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Saugerties Pro Musica Presents its 25th Season on Saugerties Lighthouse TV

Saugerties Pro Musica’s 25th Season is a remarkable milestone presented in a brand new pandemic-inspired format. Instead of the usual live Sunday concerts at Saugerties United Methodist Church, you will see a series of pre-recorded concerts airing on LighthouseTV on (and around) the originally scheduled date and time, that will also be available “on demand” afterwards. These professional recordings will approximate the intimate live performances you are used to attending while giving everyone watching at home the safest and “Best Seats in the House.” To view, go to saugertieslighthouse.tv and click on LIVE STREAM.

The 25th Season began on January 24 with a program of music by women composers, performed by the Ekstasis Duo. The second 25th Season concert will air at 3 pm on February 21, featuring cellist Ani Kalayjian’s Trio performing chamber works inspired by folk dances from Armenia, Russia and more.

Hailed by the Los Angeles Times as “representing the young, up-and-coming generation,” and a “superb cellist with a large, expressive, singing tone, passionate musicianship, and magnificent playing” by the Journal Tribune, Armenian-American cellist Ani Kalayjian enjoys a prolific career as a soloist, recitalist, chamber musician and educator that has taken her to Japan, Australia, Canada, the Middle East, and throughout Europe and the United States.

Ani’s recent engagements included tours with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra around the U.S. at Ordway Hall in St. Paul, Dartmouth University, the 92nd St. Y in NY, and in Rome, Bologna, Siena, Berlin and Vienna. She made several trips to Lebanon serving

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as principal cellist of the Lebanese Philharmonic for multiple concerts given at the American University of Beirut as well as solo concerts at Haigazian University. During her time in Lebanon, Ani gave outreach performances to underserved communities at St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, Insan School for Iraqi & Syrian refugee children, Byblos Birds’ Nest Armenian orphanage, Karageusian Foundation, and in the Syrian refugee camps. She also performed in Los Angeles at La Sierra University with members of the LA Philharmonic, the Bartow-Pell Mansion, Saugerties ProMusica, Pleasantville Music Society, and a summer residency at Wellesley College with pianist Adam Golka and violinist Jessica Tong.

Ani has performed at major venues and chamber music festivals around the world. She has won top prizes at chamber music competitions around the world, and has enjoyed collaborations with such musicians as Ani Kavafian, Jorja Fleezanis, Andres Cardenes, Danny Phillips, Orion Weiss, Kim Kashkashian, among others.

An avid teaching artist, Ani is the Head of the Cello department at the Elisabeth Morrow School and on faculty at Dwight-Englewood School in Englewood, NJ and enjoys giving masterclasses to musicians around the country.

Keep up with Ani’s upcoming concert dates and news at anikalayjian.com and @anicellist on Instagram.

The 25th Season continues on March 21 with the Rolf Shulte Duo (Piano & Violin); April 18 with the Adaskin String Trio; and May 16 with the Will Hayes Trio. The 26th Season is being planned and tentative concerts will include: Trio Kisosen on September 19; a piano and violin duo on October 17; and the Annual Bard Conservatory of Music Concert on November 7.

Saugerties Pro Musica is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit. For more information, visit saugertiespromusica.org, call 845 679 5733, or email info@saugertiespromusica.org.
Kitchen Appliances

By George Jurgsatis

Five years ago, we bought a new fridge to replace our relic from the 1960s, an avocado-green side-by-side that came with the house and no longer kept food cold enough. Bob, bless him, was convinced it could be repaired. “All it needs is a new seal.”

Repairing appliances is a quaint notion from the past. Can recall my dad tinkering with our toaster at the dining table. Accompanied him to the drugstore where we tested TV vacuum tubes (in pre-transistor times) since such a useful skill would certainly come in handy one day. Now here we are in current times and a wholly different world. After a few calls to repairmen that went something like this: “can you fix it?” “How old is it?” “That old! They’re only expected to last 10 years,” you realize the futility of trying to have anything repaired. Things are meant to break down and be replaced. It’s what fuels the economy. Still, against all odds an ugly green fridge managed to function well for fifty years until the gaskets failed.

Over the past twenty years we’ve replaced all our appliances. Some, like the washer and dryer, were replaced twice. When we bought our little casa in Florida it came with all new appliances, making it the first time in our years together that all our kitchen appliances were from the same decade.

Forty years ago:

After dating for six months, Bob and I decided to pool our lot and live together. Let me clarify: convinced we were a perfect match, Bob wanted to come live with me in my house in Hudson. All he could see were our similarities; all I could see were our differences. Past relationships with emotionally scarred men followed by new attempts at “writing” my life, left me doubting the possibility of ever having a lasting relationship. Bob’s friend, who’d met me, advised him not to take this life-altering step; my trusted friend, who’d met Bob and knew me well, urged me to go for it. So, there we were following one friend’s advice while ignoring another’s.

Bob was renting a room in a lovely Victorian home, in Albany, owned by his college friends, Ann and Mike. (Mike was the cautionary voice earlier on.) While they rented him a room, they also shared their house and their life with him.

His room contained a full-sized bed with a tall bookcase functioning as a headboard, a small dresser sat against the side wall and a small work table worked as a desk. It was an aesthete-mock’s cell, the only color, aside from wood tones, came from the books in his bookcase headboard. He collected rare and unusual books. Seeing this room for the first time, I thought: this is a man of substance and found myself feeling even fonder of him.

...what I recall most vividly from that day was being stuck halfway up a flight of stairs with a stove and not just any stove, his prized possession: a 1960s “Space-Age Jetson’s stove.”

The day before the move he walked me through his friend’s house, pointing out his handsome Empire sofa in the living room and his grandfather clock in the entrance hall. “would you mind if I left them for Ann and Mike? I don’t want to disrupt their lives.” Would I mind, I was pleased he wasn’t bringing them. My fifteen room townhouse and carriage house were already overflowing with personal belongings and stock from my antiques shop. So, when he arrived at my house in a good-sized Hertz rental truck the following day, you can understand my puzzlement. All he was bringing was a bookcase, books and clothing. He never said anything about needing a moving truck.

There we were on day one of our future together, hauling boxes—what seemed like hundreds of boxes—to the third floor, where they were stacked against the walls. But what I recall most vividly from that day was being stuck
halfway up a flight of stairs with a stove and not just any stove, his prized possession: a 1960s “Space-Age Jetson’s stove.” You may recall seeing one in a magazine or maybe you spotted one in a friend’s “groovy” new kitchen—they were very sleek with a second oven placed above the burner top. It was sparkling white with about 50 lbs. of chrome trim.

Now wait a minute! No one mentioned a stove. So why the hell were we trying to hump this beast to the second-floor kitchen after all our energy was spent moving boxes to the third floor. Even with a hand truck to lighten the load, it was heavier than our combined weight. Continually tipping forward, it threatened to hurl itself down the staircase, taking us with it.

Ten years pass:

Crack discovers Hudson in the 80s and Warren Street below 5th Street becomes an outpost of the Lawless West. Politicians and cops do what generations of them have done in the past, avert their eyes. A wide-open drug trade makes downtown life unlivable. We buy a building uptown, in the central business district, and move my antiques shop. The rental apartments above the shop cover the expenses. Seeking a quiet and peaceful life, we abandon my townhouse to storage and buy a little place on Rossman Avenue. A simple Arts and Crafts cottage, high on a hill at the edge of the city with staggering views of the river valley and Catskill Mountains. It’s life in a treehouse and we should be happy. But we can’t escape life’s tragedies. Bob’s parents’ grow ill and die while my brother cheats death till it finally claims him.

