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# The Eastwick Press

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## McLaughlin Charged With Misuse of Campaign Funds

*AG's Office Claims Money Used to Pay Personal Debt*

by Doug La Rocque

New York State Attorney General Letitia James on Wednesday, December 1, announced the arrest and indictment of Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin on charges on Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and Offering a False Instrument for filing in the First Degree, both felonies. According to the press release from the Attorney General's Office it is alleged that in November 2017, after having won the election to the County Executive's post but while still serving as a member of the New York State Assembly, a personal dispute erupted between McLaughlin and a staffer over a \$3,500 personal debt owed to the staffer, as well as his possession of the staffer's laptop computer and iPad. In response to the staffer's payment demand, McLaughlin directed a \$5,000 check to be drawn from the "Steve McLaughlin for County Executive" campaign fund, payable to Hudson Valley Strategies, a political consult-

ing firm used by McLaughlin. On November 21, 2017, the \$5,000 check was deposited into the consulting firm's bank account. Later that day, a Hudson Valley Strategies principal drafted a \$3,500 bank check from the account and delivered it, the laptop and the iPad to the staffer. In that release, Attorney General James is quoted as saying "elected officials are entrusted to protect and serve, but Mr. McLaughlin allegedly violated that trust by using his campaign funds as a personal piggybank. New Yorkers should have every confidence that the money they donate to their preferred candidates will fund that candidate's campaign, not personal debts or expenses. My office will continue to root out corruption at every level of government and go after those who abuse public trust for private benefit."

Mr. McLaughlin was arraigned

*Continued on Page 16*



Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin speaks to supporters on November 2, having just won re-election. Eastwick Press file photo.

**Man  
Seriously  
Burned in  
Stephentown  
Fire**  
Page 2

**Petersburgh  
Glamping  
Hearing**  
Page 4

**More Well  
Contamination  
Reported in  
Nassau**  
Page 15

**Inside  
Frozen Jr. at  
Berlin M.S.**  
Page 5

**Taborton Bridge  
Is Reopened**  
Page 7

**New Lebanon's  
First EV  
Charging  
Station**  
Page 15

Taconic Valley: 2, 3, 4, 5  
Central County: 7, 8, 9  
Hoosick Falls: 11, 12, 13 14  
New Leb/Nassau: 15  
RensCo News: 16  
Sports: 17  
Public Notices: 18, 19  
Entertainment: 20, 21  
Comm. Calendar: 20, 21  
Senior News: 22  
Church News: 23  
Obituaries: 23  
Trix Pix: 24  
Holcomb: 24

## HOOSICK

### Another Rollover in Tibbits Forest

by Steve Bradley

At 2 pm on Wednesday, December 1, a tractor trailer combination rolled over, again, in Tibbits Forest on NYS Route 7. The east-bound truck, carrying pallets of floor tile believed to be headed to Bennington, lost control on a curve about three-eighths of a mile east of the Man of Kent Pub. The driver and the other occupant were uninjured. The trailer began to overturn while the truck was still on the asphalt, taking the cab with it. The truck and trailer slid on their sides, taking down a utility pole along the way, then came to rest with the trailer over the bank and the cab resting mostly on the shoulder. The floor tile went through the roof and scattered on the bank.



Hoosick Fire Chief Rick Hunt looks into the cab of the truck while waiting for crews to arrive to repair power lines and pull out the vehicle. Route 7 traffic was slowed for hours during the clean up. Photo by Steve Bradley.

This section of the road has seen many such accidents over the years and prompted local officials to call upon the NYS Department of Transportation to attempt to mitigate the danger.

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## Taconic Valley

### STEPHENTOWN

# Man Seriously Burned in Fire

by Doug La Rocque with input from Sidewinder Photography

Shortly after 8 am on Friday morning, November 26, Stephentown firefighters were called to 4835 South Stephentown Road for a structure at Rainbow Ridge Farms. On arrival, Chief David Corlew reported the building to be fully involved and called for mutual aid from the neighboring Tsatsawassa and New Lebanon Fire companies. They also found 59-year-old Hanley Palmer in the driveway, badly burned. He was transported to the Albany Medical Center by the Stephentown Fire Department Ambulance with paramedic assistance. Mr. Palmer was later sent to the burn unit at the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. As of press time, he was listed in critical condition. Another resident, 66-year-old Susan Freehofer, escaped without injury.

Getting water to the rural scene was challenging, with a number of other departments also dispatched for tankers. Water had to be trucked to the fire from the Kinderhook Creek. On several instances, firefighters had to wait for more water to arrive to continue battling the flames. The facts that the building was partly underground, had a metal roof and a large propane tank nearby also created problems. It took over an hour for firefighters to bring the blaze under control. No other injuries were reported. The cause is still listed as under investigation by the Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety



Fire consumes the home on South Stephentown Road on Friday. Photo courtesy of Sidewinder Photography.



A firefighter battles the flames in the basement part of the home in Stephentown. Photo courtesy of Sidewinder Photography.

but according to the New York State Police, is not believed to be criminal in nature.

### Two Fires in Three Days

The Stephentown Fire Department was called out once again on Monday, November 29 to South Road for another fully involved structure fire. Mutual aid was received from Averill Park, Hoags Corners and once again the Tsatsawassa firefighters. State Police report no injuries and the cause here too remains under investigation.

### BERLIN

## Helping Hands

Submitted by BCS Communications

Berlin Central School District's Helping Hands committee is looking for gently used winter gear sizes 5 to adult. We are looking for coats, hats, mittens, snow pants and boots that your children have outgrown. We would love to pass them along to other families. Please send the gear in with your child or drop it off at the Berlin Elementary main office. There is a collection bin for all items in the main hallway. Thank you for your support. If you are in need of winter gear for your child please call the BES Main Office and ask for Mrs. Deanna Baker or email [ghan@berlincentral.org](mailto:ghan@berlincentral.org).

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## Taconic Valley

### STEPHENTOWN

# It Truly Was a Christmas Spectacular

by Doug La Rocque with contributions from the SVFD

It might have been a bit chilly and snowy, but isn't that what Christmas is supposed to feel like? Besides, the spirit of the season and the camaraderie experienced by those at the very First Stephentown Lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, September 27 was certainly enough to warm the cockles of one's heart.

It was estimated that as many as 500 people lined the parade route and gathered in Veteran's Park for the parade from the Fire Hall and subsequent tree lighting.

Co-sponsored by the Stephentown Volunteer Fire Department, the Stephentown Seniors and Stephentown Veterans, the SVFD says there were 44 entries in all, including fire apparatus from nearby Averill Park/Sand Lake, Berlin, New Lebanon,

Hancock, Petersburg and Best Luther (East Greenbush). Many local businesses and organizations also took part. The SVFD listed them as Kinderhook Creek Farm, Gardner's Ice Cream and Coffee Shop, Zwack, Inc., Stephentown Memorial Library and Trail Riders, Berlin Central School District and Fat Body Customs. Many local business sponsored and decorated trees at Veterans Park as well. Thanks go out to Mike Denu who provided the trees.

The Toy Drive, held in conjunction with the parade and tree lighting, and co-sponsored by Family Dollar, was also a huge success.

Much more on the parade can be viewed on the Stephentown Fire Department Facebook page.



Larry Eckhardt and Rebecca Sweet lead those gathered in the singing of Christmas carols at Veterans Park. Larry denies the rumors several people in the crowd thought they were listening to Tony Bennett. Photo by Amy Modesti.



Spectators enjoy the sites of the Christmas Parade Saturday including the lighted tractor hauling a wagon full of snowmen. Photo by Amy Modesti.

### PETERSBURGH

## Toy Drive

The Petersburg Town Clerk's office will be accepting toys and donations for our annual toy drive starting **November 1** and running through **December 11**. We will also be accepting hats, mittens and donations for our local food pantries. If you would like to donate, boxes will be located at the Town Hall. If you have any questions, contact the Town Clerk's office at 518-658-3777, extension 10.

### STEPHENTOWN

## Holiday Gathering

The Stephentown Historical Society will hold a holiday gathering on **Sunday, December 5, at 2 pm**, at the Stephentown Town Hall, 26 Grange Hall Road. A local vintner will tell about wine making in New York. There will be no refreshments and attendees must wear masks. The program is free and the building is accessible. For directions, call 518-733-0010.

Please bring a donation of nonperishable items for the Stephentown Food Pantry, which might include bar soap, dish detergent, peanut butter, coffee and canned fruit.

The attractive brass ornaments of the Vanderbilt House Hotel that were created for the historical society will be for sale for your holiday gift giving. These and other historical society items are also for sale at the Heritage Center on Garfield Road **Friday afternoons in December from 1 to 4 pm**.

### PETERSBURGH

## Drop Off Toys at the Library

The Library also has a large donation box for the Petersburg Parks and Recreation's Christmas Toy Drive. Please come in and add new, unused toys for the Christmas party, which will take place on **Saturday, December 11**. Many thanks to the generous patrons and elves who have already been working hard to get the toys here for Santa's visit.

### STEPHENTOWN

## COVID-19 Booster Clinic

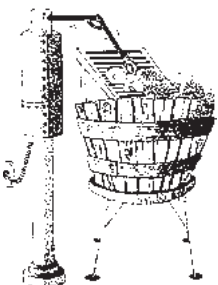
The Stephentown Seniors will sponsor the clinic on Saturday, December 4 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Stephentown Fire Hall. The clinic is open to the public and you do not have to be a Stephentown resident. All three COVID-19 vaccines will be available. The boosters are available by appointment only. To register and for information email [stephentownclinic@gmail.com](mailto:stephentownclinic@gmail.com) or call or text 518-281-4030.

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## Taconic Valley

### PETERSBURGH

# Planning Board Holds Another Public Hearing on “Glamping” Proposal

by Alex Brooks

The Petersburg Planning Board held a third public hearing on a “Glamping” (glamorous camping) development proposed for a lot on East Hollow Road. The project is proposed by Becca Benvie, and would include ten small structures designed for short term rental to tourists and vacationers. These tiny homes, with about 400 square feet of living space in each, will be served by driveways, two septic systems and two wells. They will have bathrooms, heat and electricity. The project is expected to cost in total about \$1.5 million to construct, and the plan is to rent the homes in all seasons.

Benvie was not present, but her architect and her attorney were there to speak for her. This was the first trip to Petersburg on this matter for her attorney John Hartzell of the Albany firm Nolan Heller Kauffman, LLP, but for the architect, Clemens McGiver, it was the fifth Planning Board meeting he has attended for this project.

The Planning Board was all present, and the hearing began with a brief description of the project from the architect McGiver. He said the intention is to keep the site as much as possible in its natural state. The homes will be powered by battery so as not to have wires running all around the property. The signs will be small, and there will be solar footpath lighting, but no street lights.

Neighbor Betty Weaver was the first to speak. She was concerned because the homes to be built are planned for sites about 300 feet from her property line, which she said would interfere with her ability to hunt on her land. She said Benvie had agreed to walk the property with her and discuss the issue, but that never happened. She said she opposes the project.

John Dorman said he and his wife are the only residents of the Taconic Vistas subdivision, and the lot on which the project is proposed is one of the lots from that subdivision. He said he does not think a commercial development is appropriate there. He was also concerned that if there will be no caretaker onsite, that trespassers will do bad things there, whether it be littering, starting forest fires, drug activity or drunken gatherings. He said, “Supervision will be needed.” He also wondered what will happen if the project is unsuccessful, as some other ventures in the area were (he mentioned the ski area at Petersburg Pass). If it were to become bankrupt or be abandoned, what bad outcomes might that lead to?

Dorman also noticed that the lot had been purchased by an entity called Umbrella Tree Solutions LLC, a company that was established about a year ago, and he wondered who is involved in this company. Attorney Hartzell said the applicant Becca Benvie is the sole member of that company. He confirmed that she has purchased the land on which she seeks to build this project. He said she does not currently have any other investors in this project, but she may seek to find investors later.

Hartzell then pointed out that Petersburg has no zoning. He said if you want to restrict certain uses in certain areas, that’s how you do it. But Petersburg has not done that.

Concerning trespassers and their possible bad behavior, he said there are many properties in this Town and others which do not have someone living in them full-time. This is no different than any of those. But there will be a local person hired to supervise and maintain the property. He said his client will be

making a significant investment in this project, and it is obviously in her interest to keep the place in top condition so as to attract guests and make sure the guests have a good experience.

Tim Church asked if the Planning Board had been in touch with DEC about this project and about what other permits the applicant may need. Board Chair Janet Spitz said Patrick Donnelly “has been advising us” about SEQRA and other matters related to this application.

Church and others suggested that a stormwater permit may be needed, but architect McGiver and attorney Hartzell said you only need a stormwater permit if you are going to disturb more than an acre of ground, and McGiver said this project will disturb less than an acre.

After the public hearing, the Planning Board went into an executive session to “consider possible litigation.” What litigation may be in prospect was not specified. There was no attorney present in this session.

Although notices about the meeting and the agenda had said there would be a vote on the Benvie proposal at this meeting, when the Board came back from its executive session, they said they wanted to meet with their newly-hired attorney before voting on it. The Board has hired Andrew Gilchrist to be the Planning Board attorney, but he was not able to attend this meeting. Gilchrist is the attorney for the Village of Hoosick Falls and the Brunswick Planning Board, and has extensive experience working for municipalities in Rensselaer County.

Planning Board Chairman Spitz said the Board wants to consult with Gilchrist before taking final action on this to make sure that the Board has done everything they need to do and followed the proper procedures.

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## Taconic Valley

### PETERSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Gift Wrapping

We are offering opportunities during the month of December for you to wrap presents at the library, away from any curious eyes. You are welcome to come in on **Mondays and Thursdays through December 23** to utilize the library space for this task and make it more fun and relaxed. We have scissors, tape, ribbons and some wrapping paper as well, or bring your own supplies. Please call 518-658-2927 if you have any questions.

Knitters continue to meet here on **Wednesday afternoons**.

The Library Board meeting will be **Tuesday, December 7, at 7 pm**.

Book Club discussion of *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride will be on **Wednesday, December 8**.

### STEPHENTOWN

## Black Belts

Submitted by Bob Fish



From L to R, Peter Nasman, Sensei Fish and Micah Nasman. Photo courtesy of Bob Fish.

