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# Catskills

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Volume 24  
Number 8

SPRING 2025

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# Catskills

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## ON THE COVER

March is the seam between winter and spring, hanging between gusts of wind and the awakening of nature, and April is the steady move forward towards sunlight and forsythia blossoms.

Autumn Schanil photo

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# dear friends of the Sullivan Catskills

As we inch closer to spring, the Sullivan Catskills is buzzing with exciting new experiences, seasonal traditions, and can't-miss events. With fresh snow still on the ground, Holiday Mountain remains the perfect spot for a family-friendly day of skiing, snowboarding, and tubing. Cozy up at one of our charming inns with a warm drink by the fire, or take a scenic winter hike through our stunning landscapes. Whether you're gliding across the ice, enjoying a fireside craft cocktail, or taking in the crisp mountain air, winter in the Catskills isn't over yet—so make the most of it while you can!

One of the newest and most exciting additions to the Sullivan Catskills is geocaching on the Dove Trail! Now, as you explore the colorful, hand-painted dove sculptures that celebrate the legacy of Woodstock, you can also take part in a geocaching adventure—combining history, art, and a bit of treasure hunting.

For those who love to golf year-round, we have fantastic news—Topgolf is now available at Resorts World Catskills! No

matter the weather, you can perfect your swing in a fun and interactive setting, making it the perfect activity for golfers of all skill levels.

Spring in the Catskills also means it's time for maple syrup season! Join us for Maple Weekend on March 22nd-23rd and 29th-30th. If you're a foodie, mark your calendar for Hudson Valley Restaurant Week, taking place from March 31st to April 13th. This is your chance to experience the region's finest dining with exclusive prix fixe menus at some of the Sullivan Catskills' best restaurants.

And of course, trout season kicks off in April, bringing anglers from near and far to the legendary rivers and streams of the Catskills. Whether you're an experienced fly-fisher or trying it for the first time, there's no better place to cast a line than the birthplace of American fly-fishing.

Snowshoeing, hiking, and cozy fireside moments await you, whether you're looking for a quiet escape or a family outing- and with plenty of pet-friendly accommodations, it's easy to bring along your furry friends!



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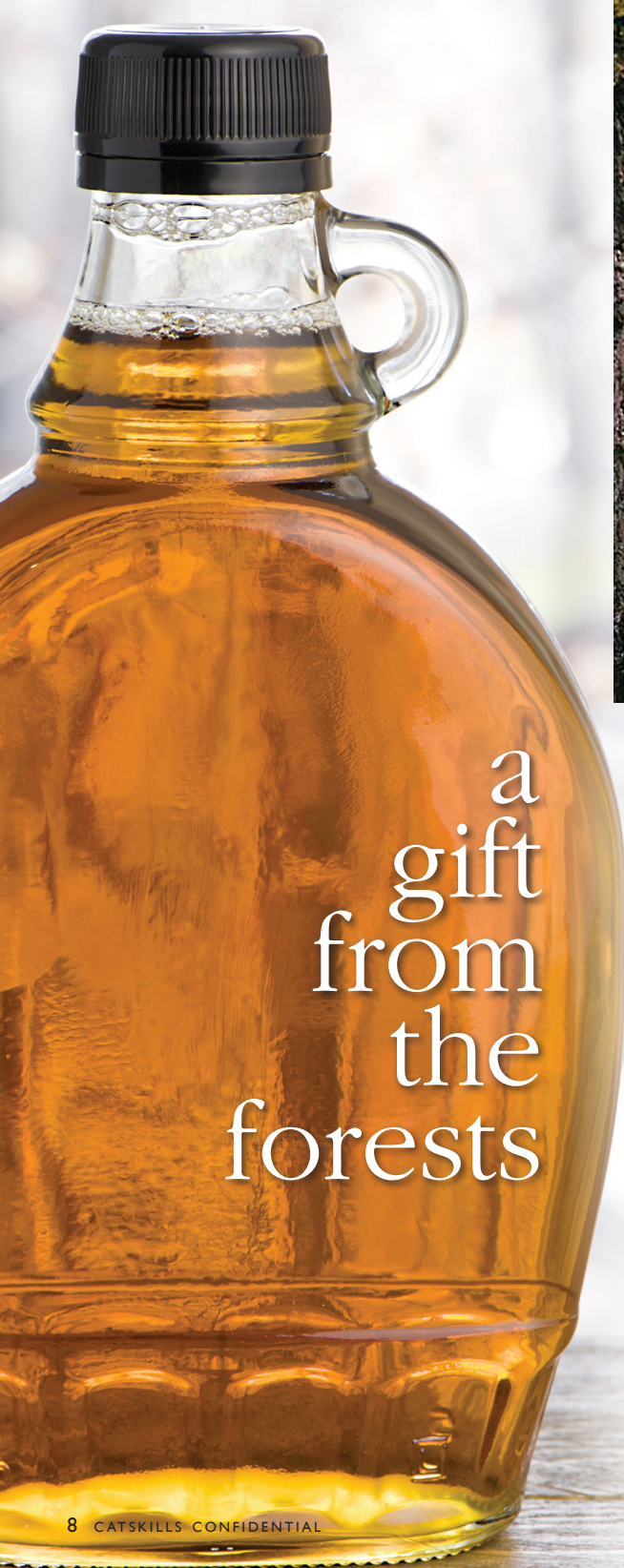
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# a gift from the forests

