

BEACON FREE PRESS

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COVID-19 update

Holidays, high demand create testing challenges



Last week, Dutchess County helped distribute more than 120,000 KN95 masks that were delivered by the state to municipalities, businesses, schools, houses of worship, day care centers and nonprofits to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

-Photo from the Dutchess County Government Facebook page

By Kate Goldsmith

A large increase in the amount of people seeking COVID-19 testing during the holiday season has created delays in test results; along with many having difficulty accessing rapid testing, and further delays in reporting due to the holidays themselves, Dutchess County and New York State as a whole are seeing both exponential rises in infection and a likely under-reporting of active cases.

As of Dec. 31, Dutchess County's COVID-19 Dashboard noted there were 5,042 active cases in the county (up from 2,611 the previous week) and a 16.55-percent infection rate (up from 9.39 the previous week). Hospitalizations were at 97 (up from 74 from the previous week), and there have been 536 deaths (up from 528 the previous week) since the beginning of the pandemic.

A few weeks ago, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced that the state would be distributing rapid test kits and KN95 face-masks to all counties, which would then be distributed to each municipality based on population. After one week, in which the small number of tests were quickly distributed, the state changed gears and announced that the test kits would be exclusively distributed to schools through BOCES.

A statement on the county's Facebook page reads: "In the meantime, Dutchess County is exploring sourcing and purchasing test kits for immediate distribution by its municipalities. We will keep you posted."

On Dec. 31, 2021, the county posted: "Dutchess County Emergency Response has been hard at work distributing the nearly 39,000 at-home test kits received yesterday from NYS to local school districts. Many school districts began distributing kits to student families today with others distributing this week - please check with your school district about how they will be utilizing or distributing kits."

Officials at Nuvance Health (Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Putnam Hospital Center and Northern Dutchess Hospital) are requesting that individuals not come to the Emergency Departments for COVID testing.

Delays hinder expanded testing at county sites

Many who recently went for COVID-19 testing at the former JCPenney location in the Poughkeepsie Galleria (currently the only county-run site) have seen significant delays in receiving test results.

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Howland Cultural Center to host exhibit on animals

By Kristine Coulter

The next two months are for the animals at Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon. The "Celebrating Animals" exhibit is a multi-media art show. The show runs Jan. 8 – Feb. 26. Hours are 1 – 5 p.m.

The exhibit curator is Tom Conroy, with assistance from Jan Dolan, Cindy Gould, and Jean Noack.

"I have always loved animals but in recent years, as I thought about the stresses on our planet, I began thinking more deeply about animals and about our relationship with them. My heart breaks when I think of animals suffering because of mistreatment of them, or of their ecosystems, by humans. Then, starting last year, when many of us were homebound at the start of the pandemic I bought a bird feeder and became something of a bird watcher. Doing so made me realize how beautiful and fascinating birds were and how deeply we are connected to them. At the same time, my wife got steadily involved in supporting elephant conservation work, particularly the work of the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya and she and I both became more knowledgeable about, and enamored of, elephants and their complexity. So, these experiences were catalysts for this show," explained Conroy via email.

One of the participating artists is Anna West.

"My paintings for this exhibit are based on movies in which the animals appear. Blackie is the hero black stallion in "True Grit;" the chickens show life continuing while danger or dinner occurs off screen," explained artist Anna West.

West noted that although the pandemic was on her mind when she chose these paintings for the exhibit, the pieces were painted before COVID. "I like showing movement while we can't move freely or easily ourselves," said West.

"I hope that people who come to the exhibit will enjoy it and will be inspired by it. Perhaps it will even raise people's consciousness about how important animals are and about how they should be treated with



Shown is "Blackie: True Grit," a piece by Anna West.

-Courtesy image

even more compassion and respect," said Conroy.

West remarked, "Animals offer a kind of satisfying pleasure not always available to the rest of us."

Conroy said, "I want to encourage people to tap into their own creative spirit and find a bit of time to create. When I moved to Beacon nearly fifteen years ago, the local art community inspired me to try making art, so I would just like to encourage creativity in others."

Artists in the show include: Luz Ahumada, Angela Antunes, Sandra

Belitza Vazquez, Yvonne Capone, Jane Cassetta, Tom Conroy, Josiah H. Dearborn, Stephanie Dignan, Jan Dolan, Stephanie Fogarty, Pamela Garfield, Karen E. Gersch, Cindy Gould, Ron Hershey, Gemma Kahng, Philomena Kiernan, Daniel Laury, William Loeb, Linda Lynton, Sean McCarthy, Susanne Moss, Jean Noack, Maureen Norcross, Marlo Richards, Shirley Simmons Bloom, Joseph Sundwall, Robyn Tauss, Hanna Washburn, Anna West and Theresa Winterleitner.

Municipal leaders look ahead with plans for the new year

By Kristine Coulter

Southern Dutchess County leaders have big plans for their communities in 2022. Some of the local leaders spoke about their hopes and plans for their municipalities in the new year.

Main St. improvements priority in City of Beacon

City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou said, "We will be continuing work on Main Street improvements and housing affordability, the latter including a pilot tenant advisory program, and developing city-owned lots into mixed use affordable housing, commercial and parking."

The mayor noted for 2022, "We are looking to push forward a number of projects, the major ones being expansion of Tompkins Hose into our central fire station, further Main Street improvements, and dam and wastewater improvements; we will also be surveying recreation and community facility needs."

Kyriacou said, "We are continuing, under the leadership of mayor and City Administrator Chris White, to further professionalize city management, including hiring our police chief, adding fire lieutenants and other key managers."

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Carnwath Farms in the town of Wappinger is on Wappinger Supervisor Richard Thurston's 2022 list for improvements.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

COVID-19 update

Continued from page 1

The Beacon Free Press contacted the county for comment and received the following statement from Assistant Commissioner of Department of Behavioral & Community Health Anthony Ruggiero:

“Over this past week, more than 1,600 people were tested at our JCPenney site by ProPhase, double the volume of the previous week. The volume of testing at this site -- as well as across the region, state and nation -- has increased exponentially, overwhelming labs and delaying testing results. Where we were previously seeing less than 24-hour turnaround for test results, it is now taking a minimum of 72 hours to receive results.

“Additionally, we have been investigating reports from people tested on Tuesday, Dec 27, who have not received results and/or have been told that their samples were not received and/or damaged. ProPhase is currently investigating the situation. We acknowledge this is unacceptable and share the frustration people are feeling.”

Ruggiero said the county is seeking “alternatives to resolve this situation as well as expand testing availability as we expect the high demand for testing will continue, particularly over the next several weeks.”

Colleen Pillus, spokesperson for County Executive Marc Molinaro, provided additional context on the volume of testing, noting that “for the entire month of November, ProPhase conducted 763 tests at our JCPenney [location]. Last week alone, more than 1,600 tests were conducted.”

A reminder to continue mitigation steps

On Dec. 29, 2021, the county released a public health alert about the increasing circulation of both the Delta and Omicron variants, the latter which “is spreading at an exponential rate.”

The alert noted, “Since Thanksgiving, the seven-day average case rate has almost tripled, and hospitalizations have more than doubled, in Dutchess County and the Mid-Hudson region. While the percentage of New Yorkers fully vaccinated continues to increase, the uptick is not fast enough to completely curb the spread of this highly transmissible virus, particularly among communities with low vaccination coverage.”

Calling for “increased adherence to multiple prevention strategies ... the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH), in partnership with the Dutchess County Board of Health, supports a multilayered approach to contain COVID-19 to include education and guidance about common sense mitigation measures.”

These include mask-wearing, social distancing, vaccinations, boosters, testing, participation in contact tracing and education.

- All persons able to medically tolerate a face covering/mask, regardless of vaccination status, should wear an appropriate face covering/mask while in any indoor public place. Businesses and other entities requiring mask-wearing in their establishments have a right to enforce this requirement.

- Wear high-quality masks, such as sur-

gical masks or KN95, whenever possible. They are more protective than cloth coverings.

- Get the COVID vaccine for all household members aged 5 and older. If you are age 16 or older, fully vaccinated and your last dose was at least six months ago (two months if you received the J&J vaccine), get a booster. While full vaccination is still great protection against severe disease and hospitalization, boosters are your best protection against becoming infected in the first place.

According to the county's COVID-19 Dashboard, 83% of adults (18 and older) have received at least one vaccine dose. The percentage of all Dutchess residents who have received at least one dose is at 74 percent, and 66 percent have completed their vaccine series. For appointment information, visit www.DutchessNY.gov/covidvaccine

- Get your flu shot. There is a resurgence of influenza this year, and you will want to keep yourself less vulnerable to COVID, or to severe flu that can also lead to hospitalization or death.

- DBCH strongly urges all Dutchess County residents to engage in practices that improve their immune systems and overall health, especially this winter. A healthy diet, adequate sleep, generous hydration, avoidance of tobacco and excessive alcohol consumption, regular exercise, and proper hygiene including frequent handwashing are all important to support immunity. A healthier immune system can help reduce an individual's vulnerability to infection and ability to spread the virus.

The Dutchess County COVID-19 Hotline can be reached at 845-486-3555 or 845-431-6465 (after hours).

Data from the state

Seen on a graph on the New York Forward Dashboard, the number of infections statewide looks close to a straight line, growing from 208.7 per 100,000 on Dec. 27 to 320 per 100,000 on Jan. 1. The seven-day rolling average for positive infections statewide was nearly 21 percent on Jan. 1.

In the Mid-Hudson region, the seven-day average for infections is about the same – 20.8 percent – and 284.4 per 100,000 – slightly below the state average.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dutchess' case rate was much higher (872.8 per 100,000) than indicated by the state. The data has likely been skewed by the holidays and delays in testing results. Regardless, Dutchess County is still considered a high-risk area, based on CDC guidelines in calculating the number of positive cases per 100,000 persons over the last seven days (more than 100 per 100,000) and more than 10-percent of positive NAATs (Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests) during the last seven days.

Beacon firefighters aid choking dog



Beacon Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis reports that on Dec. 27, a Beacon citizen approached Beacon Fire Station 2 with a dog in distress. The dog was having trouble breathing. Above, the on-duty firefighters discovered a large ham bone stuck in the dog's mouth. The firefighters calmed the dog and forcibly removed the bone. "Chuck" is doing well now. Bottom, the bone that firefighters removed.