On November 27, Micah and Peter Nasman were promoted to the rank of 2nd Degree Black Belt. Peter and Micah are the sons of Ron and Linda Nasman who reside in Averill Park. They have learned much but their journey is not complete. As martial artists they seek physical perfection but the greater goal is perfection of character. May they continue to strive to meet those goals and make a difference in every life they touch.

John Izzo's Okinawan Karate Association, Green Island Academy of Martial Arts, Stephentown Self Defense Systems and Bassallo's School of Martial Arts would like to recognize Micah and Peter for their promotion.

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### BERLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Frozen Jr.

Review by Amy Modesti

It's a winter wonderland in the Town of Berlin. Let it go — let autumn go away for another year. Now's the time to ask your family and friends, do you want to build a snowman?

From November 19 to 21, Berlin Dramateers presented *Frozen Jr.* at Berlin Middle School. Spectators were in attendance opening night to enjoy a wonderful theatrical performance put on by the middle schoolers. Even if you aren't familiar with the popular Disney movie and musical, *Frozen Jr.* was entertaining, easy to follow along with and captivating from scene to scene.

A year and a half into the pandemic, to attend any kind of live entertainment event is a privilege. Watching a musical as strong as *Frozen Jr.* in person was a treat. Guests were masked and assigned to seating. Most of the students in certain scenes were also masked, apart from the main characters speaking their roles. Being masked didn't stop anyone from performing or watching this hometown show, a fan favorite for all. Kudos to all for a job well done on *Frozen Jr.*

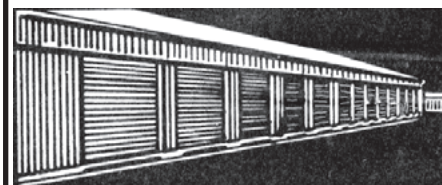


Young Anna (Marynn Cave) sitting on the floor on the opposite side of the door from her older sister, Young Elsa (Addison Dezess) during Act One. Elsa cast a cold spell on her sister that knocked her out. Due to her strong powers and to err on the side of caution, Elsa and Anna had to remain separate from each other for a period of time. The only way to attempt any kind of communication was speaking through the door. Photo by Amy Modesti.

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39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# Troy Victorian Stroll Season

## Eat, Drink & Be Merry!

Support our local businesses and enjoy downtown Troy throughout our 2021 'Stroll Season' beginning Sunday, December 5.

Featuring lively pop-up street performances by such artists as Sean Fagan's Circus Theatricks, Troy Samba, the Pokingbrook Morris Dancers, SaxoClaus and more on December 5, 11 and 18, as well as the usual holiday shopping specials and great dining all month long!



Visit the Hart Cluett Museum for the 65th Annual Greens Show • Visit River Street Market's Holiday Market with Gingerbread House making • Have your gifts wrapped by the Downtown Troy BID in the CDTA Trolley

and of course check out Troy's holiday window displays, unique boutiques, eateries and more!



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## Troy Redevelopment Foundation





## Central County

### TABORTON

# Storm Damaged Bridge Is Reopened



The newly reopened Taborton Road and Bridge. Photo provided.

Rensselaer County officially reopened County Route 42 (Taborton Road) to traffic on Wednesday morning, November 24. Taborton Road was reopened at the same time the Town of Sand Lake opened a section of Oak Hill Road that intersects with it.

Taborton and Oak Hill are the two remaining roads that had been closed as a result of the July 14 storms and flooding that damaged a number of county and local roads. A bridge on Taborton was destroyed and replaced with a temporary bridge several weeks ago, and a large section of the road was destroyed by flooding. Work by contractors and the County Highway Department was completed just one day earlier.

### POESTENKILL

# Latest Tests Show No New Elevated Levels of PFOA

Rensselaer County Dept. of Health Press Release

A sixth round of sampling of properties in Poestenkill for PFOA has been concluded, but no new properties were found to have levels of PFOA above the State-permitted levels, the Department announced on Wednesday, November 24.

The results were finalized Tuesday and prepared for public release. Testing is continuing on additional properties in Poestenkill on a voluntary basis by both the County and the State.

Twenty properties were sampled during this sixth round. Samples were largely collected from sites located to the west of Algonquin Middle School. The twenty sites surveyed registered samples that show eight non-detect and twelve detections of PFOA/PFOS

below the State maximum contaminant level standards of 10 parts per trillion (ppt) for public drinking water.

With the conclusion of the sixth round of testing, a source for the contamination was not discovered. The County and State have been investigating the possibility of multiple, unrelated sources for the contamination. The State recently started expanded testing in the area around the middle school.

"We are obviously happy to see no new cases for PFOA in Poestenkill following this round of testing, but recognize no source has been determined. We continue to work with the State to find the source or sources for the PFOA contamination and to get more answers," said County Public Health Director Mary Fran Wachunas.

Testing started after PFOA/PFOS was discovered during State-mandated sampling at the Algonquin Middle School earlier this year.

The County has to date collected samples for 77 private wells, with ten wells tested at or above the drinking water standard of 10 ppt for either PFOA/PFOS. There are five samples still pending.

### "Hanukkah Sameach!"

To all of our readers and friends of the Jewish faith, we wish you a Happy Hanukkah. Hanukkah is the Jewish Festival of Rededication, also called the Festival of Lights.

## An Iconic New England Look in Grafton



Looking at this picture of the Grafton Gazebo decked out for Christmas, one might think they had been transported to Hanover, NH, the home of Dartmouth College in Grafton County, or perhaps to some other famous New England Graftons, such as in Vermont, Massachusetts or Maine. This photo looking across the Grafton Green with the venerable Grafton Baptist Church in the background reminds one of those famous New England portraits. The decorations are once again the work of Jodie Deschaine, who also decorated the entrance to the nearby Post Office. Photo provided.



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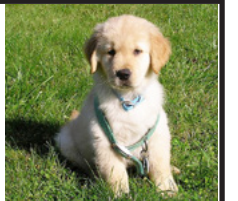
**Let's Not Forget Our Best Friends This Christmas!**  
Capital Agway in Brunswick is offering  
**Pet Pictures with Santa this month.**



**Bring your furry best friend in to meet the Jolly Ole Elf (make sure they have their list ready for him too). Pictures will be ready at the time they are taken. The cost is only \$10 to make your pet's day. Santa will be there Sunday, Dec. 5, 11 am - 2 pm; Saturday, Dec. 11, 11 am - 4 pm; and Saturday, Dec. 18, 11 am - 4 pm.**

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## Central County

### GRAFTON

# Yankee Doodle Band and Holiday Cookie Contest

Submitted by Betsy Colvin

The Yankee Doodle Band and American Legion bands come to Grafton on **Saturday, December 11, from 2 to 4 pm**, at Roxborough Holdings, Rte. 2 and Babcock Lake Road. The Yankee Doodle Band, with guest singer Courtney Shane Karl, will be playing some of your favorite holiday songs including a mash up of *Stars & Stripes* interwoven with well-known Christmas songs. It's sure to get your feet stomping

one moment and you singing along to one of your favorite carols the next.

Bring a dozen of your favorite homemade holiday cookies to Grafton's first holiday cookie contest and you may win a special holiday prize. Come enjoy the music, sample the holiday cookies and feel free to sing along or get up and dance. We hope to see you there.

### GRAFTON

## Landowner Appreciation Dinner

The Grafton Trailblazers Snowmobile Club will hold a landowner appreciation dinner on **Wednesday, December 15, at 6 pm**, at the Lakeview Restaurant in Averill Park. All landowners and their families are invited to attend free of charge. Club members are invited to attend at a cost of \$30. There will be a cocktail hour at 6 pm, with a brief meeting of the club to update everyone. Dinner will be served at 7 pm, and there will be prizes given out. This is the club's way of thanking landowners. Without them, there would be no trails to ride on beyond state parks. Please RSVP by **December 6** via Facebook or call our treasurer, Samantha Robitaille, at 518-258-8311.

### GRAFTON

## Toys for the Town

The Grafton Fire Auxiliary will be collecting new toys and books to help local families in need. Monetary donations or toys bigger than the box can be donated by calling Noelle Goyer at 518-269-8988. The deadline is **December 10**.

The Toy Boxes are located around the town including the Grafton Town Store and *The Eastwick Press* office. Please help out if you can.

### BRUNSWICK LIBRARY

#### Holiday Music Storytime

Thursday, December 9, 10:30 am

Nature journal activity and idea sharing circle.

#### Hill Country Cloggers

Friday, December 10, 4 pm

#### Wrap Party

Friday, December 10, noon to 5:30 pm

#### Holiday Book Sale

Friday, December 10, 10 am to 6 pm

Help raise money for the library and get some great deals. \$5 a bag.



These Rensselaer County based performers have been entertaining at gatherings and nursing homes around the Capital Region since 1988. They range in age from children to seniors and wear a special set of taps on their shoes to help create their unique sound. Photo provided.

### GRAFTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

## Letters to Santa

Dear Children of Grafton,

Santa has asked the Grafton Community Library to work extra hard during this Christmas season to make sure all children in Grafton who write to him get a personalized response.

Sometimes, Santa and his elves can't answer because they are so busy building toys and gifts. This year, the jolly old elf himself has agreed to reply to each child in Grafton who writes to him.

Your letter must include the child's name, age, gender and a valid return address. Be sure to drop them off at the Grafton Community Library or mail to PO Box H, Grafton NY 12082, no later than **December 17**.

### VALLEY FALLS LIBRARY

Weekly Events:

#### Children's Storytime

Wednesdays at 10 am

#### Lego Time

Fridays from 3 to 6 pm

Monthly Events:

#### Adult Book Club

The Third Monday of the month at 10:30 am

#### Family Movie Night

Friday, December 17, at 6:30 pm

This month's movie will be *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Popcorn and lemonade will be provided.

December Special Events:

#### Pillowcase Sewing Class

Wednesday, December 8, at 6:30 pm

Learn to sew and create a beautiful pillowcase. These make great Christmas gifts. Skill Level is beginner. The cost is \$10 plus \$12 material fee per person. Space is limited.

#### Intro to Google Apps Suite

Tuesday, December 14, from 6 to 7 pm

Learn what tools are available free with a Google or Gmail account. This session will be held online via Zoom. Skill Level is beginner.

#### Holiday Singalong

Tuesday, December 21, at 6:30 pm

Join us to sing Holiday songs around our newly donated piano and enjoy some seasonal refreshments.

*Masks are required in the library to protect the immunocompromised and the unvaccinated. To register for an event, call the circulation desk at 518-753-4230, email [circulation@valleyfallslibrary.org](mailto:circulation@valleyfallslibrary.org) or message us on our Facebook page, [facebook.com/VAFLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/VAFLibrary/).*

## Cantering Cowpokes Monthly Happenings

by Club Reporter Allie Manchester

The Cantering Cowpokes participated in the Stephentown Lighted Parade on Saturday, November 27. The Club had two members riding their horses, two members carrying the club banner and three leaders marching. The club will be meeting for a holiday party and sledding later this winter. They continue to accept donations for the Bottles for Bales drive, and will be bringing the donations to a local horse rescue prior the winter holidays. If anyone is interested in donating their returnable bottles or cans to the cause, they can reach out to [sm574357@gmail.com](mailto:sm574357@gmail.com). As always the club is always welcoming new members, and if you or someone you know may be interested in joining, please reach out to the previously mentioned email address.



The Cantering Cowpokes at the November 27 Stephentown Lighted Parade. Photo courtesy of the Cantering Cowpokes 4-H club.

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## Central County

### Stewart's Holiday Match

The 35th Annual Stewart's Holiday Match campaign kicked off on Thanksgiving Day and runs through Christmas Day at all shop locations. The program supports nonprofit organizations impacting children.

Last year, customers donated an incredible \$895,000 to the program, doubling to more than \$1.88 million with the Stewart's match. The funds were able to support 1,715 local children's organizations across the 32 counties where Stewart's Shops are located.

According to Stewart's spokeswoman Erica Komoroske, this year's program is on course to collect even more monetary donations. As of Tuesday, November 30, the program has received \$197,000, which is up 12% over last year. Since the program's inception more than \$32 million has been raised.

"Nonprofits are strained now more than ever with so much need, this means every donation can make a difference. Holiday Match is so successful because of our customers' generosity and their money goes twice as far because we match each donation penny for penny," said Stewart's Shops President Gary Dake.

Local organizations impacting children are encouraged to apply for funding online at <https://www.stewartsshops.com/holiday-match/holiday-match-overview/>. The deadline for submission is January 31, 2022. All groups applying must be locally based, benefit children under 18 and be a qualified, charitable 501(c)(3) organization. A listing of all the local organizations that received funds last season is available online.

Stewart's Shops thanks its customers, shop partners and media partners for their support each year. Stewart's Holiday Match is a 501(c)(3) foundation; all donations are tax-deductible. Stewart's gladly accepts funds from groups or businesses, but only matches individual donations.



Cropseyville Stewart's Shop Manager Kevin Juliano holds up one of the collection containers at his store, as he reminded this photographer to make a donation. All contributions must be cash or checks, no credit cards can be accepted. Photo by Doug La Rocque.

### WEST SAND LAKE

## STRIDE Holiday Respite Program

On **Friday, December 3, 10 and 17, from 6 to 9 pm**, STRIDE is looking to give families three hours of respite time during the holiday season. This time can be used for holiday shopping, running errands, going to the gym or just some responsibility-free time. The program includes dinner, arts and crafts, a movie option, a fitness activity and a healthy food prep activity. Space is limited; for more information contact STRIDE program director Camille Pawlowski at [cpawlowski@stride.org](mailto:cpawlowski@stride.org) or 518-598-1279.

### NORTH GREENBUSH

## Traditions Old and New

The Town of North Greenbush will hold its annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, **December 11 starting at 6 pm**. The parade steps off from St. Jude's Church proceeding down Brookside Avenue to Main Avenue and ending at the Town Hall. Organizers say it will be the biggest and brightest parade ever.

The Town is also beginning a new tradition with the lighting of their first Starry Night Memorial Christmas Trees. The lighting takes place immediately following the parade in the field adjacent to the Town Hall.

