

BEACON FREE PRESS

Volume 74, Number 7

February 12, 2025

♥ VALENTINE'S DAY LOVE STORY ♥

Council approves increase in property tax exemptions for qualified seniors, those with disabilities

By Kristine Coulter

The City Council approved the increase in exemptions on property taxes for senior citizens and those with a disability with a limited income who qualify.

"We're raising the maximum income up to the county number that is used," said City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou. The public hearing was held on the first Monday of the month.

City of Beacon Administrator Chris White said during one of the council's meetings in Jan., "Our exemption levels have not gone up in many years."

He added, "We're going to be proposing to standardize what some of the other communities have."

Kathy Martin, City of Beacon Assessor, stated during the Jan. 13 meeting, "I'm really excited to bring this information to you, I'm hoping will be received well."

Martin remarked that the economy has changed, and market values have changed. "This exemption has not been adjusted in quite some time. I hope we could be out sliding scale up to bring in adjustment" with other communities in Dutchess County, stated Martin.

She noted, "This exemption truly helps people stay in their homes." Martin stated that the exemption can possibly cut taxes in half for some seniors on a limited income.

The disability exemption as well, she added.

A few hundred people receiving the senior exemptions, according to officials. Not as many are receiving exemptions for having a disability.

"With the low-income seniors, we have to include the whole income -total amount from pension, Social Security, any rental income," said Martin, emphasizing it one's whole income.

"I think a lot of people that are currently receiving it, [this] will only be helping them," she remarked.

Martin suggested one come into her office and apply. The idea, she said, is for those who "just missed it by a little bit, we will be able to get those people in it (exemptions)."

"This would encompass a lot more people, I would imagine," said Martin. She estimated about 100 more people.

These property tax exemptions work differently than the STAR exemptions, it was stated.

"With senior citizens, whatever less money is gathered that does get spread about among the whole city, but that's a fraction" explained Martin.

People are just starting to come in for their exemptions now, according to Martin. She also mentioned, "This law was recently changed. It used to be the immediate year statement but now they can bring in 2023. This would go into effect this year. The deadline for all exemptions is March 1 every year."

Continued on page 5

Wappingers Falls couple brought together because they are 'a match'

Lucy and Tony Desantis married for 59 years



Lucy and Tony Desantis of Wappingers Falls are pictured at their wedding on April 24, 1965.



Lucy and Tony Desantis at their 50th wedding anniversary party in April 2015.

-Courtesy photos from Lucy Desantis

Editor's note: Each year we at the Beacon Free Press honor Valentine's Day by interviewing a couple who have been married for more than 50 years.

By Kristine Coulter

Lucy and Tony Desantis have been married for 59 years. The Wappingers

Falls couple will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on April 24th.

"I really believe that the two of us got together because we're a match," said Lucy.

Tony immigrated to the United States in Feb. of 1955 from Italy. Lucy also immigrated to America with some of her fami-

ly members and arrived in the United States in April 1955. Tony emigrated from Aliano, which is located in the southern portion of Italy, while Lucy emigrated from Parma, in the northern part of the country.

Continued on page 2

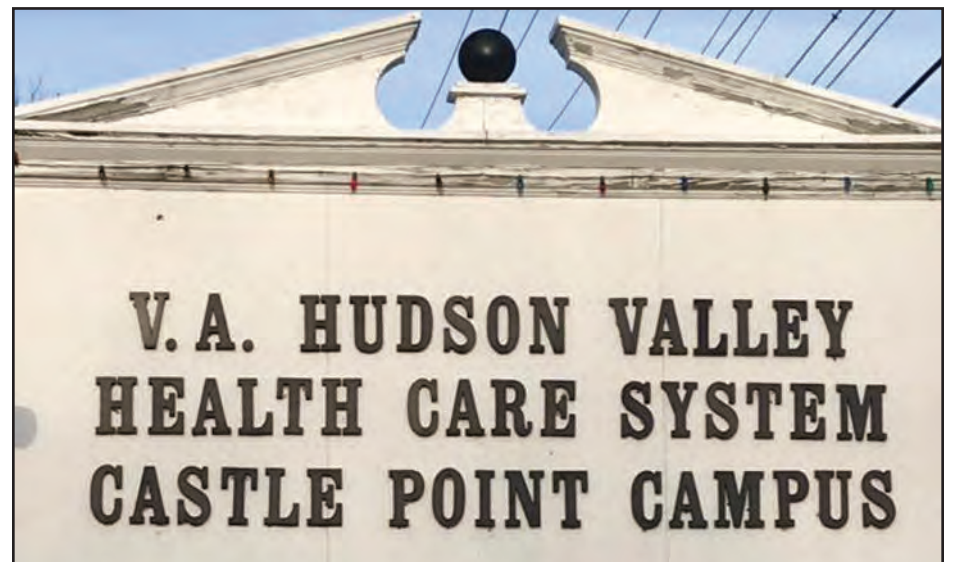
Castle Point temporarily closes Acute Inpatient Unit

Earlier this month, the Castle Point VA Medical Center temporarily closed a portion of the facility.

"Beginning February 1, Castle Point VA Medical Center in Wappingers Falls closed a section of its facility - the acute inpatient unit - for 120 days as part of an effort to re-evaluate staffing needs. Patients with acute medical conditions will continue to be treated in urgent care, and those requiring hospitalization will be sent to the nearest community or VA medical facility," stated David Marshall, LCSW, Executive Assistant to the Director at VA Hudson Valley Health Care System, via email to Beacon Free Press on Feb. 4.

"This is outrageous, and a fundamental breach of the sacred duty we have to care for our veterans who've put their lives on the line for our country," said

Continued on page 3



The Acute Inpatient Unit at Castle Point Medical Center has been temporarily closed to reevaluate staffing needs, it was stated.

-Archive photo

♥ VALENTINE'S DAY LOVE STORY ♥

Wappingers Falls couple brought together because they are 'a match'



Lucy and Tony Desantis pictured on their wedding day in April of 1965 in Milton, Orange County.

-Courtesy photo from Lucy Desantis

Continued from cover

When Tony arrived, he was 20 years old, and he began working with his uncle, John. He also began working part-time at The Bleachery in Wappingers Falls. Lucy was a student at the time and was enrolled in school.

Then in 1957, Tony began working for Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. Later, Lucy began working for Central Hudson too. It was there that they met and went to the company's Christmas party.

"I tell him that was his lucky day," Lucy said laughing.

Their first date was to see a movie at the movie theater in Poughkeepsie.



