sentinel staff is intrigued and would like to know more, so if anyone has any information they would consider sharing about Goodelman's, please contact the Sentinel by e-mail at hurleysent@hotmail.com. More about this find in a later issue.

The Inquiring Photographer

by Heather Gibson



Q. Do you have any Fall traditions or things you look forward to for Autumn?



Alexa Morris

“I love Halloween and all the Fall colors. I like that the night gets cooler and I sleep better. I’m happy to be able to celebrate Fall here in Hurleyville; which is a happening little town and it’s so nice to see it growing.”

“I look forward to the leaves changing. I like to drive around looking for the different colors. I also enjoy the Bethel Woods Harvest Festival and various Halloween parades.”



Cathy McKay



Devin Kinney

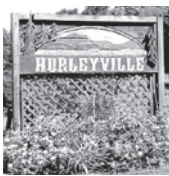
“I love Fall. The brisk weather and the changing of the Fall foliage. I look forward to both Halloween and Thanksgiving. Going years back, to being pushed in a stroller myself, my family has always participated in the Hurleyville Fire Department’s Halloween parade. This is a tradition I enjoyed with my three children and will continue with my grandchildren. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday because it embraces family; the most important thing in my life.”



Paige Bakken

Hamlet Happenings

by Kathleen Sullivan



Members Patricia Gibson, Sonya Robinson and MaryAnn Geary-Halchak carry the Ladies Auxiliary banner in a recent parade.

The owners of Frankie and Johnny’s Present Nardi’s restaurant have once again shown their generous community spirit through their support of the Hurleyville Fire Department Ladies’ Auxiliary.

They will donate a portion of the proceeds from every meal served...eat in or take out...on each Tuesday in October to the Ladies’ Auxiliary.

Enjoy a tasty lunch or a delicious dinner at Frankie and Johnny’s Present Nardi’s on any Tuesday in October and join Mary, Johnny and Frankie in supporting the auxiliary.

Frankie and Johnny’s Presents Nardi’s, on Main Street in Hurleyville, is open daily for lunch and

dinner.

Please call MariJane Conklin, 845-701-3176, for more information on the Hurleyville Fire Department’s Ladies’ Auxil-

iary.

Congratulations to the members of the Hurleyville Fire Department on their recent parade successes. See Jack Halchak’s Firehouse column elsewhere in this issue for the details.

Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 20th Annual “Deck the Doors” holiday decorating contest on Thursday, December 15th. The group will tour every road in Hurleyville on the night of the contest and judge all holiday-decorated doors in the hamlet. Winners of the contest will be awarded prizes furnished by Hurleyville business owners and members of Hurleyville-Sullivan First.

The volunteers of Hurleyville-Sullivan First continue to work on projects contributing to the revitalization of our hamlet. Anyone interested in the future of Hurleyville is encouraged to join the group. Hurleyville-Sullivan First meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at the firehouse.

Please visit www.hurleyvilleny.com for more information and to see the progress Hurleyville-Sullivan First is making.



Hurleyville-Sullivan First will hold the 20th Annual “Deck the Doors” holiday decorating contest on Thursday, December 15th.

The Scene

Music and Entertainment in and around Hurleyville



by Jane Harrison

Don’t you just love the Autumn! The trees resplendent in their colors, that crispness in the air!

Many, many thanks to all those who participated in the pop-up music venue at the CSA pickup next to the Hurleyville Market over the summer. At this writing the weather hasn’t turned yet to where the pickup must be moved indoors so the music will continue until such time as the weather no longer permits.

Special thanks to David Rosenberg for putting this all together as well as performing, and to Debbie Palmarini, Antoine Magliano, Elaine Corrington, David and Julie Bloch, Joanna Gass, Lee Karasik, Lynne Porter and Frank Com-mando just to name a few of those who lent their voices and instruments to this outdoor musical celebration.

Moving indoors, there’s always music at The Pickled Owl on the weekends. What I have found is that it doesn’t matter where your musical tastes lie, you will thoroughly enjoy whatever talented folks are there to entertain you. Stop on by for a mulled cider and be prepared to foot tap.



Musician David Rosenberg of Monticello coordinated the music outside the Hurleyville Market on Saturday mornings this summer, and typically performed himself. Thanks to all the musicians who took part.

Fri Sept 30 Lion Zen (groove rock and a rockin’ good time!) 8PM

Sat Oct 1 Joshua Tree (an interesting mix of Americana, folk and bluegrass) 7PM

Fri Oct 7 J.B. (roots and blues) 7PM

Sat Oct 8 Rich Young (another interesting mix of rock, blues and Americana) 7PM

Fri Oct 14 Rare Form (and indeed they are mixing bluegrass, Irish, reggae and funk) 7PM

Sat Oct 15 Kat and Randy (a variety in acoustic) 6PM

Fri Oct 21 Sara Hulse, Campfire Jones and Jodi

Oakes (acoustic rock and if you’re lucky - a fiddle!) 6PM

Sat Oct 22 The Aquaintances (very talented seasoned performers doing jazz to rock) 7PM

Friday Oct 28 Nothin’ New (vintage blues, folk and pop) 7PM

Sat Oct 29 Those Guys (modern mountain) 7PM

The Woodsongs Coffee-house at the Sullivan County Museum brings us music too during those long winter months.

Stay tuned for November happenings

‘Til next time.....

Letters to the Editor

Letters do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Sentinel or its staff. Send letters by e-mail to hurleysent@hotmail.com. We reserve the right to reject or include letters as we see fit.



ROAD IS HORRENDOUS

To the Editor:

To everyone who will listen! I have contacted several people regarding the road into the Hurleyville Cemetery, to no avail. Where can I get help? That road into the

cemetery is horrendous!

Can someone please help in getting it repaired?

God bless you and thank you.

