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Number 6

WINTER 2022

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Catskills

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ON THE COVER

Out on a winter stroll?
 Don't forget to look up into the sky or into the trees. You may be rewarded by the sight of one (or more) of these magnificent birds.

David B Soete photo

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our winter wonderland

The Sullivan Catskills offers fresh air and stunning views all year long, and the wintertime is no exception. So, bundle up and come explore all we have to offer.

Are you an outdoor enthusiast? We have many places to downhill ski, cross-country ski, snowshoe, ice fish, and ice skate. Take your pick or try them all! Holiday Mountain Ski Resort and Villa Roma Resort offer skiing, while Fortress Bikes and Morgan Outdoors has snowshoe rentals.

The Town of Neversink will offer a community ice skating rink in Grahamsville, and ice skate your way through winter at Morningside Park in Fallsburg. Get outside!

Is staying inside more your thing? We have plenty of lodging options from full-service resorts to charming inns. Or get a group of friends and book a rental house, there are so many to choose from to make your winter vacation memorable. Curl up by the fire and then head out to explore our Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail (there's 60 public art sculptures!).

If it's warmth you're looking for look no

further than The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark. The glass roof allows sunshine to stream in and it's 84 degree year-round. With an on-site hotel and dining, you'll have everything you need right there. And, try your luck at our world-class casino— Resorts World Catskills.

Here in the Sullivan Catskills we're known for our fabulous restaurants serving farm fresh food. Check out our website for a full Catskill-icious listing of gourmet dining, cafés and coffee shops, wood-fired pizza, and so much more. Most establishments offer takeout so you can enjoy a tasty meal with safety in mind.

Warm up this winter with a specialty cocktail or spirits tasting at one of the many distilleries, breweries, and cideries on the Sullivan Catskills Beverage Trail.

As always, your health and safety are a priority so follow the Catskills Confidence program and be prepared to bring a mask or show proof of a COVID vaccination.

The fresh air, snow-filled landscapes, and mountain views will make your Sullivan Catskills trip a winter wonderland.



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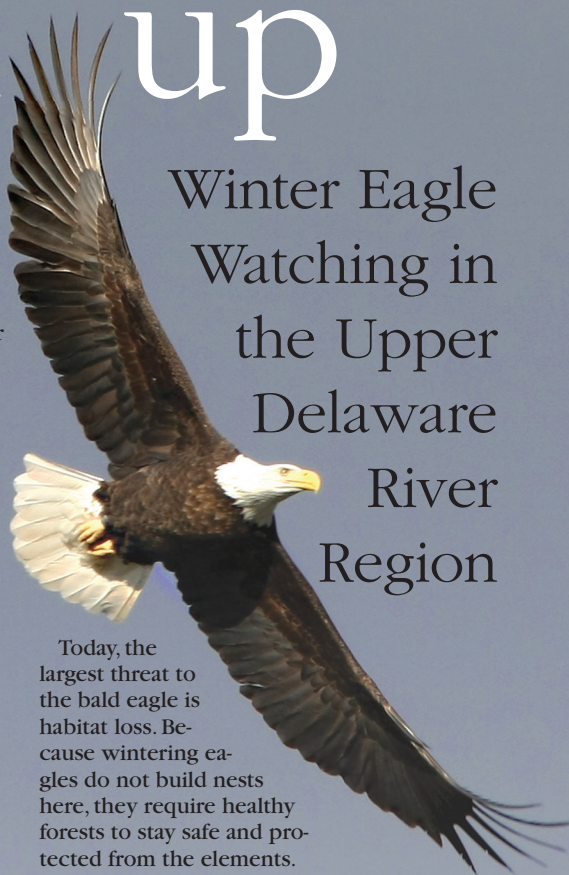
Beyond the cold winds and snowy weather, winter brings something else to the Upper Delaware River region—hundreds of bald eagles searching for safe habitat. When lakes and rivers freeze over in Canada and upstate New York, eagles fly hundreds of miles south searching for open waters to fish, and large stands of trees for perching and roosting. The healthy forests and clean rivers, streams, and reservoirs of our region provide an excellent winter home for bald eagles and create a wonderful opportunity to observe these magnificent birds.

On weekends in January and February, join Delaware Highlands Conservancy volunteers at the Eagle Observation Areas along the Delaware River. You'll learn about eagles and "eagle etiquette"—how to observe them safely without disturbing the birds and forcing them to use the precious energy they need to survive.

