

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Howland Cultural Center collecting funds for Portico Restoration Project

By Kristine Coulter

Theresa Kraft is the president of the Howland Cultural Center (HCC). She recently told the Beacon Free Press that the Portico Restoration Project is more than half-way through receiving donations. The goal, said Kraft, is \$150,000.

On Saturday, February 24th, the 2024 Friends Campaign with launch an "Evening with Friends, Champagne, and Cupcakes!" said Kraft. Then, in May, the HCC will celebrate its 45th anniversary with a Gala at the Roundhouse, 2 E. Main St., in Beacon, said Kraft.

"The Howland Cultural Center is a prominent cultural hub in our city that demands attention. Likewise, the portico that surrounds our front door is the most forward and visible part of our facade. Our Portico Restoration Project will restore and stabilize the portico and central bay of the Howland Cultural Center's principal facade, the one that faces Main Street in Beacon. The structure encompasses the front porch and serves as the frame for the public entrance," Kraft explained.

"The portico shelters the front doors, and as is where everyone enters and leaves, the building transits through the portico," it was stated by Kraft.

Let's start with the work on the ground floor—the first floor. What is planned for this level, according to Kraft, are "a blue-stone porch block, four supporting columns, and four decorative columns."

Next level – the second floor.

That level "includes a projecting bay that stretches the second-floor area, two full-length double-hung windows, a small balcony, and a deteriorating timber structure for support," said Kraft.

There is a clapboard, two quarter-round windows, and the central gable supporting the projecting portion of the roof, said Kraft, that will need to be done on the third floor. "Decorative timbering and scrollwork are missing. Restoration involves reconstruction of the balcony's missing balustrade and the missing decorative scrollwork and timber "hood" in the gable. Compromised structural timbers supporting the balcony will

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'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown' at Beacon High School Feb. 9, 10

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon Players Younger Company will perform "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," on February 9 at 7 p.m. and February 10 at 1 p.m. The performances will take place at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road, in Beacon. Performances are by special arrangement with Concord Theatrics.

For tickets, visit beaconplayers.com.

Antony Scarrone is the director for The Beacon Players and The Beacon Players Younger Company.

"The Beacon Players have often involved elementary and middle school students in our productions. After our success, last spring, with our production of "Les Miserables," we gave some thought to the young students that were in our show, and the program at the middle school. We discussed the fact that many of these kids would like to continue after their middle school production which usually ends around December. We decided to create a Younger Company for grades 5 through 8," Scarrone explained.

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The cast of The Beacon Players Younger Company will perform "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," on February 9 and 10 at Beacon High School.

-Courtesy photo

Habitat Dutchess breaks ground for 2 new houses in City of Poughkeepsie



Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County held a groundbreaking ceremony for two new houses at South Grand Ave. and Fountainbrook Ave. in the City of Poughkeepsie on January 31.

-Courtesy photo

By Kristine Coulter

A groundbreaking ceremony for the start of construction on two new houses – which will become homes—took place in the City of Poughkeepsie on January 31. The ceremony, held by Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, took place at South Grand Ave. & Fountainbrook Ave.

"All applicants are chosen based on income eligibility and need. Both applicants were qualified as they met the income guideline of 50-80% of area medium income. Both were living in sub-standard housing which could be either physical or cost related (more than 35% of their income)," explained Maureen Brennan Lashlee, who is the chief executive officer for Habitat Dutchess.

The families have been in the program for more than two years and have completed over 400 hours of sweat equity, it was noted by Brennan Lashlee.

"Both were in the program so much longer than typical due to COVID, but both held on and will be homeowners soon," she explained.

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Habitat Dutchess breaks ground for 2 new houses in Poughkeepsie



Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County held a groundbreaking ceremony for 2 new houses in the City of Poughkeepsie. In attendance was Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino (center).

Maureen Brennan Lashlee, executive director of Habitat Dutchess, makes remarks during the groundbreaking ceremony on Jan. 31 in Poughkeepsie.

-Courtesy photos

Continued from cover

“Our first family is a three-generation family and both grandmom and daughter work in the banking industry. The school-age son is a successful honor student in the Poughkeepsie Central School District,” said Brennan Lashlee. “Our second family is a young couple with two children, one is a newborn. The dad works in landscaping and the mom has significant physical limitations requiring

Habitat to build its first ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) home, something we are very excited about. Aging in place is only possible if the home can meet the needs of the senior.”

Members of the Marshall family told Beacon Free Press through an email from Habitat Dutchess: “The excitement is truly overwhelming seeing our foundation being dug out is just absolutely surreal and truly symbolic of digging ourselves out of the trenches and breaking the cycle

of renting and living paycheck to paycheck and laying down a strong foundation for our little family as we will be physically laying our foundation.”

As for what this home will mean, the Marshalls stated, “It means a sense of pride that will never fade. It’s unreal to know that with our hard work and dedication and the guidance of Habitat and their affiliations with multiple other organizations in the community; the wealth of knowledge and monetary wealth we’ve gained is something extraordinary and the educational experience has endless value. It’s so rewarding, and we are so ready to reap the benefits of all the hard work.”

Regarding the process, it was remarked by the Marshalls, “This has been and will be the single most important thing we’ve ever been a part of aside from growing our family. In a world where everything is constantly changing, knowing that our home, our safe place, will always remain affordable and keep our family safe and sheltered is just a bonus to the family memories we can make on this new journey as first-time homeowners with Habitat for Humanity. The future of our family is so bright and has no limits, that’s to this amazing organization that has now become an extension of our family. We couldn’t be more grateful for the entire process that led us to this very day!”

Whether time, talent or treasure, Brennan Lashlee said, “Dutchess County always rises to the occasion and once aging will show that we all believe everyone deserves a safe home to call their own. Our goal for these two homes is to raise \$100,000 from local donors, and I am confident we will.”

In addition to these two homes, Habitat Dutchess plans to build or start seven

more for a total of nine homes in 2024, according to Brennan Lashlee. Locations include the Town of Poughkeepsie, Town of Hyde Park School District, Town of Amenia and the Town of Northeast,” Brennan Lashlee remarked.

“We are very excited about the groundbreaking; this let us know this is really happening for our family,” said members of the Martin-Nelson family who remarked about the home ownership experience in an email.

What does this new house mean to them? They replied, “Security, growth, strong foundation, fresh start, and to have something to pass on for generations to come.”

Regarding the process, they stated in the email: “The process for us was very long, there were a lot of setbacks. However, we had to look at it in a positive way, that this was God’s plan and when it is the right time there is nothing going to stop us, and we are ready!”

Brennan Lashlee said, “Habitat for Humanity is overjoyed to celebrate another groundbreaking for first-time home ownership. Each family qualified for an affordable mortgage and Habitat will subsidize the gap with a forgivable second mortgage.”

Thanks were offered to partners at Ulster Savings, Bank and Dutchess County for their ongoing support.

“This is you and your family’s journey, so every story is different. There’s going to be a lot of emotions, work and time that you are going to go through in this process, and it’s not going to be easy. However, with the Habitat family they will do their best to help you in every way to make it happen. Habitat wants us to succeed,” said the Martin-Nelson family.

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'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown' at Beacon High School Feb. 9, 10

Continued from cover

The younger group works with the older students in the drama club in many different aspects of theater, explained Scarrone. "They actually started off by presenting "Thriller" at our coffeehouse fundraiser at Halloween," he stated.

According to Scarrone, "The biggest part of the project [was] that the students would have their own production and so we developed the group and decided to produce 'Charlie Brown.'"

He continued: "These young actors have worked extremely hard to perfect their skills, they have worked on our art crew, our set crew, and now they are ready for [their] performance."

One of the members in the production is Hazel Balogh, who is a seventh-grade student.

"Last year I was encouraged to audition and got the role of young 'Cosette' for "Les Mis." The process was sometimes tiring but it was really exciting too! We had rehearsal many days every week

and worked really hard for the production. This year they started a younger company that is not doing the high school production but has its own production for the middle school kids instead," Hazel stated in an email.

Hazel described working on the production as magical.

"The stage itself is so spacious and easy to dance on and I feel really comfortable there because I've done many productions on that stage with BPAC (Beacon Performing Arts Center) and Beacon Players," Hazel said.