-*Courtesy photos*



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A white, rectangular Generac home standby generator is positioned in the lower right foreground. It features a control panel on the top right and a series of horizontal ventilation slats on the right side. The word "GENERAC" is printed in black on the front. In the background, a two-story house with a gabled roof and several windows is visible. The house appears to be at night or dusk, with some interior lights glowing. The overall scene is set against a dark, gradient background that transitions from black on the left to a lighter grey on the right.

Celebrating Musical Diversity in the Hudson Valley
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New commissioner: Pandemic uncertainty dominates work of Health Department

By Curtis Schmidt

The ever-evolving COVID-19 pandemic, with its ever-increasing number of new cases, is presenting a myriad of challenges for Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD FACEP and new Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DCBH).

Dr. Santiago-Rosado took over on Dec. 20, 2021, replacing Dr. Anil Vaidian, whose resignation was effective Sept. 10 of last year.

“This is a pandemic of unprecedented proportions, and as a result there is a lot of uncertainty associated with it. People generally (and understandably) react to uncertainty with fear and anxiety, but in this case there is additional distress as essentially all of us have had COVID adversely affect us personally in some way,” said Dr. Santiago-Rosado. “Throughout the pandemic, the public health community has had to be agile and adjust to the conditions on the ground. This will be our reality for the foreseeable future.”

With the Omicron variant causing the great majority of the latest rise in new infections, she said, “Not only did it hit just as we were hunkering down for winter, it’s also much more contagious than prior strains. On average, one person infected with the Omicron variant will infect three more people. Although vaccinated individuals still seem to be at much less risk of severe illness or death, it appears that “full vaccination” is not as protective against spread as it was for prior variants.”

She added, “What we have been learning is there is no single best strategy to contain COVID; instead, applying layers of mitigation seems to be our best bet. Masks, social distancing, vaccines and

boosters, isolation, contact tracing and quarantines, social distancing, treatment modalities - all of these are important, and their effect is cumulative and synergistic when employed simultaneously.”

Her advice to local residents is pure and simple - get vaccinated, and if fully vaccinated, get boosted. The latest data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which is based on data from 25 states and cities, shows that the death rate for unvaccinated people is 14 times as high as that for vaccinated people.

“Active immunization against SARS-Cov2 is still the best bet (even for those who may have been infected and developed some passive natural immunity),” said Dr. Santiago-Rosado. “The likelihood of becoming infected by a positive contact is higher when you have spent a cumulative 15 minutes or more within six feet of that individual, so social distancing and masks are still some of the mainstays of avoiding transmission.”

She added, “Currently, because of the unusually high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, residents of Dutchess County should mask and limit contact with others, particularly in indoor environments where there are unmasked individuals. For patients who do test positive, it is crucial that they follow isolation guidance. These positive results must also be reported to the local health department to facilitate contact tracing and education.”

The difficult reality of the latest rise in cases is that already over-stressed hospital personnel are again bearing the brunt of the work with the rising cases.

“This pandemic has taken a huge toll on the mental health of the public, and it should be mentioned that healthcare workers are not immune to this,” said Dr. Santiago-Rosado. “In this context, many

hospitals are short staffed due to attrition that was accelerated during the pandemic, some of which can be attributed to the burnout many on the front lines are understandably experiencing. Furthermore, the more exposures in the community and in the workplace, the more vulnerable healthcare workers are to becoming ill themselves, and having to be kept out of work, further straining the system.”

She added, “Because patients are anxious and stressed, it’s also not unusual for healthcare workers to describe increasingly hostile work environments and to report verbal, and in some cases physical, abuse.”

Hospitals personnel are also facing other severe difficulties, according to Dr. Santiago-Rosado.

In addition to more cases with the Omicron variant, she said, “We have a whole host of sicker patients needing hospitalization due to decreased access to primary care and preventive interventions since the beginning of the pandemic. They are coming in with complications of incompletely or poorly managed conditions. Hospitals are also seeing more patients presenting with behavioral health issues.”

In regard to her own staff, Dr. Santiago-Rosado said the county Department of Behavioral & Community Health employs approximately 200 individuals, including both public health and behavioral (mental) health.

“Throughout the pandemic, in addition to our normal scope of diverse responsibilities, our team has continued to support and assist residents, organizations and businesses in a wide variety of ways, including contact tracing, case management, vaccine/booster distribution, test-



Dr. Livia Santiago-Rosado

ing support, data management, call center operations, supply acquisition/distribution (including mask), public information/education, and much, much more,” she said.

Going forward, Dr. Santiago-Rosado said, “The main thing that the public can do is to do their part in ending this pandemic: from hand-washing, to wearing masks and distancing, to getting vaccinated - any actions that will prevent transmission and deterioration will help preserve our healthcare workforce. The public should also be cognizant that healthcare providers and systems are incredibly stretched right now, and approach their interactions with them (and others in general) with patience, kindness and respect.”

Municipal leaders outline 2022 agendas

Continued from page 1

Town of Wappinger to improve parks, recreation facilities

“Thanks to our strong financial position, we will continue to improve our park and recreation facilities; expand programs for our seniors and veterans; add additional recreation department programming; and continue support for our youth sports organizations,” said Town of Wappinger Supervisor Richard Thurston. He said town officials expect to advance the long-range capital planning initiative in order to increase investment in sewer and water infrastructure and improvement in roads and drainage.

“It is our hope that these investments will allow us to diversify our tax base, especially along the Route 9 and 376 corridors, while increasing protection against Mother Nature’s unpredictable personality. Additionally, the County has awarded Wappinger grants totaling \$200,000 that will be used in 2022 to develop a new senior/community center in the Reese Cultural Center at Carnwath Farms (where the sports Museum of Dutchess County is located),” said the Supervisor.

During the past two years, major highway improvement occurred along Myers Corner Road and Old Hopewell Road, remarked Thurston. “Highway reconstruction will continue during 2022-23 with the construction of a new roundabout at 376/New Hackensack/All Angels Hills Road and the rebuilding of the Peter C. Funari Memorial Bridge on Route 9, between Poughkeepsie and Wappinger,” he stated.

“All of our initiatives will focus on enhancing the quality of life of our residents throughout our community. Also, other priorities are the promotion of our amazing history; the diversity of our cultures; and enhancing intermunicipal

cooperation with our neighboring Southern Dutchess communities in order to enhance shared services,” Thurston concluded.

Town of Fishkill to plan ‘big celebration’ during statue installation

The Town of Fishkill is planning on the installation of the Daniel Nimham statue and a big celebration in 2022, said Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra. Nimham was the last chief of the Wappinger. There will be a “big celebration with that,” said Albra.

There will be adjustment of salaries for employees. It will be based on longevity in order to retain people, said the supervisor.

The Comprehensive Plan was begun in November 2021 and will continue in 2022, said Albra.

In the 2022 budget, Albra said there is more than \$400,000 to improve the town parks. There is also \$300,000 to build a new Highway garage. Albra hopes to have it completed in 2022.

As far as the new board members who were elected in the November 2021 election and will now be seated on the board (Carmin Istvan, John Forman and Brian Wrye), Albra said, “I think we’re going to be fine. I welcome them to the board.”

Albra said he is going to ask the board to give town employees hazard pay, like Dutchess County did for working during the pandemic. It would be \$1,000 for full-time and \$500 part-time, Albra said he is looking to offer town employees.

Infrastructure, in particular the Brinckherhoff sewer district, stimulus money will be used towards, said the supervisor.

Public transportation mitigation projects for East Fishkill in 2022

Town of East Fishkill Supervisor Nicholas D’Alessandro said looking forward in 2022, there will be “some large

transportation mitigation projects on Route 52.” There will state roundabouts near John Jay High School and the new Amazon site.

It will go at the former Auditorium Drive and will be called Patriot Way, said D’Alessandro, and will connect Route 52 with the Lime Kiln Road entrance of Interstate-84. It will be a cut-through road, he said.

“It will ease congestion,” said the supervisor. He explained that there is “is a huge backup” during the a.m. commute and student drop-off period. Town officials are working with Wappingers Central School District officials, he added. There will be a new atrium where

students will check in and for proper safety, he said.

Engineering is being done now for the projects. The completion date is expected to be in 2022, said D’Alessandro.

Town officials applied for a state grant for two roundabouts for the hamlet of Hopewell. One would be at Trinka Lane, said D’Alessandro. If approved, it would be completed in five years, he said.

Also, for the hamlet, town officials will look at trying to get a new identity for it by looking at historic names of the roads – such as Route 82 was called Main St. – to give an identity to the business district, he said.

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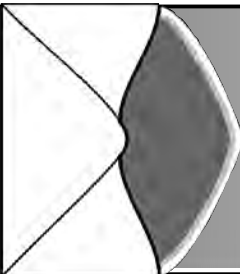
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Viewpoints



LETTERS
TO THE
EDITOR

Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. Please include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. **Deadline for letters is Friday at noon.** Letters must be submitted by e-mail to be considered for publication. Letters can be e-mailed to newsplace@aol.com, and the phrase “Letter to the Editor” should be included in the subject line of the e-mail.

Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff or management of the Southern Dutchess News Group. Letter submission does not guarantee the letter will be printed. Letters should be less than 300 words.