The Conservancy also offers a series of guided Eagle Watch bus tours on select winter weekends, commencing at the Conservancy's new Van Scott Nature Reserve in Beach Lake, PA. Attendees will take a scenic drive, learn from an expert guide, and visit the Eagle Observation Areas to look through binoculars and spotting scopes to see eagles soaring overhead, fishing, or resting in the trees.

Tours are scheduled for January 8, January 15, February 5, and February 12, and are \$15 per person for Conservancy members or \$25 for non-members. Masks will be required while riding on the bus. Advance reservations are required; visit DelawareHighlands.org to purchase tickets or call 570-226-3164 ext. 8. Or, visit www.delawarehighlands.org/eagles to watch a short film and download a map and resources to plan your own driving tour to look for eagles.

Winter Eagle Watching in the Upper Delaware River Region



Today, the largest threat to the bald eagle is habitat loss. Because wintering eagles do not build nests here, they require healthy forests to stay safe and protected from the elements.

The bald eagles are here because our region is healthy enough to support them, but it's up to all of us to help keep it that way. The Upper Delaware River region is one of the largest wintering habitats for eagles in the northeast United States because of abundant clean water and large, undisturbed stands of trees. Protected lands in Sullivan County, NY and Pike and Wayne Counties in PA provide a safe haven for these migratory birds, as well as breeding eagles that live here year-round.

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy works with landowners and communities to protect the working farms and forests, clean waters, wildlife habitat, and exceptional quality of life we enjoy in the Upper Delaware River region.

David B Soete photo



A mostly
mature
(read
teenager)
eagle seems
to be
putting on
some
attitude.

John Kocijanske photo



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For 21 years, Catskills Confidential has been Sullivan County's premier visitors information resource.

From covering upcoming events to telling the story of the Sullivan Catskills great hospitality industry, Catskills Confidential is the best way to find out what is happening on the entertainment scene in our area.

Available throughout Sullivan County and also at the NYS Thruway Information Center in Plattekill, Catskills Confidential has been connecting visitors and residents with great events and businesses for more than two decades.

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Catskills

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on top of the mountain

story and photos by Margaret Bruetsch

Opposite: Upward Brewing Company's taproom offers a comforting and spacious place to relax. Above: Owners Ball and Walton designed the building to mimic the brewery's outdoor landscape. Below: Upward Brewing logo features prominently above the bar.

Nestled in the hills just off Livingston Manor's main street, Upward Brewing Company offers much more than quality beers and locally sourced food. From its taproom visitors are rewarded with sweeping views of the rolling hills and plenty of outdoor and indoor room for visitors to gather & enjoy a beer with friends, or take a hike on Beer Mountain™ before tasting one of the delicacies prepared by the Upward Kitchen.

Owners & brewers Dana Ball and David Walton opened the taproom in November 2019. Ball, former co-founder of Catskill Brewery, and Walton, formerly the Head of Operations at Catskill Brewery, started the new venture with a vision to represent the area.

"Dave and I wanted to create a brewery that actually showcases the Catskills," Ball said.

In order to do this they used locally sourced contractors in Sullivan County during the build, and preserved 120 acres on their mountain as wild space perfect for hiking and exploring on a visit.

"We personally designed the aesthetically pleasing building that mimics our landscape inside and out," Ball explained. "Dave and I designed and did the entire construction on the interior."

In addition to setting up the brew house, and working on the indoor carpentry and taproom design, Ball and Walton also focused on outdoor spaces for use all year long. The property boasts hiking trails, a pond that becomes a skating pond when it freezes over, picnicking areas complete with fire pits for summer and autumn evenings, and even sledding areas for the winter. The outdoor property is also dog friendly so it's the perfect place for visitors to bring their leashed



continued on page 14



Outdoor seating options include fire pits to stay warm on chilly evenings (above). Visitors not only get to sample the beers, but can also check out where those craft beers get made (below). Opposite page: Upward Brewing Company offers a variety of their award-winning beers on tap (top). After picking up a beer, visitors can choose from a wide variety of seating or pick up some food from the Upward Kitchen (middle). Upward Brewing Company beers can also be purchased in canned packs and make great gifts alongside some Upward Brewing Co. swag at the gift shop - beer steins not included (bottom)!



continued from page 13

pooches while socializing with friends!

Like many business owners, Ball and Walton had to rethink their business model as the Covid-19 pandemic interrupted operations.

"We opened in Nov. 2019 and the pandemic shut us down by mid-March," Ball said. Upward Brewing Company pivoted to

off-premise sales of their beers into cans, but their outdoor space proved a bonus during the long months of 2020. "We offered our Mountain as a safe place to hike and play - a refuge from the pandemic lockdown."