Lucy and Tony Desantis in their Wappingers Falls home last month.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

"No, I didn't think I was going to marry her," said Tony, and then he added, "I had an idea though."

"I didn't think I was going to marry him either," remarked Lucy.

Tony did return to Italy for a short while.

Lucy added, while smiling, "When he came back, he knew there was no one better than me."

"That's right," replied Tony.

They had approximately 150 people in attendance at their 1965 wedding. The marriage ceremony took place at St. James Roman Catholic Church in Milton, in Orange County. The reception took place in Hyde Park. "We had a good crowd," said Tony, who was 31 years old when he got married.

"Oh, it was a sunny day," said Lucy, who was 24 on her wedding day.

Tony noted it was drizzling the morning of their wedding.

After the reception, the newlyweds left by train to New York City. They then took a flight the next morning to Florida for their honeymoon.

"I got a terrible sunburn," said Lucy, who noted Tony's skin tans and does not sunburn.

The couple have two sons, Anthony and Joseph "Joe." Anthony is a doctor and lives in Seattle with his wife, Megan. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame. Joe is an Audit & Insurance partner at a leading accounting firm. He also graduated from Notre Dame. Their grandson Nicholas, who is a Syracuse University graduate, works and lives in New York City.

Tony and Lucy both said they wanted to have their children graduate from college. "Anthony always wanted to be a doctor," said Tony.

"We're proud of both of them. They did very well," said Lucy.

They still live in their Wappingers Falls house Tony built for them. Tony retired after 39 years with Central Hudson. Lucy still works part-time for a local auditing company. "They treat me so well. I can't leave; that's the problem," she remarked.

"I wouldn't change him for anything. If I had to do it all over – I wouldn't change a thing," said Lucy.

Tony agreed, "I wouldn't change it either."

Lucy said her advice to couples getting married this year is to "love each other but respect each other. And to pretty much have the same values – that's very important." She continued, "I know there's going to be arguments, but you should make peace before you go to bed." One's faith is also important, she said.

Applications for Youth Opportunity Union (YOU) Drop-In Center Grants due by Feb. 28

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced last week that applications are now open for the County's newly established Youth Opportunity Union (YOU) Drop-In Center Grants. First introduced in her 2025 Executive Budget presentation, this \$250,000 initiative will provide funding to create and enhance safe, welcoming spaces where young people can gather, access resources, and build supportive relationships.

"For so many young people, having a welcoming place to go outside of school — somewhere they can feel safe, build friendships, and access support — can make all the difference in their lives," said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. "These grants will help create and enhance spaces where kids can explore their interests, develop new skills, and form positive connections with mentors and peers. By investing in these opportunities, we're not

just funding programs — we're fostering an environment where every child in Dutchess County can thrive."

The YOU Drop-In Center Grants are a one-time capital funding opportunity available to community-based organizations, local libraries, and other youth-serving nonprofits with a primary mission aligns with providing a service or administering a program consistent with one or more of the County's Path to Promise Domains. Eligible applicants can request between \$10,000 and \$75,000 for expenses that help establish or enhance drop-in centers where youth can engage in positive activities outside of school hours.

"We know that positive, enriching environments can have a profound impact on a young person's development," said Karmen Smallwood, Assistant Commissioner for Youth Services. "The YOU Drop-In Center Grants give local

organizations the resources they need to create safe, engaging spaces where youth feel supported and encouraged to reach their full potential. By investing in these centers, we are strengthening our community's ability to provide meaningful resources and connections that help shape a brighter future for our young people."

Eligible expenses include:

Furniture and equipment – Tables, chairs, couches, desks, bookshelves, and recreational equipment to make drop-in centers comfortable and functional.

Technology and supplies – Computers, tablets, printers, internet equipment, art and music supplies, board games, and other interactive materials that support youth engagement.

Sports and fitness equipment – Athletic uniforms, balls, weights, and other fitness-related gear to promote physical health.

Theater and creative arts resources – Stage lighting, sound equipment, costumes, and instruments that allow youth to explore creative outlets.

Transportation assistance – Funding to help youth access drop-in centers, ensuring they remain an accessible resources for all.

Organizations may not use grant funding for salaries, operational costs, fundraising efforts, or scholarships.

Applications are due by Feb. 28, at 4 p.m. and must be submitted through the Dutchess County Grant Portal. Awards will be announced in April, and grant funds must be expended by Dec. 31.

For more details on eligibility and application requirements, visit Dutchess County Youth Services website or contact Juliana Corbett, Youth Programs Assistant, at 845-486-3354 or Juliana.Corbett@dfa.state.ny.us.

Register for Medical Reserve Corps' Pet First Aid Training on March 5

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Dutchess County will offer its popular Pet First Aid Training on Wednesday, March 5, at 7 p.m., at Beacon VFW Memorial Hall, 413 Main Street. The training is free, however seating is limited and registration is required and is available online at DutchessNY.gov/PetFirstAid or by emailing mrc@dutchessny.gov. View the event flyer.

Training participants will learn possible life-saving skills for pets, including CPR; recognizing signs of heat stroke and hypothermia; identifying gastrointestinal issues, allergies, and poisonings; and treating injuries such as burns, eye issues, wound care and more. The training will be presented by Paul S. McNamara, DVM, Chief of Surgery at the Hudson Highlands Veterinary Medical Group.

The Dutchess County Animal Response Team (DCART) will also be on hand with information on how to include pets in

emergency preparedness planning. DCART is a specialized team of the Department of Emergency Response, comprised of veterinary professionals and trained volunteers from the community. They respond to assist Emergency Management at the scene of a disaster or emergencies that involve animals such as pets or livestock. Their mission is to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals in an emergency.

Dutchess MRC is comprised of both healthcare and non-healthcare volunteers as part of a national network of more than 200,000 volunteers dedicated to supporting public health infrastructure as well as disaster preparedness and response in the community. Dutchess MRC hosts various trainings for members and non-members alike throughout the year. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit dutchessny.gov/mrc.