Edith Porter
Hurleyville

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Sentinel5**

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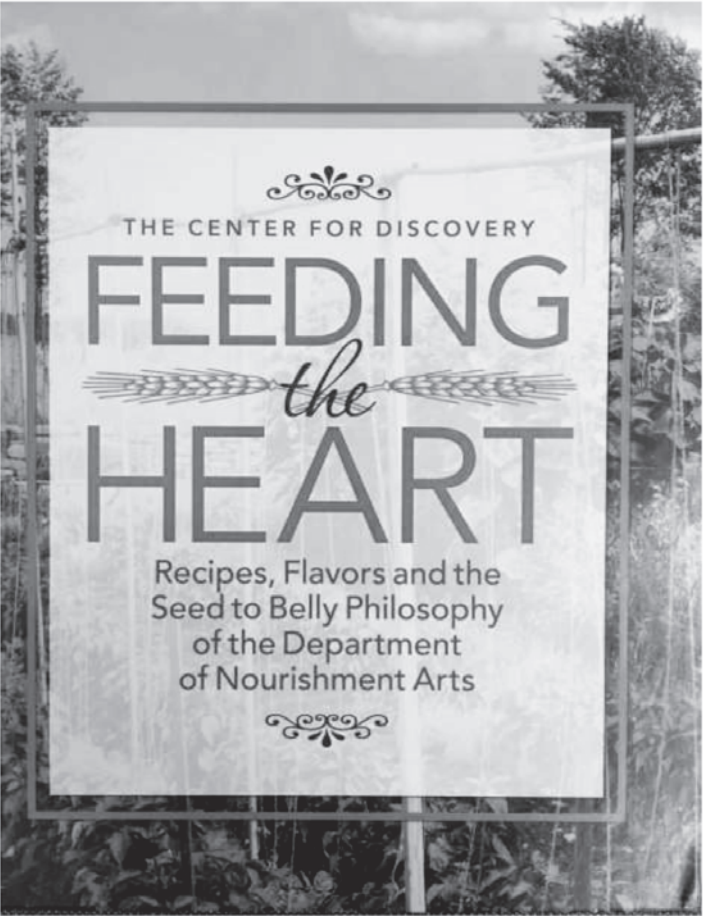
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THE STORY OF THE WONDERFUL WORK OF A TEAM OF CHEFS, NUTRITIONISTS,
AND FARMERS AND THE INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY THEY NURTURE



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THE HURLEYVILLE ARTS CENTRE: SCENES FROM THE SOFT OPENING



The soft opening of the Hurleyville Arts Centre attracted a huge crowd to town on Saturday afternoon, September 10. Attendees enjoyed refreshments and lite fare and toured the cinema before being entertained with several dance performances.



Following the Tango demonstration, dozens of couples took to the dance floor.



Participants had such an enjoyable time it seemed as if they could have danced all night.



Hurleyville Arts Center Artistic Director Janet Carrus is introduced to the community by Sullivan County Historian John Conway, who spoke briefly at the event.



Tango artists Diego Blanco and Ana Padron performed a passionate demonstration of the dance for the audience.

TOURS: FROM FRONT PAGE

Hurleyville. I believe a diverse populace from around the region will be drawn here and discover what a vibrant, inclusive, loving place this is. We should all thank Janet Carrus for believing in the future of Sullivan County." Ms. Dudley assured those in attendance that she and Ms. Carrus would be doing everything possible to make sure the facility will always be sensitive to the community's needs. "We can't do this without the community," Ms. Dudley said. "So we are very interested in what the people of the community have to say. The programming we offer will be determined by the feedback we receive."

Ms. Carrus likes to talk about the arts as a "universal language" that is able to transcend artificial boundaries and reach people at their core. And what works in Hurleyville, she

says, will work anywhere. "Our philosophy is that this is a replicable model," she said. Last month's event was intended as a soft launch of the Arts Centre and featured dance routines by students of Main Street Dance, by the internationally acclaimed Heidi Latsky dance company, which presented a segment of its new movement piece, "On Display," and by New York City based Tango artists Diego Blanco and Ana Padron. Following the professional duo's inspiring Tango performance, those in attendance were invited onto the dance floor for a Tango lesson and an opportunity to dance. Many responded, and although their levels of skill covered a broad spectrum, everyone seemed to be having too much fun to notice.



Arts Centre Creative Director Erin Dudley welcomed the community to the event, promising that future programming will greatly reflect their preferences.



Mr. Blanco and Ms. Padron mesmerized the crowd with their performance of "Tango For All".



Heidi Latsky answers audience questions about her dance company's performance of a segment of its "On Display" movement piece.



Hurleyville Arts Centre Artistic Director Janet Carrus addresses the audience.



Main Street Dance proprietor Sherma Williams (right) and dance instructor and choreographer Kristie Wallgren introduce their dancers to the audience prior to the performance.

VISIT: FROM FRONT PAGE

County's first history book. It was there that I saw the last name of my great grandmother Sadie Hardenburgh listed over and over again. This name was prevalent in Hasbrouck. After a bit of reading, I thought I'd use the card catalog to look up the obituaries of the Rexford men. I pulled out the drawer and there they were, one after another.

I read the obituary of my uncle Dick Rexford first, and then went on to my grandfather's. There in front of me was Leo N. Rexford, Leo N.

Rexford, Jr., and Leo Nile Rexford, III, my Father. And there was the obituary I wrote almost two years ago. Suddenly, this little room became personal to me. Suddenly, I understood what people come here looking for. Maybe it's closure. Maybe it's curiosity. Maybe it's excitement. Fred, who has been volunteering here for ten years, said it best, "It's addicting." There are so many stories waiting to be told, so many mysteries left to be solved. And even though the public often demands a fast way to

look things up, there's something about this old school and its old way of doing things.

It's the ability to hold these old documents in your hands, to smell them and touch them. There's something special about that, something technology could never deliver. I encourage you to take a stroll through the hallways, do a little research, and perhaps solve a little mystery.



218 Main Street
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Tuesday CLOSED
Wednesday 11:30-9:00
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Friday 11:30-9:30
Saturday 11:30-9:30
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Hurleyville Maker's Lab

CRYPTOGRAM

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A

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17 26 4 6 24 13

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21 3 8 11 4 6 19 19 3

5 13 13

Send your answer to info@hurleyvillemakerslab.org
The person who solves this phrase wins a prize

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From the Firehouse

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



The 9/11 monument in the back of the Hurleyville Firehouse with the inset showing the inscription.

Hurleyville on Halloween is always fun and then it's the James Jfworths Holiday parade in Dfworths on Friday evening November 25th. In this parade all of the fire trucks are decked out in Xmas lights and the marchers hand out candy as they march down through Jeffersonville's Main Street.

