# BEACON FREE PRESS

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# Chevron committed to 'open dialogue' on Texaco site

#### **By Kristine Coulter**

The former Texaco site in the Town of Fishkill is still on the market.

Charles Fontenot, a public affairs advisor for Chevron, said Chevron "remains committed to an open dialogue with the community on developments at the site, as we held community meetings in July and October of 2023." He noted, "The strong turnout by the community for those meetings indicates the importance of the project and how much they care about the future of the site."

Community meeting dates for 2024 have not been determined at this point, said Fontenot. "We plan on meeting with the community at least twice a year," he said. Confirmed dates for future meetings will be posted on Glenhammills.com.

According to information on the Glenham Mills website, "The property at the former Texaco Research Center in upstate New York is steeped rich in history. The 153-acre site, which is bisected by Fishkill Creek, a tributary of the Hudson River, was first home to a wool and saw mill erected on the property back in 1811. It grew significantly during the Civil War when it began manufacturing the blue serge cloth used for Union Army uniforms."

The information continued: "Texaco purchased the land and began developing the site in 1931, transforming the mill buildings down by Fishkill Creek into the original Beacon Laboratories. Over the course of the next 72 years, the complex expanded multiple times as it furthered its research, development, technical services and environmental protection work in support of the downstream petroleum and energy business."

A merger occurred in 2001, between Texaco and Chevron. Two years later, according to information on the site, Chevron acquired the facility and closed it in 2003 to centralize research efforts at its locations in Richmond, California and Houston, Texas.

"A Community Advisory Panel (CAP) was formed in 2011 to facilitate dialogue between Chevron and the community. Meetings are held several times a year on the topics of the cleanup work and future use/redevelopment of the property. The CAP is comprised of a cross section of people from the Fishkill area, including some ex-Texaco employees, local politicians, government officials, neighboring school representatives and parents, local residents and environmental representatives," according to Glenham Mills information.

As far as any updated information on real estate prospects for the site, Fontenot responded, "Chevron continues to follow the regulatory process for remediation under the

Continued on page 3

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

# Remembering, honoring Fishkill historian Willa Skinner



Former Fishkill Historian Willa Skinner (left) accepts the "Martha Washington Woman of History Award" from Elyse Goldberg, Washington's Headquarters Site Manager in 2015

Skinner died at the age of 98 on January 18.

-Archive photo

**By Kristine Coulter** 

Former Fishkill Historian Willa Skinner died on January 18th. She just turned 98 on January 16th. Skinner was a former columnist for Southern Dutchess News and Beacon Free Press. Her column, "Wandering," educated people on the rich history of the area.

"Journalist, columnist, historian, mother aunt, friend and mentor to many, passed away peacefully in hospice care at Vassar Hospital this morning (Jan. 18)," her family posted on Skinner's Facebook

page along with a portrait from Skinner's 97th birthday. "It is now the end of an era..."

Skinner was the Fishkill Town Historian for more than five decades.

Wappinger Town Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini, said, "Willa Skinner was a true legend for all historians and journalists throughout the Hudson Valley. A true mentor and friend, I will never be able to fully express how much Willa meant to me and how grateful I am to her."

Continued on page 3



Former Town of Fishkill Historian Willa Skinner stands near the plaque that was dedicated in her honor in 2018 in the Fishkill Town Hall.

-Archive photto

"Willa Skinner was a true legend for all historians and journalists throughout the Hudson Valley. A true mentor and friend, I will never be able to fully express how much Willa meant to me and how grateful I am to her."

-Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini

## Fareground has a new home

#### By Kristine Coulter

A former restaurant in Fishkill is now the new home for Fareground and Star of Bethlehem Church

"When I first saw the building, I thought it was beautiful and would serve both the church and us well. The kitchen and food storage space that we are renting in the basement will enable us to increase our cold storage capacity because of the two walk-in coolers and walk-in freezer," explained Jamie Levato, the executive director for Fareground. "In addition, we will have more workspace to sort donations and pack grocery boxes for delivery to homebound residents. There is also ample parking for volunteers and visitors. We are excited about the possibilities and opportunities that this new space offers."

The homebase for Fareground is primarily for food storage at this time, remarked Levato. "We have a schedule of Free Marketplaces and other programs on our website and also provide food for the Tiny Food Pantries and Community Fridges in the sare. Once we are settled, we will work on how to expand our programming on site."

Continued on page 2



Fareground has a new location in Fishkill where the former Mary Kelly restarant was located. Star of Bethlehem Church will also be located there.

-Courtesy photo

#### Club Green Teen makes field stop at Beacon Police Department



Club Green Teen members are pictured in front of the Police Department. From left: Program Educator Emily Murnane, Chanel Dickey, Shea Tanaka, Kaylee Ortiz, Chief Sands Frost, Sadie Vasquez, Thalia Rodriguez, Officer Mortensen, Charlie Brittain, Crew Leader Messiah Gardner, Officer Lawrence, Program Manager Sam Brittain, and Crew Leader Desirae Smith. In front: Jude Williams and Antonio See. -Courtesy photo

Club Green Teen, the after-school offshoot of Cornell Cooperative Extension's Green Teen Beacon Program, was invited for a tour of the Beacon Police Department on January 5th. Participants included seven youth, ages 12-14, led by Crew Leaders Desirae Smith and Messiah Gardner. The Club was guided by Officers Lawrence and Mortensen through each room of the station. Highlights included visiting the holding cells, meeting Chief of Police Sands Frost, and the opportunity to sit inside a

police car.

This visit is just the first in a series of eight field trips for Club Green Teen's winter session, which is focused on civic engagement and building community. Future destinations include Tompkins Hose Fire Station, the Howland Library, and City Hall.

For more information and pictures of the visit, and updates about future activities, follow Green Teen Beacon on Facebook and Instagram!

#### CPCA to combat child trafficking through Enhanced Programming

In recognizing January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse (CPCA) announced that it has been granted nearly \$75 thousand from the National Children's Alliance (NCA) to expand programming, support research, and strengthen relationships with community partners in response to child sex trafficking and child sexual abuse materials

"Child sex trafficking is happening in every community, not just major cities, and we need to be having important discussions with youth about this vastly underreported crime," said Marco D. Ingoglia, Executive Director for the CPCA. "While any child can be targeted by a trafficker, those who have experienced abuse, who lack support networks, or are marginalized by society are more at-risk. With youth spending more time online, this only creates additional concern."

The Domestic Trafficking Victims Fund (DTVF) through NCA is awarded to Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) who are doing work to support the devel-

opment, expansion, or enhancement of the full array of CAC services to victims of CSAM, including those victims of child sex trafficking.

The Personal Safety Program, a signature prevention program at the CPCA, is one of the key areas of focus in the grant. This program reaches Dutchess County students in grades Pre-K?8 and provides essential lessons utilizing Monique Burr Foundation's evidencebased curriculum that teaches youth how they can keep themselves safe from abuse and bullying.

The funds from the grant will allow the program to employ staff with specific emphasis on reaching all middle schools grades 6?8 in Dutchess County. Currently, the CPCA only implements lessons for some middle school grade levels due to limited staff.

"We have already seen success with the curriculum from the schools we are in,' stated Ingoglia. "Our goal with the expansion is to connect with more teens and delve into further crucial conversations of healthy dating relationships, online safety, and trafficking."



#### **Community Foundations HV welcomes** Washington as new President & CEO

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has selected returning Valley resident Hudson Washington to serve as the regional charitable organization's President & Chief Executive Officer, effective Feb. 1.

Washington was selected after a sevenmonth long, nationwide search led by Kittleman & Associates, an executive search firm dedicated exclusively to recruiting leaders for nonprofit organizations. She most recently served as Chief Communications Officer and Vice President for Strategic Partnerships at the New-York Historical Society. Prior to that, she held a senior leadership role at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, where she established and led the organization's inaugural communications function.

CFHV delivers community leadership and strategic philanthropy to inspire and celebrate local charitable giving in the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Partnering with its generous donors, CFHV addresses current and emerging community needs through effective grantmaking to improve the quality of life for all, and by offering technical assistance to help nonprofits operate more effectively.

Charles "Chip" Simon, Chair of the CFHV Board of Trustees, said: "The entire Board of Trustees congratulates Laura and looks forward to her professional leadership, especially in light of our desire to expand CFHV's community impact throughout the Hudson Valley. We were immediately impressed with her background in strategic planning, communications, and successful grant campaigns. When we considered that she's also a graduate of Vassar College, we knew she was the perfect match to serve our board, staff, and community partners."

"I've always been inspired by the generosity evident in so many people in our region. That spirit gets passed down from generation to generation, and is needed now more than ever," said Washington. "I am honored to lead the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and I am



Laura Washington

-Courtesy photo

committed to championing our counties with unwavering enthusiasm as I collaborate with our dedicated Board of Trustees, staff, donors, nonprofits, and philanthropic partners to ensure that ours is a thriving community for everyone."

A native New Yorker, Washington has close ties to the Hudson Valley where her family resided for several decades. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Vassar College, a Master of Science in Strategic Communications from Columbia University, and is a graduate of the Council on Foundations' Career Pathways program. Washington serves locally on the board of Historic Huguenot Street as Chair of the Education and Programming Committee and has volunteered with multiple nonprofit organizations, including Brooklyn Org's SPARK Prize selection committee, the New York Regional Selection Committee for the Marshall Scholarship, and has been a review panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

#### Fareground has a new home



Fareground, which had a location in Beacon (above), now has a new site in Fishkill, at the former Mary Kelly restaurant.

Continued from cover

easing a portion of the basement from Star of Bethlehem Church. The church purchased the building.

"Fareground's Free Marketplace and grocery delivery programs are reaching over 400 households each month. Having more space and more cold storage will enable us to accept more food donations and we anticipate reaching more people going forward," said Levato.

So, what can one do to help with this new beginning and donations?