Long before sap houses and maple sugar farms came into being, Indigenous tribes were tapping sugar maple trees, transforming the sap and consuming the amber syrup as a sweetener, as medicine, and as a way to recognize the coming of Spring. Our ancestors, our great grandparents, and our grandparents followed.

Maple syrup production has come a long way since then from hanging aluminum buckets on the trees to collect the sap, to plastic lines that connect and run downhill to a larger collection tank, and timing is everything.

The season to collect sap is short, and sweet. A tap can only be successful if the temperatures during the

SPRING, 2025



day are above freezing and then drop to below freezing at night. This is when the sap runs the best, and the clearest, and for the Catskills that means only about 5 to 6 weeks between February and March.

Once the sap is collected, it's then filtered and boiled to a desired thickness. A gallon of sap roughly yields about four ounces of syrup, depending.

Plenty of farms in the Catskills make and sell maple syrup like Diehl Homestead Farm in Callicoon and Catskill Mountain Sugarhouse in Grahamsville. But plenty of others tap the trees on their own properties, making syrup for themselves, or their family and friends, passing down the tradition through the generations.

So while you're here in Spring watching as life begins to bloom again, be sure to stop in a market and grab a local maple syrup. It's a flavor you won't forget.

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**William Schanil of Obernburg has been tapping trees and cooking sap most of his life, passing the tradition onto his children and grandchildren. Over time he has perfected the flavor it yields by cooking the sap over a wood fire, giving the final product a sweet yet smoky flavor that is good enough to eat by the spoonful.**





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## Editor's Homemade Maple Syrup Dressing

I've never been one to follow exact measurements in recipes. I suppose that comes from years of watching my Grandmother and my Mom work their baking and cooking magic by just adding a pinch of this and a pinch of that, taking a taste, and then adding a little bit more. So if you're a no-measure kind of person, try this out and work it to your taste!

For a personal salad:

- In a small bowl start pouring in your olive oil (It probably ends up being about 1/4 of a cup)
  - Next add in your local, pure Maple Syrup (mine is from my Grandfather)
    - I usually pour in a little less than half the amount of the olive oil
  - Add a good squirt of your favorite spicy brown mustard
  - Half a lemon
  - A good spritz of water
  - A pinch of salt, and a pinch of pepper
- Stir it all up until it looks smooth. Taste it. Adjust according to what you like!