Hazel said she "look[s] forward to opening night, although closing night will probably be the most memorable because all the work we've put towards making the production amazing has finally come to a close. After every show I've been in is over, it's always bittersweet."

"This has been an extremely enjoyable process, and we hope that this will be our premier production leading the way to many more as well as more theater element involvement for these younger students," Scarrone said.



"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" can be seen at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rd., in Beacon on Feb. 9 and 10. Pictured is the cast during a recent rehearsal.

-Courtesy photo

Tickets available to the Harlem Wizards game at Beacon High School on Feb. 16

The Harlem Wizards are coming to Beacon High School, Friday, February 16th at 7 p.m. The evening promises to be a fun-filled event that is great for kids and adults and will guarantee to put a smile on one's face! This event is hosted by the Rombout Middle School PTO, the Beacon High School PTSO, and the Beacon High School National Honor Society. They have brought The Wizards into town to raise money for scholarships, events and many other things that benefit the students of the middle school and high school.

The Harlem Wizards have a unique mission: to create awe-inspiring events throughout the country. At a Wizards game, fans will witness amazing basketball talent combined with hilarious comedy. It's two hours of family time where parents, grandparents, and kids can all laugh together. When you're in the stands, you're more than a spectator; you're part of the show with loads of audience participation. Throughout the game, fans will experience a magical display of tricks, coordinated ball handling, fancy passing, and aerodynamic athleticism combined with high-energy comedy and audience interaction. The experience can only be summed up in two words: Awe-Inspiring!

Ticket prices are as follows:
 Student General Admission: \$15 in advance (\$20 at the door)
 Adult General Admission: \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door)
 Reserved Student/Adult: \$25
 Courtside Plus Student/Adult: \$50
 Courtside Player Student (pre-K-6th): \$125

Reserved ticket holders receive special reserved seating close to the court and free team poster for kids and \$5 souvenir gift certificate for adults.

Courtside Plus ticket holders receive first row seating and meet privately with some of the Wizard players before the game for a meet-and-greet, 1 slice of pizza and drink, souvenir lanyard, color team photo, kids get \$5 discount on replica jersey, and adults get a \$10 souvenir gift certificate.

Courtside Player ticket holders (preK-6th) receive reserved seating, pregame meet and greet with players, 1 slice of pizza and drink, wizards jersey (picked up at game), souvenir lanyard and color team photo for kids, and the opportunity to play in a 3-minute game with the Harlem Wizards during half-time.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.Harlemwizards.com.

Love Songs & Lattes Feb. 12 in Beacon

The Beacon Players will present Love Songs & Lattes at 7 p.m. in the Beacon High School lobby on February 12 at 7 p.m. Enjoy a sweet treat, a latte (or tea) and some music. One might even get a sneak peek of "Phantom of the Opera," which the drama

club will perform in April.

The event will take place at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road, in Beacon.

For more information, visit beaconplayers.com.

HCC collecting funds for portico

Continued from cover

be restored. Windows will be restored. The slate siding on the bay will undergo restoration by the team. Work involves the construction of a frost-proof foundation under the porch block, which does not have one," she noted.

Most of the Portico Restoration Project, remarked Kraft, "cost consists of construction materials and labor for carpentry and exterior trim, slate work on bay side-walls, gutters, and leaders, exterior painting, wood decking, and other related parts, plus part of architect supervision services. We envision a single prime contractor who may engage subcontractors for certain parts. There are other soft costs involved for architect oversight, alternate temporary access, signage, and general conditions. Because we already have substantial funds from our internal sources, generous public donations and grant award support from the city and potential grants from foundations and the state, we envision covering much of the initial

work and soft costs from these sources."

This Portico Restoration Project is seen by us as the first step in what will eventually be a larger, broad restoration and repair of the building's entire exterior, Kraft remarked "This larger project estimated to exceed \$1 million. This portico project is ideal for a "first phase" for three reasons. First, it's the work that has the most urgency. Second, it is the most visible part of the facade and its restoration will have the greatest impact on public appreciation, and thus, our fundraising," she said.

Kraft offered thanks to those who have donated to this project.

"We are grateful for the generous contributions from our local community and for helping us move toward our goal of protecting and preserving the irreplaceable Richard Morris Hunt 'Jewel of Beacon,' and for championing the musicians, performers, artists, educators, and community members who make this a special place in Beacon," said Kraft.

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Viewpoints



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Policy on letters:

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The Southern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification, and be less than 300 word.
- 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.

Local volunteers thanked for participation in Operation Christmas Child

To the Editor:

Generosity throughout Wappingers Falls contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at drop-off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Across the U.S., the project collected 10 million shoebox gifts in 2023. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2023, the ministry is now sending over 11.3 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide, including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster.

Through shoeboxes—packed with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items—Wappingers Falls area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 220 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Across NY, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can also be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ or by calling 518-437-0690.

Although local dropoff locations for shoebox gifts are closed until Nov. 18 – 25, 2024, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Jasmin Sutton
Marketing/Media Relations Associate
Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse

'Thank you' to school board members, librarians

To the Editor:

As an 18-year resident of Fishkill and a proud mom of two John Jay Patriots, I would like to express my gratitude to our community's school board members, librarians, and teachers.

Although no system is perfect, I appreciate their often-thankless work. I also respect their expertise when selecting curricular materials that reflect accurate scientific and historical facts/books that fuel empathy, creativity, critical thinking, and imagination.

Diversity of ideas is what makes our community great, and I am delighted to see that information about the human experience—including gender identity and different religious beliefs—is part of all levels of education.

I am confident that the Wappingers Central School District will continue to be proactive in ensuring that individual parental rights and religious liberties remain intact without infringing on the rights of others.

Karen Svoboda
Executive Director
Defense of Democracy

Beacon Police Blotter

The following is from the City of Beacon Police Department.

Jan. 1: Larceny- Main Street- Caller reported stolen medication. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 2: Lost Plates - Jackson Street- Caller reported lost license plates. Report taken.

Jan. 3: Harassment - Tompkins Terrace- Caller reported being harassed by an individual known to her. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 5: Assault - Helen Court - Officers responded to a call for a female that had been assaulted. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan.5: City Code Violation - Fishkill Avenue - Joseph C. Istvan, 62, of Beacon, was charged with open container.

Jan. 10: Criminal Mischief - Tompkins Terrace - Caller reported a slashed vehicle tire. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 11: Harassment - Hudson Avenue - Caller reported receiving harassing messages from an individual not known to her. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 11: Larceny - Main Street - Robert C. Mickle, 38, of Beacon, was charged with petit larceny.

Jan.12: Auto Accident- Hit & Run- South Avenue- Caller reported damage to his vehicle as a result of a hit-and-run

Accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 12: Traffic Stop - Blackburn Avenue - Joseph M. Matias, 32, of Beacon, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation Vehicle 3rd & Miscellaneous Vehicle & Traffic.

Jan. 12: Auto Accident - Hit & Run- Tioronda Avenue-Caller reported damage to his car as a result of a Hit & Run Accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 14: Parking - Main Street - Officers responded to a call for a car parked in a vendors spot during Farmers Market hours. Attempt was made to contact owner to move the vehicle with negative results. Vehicle was impounded. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 14: Auto Accident - Hit & Run- Beacon Street - Caller reported damage to her car as a result of a hit-and-run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Jan. 14: Auto Accident - Hit & Run- Officers responded to an individual who reported damage to her vehicle as a result of a hit-and-run accident.

Jan. 15: Unattended Death - Beacon Officers responded to a call for an unattended death. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Number of Calls- 307
Auto Accidents- 23
Domestics: 8

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Reminder about rules, regulations after snowfall

City of Beacon officials are reminding everyone to review rules and regulations regarding parking and sidewalks after snowfall:

SNOW PARKING REGULATIONS: Please be aware that after two inches of snow, one's vehicle cannot be parked on the street between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. and must not obstruct City snowplows from clearing the streets. One is welcome to move one's vehicle into the City's public parking lots, but they must be moved 24 hours after the snow stops falling so that the parking lots can then be cleared after the streets are finished. We hope to avoid issuing any tickets for this storm.

SNOW SIDEWALKS REGULATIONS: Please also remember that property owners must clear adjacent sidewalks within 24 hours of the snowfall ending. Further, it is both unsafe and a violation of City code to throw snow into the road.

