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Volume 22
Number 7

HOLIDAY 2022

light
up
the
season



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ON THE COVER

The holidays bring a feeling of coziness and warmth. It's a time for colorful lights, Christmas decor, and lots of spirit.

Please see our story inside on page 17.

Autumn Schanil photo



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holiday lights & winter sights

It's time to light up the season. The Sullivan Catskills make for a warm and cozy holiday getaway as you walk our charming light-filled Main Streets, delight in a community Christmas tree or menorah lighting, and sit by a roaring fireplace.

Stay warm at one of our many lodging options, from cabins stacked with a king size bed and all of the essentials to enchanting inns and bed and breakfasts, to full-service resorts. We truly have something for everyone so you can plan your holiday vacation.

Gather the family and head to Peace, Love and Lights at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. Spanning across the winter season beginning just after Thanksgiving until New Year's Day, experience drive-thru holiday winter lights on the Bethel Woods grounds from the comfort of your car.

And there are many more holiday events throughout the season—from festive parades to the Dance of the Lights at Canal Towne Emporium in Wurtsboro, to Dickens on the Delaware in Callicoon.

We have tons of family fun for the winter. Enjoy the great outdoors while you snowshoe down a scenic snow-filled path. Or, visit

one of our ski parks, perfect for kids and families where you can also snowboard and snow tube down the slopes!

Warm up with a drink at one of our cideries, breweries, distilleries, or wineries. Find them all on our Good Taste Craft Beverage Trail, featuring over a dozen locations. Grab some friends and try them out, but please drink responsibly and designate a driver.

Our winter wonderland is filled with scenic sights, from rivers to mountains and our population of bald eagles. You'll want to explore it all. Bundle up and breathe in that fresh air.

Dazzle in the lights of our shops while you shop local for the holidays. From locally-made crafts, to clothing, to antiques our proprietors, as well as holiday pop-up markets, are ready for you to find the perfect gift. We love to support our Sullivan Catskills business community and hope you do too.

Please visit our website, www.sullivan-catskills.com, to begin planning your itinerary. For more information call the Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association at 845-747-4449 or visit us as at 15 Sullivan Ave., Liberty, NY 12754. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @sullivancatskills.



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Take a step back in time to the Victorian Era at the annual Dickens on the Delaware in Callicoon on Saturday, December 10th from noon til 8pm. A day of strolling carolers, festive lights, holiday trees and wreaths, the small hamlet of Callicoon is turned into a magical, winter wonderland.

Shopkeepers at local stores, restaurants, and galleries will be dressed in Victorian garb, dazzling visitors with holiday cheer and holiday goods. There will be street performances by local musicians and theatre groups, outdoor vendors and crafters, a

chance to dress up as a favorite Dickens character or in Victorian costume for photos, as well as horse & buggy rides and plenty of activities for the kids.

Shops in the hamlet will be open until 8pm displaying holiday lights and decor, along with fire pits in the center of town, hot chocolate, eggnog, and spiced wine to keep you warm while watching evening dance performances.

It's a day of small town holiday shopping, good eating, and enjoyment that leaves you excited for the next year.



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Canal Towne Emporium is a delight to walk through. Room after room is filled with treasures and treats, handcrafted wares, and a little bit of something for everyone. From decorated Christmas trees to snowglobes and children's toys, to ceramic tea pots and hand blown glass ornaments.



story and photos
by Autumn Schanil

wrapped up in the holidays

Each year the Holidays seem to circle back around quicker than expected, and before you know it it's time for sweaters and scarves, planning family dinners, cooking and baking, and gift giving.

Until the snow blankets the world in

white, it can be difficult to get into the spirit, but a trip to a unique shop in Wurtsboro just might change that.

Every year, Canal Towne Emporium transforms into a shop of Christmas wonders full of holiday decor and brilliant lights that sparkle and shine into the evening hours.



Christmas trees are on display twinkling with tinsel, unique ornaments, and colorful lights along with snow globes, candy canes, and stockings sure to inspire.

"It's truly one of my favorite times of the year," said Owner Lyman Holmes. "The shop

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HOLIDAY 2022

HOLIDAY 2022





As you walk through the door of Canal Towne Emporium your eyes are met with colors and textures and gifts that are unlikely to be found anywhere else. From artisans both local and around the country, it's easy to walk through the shop and have your arms full of unique items by the time you get to the check out counter.





continued from page 15

is transformed into a magnificent and magical Christmas Shoppe. It's wonderful to see the joy on people's faces as they walk in."

Holmes' family has owned the building since the late 1800's but Canal Towne Emporium wasn't officially opened until 1976, fueled by the inspiration of Doris Holmes with the desire to offer quality handcrafted items from crafters and artisans, both local and from around the country.