Coming up in October is Fire Prevention Week from October 9 thru October 15. This year's theme is "Don't Wait - Check the Date, Replace Smoke

Alarms Every 10 Years." I will write more about fire prevention in our next paper. September also marked the 15th anniversary of 9/11. Behind our firehouse there is a monument to remember that fateful day and a tree planted in remembrance of those who lost their lives that day.

There were some casualties with local ties. Alan Beaven (I have seen it spelled Beanan) was on Flight 93 and was at the Ashram working as a lawyer for the SYDA Founda-

tion and listed a Hurleyville address. I saw his name and Hurleyville on TV when they were reading the names at the 9/11 remembrance ceremony and it sparked my interest as to any other local connections to 9/11. Alan was also thought to be part of that group of heroes that rushed the cockpit to try and retake the hijacked plane.

I had an opportunity to visit the Flight 93 site and it is a very eerie, humbling and solemn place, nothing like the enormity of the 9/11 site in New York City.

Alan's daughter went to the Homestead School in Glen Spey with my son. He was in first grade and remembers a little of the day and the days after. The principal of the school sent a very touching letter home to all of the parents about Alan.

Michael Montesi of Rescue #1 had ties to the back side of Woodbourne where his family lived. I remember his family members attending the dedication of our memorial stone and tree. His sister still lives in the area. His mom and dad have since passed.

I first heard of the attacks while teaching in the Monticello Middle School as I walked from my classroom to the teachers' room. For the Challenger disaster I was walking past the TV on senior lane in the Monticello High School and saw the news report. For the Kennedy assassination I was standing in the doorway of the Fallsburg Central School Junior/Senior High School in Mr. Rowe's seventh grade English class waiting for the dismissal bell to ring.

Where were you when HISTORY was made?



Retired Fallsburg's history Bob Longo. Alan's daughter went to the Homestead School in Glen Spey with my son. He was in first grade and remembers a little of the day and the days after. The principal of the school sent a very touching letter home to all of the parents about Alan.

FALLSBURG RETIRED TEACHERS AND STAFF MEET FOR ANNUAL BREAKFAST

Just prior to the opening of classes at Fallsburg Central School District each fall, retired teachers and staff have been gathering for breakfast. The annual event, which was held this year at the Blue Horizon Diner in Monticello, began in the early 1980s when a few retired teachers got together for breakfast on the opening day of school.

Retired art teacher Bob Longo has been attending these events since the beginning. As usual, he brought several of his hand painted signs, including one with a collage of photos from many years past and dating back to the early breakfasts of the 1980's. He also entertained the group by singing along with Frank Sinatra's recording of "My Way."

Thirty-six retirees attended the breakfast, including recently retired teachers Ellen Pavloff, Mary Ellen Levy, Michelle Denenberg and Karen Billig.

Ms. Ceil Cohen and Ms. Mona Bogan co-hosted the event and welcomed all the guests. They acknowledged the newest retirees, asked for a moment of silence for colleagues that have passed away since the last breakfast, and shared correspondence from several friends who were unable to make the trip this year.

The morning was filled with a lot of sharing of news, catching up with family milestones and stories of children and grandchildren, and fond reminiscing about school days passed at Fallsburg Central School District.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS BOOK SIGNING

"Muskrats, Milkmaids and Mobsters" Now in Gift Shop

The Sullivan County Historical Society will host a program and book signing for the new book about the history of Hurleyville at the County Museum at 2 PM on Saturday, October 8th.

"Muskrats, Milkmaids and Mobsters: A Brief History of Hurleyville, Volume 1" was released by History Prose publishers on August 20. The book's author, Sullivan County Historian John Conway, will be on hand at the Museum to talk about some of his favorite Hurleyville stories and to sign copies of the limited edition booklet, which is on sale in the Historical Society's gift shop.

"We have a nice sized inventory of books about a wide variety of historical topics in our gift shop, and it seems logical that we would have a book about Hurleyville," said Historical Society Board member Myron Gittell. "We are very excited to have the author here to sign copies and invite any-

one who hasn't yet purchased a copy to come get one. We are currently the only place in Hurleyville selling the book."

The Sullivan County Historical Society is headquartered at the County Museum at 265 Main Street in Hurleyville. The historic building was originally built as the Hurleyville school, opening in 1912.

"It is the perfect place to have a signing for this book," Mr. Conway said. "To be able to sell a book about Hurleyville in a historically significant school building in Hurleyville, and to help the Sullivan County Historical Society at the same time, it is a great thing all around."

The Museum and gift shop are typically open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4:30 PM and Sunday from 1 PM to 4:30 PM.

Anyone interested in purchasing the book but unable to attend the book signing can arrange for a signed copy by calling the Museum at 845-434-8044.



Sullivan County Historian John Conway poses with his book, "Muskrats, Milkmaids and Mobsters" at the "What the Hill" event in Hurleyville in August.

From the files of...

THE HURLEYVILLE SENTINEL.

The Only Newspaper Published in the Town of Fallsburg

Compiled by Fred Fries from The Archives of the Sullivan County Historical Society



OCTOBER 4, 1916
News of the Week

The Dairymen are to hold a meeting tonight in the Grange Hall at eight o'clock to organize a Dairy-men's League. The farmers are making a brave fight for their rights, and in Jeffersonville, Liberty, Stevensville and White Sulphur Springs they have held their milk out almost as a unit, but in spite of the fact that many have stayed out, milk is being brought in from Hasbrouck and this creamery is shipping as usual, but we hear very strong talk against those who have not struck and the sentiment of ill feeling is waxing stronger every minute. What the outcome will be, time alone will tell. At any event if the farmers unite they can have anything they want. Right is might but sometimes might makes right.

OCTOBER 11, 1916
News of the Week

On Friday evening a meeting of the farmers was

held in the Grange Hall in this place to talk over the milk question and organize a Dairymen's League. Mr. Richardson of the Farm Bureau and Mr. Schrieber of Chester, Orange County, spoke. Nearly all the farmers in this vicinity were present and were not disappointed as the meeting proved to be very interesting. The principal point brought out was that "in unity there was strength" and that if all would stick together they were sure to win out. On Saturday evening at the same place a Hurleyville branch of the Dairymen's League was formed and there was a large attendance, but there was a few farmers here who have not yet joined. The following officers were elected: President, J S Kile; Secretary, Fred W Mitteer; Treasurer, George LeRoy.

