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Youngest current Legislator Truitt elected new Chairman



Will Truitt

By Curtis Schmidt

The current Dutchess County Legislature's youngest member is now its leader.

Republican Will Truitt, 28, who represents District Seven (Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley) was elected as Chairman for 2024 by a vote of 16-9 at the Legislature's annual Reorganization Meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

He may be the youngest member, but Truitt is also one of the most senior members of the Legislature - having served since Jan. 1, 2016.

He has served as Majority Leader for the past two years and ex-officio on all legislative committees, and previously served as Chairman of the Budget Finance & Personnel Committee and Government Services & Administration Committee. His first "Chairmanship" was as Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee in his first term.

In his address, Truitt acknowledged the many new and recently-legislators saying, "As I look around this room, I notice that only two legislators, my friends John Metzger and Craig Brendli, remain from my first day in office. The rate of turnover serves as a reminder that we are all temporary stewards of this government, with limited time to make an impact. I look forward to working with the leadership of both caucuses."

He added, "As I look around this room, it is hard not to recognize that this is a time of change for county government. More than a third of this body is made up of new faces, and we have just welcomed a new County Executive in Sue Serino, District Attorney in Anthony Parisi, and Comptroller in Gregg Pulver. I believe this moment provides truly special opportunities. While we will continue to build on the good work of the past, we will also keep an eye to the future as we explore creative new ways to make county government work more efficiently for everyone."

Continued on page 7

Serino takes Oath of Office as DC's ninth County Executive

Despite the region's first storm of the winter season dropping more than a foot of snow on Dutchess County, more than 350 guests, including family, friends, elected officials, community and business leaders, all gathered on Sunday, Jan. 7 to support Sue Serino as she took her Oath of Office as Dutchess County's ninth County Executive.

Hon. James Brands, former justice for the Dutchess County Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District of New York, administered the oath to County Executive Serino during a ceremonial event held at Dutchess Community College's Aviation Education Center at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in Wappinger.

New County Executive Serino said, "I am so honored and humbled to be with you all as I take my ceremonial Oath of Office for this position. As I get to work for Dutchess County, I want to thank each and every one of you for the support you have given me and the trust you have placed in me to lead our County. This is not a responsibility that I take lightly, and I could not be more excited and humbled to create a stronger, more united Dutchess County."

Serino highlighted public safety, increased access to mental health, small business creation and retention, affordable childcare, food insecurity, transportation and affordable housing among her top priorities as she takes office. Constituent service and community



New County Executive Sue Serino addresses the audience during her Oath of Office ceremony on Jan. 7.

-Courtesy photo

engagement will be central in all efforts.

A lifelong Dutchess County resident who has lived in Hyde Park with her family for more than 20 years, County Executive Serino was a small business owner for more than a quarter-century. As a businesswoman

facing difficulties navigating working with local government, she felt compelled to embark on a career in public service to alleviate such bureaucracy and promote economic development.

Continued on page 7

Parade, program to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream

By Kristine Coulter

This will mark the 46th year that the Southern Dutchess Coalition will host an annual MLK Day, which gives tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The event will be held on January 15. The MLK Celebration will be held at Springfield Baptist Church, 8 Mattie Cooper Square, in Beacon. The parade will step off at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Springfield Baptist Church in Beacon. The Opening Ceremony will begin at 9 a.m.

One of the organizers, Bonnie Champion, assisted Seeger with the parade. Champion said in a statement: "After Pete's wife died in July 2013, he came to the Beacon Sloop Club and shared that he was worried that Martin Luther King Day was becoming a day off from school and work and persons were forgetting this man who changed the world." Champion, who has organized the parade since the inaugural one it was noted, said the parade began in 2014.

Champion noted, "People loved and respected him (Pete) so much. Hundreds of people showed up. Pete lived for that moment. He never marched in that first parade, though he knew about it."

Seeger died over a week after the 2014 parade.

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A parade and program will be held to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on January 15 in Beacon. Participants in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade from a previous year.

-Archive photo

Heroes honored for actions taken during WF explosion in November



Local emergency first responders were honored by Congressman Pat Ryan at the S.W. Johnson Firehouse in Wappingers Falls on Jan. 4 for the actions they took after a gas explosion on Brick Row in Wappingers Falls in November.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter



Congressman Pat Ryan honors members of the City of Beacon Police Department for their actions taken on Nov. 2 in Wappingers Falls.

By Kristine Coulter

Just over two months after a gas explosion in the Village of Wappingers Falls, members of the local fire departments, police agencies, other first responders and community members were recognized at S.W. Johnson Station #2 in the Village. The actions of those who helped that day were told by Congressman Pat Ryan on the Congressional Record when he read about the incident and their response on the Floor of the House of Representatives. A morning event on Jan. 4 was held with Congressman Ryan to honor the emergency workers.

There was also a moment of silence held in honor of East Fishkill Police Sgt. Daniel DiDato. DiDato died from injuries sustained in a single-car accident on Dec. 18 on the Taconic State Parkway. DiDato was on duty and on his way to Westchester County to interview a victim who was in a separate car accident earlier that day.

Ryan thanks those who risked lives

Ryan thanked everyone who was in attendance for coming. He said this was something “I don’t think we do enough of” and that it is important to recognize those who save lives.

During the event, nine first responders from the Wappingers Falls Fire Department, the Wappingers Falls Police Department, and the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office were honored.

“I know everybody in this room played a part in the response,” said Ryan.

It was early in the afternoon on November 2, 2023, that a gas explosion occurred on Brick Row. Injured were 15 individuals, including five first responders. Eight adults and two children, who were in the apartments at the time of the explosion, were rescued and airlifted to the burn unit at Westchester Medical Center. A spokesperson for Central Hudson said in November that what was known is that a contractor employed by Central Hudson appears to have struck a ¾ service line. A spokesperson for the company did not respond to an inquiry about where the investigation stands now.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino spoke during the event. She noted she once lived on Brick Row and thought about how it was back then.

Serino said her heart goes out to those

families who were affected, the injured and those still in the hospital.

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart,” she told those in the firehouse.

Emergency responders recall incident described as ‘controlled chaos’

One of those honored was Raquan White. White is with the Village of Wappingers Falls Fire Department.

“I arrived on scene the chief then notified us we had two victims trapped in a manhole,” said White. He said with the Village of Fishkill and Hughsonville fire departments help, he was able to get one of the contract workers out. White said he and his partner then placed the victim in an ambulance and he drove with them to the hospital. White said it seemed like it took hours to help the victim, but it was just less than an hour.

“I really was at the point where I had a job to do and I did the job,” said White.

Captain Alex Bravo is with the Village of Wappingers Falls Fire Department. He has been a firefighter for a decade, seven of those years with the Village of Wappingers Falls Fire Department.

“I responded out from Highland Falls,” Bravo recalled about that day. “I remember coming across the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and seeing smoke. When I got there (on scene), everyone was still trapped. It was a lot of controlled chaos.” He continued: “Nobody was questioning what we did. They did what we needed to get done.”

Lieutenant Stephen Reverri Jr. is with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office. He remarked after the program, “I remember a coordinated effort of first responders working together to face a chaotic situation.” He said it was because of the coordination that there was to be a tremendous outcome.

One first responder who was honored but wanted to offer an anonymous quote, said, “It does mean a lot to us that a guy in Congress, who makes it to Congress, comes back [to recognize us] -- that means a lot and he says ‘thank you’ for what you do.”

White said, “It’s a great honor. We don’t do it for the ‘thank you,’ but it is a great honor to be recognized.”

Village of Wappingers Falls Police Commissioner Paul Italiano said, “I probably could not be more proud of these people. They’re phenomenal. They are phenomenal,

not only the day of but with fundraising.” Italiano noted that Village of Wappingers Falls Det. Sgt. Jennifer Farrell “has worked nonstop, continuous hours, making sure the kids and families [affected] had a good Christmas. She took that on herself and the PBA. I could not be prouder of this department,” he said.

Moment of Silence for East Fishkill Sgt. DiDato

A moment of silence was held for East Fishkill Sgt. Daniel P. DiDato. “I just want to ask everybody to take a moment to please

join me in a moment of silence for East Fishkill Department police officer Daniel DiDato, his family and the entire community for his loss,” said Ryan.

Community owes debt of gratitude

Ryan said, “Our Hudson Valley community owes you a debt of gratitude we can never repay.” He noted, “It was my honor to do that (read his statement about the incident and the response into the Congressional Record) and my honor to recognize you today.”

Emergency responders honored for heroism on Nov. 2

The following were honored by Congressman Pat Ryan on Jan. 4 for their heroic actions after a gas explosion on Brick Row on Nov. 2, 2023 in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

- Sgt. Devin Ludwig
- Officer Daniel Corchado
- Det. Sergeant Jennifer Farrell
- John Marko Nuculovic – Firefighter, Wappingers Falls Fire Department, Superintendent, Wappingers Falls Department of Public Works
- Raquan White, Firefighter, Wappingers Falls Fire Department
- Investigator Andrew J. Hettinger
- Lt. Stephen Jr. Reverri
- Deputy Matthew Kemlage
- Deputy Reece Aronow
- Police Assistant Susan McLynn
- Sr. Police Assistant Jannette Williams
- Police Assistant Zackary Canning
- Trooper Raymond C. Renzo – Troop K Headquarters
- Trooper Jeremy Reynolds - SP Wappinger
- Trooper Kristal M. Abreu - SP Wappinger
- Zone Sergeant Keri Pfister – Troop K Zone 2 Headquarters
- Zone Sergeant Matthew Landon - Troop K Zone 2 Headquarters
- John Kozak, Water Foreman, WF DPW
- Thomas Polakowski, Highway Foreman
- Lt. Michael Dampf
- Lt. Joel Petrus
- Captain John Watterson
- Officer Korey Dotterer
- Deputy Mark Catuzza
- Detective Jared Griffin
- Detective Jeffery Cohen
- Detective Pricillia Aponte
- Deputy Andrew Schultz
- Deputy Gregg Castro
- Deputy Christopher Jiava
- Deputy Emily Abbatantuono
- Deputy Kyle Esposito
- Sheriff’s Aide Leslie Lugo (Desk)
- Sheriff’s Aide Doug Daugavietis (Desk)
- Sheriff’s Aide Elmer Castellano (Desk)
- ATV Patrol

Fire:

- W.T. Garner Engine Company #1, Wappingers Falls Fire Department
- S.W. Johnson Engine Company #2, Wappingers Falls Fire Department
- Arlington Fire Department

(Arlington Fire District)

- New Hamburg Engine Co. 1 (New Hamburg Fire District)
- Hughsonville Fire Department (Hughsonville Fire District) -
- New Hackensack Fire Company (New Hackensack Fire District) -
- Village of Fishkill Fire Department
- Fairview Fire Department (Fairview Fire District) -
- LaGrange Fire Department (LaGrange Fire District) -
- City of Poughkeepsie Fire Department -
- East Fishkill Fire Department (East Fishkill Fire District) -
- Dutchess County Department Emergency Response -
- 911 Communications Division
- Fire and Rescue Division
- Emergency Management Division
- Dutchess Emergency Response 911 Dispatchers
- East Clinton Fire Department
- Rhinebeck Fire Department

Town Agencies:

- Highway Department, Wappingers Falls Department of Public Works
- Water Department, Wappingers Falls Department of Public Works

Police:

- New York State Police Troop K
- Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office
- Village of Wappingers Falls Police Department
- Town of Poughkeepsie Police
- City of Beacon Police
- City of Poughkeepsie Police
- Town of Hyde Park Police
- Village of Fishkill Police
- Town of Fishkill Police
- Town of East Fishkill Police

EMS:

- Beekman Fire District (EMS) -
- East Clinton Rescue Squad -
- East Fishkill Rescue Squad -
- Roosevelt Rescue Squad -
- Rhinebeck Rescue Squad -
- Ambulnz -
- Empress EMS -
- LifeNet of New York Medevac

Other Organizations:

- American Red Cross

The above list was provided by the office of Congressman Pat Ryan.