Another ten years pass:

After sitting on the market for two years with little interest, my townhouse is under contract. So, there we are twenty years in to our relationship, looking to buy a building for storage space. That’s when a friend calls, saying there are five houses on the market in Catskill. We’re not looking for a house, I explain. He doubles down, these are great houses. So, despite needing storage space we call a realtor. The two remaining houses are on Prospect Avenue. The charming Queen Anne Cottage is way overpriced. The last, another rambling 1880s Eastlake Cottage with a giant carriage house out back sits on a postage stamp of land. The house is beautiful, we could live there and store stock in the outbuilding. It makes perfect sense and we’re ready to make an offer when the house next door comes on the market.

The house is beautiful, a brick Villa in the French Style from the 1870s, sited on an oversized lot. It is 10 out of 10 for curb appeal. How could anyone not love this house?
this house makes perfect sense to him. I lack that frame of reference and struggle with the idea, until I remember a friend’s Greenwich Village apartment in a converted townhouse. It’s great, he said, we’re like one big family. That was thirty years ago, could it work now? One day, when I was expressing doubt, Bob said, “I really want this house!” In our years together he never said, I really want—anything.

We buy a multi-family house I don’t want or love and inherit four elderly tenants: Betty lived in the house since the 50s, she managed the place for the previous owners and cared for it as though it were her own home. Regardless of names on the deed, it would always remain Betty Light’s house. She occupies a six room duplex that accounts for half of the first and second floors. Her sister Gert has an apartment on the other half of the second floor. While Mary, our oldest tenant at ninety, lives on the other half of the first floor. Kate is nice although eccentric. She lives in a jolly apartment, fashioned from servants’ quarters in the basement, that opened on to the garden.

We move into the owner’s vacant six room apartment on the third floor. Third floor? Let me explain: As a kid I got to experience what it felt like to have your life yanked out from under you. No way I would visit that on anyone else. If we bought a Paris apartment the tenant would get to live there for life before we could move in. Yes, Paris is thirty-six hundred light-years from Catskill. All the same, the principle is civilized and so are we. We’ll take over more of the house as it becomes available and, eventually, we’ll have the whole house.

We quickly fall into the rhythmic life of the house and before long we become enmeshed in the lives of these wonderful women. Without intending to we become a lovey makeshift family. My parents died when I was still in my twenties and for much of my life I felt like a haunted house. It felt good finally being a part of something—a Family.

Despite my initial misgivings, buying the house and moving to Catskill became a wonderfully rich and rewarding experience. But time is fluid and change is inevitable. Our tenants are elderly and no one lives forever, no matter how much you may want them to. Five years in to our adventure we move into Betty’s duplex, where we spend the next fifteen years. We outgrow our need to take over the entire house and go on renting. After Bob’s accidental death two and a half years ago, I’m even more grateful for our makeshift family. Although much altered, the rhythm of life continues.

Want to explain something before we go any further. Were we a perfect match as Bob thought? No. But we were a good match. Two Catholic kids from working class backgrounds, close in age, from neighboring boroughs of New York City. We both grew-up knowing we were loved and wanted. That’s a good start in life for any man.

Over the years Bob would ask, “are you happy?” I would answer, “happy? What the hell does that even mean?” Then one day, one blue sky and puffy-white-cloud day, in early summer all that changed. We’d been living in Catskill a year or two by then, we were eating on the river in Athens, I looked at Bob and realized I had everything I’d always wanted—a thoroughly nice man to spend my life with. Years of writing helped me gain perspective and brought me to this one glorious revelatory moment. Yes, I was happy.

Now, back to the fate of Bob’s Jetson’s stove. In my narrative, we left-off with us exhausted and stuck on the stairs with it. We did get it up and working in the kitchen. But Bob falls out of love with it, quickly. Although undeniably beautiful, it doesn’t function well. The cooking space between the upper oven and burner top is too small for his favorite pasta pot. A new smaller pasta pot would solve the problem and yet he can’t part with this oversized not especially attractive pot. There must be more to the story, but I never think to ask what makes this item so important. The pasta pot gets moved to Catskill but the stove doesn’t.

But in my memory of our move-in-together day, we remain frozen on the stairs in a struggle. Our first struggle together as a couple. Even though we don’t last fifty years like that ugly avocado fridge, we manage, despite the odds against us, to have a good forty years together.

George Jurgsatis moved upstate in the mid-sixties to escape the city and reinvent himself as an antiques dealer. When his brother was hospitalized and near death, he picked up pen and wrote. That was thirty years ago and he has been writing ever since.
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The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum reopens to the public on Fridays and Saturdays, from 11am to 3pm by appointment only. Please call the CMF Reservation Line at 518 263 2063, to make an appointment to visit the museum. We will return your call as soon as possible to confirm your appointment.

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A frequent contributor to the Guide magazine, Francis X. Driscoll is an award-winning nature photographer, whose work has appeared in National Geographic Explorer and Cynthia Dantzic’s prestigious book 100 New York Photographers. Driscoll is a self-taught photographer, whose work involves total immersion in a setting so that he might capture that rare glimpse and share it with others. His primary subject is the Catskill Forest Preserve, and his best shots are often hard-won through years of returning to the same place with a sense of expectation for the beauty that might be revealed to him on any given day. He shares his craft with others by leading hikes, conducting workshops and giving private instruction. His book, Images of the Northern Catskills, is a celebration of his work. The largest selection of his work can now be found at Tannersville Art & Antiques, open Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

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Windham Manor
1161 Co Rd 10
Windham, NY 12496
518 944 1448
windhammanor.com
Windham Manor is a premier wedding venue nestled in the heart of the beautiful Catskill Mountains. We specialize in weekend events, but can accommodate one-day events, as well. On our 45-acre-property you’ll find The Main House and The Barn. The Main House, which can accommodate up to 33 overnight guests, boasts a gym, a full-service spa (perfect place for hair and make-up!), a large kitchen, 12 beautiful guest suites, wrap-around porches, fire pits, and more. The House is the perfect place to host smaller events (rehearsal dinners, “Welcome” receptions, Sunday brunch, small weddings, etc.). The Barn, newly completed, can accommodate up to 300 guests. The luxurious space has a large bar, a bride’s suite, a groom’s suite, restrooms, a coat check, a catering deck, a kitchen prep area for caterers, and of course a beautiful large open space for dinner and dancing.

Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Mountain Cinema
Doctorow Center for the Arts
7971 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
catskillmtn.org
518 263 4702
We show top Hollywood, foreign, and independent films at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter, just a mile west of Hunter Mountain and a short drive from Windham Mountain. Available for rental for private showings: call Steve at 518 263 2072 for rates and more information.

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Gord Hunter Mountain Realty
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Hunter, NY 12442
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518 589 9000

Gordon Hunter Mountain Realty, LLC is one of the prime real estate professionals in Hunter. They are dedicated to serving you when you’re looking for property in Upstate New York and Northern Catskill Mountains. Their staff specializes in many different types of properties near Hunter and Windham Mountain ski resorts.

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Sherret’s specialty is locating rural properties in our mountain region and surrounding areas. Large properties and unique homes are his passion having consolidated 2,000 acres for a large wind farm; aggregated 500 acres of wilderness into the state Forever Wild forest; brokered hundreds of acres for a hotel/golf/skiing destination facility; coordinated and negotiated transfer of private lands under expropriation proceedings; built renewable energy projects and large general construction. Sherret has an MS Mechanical Engineering from Columbia, licenses in finance and insurance, and has acquired skills in surveying, appraisals and title research, and is a private pilot. Ask Sherret any time about his three kids, travel, and love for the outdoors.
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Binnekill Tavern
746 Main St.
Margaretville, NY 12455
845 586 4884
binnekilltavern.com
Binnekill Tavern, located in the center of Margaretville, is a warm, friendly tavern featuring "Mountain Comfort Food". The dining room provides riverside views and a large copper fireplace. The kitchen expertly cooks modern tavern classics like Lamb Meatloaf, Pork Schnitzel, Shrimp Cocktail, burgers, homemade soups, daily seafood specials and much more. The Tavern serves an extensive list of inventive hand-crafted cocktails, local beers on tap and a well curated wine list. Open for dinner Thursday-Sunday and lunch Saturday and Sunday. Country Casual. Reservations recommended.