Eastern NY Red Cross
thanks volunteers, donors

To the Editor:
Saturday, Dec. 25 marked what would have been the 200th birthday of American Red Cross Founder Clara Barton. A compassionate and tenacious trailblazer, Clara built an Here in the Eastern New York Region, our team of dedicated volunteers and staff carry Clara’s vision forward. Currently we have 12 amazing volunteers deployed during their holiday season to help those impacted by deadly tornadoes. And every day we are out in the community responding to home fires and other disasters; more than 680 in the last year.
Over the last year, we helped nearly 2,800 military families navigate the challenges of deployment and reintegration. We collected more than 106,200 blood and platelet donations, giving the gift of life to those in need. We built safer and more resilient communities by training more than 40,000 people in critical lifesaving skills and installed more than 1,100 free smoke alarms as part of our Home Fire Campaign.
Emergencies don’t stop during a pandemic and neither do we. The need for our services continues to grow. We are grateful to our community who stands besides us to support our life-saving mission through volunteering and financial support. And of course, we are grateful for Clara for her vision that shines so bright 200 years later. Visit redcross.org/ENYholiday to see our year in review.
Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Kevin Coffey
Regional Chief Executive Officer
American Red Cross
Eastern New York Region

God’s blessing at Christmas

To the Editor:
"We need a little Christmas now" says the old song and maybe more than just a little Christmas, but why Christmas? Why is Christmas so apart and special?
Why all the carols, gifts, art and decoration? The Feliz Navidad and the Silent Night? Why Bach's "Jesus Joy of Man's desiring?" Why Mozart's Mass in C Minor? Handel's Messiah? Why Scrooge's turn around? Why “Joy to the World” and “Go Tell It on the Mountain?”
Some religions emphasize God's love, but put a limit on it. God loved humanity enough to send great teachers and prophets for its guidance, even perform miracles on its behalf as when God helped the Jews, enslaved in Egypt, escape through the Red Sea and survive in the desert.
God's love was manifest in other miracles, the Hanukkah lamps burning eight days on a one-day supply of oil but, and it's a big but, did God love us enough to become one of us, the babe in the manger? Did the Creator of all that is become a creature? Did

the Word, as St. John puts it, really become flesh and dwell among us? Did God really so love the world that he gave his only begotten son for the life of the world?
“I have come that you may have life and that in abundance,” said Christ. Christianity is unique in that only Christians answer "yes" to those questions and that yes is the reason for the joy of the season.
There will be no fading away into the blissful personal oblivion and absorption of an unknowing and uncaring cosmos as portrayed in some Eastern philosophies. We are meant for more than that. The love of "Our Father" awaits and that's the joy and promise of Christmas. So, St. Paul can write in triumph to the Corinthians, "Death where is your sting? Where is your victory?"
Some people choose to forget. They see Christmas as an opportunity to sell things, but most people understand that something is eternal and call that something God by many names. Eons before any Big Bangs, there was something. Always had to be or nothing would exist now. An instant of nothing dooms everything. It can be deduced that that something is powerful, intelligent, eternal and necessarily non-material.
Material things don't last. But love? The eternal in a manger come to us out of love? From a "yes" to that comes the joy of Christmas.
So, in the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us everyone.”

Dick Murphy
Beacon

Jacobson bill to study burying
transmission lines signed into law

Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson’s (D-104) bill (A2330A/S4186A) commissioning a study of the feasibility of burying all or most of the electrical, telephone, and internet transmission lines in New York was signed into law on Dec. 29 by Gov. Kathy Hochul. The bill was sponsored in the Senate by Senator Leroy Comrie (D-14).
Jacobson said, “I introduced the bill shortly after Tropical Storm Isaias caused widespread power outages across the Hudson Valley. Thousands of residents were without power for multiple days in the middle of a pandemic while Central Hudson worked to restore service.
“As climate change increases the frequency of extreme weather, there is a corresponding increase in outages and their consequences,” Jacobson continued. “The cost of burying transmission lines pales to the inconvenience and costs to individuals and businesses every time there is a major storm. Workers lose time from work as businesses are forced to close due to loss of electricity and internet connection. People must throw out spoiled food. Schools must close.
“Burying transmission lines will also encourage the transmission of hydroelectric power and wind power without the presence of unsightly transmission lines which currently foster opposition,”
Jacobson added. “I am certain a study will show that burying these lines would ultimately save government, businesses, and ordinary citizens billions of dollars as well as human lives. In addition, the necessary work would create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs.”
From January 2012 to July 2020, New York State utility companies have spent more than \$2 billion to restore service and repair damaged lines after a major storm:
- Central Hudson - \$75,382,794
- Con Edison - \$481,777,372
- Niagara Mohawk - \$282,021,595
- New York State Electric and Gas - \$502,355,452
- Orange and Rockland - \$180,404,764
- Rochester Gas and Electric - \$94,602,353
- PSEG Long Island - \$723,219,673
Jacobson concluded, “The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. It is time our nation stop reacting to the havoc created by extreme weather and take bold steps to strengthen our electrical and telecommunications grid. It is my hope that this is the first step in a transformational process.”
The study will be conducted by the New York State Department of Public Service in cooperation with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

Senators urge significant state
investment in mental health services

Senators urge significant state investment in mental health services
Senators Sue Serino (R,C-Hyde Park) and Jim Tedisco (R,C-Glenville) last week urged Gov. Kathy Hochul to make a significant investment in mental health services and treatment beds in the upcoming state budget.
In a letter to the Governor, Serino and Tedisco urge the state to focus on providing affordable services for New York’s youth and ask that the state work toward bolstering mental health services by streamlining the licensing process, incentivizing careers in the mental health field, and enabling qualified out-of-state professionals to practice in state to help meet immediate needs.
“The challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have placed enormous strain on a mental healthcare system that was already struggling to effectively meet the immense need,” said Serino. “Dutchess County is fortunate to be home to a model 24/7 Crisis Stabilization Center; however, I hear from far too many neighbors who are unable to access additional, affordable long-term services when they are in need. Whether it is getting more mental health professionals into our schools, opening more treatment beds to provide care to those who need it, ensuring access to mental health care in rural and high needs communities, and incentivizing careers in the mental health fields, we have to make bolstering these services a top priority in next year’s budget if we truly want ensure New Yorkers of all ages have the tools they need to rebuild and thrive.”
Tedisco, Ranking Member of the Senate's Mental Health Committee, said, “Even before the pandemic, New York State had a mental health care workforce crisis when it comes to ensuring that New Yorkers have access to vital mental health services. Unfortunately, Covid has made that situation that more challenging for those who need help and treatment. That’s why I’m joining with my colleague Senator Sue Serino to urge the Governor to make funding for mental health services a top priority as she prepares next year's state budget. It’s also why I’m sponsoring new legislation (S.7522) to expand statewide on an innovative BOCES pilot program to enable high school students the opportunity to learn about the direct care profession through work-based learning opportunities, job mentoring and curriculum-based training so we can help ease the labor shortage and provide more mental health care coverage to those who need it.”
The letter expands on an earlier push from lawmakers who called for funding for mental health services and the creation of additional stabilization centers in the state after a bipartisan visit to the Dutchess County Crisis Stabilization Center in October.
“The Dutchess County Stabilization Center saves lives, and I am proud to have played a role in securing state funds to make opening it a reality in 2017,” Serino continued. “Now, as the mental health needs of our neighbors evolve, we have to do more to build on its success and ensure that those in need of additional mental health services and supports have immediate access to them, and that is what this effort is about.”
Residents who may be struggling with a mental health challenge should know that help is always available: Dutchess County 24/7 Helpline - Call or TEXT 845-485-9700.

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DISPATCHES FROM THE VFW

by Tom Zurhellen

Let’s all resolve to help veterans in our community

Do you make New Year’s resolutions? I sure do. Some folks never make them, because they feel once they make a resolution, it’s only a matter of time before they break it. “I’m going to eat healthier this year” or “I’m going to volunteer more in my community” are common personal resolutions we hear often at the start of a brand new year. But many times those resolutions, although hopeful, never make it past January. We simply backtrack into our old habits, and those hopeful statements slip away into the backs of our minds, usually only to be seen a year later, when we make the next New Year’s resolutions.

Sounds familiar, right?

Recently I was honored to take part in a sobering ceremony to remember the names of those people in Dutchess County who died over the past year while experiencing homelessness. The ceremony is held by Hudson River Housing at the very end of each year, to honor the memories of our neighbors who might otherwise be forgotten.

The ceremony was a powerful one for all those who attended, including myself. But it wasn’t the speeches or readings or songs that made us emotional. No, it was the reading of the 33 names of people in our community who died while experiencing homelessness this year. Thirty-three. That’s a lot, and that’s just the folks in Dutchess County who died alone.

As I stood there listening to the names being read aloud, I also remembered to add my own silent prayer for Anthony Gray, who was a USMC veteran living at Liberty Station in Poughkeepsie until

October 2020, when he was murdered outside the shelter. It’s been a little over a year since Anthony’s death, it’s true, but like the 33 names at this year’s ceremony, I don’t want to ever forget Anthony.

That’s one of the personal reasons why I make resolutions for the New Year. I want to remind myself that we can always do better. Since I returned from the VetZero Walk Across America in 2019, boy, we have done so much to support our heroes here in the Hudson Valley, but we should never rest on our laurels.

When you have a true passion, I think you should always keep building, keep striving, and keep finding new ways to fuel that passion. Sure, many New Year’s resolutions fail, but that shouldn’t stop us from trying.

For 2022, why don’t we make our New Year’s resolutions together? Say it out loud with me: “This year, I resolve to do one act of kindness for a veteran in my community.” See? That was easy. And that act of kindness could be anything, from volunteering your time with the VetZero project at Hudson River Housing, to bringing a home-cooked meal to a veteran family in need in your community. Remember, a small gesture can mean so much to someone who is struggling.

If you want to help veterans for your resolution this year, just contact Hudson River Housing at www.hudsonriverhousing.org and they will get you started!

Let’s make 2022 the year we all do our best to make a difference in the lives of our heroes. Together, we can do it! Happy New Year to you and your loved ones, and best wishes for a wonderful year ahead!



Christa Hines, Executive Director of Hudson River Housing (HRH), speaks to the crowd assembled last week outside the PODS homeless shelter at Dutchess County Jail, Hamilton Street in Poughkeepsie, to read the names of the 33 people who died while experiencing homelessness in Dutchess County in 2021. To her right is the Rev. Susan Fortunato, Chair of the HRH board.

-Photo by Tom Zurhellen

Thank you for listening! See you next time!

A Navy veteran, Tom Zurhellen has been Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Poughkeepsie for the past three years. In the summer of 2019, he walked across America from Portland, Oregon, to Poughkeepsie to raise awareness on veteran suicide and veteran homelessness in our country. He continues to work with local veterans in need through the VetZero Project, in partnership with Hudson River Housing.

Marist men fall to Iona

By Rich Thomaselli

COVID-19 postponements of two games forced a schedule adjustment for the Marist College men’s basketball team, and it might have thrown the Red Foxes off their rhythm a little bit.

Marist played a strong game on the road on Sunday, but lost to Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference-leading Iona, 69-66, after a late comeback by the Gaels.

The Foxes fell to 6-6 overall; Iona is 11-2.

It was the second time in less than a month that Marist has lost to Iona in a tight game. The two teams were not scheduled to play again until Jan. 21. But Iona had a game postponed against Siena due to the Omicron outbreak and Marist had two rescheduled against Monmouth and St. Peter’s.

So, the Gaels and the Foxes decided to play each other on a mutual open

date on January 2.

After a back-and-forth battle in the first half that featured numerous ties and lead changes, the Red Foxes and Gaels were tied at 31-31.

Marist would control the action out of the gates in the second half, building up several five-point leads and the largest lead of the game at seven early in the half.

Marist held the lead for 13 minutes in the second half and led by six after a three-pointer from Samkelo Cele with four minutes remaining.