"As a very small nonprofit, every little bit helps. We are specifically seeking monthly donors because the stability of having fixed costs covered helps us focus on programming and growth. We also, of course, accept one-time donations. We are always interested in food donations whether from businesses or individuals. Some companies run food drives for us, which is very helpful. Other businesses donate leftovers from events, catering, or over orders," said Levato. Anyone who donation, to fareground.org/donate or mail a donation -Courtesy photo

to PO Box 615, Beacon, NY 12508. Levato explained that Fareground is "Our work is made possible due to the energy and dedication of our volunteers and we are always looking for more volunteers, whether to set up and share food at Free Marketplaces, manage a Tiny Food Pantry to Community Fridge, sort donations and pack delivery boxes, or employ their skills in fundraising, marketing, event-planning, database management, or facility repairs," Levato said.

Levato noted, "We are so grateful to our community for the ongoing support. We could not do this work without the broad community support that we have. We want to continue to provide opportunities for neighbors to support each other. We deeply appreciate Pastor Daniel Blackburn for keeping Fareground in mind while seeking a forever home for the Church. We are very much looking forward to sharing the building with Pastor Daniel Blackburn and the congregation of Star of Bethlehem Church. We were neighbors over at Hanna Lane and are thrilled to be neighbors again.'

A representative from Star of Bethlehem did not respond to an inquiry for comment.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

# Remembering, honoring Fishkill historian Willa Skinner



Willa Skinner, who was the Town of Fishkill historian for more than five decades, was honored at a ceremony at the Fishkill Town Hall on May 18, 2018. Pictured, from left are Former Town of Fishkill Supervisor Bob LaColla, Historian Evan Pritchard, Dutchess County Clerk Brad Kendall, former Fishkill Historical Society President Steve Lynch, Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini, Skinner and Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino.

-Archive photo by Kristine Coulter

Continued from cover

Cavaccini added: "From preserving the Van Wyck Homestead from demolition to educating us weekly in articles and books she wrote on our region's fascinating history, for over 50 years she has been THE role model for all of us in sharing local history and making its significance known."

Skinner was with the Fishkill Historical Society (FHS), which she was a founding member in 1963.

Steve Lynch, who is a former president of the FHS and a tour guide for the Van Wyck Homestead in Fishkill since 2008, stated, "In 1958, the Snook Family moved out of the Van Wyck Homestead, and since they COULD NOT sell the house – which was over 200 years old and in need of major repairs – they boarded up all of the windows, and shut off the electricity and the heat, and the Homestead sat vacant in a remote area off Route 9 south of the Village of Fishkill with no other houses around it."

Skinner and another FHS founding member drove to Albany, Lynch recalled. He said while in Albany, they met with the head official of the New York State Department of Transportation and "told him about the "Historic Significance" of the Van Wyck Homestead during the American Revolution ... that it served as Headquarters" "Officers' November 1776 until the end of the Revolutionary War in November 1783, and that there were over 2,000 soldiers [here] in Fishkill at the Fishkill Supply Depot encampment for several years.'

Lynch continued: "Willa said that she had to show him around inside the Homestead with a flashlight since the electricity had been turned off and the windows were all boarded up in this "Old Abandoned Farmhouse"! About a week later, he called Willa on the phone and said that OK - the Cloverleaf exit ramp will not be built – the exit ramp will be relocated to exit onto Route 9 on the west side of Route 9 - its present-day location. So, THANKS to Willa and about a dozen members of the newly organized Fishkill Historical Society, the Van Wyck Homestead was preserved and

eventually opened as a historical Revolutionary War site Museum!"

Skinner was instrumental in having a plaque near the location of Samuel Loudon's Revolutionary War print shop unveiled in Fishkill. The print shop produced the first copies of the New York State Constitution in April 1777.

Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra stated Skinner "was a great person. A great lady.

"She did a lot for the town. It is a great loss for the town," said Albra.

Arnold Restivo is the current historian for the Town of Fishkill. He said, "The research Willa did as the town historian is still in use today. Her files tell a story of a town rich in history. She was a treasure trove of knowledge and an invaluable asset to the Town of Fishkill. Her passion for history and dedication to preserving the town's heritage is truly admirable. Her contributions have helped improve the town and will be remembered for years to come."

Skinner was awarded the "Martha Washington Woman of History Award" in 2015 by the Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site in Newburgh, Orange County. On the plaque, it stated: "Presented to Willa Skinner in recognition and appreciation of Her extraordinary contribution to the advancement of Hudson Valley History through education, preservation, and promotion."

Denise VanBuren is the president of the Beacon Historical Society. Van Buren told Beacon Free Press via email: "Simply put: Willa loved history. Fortunately for the rest of us, she also loved to research and to write, and so her body of published works will live on as her legacy.

"It's impossible to express how much historical information Willa possessed -- and more important: shared! She was the consummate local historian, always investigating new chapters and always willing to provide whatever help she could to anyone who inquired," VanBuren said.

VanBuren recalled, "Just last year, when she was 97, we spoke several times -- me always asking the questions, and Willa always supplying the

answer, in her soft-spoken, happy-hearted way. I'm sure that I will pick up the phone to call her again -- how deeply sad it will be to then realize that we have lost this amazing woman and friend to so many. Even 98 years of Willa Skinner were not enough."

In 2018, former supervisor for Fishkill Bob LaColla honored Skinner with a plaque unveiled in the Fishkill Town Hall that honors Skinner for her more than 50 years as historian for the Town.

Skinner wrote "Remembering Fishkill," which was released in October 2008. She also wrote "Signal Fires in the Highlands,"

Skinner attended New York University and earned a journalism degree. She taught at Dutchess Community College. She taught classed on tracing one's roots and local history.

The post from Skinner's relatives concluded: "Willa's Family looks forward to celebrating her long, productive and wonderful life, with all who knew and loved her."



Willa Skinner during the reading of Declaration of Independence held in the Village of Fishkill on July 4th, 2014. With Skinner is former Village of Fishkill Mayor James Miccio.

-Archive photo by Steve Lynch

#### Chevron committed to 'open dialogue' on Texaco site

Continued from cover

oversight of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In the meantime, we continue to market the site to local and regional developers."

Asked what the next step in the process is, Fontenot replied, "We continue to work on Feasibility Studies, which are evaluations of remedial alternatives for various parts of the site. We are awaiting the issuance of a Proposed Remedial Action Plan from NYSDEC/NYSDOH based on the recent approval of Feasibility Study #1. A second Feasibility Study is currently under review with NYSDEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation)/NYSDOH (New York State Department of Transportation). A third Feasibility Study is currently being prepared."

Fontenot remarked, "Through volunteerism and donations Chevron continues to support the Dutchess Community Action Agency, Glenham Fire Department, Blodgett Memorial Library, and the Beacon City School District."

#### Beacon Dance Beat

R&B, Latin, Funk, Disco, Hip-Hop, Rock & More Singles, Couples, Friends, Newcomers

- Get On Up, Get On Down! -

#### TOWNE CRIER ALL LATIN DANCE JAM

Thursday, January 25th at 7:00 P.M.
379 Main Street, Beacon • Reservations: (845) 855-1300
\$10 Admisssion • Full Menu & Bar

#### FLKS LOUNGE DANCE NIGHT

Saturday, February 10th at 7:00 P.M. 900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), Beacon • (845) 831-9746 Admission \$15 • Complimentary Snacks • Full Cash Bar

Info: (845) 765-0667 • rhodaja@optonline.net

#### Viewpoints



Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. Please include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. Deadline for letters is Friday at noon. Letters must be submitted by e-mail

to be considered for publication. Letters can be e-mailed to newsplace@aol.com, and the phrase "Letter to the Editor" should be included in the subject line of the e-mail.

#### **Policy on letters:**

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be
- 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
- The Southern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misin-
- 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 verifi-
- 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.

#### Wear bright colors when walking at dawn, dusk

Regarding walkers, joggers, runners or even someone pushing a baby stroller, it would be a good idea to wear a bright-colored top (especially at dawn or dusk) when using rural streets in southern Dutchess. There are not many sidewalks, bike paths, or streetlights, to help one navigate safely with drivers or along roads.

Brigitte Amodeo East Fishkill

#### **TOWNE CRIER DANCE JAM SET FOR JANUARY 25**

FEEL THE HEAT - A NIGHT OF LATIN DANCING will be presented by Beacon Dance Beat on January 25th at 7 p.m. The dance will take place at Towne Crier Café, 379 Main Street in Beacon. The event is hosted and deejayed by Rhoda Averbach and Olive Jones. Music includes the great Latin rhythms, modern and traditional, of Salsa, Cha-Cha, Merengue, Bachata, Cumbia, Guajira and more. All are welcome: couples, singles, friends, new-

The restaurant specializes in mid-priced, farm-fresh cuisine using local ingredients whenever possible, and desserts are made fresh daily by acclaimed pastry chef Mary Ciganer. Full bar service is available.

The lights are low, the sound is full and the ambiance is warm and intimate. These dances are informal and even if you come alone, you can always find a friendly partner on the dance floor. Attire is whatever suits your mood - from blue jeans to dazzling sparkles. Admission is \$10 and can be paid at the door.

For further information, or for a special Song Request, please contact Rhoda at 845-765-0667 or email rhodaja@optonline.net.

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## **Beacon Police Blotter**

Beacon Police Department.

Dec. 1: Disturbance-Main Street- Officers responded to a call for a disturbance. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 2: Burglary- Tompkins Terrace-Caller reported items were stolen when he was out of town for several months. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 3: Criminal Mischief- Mill Street-Caller reported damage to her vehicle while it was parked outside her home. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 4: Larceny- Forrestal Heights-Caller reported a package taken in front of the door to her home. Report taken.

Dec. 4: Harassment-North Chestnut Street- Caller reported receiving disturbing messages on Facebook. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 7: Larceny- Eliza Street-Handsome D. Guy, 52, of Beacon, was charged with Grand Larceny 4th.

Dec. 7: Lost Property- Main Street- Caller reported missing items. Report taken.

Dec. 8: Traffic Stop-South Avenue-Erika S. Ricottilli, 38, of Beacon was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 2 & miscellaneous V & T.

Dec. 8: Warrant- Municipal Plaza-

The following is from the City of Judith M. Rivera, 27, of Wappingers Falls, was processed on an Open Warrant

> Dec. 8: Unwanted Party- East Main Street- Austin M. Ennis, 21, of Iowa, was processed as a fugitive on an open Warrant of Arrest out of Pennsylvania.