DA Parisi applauds protection, recognition of all nonconsensual, forced sexual contact survivors

Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation to modernize New York State rape statutes on January 30. The legislation expands and updates the definition of rape in the penal law to ensure that additional forms of nonconsensual, forced sexual conduct can be prosecuted as rape. Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi applauded the update to the antiquated law. Parisi said, “this week New York State took a huge leap forward in the protection and recognition of ALL survivors of nonconsensual, forced sexual contact.”

The new legislation, which becomes effective September 1, is also being referred to as the “Rape is Rape Act.” The law removes the penetration requirement as part of the definition from the rape statutes and expands the definition of rape to include not only vaginal sexual contact but oral and anal sexual contact as well. Meaning that under the new statute oral and anal sexual assaults can now be prosecuted as rape instead of sexual assault.

Parisi said “the modernization of our rape statutes was long overdue. Rape is one of the most heinous crimes and is the ultimate violation of a person’s physical, emotional and mental being. This update in the law ensures that all forms of rape are treated as the deplorable and trauma-

tizing crimes that they are. This change will empower survivors, will support my office’s continued efforts to hold perpetrators of this violence accountable and fight for justice for all survivors.”

Angela Lopane, Chief of the Special Victims Unit, reiterated the importance of the new legislation to survivors and criminal prosecutions. Lopane explained that prior to the passage of the new law, New York defined penetration of the vagina or other bodily orifices with anything other than a penis as sexual abuse rather than rape. Chief Lopane noted the difficulty with the outdated law saying that “sexual abuse, in many people’s minds, sounds like so much less than rape and that is difficult to explain to a survivor and a jury.” The passage of the new legislation takes the necessary steps to finally remedy this difference in the law.

Lopane said, “to call these acts anything short of rape is an insult to anyone who suffers these traumatic events. Now, with this change, the plain language of the statute validates unwanted oral or anal sexual contact and calls it what it is, rape.”

If you or anyone you know has experienced sexual violence, help is available through Family Services Rape Crisis hotline at 845-452-7272, available 24 hours a day or call 911.

Charlie Chaplin in ‘The Kid,’ with piano accompaniment on Feb. 9 in Beacon



The 1921 silent film classic “The Kid” will be shown with live piano accompaniment at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 9. The movie stars the late Charlie Chaplin, and an early appearance by Jackie Coogan as “the kid.” On the Steinway will be Tomomi Sato. This show runs about an hour. The price is \$15 for adults but is free for children. All ages welcome, but most appropriate for kids over 6.

This is a joint production of the Howland Chamber Music Circle and the Howland Cultural Center. One may get tickets at howlandmusic.org.

Thanks was offered to the Ann and Abe Effron Donor-Advised Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and the Hudson Valley Credit Union for their support.

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

-Courtesy photo

Super Bowl weekend STOP-DWI crack down Feb. 9 – 11

Various law-enforcement agencies throughout Dutchess County will participate in a special enforcement effort to crack down on impaired driving during Super Bowl weekend, beginning Feb. 9 and concluding Feb. 11.

Municipal law enforcement agencies will join agencies across the state and will be out in force in this coordinated effort to aggressively target those who put lives in danger.

Research shows high-visibility community engagement campaigns can reduce impaired driving fatalities by as much as 20 percent. Sobriety checkpoints play a key part in raising awareness about the

problem. The Super Bowl crackdown is one of many statewide high visibility community engagement campaigns promoted by the New York State STOP-DWI Association. In addition to this crackdown, statewide STOP-DWI engagement campaigns also target Memorial Day Weekend, July 4th, Labor Day Weekend, Halloween, Thanksgiving and the holiday season in December.

Drivers can help to make a difference by having a sober plan. Motorists can download the mobile app, “Have a Plan,” and be able to find a safe ride home at www.stopdwi.org/mobileapp.

Towne Crier Dance Jam set for Feb. 22

Get On Down at the Towne Crier Dance Jam on February 22 at 7 p.m., 379 Main Street, in Beacon. Dance to a vibrant mix of musical styles; song requests welcome. These dances are informal and even if one comes alone, one can always find a part-

ner on the dance floor.

All are welcome – singles, couples, friends, newcomers. There is a \$10 admission fee.

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

Earth science topic of Beacon Sloop Club discussion on Feb. 15

The Beacon Sloop Club’s 2024 Lecture Series Presents, “How Earth Scientists Learn About Climate Change” with Kirsten Menking, Ph.D., on February 15 at 7 p.m. Menking will be discussing the use of sediment cores from Lakes Minnewaska and Mohonk to reconstruct the climate history of the Shawangunk Ridge.

Menking and her students at Vassar College took sediment cores from the bottom of Lakes Minnewaska and Mohonk and analyzed them to reconstruct the climate history of the Shawangunk Ridge over the past 15,000 or so years. Using pollen, plant fossils, charcoal content and other indicators, they determined what the

landscape must have looked like at the time of the mastodons and also uncovered a nearly two millennia drought that occurred several thousand years ago.

The Beacon Sloop Club is at 2 Red Flynn Dr. in Beacon.

For more information, www.beacon-sloopclub.org, 845-463-4660 or 914-879-1082,

Kristen Menking is a Professor of Earth Science and Director of Environmental Studies on the Althea Ward Clark Chair at Vassar College. Menking will conduct a free lecture on climate change in Beacon on February 15.

Rolison to host Mobile Office services Feb. 15 in Beacon

State Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) announced on Feb. 2 that his District Office staff will provide Mobile Office services to City of Beacon residents on Thursday, February 15 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in the Veterans Memorial Building. Rolison hosted numerous Mobile Office events in 2023 for residents in various parts of the tri-county 39th Senate District.

Rolison said, “Our staff is here to help. Please remember to RSVP and bring all appropriate paperwork with you. Many thanks to our friends at the American Legion for hosting us. See you on February 15!”

The Veterans Memorial Building is located at 413 Main Street and limited off-street parking is available in the rear. Those wishing to receive assistance with veterans’ issues, utility billing, unemployment benefits, and more are encouraged to RSVP.

Please call 845-229-0106 or email rolison@nysenate.gov to reserve a spot.

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Local law enforcement, first responders attend Human Trafficking Awareness Forum

The Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Service (DCFS) hosted approximately 100 local law enforcement officials, first responders and service providers at the Human Trafficking Awareness Forum on Jan. 31, sharing insights into the dynamics of human trafficking, explaining how to recognize its signs, increasing the ability to respond effectively and discussing prevention strategies.

The event, held at Dutchess Community College's James & Betty Hall Theatre, was a platform to further collaboration among law enforcement, healthcare professionals, social services and community organizations – all in an effort to combat the collective impact against human trafficking.

“While many may think of trafficking as a crime that only occurs in big cities, tragically it can take place in any community, including our own,” said County Executive Sue Serino, who welcomed attendees to today’s forum. “Dutchess County remains alert and takes proactive measures to promote awareness of the issue and safeguard victims of every age, including children – a crucial duty our county proudly embraces. Efforts like today’s forum raise awareness and can save lives. I thank everyone who attended today, and Dutchess County is eager to continue working with these partners.”

The Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking is a multi-disciplinary group of professionals, whose mission is to prevent human trafficking by working collaboratively to raise knowledge and awareness, identify potential victims and provide comprehensive trauma-informed services. Among its various initiatives, the task force offers trafficking prevention education programs for young people and offers numerous resources for residents, including resource guides, hotline numbers, service directories and fact sheets differentiating trafficking myths from facts. While the task force directly assists young people up to age 21, cases

involving potential victims older than 21 are referred to the Family Services’ Center for Victim Safety and Support, which accepts adult clients and is partially funded by the County.

Defined as the illegal trade of human beings through force, fraud or coercion for various exploitative purposes, human trafficking encompasses a range of crimes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation and involuntary servitude. According to the International Labour Organization, more than 40 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking. In 2023, the Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking received 27 referrals of suspected trafficking locally, from probation officers, youth services providers and runaway and homeless youth shelter staff.

Not all referrals are indicative of a trafficking victim, but rather the youth engaging in risky behaviors that may lead to exploitation. Referrals of suspected trafficking may be based on a young person’s behaviors and what may be considered signs of exploitation, including having no access to their parents or guardians; living apart from other children and in substandard accommodations; being engaged in work that is not suitable for children; and seeming intimidated and behaving differently than other children their age.