BEACON DANCE BEAT

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

— Get On Up, Get On Down! —

TOWNE CRIER LATIN DANCE NIGHT

Thursday, February 20th at 7:00 PM
379 Main Street, Beacon • (845) 855-1300
\$10 Admission • Full Menu & Bar

FLKS LOUNGE FUNKY DANCE NIGHT

Friday, March 7th at 7:00 PM
900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), Beacon • (845) 831-9746
\$15 Admission • Complimentary Snacks • Cash Bar

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



IMPACT
PR & Communications

Astor Services Expands Home-Based Crisis Intervention Program





IMPACT
PR & Communications

See story, page 8



Castle Point temporarily closes Acute Inpatient Unit

Continued from cover

Congressman Pat Ryan in a press release on Feb. 4, which included local, state and federal leaders' statements. "Our community has always taken up the call to have our veterans' backs, including just a few years ago when Castle Point was under threat of complete closure. Now is the time for all of us to stand up and FIGHT alongside our veterans with urgency again. We need to be loud, we need to be strong, and we need to be direct: this unit must be reopened immediately."

Congressman Mike Lawler also commented in a statement. His partial statement reads: "Our veterans didn't make the incredible sacrifices they did to be short-changed in services here at home." Lawler added, "I'm proud to join a bipartisan group of elected officials demanding that this facility stay open - anything less is unacceptable."

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said in the release that she was "deeply disturbed" by the temporary closure.

Serino noted, "It isn't just a facility; it's a lifeline for our veterans between Albany and the Bronx, especially for those here in Dutchess County. I know firsthand that this unit saves lives, providing critical inpatient care and preparing veterans for rehabilitation. With so many already facing barriers to mental health support, this decision puts our heroes at even greater risk."

Adam Roche, Director of Dutchess County Office of Veteran Affairs commented in the release. A portion of his statement stated, "This is absolutely unacceptable."

"As a Veteran who utilizes Castle Point services, and an advocate for Veterans in Dutchess County who are receiving serv-

ices, I wholeheartedly disagree with this decision and the secretive nature around it," said Alyssa Carrion, Veterans Program Director, Veterans Services, MHA Ulster County, Pleasant Valley.

"This would be a disastrous decision for the thousands of veterans in the Hudson Valley who depend on the VA for healthcare. Our veterans desperately need more healthcare options, not less. They earned it. We can all agree our veterans have made incredible sacrifices for our nation, yet they are being given cutbacks and empty promises in return," said Tommy Zurhellen, Former Commander, VFW Post 170 and Founder of VetZero, a veteran service program in Poughkeepsie, in the release.

"I'm very concerned about the recent decision to temporarily close the Acute Inpatient Unit at Castle Point VA Medical Center. This unit provides critical, life-saving care to our veterans that is vital in preparing them for the next phase of treatment and rehabilitation," said Peter Maraday, Hudson Valley Regional Manager, Clear Path for Veterans, in the release.

"Once again, we see Veterans living in rural communities subjected to potential cuts and closures at Castle Point. Directly affecting their healthcare and quality of life by reducing access to critical services. These cuts not only impact the Veteran, they impact the Hudson Valley," said Kevin Keaveny, President of the Hudson Valley Center for Veteran Reintegration.

Marshall stated, "This will not affect any of the other services provided to our Veterans, who will still be able to receive primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health services, and other services elsewhere in the facility. In addition, Castle Point's Community Living Center will remain open and operational."

Renegades hosting seasonal job fair on Saturday, Feb. 15

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and Professional Sports Catering (PSC) have announced that they will be holding a seasonal job fair at Heritage Financial Park on Saturday, Feb. 15 in anticipation of the 2025 season and other Heritage Financial Park events.

From 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., Renegades and PSC staff will be conducting on-site interviews for part-time seasonal employment for the 2025 season. Candidates must be 16 years of age to apply, must be able to pass a background check, and must be able to work all home games (April-September) and additional events as needed.

2025 Hudson Valley Renegades Seasonal Job Fair

Job seekers should anticipate filling out a short candidate form onsite and the interview process taking no longer than 30 minutes.

Attendees for the job fair may park in the Club Lounge Parking Lot or the Main Parking Lot at Heritage Financial Park at no charge. Follow the signs to the left of

the main gate to access the entrance to the WMCHHealth Club Lounge.

The Renegades will be interviewing for the following positions: Box Office Staff, Ushers & Guest Services, Front Gate Ticket Takers, Heritage Financial Credit Union Fun Zone Attendants, Security, Parking Attendants, Cleaning Team, Landscaping, Grounds Crew, Pregame Stadium Operations Staff, Game Entertainment Staff (Pinstripe Posse, Music Operator, etc.), Broadcast Production Staff and Team Store Staff.

PSC will be interviewing for the following positions: Concessions Associates (Cashier, Food Runner, Food Prep, Food Delivery), Suite Attendants, Picnic Attendants and Warehouse.

The ideal candidate must be fun-loving, outgoing, reliable, and service-oriented. All applicants must be 16 years of age or older by March 31 to work for the Renegades and Heritage Financial Park. Previous employees need not apply.

To learn more about opportunities available visit: milb.com/hudson-valley/about/employment.

JWV Post 625 makes clothing donation for Castle Point veterans



Chief of Staff Martin Hochhauser and QM Eli Sloves of Jewish War Veterans (JWV) Post 625 in Poughkeepsie present clothing for the Castle Point V.A. clothes closet to Nicole Embry, Chief CDCE. The clothing was purchased with proceeds from the Post's Poppy Sale.

-Courtesy photo JWV Post 625

into the
BREECHES!
By George Brant

Delicious celebration of love, art, and community.

"...a gem of a play, one of the sweetest nights at the theatre you're likely to see..."
PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22
A LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY | Main Stage
DIRECTED BY **CHRISTINE CRAWFIS**

67TH SEASON SPONSOR
Hudson Valley
CREDIT UNION

BOX OFFICE: **845-298-1491** | COUNTYPLAYERS.ORG
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY

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 Beacon Free Press will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie-tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Beacon Free Press.

An alternative to traditional education

To the Editor:

As a local historian with a long interest in the education of our children, I wish to share with you an alternative for traditional education with the reopening of St. Mary's School in Wappingers Falls. It is well worth "a look."

Successful open houses were held January 23rd and January 30th. St. Mary's was honored to be named NYS Spotlight School for pre-K.

I've been a volunteer at many local schools and was employed for 20 years at Myers Corners Elementary School. Having great experience in local schools, I would like to recommend St. Mary's if you are looking for an alternative school. St. Mary's has "before and after" care, busing, and financial assistance is available.

St. Mary's has been renovated and is beautiful. There are openings for all grade levels. I am hoping to volunteer again.