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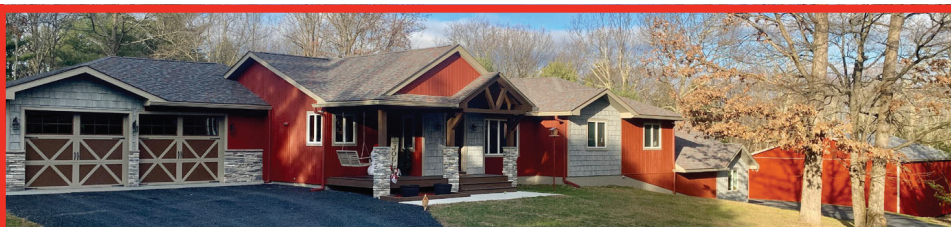


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## unique setting...

Inside what was once a bank on Main Street in Roscoe, now resides The Spotted Cow Cafe & Grill, serving up breakfast, lunch, and a light dinner. If you've ever been to Roscoe, you know you can't miss the grandness of the outside of the building with its stonework and large windows. That beauty is echoed on the inside too, with high ceilings and hanging glass light fixtures. It's bright, airy, and full of delicious smells -

continued on page 14

## delicious eats

story and photos  
by Autumn Schanil



Warm glowing lights beckon you inside where coffee, sweet treats, or plates like the Signature Spread with hummus, tirokafteri, tzatziki, and taramosalata dips paired with toasted pita await you.





## Spotted Cow Cafe & Grill

43 Stewart Ave  
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Open Thurs - Mon

The space has an elegance that pairs well with dishes like the grilled halloumi, or a casualness that feels just right with a deliciously messy burger in hand.



continued from page 13

it's the perfect place to dine, whether for a casual morning cappuccino or an evening get together.

Opening the door and walking up, you encounter a service counter with desserts and sweet treats on display. There are tables to the right in front of the windows and more seating beyond that. You may see your neighbor, people visiting for the weekend, or people coming in to pick up an order they called in. There is a vibrant, comfortable energy that pulses throughout.

Although the menu is diverse, it has more of a brunch-like feel than dinner, which we personally love. They offer a variety of breakfast dishes along with classic American plates and sides, but more exciting is their Greek specialties like grilled halloumi, a hummus and pita spread, chicken or pork gyros and souvlaki's, and greek fries. Their campfire smash burger, cobb salad, and lentil soup are also a hit.

If you're not in the mood for a full meal, you can order a milkshake, juice, or a frothy caramel latte. They have biscotti, biscuits, and yogurt parfaits. No matter your craving, it's sure to satisfy your taste buds.

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The first cast of the season is always well attended, with both locals and distant travelers coming to welcome spring, honor heritage, and

show appreciation for nature. Experts like Jeff Phelan, and newcomers Lieutenant Governor of NY Antonio Delgado taking a lesson.

*story and photos  
by Autumn Schanil*

# fly fishing mania starts with the first cast

It's hard to be sure exactly where fly fishing began, as documentation throughout history is a bit sporadic, but there are references that date it back to the 1400s in England, and the 1800s right here in the Catskill Mountains.

Writer Theodore Gordon, who many refer to as the "Father of American School of Dry Fly Fishing", spent much of his time in the cool waters of the Beaverkill River and the

Willowemoc Creek, developing new methods of fly fishing and altering traditional imported flies to better resemble the insects of our region. It was during this time that Roscoe seemingly earned the nickname of "Trout Town USA."