OCTOBER 11, 1916
News of the Week

The Hebrews of Hurleyville held a mass meet-

ing at the synagogue Sunday evening for the purpose of reorganizing the Talmud Torah here. There was a large attendance and the difficulties which surmounted them in the past were all very amicably settled and it was decided to reopen the Hurleyville Hebrew School on Sunday October 15 with Ellis Gardner from Mountandale as teacher.

OCTOBER 11, 1916
News of the Week

Sammy McClurg, who has been suffering with an infection of his leg and undergone several operations and expected to leave this month for the hospital for the final one, had the misfortune to shoot the foot on the same leg last week. He went out with a small caliber rifle and had removed his shoes and stockings and was lying down when he happened to see one of their chickens which had wandered away from home and thought he would shoot at it. He picked up the rifle and his watch chain caught on the trigger and the ball passed through his foot. Dr. Jacobs was summoned and dressed the wound and unless complications set in, he will be able to go to the hospital in a few weeks.

OCTOBER 18, 1916
News of the Week

Last Saturday Martin Terwilliger and Merv Cor-

tright were driving to town when in front of the Post Office, Mr. Cortright saw Cal Hornbeck, the mailman coming in his car and upon Hornbeck motioning to him to get on the other side of the road so he could stop at the post office, Cortright turned his horse, which started suddenly, throwing the wagon up on two wheels and Terwilliger out upon the stone road. Cortright got the horse stopped and went to Terwilliger's assistance. His head was badly cut and he was otherwise bruised but Martin says you can't keep a good man down and is up and around.

OCTOBER 18, 1916
News of the Week

The new stove in St. Mary's church was purchased from Phil Mentech's hardware store and as expected is giving the best of satisfaction. Motto; "buy at home."

OCTOBER 18, 1916
News of the Week

On account of the building in which I am located having been purchased by another party, I am forced to move and therefore will sacrifice my entire stock of groceries, dry goods, crockery, notions, etc., at prices 25 percent below cost. The sale will open next Monday, October 23d. This is your opportunity to secure your winter's supply

far below prevailing prices. These goods are strictly fresh, first class and not purchased for any such sale.

David Ness,
Hurleyville

OCTOBER 18, 1916
News of the Week

For Sale; 1914 automobile equipped with demountable rims, crown fenders, extra rim and tire, slip covers, Prest-o-lite tank, electric horn and all in first class running order. Also one double barrel hammerless Ithaca shotgun as good as new. one Martin rifle as good as new. Apply Dr. W. H. DeKay, Hurleyville.

OCTOBER 25, 1916
News of the Week

Nancy Lawrence was awakened twenty minutes to five Thursday morning by the sound of cracking, burning boards and discovered Floyd Durland's barn in flames. She gave the alarm and called up central for help, many going from here in autos. Lawrence succeeded in getting out the cattle but Floyd could not get the fine team of grays out as that part was all aflame. Everything in the barn went including 50 tons of hay, 27 barrels apples, 200 bushels oats, potatoes, all farming machinery, silo, etc., and it was only through diligent hard work that they were

enabled to save the other buildings. There was but \$1,175 insurance and \$4,000 would not begin to replace it. He is to have an auction of the 18 cattle and 50 leghorn hens tomorrow, rain or shine.

NOVEMBER 1, 1916
News of the Week

The gutter down the hill in this village past Cole's Hotel has at last been put in good condition by paving and cement work. We understand the owner of the property, Mr. Feinstein, furnished the material and the road gang did the work.

NOVEMBER 1, 1916
News of the Week

Ed Bullock of Lech Sheldrake had a close shave when his clothing caught on the end of the shafting that

revolves the screen while working the stone bins of the road machine, twisting him around two or three times. He was somewhat banged up.

NOVEMBER 1, 1916
News of the Week

If the plans of the promoters materialize, a high-class and scientifically conducted sanitarium for tuberculosis

patients may be established on the Walnut Mountain property near Liberty.

NOVEMBER 1, 1916
News of the Week

Geo. Van Keuren is grinding sausage by electric power now. Clarence Baker, the electrical engineer and contractor, has installed the machinery and motor this week.

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By
SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORIAN

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**PART TWO –
COME AS YOU ARE**
There will come a time when a human child is born in the New Land across the sea. He will be born on the night of the Crimson Sky. Cursed with fire and fear, he will bring death and destruction. Without water, this flame will consume all of humanity.
Author Unknown
~ La Quatrième Terre
(The Fourth World)

Before we can continue with the story of Penny Royal and her quest for discovery, we must first tell the story of another. This story takes place 18 years before the death of Lyra, Penny Royal’s grandmother, who we met in our first installment. This story begins with one of the most magnificent displays of Aurora the world has ever seen - what is today referred to as “The Carrington Event.”

It is now known that the cause of “The Carrington Event” originated from the sun. But around the little town of Hurleyville this was not known at the time. Instead, it was seen as an omen, a portent of strange times to come. This was especially believed by one family in particular.

The Maudit family, which lived on many acres of farmland on the ridge above Hurleyville, had a magnificent view of the Auroras on the eve of September 1st. But for them it was not a thing of beauty, for the crimson haze created by the super-charged particles of the setting sun against the darkest of night skies led them to believe that the neighboring towns were on fire. And it appeared as if the fog rising from the ground was filled with blood.

As more townsfolk caught sight of the eerie night sky, panic set in all around the neighboring farms and down into town. But the real panic was happening within the Maudit farmhouse, because Mrs. Maudit had just gone into labor. All communication around town was on overdrive with proclamations of the coming of the crimson sky, so no messages could be sent to summon Dr. Kile, the one and only physician within miles. Mr. Maudit, thinking resourcefully of the safety of his wife and child-to-be, ran quickly through the thick woods to his mother-in-law’s house, a place he’d only visited a handful of times before.

He had no disdain for his mother-in-law, but her methods and lifestyle could best be described as “mystic” in nature, and the practical patriarch found visits to her whimsical forest dwelling to be a bit unsettling. He knew, however, that if anyone could successfully deliver a child into this world, it would be her, and so with time ticking



away and his wife in agonizing pain, Mr. Maudit came through the last bit of brush concealing the small wooden cabin.