Among the specific topics discussed today with attendees were:

- how to identify and approach a suspected victim of human trafficking – both labor and sex trafficking;
- actionable steps they can take to obtain local services for the victim; and
- local prevention/education programs and services available to young people and how to access them.

Dutchess Community College Instructor of Criminal Justice Matthew Greenstein, a retired Connecticut State Police Detective and Academy Instructor, gave a presentation about the basics of human trafficking. Renán Salgado, Anti-



Pictured are presenters and organizers during the recent Human Trafficking Forum. From left, Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking Coordinator David Garcia, Dutchess Community College President Dr. Peter Grant Jordan, County Executive Sue Serino, Department of Community and Family Services Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, and Deputy Commissioner Tracy Connelly.

-Courtesy photo

Human Trafficking Director for the Kingston-based Worker Justice Center of New York, detailed the elements of labor trafficking. Attendees also heard a first-person account from a trafficking survivor, who answered their questions about his ordeal.

“Trafficking in every form is a violation of one’s human rights, and it must be addressed and eliminated,” DCFS Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka said. “We thank those in our community who bravely defend the vulnerable from this mistreatment. The connections made at today’s forum will undoubtedly lead to a safer future for many in Dutchess County.”

Dutchess County is part of New York

State’s Safe Harbour Program, which supports counties in developing their capacity to identify youth who have been trafficked, sexually exploited or are at risk of victimization, and to meet identified service needs of these youth.

Residents can report suspected cases of trafficking 24/7 to the County’s Human Trafficking Hotline at 845-452-7272. Additional information about Dutchess County’s efforts to prevent human trafficking, as well as a resource guide for services providers, law enforcement and attorneys to develop a collaborative, trauma-informed response to identifying and responding to cases of suspected human trafficking is available on DCFS’ webpage.

National Park Service invites public comment on proposed entrance fee increase at Hyde Park national historic sites

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to increase the entrance fee at the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site to support projects that benefit visitors and protect park resources.

The increased fee revenue will allow the parks to address preservation needs of the homes, which is critical to ensuring the continued enjoyment and long-term preservation of these significant sites. Under the proposal, the current entrance fee of \$10 per individual 16 years and older would

increase to \$15 person. Those 15 years old and younger would still enter for free.

The proposal also includes a new yearly park specific pass for both the Home of FDR and Vanderbilt Mansion for \$45. The new entrance fee would go into effect in May 2024 and be required year-round for entrance into the historic houses. The NPS is requesting feedback on the entrance fee increase during a 30-day public comment period that will be open through Feb. 16. Comments must be submitted online through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/hydeparkfeeincrease>.

The proposed increase would make the Home of FDR and Vanderbilt Mansion national historic sites’ entrance fees consistent with historic sites, museums, and other cultural institutions in the Hudson Valley. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, operated by the National Archives, also plans to adopt this fee increase to maintain consistent fees at the FDR sites.

This fee increase would occur in concert with an increase at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in Oyster Bay, N.Y. The previous entrance fee increase at the Home of FDR was \$1 in 2018. The previ-

ous entrance fee increase at Vanderbilt Mansion was from \$8 to \$10 in 2013.

Both national parks in Hyde Park retain 96.5% of their entrance fee revenue which, by law, must be expended on improving, preserving, and maintaining park resources and programs that directly benefit park visitors.

Over the past five years entrance fee dollars have funded trail maintenance, the preservation of historic structures, gardens and landscapes, and the care and conservation of historic furnishings in the homes. The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The entrance fee increase would not change the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes that are valid for entry at national parks, including the Annual, Senior, Access, 4th Grade, Military Annual, and Military Lifetime passes.

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 428 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov, and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.



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Susan Elizabeth Frazier in a photo ca. 1890 and 1919. A recent campaign to erect a memorial at the Frazier family plot at Rhinebeck cemetery resulted in this headstone at what had been her unmarked grave with the words, "Her voice endures."

-Courtesy of DCHS image collections

Black History in the Gilded Age: Educated women used words for profound change

By Bill Jeffway

This is a second article in a series inspired by HBO's "The Gilded Age." We recognize Black History month by looking at the themes and storyline of Black life portrayed in the two seasons of a program set in New York City between 1882 and 1883. We ask if there were real characters in our local history who were similar, or if some of the themes explored in the performance played out locally.

The leading Black character, Peggy Smith (played by Denee Benton) is a well-educated, skilled writer of fiction and political journalism who sought to create political and social change through her written words and persistent courageous actions.

One woman with local ties stands out in particular.

Susan Elizabeth Frazier (1864-1924) was similar in age to Smith and is buried in Rhinebeck cemetery adjacent to the section created for persons of color in a four-generation family plot.

Frazier established herself in an 1892 talk to the Brooklyn Literary Union that was published in the national newspaper of the leading Black church, the AME Zion Church. In a talk titled, "Some Afro-American Women of Mark," Frazier set a

pattern she would repeat by constantly speaking to the untapped capacity of both Blacks and women in society due to arbitrary role limitations.

In her talk, she profiled the many successful Black women who were under-represented in history and national consciousness such as the 18th century poet, Phyllis Wheatley and the sculptor Edmonia Lewis.

What we see in the fictional character of Smith and the real-life Frazier are Black women who early in their lives wanted to create change through the words that they penned and deployed in public. They courageously and persistently pushed aside barriers put in front of them due to their race or gender.

White Fifth Avenue & Black communities in Brooklyn

Frazier's father, Lewis, like her grandfather and great-grandfather, was from the northern Dutchess County Town of Milan. He worked in New York City as a coachman for a wealthy, White Fifth Avenue family, just as the fictional Peggy Smith worked for a wealthy, White Fifth Avenue household.

Susan Elizabeth Frazier was born and raised on West 17th Street, in an apartment building housing servants that was not far

from the Fifth Avenue home where her father worked. There she attended "Colored School No. 4" on the same street within the same block between 6th and 7th Avenues. This was fortuitous.

At school, Frazier found a role model to emulate in the principal, Sarah J. S. Tompkins Garnet, who was one of the first African American women to serve in such a role in New York City. There is no doubt that the talented young Frazier would have absorbed both practical learning and profound values in her education. In 2022 New York City Landmarks granted Landmark Status to the school building which still stands.

Later in life, Frazier moved to the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn where, as mentioned earlier, she established her high profile through the Brooklyn Literary Union.

Black education: Separate or integrated?

Locally, education for Blacks in the first half of the 19th century did not go beyond elementary school and was limited to separate schools.

The issue of education for Blacks emerges in the HBO series in one episode through an effort to stop the closure of three Black elementary public schools in Brooklyn. The Black community recruited the involvement of White students and teachers to get broader support for the specific schools, two of which they saved.

Inviting White teachers and students into schools with Black students was one thing. But the reverse, the idea that a Black teacher would teach White students was not practiced in New York City for some time.

It was 1895, when Susan Elizabeth Frazier (who had graduated from what is today Hunter College, a "normal" school dedicated to training teachers) was offered a job as a teacher in an integrated school - until she arrived and it was realized she was a woman of color. The offer was retracted. This is reminiscent of the fictional scene where Peggy Smith was invited to have her writings published in "The Christian Advocate," until she arrived in person and the uncondi-

tional offer was retracted.

Although Frazier lost in court, she eventually won in the court of public opinion which involved nation-wide interest and news coverage. She was granted the position she sought in 1896 at "School No. 58" on West 52nd Street between 8th and 9th Avenue, becoming the first teacher of color to teach White students in New York City.

