

# Sullivan County Democrat

Callicoon, New York  
October 27, 2009 Issue

National Award-winning, Family-run Newspaper  
Established 1891

www.sc-democrat.com  
info@sc-democrat.com

news | sports | obituaries | archives | classifieds | subscribe | links | contact | tv listings | lottery

Today is Thursday, October 29th, 2009

## Weather

### Current Weather

for

Callicoon



Overcast

45

More

powered by  
AccuWeather.com



Dan Hust | Democrat

## Community

"Retrospect"  
John Conway's Weekly  
Column in the  
Democrat

"The Wild Gardener"  
Peter Loewer's Weekly  
Column in the  
Democrat

"The Mouth That  
Roars"  
Bill Liblick's Weekly  
Column in the  
Democrat

"Sullivan EMS Scene  
Sizeup"  
James Vooght's  
Biweekly  
Column in the  
Democrat

Sullivan  
Renaissance

Sullivan County Chamber  
Of Commerce & Industry

Sullivan County

Upwards of 15,000 cubic yards of shale are blasted off the hillside to make way for the 17/I-86 bypass near Parksville. The deepest cut will be 105 feet into the mountain, with each blast by Maine Drilling and Blasting using 7-9 tons of liquid explosives.

# Blasting through Parksville mountain

### By Dan Hust

PARKSVILLE — The new Route 17 bypass being built around Parksville won't save much time or mileage, but it will avoid the last remaining traffic light along the entire route.

And that will pave the way for 17 to be designated Interstate 86, the primary reason for this near-\$100 million project — currently the biggest road construction project in the Southern Tier.

Overseeing it all is Jeffersonville native Ed Mall, the 35-year-old engineer-in-charge for the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT). The three-mile bypass cuts through the northern flank of the mountain southwest of Parksville, with 13 bridges (six eastbound, six westbound

Visitor's Association

Sullivan County Government Center

Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development

Please visit our Community Links section for other Sullivan County Organizations

and one on the new road leading from the highway to Parksville), plus massive fills, embankments and rock cuts to ensure a grade of no more than four percent.

In cooperation with the Village of Liberty, the DOT is even chipping in (and doing the work) to replace the village's 1930s-era 8-inch water main with a 12-inch version, where the pipeline runs underneath part of the project on its way from Lily Pond to Liberty four miles to the south.

Utilizing as many as 200 workers on any given day, Mall and his DOT colleagues plan to work virtually year-round to ensure the bypass is open by 2012 (though at least one set of lanes may be in operation by late 2011).

Courtesy of the DOT – in particular, Mall and spokesman David Hamburg – the Democrat recently got an up-close tour of the massive project, which on that particular day featured a spectacular blasting job by Maine Drilling and Blasting.

PLEASE NOTE: If you bookmark a particular link from the current news, sports or obituaries offered on our Website, be aware that the URL address will change once it is archived. Bookmarking an archived link is therefore the surest way to retain access to a particular article.

--	--	--	--

Copyright © 1999-2006 Catskill-Delaware Publications.

The information you receive online from the Sullivan County Democrat Online Edition is protected by the copyright laws of the United States. Please read our user agreement and our use information privacy statement.

Internet Services provided by Time Warner, Site Design by Green Enterprises

**Please be aware that once a new issue is posted on this site, the immediate previous issue's links change. Check our Archives section to obtain the new links for old issues.**

[top of page](#)

[top of page](#)

--	--	--	--