Brenda VonBurg
Historian Emeritis Town of Wappinger
Historian Emeritis Wappingers Historical Society
Historian Village of Wappingers Falls

Elks celebrate 157 years of service, charity and community impact

To the Editor:

The benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks proudly marks its 157th anniversary, celebrating more than a century and a half of unwavering dedication to charity, patriotism, and community service. Since its founding in 1868, the Elks have grown into a dynamic and impactful organization, uniting nearly 800,000 members across 1,857 lodges nationwide. With a mission to uplift communities, the Elks have contributed more than \$12 billion in charitable donations, making a tangible difference in

BEACON FREE PRESS

Published Weekly, Wappingers Falls Shopper, Inc.
84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Albert Osten, President

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Wappingers Falls, Hopewell Junction, Southern Poughkeepsie,
New Hamburg, Red Oaks Mill, Fishkill, Chelsea, Wicoppee,
New Hackensack and Stormville

Publisher - Albert Osten

Editor - Kristine Coulter

Reporter - Rich Thomaselli

Art Director - Sharon Browne

General Manager - Curtis Schmidt

Advertising Representative - Jaimie Rodriguez

Advertising Assistant - Roxanne Hoffman

Advertising rates - furnished upon request

To advertise - 845-297-3723 - sdnadvertising@aol.com

Advertising deadline is Friday at noon

TELEPHONE: 297-3723 FAX: 297-6810

E-MAIL address for letters: newsplace@aol.com

(USPS 665900)

(USPS 665900)

THE BEACON FREE PRESS (ISSN 0192-9631) is published weekly by the Wappingers Falls Shopper, Inc., 84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Second-Class postage paid at Wappingers Falls, 12590 and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BEACON FREE PRESS, 84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

countless lives.

A Year of Giving: By the Numbers

- \$505 million donated last year to support communities in need
- \$6 million in scholarship funding awarded annually to help students achieve their dreams
- \$17 million invested through Elks Community Investment Program, strengthening neighborhoods and supporting vital local initiatives
- \$55 million dedicated to veterans' services, providing resources and comfort to those who served

As a beacon of charity and goodwill, the Elks remain steadfast in their mission to serve veterans, students, and communities nationwide. Their impact extends beyond financial contributions – volunteers dedicate countless hours to hands-on service projects, ensuring meaningful and lasting change.

The Elks welcome individuals 21 and older who believe in God and are dedicated to service and their community. Learn more or become a member at www.elks.org.

As we mark this milestone, we honor the Elks' enduring legacy and their unwavering commitment to making a difference – one community, one family, one act of kindness at a time.

Rick Gathen
Elks USA, Director

Mount Gulian Historic Site honors James F. Brown during Black History Month

To the Editor:

Mount Gulian Historic Site, in Beacon, is the repository of many fascinating stories about our area's rise from a frontier backwater to cosmopolitan region. We celebrate and interpret our Dutch colonial past, the American Revolution, the Civil War and the Gilded Age.

But no story we tell is as dramatic and compelling as that of James F. Brown. Mr. Brown was an enslaved man who escaped to freedom with the help of the Verplanck family. He worked at Mount Gulian for decades, all the while keeping the only extant journal of daily life in Dutchess County, as written by a free Black person. Mr. Brown was Mount Gulian's trusted property manager and master gardener, whose journal recounts horticultural and weather records, chores of daily life, as well as family and important current events.

Most compelling was his drive to become a full citizen and vote. Before the Civil War, four million people were enslaved and very, very few Black men in Free States could vote, as there were many restrictions imposed. But James F. Brown saved the money he earned in order to buy property, so that he could pass the \$250 "real estate test" and legally vote.

His journal has this glowing entry: "November 8, 1837: The election at Fishkill took place this day at which place James F. Brown voted for the first time." Mr. Brown's journal is housed at the NY Historical Society in Manhattan. But, as a free perk for those interested, Mount Gulian has an easily accessible, short video about James F. Brown on our website: <https://mountgulian.org/virtual-tours/james-f-brown-virtual-tour/>.

For more information about Mr. Brown, additional history associated with Mount Gulian, house tours, special events and school programs, contact us 845-831-8172 or email at info@mountgulian.org.

Elaine Hayes
Mount Gulian Historic Site, Executive Director

Think about it – Is this really what we voted for?

To the Editor:

Is this really what we voted for?

Trade wars with our largest trading partners that will spike the costs of building materials, food, cars, oil, and most everything else we use in our daily lives? Territorial threats to our friends and allies who shed the blood of their soldiers in support of us in Iraq and Afghanistan? Abandoning Ukraine to Russia by withholding aid and trying to impose a cease-fire deal which will only allow Russia and its medieval barbarisms to come back stronger and try again? An unelected billionaire oligarch running amuck causing chaos and destruction?

Deportation of both legal and illegal immigrants leaving food to rot in fields spiking prices? Muzzling of the CDC and NIH with bird flu a mutation or two away from infecting and being transmitted by humans? The downloading of sensitive personal data of anyone on Social Security, Medicaid, or anyone who has filed income taxes? The list goes on and on.

I have always appreciated the good common sense of our Dutchess County friends and neighbors, and while I recognize that it is still early in 2025 and that this is a smallish corner of America, looking at the first three weeks of the new administration, I find myself asking, is this really for what we voted?

In the last decade, we have largely bade farewell to the WWII generation whose banners hang from every utility pole in our communities. They knew that 'Never Again' should have meant 'Never Again.' They simply did that which had to be done, and I can imagine that they would have viewed this world as too ominously resembling the one which they fought against. They have moved on, taking their wisdom with them, leaving us to decide in what type of world we want to live.

It is early, but it is not too early to ask ourselves what makes America truly great, and what does our great storehouse of common sense dictate?

Mark Lagus
Town of North East

Beacon National Guard Soldier receives new rank, new responsibilities

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general for the state of New York, announces the recent promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility

and leadership.

Adan Rivas Paredes from Beacon, and assigned to the 719th Transportation Company, received a promotion Jan. 27 to the rank of specialist.

Beacon's Rheyman Cader inducted into Eastern New York Hall of Fame



By Randy Vogt
 Director of Public Relations, Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association

The Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association (ENYYSA) is pleased to announce that Beacon's Rheyman Cader has been inducted into the Eastern New York Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony took place at the Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 25 at Marina del Rey in the Bronx.

As a kid growing up in Zimbabwe, Rhey played soccer for Arcadia United and Prince Edward Academy plus the Zimbabwe Youth National Team before emigrating to New York in 1998.

Rhey then started coaching his oldest son's intramural team in the Beacon Soccer Club, quickly moving them to travel and eventually a State Cup championship. He has continued coaching travel teams for nearly three decades, long after his own children aged out. He recently started coaching a Boys-Under-10 squad that had no coach so that the team did not have to disband.