A most peculiar sight greeted him as he approached the house. His mother-in-law was already waiting for him on the front porch with a bag in hand, ready to follow him back to the farmhouse. It was as if she had already known what was happening.

Impressed at her ability to keep up with him as they ran back through the forest, Mr. Maudit then took a backseat to his mother-in-law, looking on as she coached her daughter through the long but beautiful process of childbirth. Through healings of song and water, Lyra was able to bring a baby boy into the world that night. It wasn’t a particularly troublesome labor; Lyra had made every preparation days ahead, as if this night of plans gone awry was expected. She always seemed to possess more foresight than any normal person should.

The crimson sky lasted for another day or two before clearing up, disappearing as if it had never fallen upon the town and sent everyone into madness. The townsfolk spoke endlessly of the event, and the local newspapers reported it as “solar flares and coronal mass ejections,” terms none of the Hurleyville natives understood. To them, the

science behind why the sky had displayed an eerie red did not matter – it was still seen as a bad omen, the workings of an evil force.

In the weeks following the night of the Aurora display, they still hadn’t forgotten. In fact, the gossip about town intensified, the focus shifting to the cursed boy on the farm that had been born on the first night of the terrifying event. Things got as bad as a Salem witch hunt, with neighbors leaving nasty messages burnt into the grounds of the Maudit property, spooking their livestock in the middle of the night, and stealing pounds of produce out of their wash barn. One family went so far as to torch every scarecrow on the Maudit farm.

The Maudits began to wonder if perhaps their son, Ariel had been born with some affliction. After all, despite the joy they felt bringing their new baby boy into the world that evening, both parents couldn’t help but remember the genuine terror they also felt when viewing the blood-red sky from their ever-so-clear vantage point.

By the time baby Ariel reached two months of age, acts of terror by the townspeople had subsided a bit, but something equally as upsetting had begun. No one would speak to the Maudits, and some people, those previously great friends

and business partners of the family, even closed their doors for business at the mere sight of the Maudit clan and their cursed child. Not only did the family have to walk in fear of harassment, they could no longer trade or barter their produce for other goods. They were financially hurt and emotionally taxed.

And so, after retreating to their farmhouse and hiding out for weeks from the public, Mr. and Mrs. Maudit sat down to have the inevitable talk. What were they to do about their cursed Ariel, the one who brought them so much joy but could ultimately cause the family irreparable harm? They could lose their farm and go hungry. What about when Ariel got older and had to attend school? He could be seriously hurt by the other children based on the influence of their parents. The Maudits were in the midst of a heated discussion on what to do with poor baby Ariel when Lyra showed up at their door, like clockwork, with the answer.

How did Lyra always know exactly where and when she was needed, they wondered? After consoling her distraught daughter and son-in-law, Lyra proposed a solution: she would raise Ariel in the woods with her. No one would need to see him or hear from him, as he would remain hidden away, deep amongst the trees and crit-

ters where no one ever wanted to go. Lyra never received visitors to her wooded retreat, though the people of the town liked to talk about the many strange things that happened around those woods and in the house where the crazy forest lady lived. Ariel would not only be safe there, but essentially forgotten.

Lyra was to raise Ariel as her own, but due to her impeccable foresight, she knew the time would come when he would be forced to leave. Lyra had known the path Ariel’s life would take from the day she helped birth him, and it was a path that she could only be a part of for so long until he would force himself away. You see, the only affliction Ariel suffered from being born during the great Aurora in the sky that fateful night was that he was mute. And when the great diphtheria outbreak hit Hurleyville he became seriously ill and lost his hearing, as well.

Though Ariel was, as they so insensitively called it at the time, “deaf & dumb,” he found alternative ways to communicate. Pulling other energies from deep within the earth enabled him to hear and speak in a much different way. Lyra was well-aware of Ariel’s channeling of the energies because she had taught him how to do it. But she eventually became very afraid of his use of these energies. She knew, as few people did, that when these energies were used for good they could be transformative and helpful to all living beings, but when used for evil, they could become tremendously dangerous for all of mankind.

Lyra called these earth energies “Dragon Lines” and they flowed like blood all over the earth. Just like pressure points on the human body, these energies could become blocked and damaged. As timing would have it, before the big construction of the railroad was finished in the town of Hurleyville, the many cuts into the mountainside had severed the Dragon Lines that flowed through it, and these spots became stale. What was once a flow of good positive energy into Hurleyville had become negative, and the bad

energy accumulated in pools. These pools happened to be where Ariel felt the most power. By the time Ariel reached age 9, his energy pulling abilities had grown powerful, and he spent countless hours pulling these bad energies from the earth. Lyra, realizing the danger of the situation, knew it was time for the test. And so, she asked her grandson if he was ready for “the Flatstone.”

Long ago, Lyra explained, Flatstones were placed all throughout the earth. Each had the ability to foretell one’s future and life path. A person would simply close their eyes and place the Flatstone on their forehead. The stone would then work through the person’s mind, showing them what their spirit guide or animal was. If done in the presence of an anointed individual who was able to channel the energies of the earth, that individual could see the person’s future as well.

As Ariel’s eyes closed, the Flatstone sitting atop his forehead, he began to see a creature with big eyes in a forest. It was an owl, perched on a tree branch and scanning the ground for its prey. This was a fairly ordinary Flatstone vision for a 9-year-old-boy, as owls represented the transitory nature of passing from adolescence into the pre-teenage years. Ariel, however, was not satisfied with this, and began to pull the energy from his feet to his head to force the owl into a Lion, a creature he knew only from books, but one that was the ruler of all others in the animal kingdom. Within his own mind, the lion consumed the owl, and immediately a sharp pain shot into Ariel’s head, dropping him to the floor in pain. He remained there, weak and unable to move, the Flatstone lying beside him, so unassuming in appearance but so powerful in nature.

Lyra left him there. She’d had her eyes closed the entire time the Test of the Flatstone was being performed and was sick to her stomach with the visions she’d just witnessed within her own grandson’s head. She did not want it to be this way, but it was far too late. Ariel had already channeled too much of the dark force, and his unapologetic embrace of the bad energy

proved to Lyra that her grandson was not worthy of her good energy anymore. The eccentric grandmother was not old by any means, but she was aging, and working so hard to out-power her grandson’s bad energy with her own good energy was exhausting her beyond measure. She simply could not do it any longer.