The Gaels responded with a 9-0 run spanning just over three minutes to take the lead back and hold on for good.

Marist heads to the road to take on Fairfield on Friday, Jan. 7.

Tip-off at Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport, Connecticut is set for 7 p.m.

Global Foundries announces \$25K donation to HV Food Bank

Global Foundries of East Fishkill has announced that on behalf of its Fab 10 employees, GF has donated a total of \$25,000 to the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. The outcome outcome was a result of “GlobalFoundries GlobalGives” Holiday Gift Campaign.

Global Foundries would like to thank the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley for the critical services they provide year-round.

In a statement, Global Foundries said, “This organization takes care of so many in our community, especially during times like these. We know that during these challenging times their mission is more important than ever as they work to help those in need. We hope that this donation will help to alleviate the cost of meeting some of our community’s needs during

this holiday season.”

GlobalGives is Global Foundries’ worldwide program of both employee- and company-driven initiatives around philanthropy, giving, social justice, disaster relief, environmental protection, volunteering, and promoting STEM education.

Each of the company’s locations have well-established programs and teams dedicated to enriching the lives of local citizens, and we take great pride in their long history of community involvement and service.

The statement from the company concluded, “We thank our GF employees who continue to give generously, volunteer and help those in our local community during the holiday season and year-round.”

State awards Child Care Stabilization Grants

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently announced New York State's success in awarding \$900 million in Child Care Stabilization Grants to child care programs statewide. The grants are part of a \$2.3 billion package of investments in the state’s child care industry funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act.

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) awarded funding to nearly 15,000 eligible child care providers over four months, from August through November.

The Mid-Hudson region’s portion of the funding amounts to \$88,662,338.

The funds are being administered by OCFS to cover the costs of personnel, rent or mortgage, utilities, facility maintenance or improvements, person-

al protective equipment, supplies needed to respond to COVID-19, goods and services needed to maintain or resume child care services, mental health supports for children and employees, health and safety training for staff, and more.

OCFS is grateful to its partners across New York State who assisted child care providers in applying for the grants, including OCFS-organized application assistance for providers statewide through Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, the Civil Service Employees Association, United Federation of Teachers, and Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation. The Early Care and Learning Council was contracted to help coordinate this vital assistance statewide.

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Depot seeks volunteers in the new year

By Kristine Coulter

Looking to provide a helping hand in 2022? The Hopewell Depot Museum and Depot Park are seeking volunteers. The Depot is how Hopewell Junction got its name.

“Volunteering at the Hopewell Depot Museum can be a rewarding experience for someone interested in history, the development of the industrial revolution and the origins of Hopewell Junction,” said Joe Sullivan, with the Hopewell Depot Corp.

“The best part is relaying this history to the community, especially young folks who have limited or no exposure to how we lived in the past and how the world advanced to today, he said. “The Hopewell Depot Museum and Depot Park is a gift from the community to the community and participating in the operation of the Museum is a great way to give back to our community.”

Linda Heitmann assists with recruitment of volunteers and is the vice president of the Hopewell Depot Corp. The year “2022 promises to be an important year for the Hopewell Depot Museum and Restoration. We will be actively involved in “The Year of the Caboose Restoration;” the development of innovative programs and experiences for children, the publication of a book on the history of Hopewell Junction and its railroads, improving our partnership with the East Fishkill Library and hope to hold exciting free concerts with the local school bands,” she said.

“Volunteers are the cornerstones of our organization. Without a large group of people with diverse skills, we could not accomplish the work involved in keeping our museum and restorations thriving,

community centered, and open to the public.” Heitmann continued, “We need your support. Join a welcoming community of history lovers who share a passion for the legacy of the railroad in Dutchess County and the historic Hudson Valley.”

As for the type of volunteer work that people can sign up for, Sullivan said, “The Depot Museum is currently only open Saturdays in spring, summer and fall due to the limited number of tour hosts we have, so becoming a tour host is number one.

Tour hosts generally start as greeters, bringing visitors into the Depot and learning about the history story presented.”

The Depot Museum also needs:

- Event planners, willing to set up and advertise our concerts and fundraising events.
- Fundraisers, grant writers
- Social media support
- Construction and maintenance skills
- Trustees (board members)
- Archivists, volunteers interested in managing donated articles and printed materials
- Newsletter writers for e-mail and social media
- Technology support

The Museum currently has about 25 active volunteers, said Sullivan.

“For those who would just like to ‘give back to their community’ there are lots of opportunities beyond the historic aspect. You can apply your financial/accounting, social media, construction and maintenance, programming, webpage and planning skills to improve our community. There are no time commitments and everyone is welcome,” noted Heitmann.

Folks interested in volunteering should contact Linda Heitmann, vice president,



Hopewell Depot Restoration Corp. is seeking new volunteers to add to its list of current ones.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

by e-mail to LHeitma@optonline.net or by stopping by Saturday or Wednesday mornings between 9 and 10 a.m. when the work crew is there.

In the spring, summer and fall, stop by Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. when the Depot is open for tours and speak to any tour host.

Hochul announces \$35M for supportive housing units across the state

development and construction of their housing project.

Awards may be used to provide rental assistance and services to eligible target populations to ensure their housing stability, including but not limited to:

- Primary and behavioral health services;
- Employment and vocational training and/or assistance;
- Educational assistance, including GED support;
- Parenting skills development and support;
- Child care assistance;
- Counseling and crisis intervention;
- Children’s services, including educational advocacy, support and counseling; and
- Services or staff to identify and locate eligible individuals that need housing.

Awardees in the Mid-Hudson region include:

- Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corporation
- Hudson River Housing Inc.

- Search for Change Inc.
- Community Housing Innovations Inc.
- Rehabilitation Support Services Inc. (3 awards)
- PEOPLE: Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled Inc.
- Lower West Side Household Svc. Corp
- St Dominic’s Family Services
- RUPCO Inc.
- The Childrens Village Inc
- Hudson River Housing Inc. (7 awards)
- Search for Change Inc.
- Family of Woodstock Inc. (2 awards)
- St. Joseph’s Hospital, Yonkers
- St Dominic’s Family Services
- Mental Health America of Dutchess County Inc.
- Access: Supports for Living Inc.
- Regional Economic Community Action Program
- Rehabilitation Support Services Inc.
- The Wartburg Home of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
- The Newburgh Ministry Inc.

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently announced 192 conditional awards totaling \$35 million to housing agencies in every region across New York to provide support services and operating funding for at least 1,400 units of supportive housing for homeless persons with special needs, conditions or other challenges.

This is the sixth funding round of the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) which brings together eight state agencies to help provide funding for supportive housing for vulnerable populations, including veterans, victims of domestic violence, frail or disabled senior citizens, young adults with histories of incarceration, homelessness or foster care, chronically homeless individuals and families, as well as individuals with health, mental health and/or substance use disorders.

The ESSHI Interagency Workgroup, which reviews applications for funding, includes representatives from the Office of Mental Health (OMH); the Department

of Health (DOH) including the AIDS Institute; New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR); the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS); the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS); the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV); the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

Supportive housing has been shown to provide stability, safety and the opportunity for individuals and families to live in their own homes and communities as they make their way on the road to recovery. Housing with support services also reduces the need for costly emergency department visits and inpatient hospital stays.

The conditional awards are for service and operating funding needed to operate permanent supportive housing units. The awards will allow applicants to secure separate capital funding to finance the

Abilities First receives \$300,000 grant for school expansion

Abilities First was recently awarded a \$300,000 Empire State Development grant from the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council through the competitive Consolidated Funding Application process.

The Abilities First School Expansion Project will add new, state-of-the-art classrooms and therapy space for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities at the LaGrange and New Windsor K-12 schools.

Abilities First is coordinating the proj-

ect with the NYS Education Department (NYSED) and the 25 Hudson Valley school districts the \$1.5 million project supports. Additional classrooms will reduce the waitlist, offering students access to an exceptional education closer to home, alleviating long bus rides to another county to attend school, and offering placement to students receiving home instruction due to a lack of seats. Parents will also have better access to school resources. The project will create 40 new jobs for special education teachers,

teacher’s aides, and therapists.

The \$300,000 award will fund construction to retrofit unused space at both locations, upgrading mechanical, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing, adding dedicated space for physical, occupational, and behavioral therapy, and furnishing new classrooms with smart boards and communications tools. The new construction will transition seamlessly from the pre-existing facility. Abilities First anticipates opening at the beginning of the school year in 2023.

“We are so pleased to be granted the funds to expand the instructional and therapeutic facilities at both of our main school sites in LaGrange and New Windsor, which will add numerous job opportunities for members of our communities,” said Abilities First President & CEO Jeffery Fox, Ph.D. “The improvements will add 28 seats in the New Windsor school, create smaller, more intimate classes in the LaGrange school, and upgrade space for therapies, arts, and other essential school functions.”

get growing!

by mark adams

El Yunque



Mark and Sue visit Puerto Rico for their annual exotic vacation

Botswana was out. The plan to take our grandchildren and their parents on an African Wildlife Safari was vanquished by the omicron variant. Too bad – at ages 13 and 15, it won’t be long before “little” Priya and Ambika would rather drop dead than go on vacation with Grandma and Grandpa.

So Sue and I were off to Puerto Rico just as the omicron pandemic was cresting. At least it’s in the United States, we figured. A couple of days later, after losing our luggage, eating cheese and crackers in our hotel room because every restaurant in San Juan was booked until closing time, spending a day shopping at Walmart when our luggage failed to arrive, wandering the streets looking for a place to get the required Covid test, and then getting stuck in the hotel elevator for half an hour, we finally made our way to El Yunque.

El Yunque National Forest is the only tropical rain forest in the U.S. (Puerto Rico is a U.S. Territory). 28,000 acres of relatively unspoiled wilderness except that in 2017 Hurricane Maria messed it up, wrecking the El Portal Rainforest Center, the gateway to the forest, which has yet to reopen. But most of the hiking trails have recovered, including “la mina,” which was reopened just in time for our visit. We hired a local guide, Juan Manuel Abreu Fuentes, to take us along the fairly easy mile-long trail. It turns out that most of the dozens of tourists we encountered were on their way to the swimming hole at the base of Mina Falls, dressed in bathing suits and flip flops. Not exactly the outfit recommended in the guidebook (sturdy shoes, long pants, etc.).