The good people of the Beacon Soccer Club saw Rhey's potential early on and recruited him to volunteer on the Board of Directors and he soon became President, a position that he has held for the past 15 years. Rhey revitalized the club and has grown registrations to nearly 700 children.

Rhey created an Angel Fund to provide financial assistance to those who would otherwise not be able to play and he started Volunteer Recognition Awards plus a Beacon Hall of Fame which has contributed significantly to increasing volunteerism. He leads by example and can often be found lining fields, working the snack bar and negotiating with vendors. He is a very much respected volunteer in the Hudson Valley soccer community.

Additionally, Rhey was honored as Eastern New York's Personality of the Month in October 2015 and inducted into the Hudson Valley Youth Soccer League (HVYSL) Hall of Fame in 2019 for his many contributions to youth soccer.

Left: The Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association (ENYYSA) President Richard Christiano, left, with Hall of Fame inductee Rheyman Cader.

-Courtesy photo from ENYYSA

Tickets to annual Women's United Empowerment Luncheon now available

The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region will host the second annual Women's United Empowerment Luncheon on Feb. 26, at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Jeannie Montano, President & CEO, shares these words of invitation: "Together, let us embrace collaboration and empowerment as we uplift and support one another in our shared mission of ensuring women in our community that are in need have the resources and support that give them a safe and secure space."

Guests will be inspired by keynote speaker Rella Fogliano, CEO of The MacQuesten Companies, a seasoned real estate developer with a legacy spanning decades. With a deep-rooted passion for affordable housing, she has successfully led numerous projects in the New York Metropolitan area, including groundbreaking developments like Tony Mendez Apartments, Hughes Avenue Crescent and Palmer Court Homes.

The event will be emceed by Anne Marie "Annie" Leamy, a beloved Hudson Valley morning radio host for over 17 years, who will bring energy, positivity, and community focus to your daily routine. With her husband, Sean, and their three sons as her inspiration, Annie delights listeners with local insights, business spotlights, and community engagement. Tune in to Foxx and Annie in the Morning on WCBS FM 101.1 and connect with her on FB/Instagram @annieonair.

Two women in leadership who are non-profit partners will also be speaking and sharing from their experiences in service

to the community. Dareshanie D'Arpino, the Vice President of Club Operations of the Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh who has over two decades of experience in childcare and education, brings a wealth of expertise in managing and enhancing programs that inspire and empower young people. Her leadership is rooted in a passion for creating opportunities that help children and teens reach their full potential.

Additionally, Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier the Executive Director of Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc. f/k/a Safe Homes of Orange County will present. Kellyann works alongside an amazing team every day that is working towards building an informed, just and accountable society so all people can experience supportive and safe relationships free from abuse, exploitation and oppression. They do this through education, prevention, advocacy, and providing comprehensive services, including shelter, to victims and survivors of interpersonal violence, human trafficking, sexual violence, and other types of crime victimization.

A delicious lunch will be served with opportunities for raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. Enjoy meeting individuals who share your interests and take advantage of the opportunity to view and purchase products shared by women-owned and operated businesses.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to www.uwdor.org/womenunitedluncheon.

One's \$125 ticket supports programs that empower women and families in need.

Council approves increase in property tax exemptions for qualified seniors, those with disabilities

Continued from cover

"Currently the City only goes down to 20 percent I'm proposing going down to 5 percent as well," she said. "It does help a lot of people."

Martin suggested one can either download an application at the NYS Tax and Finance website (Form number RP467B). Bring a copy of that form with one's driver's license and a copy of one's 2023 income tax or all year-end statements to the Assessor's Office before March 1. If one is in the program, forms will be sent out.

Kyriacou explained last week during

the Council's meeting, "The levy is the levy. When we approve a budget there is a total bill that is called the levy, that's around \$13, \$14 million dollars. And then it's just a question of how it's divvied up, right? And so, if there's 100 properties and 2 of them are only taxed at 1/2 the rate...it's divvied up amongst the rest of the community for a slightly greater amount that is not collected from those taxpayers."

The mayor noted it does not extend to library and school tax bills.

Both the increased exemptions for seniors citizens and those with a disability with limited income were passed unanimously.

Now Hiring For Our Sales Department!



Resumes:
gm@wkze.com

Law enforcement, local stakeholders learn how to identify human trafficking and prevent abuse



From left, DCC Professor and retired Connecticut detective Matthew Greenstein; David Garcia, Human Trafficking Coordinator-Safe Harbour, Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking; Tracy Connelly-Hart, Deputy Commissioner, Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services; Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino.

The Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS) last week hosted its second annual Human Trafficking Awareness Forum at Dutchess Community College's (DCC) James and Betty Hall Theatre in Poughkeepsie. More than 100 attendees, representing law enforcement, medical professionals, social service providers and community groups, attended this highly impactful event, which raised awareness of this national epidemic, discussed strategies to identify trafficking in all forms and connected attendees with resources.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "Many people think trafficking only happens in big cities, but sadly, it can happen anywhere, even in our own community. Dutchess County remains vigilant and continues to raise awareness and protect victims of all ages, especially children. Today's forum, and efforts like it, help spread awareness and can save lives. I appreciate everyone who joined us today, and Dutchess County looks forward to continuing our work with these dedicated partners."

The Dutchess County Task Force

Against Human Trafficking is a diverse team of professionals dedicated to combating human trafficking by collaborating to increase awareness, identify potential victims and deliver comprehensive, trauma-informed support. The task force's initiatives include educational programs on trafficking prevention for youth and a variety of resources for the community, such as resource guides, hotline numbers, service directories and fact sheets debunking common trafficking myths.

Human trafficking, defined as the unlawful trade of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for exploitative purposes, includes crimes such as forced labor, sexual exploitation and involuntary servitude. The International Labour Organization estimates more than 40 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking. In 2024, the Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking received 31 local referrals of suspected trafficking cases – including referrals received from probation officers, youth service providers and staff at shelters for runaway and homeless youth.

This year's forum presented atten-



Michael R. Wilson, of the Department of Homeland Security, provided a presentation during the annual Human Trafficking Awareness Forum at Dutchess Community College last week.

-Courtesy photos from Dutchess County Gov't

dees with a variety of offerings regarding human trafficking in all its forms, how to identify it and how to prevent it, including:

- a discussion with two adult female trafficking survivors, who shared their personal stories;

- a presentation by Homeland Security Investigations, which plays an integral role in combating human trafficking by working with its law enforcement partners to deter, disrupt and dismantle the criminal networks that engage in it;

- a presentation from Special Agent Pao Mei Fisher with the FBI's Hudson Valley Safe Streets Task Force; and

- a case study presentation from DCC Professor Matthew Greenstein, a retired Connecticut detective and member of Dutchess County's Human Trafficking Task Force.