If you've ever had the privilege of seeing an experienced fly fisherman in the river, it's like a silent dance. A connection between body, line, and water.

photo courtesy of Time and Valleys Museum

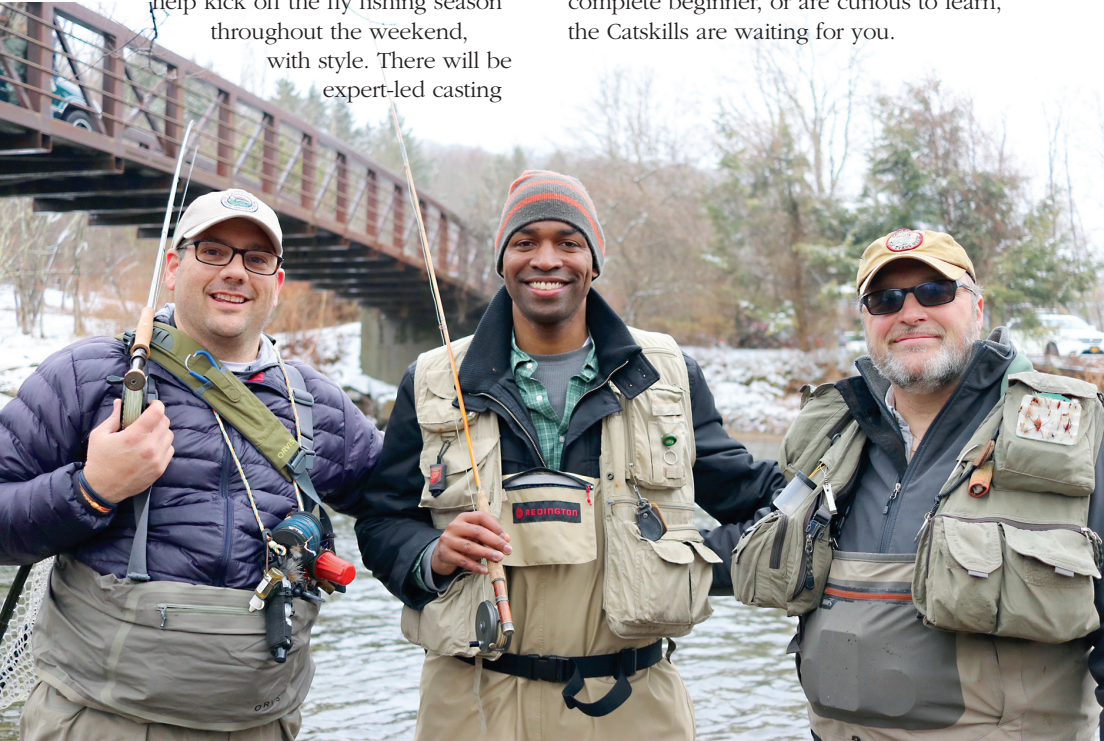


Since the 1940s, the anticipated start to trout season officially begins with the First Cast on April 1st at Junction Pool in Roscoe, where the Beaverkill and the Willowemoc meet, followed by an Opening Day Celebration (this year on April 5) at The Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum in Livingston Manor.

In further celebration, other events help kick off the fly fishing season throughout the weekend, with style. There will be expert-led casting

lessons by the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers and hands-on fly tying lessons by the Catskill Fly Tyers at Catskill Brewery, the Trout About Town scavenger hunt hosted by the Livingston Manor Chamber of Commerce, the 64th Annual Two Headed Trout Dinner at the Rockland House in Roscoe, and more.

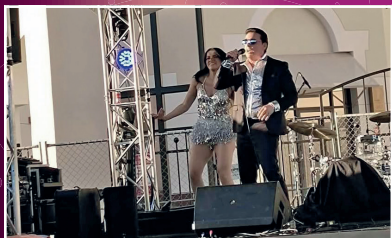
Whether you're a seasoned fly fisherman ready for wading in the spring waters, a complete beginner, or are curious to learn, the Catskills are waiting for you.