> Dec. 11: Lost Property- South Davies Terrace- Caller reported lost items. Report

> Dec. 11: Dispute-South Avenue-Officers responded to a call for a dispute. Report taken.

> Dec. 13: Burglary-Wolcott Avenue-Ronald L. Johnson, 29, of Bronx, was charged with Criminal Mischief 2nd, Petit Larceny & Burglary 3rd.

> Dec. 13: Auto Accident- Main Street-Caller reported damage to her car as a result of a car accident. Report taken.

> Dec. 13: Fraud-Beacon- Caller reported that an individual unknown to her attempted to cash a check in her name. Report filed. Investigation conducted.

> Dec. 15: Criminal Mischief -Matteawan Road- Officers responded to a call for a report of graffiti. Report taken.

Number of Calls-342 Auto Accidents- 10 Domestics-8

#### FDR Museum to present film on Holocaust Remembrance Day

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County will pres-International an Holocaust Remembrance Day film screening of "Here Lived," a film by Jane Wells at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26 The program will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. This is a free public event, but registration required.

jewishdutchess.org/events to register.
"Here Lived," is the story of hidden

children, murdered parents, and the stones that bring healing. Gunter Demnig's Stolpersteine project provides a path from one of the most egregious wrongs of history, the Nazi reign of terror, to individual and community reconciliation.

When conceptual artist Gunter Demnig first conceived the idea of laying Stolpersteine (literal translation: stumbling stones) for Roma, Sinti and disabled victims of National Socialism in his native Germany, he never imagined his project would grow to become the world's largest decentralized memorial. The Stolpersteine he crafted are, in theory, quite simple: concrete blocks measuring 10x10cm, topped with permanent brass plates that are hand stamped with the reign of terror. The stones are laid into the pavement in front of the last voluntarily

chosen residence of those murdered by the Nazis. They are deeply personal and draw attention to individual tragedies. They have now been placed in 30 countries across Europe and on May 23rd 2023 we filmed Gunter Demnig laying the 100,000th Stolpersteine.

The Netherlands, second only to Poland in the percentage of Jews murdered in World War II, is where the demand for Stolpersteine is greater than anywhere else in the world. It is here that the film is focused.

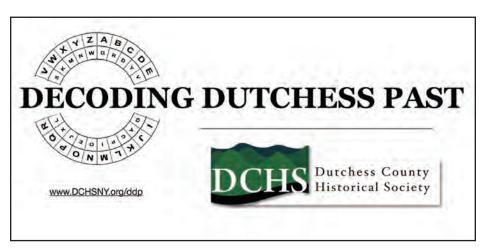
"Here Lived," tells the story of the current Stolpersteine project, as racism, antisemitism, and autocracy are on the rise and another grim war is being fought in Europe. The film opens as Demnig lays his 100,000th stone in Nuremberg. It retraces his work, journey and impact, through the stories of families of Dutch victims: Ulrika Citron (daughter of a hidden child), Reini Elkerbout (a hidden child), Demnig's Amsterdam apprentice Alexander Stukenberg, local and international politicians, volunteers, and even an American teenager Bella Leavitt. As their stories merge, we come to understand how the art project Demnig calls "social sculpture" has created a new way to help heal the Nazi horrors. And it does so on the eve of the 80th anniversary of names and fates of victims of Hitler's the fall of their regime. This is one of the most unusual story-telling projects in history.

#### Beacon makes list of coveted towns to escape 'Rat Race'

Beacon is number 66 on a list of Most Coveted Town in America to Escape the "Rat Race." According to JoyOrganics: "This thriving arts community, known for its contemporary art museum and vibrant Main Street, provides a perfect option for those seeking a blend of artistic inspiration and Hudson Valley living.'

"This survey reflects a growing desire for a balanced lifestyle, and we hope our findings inspire many to explore the enriching environments America has to offer. Each location on our list offers a unique way to reconnect with what truly matters in life, away from the frenetic pace of modern work culture" says Hannah Smith, of Joy Organics.

Cold Spring, in Putnam County, was number 5 on the list, while Rhinebeck was number 35.



## The construction of Great Bridges was a hallmark of 'The Gilded Age'

By Bill Jeffway

"The Gilded Age" just finished its second season on HBO and is the inspiration for a series of occasional articles in the coming months. If you have not seen "The Gilded Age," but intend to, there will be no spoilers, just general references showing parallels with local people activities at the time.

In the portrayal of the wealthy New York City aristocracy of the 1880s, the Astor family represents the old established wealth, and the Russell family, based on the Vanderbilt family, represents new wealth. It was a time when powerful men, and women, made a personal mark through large, iconic infrastructure involving construction of railroads and bridges. The opening of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 was featured as an important national event in the series. This article examines a parallel project locally: the opening of the Poughkeepsie Bridge, known today as the Walkway Over the Hudson, which opened in 1889.

At the time, such bridges were called "great bridges" and were seen as wonders of the world on the scale of the Egyptian pyramids. The Brooklyn Bridge was designed to serve horse and carriages and foot traffic, and the Poughkeepsie Bridge was designed to handle railroads.

The industrialist leading the charge for the Poughkeepsie Bridge in its earliest days was the businessman, and owner/operator of Eastman Business College – Harvey Eastman. He can be seen in an accompanying cartoon from DCHS Collections, where he dressed in the iconic top hat worn by the industrialists of The Gilded Age (and the banker in the Monopoly board game) as he lays out the list of massive economic benefits on the side of a pier to the board the other time (not with leave in the state of the state of

One the other pier (not visible here in this edited version of the cartoon) is the name of Andrew Carnegie, one of the better known names who was supporting the project.

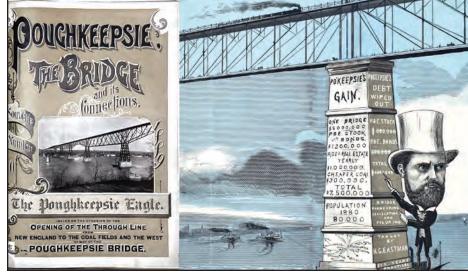
Eastman had built a highly successful business college that attracted students from around the world. He was at one time seen as the invincible business champion of Poughkeepsie, especially after the death of Matthew Vassar in 1868. His school had its own bank and issued its own currency. The Eastman Band was performing at every turn. His elaborate home and grounds (what is today Eastman Park) were the site of public gatherings. During the ambitious bridge period he became mayor and then New York State Assemblyman, all to advance the cause of Poughkeepsie's "great bridge."

The evolution of the Brooklyn and Poughkeepsie bridges was happening at the same time. Brooklyn was the third largest city in the U.S. after New York City (then consisting only of Manhattan and western Bronx) and Philadelphia. So, a horse and carriage and footpath bridge had a sizable waiting population. Brooklyn became part of New York City in 1898.

The transcontinental railroad made its historic connection in 1869. But, as seen in The Gilded Age, the competition for railroad routes was ruthless.

Although it met with accidents and difficulties, the evolution of the Brooklyn Bridge was a smoother process. A state charter for a suspension bridge connecting Manhattan and Brooklyn started the process in 1867. Construction began in 1870, the towers were completed by 1872, the wires started to be strung in 1877, and construction of the suspension structure started in 1879. The bridge opened in 1883.

By contrast, Eastman's effort to get a state charter was achieved in 1871, but the economic panic of 1873 created a failure in the company. By 1875, Eastman had successfully invited New England businessmen to participate and in November 1876 construction began again. Both bridges suffered significant accidents when first trying to sink what would become an underwater base pier. While the Brooklyn Bridge was able to carry on, a pier built just visible above water in 1877 in Poughkeepsie ended up languishing for a decade and became known as "the monument" to Harvey Eastman as he died in 1878. In October of 1886 work was begun for a third time and this time brought an opening



This cartoon shows the early leader of the movement to build the Poughkeepsie Bridge, Harvey Eastman, who became Poughkeepsie Mayor and NYS Assemblyman as part of his effort to advance the cause. He is shown outlining the economic benefits of the bridge. Inset: the celebratory edition of the Poughkeepsie Eagle upon the bridge's opening in 1889.

-Courtesy of DCHS Collections

of the bridge in January of 1889.

Original plans called for the creation of a suspension bridge in Poughkeepsie, the style of the Brooklyn Bridge, a depiction of which can be found accompanying this article from DCHS Collections. But those plans changed to a cantilever, deck, and truss bridge which involved more piers in the river.

Although the "great bridge" served its extraordinary purpose of connecting New England and Pennsylvania coal mines, and beyond, the evolution of the automobile in the 20th century reduced its role below anticipated expectations.

Both the Brooklyn and Poughkeepsie Bridges are now surrounded by all sorts of new and extraordinary technology. Although both continue to impress us even today, in their day they were even more exceptional as icons of personal and national power and wealth.

• Brooklyn Bridge: Total length: 6,016 feet. Span: Total longest span,1,600 feet. 127 feet above the water.

• Poughkeepsie Bridge: Total length: 6,768 feet. Span: 7 spans, ranging from 201 to 548 feet. 212 feet above the water.



Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at bill.jeffway@dchsny.org or 845-293-7711.

## Ancram Center for the Arts offers free songwriting fundamentals workshop

Ancram Center for the Arts will offer a free four-hour songwriting workshop with Matthew Dean Marsh over two days: Wednesday, Jan. 24, and Thursday, Jan. 25, from 3 to 5 p.m. Entitled "Why We Sing," this workshop aims to awaken students' inner songwriter through the development of practical tools and alignment of emotional resonance. No prior songwriting or musical experience is required. To register, email info@ancramcenter.org.

Marsh is a noted composer/performer and co-creator of "You Don't Know the Lonely One," the story-song cycle seen at the Ancram Center in October. He has taught music and songwriting to students from all over the world.

