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June 12th
Noon**

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26th ANNUAL



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20  **22**

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SULLIVAN COUNTY
Democrat

June 3, 2022
Callicoon, NY
Section C

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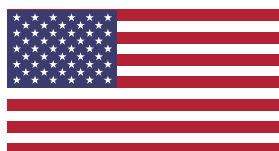


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Who: Local farmers and residents proudly parade their tractors along Callicoon's main thoroughfare

What: 26th Annual Callicoon Tractor Parade

When: Sunday, June 12, at noon

Where: Main St., Callicoon

Why: To celebrate the rich heritage of farming and agriculture in our community and to support the Delaware Youth Center!

Also on June 12

• Pancake Breakfast

Callicoon Fire Dept. Firehouse, Route 97 from 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

• Callicoon Farmers Market

Callicoon Creek Park, Dorrer Dr. from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

• Pork and Chicken Barbecue catered by The Ugly Smoker Pit BBQ

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Callicoon Tractor Parade rolls into 26th year

STORY AND PHOTO
BY SEAN KUHN

The Callicoon Tractor Parade takes place every year on the second Sunday of June. Starting at noon on June 12, hundreds of tractors will parade up and down Main Street from the Delaware Youth Center and back.

This year is going to be my first time seeing the parade so I spent the other day talking to folks around town to help get a feel for what the event is like (see what they had to say later on pages 10 and 14 of this special section).

To say the people of this little hamlet are excited is an understatement. Everyone I spoke to had great things to say about the annual event.

If you want to find parking in town, get there early. By the time noon rolls around, Main Street will

Continued on page 6T



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY GENE BURNS

Hortonville dairy farmer Dan Peters brought out his tractor and gave his lovely wife, Jackie, a ride in last year's Tractor Parade.

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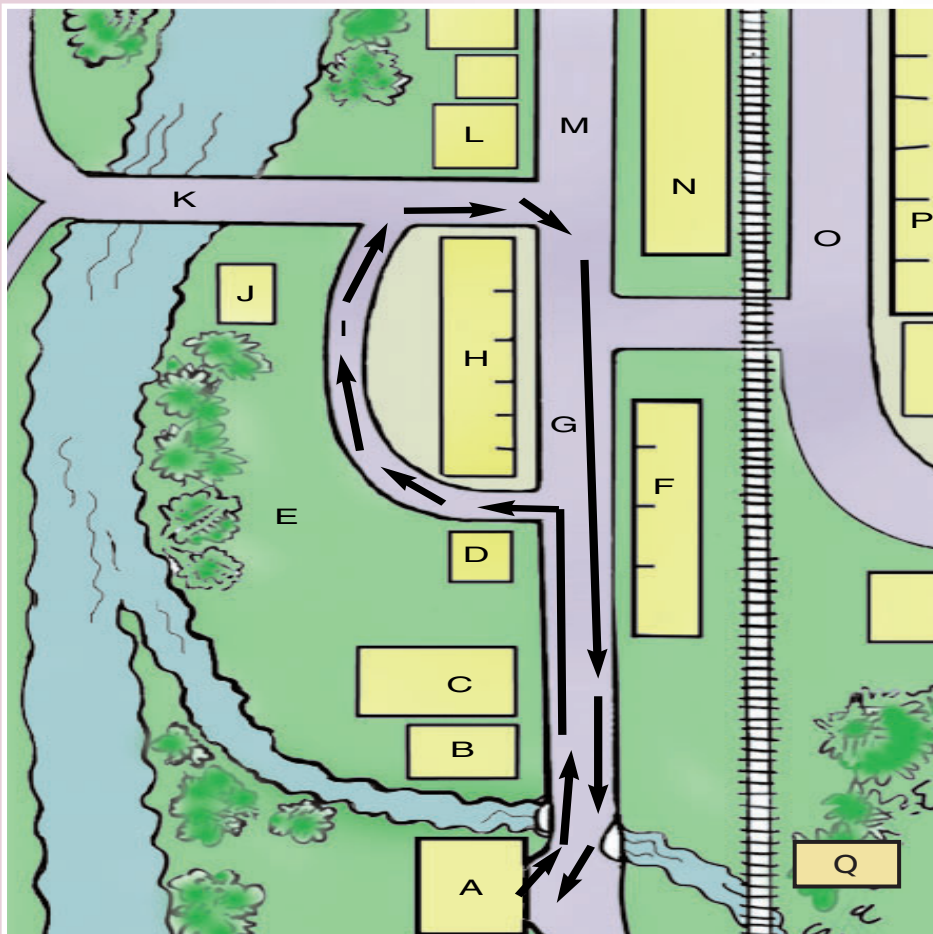
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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY GENE BURNS