Ariel must be sent back home, she decided. He must move back in with his family on the farm and suffer the shame of being deaf and dumb in their small town. Besides, now that he was old enough to work the farm, his father could use the help. Lyra hoped that without her as a guide and by being surrounded by people who were not anointed like she was, Ariel’s darkness would dwindle and his channeling of the bad energies would fade.

And so it was that Ariel was sent back to the high farm overlooking Hurleyville. On the day of his departure, Lyra felt very weak. Consumed with all her fears for Ariel, she was also ridden with guilt because she had failed him. She’d given him the tools to be anointed and to pull energies from the earth, skills hardly anyone could successfully achieve, and she’d tried to show him only the good of what the Dragon Lines could provide. But Ariel had chosen the opposite, and she could not understand why. She lied down wearily on her bed next to a boiling cauldron and fell into a deep sleep.

“Penny.”
The whisper came to Lyra in her sleep, waking her right up. It continued, seemingly coming

from outside, so she opened the front door to find her daughter on the porch, a basket in hand. Lyra’s daughter had rarely visited her in the years since Ariel had been sent here; it was still too difficult for her to face. But she’d recently been pregnant again and had lost the baby, so she visited her mother, the healer, for soup, apples, and medicine to get her back to health. This particular visit, however, had been met with something quite unexpected.

“On the way over here, mother, I kept hearing a whisper in the woods,” her daughter began, her voice trembling. “It was saying ‘Penny’ over and over again, and when I got to your porch, there was this basket with a baby in it!” She angled the basket towards Lyra to reveal a wide-eyed baby girl, tightly swaddled in a blanket. “I just don’t understand why-”

“No more, my child,” Lyra interrupted, for she understood this strange phenomenon perfectly, as she understood all the workings of the universe. And so she began to sing the song she’d once heard that helped explain it all.

“When one is red, the other is blue,” Lyra crooned. “When one is feared, the other is loved. There is never just one, there are always two. One is the void, one is renewed.”

Confused or enthralled, you won’t want to miss the next installment of The Coming of Penny Royal in the November edition of The Hurleyville Sentinel.

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By Kathleen Sullivan

AMELIA “MILLIE” MCCARTHY

A community activist, a talented business woman, an innovator in the coin machine industry, a political dynamo... Amelia “Millie” McCarthy was truly “a force to be reckoned with.”

The daughter of Harry and Rose Shursky, Millie was born on July 2, 1917 and was a lifelong resident of Hurleyville.

Millie operated Catskill Amusements, Inc. and Binghamton Amusement Co. with her husband, William. She continued to run the businesses and to be an indomitable advocate for



Amelia “Millie” McCarthy was a lifelong resident of Hurleyville, and active in many civic causes.

the coin machine industry after William passed away in 1960.

Millie was the first woman

to serve as a director of the Amusement and Music Operators Association and was president of the New York

State Coin Machine Association for many years.

Her friend, Replay publisher Eddie Adlum remembered Millie:

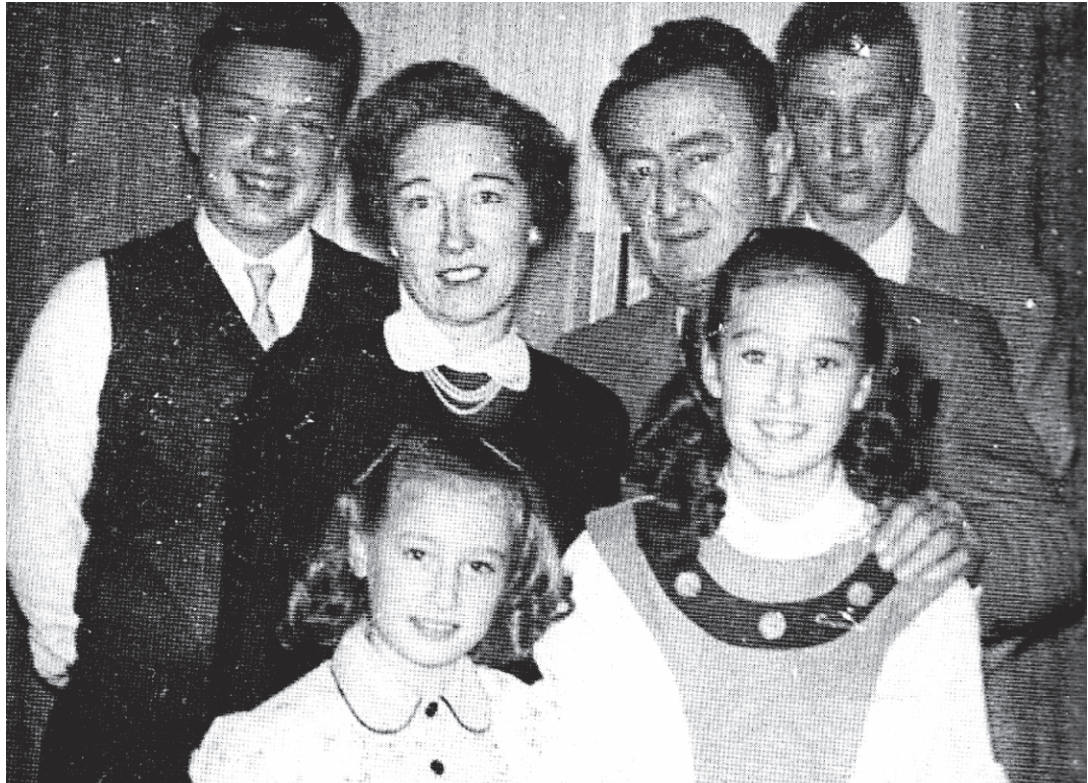
“There aren’t many industry people still around who’ll remember when Millie was in her prime. But I do, and I well remember her midnight phone calls out to my office in Los Angeles where she did most of the talking, as always, touching on the politics of the moment and her rather strong feelings there.” A supporter of women’s equality and the rights of the downtrodden, Millie optimistically shared her time, her expertise, her advice and her good works.

Millie was a very special and enthusiastic fan of the

projects Hurleyville-Sullivan First worked on. She could often be found enjoying the sunshine in the group’s first major project...Hurleyville Firemen’s Park.