In Session One, participants will gain insight into the craft of songwriting through in-person observational and lyrical exploration exercises. Using this insight, participants will bring a draft of their song to Session Two and receive

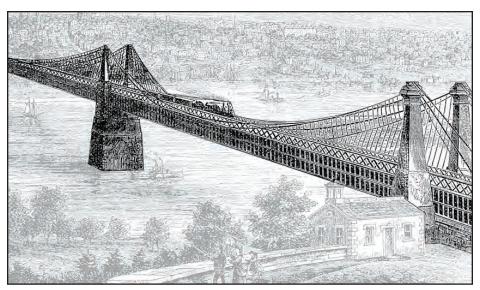
feedback not just on the finished work, but on the process itself.

"I love teaching individuals to put form to their expression, which is a useful skill even beyond the realm of music," said Marsh. "No songwriting experience is required, just a willingness to be present. Students are free to bring an instrument if they play one, but it's not required."

Ancram Center for the Arts is an awardwinning performance space in New York's Hudson Valley.

Housed in an historic Grange Hall, Ancram Center since 2016 had presented groundbreaking theater and musical performances by nationally recognized theater artists. Ancram Center receives significant annual support from the New York Council on the Arts and in 2023 was awarded a generous grant from the National Endowment for the arts.

For more information, visit www.ancramcenter.org.



The original design of the Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge in the 1870s shows a suspension style construction similar to the Brooklyn Bridge that was never realized. This image looks from the west bank of the Hudson toward Poughkeepsie.



# Lourdes retires No. 20 jersey for pro player Maddy Siegrist

#### By Rich Thomaselli

One of the best girl's basketball players ever to come out of Duchess County was recently honored by her former high school.

Maddy Siegrist had her No. 20 jersey retired by Our Lady of Lourdes High School in a ceremony at the Town of Poughkeepsie school.

She is the daughter of former Franklin D. Roosevelt and Marist College standout George Siegrist.

She is the fourth player in school history to have her jersey retired, joining Mylaine Riobe – now Dr. Riobe – Karen Lounsbury and Jenna Viani.

Siegrist attended Villanova University and scored more than 3,000 points in

"I followed Maddy's college career closely, and kept in close contact with her," OLL coach Al Viani said. "The ceremony was very special to me ... She was one of my favorite players at Lourdes."

Siegrist now plays professionally for the Dallas Wings of the Women's National Basketball Association.



Maddy Siegrist had her No. 20 jersey retired by Our Lady of Lourdes High School in a ceremony at the Town of Poughkeepsie school.

-Courtesy photo

# Hochul announces school bus driver exemption for 'Under the Hood'

Governor Kathy Hochul announced a plan on Jan. 17 to remove barriers for perspective school bus drivers applying for a commercial driver license. At the Governor's direction, the DMV has implemented a federal waiver that allows school bus driver applicants to skip the engine compartment component, also called the "under the hood" component of the commercial driver license road test. This will make it easier to get a commercial license at a time when school bus drivers are desperately needed and is the latest in a series of actions directed by Governor Hochul to address the critical shortage of truck and bus drivers.

"The job of transporting and caring for our children is so important, and the need for more drivers throughout New York State is very real," Hochul said. "This simple change will encourage more New Yorkers to become school bus drivers - a chance for many to be a positive influence and help support our students, without sacrificing safety."

Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder said, "Bus drivers are such an important part of our school system. Not only do they have the incredible responsibility of getting our children to and from school safely, but they're also often the first friendly face a student sees outside of their family as they begin their day. New York State values and appreciates our school bus drivers and hopes this step will help more people qualify to take these jobs and help shape the future of New York's children."

The "under the hood" exemption is allowed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to help States hire more bus drivers without sacrificing safety, as existing school bus inspection and maintenance standards continue to apply. During the road test, applicants are still required to perform the remaining elements of the Commercial Driver License (CDL) vehicle inspection skills test. This new CDL classification, which is set to expire November 27, 2024, will restrict licensees to driving only school buses and only in New York State.

The steps interested New Yorkers should take to get a School Bus Only CDL are as

First, you must have a New York State driver license (Class D, Class E, or Non-CDLC);

- Study the New York State Commercial Driver's Manual;
- Apply for a commercial learner permit (CLP) at a DMV office. You must pass a written knowledge test to receive a CDL permit with the school bus and passenger endorsements;
- Schedule entry level driver training. Read the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) FAQ for more information;
- Prepare for your road test and practice

with a supervising driver;

- Schedule your "Limited School Bus" road test (online or by calling the DMV Contact Center);
- Pass your "Limited School Bus" road
- Go to a DMV office to amend your license to reflect "S1" (school bus only) and "K" (intrastate only) restrictions.?

At the Governor's direction, in 2022, the DMV launched a program authorizing third parties to conduct commercial road tests, which has significantly increased the capacity for these types of road tests statewide. There are currently 27 third-party entities conducting commercial driver license road tests throughout the State. In addition, through cooperation with county-operated DMV offices, the State also increased testing capacity for written commercial permit exams across the State.

### OLL boys learning new roles after loss of star performer

By Rich Thomaselli

The boys high school basketball season starts this week for Our Lady of Lourds High School.

Or should we say, restarts.

OLL started off the season at 9-0 with

Resumes:

gm@wkze.com

aspirations of a state championship run. Then star player Pat Fayghnan suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament injury and was lost for the season.

Now, 35-year head coach Jim Santoro has to start over and rebuild his team and restart the season. Fayghnan is a tough loss to overcome considering he was the Duchess County Player of the Year last year.

But, in a sense, Santoro already remade his team prior to this year when he moved his two tallest players to the perimeter. Now the remaining Warriors have to accept new roles and new challenges for the remainder

In the preseason, Santoro said the team was suffering from a spate of selfishness "and I was pulling my hair out." This from a coach and a team who made the Section 9 championship game last season against Goshen.

In order to make sure the 6-foot-5 Fayghnan and 6-8 Zach Hart got the ball more and got better looks at the basket, the coach moved them to point guard and shooting guard from the inside.

We went through a lot of struggles with it," Santoro said. "I had to be want with the kids and say to them, 'Look, You guys are not playing as a team. You don't recognize what the strength of our team is."

He paused and joked "Everybody thought was nuts. I mean, I might look crazy, but I'm not stupid."

Soon, the Warriors did understand. OLL was rolling until the Fayghnan injury and consecutive losses. Time to remake the team again. Ironically, Santoro, at least subconsciously, might have been best prepared for the situation because not only is his standout player a senior, but he gave up swinning for the basketball court. Fayghnan is an accomplished swimmer who has already been offered a scholarship by Iona College.

"At first, we had no identity," Santoro said. "I mean, he's the best player in four counties. He's our point guard and our power forward and our big man all at once. Pat made a decision to give up swimming for basketball, and he has never regretted it."

Still, after all these years as coach, Santoro finds himself in a different spot.

"I've never been in this situation before," he said. "I never had a team where midway through the season, my best player went down."

OLL has the talent. Now they just have to learn their new roles.

#### that's italian!

#### by luigi coppola



# Altar server

Luigi dreams of a traditional Italian pastry during mass.

When I was little, on Sundays I would sit in the pew and watch as my brothers got to be altar servers. I would make funny faces at them and try to get them to laugh. That is, I would until my father would catch me and give me a smack. When I was not making faces, I would fall asleep, until my father would give my hair a tug and wake me up. On top of all that, my stomach would be growling. We never ate before church. In those days you had to fast after your last meal the night before. However, in between funny faces, sleeping and growling, I would imagine how great it was to be up there on the alter helping out. I thought it was so glamorous.

When the day came that I was able to be an alter server, I never imagined how incredibly boring it actually was. I mean, so boring that I would fall asleep.

At the time we had a priest that was longwinded and foreign. Being a naïve wise-ass of 10 years, this was not a good combination. I already had problems staying awake during church when I sat in the pew, let alone sitting up on the altar. Not to mention when my eyes were open, I was yawning like a lion. Then on top of that, my little brother Vinny was making faces at me just like I used to do to my older brothers. This truly was a recipe for disaster.

All of these influences came together in the perfect storm during one fateful Sunday. As usual, my family sat in the first pew over to the left of the altar. Mom did this so she could keep an eye on me and watch me so I

wouldn't fall asleep. After everyone was settled, the choir began to sing. That was my signal to come down the aisle.

I'm carrying the cross and leading the way with Father behind me. We walk up onto the altar. I put the cross away and assume my position. Right away, Vinny starts making faces at me. I'm fighting laughing right at the start of the mass. Not a good sign.

After our bow to the altar, I proceed to my spot, to the right of our priest. I stand there with my hands crossed, facing my family, trying to look solemn. Father begins his prayers and not 10 seconds into it, my first yawn hits. I put up a good fight. I kept it discreet. Next comes the reading, which I liked because I always thought they were good stories. Vinny is hammering away, make faces until my father notices what is going on and smacks him. I laughed out loud, but hid it as a cough.

I'm still OK. I haven't done anything outlandish yet. I'm holding it all together so far. The readings and Gospel are done and it's time for Father's sermon. I know I'm dead, but there is nothing I can do about it. I sit down, determined not to fall asleep.

Father begins his sermon with a joke. When he says the punch line, everyone laughs but me. My mind has already begun to wander. He starts to get serious and begins his homily. Almost immediately, the yawning starts. I fought it best I could, but the yawns kept coming. Harder and harder until, I'm now yawning like a lion and not even caring what people are saying.

Every 10 seconds, I let loose with another lion-like yawn, sucking in all the air up on the altar making the candles flicker. I start to notice the flames bending to and fro as I yawn harder and harder.

My eyes start to blink. First quickly, then they start to stay closed longer, only opening up when I yawn. Little by little, Father's voice starts to sound like the teacher on Charlie Brown, until, I'm out. According to my brother Vinny, I am now snoring instead of yawning with my head back and my mouth wide open. Mom is beside herself, unable to come wake me up. My head starts to bob forward and back. At first I startle myself awake. However, between each bob, I stay asleep longer. Until ... With the last bob, I started to lean forward a little.

At this point I'm dreaming of sfogliatelle, an Italian breakfast pastry that my Mom had made the night before. Vinny told me afterward that I was leaning a little, then a little more until ... I fell forward and out of my chair face first onto the altar floor.