2021 Grand Marshal enjoys the Tractor Parade

Ed Sykes of Callicoon was the Grand Marshal of the 2021 Callicoon Tractor Parade and enjoyed seeing many of his friends along the thoroughfare as he led the parade down Main St., Callicoon.



Callicoon & the Parade Route

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A Delaware Community Center | I Audley Dorrer Drive |
| B The Sullivan County Democrat office | J Callicoon Caffe |
| C Peck's Supermarket | K Bridge to Pennsylvania |
| D Laundromat | L Wayne Bank |
| E Callicoon Creek Park | M River Road |
| F Lower Main Street Businesses | N Train Depot |
| G Lower Main Street | O Upper Main Street |
| H Lower Main Street Businesses | P Upper Main Businesses |
| | Q Ollie Greys |

The parade route remains the same as it was in previous years.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3T

be packed with spectators.

In addition to the parade, itself, the Delaware Youth Center (DYC) will be having a pork and chicken barbeque from noon to three on the Youth Center field, and they'll be selling commemorative t-shirts. Shirts will be on sale in town and at the Youth Center. Proceeds will benefit the DYC.

Event coordinators ask that you follow the rules, and that parents keep a watchful eye on their little ones. More information on the rules and for anyone who wants to be in the parade can be found on the Delaware Youth Center website, www.delawareyouthcenter.org/tractor-parade/

Make it a day

While the parade is a spectacle in itself, make your trip to Callicoon an all-day event. The Callicoon Fire Department will be hosting a pancake breakfast from 7-11 a.m.

After breakfast, stop at some of the town's wonderful shops, and then find the perfect spot to watch the

parade.

Once it is finished, and you've purchased your commemorative t-shirt and BBQ, get back to shopping, and check out the Farmers Market ... maybe even sit in the park by the creek or take a walk down River Road.

If you want to take a break from the outdoors, you can also head down to see what is playing at the Callicoon Theater.

Following your walk or trip to the movies, head down to Rafter's Tavern, the Callicoon Wine Merchant, Peppino's Restaurant, Callicoon Creek Grill, Callicoon Wine Merchant, Catskill Provisions, the Western Hotel and/or the Callicoon Brewing Company for a drink.

And finally, after a day of adventure, who wants to go home and cook? Sit down for a meal or get some take-out from the many restaurants in town.

Whether you come once a year for the parade, or wish to visit the charming hamlet located on the Delaware River throughout the four seasons, adventure awaits.



Many residents come to the Callicoon Tractor Parade to see tractors of days gone by and the hard work their owners have done to restore them. Here Jim Soscie of Damascus, PA runs his 1953 Ford 8N in the parade.

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PHOTO BY
JEANNE SAGER

The faces of the crowd! Luke, 7; Claire, 2; and Logan Bacci, 5, were joined by North Branch's Michael Milano in watching last year's parade.





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'A Tradition to Honor the Farming Community'

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY GENE BURNS

The Annual Callicoon Tractor Parade BBQ at DYC attracts hundreds of people to enjoy the day.



PHOTO BY SEAN KUHN

The Tractor Parade is sponsored by the Delaware Youth Center, with event proceeds benefiting the community staple.

Delaware Youth Center back in full swing

STORY BY SEAN KUHN

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO BY GENE BURNS

These last two years have been tough on everybody. The Covid-19 pandemic hit everyone, but possibly no one was harder hit than small businesses and local non-profit organizations.

In 2020, the Delaware Youth Center had to shut down all their usual summer activities, including fundraising opportunities like the Tractor Parade, which went virtual. The youth center also missed out on equipment rentals and membership fees throughout 2020 and much of 2021.

The Delaware Youth Center does not receive state or federal dollars and is funded entirely by the generosity of the community. The Tractor Parade and 5k River Run are major sources of income for the youth center, and cover much of their operating costs for the year.