Brandywine
11157 State Route 23
Windham, NY 12496
brandywinewindham.com
518 734 3838
For the past 35 years, this full-service Italian restaurant has offered great food and impeccable service. Share wonderful memories with your loved ones as we fill your table with delicious Italian cuisine. Born and raised in Southern Italy, owner Louis Caracciolo has mastered the art of Italian cookery. We guarantee that we know the formula to capture the rich flavor of your favorite Italian dishes. Every Wednesday is Pasta Night!

Casa Vallarta
1571 Ulster Avenue
Lake Katrine, NY 12449
casavallarta.us
845 481 5318
We take pride in sharing with you our festive heritage and authentic Mexican styled foods from the port of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on the Pacific ocean coast. All our dishes are prepared with care and our promise of satisfaction. Large menu of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, appetizers, soups & salads, burritos, tacos, enchiladas, chimichangas, and fajitas, as well as beef, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetarian entrees. And don’t forget the daily specials and dessert! All locations of Casa Vallarta are family owned and operated.

Chalet Fondue/Nunzio’s Pizzeria
55 State Route 296,
Windham, NY 12496
chaletfondue.com
518 734 4650
The Chalet Fondue serves the finest in German, Swiss, and American cuisine, in a charming old-world European setting. Accented with soothing candlelight, European fireplaces, and hand-picked German decor, you will feel as though you are in the Alps.

Nunzio’s Pizzeria is located inside the Chalet Fondue. Serving Italian specialties and homemade pizzas, with gluten-free options. Curbside pickup is available.

Hunter Mountain Brewery
7267 Route 23A
Hunter, NY 12442
HMBCatskills.com
518 263 3300
Hunter Mountain Brewery has been serving our customers and community for five years. Our restaurant offers pub-style food, Indian Cuisine and Sushi. We have a full bar, gift shop items and a variety of our own beers.

Hunter Mountain Brewery staff and management has been successful in offering a safe spot during this pandemic for our patrons. Being a family-owned business we prioritize our guests’ health and safety, and we are fully committed to get through these tough times together. We thank all our frontline workers for their service to keep our communities safe.

We are open for limited capacity dine-in, offering take-out, delivery via catskillsdelivery.com and beers to go in four packs/growlers. Cheers!
**Jessie’s Harvest House**
5819 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
jessiesharvesthouse.com
518 589 5445
Jessie’s Harvest House Restaurant and Lodge is a warm and comfy restaurant and lodge that features a delicious menu of rustic American style cuisine with locally sourced ingredients from the beautiful offerings of the Catskills. Call us to inquire about our NEW outdoor igloo dining!

**Mother Earth’s Storehouse**
Locations in Kingston and Saugerties
motherearthstorehouse.com
845 246 9614
Over 30 years ago brothers Chris and Kevin Schneider helped start the organic and all-natural food trend in the Hudson Valley. Although it may seem like a recent trend, the organic and sustainable “Buy Local” movement has been around for many decades. Though modest in size, Mother Earth’s Storehouse has always been focused on wholesome, nutritious foods without artificial ingredients. Come experience Mother Earth’s at one of their two convenient Hudson Valley locations in Kingston and Saugerties.
Pancho Villa’s Mexican Restaurant
6037 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
panchovillamex.com
518 589 5134
The Best Mexican Food this side of the Border! Pancho Villa’s is owned and operated by the Oscar and Patricia Azcue family. They have been proudly serving authentic Mexican food on Main Street in Tannersville since 1992. Rooted in tradition, their passion is sharing great food and good company. All of the traditional Mexican favorites are served here, from enchiladas and burritos to chimichangas and flautas...plus great margaritas and daiquiris! Open every day except Tuesday.

Tito Bandito’s Taco & Tequila Bar
302 Main Street
Pine Hill, NY 12465
845 254 3113
titobanditos.com
Tito Bandito’s, located in the center of Pine Hill, just minutes from Belleayre Ski Center, is the spot to warm up after a day on the mountain with modern Mexican cuisine and hand-crafted cocktails. Our menu features traditional and inventive tacos, quesadillas, burritos, and much more. The bar serves local and Mexican beer on tap, specialty margaritas, and an extensive tequila list. Check out our

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“The doggies loved the dog playground and the PEACE TRAIL out back.”

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après ski specials and events online. Fun and casual. Indoor and outdoor seating. Take-out. Open for dinner Friday-Monday. Lunch Saturday and Sunday.

Woodnotes Grille features food you know done our way with fresh local ingredients, unforgettable flavors that hone in on the local spirit, and handcrafted cocktails that are an experience as well as a drink. We give classic entrees and your favorite drinks a little spin by adding native ingredients and innovative twists.

The Woodstock Pub
17 Mill Hill Road
Woodstock, NY 12498
845 684 5470
Facebook: TheWoodstockPub
Occupying the site of the former Landau Grill (and before that, the original Woodstock Pub), the new Woodstock Pub opened last year after extensive renovations. New owners Chris Constant, James Constant, and Jennifer Ahearn grew up in Woodstock and bought the old drinking hole two years ago. The new Woodstock Pub serves “Pub fare with a Mediterranean flair,” with special Greek and Italian nights in honor of their heritages. Pub fare, soups, salads, burgers and sandwiches. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Their Sweet Chili Cauliflower Wings were the winner of the 2019 Taste of Woodstock for Best Side Dish!

Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Kaaterskill Shoppe
6042 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
kaatart.catskillmtn.org
518 589 7500
Located next door to the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center, our shoppe features a curated selection of books and gifts from around the Region and around the world. Open Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm, with special shopping hours for seniors and the immune-compromised from 11 am to noon on Fridays. Check out our NEW website for online shopping!
CVS
60 Mill Hill Road
Woodstock, NY 12498
CVS.com
845 679 3686
Pharmacy, photo finishing, health and beauty products, fragrances, snacks, drinks, newspapers and magazines, and more. Your go-to stop if you’ve forgotten that extra important something on your trip. For any special occasion, they carry cards, candy, decorations, and a wide variety of reasonably-priced gifts for men, women, and children.

Hickory Hill Market
5200 NY-23
Windham, NY 12496
hickoryhillmarket.com
518 734 6300
A must-stop on the way to the mountain, or to pick up that last minute item you forgot for your Holiday dinner. Featuring a beer cave with nearly 200 varieties of brews and micro-brews; all of your grocery and convenience needs, including fresh vegetables and produce; a full deli counter with a full line of Boars Head products for all your deli needs; sandwiches, salads and personal pizzas to go; hand-dipped ice cream and milkshakes; and of course gasoline for the ride home. Visit our website for daily specials and online ordering.

The Nest Egg
84 Main Street
Phoenicia, NY 12464
thenesteggcountrystore.com
nesteggshop.com
845 688 5851
An old-fashioned country store in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, offering relaxed shopping and mountain hospitality. You’ll find a little bit of everything here: Minnetonka Moccasins, t-shirts & sweatshirts, local area books and hiking maps, candles, soaps, incense, jewelry, local maple syrup and honey, nostalgic candles, toys, puzzles, games and souvenirs … and home-made delicious fudge! Owner Robin Kirk’s family has owned The Nest Egg since 1968.