The store has changed and expanded over the years, now with over 200 American artisans or studios on the shelves of the shop. You can find anything from pottery and wooden toys, to jewelry, wind chimes, and hats. They even have an old time candy wall and a pickle barrel to pick your own

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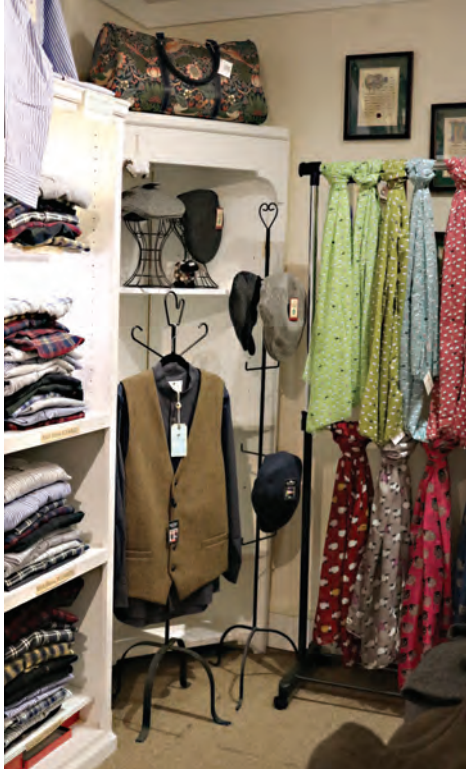


continued from page 17

pickles.

Even though the “Christmas Shoppe” is year round in one section of the store, during the holidays, Christmas is seen and felt throughout. You’ll find carolers, hand painted ornaments, snow villages, santas, nut crackers, wreaths, trains, candy, light displays and so much more. Inspiration abounds and you can easily find yourself humming to the music while checking off your list of loved ones to buy for.

The Emporium is currently open Thursday through Tuesday 10am to 5pm, and closed on Wednesdays. So if you find yourself needing a little bit of cheer and magic, stop in and shop around.



Canal Towne Emporium

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Open
Thursday-
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10AM-5PM



Clothing like vests, hats, ties, scarves, button-downs, sweaters, boots and more can also be found at the Emporium just a doorway away from the extravagant displays of tiny Christmas towns with ice skating rinks, donut shops, snow covered hills, and trains.



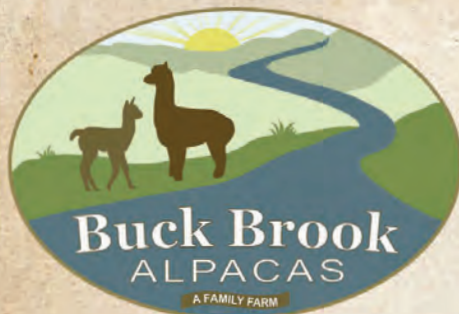
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story and photos by Autumn Schanil

a doorway to indulgence



The large red doors of the Bethel Market Cafe lead you to fresh bagels in glass jars, a variety of baked goods, bags of whole coffee beans, and a menu with flavorful plates that leave you satisfied. But one of the best things to warm up around the holidays is a cup of their creamy hot chocolate with whipped cream and a drizzle of chocolate.

With fingers gripping the iron handle and your thumb pressed down on the latch, the large

red door of the Bethel Market Cafe opens inward, inviting you to take a step inside. Your foot is greeted with a gentle creak of the wooden floor, and as your senses adjust, you pause.

It's well known that smells have the power to transport us to precise moments of our childhood, invoking emotions and memories.

The smells of the cafe are like a grandmother's kitchen at Christmas time. Not the smell of pine or peppermint, but a sweet scent that is also somehow warm, like a combination of cinnamon, honey, butter, and coffee.

Smiles of the staff greet you as you take a seat, are handed a menu, and are asked what you'd like to drink.

The cafe, owned by Tara Brust since 2016, had a history of once being a country store and later a pizzeria, but is now a moth-





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er - daughter duo between Brust and her daughter Courtney Raven as a beloved cafe for locals and visitors alike.

Most people call Brust "Mom," which you'll understand once you meet her. She's just as warm as the smells that surround you in the Cafe.

"I've always loved to bake," said Brust, "and I always dreamed of having a place like this."

Whether you're there for a Farmer's Plate breakfast, the House-made Veggie Burger or Far Out Soup for lunch, one thing is certain

... you can't stand in front of the array of sweets at the counter and not try or take home one of the many home-baked pastries, cookies, or pies. It feels like there is love infused in every bite.

And now that the holiday season is upon us, a hot mug of their hot chocolate is a must. Topped with whipped cream and a chocolate drizzle, it's the perfect sip to have with a





Seasonal gifts and locally crafted items fill the shelves inside the cafe, while home made muffins, breads, scones, bars, cookies, pies, and tarts invite you to the central counter, making it hard to leave without taking a few things home. Their Posse Bites are a favorite treat along with their famous cupcake cakes that can be ordered for any special occasion.

scone or banana bread.

Brust and Raven also have a knack for decor, decorating the inside walls of the cafe with both seasonal gifts and unique everyday items for sale like throw pillows, books, and handcrafted wares from local artisans.

So if you're popping in for a bite to eat, make sure you grab a pastry and a gift on the way out.

The Bethel Market Cafe's winter hours from Columbus Day through Memorial Day are Thursday to Monday 7:30AM - 3:00PM, closed Tuesday and Wednesday.



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