## It's time once again to celebrate the Holiday Season with The Eastwick Press Christmas Special Edition

Each year *The Eastwick Press* publishes a special edition just before Christmas in which our advertisers take the opportunity to wish their patrons a very happy holiday season and thank them for their patronage throughout the year. Space in this special edition is

still available if you would like to participate. Pricing is set at \$50 per ad, or \$95 for a double size ad. If interested you can email us at [ads@eastwickpress.com](mailto:ads@eastwickpress.com) or simply call 518-491-1613. Won't you join us in the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

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## Winter Loan Specials\*\*\* Good Thru Feb 2022

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Used Autos (2019 and older)	4.00 APR* (purchase or refinance up to 6 yrs.)
Personal (no collateral)	6.50 APR* (maximum term 72 months)
Medical**	5.50 APR* (maximum term 72 months)

**BONUS SAVINGS:** Borrow an extra \$100, have us disburse the funds to one of the following not-for-profits: Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless, the HACA Food Closet, Friendship Center Food Pantry (North Adams) and pay **1/2 % less** on your loan and save big money, even after paying back the extra \$100! Or, just cut a check for \$100 (or have us cut a bank check from your account) and have us mail it to one of these organizations – no need to borrow 😊.

**Example:** \$35,000 for 6 yrs. @ 6.50% ~ approx. payment of \$588.55

\$35,100 for 6 yrs. @ 6.00% ~ approx. payment of \$581.91

**Savings ~ approx. \$478.00 over 6 years**

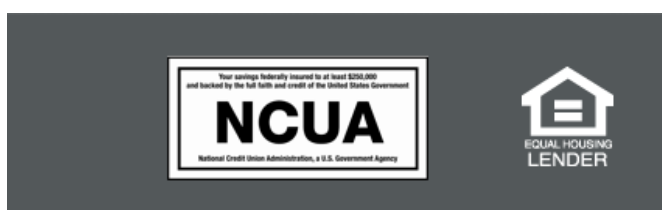
\*(Annual Percentage Rate) \*\*(any medical procedures, cosmetic, dental etc.) \*\*\* (not eligible for refinancing TSAFCU loans)

Monthly loan payment per \$1,000 at 6.5% for 72 months, with no additional payment protection, would be \$16.81 (3.00% - \$15.19, 4.00% - \$15.65, 5.50% - \$16.34). Rates accurate as of today, December 3, 2021, and subject to change without notice. Member must be credit and income qualified. Insured by NCUA.

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## Hoosick Falls & Surrounding Areas

### HOOSICK FALLS

## Community Partnership Mass Food Distribution

Submitted by the Capital District Area Labor Federation

Come to Hoosick Falls Central School, 21187 NY Rt. 22, on **December 29, at 10 am**, to receive food, fresh fruits, vegetables and other items. If you are walking please practice social distancing. If you are driving, please remain in your vehicle. Please don't arrive before the 10 am start time, as early arrivals

will cause traffic and crowding.

Volunteers are needed to help pack and distribute food items. Gloves will be provided and volunteers can take a box of food items as needed. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 8:45 am. If you are interested, RSVP at [volunteer@ccrcda.org](mailto:volunteer@ccrcda.org).

### HOOSICK FALLS

## Letters to Santa

Since 2015, Make-A-Wish Northeast New York wish alum Luke Hoag has collected hundreds of thousands of letters to Santa as part of #MacysBelieve campaign, raising \$1 million for Make-A-Wish America. This year, you too can be like Luke. The 2021 letter writing campaign has begun and Macy's will once again donate \$1 per letter, up to \$1 million. Due to COVID-19 letters won't be collected in person, but those who would like to submit a letter can do so on Macy's website by visiting [Macys.com/believe](https://www.macys.com/believe). Letters can also be dropped off at a Macy's store location through **December 24**.

### HOOSICK FALLS

## Special Hours for Transfer Station

This is a public notice regarding special hours for the Hoosick Falls transfer station.

**Friday, December 24: 8 am to 2 pm**

**Saturday, December 25: Closed**

**Friday, December 31: 8 am to 2 pm**

**Saturday, January 1: Closed**

### CAMBRIDGE

## 2021 Holiday Celebration

Submitted by Cambridge Valley Chamber of Commerce

### Friday, December 3

Ring in the holidays with the Village tree lighting at 6 pm, at the Gazebo. Santa will be making his first Cambridge appearance of 2021. Shop at a participating business from 5 to 8 pm, and get a chance at some Christmas cash when you spend more than \$10.

### Saturday, December 4

Events begin with the Cambridge Valley Fine Art Tour and sale beginning at 11 am. Visit [cambridgevalleyart.org](https://cambridgevalleyart.org) for more information. Come out Saturday night for the Christmas Parade, which will start at 6 pm, from Division Street at the ball field.

### Sunday, December 5

The Cambridge Valley Fine Art Tour continues 11 am to 4 pm. The Cambridge Lions Club will hold their Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony at 5 pm.

Santa will be appearing throughout the weekend at several events. For a full schedule of events this weekend check out our website at [www.cambridgevalleychamber.com](https://www.cambridgevalleychamber.com).

### WHITE CREEK

## Community Forest Opens to the Public

Submitted by the Agricultural Stewardship Association

On Thanksgiving eve, a group of spirited supporters gathered to mark the official opening of the Cambridge Community Forest (CCF). While the ceremonial ribbon cutting took just seconds, the journey to create this important community space took years and countless hours of effort by invested volunteers and community members.

The ceremony kicked off with a land acknowledgement and speaker presentation from key stakeholders including the Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, The Land Trust Alliance, Village of Cambridge Mayor Carman Bogle and White Creek Supervisor James Griffith.

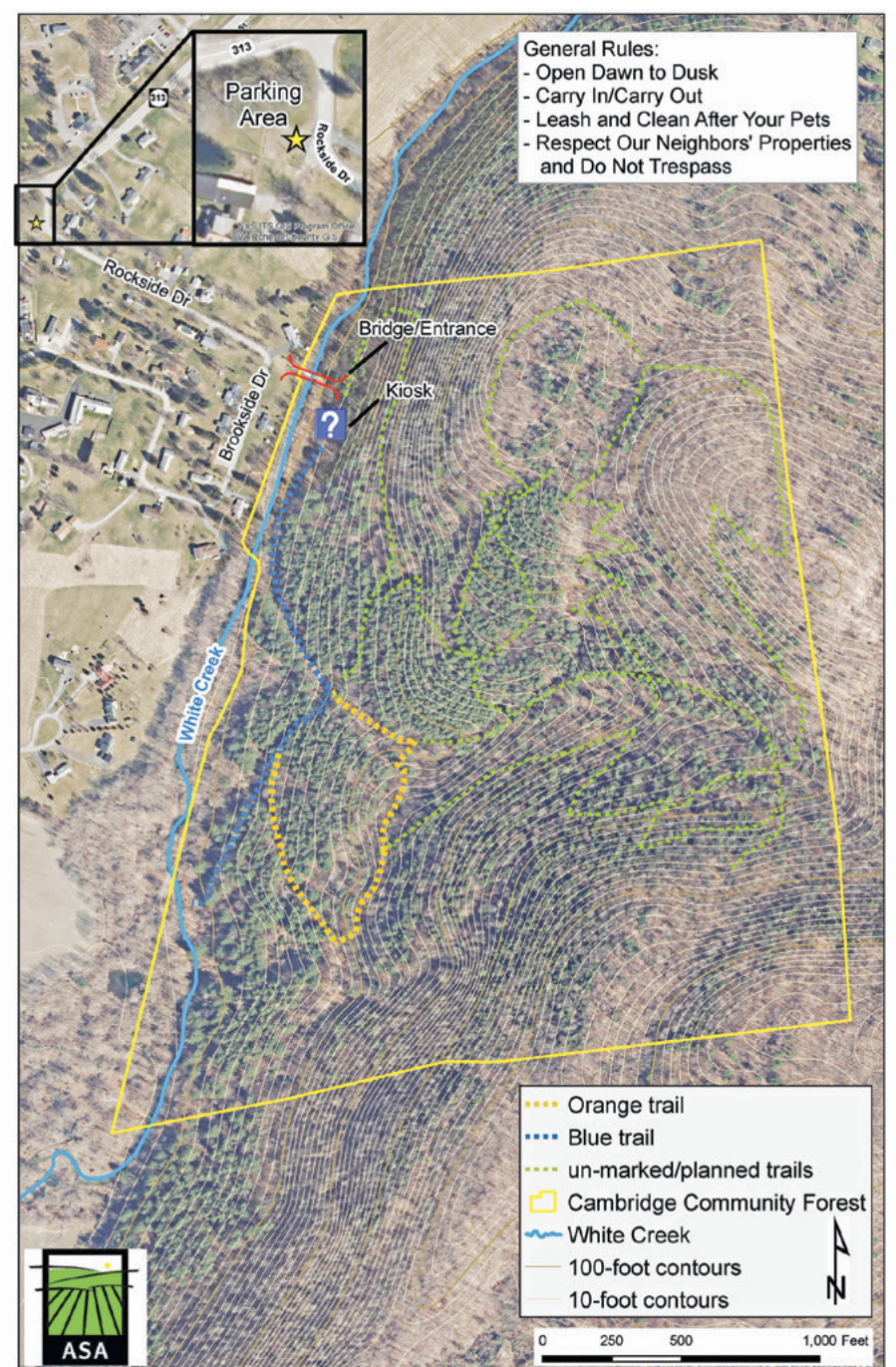
The first step in the journey of creating the CCF was the purchase of the 140-acre wooded property at the edge of the Village of Cambridge by ASA with significant funding support from

the Open Space Institute (OSI). Contributions from the Fields Pond Foundation and the Community/Land Preservation and Planning Fund of The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region as well as individual community members assisted with the purchase.

An important first effort in creating access to the property was the repair of an existing bridge to provide access to the forest. While the initial work began in fall of 2020, it was delayed due to COVID-19 and funding delays; the bulk was accomplished throughout the early months of 2021. Around the same time, a committed group of volunteers formed the Friends of the Cambridge Community Forest group with the aim of mapping potential trails, envisioning and facilitating educational opportunities and developing strategies for managing the forest.

The entrance to the CCF is located at the intersection of Rockside Drive and Brookside Drive. Parking is available in a lot on the Gilbert Street entrance of Rockside Drive. The forest is open from dawn till dusk.

The Friends of Cambridge Community Forest and ASA partner to manage the forest. For volunteer opportunities, please contact ASA at 518-692-7285 or [asa@agstewardship.org](mailto:asa@agstewardship.org).



An aerial view of the Cambridge Community Forest with marked borders and trails. Photo courtesy of the Agricultural Stewardship Association.

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## Hoosick Falls & Surrounding Areas

### HOOSICK FALLS

## A Lasting Legacy

The Presbyterian Church in Hoosick Falls will be closing its doors on Sunday, December 26. Started in 1825, and the first church on Church Street, it merged in 1950 with the Methodist Church at 130 Main Street as First United Church, Presbyterian.

For 196 years, Presbyterians built and supported not only this community, but mission projects all over the world. Over the years, groups such as the Girl and Boy Scouts, Head Start, Weight Watchers and just recently Unity House have used the church. From 2018 to 2020 they opened their doors to the Immaculate Conception congregation after the destructive flooding of 2017.

On November 24, part of a lasting legacy of Hoosick Falls, five not-for-profit groups received monetary awards from First United. Shown in the photo below were representatives of The Maple



From left to right: Judy Button, First United Clerk of Session; Bill Gaillard, HF Community Band; Deb Lohnes, TH Rescue Squad; Diane Ahrberg, HT Historical Society; Wynne Metcalfe, HF Cemetery Association; Joyce Brewer, First United Elder and Treasurer.

Grove Cemetery, Hoosick Falls Community Band, Town of Hoosick Rescue Squad and Hoosick Township Historical Society. Receiving an award but not present was the Hoosick Area Church Association.

### GREENWICH

## Holiday Market

Varosy Studios is delighted to announce its third annual Holiday Market on **December 4, from 2 to 8 pm**. It takes place in the Gallery building at 1522 North Road. The market will start in daylight and end under the lights and the stars.

This year there will be 18 vendors, scattered in and around the building, offering a wide variety of tasteful gift items. There will be linens, hats, pins, fresh holiday arrangements, ornaments, throw rugs and jewelry, just to name a few. Aside from the gifts, there will be delicious food, warm drinks, fires and fleece blankets to keep you comfortable and tempt you to linger. A station with all the familiar COVID-19 prevention items will be at the entrance door to the gallery.

### NORTH HOOSICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Kids Dances

Attention all students aged 9 to 13 who attend school in Berlin, Cambridge, MAUHS and Hoosick Falls Central School District, you're invited to attend the 2021-2022 North Hoosick Fire Department kids dances. Admission is \$3 per student, and masks are optional. All dances are on **Fridays, from 7 to 9 pm**. Scheduled upcoming dances are **December 3 and 17; January 7 and 21**. Drop off time is 6:40 pm. Parents are reminded to sign students out after the dance.

### HOOSICK FALLS

## 2022 Calendar

Submitted by the Hoosick Township Historical Society

The 2022 Town of Hoosick calendar will take you back in time. You may recognize more than a few people and places within the pages. The cover is a photograph of the Cheney Library by Erwin Ham-bright. The Library will be celebrating its 100th birthday in 2022.

The calendars are on sale at The Louis Miller Museum, The Cheney Library and Thorpe's Pharmacy. You can also order them through the society website at [www.hoosickhistory.com](http://www.hoosickhistory.com).

### CAMBRIDGE

## Christmas in the Village

Christmas in Cambridge returns this **Friday through Sunday, December 5-7**, with three days of events to celebrate the holidays. The parade on **Saturday at 6 pm** starts on Division Street, goes down Main to South Union, down South Union to Academy, up Academy to Main and then east on Main to finish at Broad.

Then on **Saturday, December 18 at 7 pm**, Hubbard Hall presents Yuletide and Year's End, a Men O' War Balladeers holiday concert. We hope to see you there!

### SCHUYLERVILLE

## Monthly Breakfast

The Fish Creek Rod and Gun Club invites all to join us at our monthly breakfast on **Sunday, December 12, from 8 to 11 am**. The menu is eggs cooked to order, bacon, sausage, white or wheat toast, pancakes, French toast, home fries, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. For more information call 518-695-3917.

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### BENNINGTON

## Keeping Patients Informed

Submitted by SVMC

A \$25.8 million project to renovate and expand the Emergency Department and Main Entrance of Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC), part of Southwestern Vermont Health Care (SVHC), requires a lot of coordination and communication. The health system has launched a website to facilitate sharing news and developments about the project directly with patients. The website is located at [svhealthcare.org/EDRenovation](http://svhealthcare.org/EDRenovation).