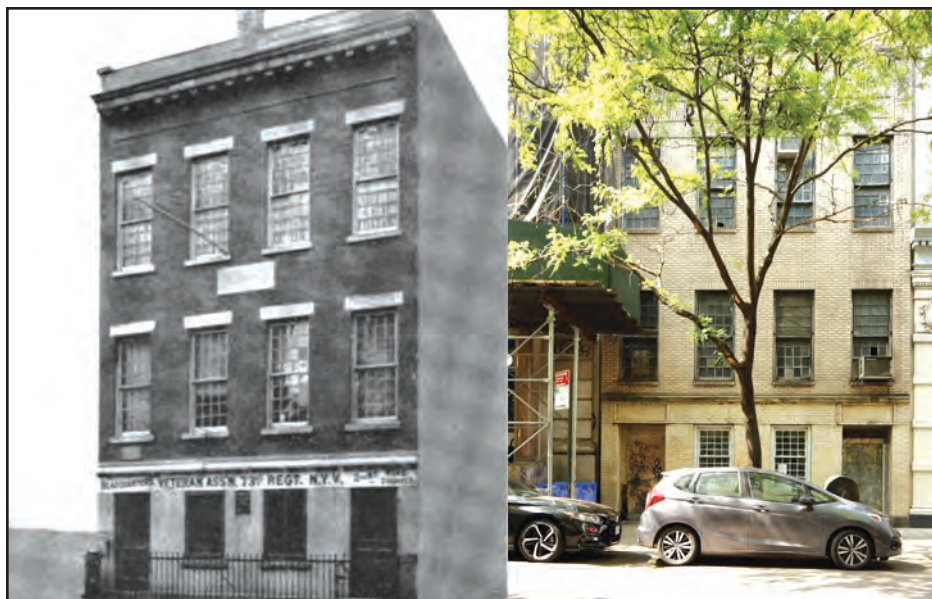
As if her many years as a public-school teacher in New York City were not testimony enough to her success (she taught until she died in 1924), she won a New York Tribune newspaper contest in 1919 as the "city's favorite teacher." The prize was a trip to the battlefields of Europe, given the recent successful conclusion of World War I. This was particularly apt because Frazier founded and led the Women's Auxiliary of the Black combat troops, the highly decorated "Harlem Hellfighters." She was the first Black woman to receive full military honors at her funeral at the Harlem Armory, before burial in Rhinebeck.

The HBO series does not (yet) go beyond 1883, so we do not know what is in store in the later life of Peggy Smith. But the combination of being a skilled writer, and a courageous and persistent trailblazer, served the real-life Susan Elizabeth Frazier well in advancing the cause of both Blacks and women.

Let's conclude with the words Frazier used to conclude her 1892 speech to the Brooklyn Literary Union, "We young women of the race have a great work to do. We have noble and brilliant examples of women who, under all trying circumstances, have labored earnestly for the elevation of their race, their sex. Let us strive with the advantages of a higher education to carry out the aim of our noble predecessors."



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



"Colored school No. 4" where Susan Elizabeth Frazier attended elementary school under the influential leadership of New York City's first Black principal, Sarah J. S. Tompkins Garnet. The building was recently granted New York City Landmark Status.

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New name, fresh vision: Top law firm rebrands as Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP

One of the most prominent law firms in the Hudson Valley announced that, effective January 1, it has begun operating under a new name: Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP.

Formerly Stenger, Diamond & Glass, LLP, this move reflects current leadership, new hires, and a diverse, well-rounded team. The firm has more than four decades of history serving the needs of the Hudson Valley community.

"This is the strongest group of partners we've had in my 40 years of being with the firm," stated Kenneth M. Stenger, partner at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele. "We've added young, vibrant and talented attorneys with strong expertise across all practice areas of law and the ability to provide legal solutions and meet our client's needs, whatever they may be."

Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele has recognized the contributions of: Karen E. Hagstrom, from its litigation team; Ian C. Lindars, who specializes in personal injury, municipal, real estate, commercial litigation, and landlord-tenant law; and A.J. Iuele, from its family law and criminal law teams. All three have been named partners within the firm. Adding to its deep bench, it also brought on Kyle A. Steller, as of counsel, at the end of 2023, to help its clients with wills,

trusts, estates, elder law, long-term care and Medicaid planning.

Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele is currently one of the largest general practice firms in the region, with a roster of 10 attorneys who provide comprehensive representation to individuals, businesses, municipalities, and institutions. Practice areas include commercial litigation, land use and development, tax grievances, elder law, wills, trusts and estates, commercial and residential real estate, business law, hospitality and liquor licensing, matrimonial and family law, personal injury, criminal law, and more.

"The range of work that Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele does throughout the Hudson Valley is truly remarkable, as is the firm's commitment to giving back to the local community," said Frank Castella Jr., president and CEO of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. "They keep our region humming along. I never hesitate to recommend them for any legal issue and look forward to watching this respected business expand."

"We are excited about the future of our firm," added Stenger. "We will continue to grow our team of attorneys and support staff to meet the demands and needs of the individuals, municipalities, institutions and business we support and to build a culture we can be proud of."



The team of partners at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP include, from left, Jessica J. Glass, A.J. Iuele, Kenneth M. Stenger, Ian C. Lindars and Karen E. Hagstrom.

-Courtesy photo

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Munich Philharmonic to perform in Newburgh



The Munich Philharmonic String Quartet will perform a Valentine's Day-theme concert at St. George's Church in Newburgh, Orange County, on Feb. 9.

-Courtesy photo

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The Garrison & Southern Dutchess News

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Register Now At: GarrisonBridalShow@gmail.com

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Tell your friends, relatives and co-workers!

Join the Munich Philharmonic String Quartet for an evening of chamber music that spans seven centuries. The concert, with a Valentine's Day theme, begins at 7:30 p.m. at St. George's Church, Newburgh, Orange County on Feb. 9.

The program will feature music by St. Hildegard von Bingen, the 12th century German Catholic nun and mystic, plus works by Beethoven and Borodin.

One of Orange County's leading high school ensembles, Monroe-Woodbury's

Chamber Orchestra, will open the concert with a short work by Benjamin Britten, following an afternoon master class with the quartet.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors, and \$10 for students. They are available at the door (cash or check only) or at newburghchambermusic.org.

St. George's is handicapped accessible with parking across the street. Audience members are invited to meet the artists at a post-concert reception.

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Cookie Walk set for February 10 in Poughkeepsie



The Annual Mid-Hudson Love INC Cookie Walk promises sweet treats and positive vibes. On February 10, cookie-lovers can select their favorites from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (or as long as supplies last) at Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, 2381 New Hackensack Road (Route 376) in Poughkeepsie. Based on last year's offering of more than 800 dozen cookies, a wide variety of gourmet homemade cookies are expected, including gluten free.

This is the 16th year for the Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ (INC) Cookie Walk, which is held the Saturday before Valentine's Day, and this year falls the day before the Big Game. The event showcases the recipes and decorating skills of over 100 volunteer bakers who donate their best baked goods. Shoppers receive gloves and a bakery box and walk

through the cookie display selecting the items they want. The filled bakery boxes are weighed, and shoppers take their treats home for a suggested donation of \$9 per pound.

Proceeds benefit the ministry work of local churches through Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ. Mid-Hudson Love INC is a partnership of churches that helps local families experiencing poverty by providing personal attention, skill-building classes, mentoring, and tangible goods such as personal care items, linens, and furniture.

Pick up some treats for one's sweetheart, family, Super Bowl party, a neighbor, or a friend, and know that one's donation offers a helping hand to someone in need. For further information about Mid-Hudson Love INC, visit www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org or call 845-471-0102.

The annual Cookie Walk by Mid-Hudson Love INC will take place on February 10 in Poughkeepsie. Pictured are cookies from last year's Cookie Walk.

-Courtesy photos by Jewel Ratzlaff

Veterans attend luncheon held by Beacon Elks



The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 honored Veterans for their service with a luncheon at the lodge. Veterans and their loved ones heard from guest speakers from Community Outreach of Dutchess County and the Elks.

The luncheon was made possible with the use of the Freedom Grant from the Elks National Foundation.

The next luncheon is set for February 24th. To reserve a seat, call Carl Oken at 914-474-1891.

-Courtesy photo

New book by Beaconite to launch at Stanza Books on Feb. 24

Stanza Books in Beacon will launch Adam McKible's book "Circulating Jim Crow The Saturday Evening Post and the War Against Black Modernity" on Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. The evening will feature readings, Q&A with the author, and community discussion.

According to a press release, "'Circulating Jim Crow' demonstrates

how the Post used stereotypical dialect fiction to promulgate white supremacist ideology and dismiss Black achievements, citizenship, and humanity."

To RSVP, go to <https://www.stanza-books.com/events/salon-saturday-feb-24>.