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GENERAC

Parisi takes Oath of Office as new DC District Attorney



New Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony P. Parisi addresses the audience at his Oath of Office ceremony.

-Courtesy photo

On Tuesday, January 2, hundreds of individuals gathered at Cunneen-Hackett Arts Theater in Poughkeepsie to witness the swearing-in of the first new District Attorney in Dutchess County in 40 years, Anthony P. Parisi.

Parisi started his legal career in the Dutchess County Public Defender's Office before joining the District Attorney's Office and most recently acted as the Bureau Chief of the Major Crimes Unit prior to winning the November election. The new District Attorney said "Growing up, I knew I wanted to serve my community. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that one day I would

be sworn in as the District Attorney. I am humbled beyond my ability to express."

Overall, the event had a casual but upbeat feeling with Parisi's two young daughters, Seraphina (4 years old) and Giuliana (2 years old), taking the stage and leading the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati acted as master of ceremonies and commended Parisi on his work with the DA's office and stated that Parisi held all the qualifications to serve as District Attorney and that as District Attorney, Parisi would be "caring, compassionate, firm, and consistent."

Parisi's family, including his wife,



Judge David Steinberg, right, administers the Oath of Office to new Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony P. Parisi on Jan. 2 at the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Theater in Poughkeepsie. Joining Parisi on stage are his wife, Sinead and daughters Seraphina and Giuliana.

-Courtesy photo

Sinead, also joined him for the Oath of Office administered by Judge David Steinberg. Steinberg joked that "this is an important day for Dutchess County legal community and the community at large...for every 40 years, we get a new District Attorney."

Parisi thanked community members for

their support and said "This is a time of incredible promise for our County. My hope is to continue to work on our criminal justice system and to build a system that keeps us safe, is fair and earns the respect and the trust of the community we serve."

Serino names first woman to lead County's Public Defender's Office

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced on Jan. 3 her selection of Margaret M. Walker as Dutchess County's next Public Defender, following the recent retirement of longtime county Public Defender Thomas N.N. Angell. Walker, who currently serves as a Bureau Chief and the Office's Director of Training, will be the sixth Public Defender in Dutchess County history.

"Margaret's breadth of education, experience and passion to serve others make her the ideal person to serve as our next Public Defender," said County Executive Serino. "In addition to her well-deserved reputation as a capable leader and legal mind, she brings her education and prior work experience in community and counseling psychology, which is critically important in helping to meet client needs and assist them in rebuilding productive lives. Our community will be well-served with Margaret Walker as our Public Defender."

Walker brings a wide range of experience as she prepares to lead the Public Defender's Office, having served in various roles in both the public and private sectors, including multiple roles in Dutchess County Government.

Her experience with the County began early in her career, with an internship with the Office of Probation and Community Corrections in 1994, as she studied for her Master's degree in Community/Counseling Psychology from Marist College. Following her graduation from Marist in 1995, she worked for community organizations such as the Putnam Associated Resource Center in Carmel and the Community Rehabilitation Center in Kingston. She also served as an educator for the former Domestic Abuse Awareness Classes for Men program at Family Services, Inc. She later worked as a Domestic Violence Outreach Aide for the Dutchess County

District Attorney's Office, where she assisted victims of domestic violence with support and referrals, acting as liaison with the prosecutors handling criminal cases.

Earning her Juris Doctor from Pace University School of Law, while working full-time, she graduated in 2003 and became an Assistant District Attorney for Dutchess County for several years. She briefly left Dutchess County Government in 2008, working at Corbally, Gartland and Rappleyea, LLP in Poughkeepsie and the Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office. In 2011, she returned to Dutchess County Government, serving as Senior Assistant District Attorney from 2011 to 2017 and then as Senior Assistant County Attorney from 2017 to 2019.

She began her role as Bureau Chief and Director of Training in the Public Defender's Office in 2019. She developed the office's first formal attorney training program, and her expertise helped guide and train all attorneys and staff. As Director of Training, she also attended new attorneys' court appearances, client interviews, and assisted with attorneys' first experiences with litigation, in addition to handling her own criminal caseload.

Walker will be the first woman to serve as Dutchess County Public Defender. In her new role, she will lead a team of more than 35 lawyers, social workers, investigators and other pertinent staff, all of whom are dedicated to providing quality legal representation to indigent clients in Criminal and Family courts.

Walker said, "I am honored to be part of the incredibly talented team at the Dutchess County Public Defender's Office. I look forward to continuing the Office's reputation for providing a high standard of quality legal representation and continuing Tom Angell's legacy of client-centeredness, as we help those in

need strive to better their lives. I appreciate the confidence County Executive Serino has placed upon me, and I am excited to begin a new chapter of working toward greater fairness and equity in the criminal justice system in Dutchess County."

Walker serves as a member of the National and New York State Associations for Criminal Defense Lawyers, the New York State Defenders Association, the Historical Society of the New York State Courts, as well as State, County and Women's Bar Associations.

Serino has forwarded a resolution confirming her appointment to the Dutchess County Legislature for consideration and approval at its January 16th board meeting.



Margaret M. Walker has been named to lead the Dutchess County Public Defender's Office by County Executive Sue Serino.

-Courtesy photo

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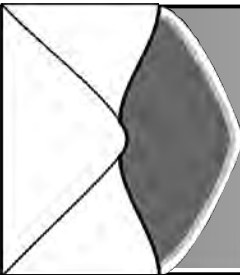
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Viewpoints



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Policy on letters:

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The Southern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Beacon Free Press,

Vulgar language not needed when calling attention to patriotism

To the Editor:

Recently on my way home from the hospital, I noticed the men and women at the corner of Route 9 displaying American flags. I made a comment to a relative, "Isn't that nice, they are so patriotic!" They are out there all year.

My relative replied, "I don't think that they are so great, and I would never support them with that kind of language!" When I looked again, they were proudly displaying handmade signs using very vulgar terms- the word began with the sixth letter of the alphabet followed by the name of our current President.

I do not and would never support our present President. I feel he has already ruined our country and I am afraid this is not the end.

However, there is no excuse for using such vile language in public - What are we teaching our children?

I would never allow such language in my home, and I do not think that we should allow it with our precious American flag!

Brenda VonBurg
Local Historian Emeritus

Rolison introduces bill to crack down on reckless driving

To the Editor:

Reckless drivers are fast turning our roads into speedways. What can be done? The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has rightly called the up-tick in motor-vehicle-involved deaths a "crisis." And with an estimated 115 million Americans traveling by car over the holidays – the second-highest number on record – these figures could jump again.

Recently I introduced S.7717, a Senate bill to crack down on reckless driving that threatens pedestrians and other motorists. The legislation is simple: it provides discretion to prosecutors and judges to charge a suspect with aggravated reckless driving, a felony.

Individuals driving uninsured or unregistered cars, trucks, motorcycles or ATVs, or guilty of three reckless-driving violations, would face forfeiture of their vehicles and other penalties. The measure is necessary because impaired and/or reckless drivers (including marijuana users) pose a threat to others each time they get behind the wheel. If our roads aren't safe, Hudson Valley residents can't feel secure about traveling around our region and state.

I'm encouraging my colleagues to join me in supporting and passing S.7717 during this session of the New York State Legislature. We need safe streets again. Our hard-working residents and families deserve no less.

Rob Rolison
NYS Senate, 39th District

Beacon Elks visit local nursing homes



The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 visited five local assisted living and nursing homes for the holidays. The Elks visited 58 Veterans with gifts for the holidays. Pictured (from left) are Lodge Veterans Committee Members Carl Oken, Bill Harrison, two veterans, Sharon Haviland, Don VanNostrand and Bob Haight.

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Democratic Caucus set for Jan. 29 in Wappingers Falls

Registered Democrats in the Village of Wappingers Falls will hold a caucus at the W.T. Garner Firehouse, 25 West Academy St., Wappingers Falls, on Jan. 29, at 7 p.m. to select candidates for the Village elections.

Democrats will gather to choose candidates for the 2024 Village election scheduled in March. Nominations will be open for trustees of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd wards.

To appear on the Democratic ballot, a candidate must receive a majority of votes from those registered Democratic voters present who live in the relevant ward.

The caucus is open to all, but only registered Democrats in the Village of Wappingers Falls may vote.

All eligible participants and potential nominees are welcome.

Registered Republicans to caucus on January 29 in Wappingers Falls

A caucus will be held by Republicans who are registered n the Village of Wappingers Falls at the S.W. Johnson Firehouse, 5 School St., Wappingers Falls, on Jan. 29, at 7 p.m. to select candidates for the Village election.

The 2024 Village election is set for March.

All who want to be potential nominees and eligible participants are welcome.

Yvonne Flowers takes oath of office as first African American Mayor of Poughkeepsie



Yvonne Flowers, a lifelong Poughkeepsie resident and four-term Common Councilwoman, was sworn in as Mayor at the Poughkeepsie High School Auditorium, along with members of the Common Council.

Yvonne Flowers took the oath of office as City of Poughkeepsie Mayor on Tuesday, Jan. 2, becoming the first African American to hold the position, calling for unity and community support and pledging to work on behalf of all residents for the betterment of the city.

Flowers, a lifelong resident and four-term Common Councilwoman, was sworn in at the Poughkeepsie High School Auditorium, along with members of the Common Council.

“Today we take the mantle and begin the earnest work to push the City of Poughkeepsie to its true potential, to unify our city, to ensure it’s a safe place where all are welcome and can thrive,” said Flowers. “I recognize there is a lot of work to do, and I am calling on members of the community to join me in this work and to understand that change can’t happen overnight, but progress can — and will — be made if we each do our part to help nurture the city we love.”

Flowers presented outgoing Mayor Marc Nelson with a proclamation at the event, praising his work and thanking him for a seamless transition during these past few months following her victory in the November election.