The new website includes a project summary, photos and videos, illustrated designs of what the new Emergency Department will look like, a parking map, a project timeline and recent updates. In addition to the website, SVHC will change directional signage and publish regular updates to the local media, social media and its weekly e-mail newsletter.



## Hoosick Falls & Surrounding Areas

### HOOSICK FALLS

## Community Workgroup Meeting

The next public meeting of the Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG) will be held **Tuesday, December 14 from 6 to 8 pm**. The meeting will be conducted using an online platform and login information will be shared via the CPWG Listserv prior to the meeting.

All Hoosick area residents who would like to access this meeting as well as receive ongoing communications about the CPWG should join the CPWG Listserv by sending an email to [hoosickfallscpwg@](mailto:hoosickfallscpwg@paigegroup.com)

[paigegroup.com](mailto:paigegroup.com). Please include your full name and email address.

The CPWG's monthly meetings provide an opportunity for the greater Hoosick Falls community to hear progress reports on PFOA remedial activity and options being explored for municipal water supply.

For more information, visit [www.hoosickareacpwg.org](http://www.hoosickareacpwg.org), <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html> or <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/investigations/hoosick/>.

### BENNINGTON

## Patient and Family Advisory Council

Submitted by SVMC

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC), a part of Southwestern Vermont Health Care (SVHC), is gathering members for a new council made up of patients and their families. The new Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) aims to provide a forum for dialogue among patients, families, community members and the health system as a way to ensure the health system is meeting the needs of the community.

The group will be made up of 12 members of the community who have been patients at SVMC or who are a family member of a current or past patient at SVMC. The PFAC will meet every other month for an hour in the evening, and will discuss patient safety, quality of care and patient

comfort in the spirit of continual improvement.

"Our mission is to provide exceptional care and comfort to the people we serve," said Paula Seaman, MSN, DA, RN, SVMC's administrative director of Quality, Safety, Value and Education.

Additional volunteer opportunities, including relating with patients, joining regional advisory boards and attending organizational meetings, may be extended to members of the council who are particularly suited for taking on a more expansive role.

Those interested in membership should e-mail [theresa.demasi@svhealthcare.org](mailto:theresa.demasi@svhealthcare.org). Once a full contingent of members has been identified, the PFAC will begin meeting.

### CHENEY LIBRARY

## December Events

### Story Hour

Tuesdays at 10 am

December is the final month for story hour. To register, or to view our calendar, please visit [www.cheneylibrary.org/story-hour](http://www.cheneylibrary.org/story-hour).

### Make Your Own Christmas Ornament

The week of December 6

Materials will be available all week. Drop in to the library anytime during open hours and get creative.

### Lego Club

Friday, December 3, 4 to 5 pm - Grades K-3

Friday, December 17, 4 to 5 pm - Grades 4 and Higher

### Teen and Tween Christmas Activities

Wednesday, December 8, 4 to 5 pm

Decorate cookies, customize ornaments and get in the holiday spirit with your friends.



The new wheelchair access ramp and van accessible parking area at Cheney Library is complete and open for use. Photo courtesy of Cheney Library.

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## Hoosick Falls & Surrounding Areas

### HOOSICK FALLS

# Tote Bags Benefit the Young and Young at Heart

by Doug La Rocque



From left to right, Liam, Austin, Khloe and Cameron from the HFCS Middle School Life Skills class who assist Counselor Kailee Whalen with keeping the food inventory in order and packing bags for the weekend home food program. Photo by Doug La Rocque.

There is a program that has been in place for many years now at the Hoosick Falls Central School District, where children who are in need are sent home on the weekends with food in a backpack or tote bag. This actually takes place at many area schools. What is a bit unique at HFCS is that this program, through the tote bags themselves, also helps out the residents at The Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation.

The Center's Auxiliary had organic tote bags created that feature an original Hoosick Falls design (The Valley of the Owl). The design is the work of Betsy Sepowitz of Nourish Designs. The purchase of

a tote bag provides financial support to the Auxiliary and funds 10 meals for children in the Hoosick Falls schools through the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York. This program has helped feed over 7,000 children this year.

The funds collected by the Auxiliary are returned to the Health Center in many ways, including renovations and the purchase of special furniture and equipment. The Auxiliary is a not for profit organization. Bags are available from any Auxiliary member or for more information email [sphelps8@gmail.com](mailto:sphelps8@gmail.com). The cost is \$20 per bag.

### HOOSICK FALLS

# Help Filling Out PFOA Claims Is on the Way

Stephen Schwarz, the lead attorney in the Hoosick Falls Class Action PFOA Settlement tells The Eastwick Press that attorneys will be available **December 2 through 4** to help anyone who might require assistance filling out the claims forms for that Class Action Settlement announced earlier this year. Legal Counsel will be in the Court Room/Meeting Room of the Hoosick Falls Armory on **Thursday, December 2 from 9 am to 5 pm, Friday, December 3 from 11 am to 7 pm** and again on **Saturday, from 9 am to noon**.

Anyone who requires assistance should come to the Armory with as much of their required documentation as they have in their possession and the lawyers will help them complete the forms as well as gather missing documents. The Armory is located at 80 Church Street in the Village.



Attorney Stephen Schwarz leads a question and answer session in October in Petersburg about a very similar PFOA Class Action Settlement. Eastwick Press file photo.

## Gillibrand Bill Addresses Volatile Milk Pricing

Submitted by the Office of Senator Gillibrand

On Wednesday, December 1, U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced their bipartisan Dairy Pricing Opportunity Act, which would require the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to initiate the process of holding Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) hearings within six months allowing producers and industry to consider and review proposals that could change Class I skim milk pricing. This way, producers who understand these dynamics firsthand will have a voice in formulating any potential changes in calculating the price of Class I milk.



The introduction of this bill was a direct result of Senator Gillibrand's Senate Agriculture Subcommittee hearing on modernizing milk pricing and the Federal Milk Marketing Order system (FMMO) and would pave the way for critical FMMO reform in not just Class I pricing, but potentially other areas

of need. Gillibrand will continue her efforts as chair of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Systems, and Food Safety and Security to focus on modernizing the FMMO system.

"When the dairy pricing system isn't working for farmers, the economic ramifications are felt across the country. I heard from producers across the industry firsthand during my subcommittee hearing on dairy pricing and the message was clear — our dairy pricing system is inadequate, out of date and working against producers. That's why I introduced the Dairy Pricing Opportunity Act, a bill that would put the power back in farmers' hands and bring the industry together to build a system that works for the 21st century dairy farmer. This bill is a great first step and I look forward to continuing efforts on broader FMMO modernization."

## Bennington Performing Arts Center

Submitted by the Bennington Performing Arts Center

### Unsaid Prayers by Jana Lillie

Saturday, December 4, 7:30 pm

Join us for an evening of poetry from Jana Lillie's new book of poems, *Unsaid Prayers*. Watch in person at BPAC or stream at home. \$5

### BPAC Youth Theater Presents *Jingle Jangle Jubilee!*

Saturday, December 18, 1 and 4 pm

This is the first performance for this young group. The show is a variety of song and dance, skits, music and good old-fashioned holiday cheer. The production is directed by Enrique Segura, with assistance by Lauren Biasi. Musical direction is provided by Lynn Sweet and the show is choreographed by Kristi Segura. \$10; Free for kids under 10.

For questions about upcoming programming, contact BPAC by phone 802-447-0564, email [info@bpacvt.org](mailto:info@bpacvt.org), or visit our website [bpacvt.org](http://bpacvt.org).



## New Lebanon & Nassau

### NASSAU

# Expanded Testing Yields Further Contamination

by Chris Tergliafera

Expanded testing of water around the Rt. 203 NYS Superfund site has shown further contamination. The results of October testing were confirmed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Wednesday, December 1. The Rt. 203 site had previously been discovered as associated with the Dewey Loeffel toxic landfill, which itself is a federal Superfund site and is currently undergoing clean up of toxic wastes. The EPA conducted the recent samples to see if there was any change in water conditions since samples were collected in March of 2019.

Unfortunately the results were not as favorable as one would hope. Twelve residences located to the south of the site were found to contain Trichloroethylene (TCE), a solvent used for degreasing metal components.

It is important to note that only one of the twelve tested positive for levels above state standards. That residence has been supplied with bottled water and the EPA is installing a filtration system for the home until there can be a larger-scale response. Nassau Supervisor David Fleming made it clear he feels affected families should be provided with a public water system at the expense of those responsible for the contamination, and water should be supplied to the area in some way as quickly as possible.

The EPA has agreed to expand testing all the way to the Columbia County border. Supervisor Fleming stated that he understands it may be uncomfortable for some residents to have someone show up and ask to take water samples, but it's important to cooperate and allow them to test so any contamination can be identified.

He also stated the information isn't being given to



Map of the Nassau NYS Superfund site, where nearby well testing has produced more positive results for TCE, believed to be related the Dewey Loeffell toxic landfill.

cause alarm, but to educate residents so the issue can be addressed quickly.

Nassau will continue to update residents via their social media outlets and the Town's website. The EPA will also provide updates as they occur. Supervisor Fleming encouraged residents to reach out to him at [Supervisor@townofnassau.org](mailto:Supervisor@townofnassau.org) if they have concern over the safety of their water.

### NEW LEBANON

# Community Food Giveaway

The Town of New Lebanon and the New Lebanon CSD will host a food giveaway on **Wednesday, December 22, starting at 9 am**. The giveaway is completely free and will take place at New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 Route 22. Pull in at Shatford Park by entering the baseball fields and follow signs to the Town Hall. Any questions contact Town Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling at [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com).

### NEW LEBANON

# Moderna Booster Clinic

The Town of New Lebanon will be having a COVID-19 vaccine booster clinic on Tuesday, December 7, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm, at New Lebanon High School, 14665 State Route 22. Adults 18 and older who received their second vaccine dose more than six months ago are eligible. Your current vaccination card will be required during the registration process. There is no cost, and available appointments are limited. For more information, call 518-828-3358.

### NASSAU

# Sunshine Fund Board of Directors

The Nassau Sunshine Fund is looking for interested people to join our Board of Directors. We are a charitable organization that has been making no interest emergency loans since 2008 to people who live within the Town of Nassau. All of the funds come from loan repayment and donations. All loan applications and repayment information is kept strictly confidential. The Board of Directors meets **the first Monday of alternating months at 6:30 pm**, to decide how loans are processed, how funds are raised, how the community is informed of this program and how our organization collaborates with other local charitable groups. Since the pandemic began we have been meeting via Zoom. To learn more about the organization, visit [nassausunshinefund.org](http://nassausunshinefund.org).

### NEW LEBANON

# First EV Charging Station Installed

The Town of New Lebanon has added its first electric vehicle (EV) charger for public use. The charger is located at the Tilden Road trail head of the newly opened section of the Corkscrew Rail Trail. The new station, which is free to the public, is also close to the New Lebanon Library, the Farmers Market



A look at New Lebanon's first EV charger, located at the Tilden Road trail head. Photo courtesy of the Town of New Lebanon.

and local restaurants. "We are excited to be able to offer this facility to the public," said Town Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling. "This charger will serve as a resource for residents using the rail trail and the library while providing a boost to local businesses."

The charger was implemented by the town's Climate Smart Communities Task Force with a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. New Lebanon became a Bronze Certified Climate Smart Community

this year, the first town in Columbia County to do so. More information on New Lebanon's climate and energy initiatives is available at the town website (<http://www.townofnewlebanon.com>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CSCNewLebanon>).

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## Rensselaer County News

# Delgado Announces Opening of USDA ReConnect Program

*Submitted by the office of Congressman Antonio Delgado*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is now accepting applications for loans and grants to help people in rural communities get access to high-speed internet. U.S. Representative Antonio Delgado and USDA Under Secretary Torres Small announced funding for the ReConnect program in October. Representative Delgado also voted to provide another nearly \$2 billion in funds for the ReConnect program via the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Eligible applicants for the ReConnect program are state, local or territory governments, corporations, Native American tribes, limited liability companies and cooperative organizations.

Applications for funding must be submitted through USDA Rural Development's online application system on the ReConnect webpage.

Applicants must commit to building facilities capable of providing broadband service at speeds of 100 Mbps (download and upload) to every location in a proposed service area at the same time. In making funding decisions, USDA will also consider the economic needs of the community to be served, the extent to which a provider will offer affordable service options, a project's commitment to strong labor standards and whether a project is serving Tribal lands or is submitted by a local government, Tribal government, non-profit or cooperative.

## McLaughlin Charged With Misuse of Campaign Funds ... Continued from page 1

before Judge Jennifer Sober and released on his own recognizance. Judge Sober ordered the defense to file motions by January 17.

### It's Nothing More Than Politics as Usual

Not everyone agrees with Ms. James. For example, Rensselaer County Legislator Bruce Patire of Eagle Bridge believes the Attorney General's actions are twofold. First to try to keep her name out in public as a fighter of government corruption while seeking the Democratic Party nomination for Governor. Second, to soil Steve McLaughlin and his political career.

### He Should Resign

Rensselaer County Legislative Minority Leader Peter Grimm and Deputy Minority Leader Cindy Doran were quick to react to the County Executive's arrest. Their office issued the following statement:

"For far too long, Rensselaer County residents have endured elections and county governance rife with complaints and allegations of voter fraud, abuse and most recently voter suppression. Today's criminal charges, arrest and arraignment of County Executive Steve McLaughlin for Grand Larceny and Offering a False Instrument for Filing by the New York State Attorney General must be taken seriously. As elected Rensselaer County Legislators, we know maintaining the public's trust is key to the ability to govern, and elected officials must always be held to a higher standard in our democracy.

The charges of money laundering of campaign finances for personal use clearly indicate that Steve McLaughlin has violated the public's trust and confidence in his ability to execute the responsibilities of the office he has been elected to serve. County Executive Steve McLaughlin should do the right thing and resign from his elected position immediately."

### So What Happens Next?

If convicted of the felony charges, Mr. McLaughlin would, under NYS Public Officers Law, be removed from office. He could also face a maximum sentence of 2 1/3 to 7 years in prison. Under section 3.02 of the Rensselaer County Charter, if removed from office, the Deputy County Executive Stacy Farrar would assume the role of County Executive until the end of the year (most likely 2022). In the meantime, a special election to fill the remainder of the term would be held in November, with the winner assuming office on the following January 1. If Ms. Farrar were to decline the position, the post would be filled by the County Legislature.