# TRY OUR FAMOUS

## Luncheons & Matinee Specials



**Tuesday, April 29**

### Caesar's Extravaganza

Starring Biagio

10am-2pm

Four-Course Luncheon served in Main Dining Room at noon with a carafe of wine followed by performance at 2pm in the Forum Night Club



**Monday, May 5**

### Neil Diamond Tribute Show

Starring Tommy Lynn and One Hot Night

10am-2pm

Four-Course Luncheon served in Main Dining Room at noon with a carafe of wine followed by performance at 2pm in the Forum Night Club



**Tuesday, May 20**

### Fleetwood Mac Tribute Show

Starring Fleetwood Macked

10am-2pm

Four-Course Luncheon served in Main Dining Room at noon with a carafe of wine followed by performance at 2pm in the Forum Night Club



**Wednesday, May 28**

### Shake Rattle & Roll Band

10am-2pm

Four-Course Luncheon served in Main Dining Room at noon with a carafe of wine followed by performance at 2pm in the Forum Night Club

In addition to above itinerary, all shows include the use of the indoor pool & jacuzzi, game room, fitness center & daily activity schedule

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# good news

## CALENDAR

SPRING 2025

### Saturday, March 15

DVAA presents its 2025 Salon Series:

**"Conversations In Chi"** with Jane Ira Bloom and Kazzrie Jaxen. Starts at 2PM. Krause Recital Hall, DVAA 2nd floor, 37 Main St., Narrowsburg, NY. Free and open to the public.

**"How different species raise and care for their babies" program** hosted by Delaware Highlands Conservancy, 571 Perkins Pond Rd, Beach Lake, PA, from 1pm to 2pm. This program is suitable for all ages. Registration fee is \$5 for Conservancy members; \$10 for non-members; kids 12 and under free. Events require advance registration. For program details and to register, please visit [www.DelawareHighlands.org/events](http://www.DelawareHighlands.org/events) or call Education and Volunteer Coordinator Rachel Morrow at 570-226-3164 ext. 2.

**Family Movie Night** at the Jeffersonville Branch Library. Watch a family-friendly Academy Award nominated film, accompanied by craft activities for kids. Doors open at 5pm, film will begin at 5:30pm. Snacks, popcorn and pizza provided at this FREE event. To register visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org).

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. Read "Berry Song" in shop windows around town, maps and activity guides at the library and Callicoon Marketplace. Return your completed guide at the library for a special prize. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

### Sunday, March 16

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

### Monday, March 17

**Seat Reservation Deadline** for D&H Canal Bus Tour on March 29. \$45 per person. To reserve seats, contact DHTHC Secretary Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or [laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org) by Monday, March 17.

**Teen Tech Time**, for teens looking to expand their technology skills at the Tusten-Cochecton Branch from 4-5pm, Visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com) to sign up.

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

### Tuesday, March 18

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**Classics Book Club** will meet at 4pm at the Delaware Free Branch, Callicoon, to discuss 1984 by George Orwell. For more information visit [www.WSPLonline.org](http://www.WSPLonline.org).

### Wednesday, March 19

**Free "Conservation Conversations" Webinar** hosted by Delaware Highlands Conservancy from 5:30pm to 6:30pm via Zoom. The event is free, but prior registration is required. To learn more and register, visit [www.DelawareHighlands.org/events/](http://www.DelawareHighlands.org/events/) or call 570-226-3164.

**Conservation Conversations \*Zoom Event\*** presented by Delaware Highlands Conservancy, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Event requires advance registration. For program details and to register, please visit [www.DelawareHighlands.org/events/](http://www.DelawareHighlands.org/events/) or call Education and Volunteer Coordinator Rachel Morrow at 570-226-3164 ext. 2.

**Let's Play!** A play group where you can play, socialize and connect, 10:15am at Delaware Free Branch. Registration required [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**Cricut Machine Meet-up** at the Western Sullivan Public Library, Jeffersonville branch at 5:30pm. Discuss your machine's capabilities and share the latest tips and





tricks. For more information visit [www.wsplonline.org](http://www.wsplonline.org).

### Thursday, March 20

**DVAA hosts Sage Sessions.** Games will be the theme, we have plenty of cards and board games. Better yet, bring your own favorite game and teach a friend! The Sage Sessions are FREE and no registration is required. Anyone 60 years or more living in Tusten or the surrounding area is welcome. Free parking is available on the street and next to the post office on Main Street, Narrowsburg.