Flowers, a graduate of Poughkeepsie City School District and Dutchess Community College, has served as Chair of the city’s Finance Committee, Co-Chair of the city’s Procedural Justice Committee and has been on the board of directors of numerous organizations, including R.E.A.L Skills Network Inc., Hudson River Housing and the Dutchess County Board of Ethics. She worked at Dutchess Community College for more than 33 years as the college’s Grants and Contracts Finance Officer and former Supervisor of Student Accounts Office.

Flowers became involved in community activities at a young age, working alongside her father John M. Flowers, Sr., who coordinated large community events, including the John Flowers Old Fashioned Easter Egg Hunt, Father’s Day Parade/Celebration and Community Day Picnic.

Poughkeepsie Common Council members joined Flowers in taking their oaths of office today, including new Councilmember-at-Large Da’Ron Wilson. He is a graduate of Poughkeepsie High School, received his bachelor of arts degree in political science with a minor in pre-law from Virginia State University, and obtained his master’s of sci-

ence degree from Mercy College in Adolescent Education 7-12. Wilson also served as a sergeant in the United States Army and is an Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran.

Wilson has worked for the Poughkeepsie City School District for more than 20 years as a 7th– 12th grade U.S. History & Global Studies teacher, a Co-Principal, and a co-facilitator of the after-school initiative Brother 2 Brother. He is currently the district’s Executive Director of School Engagement.

Wilson said, “I am honored to begin serving, knowing full well the Common Council is eager to get started and intends to work closely with Mayor Flowers and her administration to address the needs of the city.”

Among her many roles, Flowers will serve on the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet Leadership Council, co-chairing it with Poughkeepsie City School District Superintendent Dr. Eric Jay Rosser. Wilson also will serve on the Cabinet’s Leadership Council.

“Mayor Flowers and Mr. Wilson have done tremendous work for the community, and I am excited about the accomplishments that will be achieved in their new leadership roles,” said Dr. Rosser. “The two of them are perfect examples of what our community can produce when we work together. Both graduated from the Poughkeepsie City School District and understand the community’s role and obligation in preparing the next generation of our community’s citizens and leaders. I look forward to working closely with them as we continue our cradle to career initiatives through the Children’s Cabinet. The Children’s Cabinet has worked to bring the school district, the city, Dutchess County, service providers and many others together to give children access to more resources, to enrich their lives and put them on a path for a better future.”

Flowers said public safety, housing, homelessness, economic development and community relations also would be among her priorities.

In addition to Wilson, the 2024 City of Poughkeepsie Common Council members are: Ernest Henry, First Ward; Evan Menist, Second Ward; Terriciana Brown, Third Ward; Nathan Shook, Fourth Ward; Ondie James, Fifth Ward; Christopher Grant, Sixth Ward; Nedra Patterson Thompson, Seventh Ward; and Megan Deichler, Eighth Ward.

Edwards sworn in as new Town of Poughkeepsie supervisor



Rebecca Edwards was sworn in as the Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor on January 1. On her Facebook page, Edwards posted, in part: “Such an honor today to be sworn in as town supervisor by Rep. Pat Ryan—with some help from my son Ben.”

-Courtesy photo

Ryan meets with Kyriacou, HV mayors



City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou (second from right) recently met with Congressman Pat Ryan (third from right) and City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers (second from left), as well as other Hudson Valley mayors.

Members of the Beacon City Council, Paloma Wake, Pamela Wetherbee, Molly Rhodes, Jeffrey Domanski, Wren Longo and Dan Aymar-Blair were sworn in on Jan. 7 at the Veterans Memorial Building on Main St. Dutchess County Legislator for District 16 Yvette Valdes-Smith was sworn in. Former member George Mansfield was honored during the ceremony.

-Courtesy photo

Albra takes oath in Fishkill



Ozzy Albra was sworn in as the Town of Fishkill Supervisor on Jan. 1. He was sworn in by Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati. This is Albra’s second term as supervisor. Albra won the election in Nov. 2023 against Fishkill board member John Forman.

Theoni Salotto was the first woman to be sworn in as justice for the Town of Fishkill. Also taking oaths were Town of Fishkill Board members Greg Totino, Brian Wrye, Highway Superintendent Carmine Istvan and Justice Raymond Raiche.

-Courtesy photo

Cavaccini now leads Wappinger



Joseph Cavaccini was sworn in as Supervisor for the Town of Wappinger on January 5 at the Wappinger Town Hall. Cavaccini won the election in November 2023 against Democratic candidate Robin Licari. Assemblyman Anil Beephan Jr. administered the Oath of Office.

Also sworn in were Dutchess County legislators Robert Faust, Lynne Miele-Versace, Lisa Paoloni, Wappinger Clerk Joseph Paoloni, and members of the Wappinger Town Board William Beale, Angela Bettina, Christopher Phillips and Al Casella. Superintendent of Highways Michael Sheehan was also sworn in. An oath was also taken by Justice Nicholas Maselli Jr.

-Courtesy photo

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Beacon Elks distributes dictionaries to local elementary schools



Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 distributed dictionaries to three Fishkill-area elementary schools on December 13, 2023. More than 215 dictionaries were distributed between Fishkill, Fishkill Plains, and Gayhead elementary schools.
The Beacon Elks purchased the dictionaries using an Elks National Foundation's Gratitude Grant. This grant ranges between \$2,000-\$2,500 and offers an opportunity for local Elks to think about how best to serve their community and make it stronger.
"We used this Gratitude Grant to advance education in our community," said Jennifer Velez, Exalted Ruler, Beacon Elks Lodge #1493. "Since April 2023, we've provided dictionaries for students in Beacon City, Wappingers Central, and Haldane Central school districts.
Pictured are Fishkill Elementary students; Ashley Lebit, teacher; Cathy Oken, Youth Activities Chair and Jeanine McAuley, Esteemed Loyal Knight. Not pictured are Carl Oken, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, and Scott Birkler, Past Exalted Ruler, who helped with the dictionary distribution.

-Courtesy photo

'Ragtime' coming to Wappingers Falls

County Players to hold open auditions on January 14, 15

County Players, one of the longest-running community theatre companies in the area announced open auditions on January 14 & 15 at 7 p.m. for the musical "Ragtime." Book by Terrence McNally, with Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and Music by Stephen Flaherty, and based on the novel by E.L. Doctorow. This Main Stage production is scheduled for May and will be directed by Anna Marie Paolercio. Open auditions for all roles will be held at the County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main Street in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

Performances are scheduled for Fridays and Saturdays, May 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Sunday, May 12 and 19, and Saturday, May 18.

This musical tapestry depicts an African American family, a Jewish immigrant family, and a wealthy white suburban family in turn-of-the-century America, who collide in pursuit of the American Dream. Nominated for 13 Tony Awards® including "Best Musical," and winning for "Best Original Score" and "Best Book of a Musical," Ragtime is a powerful portrait of life during the turn-of-the century, exploring America's timeless contradictions of freedom and prejudice, wealth, and poverty, hope, and despair.

Diverse Casting: a total size of approximately 30-35 men, women, and children, actors of all ages, genders, and ethnicities are encouraged. For complete audition

information, including a detailed cast, character breakdown with descriptions, audition form, and a draft rehearsal schedule please visit countyplayers.org/shows/auditions/. The online audition form may be downloaded, filled out, and printed from the County Players auditions page; one may bring the form with you, and will also be available from the Stage Manager at auditions.

SCHEDULE: Be prepared to list all possible conflicts. The rehearsal schedule will be respectful of performers' time and conflicts.

AUDITION PROCESS: Prepare 16 bars from a Broadway show tune in similar style to "Ragtime", and bring sheet music (piano accompaniment will be available; piano conductor score will be available at auditions), **PLEASE DRESS** in comfortable clothing for a movement audition – Script Readings will be for only those the casting team determines for principal roles and will be assigned from the MTI script.

"Ragtime" is sponsored by Bronze Sponsors: Marshall & Sterling, and Thomas, Drohan, Waxman, Petigrow & Mayle, LLP, and is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) MTIShows.com and Hudson Valley Credit Union proudly sponsors County Players' 66th Season.

Accessibility: If you require wheelchair accessibility, please contact our Box Office at 845-298-1491.

MLK parade, program to recognize Dr.Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream

Continued from cover

The parade route, according to organizers, starts East on Mattie Cooper Square, also called Church Street. It will then continue to N. Cedar St. and will turn South to Main Street, then North on Willow St., and East on Mattie Cooper Square, returning to Springfield Baptist Church, stated organizers.

The Southern Dutchess Coalition program will take place when the parade has concluded. The program will be inside Springfield Baptist Church.

Essay Contest on MLK Jr. quote
The Beacon Sloop Club and the Southern Dutchess Coalition hosted their annual MLK Essay Contest. Students in Grades 1-12 were asked, noted organizers, to write

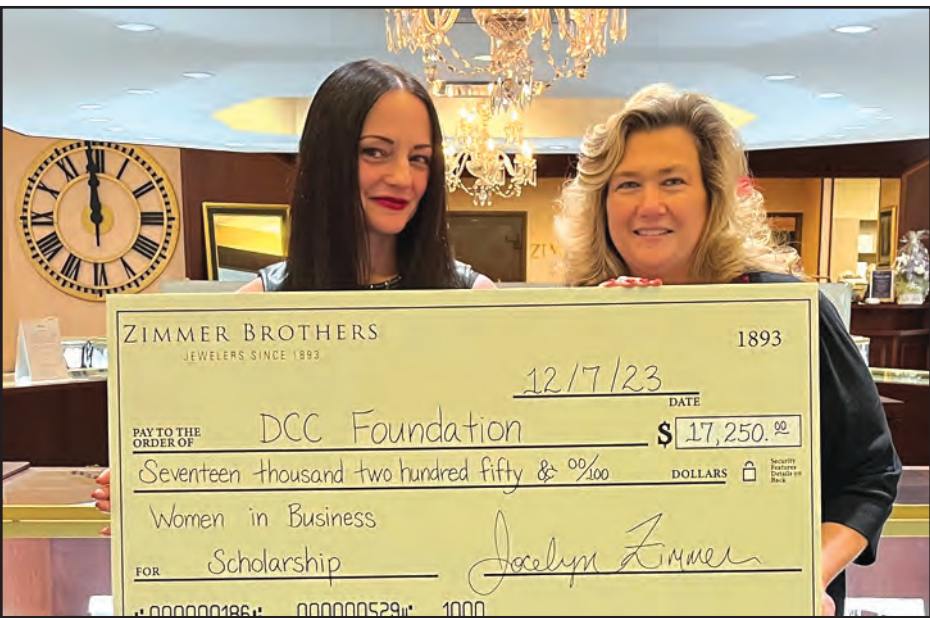
about the following quote from Dr. King: "Only love can overcome hatred, bitterness, and fear. I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."

The requirement was to write an essay about what was happening in America for Dr. King to say that quote, it was stated. Participants were also asked to include in the essay what one felt Dr. King meant and what it might mean to the participant. Participants were also asked to include how they feel this may affect one's life as well.