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. Attendees will also receive an overview of Dutchess County's Safe Harbour Program and Center for Victim Safety and Support.

DCFS Commissioner Sabrina Jaar Marzouka said, "Trafficking violates human rights, and this abusive crime must be confronted and eradicated. We are grateful to those in Dutchess County who courageously protect vulnerable individuals of all ages from such injustices. The partnerships formed at today's forum will surely contribute to a safer future for many in our community, and we thank all who attended and presented."

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' Human Trafficking Task Force webpage.

NYS Comptroller report touts 'success' of DC's proactive approach to homelessness

A new report from the New York State Comptroller's Office highlights the success of Dutchess County's proactive approach to addressing homelessness, including street outreach, extensive case management and the most recent addition of two licensed social workers. The report, which examines homelessness trends across the state, showed the Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Continuum of Care had the lowest rate of increase in homelessness in New York State, with an 11% rise compared to the statewide average increase of 113% for 2022 to 2024.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "Dutchess County has taken a multi-faceted approach to addressing homelessness, and the Comptroller's report confirms that our efforts are making a real impact. We are committed to strengthening our outreach system by

expanding resources, enhancing coordination, and integrating mental health professionals to better serve those in need."

According to the report, neighboring areas, including Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County, Kingston/Ulster County, and Columbia/Greene Counties, saw significantly higher increases of 130%, 51% and 39% respectively, underscoring Dutchess County's success in mitigating the crisis.

The report is a testament to the work of the Dutchess County Department of Community & Family Services' (DCFS) social welfare workers and case managers who work tirelessly to prevent homelessness and find housing solutions for those in need. DCFS took over case management at the PODS shelter in August from the former shelter operator, with an 8-person case management team who work with every guest to assess their needs and develop individualized independent living

plans. The County's latest efforts is the addition of the two licensed social workers, who began working in December 2024, further enhancing Dutchess County's commitment to providing critical support to individuals experiencing homelessness. These skilled professionals are embedded with the DCFS team and bring extensive experience in harm reduction, street outreach, and working with unhoused populations. Together, the team offers mental health support, crisis intervention, and personalized care to address barriers to housing while helping to secure housing and benefits and promoting mental health and well-being through individual and group sessions.

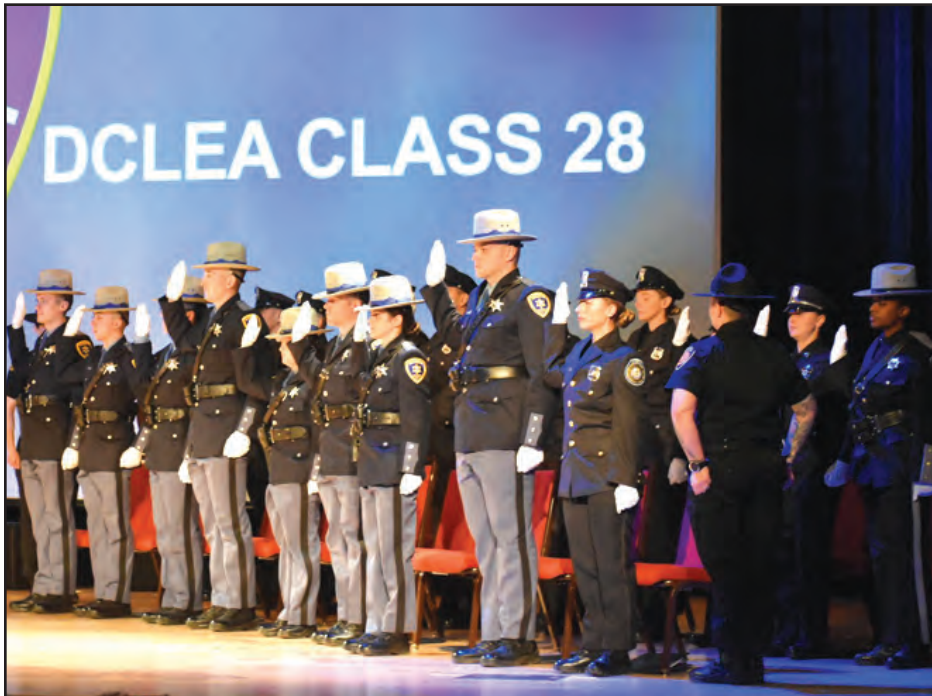
Dutchess County's efforts have been multi-faceted to help individuals in need access temporary emergency housing and help work with them toward permanent housing. The addition of the social workers strengthens this network, enhancing the

County's ability to support individuals in crisis while addressing the root causes of homelessness. The number of people housed at the PODS has declined 33% for December 2023 compared to December 2024.

Serino added, "The work we're doing in Dutchess County is about more than just providing shelter — it's about ensuring that every individual has access to the services and support they need to rebuild their lives. The Comptroller's report reinforces the importance of our comprehensive approach, and we remain dedicated to expanding these efforts to serve our community better."

To learn more about Dutchess County's emergency housing services, click here. Individuals in need of housing can contact DCFS at 845-486-3300 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays, or should call 211 or local law enforcement for emergency placement after hours.

18 recruits graduate from 28th class of the Dutchess County Law Enforcement Academy



Clockwise from top left, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino makes remarks during the graduation ceremony. Members of the 28th class of the DCLEA. Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati addresses the recruits and their guests.

-Courtesy photos from Dutchess County Gov't

County and local leaders congratulated the 18 recruits who graduated from the 28th class of the Dutchess County Law Enforcement Academy (DCLEA). The ceremony was held at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park on Feb. 6.

Recruits will now move on to complete field training with their various agencies, including the Dutchess County and Putnam County Sheriff's Offices, the City and Town of Poughkeepsie Police, the City of Beacon Police, and the Town of Lloyd Police.

176 new State Troopers graduate

Governor Kathy Hochul joined NYS Police Superintendent Steven G. James in honoring 176 new State Troopers as they graduated on Feb. 6 from the 216th session of the Basic School of the New York State Police Academy. The ceremony was held at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany. Today's graduation increases the State Police ranks to 5,034 sworn members.