Olives Country Store & Cafe
3110 State Route 28
Shokan, NY 12481
olivescountrystoreandcafe.com
845 657 8959
Olives is the place to stop on the way up the mountain for your coffee & fresh made to order breakfast, to take with you or eat in the Café, for your travel back home and Late Lunch on the way down the mountain, clean rest rooms, Mobil Gas & Diesel, and our unique Catskill Mountain & Ashokan Reservoir logo merchandise along with the expanded one-of-a-kind Gift Shop. Awarded the 2018 Ulster County Small Business of Year!

Catskill Center for Conservation & Development
43355 Route 28
Arkville, NY 12406
catskillcenter.org
845 586 2611
Since 1969, the Catskill Center has led the effort to protect the more than 700,000 acres of the Catskill Park and Catskill Forest Preserve. Their mission is to protect and foster the environmental, cultural, and economic well-being of the Catskill Region.

Greene County Economic Development Corporation
411 Main Street
Catskill, NY 12414
greenecountyedc.com
518 719 3290
The Greene County Economic Development Corporation is your gateway to establishing your business in any of the 14 Catskill Mountain, rural valley, and historic Hudson River towns. Their team connects entrepreneurs, developers, site selectors, and corporate leadership with resources, municipalities, and investment incentives for job-creating businesses.
Welcome to a harmonious blend of nature, balance and restoration. It is our pleasure to introduce you to spa therapies inspired by the earth’s elements and the tranquility of the Catskills. The Emerson Spa provides a serene experience that combines our natural surroundings with the deep relaxation effects of stone therapy and custom design treatments to suit the health, lifestyle and desire of every guest. Please call for a reservation.

Catskill Park’s official Visitor Center! The Catskill Interpretive Center is your gateway to Catskills, where you can learn about the vast outdoor recreational opportunities in the area as well as discover Catskills communities and rich cultural and natural history. The Catskill Interpretive Center is now open for phone consultations and for drive-up information.
The largest selection of my work is now available at

Tannersville Antiques And Artisans
6045 Main Street • Tannersville, NY 12485
518-589-5600
Open 11AM - 5PM Friday through Sunday

For more information visit
www.francisxdriscoll.com

Elevated Wine & Spirits
7261 Route 23A
Hunter, NY 12442
518 263 4184

Hunter Village Wines & Liquors has been Elevated! We’re always expanding our selection of traditional, organic, biodynamic, and natural wines, plus bartender-selected spirits including single village mezcals and small batch bourbons. From Barefoot Chardonnay to Cru Beaujolais, from Fireball to Fred #5. A wine & spirits shop for anyone at any budget. Lots of local spirits too.

Town & Country Liquors
330 Route 12
Saugerties, NY 12477
townandcountryliquorstore.com
845 246 8931

Over the years our selection of wines and spirits has developed into the best in the Hudson Valley. Our friendly helpful staff is here to assist you in finding the right beverage: we have a huge selection of wines and spirits from all over the world. In-store service is available, and pre-call curbside service is encouraged. Please see our inventory online.

Windham Wine & Liquors
5448 State Route 23
Windham, NY 12496
518 734 3474

Windham Wine & Liquors is the Mountaintop’s premier destination for the best offerings of wines and spirits since 2003. Our ever-expanding selection is sure to please every palate and price range. Let us help with your special event or gift. Visit us at the West end of town. Open every day of the year except Christmas.

IMAGES OF THE NORTHERN CATSKILLS

By Francis X. Driscoll
SHOP LOCAL IN THE NEW YEAR!

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Special shopping hours for seniors and the immune-compromised: 11 am to noon on Fridays.

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SHOP ONLINE on our NEW WEBSITE!
kaatart.catskillmtn.org
Scheduled to be shown in March, the film documenting the residency will capture Artistic Director/Choreographer Zvi Gotheiner, dancers, and excerpts of works previously created or polished at the Catskill Mountain Foundation.

MARCH, 2021
(Date, Time, and Platform TBA)

CHECK CATSKILLMTN.ORG FOR UPDATES

This event is made possible in part through the support of the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, Greene County Council on the Arts, d/b/a/ CREATE, and Stewarts Shops.
Photographs by Robert Hsu
Thanks to climate change, it is hard to say what typical winter weather might be nowadays, but suffice to say the winter so far has been tough to prepare for and react to. We have had snowfalls, frigid temperatures, warmer temperatures, winds, and rain, flooding, and then back to cold and snow here in the Catskills. This has all led to a multitude of conditions on the trails for those looking to get out! The best advice I can think of going into February is to be prepared for anything in the mountains. Conditions can and do change quickly in the Catskills and if you are on the trails in the winter months, you should be spending more time on planning as there is a lot less room for mistakes and errors because of the cold temperatures, generally higher winds, snow, ice, and limited daylight hours. For any trip into the frontcountry or the backcountry, be sure to check out the regularly updated trail conditions posted by the Catskills Visitor Center—they’ll help you know before you go!

February is a very important time in the political life of the Catskills and the Catskill Park. At the State Capital in Albany, this is the time of the year when budgets are being made and priorities are being assessed and discussed. Organizations like the Catskill Center are working hard to advocate for the Catskills and through efforts like Catskill Park Day (February 2), use that opportunity to positively influence the Catskills through the budgeting process.

Think all the hiking trails of the Catskills are in the high peaks region? Think again! Thanks to Trailkeeper we have the top five winter hikes in Sullivan County, which is home to the southern Catskills and some real gems of trails.

Catskill Park Day is February 2!
Organized annually by the Catskill Park Coalition, which is co-chaired by the Catskill Center, the 2021 Catskill Park Day will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021. This day is an opportunity for supporters of the Catskills to have their voice heard in Albany and to make a difference in the support and funding that the Park receives. Unlike past years where advocacy took place in Albany, this year will be a virtual advocacy day due to COVID-19.

The annual Catskill Park Day event has generated historic funding for the region and for the Catskill Park. In years past, this support has helped lead to the development of the Catskills Visitor Center, inclusion of new public land in the Catskill Park and many other significant improvements in the infrastructure, management and operation of the Catskill Park.

If you can’t be involved on the 2nd, a phone call or a letter to your Assemblymember, State Senator and the Governor can be just as effective! Budget season lasts through April, so continued calls and letters are very helpful over the next few months to let legislators in Albany and the Governor know that the Catskills are important to you!

For more information, call the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611, e-mail cccd@catskillcenter.org, or visit catskillcenter.org/catskillparkday.

Regular Catskill Park Updates Now Available Online
Local recreational opportunities are always changing. By visiting the Catskills Visitor Center’s Trail Conditions page at catskills-
#RecreateResponsibly in the Catskills

As the Catskills get busier, it can be confusing to navigate this “new normal” in terms of how to recreate responsibly in the era of COVID-19. The #RecreateResponsibly guidelines give some sound advice on how to get outdoors right now.

When you choose to recreate responsibly, you are doing your part to keep yourself and others safe and healthy.

Know Before you Go:
Check the status of the place you want to visit. If it is closed, don’t go. If it’s crowded, have a plan B.

Plan Ahead:
Prepare for facilities to be closed, pack lunch and bring essentials like hand sanitizer and a mask.

Stay Close to Home:
This is not the time to travel long distances to recreate. Most places are only open for day use.

Practice Physical Distancing:
Adventure only with your immediate household. Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth and give others space. If you are sick, stay home.

Play It Safe:
Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce your risk of injury. Search and rescue operations and health care resources are both strained.

Leave No Trace:
Respect public lands and communities and take your garbage with you, including disposable gloves, and masks.

We all have a shared responsibility to care for these places and ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy.

Lead by example and join the Catskill Center and the Catskills Visitor Center in learning how to #RecreateResponsibly at recreateresponsibly.org.