To get people out and about safely during the pandemic, Upward Brewing Company even offered free drink tokens as an incentive to those who hiked to the top of Beer Mountain™. While the drink tokens aren't offered anymore, the hike is always available to visitors.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Upward Brewing Company is going strong and even won awards at the 2021 NYS Craft Brewers Com-

petition this past spring. Their Base Camp LagerBier took home gold in the Pale Lager category; Opiate Sun XX IPA was awarded silver in the Double IPA category; and their Golden Ratio NZ Pale received bronze in the Blonde/Golden Ale category.

Part of what makes their beers so clean and drinkable is Upward Brewing Company's use of their mountain water spring house that once supplied all of Livingston Manor with drinking water.

"The beers we create are 'No-Nonsense Ales and Lagers,'" Ball said. Each beer showcases the clear taste of the mountain spring water. "Dave and I are very proud of our original IPA, Breadwinner. It's sessionable, with a lot of flavor."

Guests can sample their wide array of award winning brews, as

well as their Upward OM: Imperial Oatmeal Stout; Ascension Pilsner (lager); Black Grass: Pils-Noir (black pilsner); and HEX: Hazy Experience (hazy IPA). The HEX hazy IPA features hand drawn beer labels by artist David Sandlin.

After ordering a beer, visitors can peruse the menu of Upward Kitchen that offers a variety of specialty dishes with a focus on locally sourced, farm-to-table ingredients. It's classic pub food with a twist. Small appetizers include kimchi fries, homemade flatbreads, Asian dumplings and trout nuggets made with Upward barley beer grain batter. If you're looking for a larger meal you can build your own hot dog-style sausage including wild boar sausages in a roll with a variety of toppings, go for the classic burger with cheese, bacon or avocado, or try the Jitterburger, an option with trout, pickled onions, microgreens and avocado.



Upward Brewing Company

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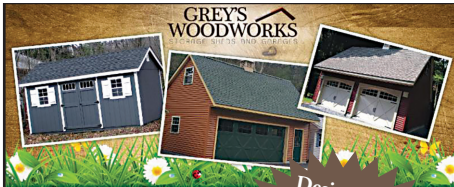
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winter's fun to-dos

Looking to beat the cabin fever this January? Take the kids for a trip up to the Livingston Manor Rotary Club's 63rd Annual Ice Carnival! This community event is sure to be a wintry treat for the young and old this year!

The event returns this year on January 23rd, 2022 (snow date of January 30th, 2022) replete with the traditional crowning of the Ice Carnival King and Queen at the Livingston Manor Central School's annual dance. In

addition to the frosty royalty, the Rotary Club will also be hosting professional and amateur skating exhibitions and races, as well as providing horse drawn sleigh rides with hot cocoa for all to enjoy.

This wonderful event is open to families with children of all ages, and the Rotary Club is also planning a Family Day including games and more on February 12th, 2022.

Get out and enjoy the fresh air this winter season, and

visit Livingston Manor's main street and businesses on your trip!



continued on page 20



continued from page 19

Roscoe Beer Winterfest

Join the Roscoe Beer Company for their 7th Annual Winterfest on Saturday January 29th! The event starts at noon and will last until 7 pm. Featuring fun for the whole family including a live show by ice carvers, games, horse drawn carriage rides, and a bonfire. Their winter park across the street will have some wintry outdoor activities including ice skating and snowshoeing. There will be live music featuring Far Beyond Gone from 12-4pm, with more music continuing inside at 4 pm. Bring the whole family out for the day's festivities complete with great food, craft beer and hot cocoa to keep you warm!

Fly Fest 2022

Interested in fly fishing? The Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum (CFFCM) is bringing Fly Fest back on Saturday February 26th, 2022 and will feature fly tyers from near and far. Stop on by the CFFCM from 9 am to 3 pm for Fly Fest to meet and tie alongside some of today's most innovative modern and traditional Catskill-style fly tyers. Or, simply watch as they weave their magic of fur and feathers on steel.

There is a \$10 Admission Fee but kids are free! All attendees must register, you can find more information at <https://cffcm.com/eventscalendar>. Registration Required. Proof of vaccination & mask required.



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES PHOTO

FILE PHOTO



SnO&W Fun Run/Walk

METRO CREATIVE SERVICES PHOTO

10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Time to get moving this New Year and celebrate winter! The 2nd Annual SnO&W Fun Run & Walk is set to start at 10:30 am on February 26th at the O&W Rail Trail in Liberty for all ages!