Stanza Books is at 508 Main St. in Beacon.



Hudson Valley Hospice House is Now Open!

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Obituaries

Hon. Gerald V. Hayes



POUGHKEEPSIE - Hon. Gerald V. Hayes of Poughkeepsie, 82, passed away peacefully on Jan. 27, 2024 while holding the hand of Sheila, his beloved wife of 56 years. His passing followed a 3-year battle with lymphocytic leukemia.

Jerry was a man of deep faith, hard work, great sacrifice, profound wisdom, remarkable accomplishments, and the highest character. Above everything, family was his greatest source of passion and pride in life. He treasured his saintly wife and together they loved their large family above all else. He was our provider, advisor, protector, role model, coach, biggest fan and caretaker.

Jerry was born Nov. 24, 1941 in Yonkers, NY. The oldest of three children, he was the loving son of the late Helen and Vincent Hayes. In December of 1964, Jerry's cousin,

Frank Hayes, helped connect him with a beautiful nurse with a tender heart named Sheila Kenny. They were married on Sept. 2, 1967 in a beautiful ceremony at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Yonkers.

In addition to his wife, Sheila, Jerry is survived by six children and their spouses including: Michael and Michele Hayes; Susan and Christopher Meyer; Matthew and Erin Hayes; Meghan and Christopher Farquharson; Christopher and Vanessa Hayes; and Patrick and Kayla Hayes. He is survived by 13 grandchildren: Maggie and Sally Hayes; Joseph and Madeline Meyer; Chloe, Olivia and Ella Hayes; Mackenzie, Hailey, Quinn and Colin Farquharson; and Noa and Xavier Hayes. Jerry is also survived by his brother William Hayes and his wife Debbie; and sister Sandra and her husband Ben Lakatos. He is predeceased by a son, Kevin Hayes, and grandson, Thomas Meyer, both of whom passed away in infancy.

Jerry received his BA from St. Anthony's, a Capuchin Franciscan friary and college in New Hampshire. He attended St. Anthony's with the intent of becoming a priest, but upon graduation opted to instead pursue a career in law.

He received his Juris Doctorate from Fordham Law School in 1968 and soon after was hired as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan under the legendary DA Frank Hogan. In 1971, Jerry was hired as a Dutchess County Assistant District Attorney by Hon. Albert M. Rosenblatt, a distinguished attorney and judge who Jerry counted as a dear friend and mentor. In 1980, Jerry went into private practice, primarily as a criminal defense attorney. He also accepted an opportunity to protect the rights of the less fortunate and served as a part-time assistant public defender. He distinguished himself in those roles for the next 20 years.

On countless occasions, family members have been approached by total strangers wanting to share emotional stories of their connection to Jerry. Times when these strangers were facing serious legal trouble. Times when many others had given up on them. Except Jerry. They recalled the respect he showed them. And they recalled how his legal acumen and exceptional effort, often as their public defender, earned them a life-saving opportunity for redemption.

Jerry was appointed Dutchess County Court Judge in March of 2000 by NYS Gov. George Pataki. That November, he was elected to a 10-year term by Dutchess County voters. The County Court presides over the most serious cases involving violent, life-changing crimes. Nearing mandatory retirement age, he retired at the completion of his term leaving behind the job he loved more than any other in his long and storied legal career.

Upon retirement, he continued to serve on the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council, was an active member in the Dutchess County Bar Association, and embraced the opportunity to continue mentoring many attorneys who sought his counsel.

During his time as a prosecutor, defense attorney or County Court Judge, Jerry earned the respect and admiration of all parties involved. From clients to fellow attorneys to law enforcement and judicial allies, Jerry was viewed as a first-rate lawyer and judge.

Despite his busy career and family life, Jerry was also deeply involved in the community. He taught law classes at Marist College and Dutchess Community College. He coached several of his children's sports teams. He was the President of the Warrior Club at Our Lady of Lourdes High School and for many years was an enthusiastic member of the Marist Red Fox Club and season ticket holder. He was a founding member of the Knights of Columbus at St. Martin de Porres in Poughkeepsie. He organized blood drives and served as a eucharistic minister among other activities at St. Martin's. He also served on various nonprofit and municipal boards including the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, the Dutchess County Board of Ethics and Marist College Center for Lifetime Studies.

To many he was known as "Judge Hayes." To close friends, he was "Jerry," an honorable man and lover of a good game, a good joke or a decent round of golf. A favorite annual golf outing for him that lasted nearly 20 years was the annual "Adirondack Open" that he hosted each October at his and Sheila's second home near Brant Lake, NY. While he enjoyed the golf, it was the camaraderie on those trips he enjoyed most.

To family, he was "Pop," our bedrock and a beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Jerry's life was devoted to family and to ensuring justice in the world. In return, he was justly rewarded with a long life of rich memories and with a large family who gathered at his side in his final hours.

Calling hours were held on Friday, Feb. 2 at William G. Miller & Son Funeral Home, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY. A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, Feb. 3 at St. Martin de Porres Church in Poughkeepsie with burial immediately at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, an organization Jerry deeply admired and supported for many years.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc. If you wish to send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com.

Andrew Clark

HYDE PARK - Andrew Clark, 57, passed away at home with the love and care of his family on Sunday, January 28, 2024, after a long illness.

Born in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of the late John H. and Ave M. Downes Clark.

Andrew was a 1985 graduate of F. D. Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park where he rowed on the school's crew team and made many life-long friendships. He attended Siena College and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing Management. After working for a time on Wall Street with the firm Herzog Heine Geduld, he attended and graduated from the Turfgrass Management Program at SUNY Cobleskill and served as Assistant Superintendent at various golf clubs in New York and New Jersey including Pine Valley Golf Club in New Jersey; Meadow Brook Club in Jericho, NY; and Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, NY.

On May 18, 2002, he married the former Susan Monteverdi at Immaculate Conception Church in Westhampton, NY. Mrs. Clark survives at home.

Andrew was a communicant of St. Martin de Porres Church in Poughkeepsie, and his Faith became a great comfort to him during his illness.

In addition to his wife, Andrew is survived by his two beloved children, Isabella and Nicholas Clark; a brother, Matthew Clark and his wife, Nina, of New Windsor; a sister, Maria Clark, of Rhinebeck; his wife's parents, John and Rae Monteverdi of Flushing, NY; sisters-in-law Ann Walsh and husband, Terry, of Lynbrook, NY, and Joan Edom and husband, Chris, of Merrick, NY; a niece, Olivia Clark; and nephews Myles Clark, Andre Thurston, Aiden Walsh, Terrence Walsh, James Edom and John Edom. He is also survived by three aunts: Ann Morris of Poughkeepsie, Mary Downes of Hyde Park, and Jane Monteverdi of Bayside, NY.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Alexandra "Lexie" Clark.

Among the things Andrew most loved was spending time at the ocean with his family, especially in Chatham, MA and East Quogue, NY. Known for his quick wit, Andrew was at heart a fun-loving person who cherished the memories made with family and friends. These friends were a great support to him and his family during his illness, especially in his final months, and his family will be forever grateful to them.

Calling hours were on Friday, February 2nd at Sweet's Funeral Home, Route 9, Hyde Park.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, February 3rd at Regina Coeli Church, Route 9, Hyde Park. In keeping with his wishes, cremation will follow.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 80 Washington St., Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (www.hvhospice.org), or, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306 (www.t2t.org).

To send the family an online condolence or for directions, please visit Andrew's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Cathy Lynne Meyer

LAGRANGEVILLE - Cathy Lynne Meyer, age 70, passed away on January 26, 2024 from her long term illness, Dementia at The Pines at Poughkeepsie. Formerly, she lived in Morrisville, Pennsylvania but has been a longtime resident of Union Vale, New York for 38 years where she lived happily with her family. Cathy loved living in Union Vale and could be seen walking down the road waving and talking with her neighbors along the way.

Born in Wichita, Kansas on March 3, 1953, she was the daughter of Curtis Wayne and Betty Virginia (Cook) Schoonover. Cathy was a devoted stay at home mother and took pride in being so. She loved her children to a fault and enjoyed being there for each of them and their friends. Her love for her children showed when she co-hosted teen dances at Tymor Park. Cathy was involved in league bowling both at Mardi Bob, now known as Spins Bowling in Poughkeepsie and Fishkill Bowl as well as being a member of the Red Hat Ladies Society. In her home, she would be seen in the kitchen baking cakes and pies as well as doing crossword puzzles. Cathy spent endless hours in her sitting room enjoying a good book. In her spare time, she enjoyed crafting projects such as sewing, needling, and creating Christmas ornaments.