Family meant the most to Millie. She was a beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She passed away on February 10, 2014 at the age of 96. Her son, Vic, her daughter-in-law, Ginger, and her grandson, Shawn, continue to carry on her work at Catskill Amusements, Inc. Millie is truly one of Hurleyville’s many valuable treasures.

Visit www.hurleyville-ny.com to find more treasures in Hurleyville.



Millie McCarthy with her husband, William and children Vic, Bob, Kathleen and Nancy.

SENTINEL SPORTS

Angelee Santillo, Sports Editor



SENTINEL WELCOMES SPORTS EDITOR

The staff of The Hurleyville Sentinel is proud of the fact that our paper has been so quickly accepted as part of the community and we are excited about the future. We have been striving to make each issue better than the one before and we are ever on the lookout for ways to improve. Toward that end, we are adding a regular sports section beginning this month, and we welcome Angelee Santillo as our sports editor.

Angelee lives in Hurleyville and has become a fixture on the local sports scene, having played on the Discovery Diamonds softball

team that finished second in the A Division of the Sullivan County Women's Softball League this past summer and currently participates in flag football competition, as well.

Please feel free to contact Angelee with sports story ideas, and do not be bashful in letting us know how we can continue to improve not just the new sports section, but our paper in general. The best way to reach us is by e-mail, at hurleysent@hotmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

And thank you for allowing us to become part of your community!

BASKETBALL COURTS PUT TO GOOD USE

by Angelee Santillo

The fall sports season is underway for our county high schools, the college, and local recreational leagues. It is the time of year when soccer, volleyball, and football athletes are conditioned and ready to take on the season until the winter snows hit and everything becomes all about basketball. But in Hurleyville, basketball season has already begun.

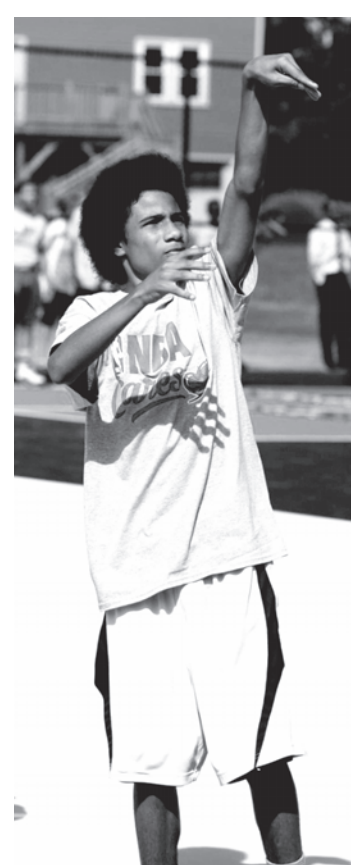
Hurleyville residents and local kids living within the Fallsburg school district waited patiently for the new basketball courts and celebrated with a grand opening, complete with an NBA Cares visit & free t-shirts. Every day since the September 3rd opening, when walking by the still-newly painted hardcourt, you can see competitive pick-up games happening, families shooting H.O.R.S.E on the half court, and the pickleball court's new equipment basket, enabling curious locals to give into the quirky sport a try. But since the excitement of that day at the beginning of September, things have calmed down quite a bit at the multi-colored courts.

For Hurleyville native Nicco Williams, a lack of heavy traffic to the courts thus far isn't a concern, as the meaning behind having a place to play basketball back in his hometown is much more important. "Not a lot of people have been coming over to play ball yet, but when word gets out, I think people from other towns will want to play here," Williams says.

When the old structures came down on Main Street across from Pickled Owl, kids had to play ball wherever they could access in the meantime, which sent them to public courts in nearby Woodbourne and South Fallsburg. Although fortunate to have a number of courts to choose from within the Fallsburg district, people are slowly learning that the other courts just don't compare to the courts in Hurleyville.

It's close to sunset on one of the last evenings of the summer, and a group of twenty-something gentlemen are playing a half-court game of 3-on-3. After one man placed in a layup off a clean finger roll, the group took a water break and could be overheard marveling at the court conditions.

"These courts play really well, man. Very flat and even." "The [slotted] backboards



Nicco Williams puts up a shot on the new basketball courts.

don't reflect the sun right back into your face."

Of course, all good things have their areas of challenge. At the Hurleyville Basketball Courts, like many public courts, the double rims are an average shooter's nightmare. Upon reconvening at the foul line, a player crossed-up his opponent and hit a perfectly executed step-back jumper from just outside the 3-point arc. His form was impeccable, the wrist motion suspended in the air while waiting for the ball to swish through. But it was just slightly off from being nothing but net, and that small difference sent the ball ricocheting furiously back and forth against the double rims before popping out and bouncing to the ground.

"That double rim is brutal, man," was all the shooter could say.

But Nicco, who plans on playing JV basketball for Fallsburg High School this season, is unfazed by the durable double rims.

"I'm a good shooter, so I know how to get my shots in," he says. After all, what's most important to locals is that there's a place to call their own again and play the game they all love.

"Honestly, I think if we started a league, it would get more people on the courts," Nicco said, reflecting on his hopes for the Hurleyville facility. "I'm going to get more people from school here, because I just think they're really nice. It was definitely worth the wait."

THE BEST LIVE SPORT NO ONE'S WATCHING

Greco Sports Women's Flag Football League

by Bridge Morris

It's a familiar scene for Sullivan County athletes and spectators alike. Under the lights at Collins Park in Mongaup Valley, women of all ages are teamed up in matching shirts, stretching their muscles and running laps around the perimeter of the ballpark fence. The smell of the grill from the concession stand is in the air, and the cars are slowly pulling in at the lot up top. If ever there were the perfect night to play ball under the lights, this is it.

But something is different this time. There aren't players out on the diamond throwing around a warm-up ball, nor anyone on deck in the batter's circle. Instead, there are women sporting war paint, high socks, and shiny gloves throwing footballs around a lined pitch where the outfield should be. In another corner, a team forms two lines, running short, crisp routes before pivoting to receive the ball from their quarterback. For the first time, Collins is hosting the Greco Sports Women's Flag Football League (GSWFFL), previously played at the MAFCO field in Town of Thompson Park, and although there is excitement in the air for the first night of the league's third season in existence, something else is out-of-place at the usually bustling Collins Park – there's really no one here.