Father looks to his left to see me fall down. He doesn't move, but continues to preach. Naturally, I wake up when I hit the floor. As I stood up and sat back down, trying to make believe that it didn't happen, I looked forward to see my brother laughing, my mother with her hands in front of her mouth and my father with the look of the devil in his eyes.

I knew I was dead. Needless to say, after mass, Father had a long talk with me, explaining that I needed to go to bed earlier so I would be ready for church. Me, the wise ass that I was, replied that it wasn't because of lack of sleep, it was because he was boring. I didn't mean it in a bad way, I was just stating a fact. Father just sighed and told me to put everything away.

I walked out of the church convinced that I was a dead man. I came out of the church to see that my father and uncle were talking. I slipped into the car without a word. My father, seeing that I'm in the car, says his goodbyes, got into the car and off we go home. I was waiting to get smacked or punished, but it never came. I wasn't even lectured. I was scared. I started thinking the worst.

The following week, my mother made me a cup of espresso before church. She set it in front of me, put a few spoonfuls of sugar and stirred it. She told me to drink it. When I told her that I couldn't have that before church, she told me because it wasn't food, it was OK. It would help keep me awake.

#### Sfogliatelle Ricce

#### Sarvas 1 **Ingredients**

#### **PASTRY**

1 1/2 cups all purpose flour (add more if needed)

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, cut into cubes

1 cup water (only use enough to make dough, you may not have use it all)

3/4 cup butter melted

#### RICOTTA FILLING

1 lb. ricotta cheese

2 tsp. milk

1/4 tsp. pure vanilla extract

1 egg, beaten

1/4 cup sugar

1-2 tsp. grated orange peel

1 dash ground cinnamon

#### **Preparation**

For Filling:

Combine ricotta, milk, vanilla, egg, sugar and grated orange peel. Store in refrigerator until ready to use.

#### For Pastry:

Sift together flour, sugar and salt in a bowl. Mix in cold butter using a food processor. Gradually add enough ice water to hold ingredients together. Toss on a lightly floured surface and knead for about 8 minutes or until dough is smooth. Cover and store in cool place for 30 minutes.

Divide dough into four equal parts. Roll out each piece with a rolling pin on lightly floured surface, making sheets about 20 inches long. Pull and stretch dough if need while rolling to make dough tissue-thin and transparent.

Brush each sheet with melted butter and place sheets on top of one another. When four sheets are piled together, brush top with melted butter. Let stand 5 minutes and then roll tightly as you would a jelly roll. Roll in waxed paper and set aside for 30 minutes or more in refrigerator.

With a sharp knife, cut roll in half-inch slices which will resemble narrow rolls of ribbon. Place on board or platter, cover with towel and side aside in cool place for 15 minutes.

Place each slice on palm of left hand; with right thumb on center of roll, gently press through slice so that it forms a ribbed cone. Make sure that ribs do not become entirely separated or the pastries will be too elongated.

Carefully work around cone with thumb and index finger until it is well shaped. 3inches across mouth and a ½ inch tip (resembling a closed clam V-shaped) Press tip together.

Fill each cone with 1 heaping tablespoon of ricotta filling. Flatten cones gently between palms of hands. Place on lightly buttered parchment lined cookie sheet.

Bake at 375 degrees for about 30 minutes or until pastries are light golden color, crisp and filling is firm. Remove from oven and let cool. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Luigi Coppola is one of five brothers born to Francesca and Antonio Coppola. The Coppola family came to America from Naples, Italy in 1954. Antonio and his brothers opened their first restaurant in Poughkeepsie in 1961. Luigi and his brothers Nick, John, Antonio and Vincent have carried on the family tradition in the way their parents taught them, using classic recipes taught to them at their apron strings. Visit their website at www.coppolas.net.

#### Friends of the Walkway receives grant to create plan for next phase of growth

The Friends of the Walkway nonprofit organization has been awarded a \$33,740 matching grant from the Environmental Protection Fund's Park and Trail Partnership Grants program to build a comprehensive strategic plan that will guide the organization for the next five to seven years. The Friends of the Walkway will raise an additional \$15,000 in matching funds to complete the project, for a total budget of \$48,740.

Since Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park opened in 2009, Friends of the Walkway's fundraising efforts have largely centered on building critical park amenities and infrastructure like bathrooms, welcome centers, pavilions, interpretative signage, and lighting. As the Walkway's era of large-scale capital improvements winds down, the Friends of the Walkway have identified expanding its programming and community engagement activities as a top priority to maximize park's impact as a resource for residents and as a leading tourist destination in the Hudson Valley. "This vital funding from Parks & Trails New York will help us chart the course for how to best create a meaningful experience for the more than 600,000 people that visit the Walkway each year," said Lori Robertson, Executive Director, Friends of the Walkway. "We look forward to engaging a diverse group of stakeholders over the coming months to form a plan that is inclusive, unifying, and ultimately beneficial to all that step through our gates."

The grant is one of 27 awards totaling \$1.8 million for organizations dedicated to the stewardship and promotion of New York's state parks and historic sites, trails, and public lands. The grants will be matched with private and local funding and will support projects to strengthen Friends groups and enhance public access and recreational opportunities.

The Friends of the Walkway are essen-

tial partners helping to maximize the value of Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. The dedicated group raises private funds for capital projects, manages a robust volunteer program, provides educational programming, and promotes public use through hosting special events. To learn more about how individual support can improve the Walkway Over the Hudson and the communities of Poughkeepsie and Highland, walkway.org.

The Park and Trail Partnership Grants are administered by Parks & Trails New York, a statewide non-profit organization, in partnership with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

"Behind many of our favorite outdoor experiences-hikes, picnics with our family, bike rides-there is a hard-working local organization making that experience possible," said Paul Steely White, Executive Director, Parks & Trails New York. "These amazing grassroots organizations do so much with elbow grease, expertise, and volunteerism... but they also need the critical financial assistance our Park and Trail Partnership Grants provide. We are proud to work with OPHRP to ensure these groups, and the crucial work they do for our public lands, are supported in the benefit they provide for our communities. We are proud we've helped enable what literally amounts to billions of breathtaking experiences every year in our parks, greenway trails and other public lands.

This year's cohort of PTPG grant recipients are all pursuing different projectsfrom trail restoration at Hook Mountain to the installation of an ADA kayak launch at Point au Roche– but they all add up to a healthier, happier New York just in time for the NYS Parks Centennial celebration."



# Mid-Hudson Love INC receives donation from Spectrum

"We are energized and optimistic about this new year," said Love INC Executive Director John Marrine. "We are welcoming six new community members to our Board of Directors, Spectrum has given Love INC a Community Grant of \$1,000, and the Dutchess County Community Grants Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley approved our application for funding a much-needed technology upgrade."

In 2023, Love INC Board Member Michael Mauro alerted Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ to the Spectrum Employee Community Grant program. Mauro has been with Spectrum for eleven years and currently holds the position of Director of Sales. "I am passionate about investing time and energy into my community to make it a better place," said Mike. "Love INC is an amazing organization that I feel blessed to be a part of." The organization plans to use the \$1,000 Spectrum grant with the recently approved Dutchess County Community Grants Fund support of \$3500 to purchase new computers for the office and a data management system to track the

work of their many volunteers.

The Mid-Hudson Love INC Board of Directors welcomes six new members to the governing body, each bringing a wealth of expertise and fresh perspective. New members are: Karen Gioia (Hyde Park), retired dental assistant, Greg Higgins (Poughkeepsie), retired IBM employee and retired United Methodist pastor, Curtis Hoskins (Poughkeepsie), retired IBM project manager, Eugenia Jones (Highland), litigation paralegal/managing clerk supervisor, Leighann Lusito (Poughkeepsie), ENL teacher, Karen Olson (Pleasant Valley), owner of Blueberry Hill Galleries. "We look forward to working with this dynamic group of leaders, commented Marrine.

Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ is a network of local churches that works with local agencies assisting individuals experiencing poverty. Love INC has a team of 180 volunteers that handle phone requests for help, deliver much-needed resources, and offer lifeskills classes. For more information or assistance, call 845-471-0102 or visit www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org.



A check from Spectrum was received by (from left) Charissa Danielson, Coordinator of Client Services, Linda Fulton, Volunteer, Michael Mauro, Spectrum Employee and Love INC Board Member, Patricia Owen, Volunteer, and John Marrine, Executive Director.

-Courtesy photo



# 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.

## Learn More or Take a Virtual Tour

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



#### **AMENITIES**

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

#### Artifacts from Hyde Park's New Guinea Community on display in February

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee invites you to discover a historic treasure located in the Village of Hyde Park. The New Guinea Community was a transient community of two to three generations of formerly enslaved people and others who initially resided in humble abodes during the pre-Civil War era. Some residents constructed homes in the village proper within a generation, while some moved to other opportunities elsewhere.

During the month of February, the Town of Hyde Park Historical Society will display an exhibition of artifacts from the New Guinea Community discovered during an archaeological investigation

done in the early 2000s. The Hyde Park Historical Society's museum, located at 4389 Albany Post Road in Hyde Park, is open every Saturday in February from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee, sponsor of the event, and other community organizations, in conjunction with the Town of Hyde Park, continues a journey begun centuries ago by illuminating the history and significance of these heroic people.

Come celebrate the resilience of formerly enslaved people who built a community against all odds. Contact hpvecboard@gmail.com for more information.

#### Key of Q to sing at Howland Cultural Center in Jan. 24

Want to hear how a really large chorus sounds in the fine acoustics of the Howland Cultural Center? The Key of Q making a return engagement, "Sizzle -- Hot Notes for a Cold Night," on January 24 at 7 p.m. There is a suggested donation

of \$15. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Key of Q is the LGBTQ+ and Allied A Cappella Singers of the Hudson Valley.

The Howland Cultural Center is at 477 Main St. in Beacon.



#### Focus on Photographers at Howland **Cultural Center in Beacon**



"Focus on Photographers" will take place at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon. The artists are Pulitzer Prize-winner William Snyder and renowned photojournalist David Burnett. Curators Larry Kerschberg and Ronnie Beth Sauers invite all to join them as well as Tony Cenicola, Pierce Johnston, William A. Loeb, Jane Soodalter and Sandra Belitza-Vazquez.