None of this has happened yet and may not happen at all. It is important to remember the charges leveled against County Executive McLaughlin are at this point simply accusations, and that he remains innocent unless found guilty at trial or by plea.

The Eastwick Press has reached out the Mr. McLaughlin's attorney, Benjamin Hill for comment, but as of press time we have not heard back from him. Mr. McLaughlin had no comment at his arraignment.

## HALFMOON

# Efforts to Fix Green Light Law, Protect Public Safety

*Submitted by the office of New York State Senator Daphne Jordan*

Responding to reporting that chronic widespread cheating and fraud within the State DMV's driver permit program connected, in part, to the state's Green Light Law, New York State Senator Daphne Jordan and Saratoga County Clerk Craig Hayner today outlined several policy remedies to fix identified deficiencies, protect public safety and save taxpayer dollars. DMV employees cited a high number of individuals who cheat or have others take the at-home, online tests authorized last year. Typically, the 50-question online driver's test takes approximately 45-60 minutes to finish. However, DMV workers have reported that individuals taking online tests are completing them with perfect scores in less than seven minutes.

The corrective policy suggestions advanced by Senator Jordan and Clerk Hayner included the following:

- Audit all online permit tests dating back to August 2021, when much of the fraud was identified, especially for individuals who passed their tests in seven minutes or less. The audit should note the state or country where the test was taken from.
- Audit all Green Light applicants who currently have a standard permit/license and how many are registered to vote.
- Audit all documentation used by all Green Light applicants.
- Audit how many Green Light permits have been processed since the Green Light Law took effect.
- Enact Senator Jordan's bill, which would separate the driving privilege license type from standard-issue driver's licenses and provide that driving privilege licenses cannot be used for identification purposes. Senator Jordan's bill would ensure that NYS driver's licenses cannot be used for false identification, which has numerous negative ramifications for public safety, effectively restoring the value of New York State-issued identification. Senator Jordan's bill also would amend State Election Law by providing that voter registrations included with driver's licenses require applicants to provide their social security number, ensuring that undocumented immigrants cannot register to vote while applying for a driving privilege license, including both written and electronic forms.

## TROY

# Legislature Approves County Budget

The 2022 Rensselaer County Budget was approved by the County Legislature by a 15-0 vote on Tuesday, November 30. The spending plan carries a 10% tax reduction, the fourth consecutive tax cut during County Executive Steve McLaughlin's term in office. After the passage, Mr. McLaughlin said "We promised to make every tax dollar count, and this is the latest budget to show we are fulfilling that pledge."

Legislative Majority Leader Ken Herrington said "In my 28 years as a legislator, I have never seen a budget that cuts taxes 10%, paves so many miles of roads and continues to fund all of the important County services our residents count on."

The budget was passed without opposition. Legislative Minority Leader Peter Grimm told *The Eastwick Press* "I am pleased with the passage of a zero percent increase budget and commend the County departments on their hard work. In addition we must acknowledge that it is the additional revenues other than property taxes that have given us the windfall that makes possible. We must also appreciate the hard work our businesses do in attracting customers to Rensselaer County and for the funds they generate in sales tax. Also, the housing sales boom has given the County a banner year in sales and mortgage taxes."

The tax decrease will be reflected in the property tax billing sent out in January.

## Give The Eastwick Press for the Holidays

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Contact us at [news@eastwickpress.com](mailto:news@eastwickpress.com) or by mail at 34 Richmond Road, Cropseyville, NY 12052. You may also fill out the subscription form on the back page.



## Eastwick Sports & Outdoors

# ValleyCats Unveil 2022 Schedule

Submitted by The Tri-City ValleyCats

2022 will mark the Tri-City ValleyCats' second season as a member of the Frontier League, an official partner league of Major League Baseball, and the team's twentieth season bringing professional baseball and affordable family fun to Upstate New York. The team will be celebrating this milestone throughout the season with a variety of promotions and a commemorative logo that will be released at a later date.

The 'Cats kicked off the celebration with the Frontier League's schedule announcement on Monday afternoon. After a travel-restricted 2021 campaign, 2022 brings a more traditional Frontier League schedule, with the 'Cats traveling to nearly every ballpark in the league, and playing each of the other fifteen Frontier League teams at least once. The ValleyCats will begin the season on the road against the Florence Y'alls on **Thursday, May 12**, with the team's home opener slated for **Tuesday, May 17**, against the Lake Erie Crushers.

The ValleyCats will play 53 home games this summer against eleven different opponents, including seven teams who will take the field at the Joe for the first time.

The 'Cats enjoyed a successful first campaign in the Frontier League as they finished 2nd in attendance and led the league with 10 players signed by MLB organizations. Field Manager Pete Incaviglia will be returning to the Capital Region along with a number of key contributors from the 2021 team that finished with a record of 50 wins and 46 losses.

Visit [tcvalleycats.com](http://tcvalleycats.com) or call 518-629-CATS for the latest information regarding the 2022 season.

## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# State Results and Schedule

### Class C East Semifinals

Line Score	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Dobbs Ferry (11-1)	0	7	0	7	14
Schuylerville (13-0)	22	16	8	6	52

Middletown, NY. Section 2 Schuylerville's twentieth straight win sends the Black Horses to the NYS Finals in the Syracuse University Carrier Dome. They play Chenango Forks next Friday at 6 pm. Chenango Forks defeated East Rochester-Gananda 39-18 in the west semifinal game. Chenango Forks is 11-1.

### Class D East Semifinals

Moriah (10-0)	0	0	22	6	28
Greenwich (11-1)	0	6	8	0	14

Middletown, NY. NYS fifth-ranked Moriah (10-0) will take on number one ranked Tioga of Section IV, a 49-6 winner over Oakfield-Alabama/Elba in the West semi-final game, next Friday in the championship game at the Syracuse University Carrier Dome. It is Moriah's third straight final contest.

## GRAFTON LAKES STATE PARK

### Luminary Full Moon Walk

Friday, December 17, 5 to 8:30 pm

Grafton Lakes State Park, located off of Rt. 2, will host its first ever luminary full moon walk. The weather might be frightful, but up at Grafton, we will be enjoying s'mores, hot chocolate and a trail lit by luminary lanterns.

Come as a couple or bring out the whole family. The self-led trail is perfect for a romantic stroll, mesmerizing the kids or anything in-between.

The cost is \$5 per person for ages 5 and over. No registration required. Please use the park's main entrance on Grafton Lakes State Park Way. For more information, call 518-279-1155.

### Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 18, 10 to 11:30 am

See what birds frequent our feeders and brave the cold winters up on the plateau. Binoculars provided. Ages 7 and up are \$2 per person.

### Snowshoe Hike

Sunday, December 19, 1 to 3 pm

Snowshoe rentals provided for both kids and adults. If there is no snow, we will still have a great time going for a hike. All ages are \$3 per person.

### First Day Hike

Saturday, January 1, 11 am to 1 pm

Hike is moderate, although it is open to any age group. About 2 miles. No charge.

## DYKEN POND EDUCATION CENTER

### Mindful Nature Walk

Saturday, December 18, 10 am to noon

Donations accepted if you are able. Suggested donation is \$10, but any amount is welcome.

### Wildlife Walk and Talk

Saturday, December 18, 1 to 2:30 pm

For youth of all ages who can easily walk 1.5 miles.

### Tuesday Treks

Every Tuesday from 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Hikes will be canceled in bad weather. This program is for adults and older teens.

### First Day Hike

Saturday, January 1, 1 to 2:30 pm

An easy paced 2 mile hike to start the New Year off in the outdoors. For all ages who can walk 2 miles.

### Snowshoe Rentals

Rentals are available when there is at least 6 inches of snow on the ground. Please call ahead to reserve your shoes as rentals may not always be available. The cost is \$5 for a half day rental. Guided snowshoe hikes also available with advance notice.

Preregistration is required for all programs at 518-658-2055 or [dykenpond@gmail.com](mailto:dykenpond@gmail.com). Your registration is not complete until you receive confirmation from the Center.

# Panther Bowlers Open Season With a Win

Submitted by Coach James Lynch

On Tuesday, the Hoosick Falls bowling team opened their 2021-2022 season with a 5-0 win over Hoosic Valley at Hilltop Bowl. The Panthers finished with a total of 3347 pins to Hoosic Valley's 2165. Hoosick Falls Senior Colin King 279-

653 led all bowlers while Leigha Henkel 224-627 led Hoosic Valley. Other scores for Hoosick Falls included Payton Merrills 203-564, Ryan Maxon 200-559, Brody Mullen 212-540, Riley Hayes 204-539, Bradley Senecal 214, Ethan Yonconish 190, Charlie Baker 172, Memphis Hathaway 170, Jenna

Backes 163, Elliott Brenenstuhel 163, Troy McCart 142, Sam Boyer 125 and Bradley Thompson 85. After the 5-0 start, Hoosick Falls will continue their season next week with an away match against Mechanicville on Tuesday and a home match against Saratoga Catholic on Thursday.

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## Classified Ads

### Help Wanted

#### Snow Removal Needed

Berlin Free Town Library, at 47 S. Main Street, is looking for someone to shovel/plow our driveway and sidewalk. If you are interested or want more details, contact Pat at 518-658-2677 or [hayp@peoplepc.com](mailto:hayp@peoplepc.com).

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[www.4taconic.com](http://www.4taconic.com) EOE/AAP

### Help Wanted

#### Restaurant Now Hiring

Papa Brillo's Restaurant will be opening soon in Stirrup Square (2113 NYS Rt. 7, Troy 12180 GPS address) in Pittstown. Hiring for all positions, front and back of the house. Bartenders, Servers, Busboys, Hostess, Cooks, Pizza, Breakfast Prep, General Kitchen Help and Dishwashers. Please apply in person.



### Seeking Standing Timber

#### Looking for Extra Money?

I'm looking for standing timber. Competitive prices paid. Contact Scott Burdick, 518-522-1020.

### Firewood for Sale

**Firewood** - Place your order now for the next heating season. Kiln Dried. Timber harvesting and lumber also available. Call Lenny, 518-470-7399.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Legal Notice Hoosick Fire District Hoosick, NY 12089

Please take notice that the Annual Election of the Hoosick Fire District will take place on December 14, 2021 between 6pm and 9pm at the Hoosick Fire Station located at 664 South Street in Hoosick, NY for the purpose of an election of one Commissioner for a five (5) year term, commencing on January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2026 and one Commissioner for a two (2) year term to fill a vacancy on the Board commencing on January 1, 2022 and ending on December 31, 2023. All duly registered residents of The Hoosick Fire District shall be eligible to vote. Also on the ballot will be Proposition 1 which reads, "Shall the Hoosick Fire District expand the total years of credited service in the LOSAP Program from a maximum of 40 years up to a maximum of 50 years?" Only those persons who are residents of The Hoosick Fire District and are registered voters with Rensselaer County for a period of at least 30 days prior to November 15, 2021 are eligible to vote in this election.

Leo Surdam  
Recording Secretary  
Hoosick Fire District

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Please take notice, The Town Board of the Town of Hoosick has scheduled a public hearing regarding Local Law #1 2021 entitled A Local Law Opting Out of the Establishment of Cannabis Onsite Consumption Licenses within the Town of Hoosick and Establishing a Moratorium on Cannabis Retail Dispensaries. The hearing will be held on December 13, 2021 at 6:45 pm at the Town Offices, 80 Church Street, Hoosick Falls, NY. All those interested may be heard at that time.

Holli Cross  
Hoosick Town Clerk

### CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

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Notice of formation of **483 2ND ST LLC**. Articles of Org. filed with the NY Secretary of State (SS) on 4/01/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SS designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SS shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7 St Josephs St, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: **Wesley Jenkins Properties, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 10/22/2021. Official Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 279 Troy Rd, STE 9, Box 129, Rensselaer, NY 12144. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: **2647 5th Avenue LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/21/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to David Anderson, 2647 5th Avenue #1, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: Provide residential real estate rentals.

NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: **Spotchex LLC**. Article of Organization filed with the SSNY on 08/20/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 2162-2164 13th Street Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: **Superior Commerce, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 10/15/2021. Official Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2 Holly Circle, East Greenbush, NY 12061. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Public Hearing Notice

The Grafton Town Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 6:50 pm at the Grafton Town Hall located at 2379 NY 2 in the Town of Grafton, County of Rensselaer, State of New York to consider the following:  
6:50 pm: Matthew Whitney, 66 Camp Way, Lake Elizabeth. Lot Line Adjustment.

Tom Withcuskey  
Planning Board Chairman

### Legal Notice to Residents of the Berlin Fire District #1 Town of Berlin, County of Rensselaer NY

Please take notice that the annual election of the Berlin Fire District #1 will take place on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, between the hours of 6 pm and 9 pm at the Berlin Fire Hall, located at 11 Community Avenue, Berlin, NY, for the purpose of electing one (1) commissioner. One (1) commissioner will serve a five (5) year term, commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2026. Also electing one Treasurer for a 3-year term, commencing January 1, 2022 and ending on December 31, 2024.

All duly registered residents of the Berlin Fire District #1 shall be eligible to vote. Such residents shall be registered at the Rensselaer County Board of Elections on or before twenty-three (23) days prior to the election as provided by Town Law 175-a (2a) and shall have resided within the Berlin Fire District #1 for a minimum of thirty days prior to the election date. All individuals, with the exception of the incumbents, shall make their candidacy known to the Secretary of the Commissioners, in writing, at least twenty (20) days prior to the election. Letters can be mailed to the Berlin Fire District #1, Box 409 Berlin NY or hand delivered to the Secretary at 292 Potter Hill RD Petersburg, NY 12138.

By order of the Berlin Board of Fire Commissioners  
Bruce Hake, Jr. Chair

Notice of Form. of **INDIAN FLAME LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/8/21. Office location: Rensselaer SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to 51 Main Ave, Ste 6, Wynantskill, NY 12198. Any lawful purpose.

### 314 MINERAL SPRINGS ROAD LLC

**Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company**  
Articles of Organization filed with the Department of State of New York on November 2, 2021. Office location, Rensselaer County. Secretary of State of New York State is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State may mail a copy of any process to 314 MINERAL SPRINGS ROAD LLC, 270 North Pole Road, Melrose, New York 12121. No reported agent. Latest date of dissolution of LLC: None. Purpose: All legal purposes.

NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: Articles of Organization for a New York LLC, to wit, **WEVER ENERGY SERVICES, LLC** whose principal business location is in Rensselaer County, were filed with the New York State Department of State on October 14, 2021. The Secretary of State is designated agent for service of process. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him or her is c/o The LLC, 100 South Hudson Street, Mechanicville, New York 12118. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful activity to which a LLC may be organized under the LLCL of New York State.

NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: **Anderson Housing LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/07/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to David Anderson, 2647 5th Avenue #1, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: Provide residential real estate rentals.

Notice of Form. of **MKR CONTRACTING LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/11/21. Office location: Rensselaer SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to 292 4th St Troy, NY 12180. Any lawful purpose.



## PUBLIC NOTICES

**JZ SIGNATURE PROPERTIES LLC**

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization filed with the Department of State of New York on July 23, 2021. Office location, Rensselaer County. Secretary of State of New York State is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State may mail a copy of any process to JZ SIGNATURE PROPERTIES LLC, 382 Tate Road, Hoosick Falls, New York 12090. No reported agent.

Latest date of dissolution of LLC: None. Purpose: All legal purposes.

**CLIFF HOLLOW ROAD LLC**

**Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company** Articles of Organization filed with the Department of State of New York on September 15, 2021. Office location Rensselaer County. Secretary of the State of New York is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State may mail a copy of any process to CLIFF HOLLOW ROAD LLC, 444 Route 40, Troy, New York 12180. No reported agent. Latest date of dissolution of LLC: None. Purpose: All legal purposes.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: Sort Your Move, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 11/03/2021. Official Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 19 Circle Dr, Wynantskill, NY 12198. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: Team Morgan Homes, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 11/03/2021. Official Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 68 Bloomingrove Dr, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: Finnert Holdings, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 11/03/2021. Official Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 68 Bloomingrove Dr, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: Pearson Property Management LLC.** Articles of organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on July 9, 2021. Office location: Rensselaer County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC, 152 Madden Road Stephentown, NY 12168. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

**Publication Notice Of Organization Of Limited Liability Company**

**First:** The name of the limited liability company is **EXPRESS LAUNDRY CENTERS, LLC** (hereinafter referred to as the "Company").

**Second:** The Articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State on NOVEMBER 15, 2021.

**Third:** The office of the Company is located in RENSSELAER COUNTY.

**Fourth:** The Secretary of State has been designated as Agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process is c/o the Company, P.O. Box 733, Rensselaer, NY 12144.

**Fifth:** The Company does not have a specific date of dissolution beyond the events of dissolution set forth in Section 701 of the Limited Liability Company Law.

**Sixth:** The purpose of the business of the Company is to engage in any business permitted by law.

**NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: Curbside Transportation Services LLC.** Article of Organization filed with the SSNY on 03/17/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC, 279 Troy Road, Ste # 9 Rensselaer, NY 12144. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Legal Notice****Town of Grafton, County of Rensselaer, State of New York**

Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Grafton, Rensselaer County, NY, is accepting resumes and letters of interest for the following appointments for 2022 which are to expire on December 31, 2021. The appointed positions and salaries for 2022 are:

Clerk to Assessor – \$10,900.00  
Code Enforcement Officer – \$16,480.00  
Court Clerk – \$7,000.00  
Deputy Town Clerk – \$3,000.00  
Youth Director – \$6,000.00  
Dog Control Officer – \$3,000.00  
Planning Board Secretary – \$900.00  
Planning Board Chairperson – \$1,500.00  
Planning Board Member – \$780.00  
Board of Assessment Member – \$186.00  
Town Bookkeeper – \$15,195.00  
Town Attorney – \$12,000.00  
Secretary to the Supervisor – \$8,580.00  
Town Historian – \$500.00

Interested applicants can submit a resume with cover letter to Grafton Town Clerk, PO Box 80, Grafton, NY 12082 or by email to [graftontownclerk@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:graftontownclerk@albany.twcbc.com) by Friday, December 24, 2021 at 6:00PM.

Victoria Burdick  
Town Clerk

**Notice of Formation of an LLC  
KRJ Holdings LLC**

Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on September 14, 2018. Office Location: Rensselaer County. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served.

The address within or without this state to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: Robert Hill, 23 Eastview Road, Averill Park, NY 12018. This LLC was formed for any legal purpose.

Notice of the formation of a Limited Liability Company. Name: **Diel Dressage LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/26/2021. Office: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 584 Johnson Hill Rd. Hoosick Falls, NY 12090. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: Knickerbacker Training Center, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 10/20/21. Office location: Rensselaer County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 420 Lexington Ave, Ste 300, New York, NY 10170. Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of **The Chedrawee Group, LLC**. Articles of Organization were filed with the New York Secretary of State on September 26, 2021. NY Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail service of process (SOP) to Tony Chedrawee at 100 Nyroy Drive, Unit 9, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: FSR 796, LLC.** Filed 10/14/21. Office: RENSSELAER Co. SSNY designated as agent for process and shall mail to: 163 Camden Ave, Staten Island, NY 10309. Purpose: General.

**NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: 467 9TH TROY LLC.** Filed 9/23/21. Office: RENSSELAER Co. SSNY designated as agent for process and shall mail to: Philip Park, 3149 Lone Pine Rd, Schenectady, NY 12303. Purpose: General.

Notice of formation of **1453 1ST ST LLC**. Articles of Org. filed with the NY Secretary of State (SS) on 4/28/21. Office: Rensselaer County. SS designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SS shall mail copy of process to Shahyer Hussain, 7 St Josephs St, Troy, NY 12180. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

## MEETINGS

*December 2, Thursday*

**Brunswick Planning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall  
**Pittstown Zoning Board**, 7 pm (as needed)  
**Nassau Zoning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall

*December 6, Monday*

**Schodack Planning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall

*December 7, Tuesday*

**New Lebanon Zoning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall

*December 8, Wednesday*

**East Nassau Village Board**, 7 pm, Hoag's Corners Ambulance Building

*December 9, Thursday*

**Brunswick Town Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall  
**Nassau Town Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall  
**Pittstown Planning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall (as needed)  
**Schodack Town Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall  
**Berlin Town Board**, 7:30 pm, Municipal Complex

*December 13, Monday*

**Pittstown Town Board**, 6:30, Town Hall  
**Grafton Town Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall  
**Hoosick Town Board**, 7 pm, Hoosick Armory  
**Schodack Zoning Board**, 7 pm, Town Hall

## The Eastwick Press



**34 Richmond Road  
Cropseyville, NY 12052**



Telephone: 518-203-7574

Email: [news@eastwickpress.com](mailto:news@eastwickpress.com)

Advertising Dept.: [ads@eastwickpress.com](mailto:ads@eastwickpress.com)

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*Tom Withcuskey, Publisher*

*Steve Bradley, Sports Editor*

*Miranda Sehl, Graphic Designer*

*Heidi Woofenden, Executive Assistant*

**Reporters:** *Alex Brooks, Amy Modesti,  
Denise Wright, Chris Teragliafera*

*The Eastwick Press* is the official newspaper of the Towns of Berlin, Grafton, Hoosick, New Lebanon, Petersburg and Stephentown, the Village of Hoosick Falls, the Village of East Nassau and the Berlin, Hoosick Falls and New Lebanon School Districts.

**New York Press Association  
Award Winning Newspaper**

**Winner of 2020 Good News Rensselaer  
County Award presented by the  
Rensselaer County Chamber of Commerce**

**Subscription Info:**

A regular subscription is \$40 per year mailed by second class mail. Subscriptions outside Rensselaer County cost \$50. A Supporter of *The Eastwick Press* pays \$60 per year; a Patron pays \$75 per year. If you like the paper and would like to see it prosper, please consider becoming a Supporter or a Patron.

**Office Hours:** Monday - Wednesday 9 am to 5 pm;  
Friday and Saturday by appointment.  
Closed Thursday and Sunday.

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34 Richmond Road, Cropseyville, NY, 12052



# Eastwick Entertainment

## NOW SHOWING

### Bennington Cinemas

Friday thru Thursday 12/3 - 12/9

**Encanto** (PG) Daily 5:05 7:15 9:15 Sat & Sun 12:45 2:55 5:05 7:15 9:15

**House of Gucci** (R) Daily 4:30 7:45 Sat & Sun 1:25 4:30 7:45

**Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City** (R) Daily 4:20 7:05 9:20 Sat & Sun 1:30 4:20 7:05 9:20

**Venom: Let There Be Carnage** (PG13) Daily 4:15 7:15 9:20 Sat & Sun 1:30 4:15 7:15 9:20

**Ghostbusters: Afterlife** (PG13) Daily 4:00 7:00 9:25 Sat & Sun 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:25

**Clifford the Big Red Dog** (PG) Daily 5:00 7:00 Sat & Sun 12:45 2:55 5:00 7:00

**Eternals** (PG13) Daily 4:30 7:45 Sat & Sun 1:25 4:30 7:45

**Dune** (PG13) Nitely 9:00

## Images Cinema

Belfast

Friday thru Thursday 12/3 - 12/9

Daily 5:00 7:30

Spencer

Friday thru Thursday 12/10 - 12/16

Daily 4:30 7:30

### SUDOKU

	9			8		6		
3	8		9					
		7		5		2		9
7					9	5		
			5	1	3			
		8	2					6
4		9		3		7		
					4		2	5
		6		2			1	

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Last week's sudoku solution:

4	1	3	9	5	2	6	8	7
7	8	5	6	4	3	2	9	1
6	9	2	7	1	8	5	3	4
8	2	4	5	9	6	7	1	3
5	6	9	3	7	1	4	2	8
3	7	1	2	8	4	9	5	6
9	5	8	1	6	7	3	4	2
1	3	6	4	2	9	8	7	5
2	4	7	8	3	5	1	6	9

Last week's crossword solution:

A	L	A	S		L	I	E		S	I	D	E		
G	U	R	U		T	I	D	Y	K	U	D	O	S	
A	K	I	N		O	B	O	E	O	R	L	O	P	
R	E	A	L		W	O	R	L	D	A	V	E	R	
				I	O	T	A	S		A	L	I		
L	O	T	T	O	S		B	R	A	V	A	D	O	
O	V	A		D	Y	A	D	I	C	O	W	E	S	
S	A	L	T	Y		R	N	A		D	R	A	M	A
E	T	C	H		M	I	A	S	M	A		R	U	G
R	E	S	E	W	E	D		A	M	P	E	R	E	
				V	O	W		R	U	N	N	Y		
	B	O	O	R		W	A	N	T	S	T	O	B	E
A	E	G	I	S		A	D	A	R		H	A	R	P
F	A	R	C	E		L	I	R	A		O	H	I	O
T	R	E	E		K	I	M				N	U	T	S

## Theme: Happy Holidays

### ACROSS

- Pilgrim's destination
- Make a scene
- Rubik's puzzle
- Hawaii environs
- Toothy fish
- Cone-shaped dwelling
- White Swan in "Swan Lake" ballerina
- \_\_\_\_-Wan Kenobi
- \*Decorate with wreaths and holly, e.g.
- \*Either dessert or source of heat (2 words)
- \*\_\_\_\_ Day, or second day of Christmastide
- Land parcel
- Strauss of denim fame
- Broadband access overseer, acr.
- Clarified butter
- Acute one and obtuse one
- Southeastern Asian country
- Jousting's breastplate
- Shrewdness
- Caspian basin river
- \*Pasadena's Tournament of \_\_\_\_
- Tel \_\_\_\_ , Israel
- Native American emblem
- "Why not?"
- Hitchhiker's quest
- Omits when speaking
- Hard to find
- Bear's winter quarters
- Hoodwink
- Scepter's partner
- \*Number of days in Christmas-tide
- \*"Ugly" holiday party garb?
- Prepare a letter
- "Bingo!"
- Hunger for
- Pass-the-baton race
- \*Cranberry sauce sometimes comes from it
- Same as tori
- Raise the roof
- German river
- Stall sound

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
			23				24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41				42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
	57	58	59					60				61	62	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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### DOWN

- Whiny and miserable
- Shade of beige
- Finish a ceiling, to a plasterer
- Marlboro alternative
- Not digital
- Bug-eyed
- Not Uber
- Social group
- Ghana monetary unit
- Second word of many fairytales
- Cause of Titanic's demise
- Poetic "even"
- Burdensome
- Not this or that
- Lab eggs
- Time off
- \*Champagne holder
- \*Wassailing composition
- Raccoon's South American cousin
- Feeling of superiority, pl.
- \_\_\_\_ gum, food additive
- Furiously angry
- Exclude or omit
- \*Number of candles in kinara, Kwanzaa
- \*Troika vehicle
- "Will be," according to Doris
- Asian goat antelope
- Potpourri
- Chevy Suburban, e.g.
- Builds
- \*Popular holiday wish
- Munchausen's title
- \*Bedecked arbor
- Shakespeare, to his friends?
- And others, for short
- Minus
- Tropical edible root
- Anon's partner
- Take a load off
- Like some humor
- \*Traditional main holiday dish

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 3, Friday

**North Hoosick Fire Department Dance**, 7-9 pm, ages 9-13, \$3, parent/guardian must sign student out after dance

December 4, Saturday

**Unsaid Prayers, an evening of poems from Jana Lillie's new book**, 7:30 pm, in person at Bennington Performing Arts Center or stream at home, \$5, 331 Main St., Bennington, VT, tickets: [bpacvt.org/tickets](http://bpacvt.org/tickets)

**North Chatham UM Church Holiday Bazaar**, 10 am-3 pm, also soups & bake sale, 4274 Route 203

**Varosy Holiday Market**, 2-8 pm, 17 vendors, The Gallery Building, 1522 North Rd., Greenwich

December 5, Sunday

**VFW Post 1938 Breakfast**, 8-11 am, \$10 (age 13 and over), \$5 (children 5-12), free (children under 5), Poplar Avenue, Valley Falls

*Continued on next page*

## GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR

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\*Prices are per person based on double occupancy plus up to \$299 in taxes & fees. Single supplement and seasonal surcharges may apply. Add-on airfare available. Onboard Credit requires purchase of Ocean View or Balcony Cabin. Offers apply to new bookings only, made by 9/30/21. Other terms & conditions may apply. Ask your Travel Consultant for details.