Top Five Winter Hikes in the Southern Catskills

Have you explored the trails of the southern Catskills? Thanks to the Trailkeeper Network we have a list of the five best cross-country ski and snowshoe trails in the Sullivan County region. Take them as an excuse to avoid winter hibernation during the colder months and get out exploring the Catskills, either by foot, ski or snowshoes this winter. For more information on any of these trips, you can visit trailkeeper.org, an online outlet for hiking trails and public lands in Sullivan County.

When it comes to some great places to start, here are the top five cross-country ski and snowshoe trips from Trailkeeper:

- Willowemoc Forest’s Frick Pond Trail
  (voted NY’s 10 best winter hikes by I Love NY!)
- Walnut Mountain Park (Liberty, NY)
- Bashakill D&H towpath (Wurtsboro, NY)
- Tusten Mountain Trail (Narrowsburg, NY) Neversink Unique Area
- Shawangunk Region Trail (Rockhill, NY)

Never tried a winter hike and need some guidance? A great place to start and for outdoor gear rentals, visit Morgan Outdoors on Main Street in Livingston Manor, NY or call 845 439 5507.
Visit the Catskill Park’s Visitor Center
Located at 5096 Route 28 in Mount Tremper, NY, the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center (CVC) is the official visitor center for the Catskill Park. Operated and managed by the Catskill Center, staff are available at the CVC with information, maps and all the advice needed to plan a Catskill adventure. A walk-up service window at the building is now every day except for Wednesdays, from 10 am to 3 pm. Visitors who wear a mask and follow social distancing protocols can get their Catskill questions answered in person, receive tourism literature and make purchases at the CVC’s shop. The CVC building, including the restrooms inside, are not yet open to the public, but a port-a-john is available in the parking area.

CVC staff are also available to answer questions about the Catskills and the Catskill Park via e-mail at info@catskillcenter.org or phone 845 688 3369.

In addition to the walk-up service window, 1.5 miles of trails on the CVC’s grounds, including the (roughly) 0.5 mile ADA accessible Interpretive Loop Trail, are open to the public daily. The 80-foot tall Upper Esopus Fire Tower, which was constructed and opened last fall, will also be open daily to visitors. Picnic tables are available on site for those who wish to enjoy a picnic lunch.

Visitors can explore the ever expanding resources available online for the CVC on the web at catskillsvisitorcenter.org and on the CVC’s Facebook page at facebook.com/catskillsvisitorcenter.

Catskill Park Advisory Committee
The Catskill Park Advisory Committee (CPAC) was established to facilitate communication within the Park and consists of representatives from local governments and organizations, chaired by the Catskill Center. It provides a forum for communities, user groups and stakeholders of the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed to discuss issues of regional importance. The purpose of the Committee is to provide assistance, advice and guidance to the DEC, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection and other land managers in the management of the New York State Forest Preserve, the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed.

Meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public. If you’d like to learn more, join the mailing list or attend the next meeting, please contact the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611 or e-mail them at cccd@catskillcenter.org with CPAC in the subject asking to be added to the mailing list. Please note that for the time being CPAC meetings will be held virtually. You must be on the mailing list to receive the email to register for the virtual meeting.

Give Back to the Catskills
The natural beauty, the majesty of the mountains, the protection of the Catskill Forest Preserve, the region’s natural and cultural resources, all need your help! By supporting the work of the Catskill Center, you support: stewardship of our Catskill Park and its vast natural resources; the Center’s collaborative spirit as we convene, create partnerships and facilitate discussions that benefit the region; and the Center’s work to support education, arts and culture throughout the Catskills.

To support the work of the Catskill Center, become a member online through their website at catskillcenter.org/membership or donate by mail: Checks made out to the “Catskill Center” can be mailed to Catskill Center, PO Box 504, Arkville, NY 12406.

Jeff Senterman is the Executive Director of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development in Arkville, NY, a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hiking Society, the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce. Jeff graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College and worked for many years as an Environmental Planner in New England before coming back to New York and the Catskills in the nonprofit sector. To learn more about the work of the Catskill Center in the Catskills, visit www.catskillcenter.org.
It surprises people when I tell them that in 2015, I won a Gold medal and two Silver medals at the USASA Snowboarding National Championships in the 50+ age group. But what is even more surprising, is that the first time I stepped on a snowboard, I was 40 years old. Prior to that inaugural ride, I had only skied a handful of times in my life: once in college and three times in my 20s. When our two boys were 4 and 8 years old, my husband and I got them skiing and snowboarding lessons, and from there we got hooked on the Catskill Mountain family lifestyle. Instead of hibernating inside from December to March, watching our kids bounce off the walls (and each other), we committed to being outside throughout the season, even in the harshest conditions. Not one to sit around while my kids have all the fun, I chose snowboarding over skiing, and gave myself the gift of winter freedom. At 482 months old, I stepped into my bindings for the first time, and never looked back.

Being an adult beginner at anything can be difficult. The process of learning something new is embedded in the youth experience, whereas grown-ups can be out of practice. Learning something that causes you to fall down over and over again? That can be a deal breaker. Being a snowboarding novice can be rough when you’re old enough to know your body’s limitations, but I promise you, it is worth pushing through your fears to get to the reward of riding with confidence. Once you’re at the point where you can link turns together, head up the mountain and experience the thrill of riding down through the snow, accessing nature in new and glorious ways, you’ll appreciate the journey.

Here are my Top Five Tips for Adults Learning to Snowboard

This list will make it easier and more comfortable as you are learning and improve your chances at success. Your level of fitness, flexibility and aversion to risk will be major factors in the process, but these tips are universal.

Rent First: As with any technical sport, snowboarding equipment can be expensive. If you are just starting out, it is best to rent before you buy. This way you can make sure you are committed before you invest. Renting also enables you to swap out sizes if things don’t feel right when you get out on the slopes. Make sure they give you a leash to connect your boots to your board bindings for safety.

Get Lessons: Unless it is from a certified instructor, pass on the offer from friends and family to teach you how to snowboard, and get yourself some lessons from experts at the mountain. The ideal way to learn is to take lessons on multiple days in a row. This gives you the best chance of retaining information, gaining

Tips for Adults Learning to Snowboard

By Melissa Gibson, USASA 50+ Snowboarding Champion

www.catskillregionguide.com
Do a Dry Run: Getting in and out of your snowboard, unbuckling the bindings and buckling them back up again is a part of snowboarding that becomes second nature after a while, but can really hold things up in the beginning. So practice this indoors on a carpeted surface before you take your first lesson at the mountain. If you can rent your equipment ahead of time or borrow someone’s board and boots just to get familiar with the bindings at home, it will give you confidence from day one, and make better use of your time with your instructor.

Be Safe and Comfortable: You won’t learn if you’re uncomfortable or unprepared for the elements, so invest in the following: comfortable snow pants you can easily bend and move in, a warm, waterproof jacket that is long enough to cover your butt, a helmet (required!), goggles, snowboarding gloves, a face mask and/or neck gaiter, snowboarding socks (they have padding in all the right spots), a good thermal top and bottom layer, and a padded layer to protect your tailbone and hips (this is worth wearing in the beginning). Also, grab some hand and foot warmers for the coldest days. Snowboarding involves lots of sitting and kneeling on the snow when you’re not muscle memory, and building upon your new skills. A three to five-day session will accelerate the learning curve and get you to the fun part quicker.
riding, so having waterproof, protective, and padded clothing will ensure you are safe and comfortable.