"I commend these 176 new troopers for dedicating themselves to public service, and their commitment to protecting the people of New York State," Hochul. "The members of the New York State Police put their lives on the line each day to keep the rest of us safe — in a world where their mission has grown more challenging and complex. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I want to thank the graduates for their hard work and perseverance — and welcome them to the long gray line."

James said, "Today's graduation is the

culmination of six months of difficult class-work, physical training, and sacrifice, and we now welcome our newest members to one of the most prestigious and well-respected law enforcement agencies in the nation. I am confident they are equipped to carry out our mission to serve our communities with the same professionalism and pride the State Police have exhibited for the past 107 years."

The new Troopers will report for field duty on February 7 or February 10, depending on their platoon. For the following 10 weeks, the new Troopers will be evaluated under a field-training program supervised by senior Field Training Officers.

Below is a list of local graduates listed alphabetically (Troop assignments are pending):

Israel Diaz, east Fishkill; Frank Difusco, Poughquag and Richard Finn, Pleasant Valley.

Sheriff Imperati announces Blue Envelope Program

Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati, in conjunction with the New York State Sheriff's Association, announced that the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office is adopting the Blue Envelope Program. This new initiative is an important safety program for drivers and other vehicle occupants, including children, with autism.

Sheriff Imperati said "There are many county families who are living with autism. Some of these residents drive our roads, so it is important for us as law enforcement to be able to better serve them. As law enforcement we should recognize that a driver's physical movements or verbal responses, which would normally be appropriate during a traffic stop, may be beyond an autistic driver's control. Without proper training and awareness there could be interactions where the officer could misinterpret an autistic driver's actions or their failure to appropriately respond to requests or directions. These are instances we want to avoid, helping to keep everyone safe."

To address this problem, law enforce-

ment agencies around the country have begun adopting the Blue Envelope Program. These agencies are encouraging drivers with autism to obtain a Blue Envelope to store all the relevant documents that a Deputy would request during a traffic stop — such as their license, registration, and insurance card. In this way, when the Deputy Sheriff sees the Blue Envelope, they are alerted to the driver's autism and can adjust their own actions or reactions to fit that situation.

The New York State Sheriffs' Association is promoting this program statewide and many Sheriff's Offices are rolling out the program, including the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Imperati asks that interested members of the community contact Sgt. Montanya at amontanya@dutchessny.gov or call 845-486-3834 to learn more. The Sheriff is encouraging his Deputies and other law enforcement officers in the county to be aware of the significance of the Blue Envelope if one is presented by a driver during a traffic stop.

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 877-516-1160 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC

BUYING COMIC BOOK COLLECTIONS!

TOP PRICES PAID!

Honest and Reliable, 30+ years experience. Local Collector/Seller Putnam/Westchester/Orange/Dutchess and more

Call or text: 917-699-2496 • email: smileLP@aol.com

Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

love to cook

by vicki frank day



Valentine Crazy

There are many ways to show your love that don't necessarily come in a package.

On a recent stroll down the grocery aisles, I felt an unmistakably familiar sensation. It crept up my spine, heightening my senses, and it was as if an alarm went off in my brain. As my eyes darted about to find the source of this distress, I understood what I was feeling. There were hearts and pink and red everywhere. It seems the marketing world has turned its pumpkin-spice crazed minds to yet another holiday and is now saturating us with Valentine treats. Here we go again.

I get it. I worked in marketing, and I know the drill. You want to entice people to buy, and that takes strategy. Trends are a huge part of life now more than ever; so if you can't start one, you want to be in on it. But I also get that doing so to the extreme creates a band wagon some of us just don't want to jump on.

For some of us, saturation has the opposite effect. I'm one of those, if you couldn't guess. Case in point, my aversion to all things pumpkin spice (but that was another article).

I remember in years past suddenly seeing red heart-shaped boxes of chocolates popping up in stores. You'd see them near registers and in a special display near the entrance – a pretty pop of red in a sea of otherwise drabness, strategically placed to entice you to buy for someone you love. It was flirtatious and fun in a way. You

know, like love is supposed to be.

When I was a little girl, it was exciting to see them, and even as a bigger girl, it made me smile. I'm a hopeless romantic. In spite of what you might think based on what I'm saying, receiving a beautiful, old-fashioned heart-shaped box of chocolate still makes my heart flutter, but that's a nod to many fond memories of getting them in the past.

Now, though, subtlety is right out the window, so it's less like flirtation and more like getting tackled by a bear. You can walk down just about any aisle and see hearts everywhere, and all the red and pink packaging is enough to make your head spin.

Don't get me wrong, it's great to have options, and we're lucky we do. Besides, not everyone likes chocolate. And if I'm honest, it's amusing to see how companies have shoehorned their products to fit the Valentine mold. I never thought I'd see heart-shaped boxes of Skittles, jelly beans, Oreos, Goldfish crackers (strawberry shortcake graham flavored, no less), Sour Patch Kids, Lunchables or Life Savers Gummies. And who knew M&Ms would show up to the party with names like Cupid's Mix and Strawberries & Crème. Classic Kisses now come in dark chocolate filled with strawberry goo (sorry, Chocolate Dipped Strawberry),

Milk Chocolate Meltaway and milk-and-white chocolate striped Hugs (not new but adorably named).

You'll find heart-shaped snack cakes, pretzels, fruit snacks, cheeses, pasta, cookies, chicken nuggets, hash browns and cereal. Speaking of cereal, Cheerios offers a limited edition Chocolate Strawberry version for your sweetie. With so many options, you can bombard them with pre-packaged love all day.

True, Valentine's Day food trends are nowhere near the level of pumpkin spice, but give it time. I suspect companies will be ramping up their offerings in the future, as there seem to be more showing up every year.

Alright, so I'm being snarky, more than a bit cynical and too harsh in my criticism. After all, I should just be grateful that there even is a holiday dedicated to love. I guess what upsets me about the whole thing – and why I'm writing about it at all – is that romance shouldn't be about convenience. It should take thought and planning and really knowing what someone you love wants. Anyone can one-stop shop love now and at the last minute, and that makes me sad.

With our attention spans dwindling by the day, technology replacing genuine human contact and a seemingly endless supply of goods delivered to our doors within 24 hours, it seems more important than ever to make a little effort to do

things the old-fashioned way: pay attention and show your love in ways that can't be bought on the fly just because you think you're supposed to.

If you really want to show how much you love someone, show them you know them. Maybe she's fine with prepackaged grocery store roses and a heart-shaped box of Skittles, but then again maybe what she'd really like is an hour to herself to knit or read or get a manicure. Or some quality alone time with you made more special with her favorite food or bottle of wine. Sure, you may think he's OK going to a crowded restaurant, but maybe he'd secretly love a classic cocktail and a home-cooked meal or favorite dessert.