The show runs most Saturdays and Sundays through Feb. 25. (Closed Jan. 28 and Feb. 18 for concerts.) Admission is free, but contributions are always appreciated.

-Courtesy photo by William Snyder

#### **Books and Badges at** Blodgett Library on Jan. 27

During Books and Badges, attendees will have an opportunity to hear local police officers read books at Blodgett Memorial Library on January 27 at 1:30 p.m. The library is at 37 Board St. in the Village of Fishkill.

There is also another Books and Badges event scheduled for February 17.

## County to offer free rabies clinic

The Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) is partnering with the Dutchess County SPCA to host a free rabies vaccination clinic for pets on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 8 a.m. to noon, at the Dutchess County SPCA, located at 636 Violet Avenue in Hyde Park. This clinic is open to dogs, cats, and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Advance registration is required and will open on Wednesday, Jan. 24. Residents can register at DCSPCA.org or by calling the DCSPCA at 845)-452-7722, ext. 425.

The clinic is free for Dutchess County residents; non-residents will be charged a fee of \$10 per pet vaccinated. All dogs must be on leash, and cats and domestic ferrets must be in carriers. Vaccinations will be good for three years for pets with proper proof of a prior immunization. For those without proof, the vaccination will be good for one year.

Rabies vaccinations are required by New York State law for all cats, dogs, and domestic ferrets by the age of four months of age. Pet owners are required to revaccinate on a regular schedule to keep the animal properly immunized against the rabies virus.

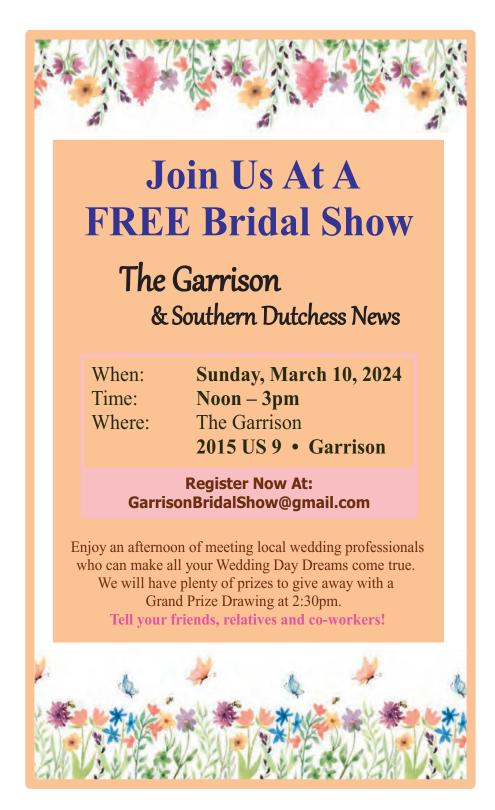
DBCH diligently investigates and monitors rabies exposure cases throughout the county. In 2023, 95 animal specimens were tested, 729 people were evaluated for rabies exposure with 109 people treated with post exposure prophylaxis.

The County offers three to four clinics each year. In 2023, more than 400 pets were vaccinated through these clinics and DCBH's community part-

DBCH is available 24/7 to assist with any questions or concerns regarding potential rabies exposure to people or domestic animals. Pet owners should report to DCBH any incident in which their pet has been bitten by or has an open wound exposed to the saliva or nervous tissue of a domestic or wild animal. Staff will investigate and advise the pet owner of any necessary steps they should take to ensure the safety of their animal.

Residents who see an animal acting strangely are advised to contact their local police agency. If a person has been bitten, or a domestic pet is bitten or is in contact, with any animal, they're to contact DBCH immediately at (845) 486-3404 Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; or (845) 431-6465 on nights and weekends.

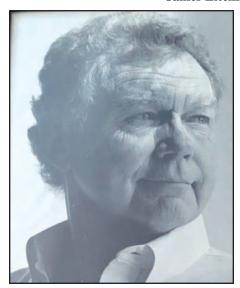
To learn more about rabies, visit dutchessny.gov/rabies or contact DCBH at HealthInfo@dutchessny.gov.





#### **Obituaries**

#### James Litchfield Horend



JAMES LITCHFIELD HOREND died on January 15, 2024.

Jim was born on May 23, 1931, in Dobbs Ferry, NY, to Charles W and Marjorie E (Taylor) Horend. He was the loving husband of Jean Brennan Horend and proud father of James L. Horend, Jr. and Kristine E. Horend-DeSalvo. Jim was predeceased by his sisters, Barbara Kelly and Diane Honzak. In addition to his wife and children, Jim leaves his son-in-law, James J. DeSalvo, his stepchildren, Jennifer A. Rosenwald (Brad Hill), Timothy E. Rosenwald (Deborah), and Marianne C. Rosenwald Boschen (Taug), and his step grandson, Bodhi T. Boschen.

Jim attended The Ardsley, NY, Public Schools and graduated in 1949. For a time, he apprenticed in the plumbing and

heating business and subsequently enlisted in the United States Navy in 1951, serving four years during the Korean War. He served aboard the destroyer, Alan M. Sumner, then became a hospital corpsman before his honorable discharge in 1955. He married Sonja Iversen, the mother of his children, in 1955; attended college, and graduated in 1958 with a BS from SUNY New Paltz. He received his MA in Science Education in 1968.

Jim spent most of his career in education, beginning with a teaching position in the Garrison, NY, school system. He retired in 1988 as Principal of The Glenham Elementary School in Beacon, NY. Jim served as Executive Director of Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center from 1988-1991 and subsequently served on the Board of Directors. In his retirement, he, along with his partner, Jean Brennan Rosenwald, served for 14 years as caretakers of the Putnam County Historical Society Foundry School Museum, now known as the Putnam Museum, in Cold Spring, NY. He served on the Board of Directors as Head of Building and Grounds.

Jean and Jim were married in 1999, at which time they moved to Cross River, NY. There, he served as president and member of both the Homeowners and Condo2 boards of their condominium complex. Jim derived great pleasure and satisfaction from teaching, especially concerning the natural world. He mentored young men and boys, helping them get a good sense of themselves and their adjustment to adult life. He loved cooking and nurturing his family and friends with good food. He adored sports, both the playing and the watching.

Memorial gifts will gratefully be received by Founders Hall, 193 Danbury Road, Ridgefield, CT, 06877, or Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center, PO Box 249, Garrison, NY, 10549.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home-Cold Spring.

#### Josephine L. Malouf



BEACON - Josephine "Josie" L. Malouf, a lifelong resident of Beacon, passed away on January 14, 2024 with her family by her side. She was 86 years old.

Born on October 28, 1937 in Beacon, she was the daughter of the late John and Mary DeFazio DiPerno. On August 21, 1954 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Beacon she married Richard Malouf who predeceased her in 2010.

Josie had worked as a gym teacher at St. Joachim school, a library aide at Glenham School and more recently at Beacon D'Lites for 20 years. She was a parishioner of St. Joachim – St. John the Evangelist Church and a member of the Beacon Engine Ladies' Auxiliary. She enjoyed traveling to the beach and her trips to the casino. Most of all

she loved spending time with her great grandbabies.

Josephine is survived by her children, Richard Malouf, Jo-Marie VanBuren, Donna Trappe and Deborah Wolfe and her husband, Christopher; her grandbabies, Jason (Lauren), Bradley (Lauren Ann), Lauren (Jon), RJ, Heather (Mark), Christopher (Hannah), Jennifer (Ian) and Andrea; her great grandbabies, Jason, Lily, Jack, Max, Leah and Ryleigh; her brother, John DiPerno, Jr.; her sister, Carmella VanVlack and her husband, Douglas; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her sister-in-law, Patricia DiPerno.

Family and friends gathered on Friday, January 19 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, January 20 at St. Joachim Church, 51 Leonard Street. Burial will follow at St. Joachim Cemetery, Beacon. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in memory of Josie may be made to either the Forget-U-Cancer or to a breast cancer association.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey.

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#### Willa E. Skinner



FISHKILL - Willa E. Skinner, a beloved Hudson Valley historian, author, journalist, columnist, mother, aunt, friend and mentor to many, passed peacefully on Thursday, January 18, 2024 while under hospice care at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie. She was 98.

Daughter of the late William and Bertha (Frering) Kretch, she was born in Manhattan on January 16, 1926. Willa was raised in the Bronx and graduated from Christopher Columbus High School. She earned a bachelor's degree from New York University's School of Journalism 1948.

Her family purchased a summer home in Fishkill in 1929, which Willa loved visiting throughout her childhood and into her adult

On October 2, 1949, she married Ivan A.

Skinner of Monticello, NY in the Bronx. In 1951, the couple became permanent residents of Fishkill, where they would raise their family. Willa was predeceased by Ivan in 1995.

Willa was a well-known devoted historian who authored several publications, appeared on many television programs, and was a freelance writer for various magazines and newspapers throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond. She served as the Town of Fishkill Historian for 53 years and in 2015 received the Martha Washington Woman of History Award.

She is survived by her daughter, Fern Franke of Beacon; her son, Matthew Skinner & his wife Cathleen of Guthrie, OK; her daughter, Eugenia Ballard & her husband Terence of Ulster Park; her grandsons Lt. Ian Skinner (US Army) and Jonathan Skinner & his wife Kaitlyn; several nieces and nephews along with their families; and many other loving relatives & friends.

In addition to her husband and parents, Willa was also predeceased by her sister, Lola Yellen. Willa's family looks forward to celebrating her legacy - a long, productive and wonderful life - with all who knew and loved her.

Calling hours will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, January 26 at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. A funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 27 at the First Reformed Church of Fishkill, 1153 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. A graveside service will take place at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 29 at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, Fishkill, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Fishkill Historical Society, P.O. Box 133, Fishkill, NY 12524 (www.fishkillhistoricalsociety.org)

For online tributes, you can visit Willa's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

#### Willa Skinner, Historian | 1926-2024 | A Brief Biography

In 1962 as the Fishkill Historical Society was forming, Willa and another FHS member drove to Albany to present their case to the Director of the Department of Transportation – their request to reconfigure the newly planned interstate highway (I-84) cloverleaf, and save the Van Wyck Homestead from imminent demolition.