**Embrace the Process:** Learning to snowboard is a process. Be patient and trust it. You will learn small skills first, then put those skills together to learn bigger skills. Don’t rush or let your ego get the better of you. Little kids will zip by you. It’s OK—they are closer to the ground, and very pliable. Know that when starting out, you will fall always and in all ways. You will learn how to fall properly to prevent injury, and your equipment and gear will help you to recover and get back up easily. The good news is that snow is forgiving, and if you’re lucky, you’ll fall down and roll back up in one movement (trust me, it’s fun for you and amusing to others)! It’s also important to understand that you will have to go fast enough to control your board. Your instinct might be to go slow or to keep stopping, but it’s nearly impossible to stand still and balance on an upright position when you’re strapped to your board on an incline. It’s helpful to think of when you were learning to ride a bike: although you were nervous to increase speed, you had to pedal fast enough to balance the bike.

Before becoming a snowboarder, I would simply wish away the winter. I cursed every time it snowed and prayed for an early spring. Now that snowboarding is in my life, I celebrate every snowflake, and even hope for an April snowstorm so I can ride the mushy bumps without a jacket after the storm passes. All of the preparations and precautions around snowboarding might seem challenging, but these tips will improve your chances of sticking with it so you can get to the fun part more easily. Believe me, the payoff is worth the effort! Soon you’ll know what it feels like to ride for pleasure, take in deep breaths of fresh air, enjoy gorgeous views, have “snow much fun” with friends, improve your strength and flexibility, and expand your horizons. Now, get out there!

Melissa Gibson is a USASA 50+ Snowboarding Champion who learned to ride and race at Belleayre Mountain in the Catskills. After a serious health scare, Melissa founded her company Hemp & Humanity in 2016, and in the Fall of 2020, she opened a shop in the heart of Woodstock where she educates folks about the healing properties of the hemp plant, and helps clients find a CBD regimen that’s right for them.

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**Even with snow in the air...**

**we are working on our tracks!**

Next year we want to be able to announce:

“All Aboard ... Next Stop Highmount/Belleayre!”

That's what we hope you'll hear in the future as the Delaware & Ulster Railroad embarks on a major project to restore our tracks to Highmount and Belleayre Ski Resort.

What will it take for us to restore our tracks to Highmount?

- 7,000 Environmentally friendly cross ties; treated with “Copper Naphthenate”
- 28,000 New rail spikes
- 2,000 Tons of stone ballast

And lots of hard work and dedication by the team at the Delaware & Ulster Railroad.

For more information, visit www.durr.org

Route 28 | Arkville, NY 12406

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44 • www.catskillregionguide.com
Last month I was thinking about the concept of ambition… specifically, how do my own ambitions get in my way or elevate my chances to achieve what I want to accomplish. Then I read a blog post from August of 2020 by Zat Rana (zatrana.substack.com) entitled, “What Is Possible?” Here’s a paragraph…

As far as whether or not it’s worth it to be ambitious, my own position is unequivocal: People should absolutely be ambitious. Not for themselves but for the world. You should especially be ambitious if that’s a word that sounds dirty to you, or if you associate a negative connotation with it. Because that means you are aware of the trappings that come with ambition, and it means that you’ll think deeply about your desires, and it means that you won’t choose your ambitions based on idiotic things that do damage in the world. Also, the opposite of ambition isn’t humility or whatever other posturing people like to claim, but often, it’s pettiness. If you don’t have anything interesting to care about, you’ll spend your life caring about what everyone else is doing without ever looking at yourself.

It’s not only important to ask, What do I want? But also, Why do I want it? I want to live in a world that is safe and beautiful, one that is fascinated by variety and unpredictability, one that celebrates diversity. I want a platform to wonder and wander and a private workspace to make things.

In order to thrive, we need to be ambitious. What are your ambitions for 2021? What will you give yourself permission to strive for? Will you allow yourself to do something unexpected? What do you want to learn about? How will your ambitions effect the ecological status of our planet? How will you carefully manifest what you care about in 2021?
MOUNTAIN STATS:
Longest Run: 12,024’
Vertical Drop: 1,404’
Total Skiable Acres: 175
Snowmaking: 96%
Uphill Lift Capacity: 12,980 people/hour

TRAILS, PARKS & GLADES:
50 Trails, 5 Glades, 1 Terrain Park,
1 Progression Park & 1 X-Course
22% Easiest Trails
58% More Difficult Trails
20% Most Difficult Trails

ELEVATIONS:
Belleayre Summit: 3,429’
Sunset Lodge (summit lodge): 3,325’
Overlook Lodge (mid mtn. lodge): 2,542’
Discovery Lodge (lower mtn. lodge): 2,025’

CROSS COUNTRY TRAILS:
9.2 km of trails. The cross country trails are free to use and are only open with natural snow. They are not patrolled or groomed.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE 2020-2021 SEASON:
The recently expanded Discovery Lodge was a huge success last season. An additional 2,700 square feet of indoor space has been added to the third floor. The additional indoor area incorporates large windows that overlook the main floor. This allows for natural light and adds to the aesthetics of this “Great Lodge.”

New pumps and a new compressor are being added to the snowmaking infrastructure. The pumps will boost pressure within the system allowing for increased snowmaking capacity and expanded water delivery. An energy efficient compressor is also being added to the system. Replacing old diesel units, the new compressor will help improve coverage and the time it takes to create spectacular snow quality.

Visitors can also expect to enjoy the mountain views from an expanded outdoor patio space. It will include fire pits, outdoor seating, and direct access to the Discovery Lodge. The patio will be the perfect place for enjoying the bluebird skies of the Catskills.

ORDA’s new RFID technology offers direct-to-lift access and online purchasing, so guests can go directly from their car to the slopes. The lift ticket media can be renewed over several years, preventing waste and adding hassle-free convenience for customers.

WINTER HOURS OF OPERATION:
Lodges: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Lifts: 9:00am - 4:00pm

All lift tickets, lessons, and rentals will be required to be booked this year online. We will not have walk up (day of window tickets) available for purchase.
**Know before you go!**
Please visit https://www.huntermtn.com/explore-the-resort/about-the-resort/winter-experience.aspx for Hunter’s COVID Health & Safety policy

**MOUNTAIN STATS:**
- **Base Elevation:** 1,600' (above sea level)
- **Summit Elevation:** 3,200' (above sea level)
- **Vertical Drop:** 1,600'
- **Skiable Acres:** 320 (up from 240)
- **Number of Lifts:** 13 (up from 12)
- **Number of Trails:** 67 (up from 58)
- **Number of Glades:** 4 Gladed Areas
- **Number of Terrain Parks:** 4 Freestyle Areas

**PERCENTAGE OF TERRAIN:**
- **Beginner:** 25%
- **Intermediate:** 30%
- **Advanced:** 30%
- **Expert:** 15%

**WHAT’S NEW AT HUNTER MOUNTAIN THIS SEASON?**
More snow for beginners!
We have added new 20 TechnoAlpin T40 Fan snow guns to two top-to-bottom trails in our Hunter East Terrain. These additional snow guns will allow us to open more beginner terrain earlier in the season than ever before, as well as give us the ability to rapidly refresh the snow surface as needed.

**Northeast Value Pass**
The Northeast Value Pass gives you priority access to 18 Eastern resorts, starting as low as $619 for the 20/21 Season. Note: This pass excludes holiday access to Okemo, Mount Snow, Hunter & Stowe. If your schedule is flexible the midweek-only Northeast Midweek Value offers the best value with pass prices starting at $469. Resorts included on the Northeast Value Pass and Northeast Midweek Pass include:

- Hunter Mountain, NY
- Okemo, VT
- Mount Snow, VT
- Stowe, VT
- Wildcat Mountain, NH
- Attitash Mountain Resort, NH
- Mount Sunapee, NH
- Crotched Mountain, NH
- Jack Frost, PA
- Big Boulder, PA
- Whitetail Resort, PA
- Liberty Mountain Resort, PA
- Roundtop Mountain Resort, PA
- Boston Mills, OH
- Brandywine, OH
- Alpine Valley, OH
- Mad River Mountain, OH
- Mt. Brighton, MI

Hunter Mountain is pleased to be part of the entire Epic Pass family.
For more info visit https://www.epicpass.com/passes/northeast-value-pass.aspx

**MOUNTAIN ACCESS:**
Standard lift tickets are only available for purchase online this season. Lift tickets are limited, so lock in your days early to secure your spot on the mountain and for the best savings.