According to organizers, all students participating will receive a certificate during the celebration for MLK. There will be six essay winners who are selected by the judges. Each essay winner will receive a \$50 award, which is from Rhinebeck Bank.

For more information, go to the beaconsloop.org. If anyone needs a car to participate, text 845-522-0780.

Zimmer Brothers Jewelers announces DCC Women in Business scholarship



On the heels of its 130th anniversary, Zimmer Brothers Jewelers recently announced the establishment of an endowed scholarship with the Dutchess Community College (DCC) Foundation. As a DCC alumna and the fifth-generation business' first female president, Jocelyn Zimmer recognizes the importance of elevating the next generation of women in business and intends for the scholarship to help young women reach their full potential. The \$750 scholarship will be awarded annually to a full-time DCC student pursuing the Business Administration Transfer Program or related field. To learn more about the scholarship, and to view the application, visit sunydutchess.awardspring.com.

-Courtesy photo

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BHS administration names 1st quarter honor students

The Beacon High School administration in the Beacon City School District has announced the following students earned a place on the 1st quarter honor roll for the 2023-24 school year.

The students are:

9th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Cecilia Allee, Maayan Alon, Atlas Baltz, Charlotte Bowen, Jerry Chen, Terry Chen, Shannon Colandrea, Emily Coldrick, Theodore Concepcion, Zamaya Cone, Travis Dickston, Ka’Dera Elliott, Fionn Fehilly, Lily Figlia, Khloe Franklin, Emilio Guerra, Alyson Guobadia, Elma-Taherin Hassan, August Hayes, Miguel Herrera, Shaun Jabar, Ruby King, Wenang Kobarsih, Katelyn Kong, Mary Lopez, Molly Lyons, Lily Mack, Kylie Maloney, Ash Marcus, Ethan Maxaner, Victoria McKay, Isaac McKible, Lily Murr, Stella Reinke, John Rose, Charlotte Rossi, Abdul-Rahman Sayibu, Finch Simons, Elias Smith, Harper Strang, Elliott Thorne, Gavin Troiano, Isaac Tschang, Farrah VanCott, Jesse Vermeulen, Fabiola Vogrincic, Aslynn Way, Lila Welsh, Parker White, Julie Whittemore

9th Grade High Honor Roll
Mikayla Acevedo, Dakota Barden, Caroline Bell, Tamirnes Bernstein, Savannah Brace, Danica Brennen, Michael Cahill, Mateo Cruz, Magdalena del Puerto-Vitti, Abigail Durkin, Elijah Epps, Tyler Evans, Khordae Facey, Adriana Fazioli, Hailey Fish, William Flynn, Hudson Fontaine, Valeria Garcia, Kayla Gerardes, Abigail Getter, Julian Hannah, Abigail Haydt, Ryan Huynh , Gabriel Khan, Penelope Lipari, Jayshon Lopez, Yianniz Male, Yadrina Manzano Cabello, Shyanne McNair, Gianna Mercer, Lakota Newman, Madelyn Pellerin, Brady Philipbar, Sarah Ramkalawon, Lillian Ray, Olivia Reynolds, Bella Ridore, Julian Rivers, Sebastian Roquel, Katherine Sendelbach, Stella Sheehy, Caeleb Smith, Tabitha Smith-White, Januario Stageman, Savannah Steinman, Nolan Varricchio, Rudolph Vergolina, Andrew Whittemore, Aine Woods

9th Grade Honor Roll
Savannah Acuti, Lily Amundson, Molly-Rose Archer, Emma Bellis, Giovanna Bottiglieri, Casey Brandstrom, Juniper Breault, Hartley Brickman, Myasia Burch, Isabella Bustamente, Misleidy Cruz Cruz, Jason David, Angeleah Decker, Christopher Diaz, Ethan Diaz, Naim Dika, Daniel Echevarria, Ayham Ghazzawi, Analyah Gonzalez, Maliah Graham, Elidonya Hudson, Aaliyah Iciano, Hailee Jennings, Teanna Jennings, Syeira Kozlik, Ava

Lassiter, Isaac Long, Ryan Mowen, Luna Neyra, Ray Noble IV, Brianne Papo, Nicholas Perry, David Ramirez, Noah Sanderson, Jeremiah Sellers-Richards, Za’layni Shand, Neji Simon, Jamir Spence, Adryanah Sweat, Madison Thompson, Brevin Timm, Connor Varricchio, Slater Way, Ny’el Woods, Piper Yewchuck

10th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Nadeen Ahmed, Farhana Antora, Alexander Browning, Skylar Clair, Christian Clay, Peter Cohen, Tye Elias, Jonah Espinosa, Marisah George, Samiha Golden, Kayla Hammond, Zenia Haris, Sa’yon Harrison, Everly Jordan, Alina Joseph, Oren Kelleher, Gabrielle Khalil, Savana Kush, Brayden Manning, Alma Mart, Aril McKee, Oscar McKible, Mira Miller, Annabelle Notarthomas, Liliana Rybak, Kayla Selander, Addison Zittel

10th Grade High Honor Roll
Alianna Alijaj, Mira Bagriyanik, Logan Blum, James Bouchard III, Samuel Callan, Parker Capawana, Lola Ciccone, Quinn Clauson, Kiera D’Ippolito, Diego Dickinson Case Leal, Teo Fairbanks, Gabriel Godbee, Natalie Hayden, Ruby Hotchkiss, Milo Isabell, Vincent Joao Jr., Griffin Kitzrow, Kiran Kumar, Tianna Lewis, Aron Li, Tania Lindsay, Irene Loza Argudo, Nora Marshall, Aiden Montleon, Brea O’Flaherty, Nolan O’Malley, Angelina Richards, Yoland Rofaail, Mikaela Sanchez, Zachary Schetter, Thomas Senior, Anna Sevastianova, Gannon Statini-Perez, Alex Trama

10th Grade Honor Roll
Madison Abrahamson, Macy Alencastro, Eduardo Arellano, Vincent Bergerson 3rd, King Bolton, Ella Brill, Emi Dickinson Case Leal, Sofia Domanski, Samiria Ferrer, Alejandro Flores Urzua, Ayden Gilleo, Kylee Graff, Javier Gutierrez Jr., Eliana Herrera, Dylan Hetrick, Ayden Hooten, Tyler Horton, Chance Hunter, Michael Jones, Cameron Just, Taylor Kelliher, Maceo Koemer, Carlos Lampon III, Ryan Landisi, June Luedeman, Julia McGuire-Soellner, Jayden Mihalchik, Silena Negron, Eli Netboy, Jaiera Newton, Khiana Nicholson, Adrien Okoye, Richie Omira, Michael Ramos, Victoria Reyes-Miele, Jonathan Richards, Jalaysia Robinson, Katrina Skorewicz, Anibal Soto III, Aiden Spiecker, Jonathan Trentacosta, Vinicius Trichinato, Juan Tutasí Jr., Marcos Velasco, George Walker, Ri’Kya White, Mya Wright, Alexander Young

11th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Kendall Alston, Beckett Anderson, Anabelle Arginsky, Taryn Beardsley, Isabel

Bunker, Christine Chen, Evelina Diebboll, Tayler Finley, Willa Freedman, Justin Gerardes, AvaMaria Gianna, Mackenzie Harman, Grace Hudson, Sarah Jaafar, Jeannae’Jean-Francois, Karma Jones, Makayla King, Charlie Klein, Lani Lopez, Josephine Mallon, Jada Medley, Emma Merola, Addison Miller, Ronan Moran, Amelia Padilla, Katherine Ruffy, Anastasia Santise, Jacob Signorelli, Jax Spodek, Serena Stampleman, Mika-Gisselle Tate, Ava Zeoli, Francis Zezza

11th Grade High Honor Roll
Riley Adnams, Nicholas Albra, Angelina Bottiglieri, Daniel Bridges, Lila Burke, Avery Davis, William Echevarria, Chiara Fedorchak, Messiah Gardner, Amaya Hernandez, Jalen Jackson, Reilly Landisi, Ela Lyons, Paige McCredo, Allen McKay, Madison Mianti, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Zoe Moreno, Lindsay Pedersen, Josue Pintado, David Quezada, Nathan Richardson, Daveya Rodriguez, Santiago Romero, Bethany Rudolph, Breanna Rudolph, Gabriel Salcedo, Kayli Shand, Chloe Sheffield, Sortia Tripaldi, Roque Vianna, Holly Whittemore, Malcolm Wilson

11th Grade Honor Roll
Mason Alencastro, Isabella Baffuto, Kekoa Baysa, Kevin Beal, Jude Betancourt, Sally Betterbid, Ahmaria Bunn, Devin Byrne, Christopher Carton Jr., Danica del Puerto-Vitti, Sofia Diaz, Amir Figueroa, Ja’mes Gorden, Shane Griffin, Fallon Groza, Noelle Haase, Derrick Heaton, Bailey Hernandez, Hunter Humeston, Lee Humphreys, Samuel Hutchison, Ernesto Jenkins, Vincent Komer, Rory LaDue, Rowan Lane, Ethan Maignan, Mark McCabe, Ryann Meyer, Genan Mohammed Murtada, Rory Mowen, Connor Murphy, Megan Nicholson, Brianna Perez-Sample, Mehr Sagri, Jayla Soto, Natalia Sulsona, Amya Thompson, Sharod Tuggle, Siddiq Umrao, Michael VanBuren, Jaycob Velastegui, Saoirse Woods, Charles Zellinger

12th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Isabella Amundson, Henry Betterbid, Rubio Castagna-Torres, Nicole Coliman, Olivia Del Castillo, Marina Elias, Gabriella Espinal, Jayden Featherstone, Nathan Filc-Helmuth, Nora Folkes, Jacqueline Griesing, Harsh Gupta, Cadence Heeter, Serena Jabar, Myasia Lewis, Tiannah Lindsay, Evan Lombardo, Bryce Manning, Hannah Marin, Alexandria McCollum, Nico McKible, Isabella Migliore, Christopher Milewski, Karimah Muhammad, Twyla Nelson, Cameron O’Dell, Emilia Pastorello, Tatyana

Pearson, Vanessa Piciacchio, Nahari Powell, Henry Reinke, Elizabeth Ruffy, Kasey Senior, Owen Skorewicz, Rachel Thorne, Emily Wei, Wallace Wei, Jon-Paul Wood