Christina Mace, member of the Delaware Youth Center Board of Directors told the **Sullivan County Democrat** that, "We are so, so grateful for the generosity from the members of our community."

Last year, the Delaware Youth Center was back up and running, but only after a delayed start to their summer programs. Now, the summer of 2022, the Delaware Youth Center is in full swing.

The Delaware Youth Center's Grover Hermann Hall is a great place for weddings, graduation parties, sweet sixteens, class reunions, anniversaries and more. Outside is a pool, playground, tennis courts, basketball court, skate park, and baseball/soccer fields complete with grandstand seating.

Use of the facility requires a membership to the Delaware Youth Center, or a \$5 day fee. More information can be found online or by emailing info@delawareyouthcenter.org

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Word on the street

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SEAN KUHN

With another tractor parade on the horizon, the Sullivan County Democrat asked local business owners and personalities what they thought of the annual event.



Left: Thomas Freda of Freda Real Estate is a big fan of the annual tractor parade. He is fascinated by the different tractors and the people driving them. "These are farm kids!" he said. Mr. Freda recommends you arrive early if you want a parking spot. "It's a spectacle, an absolute spectacle!"

Right: Claire Marin, owner of the Catskill Provisions Distillery, loves the nostalgia the parade brings to town. "You're gonna have such a good time."



Left: Leila McCullough at Wool Worth says she loves the tractor parade. She's been to every parade since moving to the area and her sons have gone since they were born. "It's exciting and fun for the whole family."

Right: Leanne Cuiffo, co-owner of The Kitchen Table Café, says, "It's good family fun."

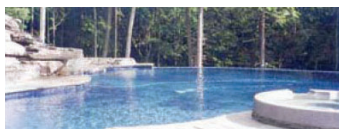


Left: Walter Roemer of the Callicoon Brewery says, "It's good for the community and it shows an appreciation for our history."

PLEASE SEE **WORD ON THE STREET**, 14T

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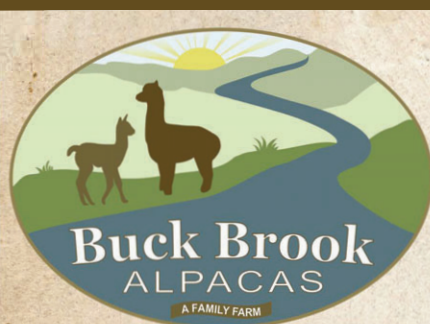


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PHOTOS BY JEANNE SAGER

Marissa Hoover, sister of Tractor Parade organizer Katrina Graby, came into town with son Nathan to show her hometown pride.



Tractors make their way around the bend up Bridge Street through the smoke from a pipe stack.



Green tractors are popular in the parade every year -- from Olivers like this one to John Deeres.



Phil Long, a Beechwoods farmer, brought his Farmall to town for the festivities.



Rich Cucci of Callicoon didn't have to drive far to join the parade.



SCENES FROM LAST YEAR'S Callicoon Tractor Parade

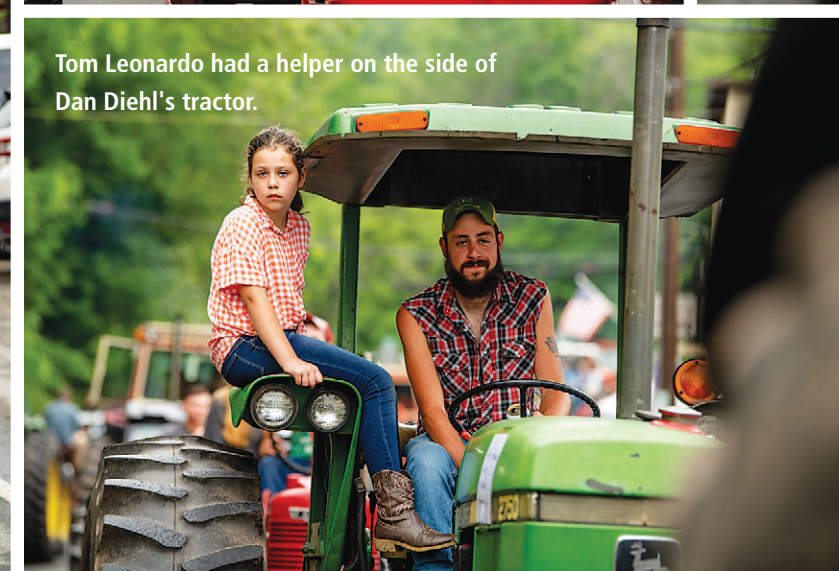
Mike Schwartz of Jeff brought a Bronco to last year's parade.