Lessons must be booked 48 hours in advance, and a pass or lift ticket is required for all lesson participants. Class size is limited to six people.

64 Klein Ave. | Hunter, NY 12442
800-HUNTERMTN | 800-486-8376 | huntermtn.com
PLATTEKILL MOUNTAIN

MOUNTAIN STATS:
- Elevation: 3,500’
- Vertical: 1,100’
- Number of Lifts: 4
  Triple Chair, Double Chair, Two Carpet Lifts
  (Learning Center and Tubing Park)
- Longest Trail: 2 miles
- Average Snowfall: 175”
- Snowmaking: 75%
- Terrain Park: 1
- Number of Trails: 38

PERCENTAGE OF TERRAIN:
- Easier: 20%
- Difficult: 40%
- More Difficult: 20%
- Most Difficult: 20%

WHAT’S NEW FOR THE 2020-2021 SEASON:
- Widening and clearing of most of our beginner and intermediate trails.
- Installation of a brand new snowmaking pump and motor improving reliability of water supply to our main pumphouse which also received brand new automation for improved efficiency and snowmaking speed.
- Installation of wireless communication technology to our lifts and snowmaking monitoring infrastructure.
- The addition of a new “Platty Shack” featured on our outdoor deck with quick grab and go items available for sale as well as beverages
- An all new “order online” option in our cafeteria to allow for more options to order food.
- All new online shopping cart for ordering tickets and rentals, eliminating lines in the rental shop with online forms and preset gear

HOURS OF OPERATION

Skiing & Snowboarding
- Friday-Sunday 8:45am-4:15pm
- Christmas Holiday Week: Open Daily 12/26/20-1/3/21
- Martin Luther King Holiday: Open 1/16/21-1/18/21
- Presidents’ Holiday Week: Open Daily 2/13/21-2/23/21

Snowtubing
- Saturdays & Sundays 12/26/20-3/14/21: 11am-5pm
  1/16/21-1/18/21
  2/13/21-2/21/21

All lift tickets, lessons, and rentals will be required to be booked this year online.

Know before you go!
Please visit https://www.plattekill.com/covid-19/ for Plattekill’s COVID Health & Safety policy!
WINDHAM MOUNTAIN IN THE 2020-2021 SEASON:
Windham Mountain will approach the 2020/21 winter season strategically with guest and employee well-being as the driving force. A capacity calendar has been created to allow for anticipated State, local, and Federal guidance that limit the number of guests Windham Mountain can accommodate during peak visitation periods. This “Red & Green” calendar has no anticipated capacity restrictions on “Green Days,” and significant capacity restrictions in place for “Red Days” to help adhere to social distancing guidelines throughout the mountain. Visit windhammountain.com for more details.

Further improvements include ticket kiosks that will be available for redemption of first time lift ticket purchases. QR codes on confirmation emails may be scanned at self-service ticket kiosks, and guests having re-loaded tickets onto RFID cards may proceed directly to the lift.

New this year, Windham Mountain will be implementing cashless transactions in the interest of guest and employee safety. Credit/debit cards, Windham Gift Cards, and options to set up “resort charge” on RFID cards and season passes, along with reloading money onto all these products, are all acceptable options for payment. Guests that only have cash can place their currency onto a gift card at no extra cost.

Windham Mountain announced its new partnership with industry leader Centerplate as its new hospitality, catering and culinary partner, and will employ strict adherence to all COVID-19 protocols to ensure a safe experience for all visitors. Advance reservations for indoor dining venues are required, and numerous food trucks and other outdoor dining options will be available as well, with patio heaters and heated benches to enhance the outdoor dining experience.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Skiing & Snowboarding
Monday through Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm
Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays
8:00am - 4:00pm

Adventure Park
Fridays 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturdays 11:00am - 8:00pm
Sundays 11:00am - 4:00pm
With additional holiday hours.

Advance registration for indoor dining, adult and child lessons, and equipment rental are required. Please visit windhammountain.com for more details on advance reservations and details about the “Red & Green” calendar.
**The MOUNTAIN CINEMA in Hunter IS OPEN!***

*Subject to change based on guidance from New York State regarding containment of COVID-19.
Please visit catskillmtn.org for updates.

RESERVE THE THEATER FOR A PRIVATE VIEWING!

Call Steve at 518 263 2072 for more information.

**DOCTOROW CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

7971 Main Street
Village of Hunter

**SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

We hope to be able to remain open, but PLEASE visit catskillmtn.org or call 518 263 4702 in advance. Shows open on Friday & run through Sunday.

**Ticket Prices:** $11 / $9 seniors & children under 11

View each week’s schedule and view trailers for our films online at www.catskillmtn.org

The movie theater at the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center in Tannersville will be closed until further notice.

**YOUR SAFETY IS OUR TOP PRIORITY**

To ensure the safety of our patrons and staff, we have instituted the following procedures:

- **Masks Are Required Except when Seated to Drink or Eat**

- **You Must Wait to Be Seated**

- **The Theaters will be sanitized between showings:** do not enter the theater until escorted.

- **We strongly encourage you to purchase your tickets in advance. Please visit www.catskillmtn.org and click on the film you’d like to see to choose your showing and reserve your seat!**

**RESERVE THE THEATER FOR A PRIVATE VIEWING!**

Call Steve at 518 263 2072 for more information.

www.catskillmtn.org • 518 263 4702
February is a good month for pruning shrubs and young trees. The leaves are gone from deciduous plants, so it’s easy to see the architecture of the bare branches. Plants are thoroughly dormant, so they can tolerate losing some limbs. And spring is not far away, with its flush of strong growth that aids the healing of pruning cuts.

Why prune? It’s not always necessary, especially for larger, more established plants. Young trees, especially fruit trees, may need pruning to train them into a vase-shape that allows good air flow through the branches. Trees and shrubs near a house may need pruning to prevent damage to the siding. Projecting or low-hanging limbs along a sidewalk may need to be removed out of consideration to pedestrians. And, although it’s always best when planting a new tree or shrub to allow room for its natural size at maturity, an older shrub that has grown too big for its space may need regular pruning to keep it within bounds, if it’s not removed altogether.

A key to successful pruning is understanding how the plant will respond. Trimming off the growing tip of a stem redistributes the plant hormone auxin. In the woody branches of trees and shrubs or the trunk of a young sapling, auxin discourages the buds tucked behind the leaf nodes along the stem from active growth. This phenomenon is known as “apical dominance,” because the dominant growth will be at the plant’s apex. Cutting off the growing tip of the main stem stimulates the buds to grow and produce new shoots.

Auxin is why trimming a few inches from the top of a tree sapling results in numerous vigorous side branches, which is highly desirable in a backyard fruit tree. On the other hand, if you want a tree to grow tall and narrow, keeping its tip intact will discourage the growth of side branches. Any unwanted side branches that do form can be clipped close to the trunk, leaving a small “collar” to promote good healing. If, instead, a side branch is cut off partway down its length, the remaining buds will begin to grow. The result may be a plant with an unbalanced form that needs a lot of extra pruning to continually correct its shape. In the case of hedges, the dense, twiggy growth produced by shearing is the desired result.