This snow or shine event, hosted by Sullivan 180, will start at the O&W rail trail head on Hill Street & State Street in Liberty. Come out and enjoy an approximately 3-mile walk or run on flat terrain along the beautiful O&W Rail Trail (1.5 miles in and 1.5 miles back to the starting point).

There's also going to be a short mile long fun run from the State Street trail head to Carrier Street and back!

Afterwards, refreshments will be provided for all participants and their families at the finish line. Attendees of all ages are encouraged to join in, and dogs are welcome, but must remain leashed at all times.

The event encourages all types of outdoor activities such as snowshoeing or cross country skiing, but runners and walkers are also encouraged! Fortress Bikes will have snowshoes on hand if needed.

If there is no snow on the ground, the

event will continue as a muddy fun run along the same path. Please wear appropriate winter footwear that can be used either with snowshoes or on their own in the case of no snow. Trail conditions will be updated on the event's Facebook page so check there for the most up-to-date information.

The event is being put on by Sullivan 180, along with their supporting partners: the Sullivan County Division of Planning, Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance, Sullivan Renaissance, Fortress Bikes, the Town of Liberty, and the Village of Liberty.

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CALENDAR

WINTER 2022

Saturday, January 15

Delaware Highlands Conservancy Winter 2022 Eagle Watch Bus Tours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join the Conservancy on a guided eagle-viewing bus tour, scheduled on select week-ends in January and February. Learn from an expert guide and take a scenic drive on a heated bus throughout the Upper Delaware River region to look for and learn about bald eagles and their habitat. All current COVID safety guidelines will be followed and masks will be required while riding on the bus. Seats on trips are limited and advance reservations are required, so reserve your space today for the following 2022 winter trips (Fee: \$15 for Conservancy members, \$25 for non-members). Get tickets online at www.DelawareHighlands.org/events or call 570-226-3164/845-583-1010. The trips commence at the Delaware Highlands Conservancy's Van Scott Nature Reserve in Beach Lake, PA. Dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, and snacks. Snow dates for the trips are the Sundays immediately following. Check www.DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information. Refunds are not provided in the event of canceled reservations.

Wandering the Bashakill with Elly

Knieriemer 1 - 2 p.m. Need a taste of summer? Join educator Elly Knieriemer as she shares her photographs taken at the Bashakill Wetland. If you've visited MEEC, you've seen some of her beautiful photographs gracing the walls. Elly has spent the last 32 years living near and photographing the jewel that is the Bashakill and its inhabitants. She is also an amazing educator who makes you laugh as you are learning. Not to be missed! Cost \$5/person, \$15 family cap. Mamakating Environmental Education Center, 762 South Rd, Wurtsboro. Call (845) 644-5014 to register. Mamakating Environmental Education Center, located near the unique and beautiful Bashakill wetland, is a community center supporting local history and environmental education.

Thursday, January 20

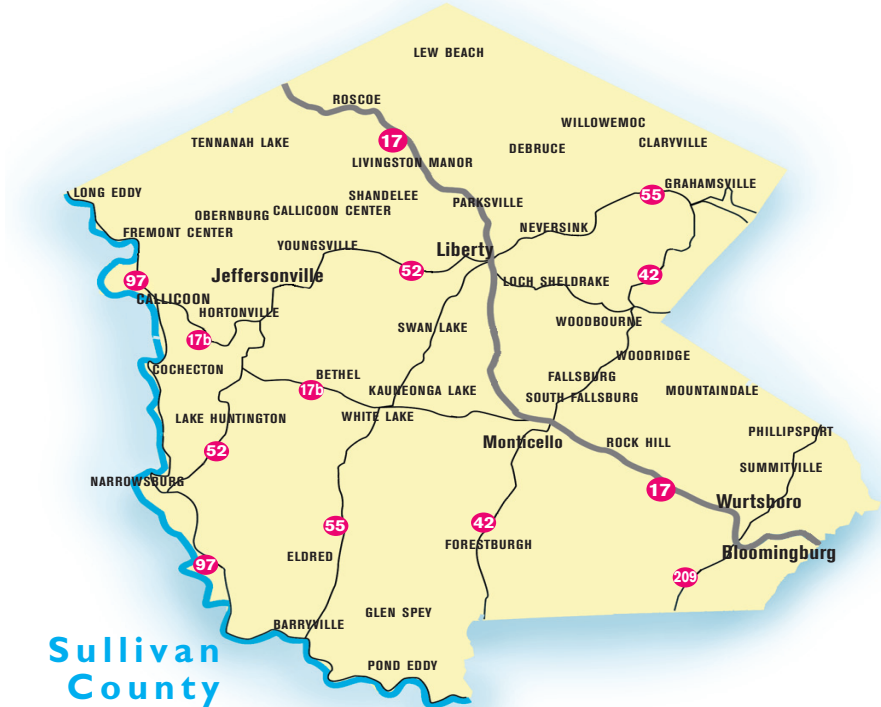
E.B. Crawford Public Library Program 6 p.m. 'Entertaining Stories and a Delectable Dish.' Johnny Ciao delivers this virtual presentation. The Culinary Rocker assembles a delicious dish as he shares excerpts and stories