The forest is divided into four distinct vegetation zones, depending on the altitude (up to 3,500 feet) and rainfall – 240 inches per year in some spots, enough to provide Puerto Rico with most of its drinking water. The thousands of native species include 240 different trees, 14 types of lizards and 1,200 insect species. The Puerto Rican green parrot has been endangered since 1940, when hunting it

was outlawed. The tiny population of 75 was wiped out by Hurricane Maria, but fortunately 240 green parrots were released (they had been bred in zoos) after Maria and are surviving.

We didn’t see too many insects, lizards or frogs (in fact, none). Our guide pointed out quite a few plants and flowers, which are more up our alley anyway:

- Heliconia – The false Bird of Paradise. Of the 194 species, the one native to El Yunque is also called “Burnt Paradise,” because the flowers start off golden yellow and morph through several stages, ending up fiery red.
- Pantene Plant – If you squeeze its red cone, a sticky liquid seeps out which has been used for centuries as shampoo.
- Morivivir – The sensitive plant. The leaves fold up when touched. You can find them for sale in garden centers, “Morivivir” translates to English as “Dead or Alive.”
- Giant Variegated Split Leaf Philodendrons – They’re climbing all over the trunks of palm trees. I was tempted to dig one up, smuggle it past the U.S.D.A. Checkpoint and sell it on eBay to pay for our trip.
- Chameleon Fern – Of the 150 ferns in El Yunque, this one stands out. The very fern-like foliage changes color during the course of the day, from pale green to deep blue.
- Bamboo – According to Juan, bamboo was brought to Puerto Rico in 1970 to help stabilize the riverbanks during hurricanes. It’s taken over, with stands of 20-foot-high and 6-inch-thick bamboo covering the mountainsides. Another invasive species in El Yunque is the homo sapiens – up to a million visitors a year.

Sue and I finally got our luggage back and moved out of San Juan to a luxurious resort on the beach in Isla Verde.

Let’s have a happy new year and hope that 2022 will be an improvement.



Bamboo was brought to Puerto Rico in 1970 to help stabilize the riverbanks during hurricanes. It’s taken over, with stands of 20-foot-high and 6-inch-thick bamboo covering the mountainsides.

-Photos by Mark Adams

Urgent Care hours

change at Castle Point

New times begin Jan. 10

The Department of Veterans Affairs Hudson Valley Health Care System (VA HVHCS) at Castle Point will permanently change its Urgent Care Clinic operating hours beginning January 10.

The new Castle Point Urgent Care Clinic hours will be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

“This change will ensure Veterans access the right level of care at the right time and eliminate any delay in care for critical medical issues,” said Dawn Schaal, Medical Center Director.

The Castle Point Urgent Care Clinic offers care for such illnesses as cold and

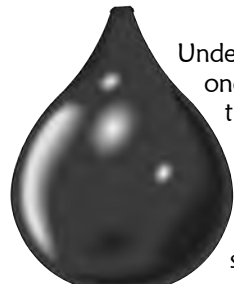
flu symptoms, high/low blood pressure, high/low blood sugar, and nausea. Emergency rooms, in contrast, are used when fast care is needed for life or limb-threatening illnesses and injuries.

“For routine office visits and medication requests or refills, Veterans should continue to seek treatment from their primary care providers. Veterans who have a condition that cannot wait for a Primary Care appointment should call the 24/7 VA Health Connect at 1-800-877-6976,” said Schaal.

Veterans experiencing life-threatening symptoms are urged to call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest emergency room for care.

GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE

Who needs blood?

Under normal circumstances, every two seconds someone in America will need a blood transfusion. Blood transfusions are used for trauma victims - due to accidents and burns - heart surgery, organ transplants, women with complications during childbirth, newborns and premature babies, and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or other diseases, such as sickle cell disease and thalassemia.

this week’s puzzle solutions

4 3 1 9 8 2 7 6 5

8 9 6 5 2 4 7 1 3

9 8 7 6 5 3 4 2 1

2 4 3 8 1 9 5 7 6

7 1 5 2 4 6 8 3 9

8 9 6 7 3 5 1 4 2

3 2 8 1 6 7 9 5 4

1 7 9 5 2 4 6 8 3

5 6 4 3 9 8 2 1 7

This week's answer

SUDOKU

NON TENER EYER MELS

ALIE VOTE REESE

CLASICAL ENDED

SENIORSHIP APE

DESK MUSE

SSS CARES

ALT HEAR

TUN TREES

SNACK ENTHERASS

ANIL SATIN LAS

PAROLE LORIL ABE

PACT METS

DE DINE ABLE

LINEN ADMIRABLE

OMEGA HORAR OAN

SAGAS CREAM ARTS

2 5 4 3 4 5 2

1 3 2 1 2 1

2 5 3 4 5 3

3 1 2 4 1 4

2 4 5 3 2 5

5 3 1 4 1 4

Sugnu solution

Dance night

at Elks Lodge

Get On Down at the Elks Lounge Dance Night on Saturday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m., 900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), Beacon. Enjoy a vibrant mix of musical styles and song requests welcome. These dances are informal and even if you come alone, you can always find a friendly partner on the dance floor. \$10 admission, \$5 for Elks members, includes a variety of complimentary snacks, and a full cash bar is available. All are welcome – singles, couples, friends, newcomers. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required.

For more information, call 845-765-0667 or rhodaja@optonline.net.

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Food and Wine Society sets 50th dinner at CIA

By Jim Donick

The Mid Hudson Food and Wine Society (MHFWS) will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with dinner and a scholarship presentation at the American Bounty Restaurant at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park on Jan. 12.

"We are making this one a big deal," said the society's president, Mark D'Angelo. "It's not only our 50th anniversary, but we weren't able to meet last year because of COVID, so we didn't get to award our annual scholarship either."

The Mid Hudson Food and Wine Society is an organization of individuals with a common interest in the enjoyment, study and art of food and wine. The Society meets at area restaurants, conducts wine tastings, seminars, food demonstrations, winery tours and other special events which are of an educational and enjoyable nature.

Established in 1972, the Society has enjoyed a long partnership with the CIA through its dinner events and its scholarship program.

Each year a scholarship is granted to a CIA student from the Hudson Valley. Over the past years, they have presented more than \$70,000 to these students. The Society began its scholarship program in 1966 and has awarded at least one schol-

arship every year since.

The most recent holder of the MHFWS scholarship at the CIA is Jaida Mercurio of Cornwall. She was slated to graduate in 2021.

The Society's Board of Directors, with the assistance of the CIA Staff, selects one or more students to be scholarship recipients. The scholarships are presented at the January Dinner held at the CIA. The students must have lived in the Mid Hudson Region prior to entering the CIA. The number of recipients, as well as dollar value of the scholarships is determined by the Board of Directors. The scholarship program is funded by membership dues and a surcharge added to the monthly events. The name of the new recipient will be made public at the annual dinner on Jan. 12.

Aside from the presentation of the Society's Annual Scholarship, this year's annual dinner will include special focus on foods and their preparation.

The evening will begin with a pre-dinner interactive demonstration and presentation by a CIA chef that will focus on appetizers for formal evenings. The dinner is scheduled to include wine pairings for each of the courses and an opportunity to discuss them with like-minded food enthusiasts. After the dinner, there will be



The 50th anniversary dinner of the Mid Hudson Food and Wine Society will be held at the CIA on Jan. 12. Each year a scholarship is granted to a CIA student from the Hudson Valley.

-Courtesy photo

a cooking class for any members who would like to participate.

Members and guests are welcome. For further information on the dinner or on the MHFWS, check their website midhudsonfood-wine.org.

B.H.S. honor roll students announced

Continued from page 8

Anthony Marzovilla, Christopher Milewski, Twyla Nelson, Thomas Nocerino, Lillie O'Leary, Keira Robinson, Kiarra Rodriguez, Jackson Shrawder, Anisa Shtanaj, Owen Skorewicz, Andrew Spiconardi, Allison Thomas, Michael Varian, Xiomarys Williams, Ryan Zingone Redfield

10th Grade Honor Roll

Caden Alvarez, Jack Antalek, Ronnie Anzovino, Aidan Cleveringa, Prabhbir Dhaliwal, Enis Dika, Gabriella Espinal, Sean Heath, Jaelynn Hernandez, Una Hoppe, Zuhir Kasem, Bryana Kelliher, Meara Kumar, Owen Lynch, William Martin, Alexandria McCollum, Gia Morgan, Liam Murphy, Vanessa Murphy, Mia Nelson-Cheyne, Aniyah Pearson, Jaden Polanco Feliciano, Jayden Quintana, Ricardo Ramirez Paredes, Merilyn Rinaldi, Nina Rivers, Jenna Rojas, JonAy Taylor, Aleksander Tice

11th Grade Principal's Honor Roll

Lina Ahmed, Crystal Chen, Esther Clair, Sophia Clauson, Beatrice Dowd, Jenna Griesing, Farah Jaafar, Audrey Lewis, Jordyn Long, Eleanor Lopez, Lillian Magurno, Jonah Mensch, Lindsay Otero, Aydin Ozkurt, Rowan Parsaca, Ella Pessoni, Lila Quinn, Nathaniel Ramos, Ruby Rodgers, Shepard Rodgers, Isa Schmidt, Isabella Travis, Jack Twining Freeman

11th Grade High Honor Roll

Mateo Alvarado, Isabella Boswick, Isabella Bottiglieri, Delaney Brennen, Ariadna Carmona, Sofia Castelhanos, Alexander Clay, Parijat Das, Brianna DeMilio, Jacob DiNobile, Danielle DiRubbio, Jaeden Drysdale, Jhanelle Duncan, Laney Ebeling, William Fahlman, Gabriella Ghent, Darien Gillins, Labibah Hassan, Ysabel Heath, George Humphreys, Liam Istvan, Justin Jackson, Emma Labodin, Gavin LaDue, Juliette Lasser, Gabriella Leiva, Sharon Li, Sabrina Li, Tylynn Lindsay, Aidan Lyons, Julissa Manso, Alexis Mastrantuono, Nuriya May, Elijah McKible, Brianna Moleano, Gia Moreno, Skhy Morris, Sofia Mourgues, Addy Pagones, John Philipbar III, Jonathan Ramirez, Thomas Rapp, Isabelle Ray, Jillian Salvati, Amelia Sanker, Demetra Sela, Leian Simon, Dyami Stafford, Joseph Vollaro