12th Grade High Honor Roll
Imroz Ali, Wiles Assael, Daniel Benson, Anthony Borromeo, Emma Campagiomi, Sophia Campagiomi, Vanessa Campanelli, Douglas Capawana, Ella Cason, Aidan Cleveringa, Eleanor Cunningham, Damani Deloatch, Luke DeLuise, Chelsea DerBoghossian, Sara Gonzalez, Sienna Gorey, Isabella Haydt, Una Hoppe, Keira Istvan, Georgia Kane, Zuhir Kasem, Zakary Krachy, Gabrielle Kuka, Meara Kumar, Shy’anne Kush, Olivia Lapaz, Leonides Lopez IV, Amerie Madigan, Lauren McDermott, Stephen McDowell, Gia Morgan, Liam Murphy, Vanessa Murphy, Mia Nelsen-Cheyne, Thomas Nocerino, Lillie O’Leary, Elisa Pahucki, Monet Parker, Christopher Pirrone, Ricardo Ramirez Paredes, Marilyn Rinaldi, Luis Rivera, Nina Rivers, Keira Robinson, Kiarra Rodriguez, Jenna Rojas, Matthew Sandison, Jackson Shrawder, Michael Varian, Peter Vermeulen, Brandon Warren, Jahzara Watkins, August Wright, Noelle Young, Ryan Zingone Redfield

12th Grade Honor Roll
Myah Aguilar Montano, Jack Antalek, Ronnie Anzovino, Jackson Atwell, Caleb Bennett, Ava DelBianco, Grace Delgado, Enis Dika, Kiana Dugger, Shadaya Fryar, Ariana Gallego, Jaidev Galvin, Jessica Gonzalez, Alexander Guobadia, Kimora Henry, Leslie Ilouga Wandji, Adam Jolly Jr., Emma Joyce, Kamille Kelley, Bryana Kelliher, Devyn Kelly, Samantha Lopez, Owen Lynch, William Martin, Anthony Marzovilla, Natalia Millan, Aryah Montefusco, Brad Patino Albarracin, Aniyah Pearson, Sophia Principe, Jayden Quintana, Arden Ragone, Kyla Richardson, Anisa Shtanaj, Brandon Soria, JonAy Taylor, Allison Thomas

Boces CTI High Honor Roll
Ahmaria Bunn, Amaya Hernandez, Zakary Krachy, Amerie Madigan, Ryann Meyer, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Cameron O’Dell, Brianna Perez-Sample, Cody Reinoehl, Nathan Richardson, Pedro Rivera III, Joseph Williams, Noelle Young

Boces CTI Honor Roll
A’Jah Bradshaw-Washington, Ayanna Dennis, Shane Griffin, Adam Jolly Jr., Luis Rivera, Nixon Salinas Jr., Siddiq Umroa, Michael VanBuren, Brayden Vlasaty, Sevana West.

Truitt chair of Legislature

Continued form cover

Speaking to residents of the county, he listed major challenges being the illegal drug crisis, opportunities for youth and the unfunded mandates from the state.

“We must address the (illegal) drug crisis in our backyard with every tool available at our disposal,” said Truitt. “I look forward to this Legislature partnering with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office, the District Attorney’s Office and local law enforcement agencies across the County to crack down on those who would dare traffic and sell (illegal) drugs on our streets that are causing irreparable harm to our children and families.”

He added, “Further, we must be bold in our investments in youth programming, as well as in our local parks and recreation to enhance the quality of outdoor and physical activities for our children who would greatly benefit from these opportunities to spend less time on their phones, video games and television screens.”

He said an additional major challenge Dutchess County will face, along with every other County across the State of New York, is “the financial burden of ever-increasing unfunded mandates placed upon us by politicians in Albany who are desperate to claw back revenue and push costs down onto local municipalities to cover their absurdly bloated annual budget. We will stand strong and be a fearless voice for our Dutchess County taxpayers in opposing new mandates that are proposed by Albany, and will actively seek to partner with surrounding County Governments and NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties) in expressing our opposition.”

In regard to his overall approach in working with legislators and people of the county to address problem areas, Truitt said, “I will

maintain an open and active line of communication with all members of our legislative body, as well as with our County Department Heads and Commissioners to ensure everyone’s voice is heard and effective solutions are sought to the critical issues that face us in every community and municipality in Dutchess County.”

In seeking to further “working together” relations with fellow legislators, Truitt said he plans bring back the “100 cups of coffee” event early this year to the Legislature “to signal our commitment in this county to getting back to civil, respectful discourse.”

He explained further, “100 Cups of Coffee” seeks to bring members of the County Legislature together, to put aside our partisan differences, and to give us an opportunity to get to know one another on a personal level. Before we are Democrats and Republicans, we are Americans and we are human beings. In order to get started on the right foot, I look forward to working with Dutchess County’s own Jodi Miller in coordinating this event in the Chambers of the Legislature early on in 2024 so that we may get to know one another and to appreciate each other’s backgrounds and the communities that we represent.”

Truitt also said the Legislature is “lucky to have many boards and committees tackling the issues facing Dutchess County, from Veterans, to the Airport, to the EMC, to the Tick Task Force and everything in between. This is only made possible by the citizen volunteers who sacrifice their time and give of their talents to help inform our policy making decisions. I am committed to utilizing these boards as much as possible. We will recruit far and wide to make sure that these boards are filled and remain active and vibrant.”

Serino takes Oath of Office as DC’s ninth County Executive



Sue Serino is sworn in as the ninth Dutchess County Executive on January 7. -Courtesy photo

Continued from cover

Serino began as a Hyde Park Town Board member and was then elected to serve in the Dutchess County Legislature, followed by an eight-year tenure in the New York State Senate. A strident supporter of older adults and their caregivers, she served as the Chair and the Ranking Member of the Senate’s Committee on Aging, as well as the Ranking Member of the Senate’s Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation. A

passionate proponent for veterans and their families, she fervently advocated for consistent funding for the Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Program. Serino said, “I feel so fortunate to call Dutchess County my home and I am grateful to begin this new chapter as County Executive, surrounded by so many family, friends and neighbors today at our Hudson Valley Regional Airport because I believe the sky is truly the limit on all we can accomplish together for Dutchess County.”

Mid Hudson Construction Management builds first Hudson Valley Hospice House

Facility now accepting patients



Hudson Valley Hospice House offers patients a residential option that feels like home, where they can live comfortably while receiving the specialized care and support that Hospice provides.

-Courtesy photos

Hudson Valley Hospice, the premier private, not-for-profit healthcare agency, in conjunction with contractors Mid Hudson Construction Management (MHCM), has announced that it is now accepting patients.

Construction is complete and all of the necessary approvals have been received at the first-of-its-kind inpatient facility in Dutchess and Ulster Counties located in Hyde Park.

With (14) 400-square-foot private suites featuring large ensuite bathrooms, individual room temperature control, and convertible chairs and sofas for loved ones to stay comfortably overnight, Hudson

Valley Hospice offers patients a residential option that feels like home, where they can live comfortably while receiving the specialized end of the care and support that hospice provides.

“Compelled by our mission, we are guided by a vision that continues to build Hudson Valley Hospice’s reputation as the premier provider of hospice and palliative care in both Dutchess and Ulster Counties. As such, we took this important step to add this much-needed component to the constellation of healthcare services we provide to the community,” said Michael S. Kaminski, president and CEO of Hudson Valley Hospice, regarding the

new facility.

The construction of Hudson Valley Hospice House is expected to offer care to over 1,000 patients and their families per year. In addition to its private suites, the facility also features designated common areas, such as spacious dining facilities, family and patient lounges, and gathering rooms with coffee stations, microwaves, and refrigerators for family use.

Along with a meditative garden, offering patients and their loved ones the opportunity to enjoy a tranquil outdoor environment, the Hudson Valley Hospice House provides a safe, welcoming, and nurturing facility to the patients of

Hudson Valley Hospice and an innovative solution to a previously unanswered community need.

“When our team was tasked with building the first freestanding hospice inpatient facility in Dutchess and Ulster County, we took the project to heart and wanted to create a place where residents and their families could feel at home while receiving the best care possible,” said Ray Travis, president and CEO of MHCM. “As we worked alongside Hudson Valley Hospice, we were proud to be able to offer our community a warm and welcoming center where families could bring their loved ones.”



Hudson Valley Hospice House is Now Open!

A state-of-the-art, peaceful homelike setting that offers world-class end-of-life care here in the Hudson Valley. Located at **542 Violet Avenue** in Hyde Park.

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Need help or have a question? Call **(845) 240-7555** or visit **hv hospice.org/hospicehouse**



AMENITIES

- 14 Private Patient Suites
- Nondenominational Sanctuary
- Spa/Hydrotherapy Room
- Meditative Garden
- Great Room, Reading Nook and Lounges
- Dining Room & Satellite Kitchen

Wappingers Falls Rotary Club honors WCSD students



The Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls recognized the December Students of the Month in the Wappingers Central School District. Richard Newman from Roy C. Ketcham High School, Kristina Calo from Wappingers Junior High School, Angie Arevalo from Evans Elementary School, Sophie Rosario-Cabreja from Myers Corners Elementary School and Aiden Curtis from Sheafe Road Elementary School. Rotarians also recognized Samuel Gregory from Myers Corners Elementary School as November student of the month.

Each student received a certificate of recognition and a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble from the Rotary Club, a gift certificate from Longobardi's and a certificate from Town of Wappinger and Village of Wappingers Falls. Rotarians congratulated all these students.

-Courtesy photo

BAU Gallery to host artists during reception on Jan. 13



“Blue With Knot” by Mary McFerran.



“Friendship” by Olivia Wargo.

Solo Exhibition: Mary McFerran. Recent Work: Cords and Knots GALLERY 2 Pop-Up Shop with BAU Gallery Artists BEACON ROOM Olivia Wargo. Spur Opening Reception Second Saturday, January 13th, from noon-6 p.m., with an artist reception from 6-8 p.m. Artist talk by Mary McFerran on February 4th at 4 p.m. Exhibit ends Sunday, February 4th, at 506 Main Street Beacon. Gallery Hours are Saturdays and Sundays noon-6 p.m. or by appointment.

Gallery 1: Mary McFerran. Recent Work: Cords and Knots In Recent Work: Cords and Knots, Mary McFerran plays with ideas of memory and the contrasting senses of grasping and letting go. She builds up surfaces by combining spliced, recycled watercolor paintings, fabric remnants and then ties them together with knots of rope and string. McFerran refers to the use of cords and knots by the Inca people as a way to store numeric values for calendars and other records. She links her own binding and unbinding of rope and string in her work to symbolizing the loosening of connections and beliefs she once held fast.

ABOUT THE ARTIST Mary McFerran is an artist who lives and works in the Hudson Valley of New York. Her practice focuses on fiber and ideas about memory, nature and social concerns. She prefers sewing as a method of construction, both for its aesthetic appeal and its link to women’s history of making. In earlier years, McFerran was a video artist and participated in the art scene of Manhattan’s Lower East Side. She began working with textiles after taking an embroidery class in London, UK and discovered thread as another method of drawing.

Gallery 2: Gallery Artists’ Pop-up Shop A selection of smaller works from BAU Gallery members: Karen Allen, Jebah Baum, Joel Brown, Daniel Berlin, Joel Brown, Robyn Ellenbogen, Matthew Gilbert, Joan Harmon, Nataliya Hines, Linda Lauro-Lazin, Mary McFerran, Kelly M O’Brien, Ilse Schreiber-Noll, Eileen Sackman, Pamela Zarembo.