**Playwrighting** with Melissa Bell and Mark Dunau at Farm Arts Collective Agri-Cultural Center from 6pm to 8pm. Participants can come to one workshop or to all. All workshops are pay-what-you-can. For more information visit [www.farmartscollective.org](http://www.farmartscollective.org).

**Virtual Author Talk Series** presented by Mamakating Library. This session will be: "How Women's Liberation Transformed America" by author Clara Bingham, at 2pm EST. All events are free and open to the public. For more information or to register for the author talks, visit <https://library.org/mamakatinglibrary> or call (845) 888-8004.

**Guided StoryWalk Tour**, 1:00 pm starting at the Delaware Free Branch.

**Alchemy Poets** at Liberty Public Library at 1:00pm. Local poetry writers' group meets monthly and offers encouraging and constructive feedback for the new and experienced writer. No registration required.

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar

at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

### Wednesday, March 21

**Adapting to change program** hosted by Delaware Highlands Conservancy at the Van Scott Nature Reserve, 571 Perkins Pond Rd, Beach Lake, PA, from 1pm to 2:30pm. This program is best suited to older children and adults. Registration fee is \$10 for Conservancy members; \$15 for non-members; kids 12 and under \$5. Event requires advance registration. For program details and to register, please visit [www.DelawareHighlands.org/events](http://www.DelawareHighlands.org/events) or call Education and Volunteer Coordinator Rachel Morrow at 570-226-3164 ext. 2.

**New Homeschool Group**, Jeffersonville Branch, at 11am for a new bi-monthly meetup. Parents can socialize while kids join Miss C for a fun, all-ages educational activity, [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. Read "Berry Song" in shop windows around town, maps and activity guides at the library and Callicoon Marketplace. Return your completed guide at the library for a special prize. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

### Saturday, March 22

**DVAA presents its 2025 Salon Series:** Resounding Women: Music of Chaminade, Clarke, and Shaw" performed by the Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra.



Starts at 2 PM. Krause Recital Hall, DVAA 2nd floor, 37 Main St., Narrowsburg, NY. Free and open to the public.

**Hand Quilting** for Beginners Workshop hosted by the Liberty Public Library for National Quilt Month. At 189 North Main St., Liberty, NY 12754 starting at 1pm. Advance registration is required through our online event calendar or at the front desk or by calling 845-292-6070. The workshop is free for adults and teens whom are comfortable with using a sewing needle.

**Wandering Invaders: The Movement of Invasive Species program** hosted by Delaware Highlands Conservancy at the Van Scott Nature Reserve, 571 Perkins Pond Rd, Beach Lake, PA, from 1pm to 2:30pm. Registration fee is \$10 for Conservancy members; \$15 for non-members; kids 12 and under \$5. Event requires advance registration. For program details and to register, please visit [www.DelawareHighlands.org/events](http://www.DelawareHighlands.org/events) or call Education and Volunteer Coordinator Rachel Morrow at 570-226-3164 ext. 2.

**2nd annual Spaghetti Dinner** hosted by the Hankins-Fremont Ladies Auxiliary at 20 Newman Hill Rd, Hankins from 4-8 PM. Adults \$15. Children under 10, \$10. Tickets at the door. 50/50 raffle.

**StoryWalk** along Lower Main St, Callicoon starting at the Delaware Free Branch. To sign up visit the calendar at [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org). For questions reach out to Callison at [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**Podcasting Club** at the Tusten-Cochecton Library branch from 10am-12pm. Lunch will be provided. Visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com) to sign up.

**Craft Lovers** at the Sullivan Western Public Library at the Delaware Free Branch, Callicoon from 4-6pm. Learn how to make macrame rainbows. For more information visit [www.wsplonline.org](http://www.wsplonline.org).

**Board Game Day** from 10am-1pm at the Western Sullivan Public Library Jeffersonville branch. For more information visit [www.wsplonline.org](http://www.wsplonline.org).