11th Grade Honor Roll

Gil Banks, Daniel Barry, Angelina Berlingieri, Kaylee Broas, Cody Brooks, Scott Bunker, Anaya Camacho, Hope Cleveringa, Jason Derasmo, Journey Fleming, Gabriela Foret, Zakayah Johnson, Jack Juhn, Alexander King, Campbell Kitzrow, Moa Lopez, Gabriella Manzoello, Abigale Martin, Brandon Maupin, Taylor Meeuwisse, Robert Principe Jr., Henry Quinn, Natalie

Quintero, Mia Ramirez, Penelope Rigney, Liam Rumnit, Adam Sendelbach, Michael Serino, Mikayla Sheehan, Camryn Suppa, Jacob Tumidaj, Liam Verdesi, Jeffrey Wolfe III, Bing Zhu

12th Grade Principal's Honor Roll

Gretta Anderson, Madeline Bobnick, Jeremy Brinas, Bella Carassone, Jack Cleary, Allyson Correllus, Kelcy Fernandez Sanango, Ian Fiorito, Cassandra Garrett, Chase Green, Tyler Hanson, Inessa Joseph, Dillon Kelly, Cherlin Liao, Benjamin Lieblein, Andrew Lucas, Amatullah Muhammad, Mia Osuba, Camille Pahucki, Kathryn Park, Nora Phelan, Alondra Ramirez Paredes, Jose Resendiz, Anthony Riccoboni, Emma Sandison, Alexia Segarra, Lauren Shanahan, Carissa Smutny, Caleb Ullian, John Urban-Quezada

12th Grade High Honor Roll

Jayden Arroyo, Mya Bauer, Ahmir Bell, Lotus Blumenthal, Owen Browne, Christian Carvalho, Sulayman Ceesay, Ryan Chin, Amare Coakley, Olivia Corneyea, Lindsay Darcy, Louis DelBianco, Lucia Diebboll, Alexandria Faiella, Anthony Ferrone, Cleo Fiedler, Daniel Gilleo, Samuel Harle, Evan Johnson, Flynn Johnson, Synasia Johnson, Evan Kumar, Sydney Kurtz, Simrat Mann, Ava Muscat, Rosa Nunez, Ayanda Nxumalo, Yahya Ouildane,

Josalyn Pagan, David Perez-Cisneros, Austin Ray, Robin-Caleb Richards, Lulu Romer, Kenneth Rosa, Thomas Santoro, Mia Scarchilli, Braden Schetter, Keira Seaman, Stella Serpico, Kalyn Sheffield, Cody Shields, Benet Shtanaj, David Smith Jr., Hannah Smith, Samantha Sovik, Jake Titka, Tyler Underwood, Alexander Wyant

12th Grade Honor Roll

Joseph Baffuto III, Brock Barna, Adrian Brown, Devin Buggs, Victoria Cameli, Makkaila Caputo, Olivia Ciancanelli, Chloe Cohen, Claire Derrenbacher, Alexander Ferris, Sarah Gibbs, Ashley Gonzalez, Isaac Hansen, Tyler Haydt, Paul Henderson Jr., Hunter Ingold, Veronica Klein, Evan LaBelle, Maura Lane, Rebecca Levy, Christina Merola, Salvatore Migliore V, Maison Migliore, Marilyn Monroe, Marissa Mora, Daniel Nelson, Jordan Phillips, Michael Pirrone, Arielle Prince, Destiny Prothro, Lesondra Rodriguez, Olive Smith Quiana, Nico Smith, Andrew Solcz, Olivia Spiak, Destiny Taylor, Nicholas Thivierge, Jennifer Velasquez, Lucas Vermeulen, Tess Wills, Cleveland Wright, Jaylen Ynoa, Haleigh Zukowski

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Jonathan Montoya, Joseph Urbanowicz.



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Obituaries

Arthur McCormack

Fishkill – Arthur McCormack, a longtime resident of Fishkill, NY, passed away on December 20, 2021. He was 87. Arthur was born in Providence, Rhode Island on April 18, 1934, the son of Charles J. and Catherine G. (Beaudry) McCormack. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1953-1957 where he was a Hospital Corpsman. Arthur graduated from University of Rhode Island and Cornell University where he obtained a master's degree. He was a parishioner of St. Mary Mother of the Church in Fishkill where he also taught C.C.D. and coached C.Y.O. Basketball for many years at St. Joachim School in Beacon. Arthur loved spending time with his family. He volunteered his time at the Stony Kill Farm, and was an avid Boston Red Sox fan. He had a smart and witty sense of humor that everyone who knew him enjoyed. Arthur is survived by his wife Gail (Carron) McCormack, children Kathleen McCormack of Austin, TX, Carol (John) Travers of Sinking Spring, PA, John (Jenny) McCormack of Hopewell Junction, NY and Dr. Karen McCormack of Lake Ariel, PA, 7 grandchildren and a sister Alma Cicco. Arthur was predeceased by his parents, his sister Joan Fontaine, and his adoptive mother Isabelle McCormack. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on December 23, 2021, at St. Mary, Mother of the Church in Fishkill. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill Inc. For online condolences and Arthur's Book of Memories please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Anna McPhee

Wappingers Falls – Anna M. McPhee, 91, an area resident for 27 years residing with Doreen and Rob, and formerly of Peekskill, died peacefully at her home on January 1, 2022 surrounded by her family. Born in New York City on September 17, 1930, she was the daughter of Daniel and Mary Roberts. Anna had been employed as a Manager with the Marriott in Ossining. She was a parishioner of St. Columba Church and had been a member of the St. Mary's Council Columbiettes and the Wappinger Seniors. She loved spending time at her summer home in Charlestown, RI with her family and friends. Anna is survived by her children and their spouses, Joanne and Thomas Nash, Daniel and Sharon McPhee, Doreen and Rob Beyer; her grandchildren, Jackie and Ian Conner, Robert and Dana Beyer, Dan and Jillian McPhee, Krystal and Matt Woods; and her great-grandchildren, McKenna, Jameson, Lucas and Quinn. Calling hours will be held on Wednesday from 10-11am at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. The Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11:30am at St. Columba Church, 835 Route 82, Hopewell Junction followed by interment in St. Denis Cemetery.

Martin A. Boldrin, Jr.

East Fishkill– Martin A. Boldrin, Jr., 90, an area resident since 1980 and formerly of Yonkers, died on Thursday, December 30, 2021 at Wingate at Dutchess with his daughter and son-in-law at his side. Born in Yonkers on September 12, 1931, he was the son of Martin A. Boldrin, Sr. and Sophie (Racek) Boldrin. Martin was a long-time parishioner of St. Denis Church in Hopewell Junction where he attended the St. Denis Men's Group. He also attended the East Fishkill Senior Center and sang in the choir. Martin served in the US Army in Germany after World War II during the Berlin Airlift. He was employed by Grand Union Warehouse in Mount Kisco, retiring in 1993. He was also a gifted woodworker, gardener and fisherman. On May 8, 1950, Martin married his childhood sweetheart, Angela Vetrano in Danville, VA. Together, they traveled up and down the east coast but enjoyed their time on Cape Cod the most. Angela predeceased him in 2012. Martin treasured his family and is survived by his daughter, Christina Hobson and her husband Walt; his daughter-in-law, Karen Boldrin; his grandchildren, Kimberly Boldrini Senn, Melissa Boldrin, Jessica Lyons and Andrew, Jason Hobson and Jessica Landry, and Christina Barnard and David; and his three great-grandsons, Benjamin Lyons, Oliver Senn and David Barnard III. He was predeceased by his sister, Evelyn Raffi; and his son, Robert Boldrin. The family would like to thank the nurses and all employees at Wingate at Dutchess for their kindness toward Martin. Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. The Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Denis Church, 602 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction followed by interment in St. Denis Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Donna Burgun

Fishkill – Donna Burgun (previously Slachta, Piacentino) was a loving and kind mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, partner, aunt, and cousin. She left the world sud-

denly on December 29, 2021 at age 65. Donna was born to Louis and the late Carole Piacentino in May of 1956 in the Bronx, NY. After marrying her high school sweetheart John Slachta, they moved to Dutchess County NY to raise their three children Jill, Michael, and Joseph. After Donna and John divorced, she was remarried to the late Douglas Burgun and welcomed his children Keith and Ashley to the family. She later met her partner Scott Burnett, who she spent the past 14 years with in Fishkill NY. Donna was a passionate, generous, and immensely kind woman. More than anything, Donna loved spending time with her children and grandchildren and looked forward to cooking delicious Italian meals for them to enjoy together. She had a passion for politics, loved our country, and never missed a broadcast of the Rush Limbaugh show. While serious about politics, she also had a great sense of humor. She and her sister Barbara had a special bond and when together, they would often erupt into fits of laughter, laughing until they cried. Donna didn't covet material things and instead enjoyed the simple pleasures of life. On nice days, you would always find Donna outside tending to her gardens, listening to the birds, and caring for her and her children's many beloved pets. Eloquently handwritten poems and notes can be found throughout her home, meant to inspire and uplift those around her. Her sense of humor and passion of belief will never be forgotten, and she will be greatly missed. Donna is survived by her partner of 14 years, Scott Burnett of Fishkill as well as her children Jill Slachta and her partner Nathan Sumpter Jr. of Norwalk, Ct., Michael Slachta and his wife Christine of Poughquag, NY., Joseph Slachta of Charlotte, NC., her grandchildren Mikey and Emma, her father Louis Piacentino of Staten Island, her sister Barbara Dillon and husband Kerry of Staten Island. She was predeceased by her mother Carole Piacentino and her brother Louis Piacentino III. A mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday January 4, 2022 at the church of St. Clare, 110 Nelson Ave Staten Island. Burial followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island. In honor of Donna's wishes, there was not a viewing. Arrangements are being handled by the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home 371 Hooker Ave. Poughkeepsie, New York 12603. If you would like to leave an online condolence, please visit www.doylefuneralhome.com. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Donna's honor to St. Jude's Hospital, the Humane Society, or Wounded Warrior Project.