Beacon Room: Olivia Wargo. Spur Guest artist Olivia Wargo looks to the natural world as the ultimate source of inspiration for her drawings and paintings. Influenced by the Transcendental Painting Group in New Mexico and the Abstract Expressionism Movement in New York, Wargo merges the impulses of representational and abstract painting to depict scenes filled with vivid colors and shifting compositions. She engages with motifs such as plants, flowers, mountains, and skies in order to understand and mimic the vocabulary of nature, while allowing her own dream-like associations and memories to influence their depictions.

In paintings that oscillate between the real and the imaginary, Wargo insists on the emotional and aesthetic importance of the landscape. In the past few years, Wargo has spent extensive time traveling in the western United States visiting family in Los Angeles, CA and Galisteo, NM. During her travels, she takes photographs and makes en plein air watercolors which she uses as source material for her oil paintings.

Olivia Wargo (b. 1996, Los Angeles, CA) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Wargo received her B.A in Studio Arts from Hampshire College. This is her debut solo show.

-Courtesy images

Join Us At A
FREE Bridal Show

The Garrison
& Southern Dutchess News

When: Sunday, March 10, 2024

Time: Noon – 3pm

Where: The Garrison
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Register Now At:
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Enjoy an afternoon of meeting local wedding professionals who can make all your Wedding Day Dreams come true.
We will have plenty of prizes to give away with a Grand Prize Drawing at 2:30pm.
Tell your friends, relatives and co-workers!

East Fishkill Police thank all those who paid respects to fallen hero Sgt. DiDato

By Kristine Coulter

The East Fishkill Police Department recently released a statement on its Facebook page thanking those who honored late East Fishkill Police Department Sgt. Daniel DiDato. DiDato died from injuries he sustained in a car accident on the Taconic State Parkway on December 18 while on his way to a Westchester County Hospital to interview a victim from a separate accident.

“During our darkest time, our community, law enforcement brotherhood, and local fire departments banded together and shined the light to guide our grieving members through the most challenging loss our agency has suffered,” the statement says.

“To see so many flag-waving members of our community lining the streets and saluting the funeral procession in a show of support reminds us how privileged we are to serve and that Sgt. Daniel DiDato did not die in vain. For 19 years, Sgt. DiDato proudly and faithfully served this community without hesitation and in return, our community came out to ensure his service was honored.”

The statement continued: “On behalf of the Town of East Fishkill Police Department, we would sincerely like to thank all of those that supported our officers and Sgt. DiDato’s family while paying their final respects to our fallen hero.”

The East Fishkill Police Department, in

the statement, thanks other law enforcement officials for “countless letters, phone calls, and emails” that expressed concern, support and encouragement for members of the department.

“The love and support the countless law enforcement agencies and PBAs have shown to our community has been an emotional lift to our members and to the friends and family of Sgt. DiDato,” the Department wrote in the statement.

The members thanked the numerous police departments that took part in honoring Sgt. DiDato. Among those in the local community that the Department thanked were: New York State Police,

Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office, City of Poughkeepsie, Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County Emergency Response, Town of Fishkill, Village of Fishkill, Village of Wappingers Falls, Hyde Park, NYPD, Department of Environmental Protection, Westchester County Police, Putnam County Sheriff’s Office, City of Beacon, and Wappingers Central School District. Fire departments were also thanked for their American flags being flown.

“We are all in this together and your contribution and show of support will never be forgotten,” the statement from the Department concludes.

Obituaries

June Mary Frisenda



BEACON - June Mary (Harlin) Frisenda passed away peacefully in her home in the early morning of December 28, 2023 with family members present. She was 97 years old.

June was born in Beacon, NY on December 17, 1926. She was the daughter of Richard Harlin Sr. and Jesse (Devine) Harlin. June was a lifelong Beacon resident and graduated from Beacon High School and was a parishioner of St. Joachim - St. John the Evangelist Church.

On April 11, 1948, at age 21, she married her husband of 62 years, Anthony who died in 2010. Throughout her life she worked full time as an administrative

assistant at Texaco before retiring in 1989. In 1956, together with her husband Anthony and family, she built her own house in Beacon where she lived her entire remaining life. She enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling and reading.

June was predeceased by her husband Anthony Frisenda and her brothers Richard Harlin and Donald Harlin. She is survived by her daughter Carol Zaccara and son Robert Frisenda (Kathleen), her grandchildren Patrick Zaccara, Jessica Frisenda (Patrick), Julia Kerolus (Mena), Anthony Frisenda (Sarah), Gabrielle Frisenda and 3 great granddaughters, Leila, Caroline, Naomi and several nieces and nephews.

She will be sorely missed by her family and all who knew her. The family is greatly appreciative of the devotion of her caregivers, Juanita, Shaquanna and Lorretto and to Hudson Valley Hospice.

The family received their friends and family on Monday, January 1, 2024 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey at 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Tuesday, January 2, at St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Willow Street, Beacon. Burial followed at St. Joachim Cemetery, 325 Washington Avenue, Beacon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of June may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice.

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.

Elizabeth Jane L. Minkowski

FISHKILL -- Elizabeth Jane L. Minkowski, a longtime Fishkill resident, passed away peacefully on January 1, 2024 at The Pines at Poughkeepsie Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation; at the age of 78. She was born in Mount Vernon, NY on November 27, 1945, daughter of the late Martin & Mary (Lynch) Shortt.

On May 28, 1967 at the Church of the Sacred Heart in Mount Vernon, NY, she married William Kingman Minkowski; who predeceased her after 48-years of marriage, on April 1, 2016.

Elizabeth worked as a facility clerk for NY Telephone in White Plains, NY, for several years until retiring on July 14, 1971. She also worked as a secretary for several local dentist offices.

Elizabeth was a member of Wappingers Falls Elks Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, until they closed; she was also a member of the Columbiettes at her home parish in Mount Vernon, and a former Girl Scout leader. Elizabeth enjoyed reading and bowling, and was an avid WWF/WWE wrestling fan.

Elizabeth is survived by her three children: Martin William Minkowski of Redlands, CA; Alison L. Richards and her husband Jerome of Pleasant Valley, NY; Brian Kingman Minkowski of Fishkill, NY. She cherished her three grandchildren: Jerome Richards Jr., Amira & Amari Richards.

Along with her husband William, she was predeceased by her brother Michael Shortt.

Her Family received Friends on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at the LIBBY FUNERAL HOME, 55 Teller Avenue, Beacon, NY, where a prayer service was offered, followed by a private cremation. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.LibbyFuneralHome.com

Donald Hanna



Donald H. Hanna, 76, an area resident for 45 years and formerly of Hartford, NY, died on December 27, 2023 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Born in Glens Falls on January 2, 1947, he was the son of Howard and Dorothy (Gibson) Hanna. Don proudly served our country in the US Army and had been employed as a hospital administrator of several local Hospitals, including Norther Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco.

Don was an active member of the East Fishkill community. He was a member of the Hopewell Reformed Church where he sang in the choir and served as an elder. He was also a member and board member

of the East Fishkill Historical Society. Don was passionate about collecting antiques and enjoyed many years as an auctioneer.

On June 14, 1969 in Hartford, Don married Beverly Mercure who survives at home. He is also survived by his sons and their spouses, Michael and Tricia Hanna, Matthew and Pinar Hanna, and Jeffrey and Aimee Hanna; his grandchildren, Madison, Riley, Jameson, Colby, Brady, Kenleigh, Everly, Owen, Chloe and Isabella; his siblings, Jessica Fowler and Jon Hanna and his wife Carolyn; and many nieces and nephews. He was also predeceased by his brother Richard Hanna.

Calling hours were held on Tuesday, January 2, at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc. 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. There was a Funeral Service on Wednesday, January 3, at Hopewell Reformed Church, 143 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hopewell Reformed Church or the East Fishkill Historical Society.

Sister Althea of Christ, OCD



BEACON - Sister Aletha of Christ, OCD (Aletha Elizabeth Maher) of the Carmelite Monastery in Beacon, New York peacefully passed away on Monday, December 18 at Ferncliff Nursing Home in Rhinebeck.

Aletha was born in Floral Park, New York on May 12, 1938, the oldest of three children of John and Vivian (Goodman) Maher.

In May of 1959, Sr. Aletha graduated from St. Vincent’s Hospital School of Nursing in Manhattan. On January 24, 1960 she entered the Carmelite Monastery in the Bronx, where she made her profession of vows as a Carmelite Nun on September 1, 1961.

In February of 1982, the Bronx communi-

ty relocated to Beacon, where Sr. Aletha reveled in the beauty and wild life surrounding the Monastery.

As a registered nurse, Sr. Aletha found many ways to use her medical skills and was a gentle and proficient caregiver for many of the sisters (as well as for the many small birds that came her way!). In addition to

Her untiring nursing care and the various ways in which she generously served the community, for many years Sister was responsible for the general maintenance of the monastery. In later years, Aletha found great pleasure entering and working in the new world of computers, becoming our “go to” person for any technical problems we encountered.

Sensing she had Alzheimer’s, Sister accepted her diagnosis with extraordinary peace, faith and courage. When she became a resident at the Memory Care Center at Ferncliff, her peaceful presence and concern for others were remarkable.

A warm, compassionate and outgoing person, Aletha was attentive to each person who entered her life, readily making friends. Those whose lives she touched remember her with much affection and gratitude.

Sr. Aletha is survived by her sister Ann Hosek and brother John Maher of Long Island and by many nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews whom she dearly loved.

Friends called at the Monastery on Tuesday, January 2, and on Wednesday, January 3. There was a Wake Service on Tuesday, January 2. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the Monastery Chapel by Fr. James Hess, O.Carm., on Wednesday, January 3. Burial was private.

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.

Southern Dutchess News

Beacon Free Press

Northern Dutchess News

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We are not responsible for typographical errors. A letter of correction will be supplied if requested.