On July 24, 1971 at McConnell Air Force Base Chapel in Wichita Kansas, Cathy married William M. Meyer Jr. who survives at home. She is also survived by her children and their spouses, Stacy (Meyer) Kowalski and her husband Rory Kowalski, and Curt Meyer and his wife Tammy (Aluisio) Meyer and their grandchild Ryann as well as several loved nieces and nephews. Cathy was predeceased by her siblings Richard, Michael, Debi, and Sandra Schoonover along with her sister-in-law Margo and husband Russell Severson.

Calling hours were held on Friday February 2, 2024 at McHoul Funeral Home, inc., 895 Route 82 Hopewell Junction. A service was held on Saturday February 3, 2024 at McHoul Funeral Home followed by the burial at Clove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter 2649 South Road Suite 101, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 or The Pines at Poughkeepsie 100 Franklin Street, Poughkeepsie New York 12601.

Mary Dunne

EAST FISHKILL Mary Barrett Dunne, 90, a resident of Hopewell Junction since 2017, passed away at home on February 1, 2024.

Born in Brooklyn, NY on April 21, 1933, she was the daughter of Margaret (Casey) and Patrick Barrett.

On September 9, 1952 she married John J. Dunne who predeceased her on January 14, 1982.

Before moving to Hopewell Junction to be with her family, Mary lived in Ireland for 19 years. She was a devoted parishioner of The River of Life Church.

She is survived by her sister, Sr. Patrica Barrett of Rhode Island; her daughter, Mary Ellen Kurzius and her husband Charles of Hopewell Junction; her daughter, Patricia Dunne of Hailey, ID; her son John F. Dunne and his wife Catherine of Cortlandt Manor; her 11 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; her nieces in Idaho and Connecticut and many cousins and friends in Ireland.

In addition to her husband and parents, Mary was predeceased by her daughter, Colleen Marie (Dunne) McLean on November 9, 2016; her granddaughter, Erin Patricia Dunne on March 27, 2006 and her sister, Anne (Barrett) Hardie on March 30, 2020.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Hudson Valley Hospice for the excellent care and compassion they gave Mary.

Private services will be held. Please visit her Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

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Renegades accepting applications to refurbish youth baseball fields

By Rich Thomaselli
 If you want a youth baseball field refurbished, now is the time to ask. The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, said that applications for the Youth Field Betterment Program are now open. Applications will be accepted by the Renegades through March 8, with the recipient being announced dur-

ing the week of March 25. Last year, members of the Renegades and members of its main sponsor, Heritage Financial Credit Union, refurbished a field at Spratt Park in the city of Poughkeepsie. "The Youth Field Betterment Program was one of our most popular new initiatives in 2023 as part of our community partnership with Heritage Financial Credit Union," said Marcella

Costello, Senior Director of Marketing and Fan Experience for the Renegades. "We are really excited to bring the program back this year and continue to make an impact in our community." The program sees the Renegades and Heritage Financial Credit Union award one little league organization with a refurbishment of a field used within their community for youth baseball.

The Youth Field Betterment Program was created to help local organizations positively impact their local community by creating a safe place for their youth to further develop themselves and their baseball skills. The program's goal is to aid local youth organizations that provide players of all abilities with an environment that combines inclusiveness with fair play.

Dance at the Elks Lodge set for Feb. 10

Get On Down at the Elks Lounge Dance Night on February 10 at 7 p.m. at 900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), in Beacon. Dance to a vibrant mix of musical styles; song requests welcome. There is a \$15 admission includes a variety of complimentary snacks, and a full cash bar is available. All are welcome - singles, couples, friends, newcomers.

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

this week's puzzle solutions

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

P	I	N	T	S	A	P	E	C	A	S	H		
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1	4	2	5	1	5
5	3	1	4	2	3
4	2	5	3	1	5
1	3	1	2	4	3
4	2	5	3	1	2
3	1	4	2	5	4

This week's answer
SUDOKU

Suguru solution

- Southern Dutchess News
- Beacon Free Press
- Northern Dutchess News

Classified

SDN Subscriber ads

107 Situations Wanted

House Cleaner Needed. Small two bedroom, two baths. References and Driver License Required. 845-325-2337

Male Caregiver Available. Over 20 years Experience. Live in or out. Great References. 845-849-1251

10% off Seniors and Veterans. Residential and Commercial cleanouts. Disposal of unwanted items, Carpentry work, Painting Interior/Exterior Craig 845-891-8930

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



403 Furnished Rooms

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

401 Apartments for Rent

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



503 Furniture

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

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

504 Appliances

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



516 Misc. Merchandise

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

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



516 Misc. Merchandise

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

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



719 Antiques

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

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

904 Auto Parts & Accesories

Four 215/60R17 Yokohama Ice Guard iG51V tires mounted n steel wheels. Fits Ford 500 and similar cars. Make offer. 845-462-8568

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

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KITTENS AVAILABLE Timmy & Tippy are 2 boys, 6 months, blk & wh, would like to be adopted together, playful and friendly. Shunky, youg boy, loves attention blk/wh. Possum is a charming and energetic 2 yr. old guy, friendly and okay with dogs/cats. Check our website for pics, www.littleorphananimals.mysite.com 914-734-2989

PETS

GREYHOUNDS Save A Life. Adopt a loving, gentle, quiet ex-racer. Low maintenance and easily trained. Docile personalities make them great for children and seniors. Visit our website www.greyhoundrescueehab.org 914-763-2221

BABY KITTENS: ALL COLORS; GIVE US A CALL OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE. WWW.PANT.ORG 845-486-7075



Don't Leave Them Hanging! Adopt a Friend For Life!

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Adult Dinner : \$14.00
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 Kids Meal (12 & under) : \$8.00

For Info Call : 845-297-3897
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 Support Your Local Volunteer Fire Fighters

Hughsonville firefighters respond to car into building on Route 9



Members of the Hughsonville Fire Department responded to a vehicle that crashed into a building at Tech Air, 1123 Route 9, at the intersection of Smithtown Road in the Town of Wappinger on Feb. 1 around 11:35 p.m.

The first units arrived on the scene within five minutes and found a four-door sedan that had impacted the corner of a commercial building and was partially inside the structure. The driver of the vehicle had self-extricated and appeared to have minor injuries, accord-

ing to a fire department official. The driver refused medical assessment by Town of Wappinger (Empress) EMS.

Due to damage to the electrical service, Central Hudson was called to the scene to secure the power to the building. A Town of Wappinger Building Inspector was also called to the scene to evaluate the structure, according to a press release from the HFD.

The accident remains under investigation by the New York State Police, the release stated.

The Hughsonville Fire Department responded to a vehicle into a building at Tech Air, 1123 Route 9, at the intersection of Smithtown Road in the Town of Wappinger on Feb. 1. The accident is under investigation.