Neil R. Terrelonge

Wappingers Falls – Neil R. Terrelonge of Wappingers falls, New York. After a long hard fight with Cancer, Neil passed away the morning of December 9th, 2021 at his second home with his family in Deltona, Florida. Neil was born August 11, 1960 in Bronx, NY to Inez & Eugene Terrelonge, later raised in Wappingers Falls, NY. Neil Graduated from Roy C. Ketcham high school in 1980. He attended Marist College and earned his degree in Criminal Law. He later attended Florida tech College and earned his degree in Networking. Neil resided in Ft. lauderdale, Florida and later Montego Bay, Jamaica, Which became his home. When Neil was younger he would be involved in tournaments for Karate, that was his Sport. Bruce Lee was his idol. Neil loved to Dance and Music was his all time favorite. Neil was a man of many skills. He would make people laugh and cry. He was always willing and happy to help others. He was a kindhearted person. Neil is survived by his Daughter Monique Terrelonge of Georgia, Son Luke Terrelonge of Florida. Also Survived by His Brother Bruce Terrelonge and wife Sharon of Wappingers fls, NY, Sister Dawn Rivera-Sczesny and Husband Vincent of Deltona, Fl. He will be sadly missed by a host of Nieces, Nephews, Grandnieces and Grandnephews, Family members and friends who all loved him dearly. Neil's "Celebration of Life" will be held on January 22nd, 2022 @ Women's club of Oviedo, 414 King St. Oviedo, Florida 32765 @ 1:00 pm till 5:00 pm

Rene 'Scout' Vivo

Beacon – Rene 'Scout' Vivo, a longtime resident of Beacon, NY, died tragically on Christmas Day, December 25, 2021 at the Montefiore St. Luke's-Cornwall Hospital in Newburgh, NY. He was born on July 11, 1956 in the Bronx, NY, son of the late Raul Vivo and Elba Iris Feliciano. Upon completing High School, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corp during the Vietnam Era in 1977 and received an honorable discharge for serving his country. Rene was affectionately known by several names, but particularly 'Scout'. He worked as a laborer most of his life, he was a jack-of-all-trade type worker. Rene enjoyed many things in life, he embraced his Taino Native American heritage; he enjoyed the outdoors by walking, and was an avid fisherman hunter; he was

skilled in martial arts, and enjoyed it's art. Rene was an artist, he enjoyed drawing & poetry, and mostly loved being around his family & friends. Rene is survived by his sisters: Iris Colón, Ginette Vivo Velez and Yolanda Colón; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and a host of friends. His Family will receive Friends on Sunday, January 9th, 2022 from 1-4 & 7-9 pm at the LIBBY FUNERAL HOME, 55 Teller Avenue, Beacon, NY, for a Celebration of Life Gathering. A Private Interment & Military Honors will be held for His Family at the Fairview Cemetery, Beacon. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.LibbyFuneralHome.com

Deborah A. 'Debi' O'Connell

Fishkill – Deborah A. O'Connell, a longtime resident of Fishkill, entered into her eternal rest on December 25, 2021 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Poughkeepsie. She was 66 years old. Debi O, as she was known to her friends, was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend to so many. She cared deeply for her family and friends and brought joy to all who knew her with her contagious smile and quick wit. She was always genuine, a kitten at heart - or a well-spoken lion if you crossed her. She was loved by so many that words cannot express how much she will be missed. On May 10, 1975 she married Robert O'Connell who survives her along with her sons Robert and his future wife Michelle Keane, and Brian and Jason Mittelstaedt; her grandsons Anthony and Christopher of whom she was so proud; her brother, George Halsey and his wife, Cindy; several nieces and nephews; and many close friends who will always remember her for her steadfast attention to the facts and her talent for telling it like it is. Debi was born on February 19, 1955 in Southampton, NY where she fell in love with the beach and boating. The daughter of the late George and Louise Stedmeier Halsey who imbued Debi with strength, courage and her fantastic sense of humor. She was a parishioner of St. Joachim – St. John the Evangelist Church in Beacon. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, December 31 at 10 am at St. Joachim Church, 51 Leonard Street, Beacon. A private family burial will be held at Fishkill Rural Cemetery. Family and friends will be received on Thursday, December 30 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. Memorial donations in memory of Debi may be made to any local cat rescue foundation. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

George Raia

Wappingers Falls – George Raia, 84, a long time area resident, died peacefully in his sleep on December 26, 2021 at the Kaplan Family Hospice. Born in the Bronx on September 28, 1937, he was the son of the late Joseph and Theresa (Biato) Raia. George proudly served our country in the US Navy. He was employed as a Foreman for Aparo Bread Crumb Company for 30+ years and later worked part time as a painting contractor. On May 17, 1959 in the Bronx, George married Loretta Aparo who predeceased him. He is survived by his daughters, Debra Raia of Wappingers Falls, and Laurie Margosian and her husband Paul of Hopewell Junction; his grandchildren, Jason Hayes, Shannon Hayes, William Hayes, Brandon Margosian, and Brittany Margosian-Reed; as well as many nieces and nephews. George was known for his infectious humor and zeal for the Lord. He was a devoted man of God and an active member of Reach Out Church in Hyde Park, where he served as a deacon and usher. George loved to play his saxophone for the Lord and was also a faithful member of the worship

team. In addition, he had a gift for evangelism and loved to pray for people and lead them to the Lord everywhere he went. He also faithfully ministered to the elderly each Sunday afternoon for 17 years at the Valley Vista Nursing Home. In 2016, George was given the privilege of serving as an Honorary Pastor at Reach Out Church in Hyde Park. A private burial will be held on Tuesday at 11am at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley. A future memorial service is TBD. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" 2 Timothy 4:7

Chester Smalley

Stormville – Chester Louis Smalley Jr. went home to be with our Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas Eve 2021. Louie, as he was called by all who knew and loved him, was born November 18th 1941 at Mahopac Hospital to Myrtle Morrison Smalley and Chester Louis Smalley Sr. Growing up in Brewster, NY, he graduated Brewster High School, and entered the Army where he was stationed in Germany. Upon completion of his military service, Louie became a tree surgeon with Ruffles Tree Service. It was during that time, that a chance encounter at Bill's Diner led him to the love of his life, Christina Krivak, who he married June 22, 1968. Being intensely responsible, Louie always sought to better himself and entered an apprenticeship with New York State Electric and Gas. Upon completion of the apprenticeship, Louie became a First Class lineman where he enjoyed over 40 years, before retiring as a Chief Line Mechanic. Upon retirement, Louie and Teena shared many vacations at exotic locales, visiting various states and countries with their best friends Nicholas and Elizabeth Lovallo. However, out of all of Louie's great loves, nothing was as important to him as his family especially his six grandchildren. Louie is survived by his bride of 53 years, Christina Smalley; his sons David L. Smalley (Lizette), and Christopher P. Smalley (Jody); his daughter Lynda J. Smalley - Novitsky (Brian); and his six grandchildren, Nora, Abigale, Caitlin, Amelia, Tiergan and Genevieve. He is also survived by his sister, Patricia McLaughlin (Michael); and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. Louie was predeceased by his parents; and sister Laura Barnetta. Calling hours will be held on Friday from 11am - 4pm at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. The funeral service will be held at 4pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to IPF Foundation. Please visit Chester's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Robert Yandraside

East Fishkill – Robert Yandraside, 84, an area resident for 48 years, died on December 18, 2021 at home surrounded by his family. Born on October 28, 1937 in the Bronx, Robert was the son of Josef and Betha (Schabhtul) Yandrasitz. Robert proudly served our country in the United State Air Force. He worked as a signal maintainer for NYC Transit Authority. Robert was a parishioner of St. Columba Church and an avid reader of James Patterson. On August 6, 1971, Robert married the love of his life, Nelly Cadena who survives at home. He is also survived by his son, Robert J. Yandraside and his wife Nancy of Highland; his brothers in law and sisters in law; and his nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. In addition to his parents, Robert was predeceased by his beloved sister, Elizabeth Marrella. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday at 11:30am at St. Columba Church, 835 Route 82, Hopewell Junction followed by interment at St. Denis Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Dutchess County SPCA. Arrangements are under the direction of the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc.

Marine Unit thanks Fairgrounds for help with Toys for Tots program



The members of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing out of Stewart Air Force Base isthanking the Dutchess County Fairgrounds for the use of the Welcome Center as a distribution point for its Toys for Tots drive in December. The Marine Aircraft Group 49, Detachment B is part of the U.S. Marine Forces Reserve. Above, members of the Group stand with Andy Imperati, CEO of the Dutchess County Fair. The Marines presented a Commander's Award to the Fairgrounds, which stated in part, "Your generous contributions have enabled the Marine Corps to bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less-fortunate children."

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100
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405
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410
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503
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507
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516
Misc. Merchandise

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Lyman All-American Press Turret reloader, 4 hole. Great Condition. 845-227-5922

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516
Misc. Merchandise

Chandelier with 5-lights, Brushed Nickel with Etched opal glass shade. Light bulbs included, Like new. \$30 OBO 914-489-1377

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File Cabinet-Excellent Condition. Brown, 4-drawer, \$25. 845-298-8577

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721
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Wanted: IBM Selectrica Typewriter II. 845-463-2656

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904
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We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.

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Southern Dutchess News

84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Coupon must accompany payment

Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK – COUNTY OF DUTCHESS INDEX# 2019-5472 FILED: 11/20/2019 SUMMONS DUTCHESS County designated as the place of trial on the basis of situs of realty. WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS TRUSTEE OF UPLAND MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST A, Plaintiff, against KATHI OLIVIERI, AS EXECUTOR AND TRUSTEE OF THE ESTATE OF AUDREY J. PULST A/K/A AUDREY JEAN PULST A/K/A AUDREY PULST; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; KMT GROUP LLC, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA) NA; HARVEST CREDIT MANAGEMENT VII LLC; FIA CARD SERVICES, NA; LVNV FUNDING, LLC; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE-TAX COMPLIANCE DIVISION – C.O. – ATC; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY; “JOHN DOE NUMBERS 1-10” The names of these defendants being fictitious and unknown to the Plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, person or corporations, if any having or claiming an interest in, possession of, or lien upon the premises described in the Complaint, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in a manner other than by personal delivery within the State. In the event the United States of America is made a party defendant; the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until sixty (60) days after service of the Summons. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. If you

Legal Notices

do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Supreme Court of the State of New York and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of DUTCHESS on 11/20/2019. This is an action to foreclose on a mortgage. ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the Town of LaGrange, County of Dutchess and State of New York (Section 6260, Block 04, Lot 772218), said premises known as 24 Cochran Hill Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. There is due and owing to the plaintiff, the principle sum of \$128,232.37. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt described above. KOSTERICH & SKEETE, L.L.C., 707 Westchester Avenue, Suite 302, White Plains, NY 10604.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF WAPPINGER DUTCHESS COUNTY
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Town of Wappinger Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the 11th day of January, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall of Wappinger, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger Falls, NY pursuant to Section 240-37 of the Zoning Law of the Town of Wappinger to consider the following area variance:
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, the

Legal Notices

Zoning Board of Appeals has not made a determination of significance pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and hereby reserves its right to make such determination after the conclusion of the public hearing.
Appeal No. 21-7743 (Variance)
Sara & Christopher Suarez: Seeking an area variance Section 240-37 of District Regulations in an R20/40 Zoning District.
-Where 50 feet is required to the rear yard property line, the applicant can provide 22’6” to allow for an addition to include a dining room, bedroom and laundry/mud room, thus requesting a variance of 27’4”.
The property is located at 1 Peggy Lane and is identified as Tax Grid No.: 6157-03-497297 in the Town of Wappinger.
All interested persons will be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Wappinger at the public hearing as stated above.