When the NYS DOT Director arrived in Fishkill, Willa conducted a tour for him through what planners had listed as "abandoned farmhouse", with a flashlight, explaining that in early November 1776, General Israel Putnam knocked on the front door of the Van Wyck family's homestead.

"Per General George Washington's orders, I am commandeering your house as officers' head-quarters."

As the Van Wyck family looked out across their property there stood 2,000 Continental Army soldiers with horses and cannons. Their home remained as Headquarters for 7 years, at which time the Treaty of Paris was signed by US and British representatives on September 3, 1783, ending the American Revolution.

This grass-roots movement of local residents against the decisions of the Federal Highway System and the New York State Department of Transportation – and Willa's personal appeal to the Director - preserved what is now the Van Wyck Homestead Museum for future generations.

Appointed as Town of Fishkill Historian in 1964, Willa was one of the founding members of the Fishkill Historical Society and an active member of the Dutchess County Historical Society, serving on the organization's publication committee.

She holds a journalism degree from NYU (Class of 1948) and was the author of Signal Fires in the Highlands, a Town of Fishkill history, and Remembering Fishkill, a collection of historical vignettes, with a supportive endorsement on the back cover by her friend Pete Seeger. She conducted classes on local history for area schools and colleges, retiring her popular weekly column "Wandering" with the Southern Dutchess News and the Beacon Free Press after more than forty-five years.

As a freelance writer and editor, Willa's published articles appeared in NY Alive, Hudson Valley Magazine, Dutchess Magazine, and Women's Day, to name a few.

Although Willa grew up in the Bronx with her sister, and both sets of grandparents nearby they spent summers, beginning in 1929, in Fishkill at their paternal grandparents' "house in the country" on Osborn Hill Road, where an interest in the lore and history of the Hudson Valley took hold.

In commemoration of Ms. Skinner's 50th year serving as a beloved and much published Municipal Historian for the Town of Fishkill, she was honored numerous times throughout 2014 and beyond:

Willa was named 2014 recipient of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Local Government Historian Professional Achievement Award at the annual conference of the Association of Public Historians of New York State (APHNYS).

The Mount Gulian Historic Site, near Beacon NY hosted their 2014 gala with Guest of Honor, Historian Willa Skinner, who was escorted into the event on the arms of General George Washington and Field Commander Alexander Hamilton (extraordinary actors with American Historical Theater). Her dream come true!

Ms. Skinner read the Declaration of Independence from the steps of Van Wyck Hall, Main Street, Fishkill on July 4, 2014, continuing the Village of Fishkill's long-held tradition, as her work was honored with testimonials from the Town, County, the NYS Governor's Office, and numerous family members.

In February of 2015, Willa was recipient of the Martha Washington Woman of History Award, given by Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site each year to a woman who has made a contribution to the history of the Hudson Valley through education, promotion, or preservation.

In May of 2018, The Town of Fishkill surprised Willa with a tribute to her accomplishments – a well-attended ceremony, to include speakers from both government and historical organizations, culminating in the unveiling of a bronze plaque now installed in the lobby of the Town offices.

"When I was appointed town historian in 1964, I began a journey into the region's past and found that opening one door led to the opening of another, a never-ending journey but always enjoyable. I met real people and imaginary ones, heard stories handed down from one generation to the next no matter if they were embroidered or not as they were passed along, listened to tales told by natives and newcomers alike and shared them..." – Willa Skinner, Historian

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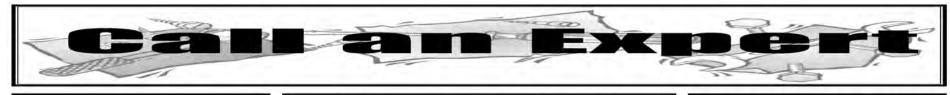
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## Married couple Alessio Bax, Lucille Chung to perform in Beacon on Jan. 28

The Howland Chamber Music Circle will present the second concert of its winter Piano Festival, the piano duo of Alessio Bax and Lucille Chung. They will perform on January 28 at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. To purchase a ticket, visit howlandmusic.org. The Howland Cultural Center is at 477 Main Street. The concert will be followed by a reception with refreshments where concertgoers can meet and greet the musicians. All ticket holders are encouraged

New to the 2023-2024 season, is a pricing structure to include music lovers who may have been unable to afford our tickets in the past. A limited number of tickets will be available on a pay-what-you-wish basis. These tickets will be released one week prior to each concert.

The real-life marriage of two great concert pianists, Alessio Bax and Lucille Chung, has resulted in one of the leading piano duos of their generation.

The duo first appeared in a 2020-2021 streaming music series ALIVEmusica. Bax and Chung are each acclaimed as soloists, having played in the great halls of Europe,

Asia and the United States. Together, Bax & Chung have performed in major festivals and concert halls around the world; in 2008 alone, they logged 20,000 miles by train as they toured their four-hand Pétrouchka across the Poulenc, Debussy, and Piazzolla. far reaches of Stravinsky's homeland.

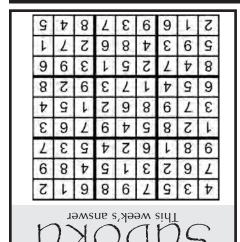
Bax and Chung are members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center — both individually and as a four-hand duo. Their program in January includes works by Mozart,

Since 1993, the Howland Chamber sic.org.

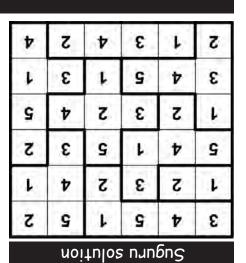
Music Circle has been bringing worldrenowned musicians to perform for Hudson Valley audiences in Beacon.

For more information on this performance or the Howland Chamber Music Circle, visit www.howlandmu-

#### this week's puzzle solutions



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# Hoyt Carriageway Bridge restoration under way



Known as "The Point," the Hoyt house today is stabilized from further deterioration while it awaits restoration and a new purpose for its historic spaces.



This view of the snow-covered Hoyt Carriageway Bridge is from the entrance bridge at the Mills Mansion.

-Photos by Jim Donick

#### By Jim Donick

It's been many years since the Hoyt Carriageway Bridge in Staatsburg was open to allow access to the mansion and gardens that were home to Lydig Monson Hoyt and then to his family for several generations. If all goes to plan, the bridge should reopen this year.

A presentation to update the public on the project's progress is scheduled for Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Staatsburg Library.

In the early 1960s, the property was acquired by the New York State Office of Parks and Historic Preservation. In Hoyt's day the site was breathtakingly beautiful.

Once upon a time visitors to this magnificent home, called "The Point," on the river in Staatsburg arrived via a sylvan lane from the old Albany Post Road winding through the woods for just over a mile. Visitors then proceeded under a canopy of green provided by the trees that lined the route.

Upon entering the grounds they were presented with views of the Hoyt's house and gardens, both of which were designed by Calvert Vaux. Vaux is one of the giants of American park and landscape design. Though not always recalled in the popular understanding, the quiet and possibly shy Vaux was the co-designer, along with Frederick Law Olmstead, of New York's Central Park.

James F. O'Gorman, writing in the New York Times some years ago, reflected that Vaux "remains uncelebrated by all but specialists because he was an introvert who frequently joined gifted and outgoing associates. Although he had an equal -- if not upper -- hand in the design of Central Park and of Prospect Park in Brooklyn, as well as many other New York landmarks."

Vaux managed to leave his imprint up and down the river. His other big project here was his work at Frederick Church's Olana further north. Church imagined the entire property as some of his paintings come to life. Vaux worked with him to turn that dream into the reality that we still visit today.

The Staatsburg property with house and gardens is now integrated into the Mills Norrie State Park and can be accessed via the hiking trails therein. Up until 2015, it was also possible to access the park and the Hoyt House property by walking across the Hoyt's old carriageway bridge above the railroad tracks and arriving as visitors might have over a hundred years ago.

The current bridge was built in 1912 and replaced an earlier structure that had been put in place in 1855.

The bridge opened up the old carriage trails to hikers in the summer and to cross country skiers in the colder months. The Staatsburg community made good use of this much loved pathway until the Parks Commission concluded that the bridge had deteriorated to the point where it was no longer thought to be safe.

Members of the community, led by the enthusiasts of the Calvert Vaux Preservation Association (CVPA), have been steadfast and diligent in developing a plan to restore the bridge and its access to the park as a prelude to going even further. The longer range plan, after access via the bridge is assured, is to begin restoration of the house. (Ideas for the restoration of the house will await a future story.)

Today, the promise of reopening the bridge is coming closer to reality. The

restoration project is divided into four parts. The first part, repair of concrete on the lower portion of the eastern abutment, was completed in this past autumn. The earth beneath a portion of the abutment washed out over the years.

The second part, the replacement of the wooden decking, is the largest part of the project and should begin in the spring with completion planned to allow opening the bridge to hikers for the summer hiking season.

The third part of the plan will replace and enhance the fencing along the bridge. It will follow quickly upon completion of the decking

The fourth part of the plan, further reinforcement of the eastern abutment, will come sometime after that.

Jon Lawson, the Chairman of CVPA, is enthusiastic and optimistic, though the project is far from simple. He notes that "the state park owns the walkway and the access. AMTRAK controls the railway right of way and the rails, though they are, in fact, owned by CONRAIL. Nobody seems to claim to actually own the bridge, itself. That said," he continues, "it doesn't keep all of these interests from expecting to review and approve the project."

It's complicated, but Lawson is comforted by the fact that "the Parks Commission in Albany is very supportive and AMTRAK has been very supportive as well."

Both sources of support bode well for success, though not necessarily for speed in the review process.

With help from a Hudson Valley Greenway grant, the CVPA engaged respected upstate New York-based engineer Peter Melewski to determine the repairs needed to enable pedestrian use of the Staatsburg bridge.