Entire books have been written about pruning, both general guides and guides to topics as specific as “how to prune an apple tree.” The most basic key to successful pruning, though, whether you’re aiming for a natural look, an abundance of healthy fruit, or the formal appearance of a hedge, topiary or espalier, is understanding apical dominance. Apply that understanding, and you can’t go far wrong.

Flowering Quince

A Greene County Garden in February

By Margaret Donsbach Tomlinson
2021 PERFORMING ARTS
SEASON SNEAK PEEK

There are many unknowns as we plan our 2021 season. We will continue to work with our artists to offer virtual, recorded performances throughout the year. We are hoping to present The Nutcracker live in the Orpheum in December 2021.

FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC LOVERS

Salon Series of 6 Performances with the Academy of Fortepiano Performance
A series of informal online performances and discussions with fortепiano students and professionals anywhere, hosted by AFP faculty and guest artists around the world.

A Night at the Theater, London, at the Turn of the 18th Century
Labyrinth Baroque Ensemble
Richard Kolb (Music Director) and Tracy Cowart (Stage Director)
Saturday, September 4, 2021 @ 7:30pm
The ensemble brings to life the ravishing beauty and wry wit of 17th and 18th century chamber music on period instruments.

Thanksgiving Weekend Chamber Music Concert
Arranged and Conducted by Robert Manno
November 2021

FOR DANCE LOVERS

We continue to do everything we can to support dance artists who seek safe studio and theater space to continue their dancing. Dance residencies will be hosted at our facilities in the winter and spring of 2021.

ZviDance Residency
Zvi Gotheiner, choreographer
Three Weeks in January, 2021
Films of the dancers in residence will capture their experience of working in the Catskill Mountains. Final performances will be available later in the year on WNET.

Guggenheim Museum Works & Process Dance Residencies
Directed by Duke Dang
Six Two-Week Residencies from January through May, 2021
Works & Process, the performing arts series at the Guggenheim, will incubate six new dance commissions shaping a more inclusive and representative world. These projects will be developed as part of a series of bubble residencies, a model pioneered by Works & Process, where artists can safely gather, create, work and perform. Each residency will feature a digital program that will allow audiences to go behind the scenes to gain insight into the creative process.

Orpheum Dance Program Performances
Directed by Victoria Rinaldi and featuring dancers from the Community Ballet program as well as students and professional dancers from other schools and dance companies in the Northeast.

FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS

Virtual performances in each season of 2021.

No Strings Marionette Company: “The Snowmaiden”
Animals, humans and mythical creatures populate this beloved Russian folktale.

Enchantment Theatre from Philadelphia
Three stories from the Brothers Grimm

A FEW LAUGHS GO A LONG WAY

Tune in for staged readings of a pair of short theater comedies filmed at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter.

Wanda’s Visit, by Christopher Durang
Featuring Darcy Dunn, Dayna Kurtz, John McCaffrey, and Mark Singer
January, 2021
In this madcap farce, a married couple in a stale marriage host an unexpected visit from the husband’s old girlfriend, and she turns out to be the guest from hell.

The second play in this series has yet to be chosen.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
August, 2021
A night of dance and spoken word including dancers from professional ballet companies and local ballet students.

The Nutcracker
December, 2021
The magic continues with this annual holiday production featuring local ballet students and professional dancers.
ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 1!
www.sugarmaples.org | www.catskillmtn.org
On Instagram: @Sugarmaples.center

WEEKLY CERAMICS

CLASSES

BASICS & BEYOND
Instructor: Susan Bogen
June 23 to August 25

CLAY FOR SENIORS
Instructor: Susan Beecher
June 23 to August 25

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS

HANDBUILDING: TRICKS OF THE TRADE
Instructor: Vince Pitelka
June 17 to June 22

SENSATIONAL SODA FIRING
Instructor: Bruce Dehnert
June 24 to June 27

DELICIOUS DISHES
Instructor: Susan Beecher
July 2 to July 4

LEVEL UP YOUR PATTERN
Instructor: Michael Kline
July 8 to July 12

COILING AND SLAB CONSTRUCTION: AN UNORTHODOX APPROACH TO TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES
Instructor: Jeff Shapiro
July 15 to July 20

AN EXPERIMENTAL SALT FIRING
Instructors: Max Seinfeld & Stephanie Lanter
July 22 to July 27

EXPRESSIVE TIPS & SODA FIRING
Instructor: Kenyon Hansen
July 29 to August 3

MARRYING FORM AND SURFACE WITH BRENDA QUINN
Instructor: Brenda Quinn
August 5 to August 10

WHICH CAME FIRST, THE POT OR THE IDEA
Instructor: Lindsay Oesterritter
August 12 to August 16

THE POETIC PICTURE: CLAY AS CANVAS
Instructor: Shanna Fliegel
August 19 to August 24

PATTERN ON THE CLAY SURFACE
Instructor: Adero Willard
August 26 to August 31

MOSAICS MAGNIFICENT MOSAICS
Instructor: Cynthia Fisher
July 23 to 25

PAINTING

CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING
Instructor: Linda Schultz
June 26 to 27

FIBER ARTS

BASICS & BEYOND WEEKLY WEAVING CLASS
Instructor: Laura Pierce
Session 1: June 7 to July 26
Session 2: August 9 to September 27

INTRO TO RIGID HEDDLE
Instructor: Teresa Curtiss
August 7 to 8
PLEASE DONATE TO THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION!
Your support matters and makes everything we do possible!

EACH YEAR, THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION
- Presents and hosts **more than 20 performances and lectures**.
- Offers **free or subsidized arts programs** that are enjoyed by hundreds of local children.
- Offers **works of over 40 regional artists**, along with the **a hand-curated collection of over 4,000 books**.
- Hosts **arts residencies** bringing many artists to our community for extended stays.
- Is the **home of the Piano Performance Museum**, a rare collection of historic playable pianos.
- Runs a **dozen studio arts programs**, with students from around the U.S.
- Shows **more than 100 films** on our four screens in Hunter and Tannersville.
- Publishes the monthly **Guide magazine**, distributed throughout the Catskill Region and at New York State Thruway rest stops.

YES! I would like to help the Catskill Mountain Foundation in its mission to bring the arts to the Mountaintop

Please accept my donation of: $___________

You may also make a donation online at https://bit.ly/2E3Exny

*All donors are listed in our playbills and receive our weekly e-mail updates.*

☐ Primary Address

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City:_________________________________ State:_________ Zip:_________

E-mail:______________________________________________

Phone:______________________________________________

☐ Secondary Address

Address:______________________________________________

City:_________________________________ State:_________ Zip:_________

☐ Check if this is a new address.

Please make your check payable to: Catskill Mountain Foundation
PO Box 924 • Hunter, NY 12442

Become an “Angel of the Arts”: Make this a monthly gift

I would like to donate $___________ monthly.

☐ Check Enclosed  ☐ Visa  ☐ Mastercard  ☐ AmEx

Card #________________________________________ Exp. Date____________ CVV _________ Billing Zip Code________________

Signature ____________________________________________

You may be able to double your contribution if you work for or are retired from a company that has a matching gift program.

To make your match, simply obtain a form from your company’s Matching Gift Coordinator and send it along with your contribution.

Catskill Mountain Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. All gifts are tax deductible as allowable by law.

Questions/More Information: Call 518 263 2001
WE MISS YOU AND CAN’T WAIT TO SEE YOU SOON!

“All art has this characteristic – it unites people.”

—Leo Tolstoy
Find Your Way to HOME...

in Greene County, New York!

Our local realtors know all there is to know about our Catskill Mountain, Rural Valley, and Historic Hudson River towns. Whether you’re looking to find joy in a vibrant village community, or solace in a more secluded setting, living and working in Greene County offers a lifestyle sought by many, but achieved by few.

Connect with Greene County Today!

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TO WIDE OPEN SPACES
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