Signed:
Peter Galotti,
Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
Town of Wappinger
December 15, 2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-02-22
EISEP Consumer Directed Fiscal Intermediary
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 31st day of January 2022 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New

Legal Notices

York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our web site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting “Government”, then selecting “Bidding and RFP Opportunities”. For additional information, call (845) 486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-03-22
Agricultural Navigator
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 1st day of February 2022 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our web site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting “Government”, then selecting “Bidding and RFP Opportunities”. For additional information, call (845) 486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-01-22
Establishment and Operation of a Kayak Rental Concession at Quiet Cove Riverfront Park
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 31st day of January 2022 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Ser-

Legal Notices

vices, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our web site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting “Government”, then selecting “Bidding and RFP Opportunities”. For additional information, call (845) 486-3613.

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Board of the Town of East Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 330 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY, or as soon thereafter as the matter may come on to be heard, in the matter of the application of Paleen Manor Corp. project for the granting of Amended Site Plan Approval by said Board of a proposed project known as Amended Site Plan for Stormville Square as shown on maps prepared by Day & Stokosa Engineering, PC, 3 Van Wyck Lane, Wappingers Falls, New York, 12590, as filed in the office of the Planning Department, and which site is located at 194 and 198 Route 216, Stormville, NY and described as being a 2.36 and 3.45 acre tax parcel identified as Tax Parcel #132800-6 6 5 7 - 0 3 - 064313/066295 with frontage on NYS Route 216 and Old Route 52. The project site contains an existing 5,860 sf building containing a bar, restaurant and vacant space for future retail business. The Applicant proposes additional development of the site to include a 36,000 sf climate controlled self-storage facility and associated

Legal Notices

parking.
All interested parties and citizens will be heard by the Board at the public hearing scheduled at said time.

By:
John Eickman,
Chairperson
East Fishkill Planning Board
Date:
December 27, 2021

Beacon Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Planning Board of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 immediately following the training session/workshop which begins at 7:00 PM, on applications for Site Plan Approval and Subdivision Approval (lot merger) for a mixed-use residential and commercial development on the property located at Eliza Street and 364 Main Street, identified on City Tax Maps as Section 6054, Block 29, Lots 006819 & 004836, submitted by O'Donnell Construction Corp.
The meeting will be held in the Courtroom at One Municipal Plaza, New York 12508, in-person unless emergency legislation is adopted or an Executive Order is issued by the Governor of the State of New York directing or allowing the City to host public meetings or hearings virtually via videoconference and teleconference due to public health and safety concerns. If such emergency legislation is adopted or an Executive Order is issued, the City will make a determination whether to proceed with an in-person meeting, or meet by videoconference and teleconference, or meet both in person and virtually by videoconference or teleconference. Whether the meeting is held in person, virtually, or both in person and virtually, the public will have an opportunity to see and hear the meeting live and provide comments. Please check the City website at <https://beaconny.gov> or contact the Etha Grogan at 845-838-5002 for information concerning attendance at the public hearing and applicable COVID-19 regulations.”
Plans and other materials associated with the application may be reviewed and downloaded from the City’s website. The Planning Board will, at said

Legal Notices

time and place hear all persons in support of such matter or any objections thereto. Individuals may appear in person, by agent or by attorney.

E. Grogan
Secretary
Beacon Planning Board

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION OF CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT
Chelsea, New York
SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENCE
NOTICE is hereby given by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT, that the following resolution was adopted subject to a permissive referendum:
RESOLVED, that at a special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners held on 27th, of December, 2021, authorized the expenditure of up to \$61,688.00 from the CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT Equipment Reserve Fund for the purpose of the purchase of Holmatro vehicle extrication tools with related accessories.
NOTICE is hereby given that the effect will be a commensurate reduction in funds from the CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT Equipment Reserve Fund.
NOTICE is also given that the above resolution is and was adopted subject to a permissive referendum of the duly qualified electors of the CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT.
NOTICE is also given that the above resolution will not take place for thirty (30) days after its adoption nor until approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the electors of such fire district affected, qualified to vote at an annual election of the fire district officers, voting on such proposition. If, within thirty (30) days after its adoption, there shall be filed with the Fire District Secretary, a petition signed and acknowledged in the manner required by Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law, protesting such resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the electors of such Fire District for their approval or disapproval.
Dated: This 27th day of December, 2021
CLAIRE M. GIBSON,
Secretary,
CHELSEA FIRE DISTRICT
15 Liberty Street,
PO Box 128
Chelsea, NEW York,
12512

Clean/Blank Newsprint Sheets



20lb Box ~ \$12. Per Box
Approximately 400 sheets 23" x 34"

This is blank newsprint,
folded like a newspaper just NO INK.

Great for:

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2. Drop Cloth for all kinds of messy situations, very absorbent.
3. Gardeners love this for weed control & water retention.
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5. You decide. Hey, it's a crazy mixed up world.

Pick up at: Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main Street • Wappingers Falls, 12590

Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.
The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.
Each row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
Each column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
Each 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

5			3	9			1	
	7							3
3			1	6		9		4
8					5			
	1						3	
			8					6
9		7		5	3			1
6							9	
	3			8	2			

ACROSS

1. Narratives
6. Study at the 11th hour
10. Men’s nicknames
14. Zee’s counterpart
15. Dance at a Bar Mitzvah
16. Horse color
17. Hall cabinet contents
18. Deserving of praise
20. WWII general
21. Eat
23. White poplar
24. Covenant
25. Citi Field athletes
27. Prisoner’s hope
30. Girl’s nickname
31. White House resident from 1861 to 1865
34. Indigo dye
35. Obi fabric, often
36. Spanish article
37. Unfaithful rascal
41. Large cask
42. Elders and alders
43. End in __; have no winner
44. PC key
45. Listen
46. Put one’s arms around
48. Writer’s table
49. Think deeply
50. Tijuana title
53. Joints closest to the waist
54. Jungle denizen
57. Type of music
60. Put a stop to
62. “I cannot tell __!”
63. Aye or nay
64. Della __
65. Tormé and Tillis
66. Observer
67. Part of a wood joint

DOWN

1. Auctioneer’s word
2. In the center of
3. Mr. Hackman
4. Grow gray
5. Shoe for St. Francis
6. Sing the psalms
7. Went as a passenger
8. Where to find the radius
9. __ tai
10. Saudis and others
11. Wraparound garment
12. Able to reach high shelves
13. Dagger
19. Evaluating
22. Bartender’s need
24. 19th century U.S. president
25. Flying insects
26. Pennsylvania port
27. Noodles
28. Cancel
29. Laughing
30. Not now
31. Winged
32. Foundation
33. Curvy letters
35. Move furtively
38. Old anesthetics
39. Infuriates
40. Steak orderer’s word
46. Piece of china
47. State positively
48. Prescribed amounts
49. Race participant
50. Phony deal
51. Women’s magazine
52. Finger’s feature
53. Find odious
54. Yemeni seaport
55. 100 centavos
56. First lady’s home
58. Common contraction
59. Playfully shy
61. Originally

Suguru

5					
				2	
3				4	
	5				
		1			
		4		4	5

The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
20				21	22					23				
			24					25	26					
27	28	29					30					31	32	33
34						35						36		
37				38	39						40			
41				42							43			
44				45					46	47				
			48					49						
50	51	52					53					54	55	56
57						58	59				60	61		
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

Enjoy books from ‘little’ libraries

By Kristine Coulter

With 2022 here, maybe pick up a good book as a resolution. Fishkill resident Amy Berish began a Little Free Library in her neighborhood off William St. It officially opened the weekend of Halloween 2021. There is a Facebook page with information about it at <https://www.facebook.com/LittleFreeLibraryOnWilliamSt/>. The library is at 25 William Street.

Berish said she and her husband worked on the little library.

We “thought it would be nice to see people put some books in there,” said Berish.

There is a sign how it is the community’s and “they should be empowered by it,” Berish remarked.

The neighborhood is a loop, so residents walk the area, especially with their dogs, she noted.

When the little library first ‘opened,’ Berish said, “It was exciting because people seemed excited about it.” She continued, “I think it’s cute. It’s a great addition to our community.”

On the top shelf are the books for adults. Children can choose from books located on the lower shelf.

“A book someone dropped off is one I really want to read,” said Berish.

As for how she came up with the idea for the Little Library, she said, “I saw it on a few library committees that I follow on Facebook.”

Berish and her husband used shingles from their roof, wood they have left over from a basement project and purchased

paint and hardware – and the Little Library was built.

Berish, who worked at Blodgett Memorial Library in the village of Fishkill, has her Library degree and master’s degree in Archive.

“It’s something that is free for the community to use. I remember as kid waiting last minute to do book reports. I hope [kids today] can use this for a book report or on a rainy day,” remarked Berish.

Over at Fishkill Plains in the Wappingers Central School District a new Little Library has been placed. It was built by Boy Scout Richard LaGuardia as his Eagle Scout Project.

Elizabeth Harrell, Project Director, said, “We’re very excited about the Little Libraries being installed on school grounds. The project is a wonderful collaboration among the Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW (American Association of University Women, Inc.), the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, and the Boy Scouts of America. This expansion of the AAUW Leading to Reading program will provide even more books to area children. Two have been installed so far and we’re planning to increase our reach during 2022.”

The library is part of the AAUW Inc. Poughkeepsie Branch’s community outreach program called Leading to Read, which supports literacy programs. Boxes will be maintained by Leading to Reading project members.

For more information, contact initiative.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com.



Local residents Amy Berish, above, and Richard LaGuardia, below, have built ‘little libraries’ for the community.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter and courtesy photo



223 Henry St., Beacon
2 Bed | 1.5 Bath | 868 SF | \$450,000



33 Lafayette Ave., Beacon
4 Bed | 2 Bath | 3,204 SF | \$479,000

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