100 Help Wanted

105 Employment Opportunity

106 Business Opportunity

107 Situations Wanted

120 Schools

121 Special Instruction

122 Musical Instruction

140 Nursery Schools

141 Child Care

142 Day Care

143 Baby-sitting

145 Adult Care

150 Announcements

151 Adoption

152 Novenas

154 Lost & Found

155 Personal

200 Services

201 Home Improvement

202 Cleaning Services

203 Lawn Services

221 Professional Services

222 Tax Experts

223 Beauty Services

225 Business Services

226 Travel & Services

227 Bridal Services

295 Financial

296 Mortgages

300 Real Estate

301 Townhouses & Condos

302 Commercial Property

304 Mobile Homes

305 Lots & Acreage

400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

401 Apartments for Rent

402 Rooms for Rent

403 Furnished Rooms

404 Furnished Apartments

405 Wanted to Rent

406 Garages for Rent

407 Vacation Rentals

408 Houses for Rent

420 Commercial Rentals

500 Musical Merchandise

501 Kid Stuff

502 Clothing

503 Furniture

504 Appliances

505 Free Items

506 Computers

507 Sports Equipment

508 Exercise Equipment

509 Office Equipment

510 Firewood

511 Lawn & Garden Equip.

512 Winter Merchandise

516 Misc. Merchandise

700 Pets & Supplies

701 Free Pets

702 Lost & Found Pets

703 Pets for Adoption

710 Garage & Yard Sale

711 Tag Sale

712 Moving sale

713 Rummage Sale

714 Flea Market

715 Craft Corner

716 Barn Sale

717 Estate Sale

718 Auctions

719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted

721 Wanted to Buy

722 Bazaar

723 Consignments

724 Farmers Market

725 Collectibles

750 Events

800 Boats

801 Campers & Trailers

802 Motor Homes

803 Recreational Vehicles

900 Autos for Sale

901 Vans/SUV's

902 Trucks

903 Motorcycles

904 Auto Parts & Tires

905 Autos Wanted

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Southern Dutchess News

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\$125



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107
Situations
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10% off Seniors and Veterans. Power Washing, Carpentry, Interior or Exterior Painting, Removal unwanted items, Property maintenance. Call Craig 845-891-8930

Over 40 years experience in Geriatrics. Available to provide quality care and services for your lovedones in their home. Contact Amanda. 845-505-1859

403
Furnished
Rooms

2 rooms, Private Bathroom and Entrance. Semi furnished, into private home. No Kitchen. Call: 845-784-8964

401
Apartments
for Rent

Victorian, BEACON 9D / mins. RR - 70 NYC Hwy, Spectacular Hudson Views, Rest. Auntiques, Hiking, biking, Mountains, 2BD + Den's, DW / WD, Split - Level, \$2,300. Suitable 1 - 3. 914-960-0069 or 845-584-7137



503
Furniture

4 Metal folding chairs. Brand New Condition, \$30. Call 845-897-5812, Roseanne

Sofa with reclining ends, \$75. Recliner Rocker, \$50. All good cond., Blue in color. 845-297-0131

Grand Father clock 82" High. Comcorde model Emporer clock company. American Black Walnut circa 1980's, \$200 OBO. 561-762-3699

500
Musical
Merchandise

LP Record's, around 50 albums. from 1960's, good cond. Asking, \$45. Call 845-298-1317

Olds Recording Trombone, F.E. Olds & Son, \$225. 845-337-3778

501
Kid Stuff

Bicycle 26 inch Girls Exc. Cond., \$10. Some assembly required. Call: 845-896-5197



504
Appliances

Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink. 25"W x 22"D x 8"H. Faucet was never used. \$110.00. 845-337-7143

JVM 1790 BK 1.7 cubic foot convection over range or free standing microwave oven used two months, \$200 OBO. 845-546-9800

516
Misc.
Merchandise

Nodic Ski Track Exercisor, \$60. Pair AR2 Acoustic Speakers, \$300. Pair 15" Tri-Axe Speakers in cabinets, \$300 OBO. 845-297-6369

Set/4 white folding snack tables w/stand by Casual Home. New in box. Purchase price was \$71, asking \$35. Text or call: 646-734-3823.

Summer Reading-KENT FAMILY Chronicles (American Bicentennial Series) by John Jakes. All 8 vols., (paperback), \$10. Call 845-264-0240

Fleetwood Sewing Machine with Cabinet. Hardly ever used. Like New. All instructions and book. \$25, excellent condition. Call: 845-297-5414

Professional Pastry Tips (Metal) of varying sizes and design. Reusable pastry bags also available. Call: 845-264-0240

516
Misc.
Merchandise

Assorted electric Motors. Call: 845-401-7654

Cash register, electric and battery with manual, like new, \$75. 845-401-7654

Delta table saw 10" contrator's saw with unifenee saw guide, \$200 OBO, cash only, leave message. 845-462-4441

Four Kenwood KL777 100W speakers, wood cabinet, exc. cond., \$225. 845-337-6509

Safe (York) 30" wide, 46" highth, 25" deep. Pocket Doors H89", W 30", thick 1 1/2" w/hardware. 845-831-8698

Billiard Table Oak wood. Slate Surface. You disassemble and remove, \$250.00 FIRM 845-242-2542

Sears Craftman Electroic Radial Saw, 2.75HP, 10" Electroic measurement, \$250 OBO. (845) 462-4441



719
Antiques

One Room school house black board, wood framed, excellent condition. Best Offer. 845-325-2337

Antique Floor Lamp circa 1930's. Six foot tall, \$60 OBO. 845-546-9800

Antique Wooden cigarette table ash tray combo, circa 1950's, \$50 OBO. 845-546-9800

Antique three tier pie table, circa 1940's, \$75 OBO. Two Antique two tier pie tables, \$35 each OBO, 845-546-9800

Antique Slate Chalk Board, 75 - 100 years old. Wood framed, 30" x 50". Excellent Condition. \$75 OBO. Call: 845-325-2337

Tupperware For Sale. Contact Roseanne (845) 897-5812

800
Boats

1984 EZ/Loader Boat Trailer, Model 5.2m 2300 Gap, \$600. 845-897-5455

904
Auto Parts & Accesories

Hitch receiver for bike rack. Will fit any Prius. Excellent condition. New \$265, Now \$135. 845-896-5197

Thule Roof Cargo Carrier, Atlantis 1600, 16 CF with 2 keys. Used, in good condition, asking \$100. Stored inside. 845-229-0847



904
Auto Parts and Tires

Three New 225-45-R-17 Tires. Two Weather Master snows includes two new five spoke rims, fits VW Jetta, \$125. Call: 845-221-0893

Four 195/60/15 Yokohama All-season Tires on 2008 Ford Focus Rims. Good tread, \$100. Doughnut Spare \$20 845-297-6493

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We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.

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One Municipal Plaza
- Suite One
Beacon, New York
12508
Phone
(845) 838-5002
January 5, 2024

SUBJECT:
Variance
Application
Applicant:
Clay and Carolyn
Kaiser
Address:
245 Liberty Street
Tax Grid No.:
30-6054-24-394925-00
Zoning Classification:
R1-10
Dear Neighboring
Property Owner:
Clay and Carolyn
Kaiser, 245 Liberty
Street, have applied to
the Zoning Board of
Appeals for relief from
Section 223-17.D to
allow the addition of a
second story over the
existing home, which
requires relief from the
following:
1. Section 223-17.D to
allow for a 13.3 ft side
yard setback (east
yard) (15 ft required)
2. Section 223-17.D to
allow for a 5.7 ft side
yard setback (west
yard) (15 ft required)
The full application is
available online at:
<https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agenda-minutes/>
The Zoning Board of
Appeals will hold a
public hearing for this
application at its meet-
ing to be held on
**Wednesday, Janu-
ary 17, 2024**, at 7:00
PM, in the Municipal
Center courtroom,
One Municipal Plaza,
Beacon, New York.
You are invited to be
present to voice your
support or objection to
this appeal. Com-
ments can also be pro-
vided via email no later
than 4:00 PM on Janu-
ary 17, 2024, to
Mercedes Perez,
Planning and Zoning
Board Secretary, at
mperez@beaconny.gov
Mercedes Perez
Planning and Zoning
Board Secretary

REQUEST FOR BIDS
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of sealed
bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-
02-24
REBID El Dorado OEM
Replacement Parts for
Dutchess County Pub-
lic Transit
Bids will be received un-
til 2:00 p.m. on the 16th
day of January 2024 at
the Dutchess County Di-
vision of Central Ser-
vices, 378 Violet Av-
enue, Suite 2, Pough-
keepsie, New York
12601. Specifications
and bid forms may be ob-
tained by visiting our
[web site](http://www.dutchessny.gov)
<http://www.dutchessny.gov>,
selecting "Dutchess
Government", then
selecting "Bidding and
RFP Opportunities".
For additional infor-
mation, call 845-486-
3613.

EXTENDING LOCAL
ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 OF EX-
E C U T I V E

Legal Notices

ORDER 5/2023
EXTENSION TO
DECLARATION OF
LOCAL EMERGENCY
ORDERS DECLARED
BY DUTCHESS
COUNTY EXECUTIVE:
Please take notice that
on January 3, 2024 at
12:00 am., pursuant to
Article 2B of the New
York State Executive
Law, Article III of the
Dutchess County Char-
ter and Administrative
Code Section 3.05, Act-
ing Dutchess County Ex-
ecutive William F. X.
O'Neil extended Local
Emergency Order #1,
Local Emergency Order
#2, and Local Emer-
gency Order #3 in fur-
therance of Executive
Order No. 5 of 2023,
dated May 18, 2023.
The text of the declara-
tion of state of emer-
gency and local emer-
gency orders is available
at www.dutchessny.gov.

EXTENDING EMER-
GENCY ORDER 5/2023
EXTENSION TO EXEC-
UTIVE ORDER NO. 5
OF 2023
DECLARATION OF A
LOCAL STATE OF
EMERGENCY
ORDER DECLARED
BY DUTCHESS
COUNTY EXECUTIVE:
Please take notice that
on December 29, 2023 at
12:00 a.m., pursuant to
Article 2B of the New
York State Executive
Law, Article III of the
Dutchess County Char-
ter and Administrative
Code Section 3.05, Act-
ing Dutchess County Ex-
ecutive William F. X.
O'Neil extended Execu-
tive Order 5 of 2023
dated May 18, 2023.
The text of the declara-
tion of state of emer-
gency and local emer-
gency orders is available
at www.dutchessny.gov.

EXTENDING EMER-
GENCY ORDER 5/2023
EXTENSION TO
EXECUTIVE ORDER
NO. 5 OF 2023
DECLARATION OF A
LOCAL STATE OF
EMERGENCY
ORDER DE-
CLARED BY
DUTCHESS COUNTY
EXECUTIVE: Please
take notice that on Janu-
ary 8, 2024 at 12:00 a.m.,
pursuant to Article 2B of
the New York State Ex-
ecutive Law, Article III of
the Dutchess County Char-
ter and Administrative
Code Section 3.05, Act-
ing Dutchess County Ex-
ecutive William F. X.
O'Neil extended Execu-
tive Order 5 of 2023
dated May 18, 2023.
The text of the declara-
tion of state of emer-
gency and local emer-
gency orders is available
at www.dutchessny.gov.