-Courtesy photo by Hughsonville Fire Department

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-08-24

Dutchess County Transportation Safety Action Plan

Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 11th day of March 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCB-05-24 NAME OF PROJECT: COOLING TOWER MAIN SHAFT & MAIN SHAFT BEARING REPLACEMENT. Single Prime Bid shall be received for the following classes of work: Mechanical. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of

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bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Bids due on or before 11:00am February 29, 2024, and at that time opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 740 294 354#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized

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the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. A Walkthrough is scheduled for Wednesday February 14, 2024, at 10:00am at Front Entrance of Probation & Family Court Building, 50 Market Street. All parties interested in bidding must apprise themselves of the site conditions immediately prior to bidding. Questions will be accepted by the close of business February 22, 2024 and emailed to Diane McKenna at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2024001152. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2024-03 NAME OF PROJECT: Heritage Financial Park Drainage, 1500 Rt. 9D, Wappingers Falls, NY. Project Description: Installation of a closed drainage system, retention pond and ancillary work including timber railing and concrete sidewalks. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Re-

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gional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids due on or before **11:00am Wednesday, February 28, 2024**, and at that time opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. The bid opening for this solicitation will be in person and conducted through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud will need to call into the phone number listed below or in-person attendance at a bid opening. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 101 235 907#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash

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drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business February 21, 2024 and emailed to Diane McKenna at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov and cc'd dmckenna@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is April 1, 2024; the anticipated substantial and final completion date is May 10, 2024, respectively. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2023001015. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

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

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

Suguru

			4		
3	4				
		3	5		4
			2		

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: CLASSIC TOYS

ACROSS

1. Sri Lankan language
6. Something to chew on, especially for cows
9. Mascara holder
13. Muscat resident
14. "____ Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
15. Father, colloquially
16. Jewish folklore creature
17. Debtor's letters
18. Art class prop
19. *Barbie's little sister
21. *____ 4 game
23. One less than jack
24. *____ Frog educational toy
25. Nutcracker's distinguishing feature
28. Taboo, alt. sp.
30. Cooking fat
35. Deserter's acronym
37. President's David
39. Shower accessory
40. Pro ____
41. Conical dwellings
43. Prep flour
44. *Thomas or Henry, e.g.
46. Law school test acronym
47. Genealogist's creation
48. Maurice of "Where the Wild Things Are"
50. Flying saucers
52. Make mistakes
53. Chemically-induced curls
55. Harry Potter's Hedwig
57. *Certain Patch
61. *Not real dough
65. Normal
66. Clingy seed container
68. ____ - ____-la
69. Theater curtain fabric
70. Put into service
71. Female deer, pl.
72. Pub offering
73. Goo on a trunk
74. What's in your e-wallet?

DOWN

1. Duds or threads
2. Wildly
3. French Sudan after 1960
4. All thumbs
5. Marine gastropod
6. Coconut fiber
7. *Shedding-type card game
8. Tie in tennis
9. Shark's provision
10. Part of cathedral
11. Work detail
12. "Stop!" to marchers
15. Correspondence friend (2 words)
20. Make, as in a law
22. Edible type of grass
24. Complete payment (2 words)
25. *Banned lawn darts
26. Fully informed
27. Supreme Teutonic god
29. Get-out-of-jail money
31. Like Neverland boys
32. France's longest river
33. Bid on a house, e.g.
34. *Certain gun ammo
36. "Best ____ schemes o'Mice an' Men"
38. "La Vie en rose" singer
42. Counter seat
45. Flamethrower fuel
49. Party barrel
51. Swaddle
54. Type of puzzle
56. Words in song, sing.
57. Intersection of two arcs
58. Ascus, pl.
59. "____ after reading"
60. Switch's partner
61. Get ready, for short
62. Comedian Carvey
63. Ford contemporary
64. Jumble
67. North American country

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12		
13						14				15					
16						17				18					
19					20			21	22						
			23				24								
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34	
35			36			37			38		39				
40						41				42		43			
44				45			46					47			
48					49			50			51		52		
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57	58	59	60						61				62	63	64
65							66	67			68				
69								70				71			
72								73					74		

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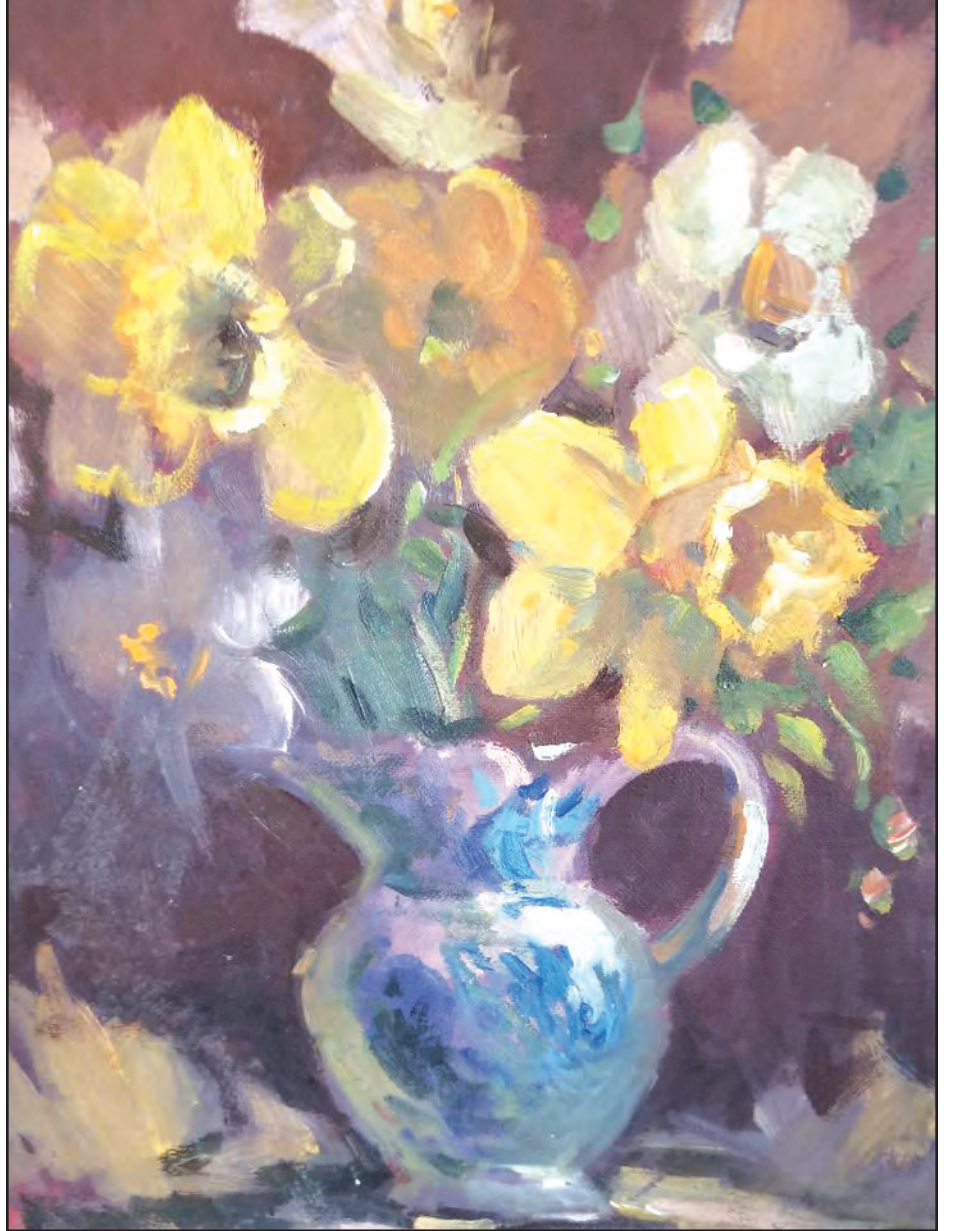
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The solutions to the Sudoku, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on page 12.

'Art of the Garden' exhibition opens Feb. 10 at Bannerman Gallery in Beacon



Clockwise from top left: "Saunders Farm" by Amanda Epstein. "Daffodils," done in oil, by Gary Fifer. "Copper Pot and Daisies," done in oil, by Tarryl Gabel.

-Courtesy images

The Bannerman Castle Trust's Bannerman Island Gallery, at 150 Main Street in Beacon, will present the Annual "Art of the Garden" exhibition - a floral-and-garden-themed show scheduled from February 10 - April 7. An opening reception for the artists and public will take place on February 10 from 4 -6 p.m.

Paintings, watercolors, drawings, photographs and mixed media works featuring flowers, still life and garden scenes will be featured in the gallery. Traditional and contemporary works by more than 20

artists will be included in this diverse show. All works will be available for purchase. Proceeds from art sales for this exhibition will help further restoration projects on Bannerman's Island.

Gallery Hours are Saturdays and Sundays from noon - 5 p.m. and most weekday afternoons and early evenings by chance or appointment by calling 845-416-8342. Group tours are also available.

Contact bannermangallery150@aol.com or visit www.bannermancastle.org for more information.

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Dr. Lynette Louise - Brain Change Expert, Global Speaker, Author

Ed Mitzen - Philanthropist, Entrepreneur, Executive - Business For Good

REGISTRATION
SharonBurstein.com
518-339-4027

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