Lawson has commented that "the engineering firm of Peter Melewski also did some of the engineering work on the Walkway Over the Hudson. They have been very supportive and their breadth of knowledge has made this effort progress more smoothly."

The initial engineering report was completed two years ago. Its conclusions were heartening. The bridge structure is in remarkably good condition. The steel structure is solid. One of the bridge piers needs some limited repair. Most of the wooden deck needs replacing and some of the underlying wooden stringers on the deck will also want replacing. Cost is expected to be in the neighborhood of \$200,000. This number has held well for the ensuing two years due to community support and assistance from local organizations and the state.

Additional support has come with a Parks and Trails Stewardship Grant of \$150,000. They proudly note "The Hoyt Carriageway Bridge repair project is supported with funding from the New York State Park and Trail Partnership Grants and New York's Environmental Protection Fund. The Park and Trail Partnership Grants are administered by Parks & Trails New York, in partnership with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation."

Lawson and Dr. Jeffrey Anzevino of Scenic Hudson will outline the work to date as well as the next steps at the Feb. 8 meeting.

"These people will get to see how their donations have been put to good use," says Lawson. All are welcome.

#### **Legal Notices**

EXTENDING LOCAL ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 **EXECUTIVE** ORDER 5/2023 EXTENSION TO DE-CLARATION OF LO-CAL EMERGENCY **ORDERS CLARED** BY DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECU-TIVE: Please take notice that on January 18,2024 at 12:00 am., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting **Dutchess County Ex-**

#### **Legal Notices**

ecutive William F. X. O'Neil extended Local Emergency Order #1, Local Emergency Order #2, and Local **Emergency Order #3** in furtherance of Executive Order No. 5 of 2023, dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency orders is available www.dutchessny .gov.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 21 WESTAGE RADI-OLOGY CENTER

#### **Legal Notices**

#### AMENDMENT TO SITE DEVELOP-MENT PLAN

**MENT PLAN NOTICEISHEREBY** GIVEN that pursuant to Section 150-97. Bof the Code of the Town of Fishkill, a public hearing will be held by the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill on Thursday, February 8, 2024 in the Francois R. Cross Meeting Room (Main Meeting Room at Town Hall), 807 Route 52, Fishkill, New York, beginning at7:00p.m.orassoon thereafter as possible, in the matter of an applicant's request to

#### **Legal Notices**

amend the existing Site Development Plan Approval for the conversion of the existing 5,618 SF Ruby Tuesday building to a radiology center, to construct a 1,848 SF expansion to the east side of the building and to construct a 933 SF expansion to the west side of the building to accommodate radiology equipment. The parcel for this proposal is located at 21 Westage Drive, is identified as Tax Map Parcel No. 6255-00-007635, and consists of 1.68 acres in the

#### Legal Notices

PSC (Planned Shopping Center) Zoning District.

Allinterested persons will be heard by the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill at the public hearing to be held as aforesaid. Email comments may be submitted in advance to dcolonna@ fishkill-ny.gov for those unable to attend the public hearing. By Order of the Planning Board

Planning Board
Ofthe Town of Fishkill,
New York

Debbie Colonna, Planning Board Secretary Legal Notices

**Legal Notices** 

## HOW DO YOU SPELL GREAT LOCAL NEWS?



The deadline for Legals is every Friday @ 12 noon for a Wednesday Publication \* \*When a public holiday falls on a Monday the deadline becomes Thursday at noon.

#### Diversions

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C StatePoint Media

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

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: GEOGRAPHY 101

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Village People's "\_\_ Man"
- 6. Certain tray content
- 9. Little bit, in Mexico
- 13. Ammo in a quiver, sing.
- 14. Geological Society of America
- 15. Young eel
- 16. Song of praise
- 17. Snowy \_\_\_\_ or great horned
- 18. Must-haves
- 19. \*Strait between Russia and Alaska
- 21. \*Smallest of the Great Lakes
- 23. Crime scene evidence
- 24. Peter the Great, e.g.
- 25. Consumer-protecting org.
- 28. Skiing helmet manufacturer
- 30. Mother-of-pearl, pl.
- 35. Type of sail, pl. 37. #29 Down anagram
- 39. Like Raphael's cherubs
- 40. Face shape
- 41. Tie with a morning coat
- 43. Dwarf buffalo
- 44. Short version
- 46. "At , soldier"
- 47. Supposed giant Himalayan
- 48. Drool
- 50. Swimming hole
- 52. D.C. V.I.P.
- 53. Jim Acosta's announcement
- 55. \*Baltic
- 57. \*0° latitude
- 61. \*Bay east of India
- 64. Cuban dance
- 65. John Keats' "To Autumn," e.g.
- 67. Fortune teller's card
- 69. Jeered
- 70. China's drinkable export
- 71. Bird-related 72. Dick and Jane's dog
- 73. "Slippery" tree 74. Lean, past tense

#### **DOWN**

- 1. \*Atlas page
- 2. Speedy steed
- 3. First Nation nation
- 4. Squirrel away
- 5. Possessing
- 6. Full of excitement
- 7. \*Opposite of NNE
- 8. Saintly rings
- 9. Guilty, e.g.
- 10. Last word on walkie-talkie
- 11. Ghana money
- 12. Guesstimate phrase (2 words)
- 15. Catch in a snare
- 20. Nigerian money
- 22. A Bobbsey twin
- 24. Steel on boots, pl.
- 25. \*Inlet in Norway
- 26. Abalone seeker
- 27. Olden day calculators
- 29. \*Compass
- 31. TV personality Aiken
- 32. Ancient Scandinavian characters
- 33. What actors do
- 34. \*Iberian Peninsula country
- 36. Serb or Croat
- 38. Comme ci, comme ça
- 42. Past or present
- 45. Group of five
- 49. Actor DiCaprio
- 51. Like floss 54. "That's all she\_
- 56. Tequila source
- 57. Work units
- 58. Wisecrack 59. Rounded protuberance
- 60. Aid in crime
- 61. Show pleasure 62. Cantatrice's offering
- 63. Student aid
- 66. \*Tierra \_\_\_\_ Fuego 68. Big bang maker, acr.
- 10 13 14 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 32 33 29 35 37 39 36 38 40 41 42 43 44 46 47 45 48 49 50 52 54 56 68 69

CROSSWORD



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# 'Defining Lines' theme of MODfest at Vassar College

MODfest, Vassar College's annual tribute to the visual and performing arts, opens on January 25 and continues through February 4 on the campus in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Now in its 22nd year, MODfest features performances and exhibits by students, faculty, and guest artists. It is hosted by the Vassar College Music Department in collaboration with the Creative Arts Across Disciplines office. Some events require tickets and reservations, but all are free and open to the public.

The theme of this year's festival, "Defining Lines," invites audiences to examine, celebrate, and challenge the lines that exist between cultures, spaces, bodies, identities, and more.

"MODfest 2024 invites us to view things from different perspectives or consider what defines or separates people, places, and ideas," said MODfest Co-Director Tom Pacio. "A theatrical story of grief told through acrobatic movement, the relationship between the audience and dancers from a scientific perspective, and the impact of people's lives and their surroundings told through music are just a few examples of what awaits us in this year's festival. With exciting visiting artists from UPLift Physical Theatre, the creative team and performers of the new musical Shanghai Sonatas, and acclaimed dancers Baye & Asa (2023 Dance Magazine Award Winners) alongside our extremely talented faculty and students, there is something for everyone."

Shanghai Sonatas, a new theater work

to be held January 28 at 2 p.m. in the Alumnae House, is based on first-person accounts. It tells the true story of musicians from Europe living in China during World War II who used their optimism, humor, and musical talents to survive, forging friendships with their Chinese neighbors who helped save their lives.

MODfest will also feature the work of two current Vassar students. In "Reciprocal Visions: Reimagining the Dance," to be performed on January 25 in the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, cognitive science major Camryn Spero '24 will examine how the audience, the lighting, and sensational experiences physiologically change the dancers' realization of their performance. On January 26 and 27, The Game, a play written by Solomon Hess '24, will be performed in the Powerhouse Theater. The play tells the story of a white lacrosse coach who engages with a Native American friend to honor the origins of the game.

MODfest will also feature several musical performances, including a tribute by faculty musicians to MODfest cofounders Professor Emeritus of Music Richard Wilson and Adene Wilson '69. This year's concert will be held February 3 in Skinner Hall.

"We are thrilled to highlight our faculty and the music of Rogerson, Stravinsky, and Wilson in this year's honorary concert for Richard and Adene Wilson," said MODfest Co-Director and Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities Christine Howlett. "Thomas Sauer,



Shanghai Sonatas will perform during this year's MODfest at Vassar College.
-Courtesy photo

piano, collaborates with guest violinist Grace Park on the music on Rogerson's Lullaby: No Bad Dreams, Stravinsky's Duo concertant, and Wilson's Eclogue for solo piano. The second half of the program features Stravinsky's iconic L'histoire du soldat, a fascinating tale of a soldier named Joseph who meets the Devil in disguise. Composed for seven instruments and a narrator, the music includes the influ-

ences of tango, waltz, ragtime, and klezmer instrumentations and textures, and even Bach. This piece is performed entirely by our brilliant Vassar faculty Drew Minter, narrator, Marka Young, violin, Daniel Merriman, bass, Ian Tyson, clarinet, Elisabeth Romano, bassoon, James Osborn, trumpet, Paul Bellino, trombone, Frank Cassara, percussion, and Eduardo Navega, conductor."

## REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

HOME SALES IN YOUR BEACON\* NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

PROPERTIES	BEDS	<b>BATHS</b>	SQ FT	SOLD!
50 N Chestnut St.	3	1/1	1,208	\$430,000
22 Church St.	3	1/0	1,010	\$460,000
17 Garden Pl.	3	2/1	1,302	\$475,000
48 Church St.	2	1/0	1,120	\$500,000
4 Jefferson Ave.	3	1/1	1,348	\$592,000
10 Scofield Rd.	3	2/0	1,620	\$615,000
46 Judson St.	4	3/1	2,270	\$960,000
			*Beacon Cit	ty School District

OFFICE LISTINGS

Contact us for a free market analysis.



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