LEGAL NOTICE
The following, entitled
bond resolution has
been adopted on De-
cember 18, 2023, and
the validity of the obli-
gations authorized by such
resolution may be here-
after contested only if
such obligations were
authorized for an object
or purpose for which the
County of Dutchess,
New York, is not author-
ized to expend money, or
if the provisions of law
which should have been
complied with as of the
date of publication of this
notice were not substan-
tially complied with, and
an action, suit or pro-
ceeding contesting such
validity is commenced
within twenty days after
the date of publication of
this notice, or such obli-
gations were authorized
in violation of the provi-

Legal Notices

sions of the Constitution.
Dated:
Poughkeepsie,
New York,
January 5, 2024

LEIGH WAGER
Clerk,
County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO.
2023225
BOND RESOLUTION
DATED DECEMBER
18, 2023.
A RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE IS-
SUANCE OF AN ADDI-
TIONAL \$15,352,000
BONDS OF THE
COUNTY OF
DUTCHESS, NEW
YORK, TO PAY part of
THE COST OF the re-
construction of the heat-
ing, ventilation and air-
conditioning systems at
the county courthouse
and county office build-
ing, IN AND FOR SAID
COUNTY

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described, as proposed, has been determined to be a Type II Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, which it has been determined will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2019107, a bond resolution dated May 13, 2019, duly adopted on said date, the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess, New York, authorized the issuance of \$16,665,000 bonds of said County to pay the cost of the reconstruction of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems at the County Courthouse and the County Office Building on Market Street, including interior reconstruction thereof, as well as original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, in and for said County, and

WHEREAS, it has now been determined that the maximum estimated cost of such class of objects or purposes is \$32,017,000, an increase of \$15,352,000 over the \$16,665,000 previously authorized; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the issuance of an additional \$15,352,000 bonds of said County for such class of objects or purposes; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess, New York, as follows:

Section 1.
The reconstruction of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems at the County Courthouse and the County Office Building on Market Street, in and for the County of Dutchess, New York, including interior reconstruction thereof, as well as original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, in and for said County of Dutchess, New York, is hereby authorized at a revised maximum estimated

Legal Notices

cost of \$32,017,000.

Section 2.
It is hereby determined that the plan for the financing of said class of objects or purposes is as follows:

a. by the issuance of the \$16,665,000 bonds of said County authorized to be issued pursuant to a bond resolution dated and duly adopted May 13, 2019 as described in the preambles hereof; and

b. by the issuance of an additional \$15,352,000 bonds of said County hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3.
It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is 25 years, pursuant to subdivision 12(a) of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, calculated from the date of issuance of the first serial bonds/bond anticipation notes for said class of objects or purposes.

Section 4.
The faith and credit of said County of Dutchess, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said County a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5.
Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the serial bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Commissioner of Finance, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Commissioner of Finance, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6.
Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the County of Dutchess, New York, by the manual or facsimile signature of the Commissioner of Finance and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted or impressed thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the County Clerk.

Section 7.
The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the Commissioner of Finance, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as she shall deem best for the interests of the County; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, she shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law

Legal Notices

and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of municipal bonds. There-
ception of the Commissioner of Finance shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8.
All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the County by the facsimile signature of the Commissioner of Finance, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the County), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolida-

Legal Notices

tion with other issues, shall be determined by the Commissioner of Finance. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the County not to impose and collect from registered owners of such serial bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Commissioner of Finance shall determine.

Section 9.
This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object

Legal Notices

or purpose described herein.

Section 10.
The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said County is not authorized to expend money, or

2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 11.
This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in full in The Poughkeepsie Journal and the Southern Dutchess News, the official newspapers of said County, together with a notice of the Clerk of the County Legislature in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

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LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on December 18, 2023, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.
A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.
Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York,
January 5, 2024

Legal Notices

LEIGH WAGER
Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2023226
BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 18, 2023.
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
\$1,166,651 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF
DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST
OF THE CULVERT REPLACEMENT ON COUNTY ROUTE 49
(TITUSVILLE ROAD), IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.

Specific object or purpose: Culvert replacement on County Route 49 (Titusville Road) over Wappinger Creek Tributary (Town of LaGrange)

Period of probable usefulness: 20 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,666,651
Maximum amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,166,651 bonds
Other monies: \$1,500,000 grant monies from State
SEQRA status: Type II Action.

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	7							
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	4	7				9	2	
3			1	7				
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					8			3

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Suguru

			2		3
5	3				
		4			
2					
				4	

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.

THEME: ZODIAC SIGNS

ACROSS

1. NASDAQ's TSLA

6. Meme dance move

9. Feudal laborer

13. Plant louse

14. Inflated feeling

15. Signaling flare

16. She turned to stone, Greek mythology

17. Barn call

18. L in AWOL

19. *Zodiac sign for those born on Halloween

21. *Ford "Zodiac"

23. Cash machine, acr.

24. Island

25. Short for although

28. Cul de ____, pl.

30. Owing something (2 words)

35. Argo's propellers

37. Mature

39. Passed

40. Guilty, e.g.

41. Presidential promises, e.g.

43. Those against

44. Waker-upper

46. Skin infection

47. King of beasts

48. *1960s California serial killer

50. Address a deity

52. Short for ensign

53. Hoodwink

55. New Zealand parrot

57. *Fish sign

60. *Half man/half horse sign

64. Blood vessel

65. This is well if it ends well

67. Body trunk

68. Move like ivy

69. Grazing field

70. Plant with liquorice-flavored seeds

71. Catch one's breath

72. Trim the lawn

73. Roebuck's partner

DOWN

1. Sun kisses

2. Colossal

3. Pest command

4. *Zodiac sign or Don DeLillo's 1988 novel

5. One who is skilled at something

6. Visual presentation

7. "Four score and seven years ____"

8. Dora the Explorer's simian friend

9. Court petitioner

10. Genesis twin

11. RPMs

12. Extra charge

15. Like a native speaker

20. Insect, post-metamorphosis

22. Prince in Disney's "Aladdin" movie

24. Heavy hydrogen, e.g.

25. *Birthstone for some born under Scorpio or Sagittarius

26. Hello, alt. sp.

27. Mountain nymph

29. *Cancer crustacean

31. Lentil soup

32. Golfer Els

33. Take a chance (2 words)

34. *Gemini

36. Delhi dress

38. Sound of a fan

42. Satisfy, as in thirst

45. Eccentric one

49. Pool tool

51. Gossipy ones

54. Religious song

56. Make amends

57. Skin opening

58. Wraths

59. Proofreader's mark

60. Old-fashioned bathtub foot

61. Vocal piece for one

62. Brezhnev's domain

63. Fish eggs, pl.

64. Acronym, abbr.

66. *#47 Across, in the sky

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8			9	10	11	12
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71						72				73				

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The solutions to the Sudoku, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on page 12.



DECODING DUTCHESS PAST



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The case of the missing cow - an Ancient Documents story

By Will Tatum

With the new year now upon us, thoughts tend to turn to what lies ahead. It is a time for resolutions, for hopes and dreams, and for seeking signs that confirm this year will be one of triumph. Auguries come in all forms, and not all of the fates they presage are good ones.

Today we will journey back in time through the Dutchess County Ancient Documents Collections, the surviving filings of the colonial county courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions. An example is an unfortunate augury for one resident of 18-century Rhinebeck. What fate did a missing cow predict for Sylvanus Garlick?

The date was October 15, 1743. At this point in Dutchess County’s past, Rhinebeck was roughly twice the size it is today, including all of modern Red Hook, with a substantially smaller population. The residents, a mix of Germans, Dutch, and English, were spread across that area, living in modest wood frame houses with a few stone structures thrown in.

The west bank of the Hudson River did not see as much building in stone as the east bank, especially in Ulster County, which is famous for its multitude of early stone houses. There were small concentrations of settlement - a cluster of houses with a store and church here and there, but the social landscape was radically different.

In contrast to the modern map, the major communities (less than hamlets by modern standards) could be found at places like Rhinecliff (where the Rondout Ferry crossed), Old Rhinebeck (immediately north of the Ruge’s Chrysler Dodge Jeep), Staatsburg, and Wurtemburg. It is likely that the old small town stereotype of everyone knowing everyone else was especially true, since the population was so small at the time. The modern villages of Rhinebeck, Red Hook, and Tivoli were still years to decades away from their initial foundations.

Our window into this early period of settlement in Northern Dutchess is Ancient Document #1656, a coroner’s inquest on the body of Sylvanus Garlick and potentially the

only surviving evidence of his existence.

How it began

On that fateful day in the middle of October, probably in peak leaf season, Garlick visited his friend Jacob Sornsborgh. Garlick’s official purpose was to reclaim a milk cow that he had loaned to Sornsborgh, but it is highly likely that the two men shared some conversation over strong drink (the period term for hard alcohol) before Garlick began his journey home. Frans Neher, a neighbor, saw Garlick leading his cow along the road to his home later that day, and later testified that he thought Garlick was probably drunk. One can easily imagine the weaving gait of a man deep in his cups and overdue at home.

Neither Garlick nor his cow appeared on the evening of October 15, so the next morning neighbors began a search of the route between the Garlick and Sornsborgh houses. First they found the cow. Then they found Garlick’s stone-cold corpse, with “a great holl in his head,” which today’s investigators would probably describe as a wound from blunt force trauma.

In accordance with period practice, the neighbors summoned the county coroner, who immediately formed a jury to investigate the affair, probably calling on the same men who had gone out to search for Garlick that morning. In these days before criminal scene investigators (CSI) or truly professional law enforcement officials of any kind, the jury had to conduct the investigation themselves. A careful walk over the scene revealed a blood trail leading back in the direction of Sornsborgh’s house, with blood spots on stones and wood along the road.

Accidental death ruling

Having seen the evidence firsthand, and after interviewing Neher, the jurors concluded that Garlick’s death was an accident. Garlick had been intoxicated when he left Sornsborgh’s home and had fallen somewhere along the route, smashing his head against a rock, piece of wood, or some other debris on the ground. Garlick then crawled some distance (unspecified)

before finally collapsing.

The chill temperatures of a mid-October night, back in the days when winter was much harsher than today, did the rest. Such accidental deaths were an infrequent, though not uncommon, feature of life in early Dutchess County, appearing with far greater frequency than murder. The land was largely undeveloped with people living at significant distances from one another, daily work was hard and unencumbered by OSHA regulations, and the climate and weather offered much greater challenges than the ones we face today. Sylvanus Garlick’s unfortunate fate is a reminder of the many hurdles that past residents of Dutchess County have overcome to grant us the relatively comfortable lives we lead today.

If you want to learn more about Garlick’s story, see other coroner’s inquests to learn about accidental death in Dutchess, or seek windows into other aspects of Dutchess County’s past, please visit the Ancient Documents Search Portal at www.dutchessny.gov/ancientdocuments.

For the past 11 years, staff from the Dutchess County Clerk’s Office have been busily processing the surviving filings of the Dutchess County Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions, preserved today in the Ancient Documents Collection, which date back to 1721.

This collection provides an unparalleled opportunity to delve into daily life in Dutchess County preserved by the early courts. Generous funding from the New York State Archives has supported Dutchess County’s digitization of 167,000 pages of documents, now online and available through the Ancient Documents Search portal. We look forward to bringing you more stories like Sylvanus Garlick’s in future editions.

Will Tatum received his Ph.D. in History from Brown University in 2016. He has served as the Dutchess County Historian since October 2012.

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‘Parade of Lights’ in the Village of Fishkill



The 125th anniversary of the Village of Fishkill was celebrated with the “Parade of Lights” on January 6 on Main Street. There will be more activities to celebrate the Village’s anniversary throughout 2024.

-Courtesy photos



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