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COUNTY DEPARTMENTS SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR 2016 OPERATING BUDGET

Elected Officials, Commissioners and Department Heads have submitted their official budget requests for the 2016 Operating Budget to the County Manager. With assistance from the Commissioner of Management and Budget, the County Manager will now begin the arduous task of reviewing these requests and crafting the 2016 Tentative Budget, to be submitted to the Sullivan County Legislature by October 21, 2016.

Due to a very low Consumer Pricing Index (CPI), the State tax cap will be just over 1% for the 2016 Tax Levy. Meeting the obligations that the County has to its residents, businesses, and employees, fulfilling mandates set forth by the State and Federal Government, and addressing critical issues such as infrastructure while remaining within such a low cap will be challenging. However, the County Manager and staff are confident in the ability to put forth a plan that is workable, fair and meets the County's most pressing needs.

It is our intention to work with all Commissioners, Department Heads, and Elected Officials to craft a budget that maintains County services and increase capacity in areas that require additional resources, to the best of our ability. This will be accomplished by identifying additional non property tax revenue, exploring cost saving measures for operations, and investing in programs and technology that will ultimately reduce expenses.

During the course of the next 4 months the Legislature, County staff and the public will have their opportunity to weigh in on the 2016 budget. If you have any questions about the budget process we encourage you to contact our office and will gladly provide you with information. The County Manager's Office can be reached at (845) 807-0450.

WIFI NOW AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC IN SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER AND ADULT CARE CENTER

Sullivan County is pleased to announce that a new WiFi network is now available to the public during normal business hours at the Government Center in Monticello, NY and the Adult Care Center (ACC) in Liberty, NY. Dubbed "SC_Digital_Inclusion," the WiFi network will provide a fast connection from portable devices completely free of charge. The Sullivan County Department of Management Information Systems will roll out additional connection points to other publicly owned and accessed County buildings in the near future.

SC_Digital_Inclusion users are required to comply with the County's Public Wireless Internet Access Acceptable Use Policy when they connect to this network. While this service is intended to be available during the normal operating hours of the County, the County cannot guarantee that wireless service will be available at any specific time, nor can the County guarantee internet speeds or quality of the connection. Printing to County printers is not available.

FREE RABIES CLINIC FOR PETS OF COUNTY RESIDENTS, AUGUST 20TH

A free rabies clinic sponsored by Sullivan County Public Health Services will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2015 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. The clinic will take place at Hanefee Park on Sunset Lake Road in Liberty, NY.

Three year rabies vaccinations will be provided upon presentation of a current or expired rabies certificate. With no record of vaccination history, pets will receive a one year vaccination.

All pets must be in a carrier or on a leash and be at least three months old. Dogs, cats and ferrets will be vaccinated.

For more information please contact the Sullivan County Department of Public Health Services at (845) 292-5910 extension 0, or the information line at (845) 513-2268 (press 2 for additional rabies clinic information).

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REMINDER: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT AUGUST 30, 2015

The second Household Hazardous Waste Event will take place from 10:00am to 3:00pm on Sunday, August 30, 2015 at the Monticello Transfer Station, located at 91 Landfill Drive, Monticello, NY 12701. Residents will have a second opportunity to safely dispose of discarded, unused or leftover quantities of household chemicals that contain toxic ingredients.

Pre-registration is required by calling (845) 807-0291 with your name, residential address, phone number and a list of chemicals you would like to dispose of. You must bring two forms of identification to the event showing name and residential address for entry.

These events are partially funded by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and Sullivan County. If you have any questions, need safe packaging instructions or transport directions please call (845) 807-0291.

The County Manager is the full time Chief Executive and Administrative Head of the County of Sullivan. He and his dedicated staff are prepared to answer your questions and to hear your comments.

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SULLIVAN COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN LEADERSHIP SULLIVAN, CLASS OF 2015-16

Four employees of Sullivan County will be joining the Leadership Sullivan Class of 2015-2016 this September. The Leadership Sullivan Program expands the leadership potential of participants through educational programs designed to broaden an individual's knowledge of the County, improve communication skills and increase organization and problem solving skills.

County employees successfully participated in this program in prior years. The County Manager believes this program is extremely beneficial for both the employees and the County, which benefits from having employees with a broader understanding of the community which they serve as well as the improved leadership, communication and organizational skills.

Employees participating in the Leadership Sullivan Program and members of the Class of 2015-16 include:

- Stephanie Brown, Public Health Nurse/Quality Improvement Coordinator, Public Health Services
- Joycelyn M. Jordan, Supervisor, Department of Family Services
- Gina Cicchetti, Assistant Social Worker I, Department of Community Services
- Katherine N. Johnson, LCSW-R, Clinical Director, Department of Community Services Mental Health Clinic

Good luck to all of our County Employees, we look forward to your graduation!

SULLIVAN RENAISSANCE AWARDS CEREMONY

Teams of experts from outside Sullivan County spent August 5-8 visiting over 60 locations before selecting winners in several beautification categories. For the third year, a separate panel of judges selected the winner of the Community Mitzvah Award from ten summer camps and bungalow Colonies.

The sixteen experts included individuals with horticulture, planning, community, filmmaking, marketing and international knowledge.

Winning communities were announced at the Sullivan Renaissance Awards Ceremony on Monday, August 10, 2015. The ceremony took place in the exquisite Event Gallery at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts in Bethel, NY.

Results of a new contest for video film-makers were also announced in recognition of Sullivan Renaissance's 15th year. New York City film director Ben Younger headed the panel of judges that reviewed a dozen videos showing how Sullivan Renaissance has impacted people, organizations and communities.

For a complete list of winners please visit Sullivan Renaissance's website:

www.SullivanRenaissance.org

FORT DELAWARE MUSEUM OF COLONIAL HISTORY

The end of summer is quickly approaching, but there are still some great opportunities for quality entertainment at Fort Delaware!

- August 15, 1:00pm—Colonial Tavern: Lecture on colonial versus modern day brewing techniques & colonial pub culture
- August 22, 23—18th Century Encampment: Navasing Longrifles Encampment & Drills
- August 29, 1:00pm—Privateers in the Revolutionary War: Lecture on the history of privateers during the Revolutionary War and their impact on the conflict
- September 4, 5, 6, 7—Labor Day Weekend
- September 5 & 6—200 Years of American Firearms: Weaponry from the Colonial Era through 1950s, exhibited and demonstrated

Fort Delaware regular hours of operation are Fridays and Saturdays, 10am-5pm, Sundays, 12pm-5pm, and Mondays 10am-5pm. Call (845) 252-6660 or (845)807-0261 for info.