Not only are the stands noticeably emptier than for softball, but there are only four teams present, and that's all the league has. Started in the fall of 2015 by Michael Greco at the suggestion of local athlete Molly Krivit, the Women's Flag Football League has surpassed local expectations by surviving past a single season, but has yet to gather enough traction to grow in size.

Monday, September 12th was the first night of the fall season, and athletes said their hellos, welcoming familiar faces and catching up on how things were in the off-season. It was a riveting night of football, with interceptions thrown, flags pulled, and touchdowns made. There were even some collisions, which is to be expected in football, even in a strict no-contact league like this one.

"I've seen players go down in every single game since the league started," says Tonye Freeman, veteran of the GSWFFL. "I ran head-on into a player in the championship game last fall and she ended up with a concussion. It gets aggressive."

Freeman, who has partici-

pated in the league since its inception, is playing for Matson Bar & Grill this season, but previously played for the Flag Hags. It all started with the Key Five: Flag Hags, Fanatics Fillies, Fighting Falcons, Lesbehonest, and Black Widows, but the league's struggle to find its legs caused not only difficulty in the attendance department but in team stability and participation.

Flag Hags since split into two teams, The Pickled Owls and Matson Bar & Grill, and the Fillies and Falcons disbanded. Only Black Widows and Lesbehonest have remained intact, but not without a fair amount of uncertainty as well.

Yovanni Fields, coach of two-time defending champions Lesbehonest, had to switch their sponsor from Roark's Tavern in Monticello to Dutch's in Rock Hill. "Due to personal reasons, our first sponsor could no longer be of service to us, which led us to represent another out there on the field," he says. "Even as the two-time defending champs, it isn't easy, either."

When even the reigning champions have a hard time finding businesses willing to sponsor them, one can imagine how difficult it is for new teams trying to come into the league.

By the time the season hit its third week there were already more team shakeups. Select players from Black Widows & Lesbehonest announced after the first night of play that they were leaving their respective teams and joining to create an "elite" squad with a new sponsor.

Aside from league backlash calling for stricter protocol in place for forming teams after the season opener, this left teams with major gaps to fill. People weren't happy. The GSWFFL Facebook page, where schedules and updates are posted, was uproarious with discussion on the new team. Members of the elite defended their decision with the sentiment that seemed to ring true for all of the roster changes this season – it's all to create more teams in the league.

But to what degree is that the responsibility of the players? Recruitment will always be a challenge when establishing a new league in Sullivan County, but with players taking on the burden of recruiting women and trying to expand teams themselves, it takes the fun out of the overall experience.

"We play each week because we truly love the game," says Bari Allor of The Pickled Owls. "But when we're responsible for growing the league and making it sustainable so there's something to come back to each season, the stress takes away from being able to just focus on the game."

So what is the solution for



Eric Williams, coach of The Pickled Owls, analyzes the opponent's defense before a game.

growing the league organically? In talking to spectators at the second week of play, females in the audience who looked on with curiosity were open about their feelings.

"When we heard about the league a year ago, the number one concern for women was that they did not want to get hurt," said a middle-aged spectator who plays in the women's softball league. "But since they moved the games to Collins, a place people know, we see first-hand that it really isn't a contact sport. It's about strategy and athleticism over everything."

The general consensus is that the best way to grow the league in both attendance and enrollment is to see these ladies play firsthand. The GSWFFL plays under the lights at Collins Park every Monday this fall, with 3 games per night beginning at 6 p.m. and ending at 9.

The Hurleyville Sentinel is excited to cover the Greco Sports Women's Flag Football League and wishes all players from The Pickled Owls, Black Widows, Lesbehonest, and Matson Bar & Grill a great season!

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BY WALTER J. SCHERR

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JUST WHAT THE HECK IS PICKLEBALL?

by Elaine Corrington

If you have ever wandered down to the magnificent new basketball courts at the head of the Milk Train Rail Trail in the center of Hurleyville, you might have noticed that not only are there multiple groups of people playing basketball, but there is an ever increasing number of people of mixed ages on a court not intended for basketball at all- and they seem to be hootin', hollerin', laughing, and playing...something.

If you ask them what they are doing, they will often say "I don't know, but it's fun!"

Some may say "We're playing Pickleball!" And if you ask them how Pickleball is played, they usually answer "I don't know the rules-but it's fun!"

And that's how you know you are at the Pickleball court.

It is smaller than a tennis court. The net is low. The balls and racquets that have been placed in baskets in the corner by the fence don't look quite right. The racquets look like big ping pong paddles- and they are colorful. The balls are shot through with 40 holes, are orange or yellow, and seem about the size of a tennis ball. What IS this?

You can't help yourself. You pick up a racquet- or is it a paddle?- and join in the game that has no rules yet. The ball moves slower than you expect and bounces lower than you would expect if you were playing tennis. You expect to swing and hit the ball back over the net, and find that your brain thinks it has a tennis or badminton racquet in hand and your swing falls too short and high to return the ball. It takes 20-30 minutes to get some good volleys going as you start to get it right. There are groans and laughs, and lots of chasing errant shots. More people want to join in. You understand that 2-4 players is the probable intention for the game, but as many as 10 people have been spotted playing at once!



Pickleball equipment is left courtside for participants use.

All of a sudden you have a brain clap! It feels like you are standing on a giant ping pong table wielding your big racquet. Little kids chase balls for you- and if you have white hair, basketball players do too, calling you "Ma'm" and continue doing it even though you tell them they don't have to. Kids may drop off the court and practice bouncing the ball and connecting to serve it against the fence. A couple of people want to know what the RULES are, some just want to keep the volley- and the fun- going. Some start to want to WIN!

Whichever type of player you are, the court, the net, the racquets, and the balls are right there. As people leave, they put everything back in the baskets for the next players. Experiment and see what you like to do- with anybody who is interested. Use this court to just keep moving and laughing and getting more accurate- and to have fun on Main Street! Watch for the workshops that will be coming up so that you can learn how you are SUPPOSED to play. Whatever you decide- joy is right there! People with and without rules will be around!

HURLEYVILLE MARKET

Open 7 DAYS A WEEK

Market offerings include: Thanksgiving Farm Tea and Herbs, Local Honey and Maple Syrup, Artisan Baked Goods and locally crafted gifts.

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