Bob Head of Callicoon hauled grand-kids on the back of his tractor.



Tom Leonardo had a helper on the side of Dan Diehl's tractor.



Lynn Highhouse points to the crowd from his seat on one of Bill Pykus' giant John Deeres.



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WORD ON THE STREET

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 10T



Left: David and Lori Tew, owners of Spruce Home Goods say, "It's a fun event for the whole community." As a new store in town only established 4 years ago, David Tew called it a "unique event to Callicoon" and he's happy to have folks come every year and experience the parade. Lori called it "a wonderful time for people to come to celebrate our community's history."

Right: Tom Bosket told us about how the old weight station gets crowded with spectators for the parade. "I like seeing all the kids. There are so many young farmers. It's wonderful!"



Left: Paola Tawa of PAO! Shop & Studio says, "It's a fun event that brings out and unifies a diverse crowd."



Right: Gene Burns of Riverside Remedies called it a unique event with a huge turnout. Dr. Burns is a big car guy and loves all the old tractors. He noted that many of the tractors that are still in use today have long outlived other technology of the time, specifically cars. Many tractors, and farm equipment in general gets passed from generation to generation. You can't do that with your '68 Chevy.

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PHOTO BY JEANNE SAGER

Bill Pykus of Honesdale always guarantees a showing of John Deere green with his sea of tractors trucked over the river from PA.

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PHOTO BY JEANNE SAGER
 Charlie Hoag of Livingston Manor brought his 1959 Ford to Callicoon.

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PHOTO BY JEANNE SAGER

J.T. Schick came down from
Obernburg to join this year's
event.



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Gunther to serve as grand marshal

BY JOSEPH ABRAHAM

A familiar face will be leading the Callicoon Tractor Parade later this month, and that person is New York State Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther. “I’m very thrilled to be part of the tractor parade and to be the Grand Marshal,” she said. “I can’t wait to be sitting on my tractor. We need some happy moments and that’ll be a happy moment for me.”

Dave Weiss will be lending the Assemblywoman his tractor for the parade.

Gunther said Weiss is “brilliant and has a great story,” speaking fondly of conversations she and her staff have had with him.

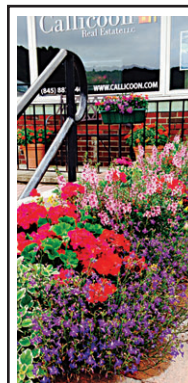
She has attended the parade several times in the past 15-18 years and said it’s so much fun watching the tractors go by and talking with all the attendees.

“It’s just a fun day ... to see everybody get out and get together,” said Gunther. “Also, a lot of times during the summer you never see farmers because they are so busy working, and you get to see all of them and the amazing tractors that they have ... some of the antiques. I enjoy it.”

Referencing the recent tragic events in Buffalo and Texas that have so many hurting across the nation, Gunther talked about the importance of events like the tractor parade.

“It’s what we need to do right now,” said Gunther, “to come together as a community.”

DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO
Aileen Gunther speaking at a past event.



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The Callicoon Tractor Parade still rolling!

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12th Annual

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Community Yard Sale

Saturday & Sunday

September 17th & 18th, 2022

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PHOTO BY JEANNE SAGER

Kyle Kerber and Amy Kays throw up big waves from the seat of Larry Kerber's 1973 John Deere.

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PHOTOS BY JEANNE SAGER

At right: Dylan Card drove in on a tractor from the 1940s.

Below: Brian Hubbert dragged a wagon full of family members behind his tractor.



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PHOTOS BY JEANNE SAGER

Isabella Kutschera, 10, and
sister Callie (background)
were last year's official
tractor counters.



Jenny Phelps
sports a sassy
shirt while
watching her
kids in the
parade.



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