## Eastwick Entertainment

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*Continued from page 20*

*December 5, Sunday*

**Parents' Afternoon Out**, 1–4 pm, leave the children, ages 5 and up, and enjoy the afternoon for shopping, etc. Call 518-686-3269 by Dec. 7 for reservation, Hoosick Falls Community Alliance Church, 484 Hill Rd., Hoosick Falls

*December 11, Saturday*

**Petersburgh UM Church Flea Market & Bake Sale**, 9 am–3 pm, silent auction, lunch served all day, 12 Head of Lane

**Yankee Doodle Band Christmas Concert**, 2–4 pm, Roxborough Holdings Building (the former Grafton Elementary School), cookie contest

*December 12, Sunday*

**Fish Creek Rod & Gun Club Breakfast**, 8–11 am, \$10 adults, \$5 kids, 123 NY-32, Schuylerville

*December 16, Thursday*

**Storm Large: Holiday Ordeal**, 8 pm, UPH: Great Hall, 25 Washington St., Saratoga Springs, [info@proctors.org](mailto:info@proctors.org)

*December 17, Friday*

**The Ginger Roots Band**, doors open 6:30, \$5, Petersburgh Veterans Memorial Community Center, 71 Main St.

*December 18, Saturday*

**Jingle Jangle Jubilee!**, 1 pm & 4 pm, presented by Bennington Performing Arts Center Youth Theater, \$10, free for kids under 10, 331 Main St., Bennington, VT, tickets: [bpacvt.org/tickets](http://bpacvt.org/tickets)

### Church Directory

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH** – 4957 NY-7, Hoosick, NY 12090. Weekly Eucharist on Sundays at 10 am (COVID-19 protocols observed). Weekly Morning Prayer on Sundays at 8 am via Zoom; see website for login information. All are Welcome! Fr. Gary Strubel, vicar. [www.allsaintshoosick.org](http://www.allsaintshoosick.org)

**CENTER BRUNSWICK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** – 990 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY 12180 invites you to join us for worship in the sanctuary on Sunday Mornings at 9 am. Masks are required as explained above in the Church News section. If you would rather receive a link to our online worship, contact [barbara@carclan.us](mailto:barbara@carclan.us) to be added to the distribution list for weekly worship and mid week reflections. Follow us at [centerbrunswickumc.com](http://centerbrunswickumc.com). Pastor Joel Holcomb.

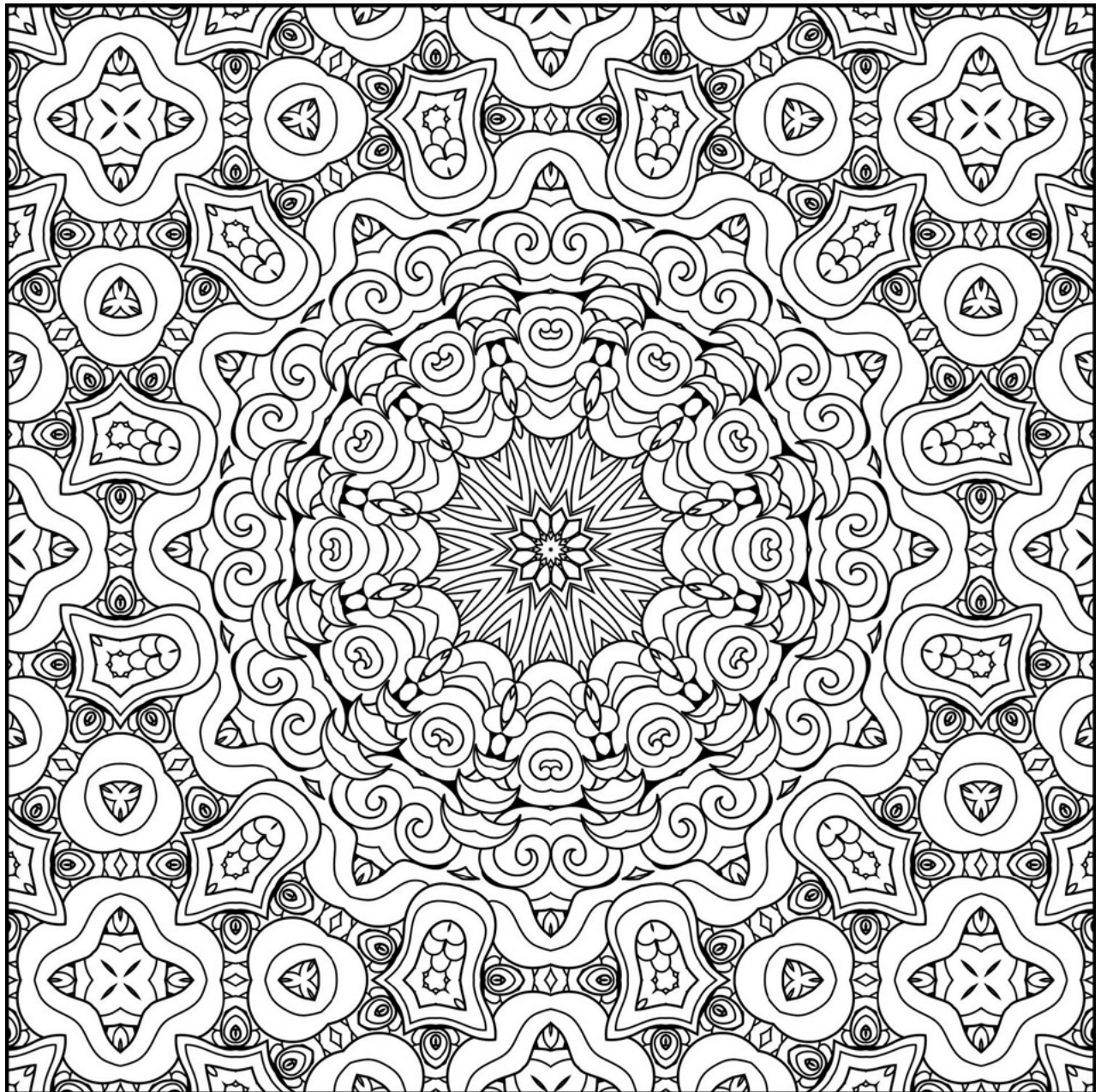
**CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR** – 14660 Rt 22, New Lebanon, NY 12125, 518-938-1193. We are an Episcopal Church celebrating service at 8 am in our Fellowship Hall. COVID-19 protocols observed, celebrant is Rev. Frank Lockwood. Service is also available on Facebook at Church of Our Saviour and Zoom 83581110224/416299.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BERLIN** – 15 N. Main Street, Berlin, NY. Pastor Michael Switzer. Sunday Worship 9:30 am (in person and online). Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm (online). Online services are available on Facebook, YouTube and the Church Website ([Berlinfbc.com](http://Berlinfbc.com)).

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOOSICK FALLS** – 80 Main Street, Hoosick Falls, NY 12090. Pastor David Hall, 518-380-3947, Sunday morning worship in person at 10 am. Audio of services available on our website [firstbaptistchurchhf.com](http://firstbaptistchurchhf.com). All are welcome.

*Continued on page 22*

### COLORING FOR ALL AGES



### Grow Food

Seed catalogs are being mailed out now. They're free to sign up for and they're quite beautiful to browse through. A few that I've ordered in the past are: Johnny's Selected Seeds: 1-877-564-6697, Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds: 800-234-3368, Burpee: 800-888-1447, FEDCO: 207-426-0090, Farmer Seed and Nursery: 507-334-1623 and St. Lawrence Nurseries: 315-261-1925.

It's nice to dream of the summer garden on these cold days. I hope you'll call and sign up for some vegetable and fruit inspiration. If you know of any other good ones please email to [mir@ndasehl.com](mailto:mir@ndasehl.com).



### Would You Like to Sell Speciality Ads for Us?

The Eastwick Press is searching for a sales person to sell advertising for our special editions, such as Graduation, Small Business Saturday and Christmas to name a few. Some advertising sales experience is a plus, but we are willing to train the right candidate. Rate of pay is negotiable depending on experience. Please send a letter of interest and/or resume to [sales@eastwickpress.com](mailto:sales@eastwickpress.com). We look forward to talking with you.



## Church Directory

### Continued from page 21

**GILEAD LUTHERAN CHURCH** – Routes 7 and 278, Center Brunswick, NY 12180. Indoor services at 10:30 am. Also available on Facebook and YouTube, or you may listen outside the church on 107.5 FM. COVID-19 rules and regulations apply.

**HOOSICK FALLS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE CHURCH** – 484 Hill Road, Hoosick Falls, NY. Rev. Jonathan Youngmann. Contemporary Worship Service at 10:30 am each Sunday, both in person and livestream (YouTube, FB or on our website: [HoosickFallsCAC.org](http://HoosickFallsCAC.org)). Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 am (Adult Sunday School via ZOOM available). Adult Prayer and Youth Group/Teen Prayer both on Tuesdays at 7 pm. For more info, call the church office at 518-686-3269.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH** – 73 Main Street, Hoosick Falls, NY 12090. Masses: Saturdays at 4 pm and Sundays at 10 am. Parochial Vicar Fr. Peter Tkocz. Masses are being held in the church hall. Please call 518-686-5064 between Wed-Fri to register for Mass.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH** – 732 U.S. Route 20, New Lebanon, NY 12125. Now open for indoor masses Saturdays at 4 pm and Sundays at 8:30 am.

**OUR LADY OF THE SNOW** – 31 Owen Road, Grafton, NY 12082. A Mission Church of Our Lady of Victory. Mass is offered Sundays at 9:45 am. Food Pantry is open all year on Saturdays 10 am to 2 pm. Pastor as of July 1 is Fr. Tom Morette.

**THE NORTH CHATHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** – 4274 Route 203, North Chatham, NY 12132. Worshiping in our sanctuary on the first and third Sundays of the month, with masks and social distancing required. Worshipers should enter through the back door of the church. On all other Sundays, worship is virtual. All worship services are at 11 am and all are available on Zoom. The Zoom login information is on our website ([northchathammethodistchurch.org](http://northchathammethodistchurch.org)). For more information on North Chatham United Methodist Church, please call 518-766-3535 or visit our website. Thanks and we hope to see you soon, in person or on Zoom!

**PETERSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH** – 19240 State Route 22, Petersburg, NY 12138. 518-658-3834. Sunday School 9:45 am, Church Service 11 am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7 pm.

**SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF BERLIN** – 41 North Main Street, Berlin, NY, 12022. Weekly worship on Saturdays at 10:30 am (either in person or live streamed at [youtube.com/berlinseventhdaybaptistchurch](https://youtube.com/berlinseventhdaybaptistchurch)). Pastor Matthew Olson.

**STEPHENTOWN FEDERATED CHURCH** - 1513 Garfield Road, Stephentown, NY 12168. 518-733-5813. Presbyterian/Methodist, Pastor Chris Garrison. Services Sundays 9:30 am. Current requirements: masks in building.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT BERLIN** – 17 South Main Street, Berlin, NY 12022. Weekly worship services on Sundays at 11 am in person (following the guidelines of our Safety Plan). We also gladly extend an invitation to all those at home to enjoy the Live Stream or the video of the service. Please contact [goodermotess@yahoo.com](mailto:goodermotess@yahoo.com) if you would like to receive the link. Community Food Closet offered 9 to 11 am third Saturdays and 3 to 5 pm third Tuesdays or in emergency by calling the church at 518-658-2942.

**WEST HOOSICK BAPTIST CHURCH** – 1349 Buskirk W. Hoosick Rd., Buskirk, NY 12028, 518-686-7201. Pastor J. D. Milton. Sundays at 10:30 am (COVID-19 protocols observed) Streaming Sunday Messages. [www.facebook.com/westhoosickbaptistchurch/](https://www.facebook.com/westhoosickbaptistchurch/)

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** – 741 Tabor-ton Road, Sand Lake, NY 12153, 518-674-1039. Weekly Sunday services live at 10 am and on our Facebook page (Zion United Church of Christ of Sand Lake, NY), Sunday school starts at 10 am in the church. Pastor: Hafidah Saadiqah.

## Senior News

### Home Delivery for Residents Over 60

Rensselaer County Unified Services, Department of Aging, provides Home Delivery Meals to county residents. If you know of a resident over 60 that lives alone and does not drive, and may benefit from home delivery meals, please call the Troy office to complete a phone referral at 518-270-2740. There is a \$3 suggested donation for each meal. The nutritious meals are delivered Monday thru Friday to the resident's home.

### Hoosick Falls Senior Center News

The Hoosick Falls Senior Center, 69 Church Street, Hoosick Falls, is open 9 am to 3 pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with activities and lunch each day. State and County Guidelines will be posted and must be followed at all times. There will be limited van transportation to and from the center on Wednesdays and Fridays only. You must call to be placed on the list.

A congregate lunch will be served at noon on days the center is open. There is a suggested donation of \$3 per meal. In addition to congregate meals, the center offers Grab-N-Go lunches Monday through Friday.

On **December 6**, the card club meets from 10 am to noon with congregate lunch to follow. Members are trying to get a cribbage group together. Please contact the center if you would like to be part of the group. **December 8**, the Hoosick Area Seniors will have their monthly meeting, with the election of officers for the upcoming year taking place. Lunch is at noon with the December birthday celebration, a fun game of trivia and ice cream to follow. Exercise Group will be at 1:30. **December 10**, there is Wii Bowling at 10 am, lunch at noon and bingo with root beer floats at 12:45 pm.

The gym is available 9 am to noon, by appointment only for those unvaccinated or those that wish to exercise alone, and will be open to all vaccinated seniors from noon to 2:30 pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with no appointment needed.

**December 13** is Craft Time with Julie. Call the center if you would like to participate. **December 15** is Christmas caroling and karaoke. **December 17** is the cookie contest and exchange, so start think-

ing about what kind of cookie you will be making. **December 22** is the Senior Christmas Party with music by Bob Treffiletti, so wear your ugly Christmas sweater, sing, dance and bring a \$5 Yankee Swap gift if you want to be part of the game. If you have questions please call the Hoosick Falls Senior Center at 518-686-7561.

Please call the center at least 24 hours in advance to be placed on the list for congregate meals or Grab-N-Go meals so staff can make sure they have enough food prepared.

### Yarn Donations Welcomed at Senior Centers

There are several seniors from the Hoosick Falls and Grafton Senior Centers that enjoy crocheting and knitting. The projects are then donated to nursing facilities, schools, food pantries and for raffle prizes at the centers. Among the donated items are hats, mittens, scarves, hand warmers, lap shawls, shoulder shawls, afghans and more.