from his 3rd book titled 'Eating Life'. He talks about the unique culinary experiences that he has had with many famous celebrities. Johnny explains how he was able to live one life all his life without any separation of work, play, family, music while enjoying himself throughout his 40 plus years as an entrepreneur in the entertainment world. From his desire, drive, determination, direction and discipline to respecting and loving his family and people from all walks of life, you will enjoy hearing his stories as he shows how to go about creating 'Fruit Boats', a delectable treat. This program, offered by the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, will be presented on ZOOM as well as on YouTube Live. Registration is required and is limited. Visit ebcpl.org, hover over 'Events' then click Adult Calendar to register.

Saturday, January 22

The Benefits of Beeswax 1 - 2:30 p.m. Back by popular demand! Discover how honeybees make wax, how they use it in their hive and how beeswax is harvested and prepared for candle making. Have fun creating your own hand-rolled beeswax candle and a beeswax lotion bar to soothe dry winter skin. Cost \$10 for supplies + \$5 admission (\$15/person). Mamakating Environmental Education Center, 762 South Rd, Wurtsboro. Call (845) 644-5014 to register. Mamakating Environmental Education Center, located near the unique and beautiful Bashakill wetland, is a community center supporting local history and environmental education.





Wednesday, January 26

Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties Lunch with a Judge 12:30 p.m. Please join us as our Lunch with a Judge series resumes! Featuring Hon. E. Loren Williams at Delancey's, Goshen. \$15 members/\$20 non-members. Please RSVP to rsvp@wbaosc.org.

Saturday, February 5

Delaware Highlands Conservancy Winter 2022 Eagle Watch Bus Tours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join the Conservancy on a guided eagle-viewing bus tour, scheduled on select weekends in January and February. Learn from an expert guide and take a scenic drive on a heated bus throughout the Upper Delaware River region to look for and learn about bald eagles and their habitat. All current COVID safety guidelines will be followed and masks will be required while riding on the bus. Seats on trips are limited and advance reservations are required, so reserve your space today for the following 2022 winter trips (Fee: \$15 for Conservancy members, \$25 for non-members). Get tickets online at www.DelawareHighlands.org/events or call 570-226-3164/845-583-1010. The trips commence at the Delaware Highlands Conservancy's Van Scott Nature Reserve in Beach Lake, PA. Dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, and snacks. Snow dates for the trips are the Sundays immediately following.

Check www.DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information. Refunds are not provided in the event of canceled reservations.

Saturday, February 12

Delaware Highlands Conservancy Winter 2022 Eagle Watch Bus Tours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join the Conservancy on a guided eagle-viewing bus tour, scheduled on select weekends in January and February. Learn from an expert guide and take a scenic drive on a heated bus throughout the Upper Delaware River region to look for and learn about bald eagles and their habitat. All current COVID safety guidelines will be followed and masks will be required while riding on the bus. Seats on trips are limited and advance reservations are required, so reserve your space today for the following 2022 winter trips (Fee: \$15 for Conservancy members, \$25 for non-members). Get tickets online at www.DelawareHighlands.org/events or call 570-226-3164/845-583-1010. The trips commence at the Delaware Highlands Conservancy's Van Scott Nature Reserve in Beach Lake, PA. Dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, and snacks. Snow dates for the trips are the Sundays immediately following. Check www.DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information. Refunds are not provided in the event of canceled reservations.



sullivancatskills



The pleasures of Winter! We walked an alpaca this morning. Then savored a cold one after a hike up Beer Mountain. And we topped off the day with fondue for two in a winter cabana. The Bomb!
**#sullivancatskills #sounexpected
#goodtastebeveragetrail #winterfun**

SULLIVAN
CATSKILLS

So Unexpected!



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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