**Resounding Women** presented as part of the DVAA Salon Series. Music of Chaminade, Shaw and Clarke, 2pm at Krause Recital Hall, 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg. Free concert, no reservation needed. For more information call 845-798-9006.

## Sunday, March 23

**Nostalgic film viewing: The Sandlot**, starting at 4pm, presented by Tusten Social's Cozy Movie Club in partnership with the DVAA, at 108 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY. This is a free community event, first come, first serve seating. Bring your own lawn chair and blanket. Free popcorn and hot chocolate with select items for sale.

**Resounding Women** presented as part of the DVAA Salon Series. Music of Chaminade, Shaw and Clarke, 3pm at Landfield Avenue Synagogue, 18 Landfield Avenue, Monticello. Free concert. Reservations encouraged. Reserve by visiting <https://linktr.ee/nesinculturalarts>.

## Monday, March 24

**Teen Tech Time**, for teens looking to expand their technology skills at the Tusten-Cochecton Branch from 4-5pm. Visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com) to sign up.

## Tuesday, March 25

**Mystery Zoom** happens on the last Tuesday of every month through October where participants guess the theme based on clues and questions. To learn more, contact the Delaware Highlands Conservancy. For information 570-226-3164 or [bethany@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:bethany@delawarehighlands.org).

**Hand Quilting for Beginners** at the Liberty Public Library at 1:00pm. Register at [www.libertypubliclibrary.org/](http://www.libertypubliclibrary.org/)

## Wednesday, March 26

**Virtual Author Talk Series** presented by Mamakating Library. This session will be: "Dreams We Chase" by novelist Jennifer Weiner, at 7pm EST. All events are free and open to the public. For more information or to register for the author talks, visit <https://library.org/mamakatinglibrary> or call (845) 888-8004.

**Heart Health** at the Wayne County Public Library with Emily Daly to learn about maintaining blood pressure. The heart health information share to run from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. To register, contact Miles at [mkeesle@waynelibraries.org](mailto:mkeesle@waynelibraries.org) or 570-253-1220.

**Let's Play!** A play group where you can play, socialize and connect, 10:15am at Tusten-Cochecton Branch. Registration required [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com).

**The Narrowsburg Book Club** will meet at 11am at the Tusten-Cochecton branch in Narrowsburg to discuss remarkable Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. For more information visit [www.WSPLonline.org](http://www.WSPLonline.org).

## Thursday, March 27

**Devising Physical Theatre** with Tannis Kowalchuk at Farm Arts Collective Agri-Cultural Center from 6pm to 8pm. Wear clothes to move in and bring a pen. Participants can come to one workshop or to all. All workshops are pay-what-you-can. For more information visit [www.farmartscollective.org](http://www.farmartscollective.org).

**DIY Club** at 4PM at Delaware Free Branch to make paper flowers and arrange them into bouquets. Visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com) to sign up.

## Monday, March 31

**Teen Tech Time**, for teens looking to expand their technology skills at the Tusten-Cochecton Branch from 4-5pm, New topics covered every week. Visit [WSPLonline.org](http://WSPLonline.org) or [WSPL.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:WSPL.childrens@gmail.com) to sign up.

## Thursday, April 3

**DVAA hosts Sage Sessions**. Games will be the theme, we have plenty of cards and board games. Better yet, bring your own favorite game and teach a friend! As always, enjoy a delicious lunch catered by The Noble Pot and locally roasted coffee from 2 Queens. The Sage Sessions are FREE and no registration is required. Anyone 60 years or more living in Tusten or the surrounding area is welcome. Enjoy good company, great local interest programming and a delicious lunch! Free parking is available on the street and next to the post office on Main Street, Narrowsburg.

To see events through Spring please visit  
[wcdemocratonline.com](http://wcdemocratonline.com)



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Restaurant Week  
March 31-April 13

Catskills BBQ  
June 7

Dave Matthews Band at Bethel Woods  
May 24



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