Donations of new yarn are a welcome sight at both centers. If you are cleaning out, or wish to purchase yarn to donate, please call 518-686-7521.

### Grafton Senior Center News

Rensselaer County's Everett Wagar Senior Center, 2 Roxborough Rd., Cropseyville, will be open with limited hours. State and County Guidelines will be posted and must be followed at all times. The center is now open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm, with congregate lunch and activities. Van transportation to and from the center will be available on limited days. Please call to be placed on the list.

On **December 7**, there will be yoga at 10 am with the monthly Eastern Tier Senior meeting at 11:15 am. A lunch of hot dogs, sauerkraut and baked beans will be served at noon. There will be a fun game of senior feud at 12:30 pm, with ice cream sundaes to follow. There will also be haircuts and mani/pedis that morning by appointment only. **December 9**, there will be craft time at 10:30 am. Plan to stay for a lunch of cubed steak, potato and vegetable at noon, with snack time bingo to follow.

The senior center is open Monday and Friday 9:30 to 11 am only for the 10 am yoga class.

There is a \$3 suggested donation for all lunches

at the center. Please call 518-279-3413 if you have any questions, or wish to be added to the lunch list.

### Lebanon Valley Seniors News

The Lebanon Valley Seniors have a committee working on officer elections. If you want to nominate someone or run for a position talk to Sheryl Roden or Elna Rodda. VP is open; other positions are willing to run another year. Our Christmas party will be at the White Stone cafe in Ghent on **Friday, December 17, at 1 pm**. The menu is family style ham and turkey with all the fixings. Please note if schools are closed due to weather on the day of a meeting, there is no meeting. If you have any questions please call Mary DeFreest at 518-733-0009.

### COVID-19 Booster Clinic

The Stephentown Seniors will sponsor a COVID-19 Booster Clinic on **Saturday, December 4, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm**, at the Stephentown Town Hall. The Clinic will be coordinated by Hannaford Pharmacy. Dr. Heather Govel, PharmD, registered and certified immunizing pharmacist, will be the primary contact for all scheduling needs.

All three vaccines will be available by appointment only. The Clinic is open to the public, and recipients do not have to be Stephentown residents.

To register and for information, contact Dr. Govel at [stephentownclinics@gmail.com](mailto:stephentownclinics@gmail.com), or by phone or text at 518-281-4030. Text is preferred; calls may be accepted but response time will be longer.

### Senior Menu

To reserve or cancel call: Troy: 518-270-2740; Schodack: 518-477-6591; Rensselaer: 518-463-2166; Hoosick Falls: 518-686-7561; Grafton: 518-279-3413

**Dec. 3:** Crusted lemon garlic cod palsied rice, California blend veggies, whole wheat biscuit and fresh fruit  
**Dec. 6:** Sloppy Joe, corn, peas & onions, round roll and a fruit cup

**Dec. 7:** Hot dogs, seasoned sauerkraut, baked beans, long roll and fresh fruit

**Dec. 8:** Chicken breast w/gravy, roasted diced potatoes, Malibu blend veggies, white bread and a cookie

**Dec. 9:** Cubed steak w/old fashioned gravy, buttery mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts, dinner roll and yogurt



## Church News

### Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

The church would like to thank our community for participating in our recent food drive. We delivered two cars full of food to the Grafton Food Pantry and were able to provide full Thanksgiving dinners for five families in need. Our giving tree was a huge success providing toys and clothing for 22 children in the area. The Mitten Tree is filling up with scarves, hats, gloves and mittens which will be donated to local children. Pet food and supplies are being collected to donate to local shelters.

**Children's Christmas Program** – Sunday, December 19 at 9 am, during worship service.

**Blue Christmas** – Tuesday, December 21 at 7:30 pm. Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year, yet for many people it also brings up memories of pain and loss. This service offers a time to let go of the sorrow.

**Christmas Eve Service of Lesson** – Friday, December 24 at 7:30 pm. Carols and a short message, all are welcome. We continue to collect greeting cards to be donated to St. Jude's Ranch where they have an entrepreneur program for youth and clean pill bottles with caps for Matthew 25 Ministries. Wishing everyone in the Community A Very Merry Christmas.

### Christmas Eve Service

Come join us for our annual Christmas Eve service on **Friday, December 24, starting at 6:30 pm**, at Zion's United Church of Christ, 741 Taborton Road, Sand Lake.

### Stephentown Federated Church

**Navigating Family Landmines: A Holiday Gathering Survival Guide** - December 12, at 4 pm. Join our workshop open to the community on how to steer clear of the conversations that feel potentially explosive, if not relationally unsafe.

**Blue Christmas Service: Honoring Life and Loss in the Holidays** - December 19, at 4 pm. No matter your circumstance, this is an open welcoming service of candlelight, songs, prayers and hope. The community is welcome.

**Christmas Eve Service** - December 24, 7:30 pm. Join us for a family friendly service of carols and candles. All are welcome.

Stephentown Federated Church is located at 1513 Garfield Road. Sunday services are at 9:30 am with Pastor Chis Garrison. The church is accessible, and masks are required. If you cannot make it in person, please visit our website, [stephentownfederatedchurch.org](http://stephentownfederatedchurch.org) to watch the service.

### Holiday Bazaar

On **December 4**, The North Chatham United Methodist Church will host a Holiday Bazaar from 10 am to 3 pm, sponsored by the United Methodist Women of the North Chatham and Grace churches. There will be a nice variety of vendors, and this is a great chance to do some Christmas shopping locally. Quarts of soup and a bake sale will be available, and all proceeds will go to Mission Projects. Masks will be required. The church is located at 4274 Route 203. For more information, please call 518-766-3535 or visit their website, [northchathammethodistchurch.org](http://northchathammethodistchurch.org). For more informa-

tion on the Grace UMC, please call 518-766-9628 or e-mail Pastor Marquit at [revberdan@aol.com](mailto:revberdan@aol.com).

### Brooks Chicken Barbecue

Jubilation Station, the Sunday School of Center Brunswick United Methodist Church, will hold a drive thru, take out only Brooks chicken barbecue on **Saturday, January 8, from 2 to 6 pm**. Dinner includes half a chicken, baked potato, vegetable, roll, drink and dessert. The full dinner will be \$13, and half a chicken by itself will be \$6. The church is located at 990 Hoosick Road, Troy. To reserve call Jill at 518-258-2164, or for general questions call Sheryl Burke at 518-469-7692.

### Community Bible Study

Tri-State Northeast Community Bible Study will be starting the study of the Book of Revelation on **Thursday, December 9, from 10 am to 12:15 pm**. Visitors are welcome to come check us out. We meet at Hoosick Falls Community Alliance Church, 484 Hill Rd., but also offer an online Zoom group at the same time. Our class meets weekly on Thursdays during the school year. Each class member receives a course book with a commentary and home study questions. Please contact Niqué Feigel, Children's Director, at [nique.feigel@gmail.com](mailto:nique.feigel@gmail.com) for more information about availability in our children's program.

### Flea Market and Bake Sale

**Saturday, December 11, from 9 am to 3 pm**, the Petersburg United Methodist Church, located at 12 Head of Lane, will have a flea market, bake sale and silent auction. Lunch will be served all day and will feature home-made soup, hot dogs, hamburgers, chili, coffee and soda. Table rentals are \$15, and a 50/50 raffle drawing will take place at 3 pm. For more information call Annie at 518-852-6576.

### Gilead Lutheran Church

Sunday services are held at 10:30 am, and we will conduct services to keep us as safe as possible. Gilead is located at Route 7 East and Route 278 in Center Brunswick. Our website is [gileadlutheran.org](http://gileadlutheran.org) and our phone number is 518-279-9270.

**Gilead's Body and Soul Pantry** – We still cannot open up the fellowship hall for in house dinning, but we are still providing take out dinners for you. Our pantry hours are 3 to 6 pm. We had a couple of ideas for dinner but settled on beef stew, tossed salad, roll and dessert. The date again is **Thursday, December 30**, and the location is Gilead Lutheran at the intersection of Routes 7 and 278 in Center Brunswick.

### Parents' Afternoon Out

Need to shop, take a nap, run errands or just have some quality time with your honey?

On **Saturday, December 11**, Hoosick Falls Community Alliance Church is opening its doors to care for children 5 years old and up from 1 to 4 pm. Children will enjoy a movie, work on crafts and participate in other activities, while making some new friends.

We look forward to blessing some of you with a few hours of free time this holiday season. RSVP to 518-686-3269 is required by **December 7** to ensure ample workers and supplies are on hand. The church is located at 484 Hill Road.

## Obituaries

### Glenn A. Young

Troy - Glenn A. Young, Jr., 47, of 8th Avenue Lansingburgh, died suddenly Saturday, November 27, 2021, after being stricken at his residence.

Born in Albany, he was the son of Rick and Randi Palmer. He was raised in Berlin, resided in Troy and Albany for most of his life and was a graduate of Berlin High School.

Glenn was employed in the information technology field for 30 years.

He enjoyed cooking and posting pictures of his food on Facebook, training German Shepherds and cabining, especially at Little Bowman in Taborton.

Survivors in addition to his parents include a sister, Tamara (Damon) Dzembo of Brunswick, and several aunts, nieces, and cousins. He is also survived by his beloved German Shepherd, Bowman. He was predeceased by his grandparents and uncles.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in memory of Glenn A. Young, Jr. to the American Heart Association, 4 Atrium Dr. #100 Albany, NY 12205. To sign the guestbook or light a candle, visit [www.brycefh.com](http://www.brycefh.com).



### Elizabeth M. Lukas

Hoosick Falls - Elizabeth Marion (LaClair) Lukas, known to all as Betty, passed away November 25, 2021 in Bennington, VT at the age of 95. Born in Shaftsbury, VT to Abbie (Niles) and Arthur LaClair, she graduated from Henry Bishop Memorial School of Nursing in Pittsfield, MA in 1947 and served in the Army as a nurse. Married to Theodore (Ted) Lukas in 1950, they raised four children in a house he built for them in Hoosick Falls on Clay Hill. She returned to nursing at Putnam Memorial Hospital until retirement ending her career as an intensive care nurse.

Betty enjoyed family gatherings, camping, the Adirondacks, sewing and holiday baking. She was a devout congregant of Immaculate Conception Church in Hoosick Falls.

She is survived by her sister Joyce MacDonald (VA); daughter Claire Lukas of Tupper Lake, NY; sons David Lukas (Joyce) of Buskirk, NY, Paul Lukas (Kelley) of Clifton Park, NY and Mark Lukas (Cashelle) of Shaftsbury, VT; granddaughters Kristen Lukas and Katharine Monteiro (Scott); beloved step-granddaughter Grace D'Angelo; and great grandson William Monteiro.

Betty was predeceased by her husband Theodore Lukas; brother Wayne LaClair; and sisters Avis Whitman and Marjorie Gray. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association through the Mahar Funeral Home, 43 Main Street in Hoosick Falls who are handling the arrangements.



### Memorial William T. Piche

Eagle Bridge - Friends and family of William "Bill" Piche are invited to attend a memorial service in Bill's honor on Saturday, December 11, at noon at The First Baptist Church of Hoosick. In lieu of flowers, we ask that those wishing to make contributions in Bill's memory do so to either The First Baptist Church of Hoosick, 648 South St, or to the Petty Family's Victory Junction Camp, 4500 Adam's Way, Randleman, NC 27317.



# Thanksgiving Snowshoeing



Snowshoe fun and family dog in a foot of snow in the Petersburg hills on Saturday after Thanksgiving. Photo by Trix Niernberger.

# The Importance of Sedges



Broad-leaved Sedge (*Carex platyphylla*) is native to the northeastern United States and Quebec, and often seen scattered in our local woods. Sedges are an important element in a range of habitats — both wet and dry. They provide shelter, food and nest materials for wildlife, including birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects and fish. Some are host plants for butterflies. Sedges help to stabilize soils from erosion, and can cycle nutrients in wetlands. This lovely sedge was photographed by Trix Niernberger in the Petersburg forest.

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# The Life of George Holcomb

by George Holcomb • Transcribed by Betty McClave • Edited by Alex Brooks

## Typhus Comes to Stephentown

Wednesday, July 9, 1851: We hayed and built a clover stack. Today and tonight Geo P. watched with Joseph Anthony Gillett, he has the typhus fever.  
Thursday: We hoed corn on Wm B. Maxon's land and got in some hay on the widow Wylie's. One lad to home, and a hard thunder shower. Today J. Bassett and A. Celinbaum and John Coslo worked for us and after the shower J. Coslo piled wood in the wood house. I paid 19 cts to a peddler for a pocket book, tonight John F. watched with J. A. Gillette.  
Friday: I and my two sons and J. Coslo worked at haying to home and on the widow Wylie's land.  
Saturday: Today A. Celinbaum had a daughter born, and I paid him two dollars in cash.  
Monday: I and my two sons and John Coslo worked at carrots and dug potatoes.  
Tuesday: Geo P. took his carriage and carried his Mother to the funeral of Joseph Anthony Gillett at the house of Jeremiah Gillett. Today John F. went to Pittsfield with a load of new potatoes with one horse and wagon and sold them for 1.25 cents and one dol per, my two daughters walked to

the funeral of said J. A. Gillett.  
Wednesday: This forenoon we all dug potatoes for J. F. on the widow Wylie's land, and this afternoon we hoed corn for J. F. on my Rodgers farm.  
Thursday: Today I and John F. went to Pittsfield, each a one horse load of Johns' new potatoes and John F. sold them at one dollar and one dollar 25 cents per, and I rode to Lenox and paid the lawyer Bishop 25 dollars and took a receipt in full for his services at the appeal of Charlotte E. suit against M. Ross, which makes fifty dollars that I have paid said Bishop, and on the return home I called to L. Humphrey's limehill and paid 25 cents for one bushel of lime.  
Friday: We all six of us worked at haying and digging my potatoes on the hill in the young orchard.  
Saturday: My self and John F. we went to Pittsfield with each a one horse wagon load of my new potatoes. We sold them at one dollar per bushel excepting a few John sold at 1.25 cents per bushel. Today I gave five bushels and a peck of new potatoes for one barrel of super fine flour, and I paid in cash to Elder Sands apothecary store 27 cents for high ---- whiskey and medicine.

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