Love isn't what others tell us it should be. Love is what it is, and that's a beautiful thing if you embrace it and give it the time it deserves. In other words, maybe start your own trend when it comes to Valentine's Day. Only you should know best how to say I Love You. Enjoy.

Vicki Frank Day's background includes over two decades in various aspects of the food service industry. In addition, she has over 27 years' experience in marketing, graphic design, copy writing, food styling and research. She believes cooking should be a fun adventure, that food should be an experience and that every day can be a special occasion. Email her at vickiloves2cook@gmail.com.

Astor Services expands home-based crisis intervention program

Astor Services, a leading provider of quality mental and behavioral health and education services for children, young adults and their families, has announced that its Home-Based Crisis Intervention Program (HBCI) is now available in New York's Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Columbia and Greene counties.

HBCI is a unique clinical service funded by the New York Office of Mental Health (OMH), focused on preventing unnecessary psychiatric hospitalizations for youth ages 5 to 20. Astor Services has been providing HBCI services for more than 30 years, initially in Dutchess County and then in Ulster County and

with the addition of these five counties served, has become the largest provider of HBCI services in New York State.

"HBCI services are an intensive form of treatment that allows children who are at risk of psychiatric hospitalization to receive high-quality mental health care at home instead," said Astor Services CEO Yvette Bairan. "Through the services of HBCI, Astor aims to reduce the trauma of a child being separated from their family and provide the structure and resources for treatment to be successful where they live. Plus, these services are completely free thanks to funding from the New York Office of Mental Health (NY OMH) and



Yvette Bairan

-Courtesy photo

local county partners. Families do not even have to have insurance to be able to enroll in HBCI, which aligns with Astor's mission of expanding access to care."

HBCI services are primarily provided in-person in the client's home, school and community to address challenges where they are occurring. During four to six

weeks of treatment, services provided include intensive individual counseling, family therapy, parental coaching and care coordination. Additionally, 24/7 crisis support is offered to address safety concerns, including suicidal and self-harming behaviors, as well impulse control and physical aggression challenges. Astor's HBCI teams have a track record of delivering excellent results, typically preventing hospitalization for at least 90% of youth served with client satisfaction rates that exceed 90%.

Recognizing this success, in mid-2024 NY OMH selected Astor Services through a competitive proposal process to expand HBCI from Dutchess and Ulster counties, to Westchester, Putnam, Columbia and Greene Counties. By September 2024, Astor onboarded HBCI staff for these counties and started accepting new client referrals. In October 2024, Rockland County also selected Astor Services as an HBCI provider through a competitive proposal process. Astor's expanded HBCI team is now the largest in New York, providing essential crisis mental health services for children and families for more than 2 million residents across seven counties.

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS:

- Need a **NEW ROOF** and **HELP PAYING** for it? Any leaking, visible damage, or roof age qualifies!
- Money flying out of old, drafty **WINDOWS**? You may qualify for new energy efficient windows!

NEW 2025 FUNDING PROGRAMS AVAILABLE NOW!

888-849-9991

or visit NyProgramFunding.com

Enrollment is only open during a limited time. Programs, appointments, and installations are on a first come, first serve basis in your area.

HELP IS AVAILABLE EVEN IF YOU COULD PAY CASH

Approved applications will have the work completed by a quality repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs. License NY-RC-H-21274

RIVER CRUISE VACATIONS

Experience the beauty and history of the St. Lawrence & Ottawa Rivers on a classic Canadian riverboat. Request our free travel brochure.

1-800-267-7868 www.StLawrenceCruiseLines.com

253 Ontario St., Suite 200, Kingston, ON K7L2Z4 TICO #2160740

get growing!

by mark adams

Local eggs

The bird flu epidemic has raised awareness of the 'buy local' egg movement



Kinga and Kristian Terepka moved from Brooklyn to Lagrangeville right after the Covid pandemic, fixed up an abandoned house on 11 acres and started farming. They figured it would be a better environment for their two little daughters, Olivia and Emily. Now their 11 Kettle Farm is on the front line of the "buy local" egg movement.

In the midst of skyrocketing egg prices and the bird flu epidemic, people are wondering where their eggs come from and how they are produced. This is not a new phenomenon. Nobody wants egg-laying hens to be squashed into tiny cages where they can't even turn around. In 2022, California outlawed the sale of eggs from hens held in individual cages. Nine other states have followed suit. Bills in the N.Y. Senate and Assembly would require, and define "free range" and "cage free" egg productions.

On its website, 11 Kettle Farm boasts that the chickens "roam freely on vibrant pastures, enjoying the simple pleasures of life." During my recent visit, 50 hens were indeed roaming freely, but I didn't observe any "vibrant pastures" in early February. Their shelter is a large coop on wheels, which Kristian assured me is hauled around the property to provide fresh pasture once the grass starts to grow. In the meantime they're fed organic grain from Stone House Farm in Hudson. 11 Kettle Farm is "dedicated to organic agriculture," but not certified organic. I've noted that many of the farms that sell locally don't bother with the cost and hassle of a federal organic certification, because

they know their customers trust them, with good reason. I can't imagine Kinga and Kristian spraying chemicals. The eggs, by the way, are delicious, as advertised. Check the website for availability.

I asked about the blue eggs in my package. They're from black hens which are included in the flock. It seems that hawks are scared of black hens because they look like crows. I don't know - I always thought hawks had pretty good eyesight.

Here are some labels you might see on your egg cartons:

- **Local** - The USDA defines "local" as food produced within 400 miles of its final destination. I personally limit "local" to the Hudson Valley, or maybe also the Rondout Valley, or even the Wallkill Valley.

- **Organic** - The federal government certifies a product as organic if it meets strict standards, often disputed by traditional farmers who consider themselves organic. The "USDA Organic" label is important for organic farmers selling to distributors or big supermarkets.

- **Cage free** - The N.Y. senate bill under consideration defines "cage free" as an environment where a hen is "free to roam unrestricted except by exterior walls."

- **N.Y. Grown and Certified** - Eggs produced in N.Y. state, from a farm meeting department of health regulations and participating in an Agricultural Environmental Management Program.

- **Vegetarian Fed** - The hens are fed a vegetarian diet. This is tough for pasture-



Are your eggs local?

-Photos by Mark Adams



Kristian and Kinga Terepka with hens.

raised hens, because chickens are naturally omnivorous, eating worms and bugs.

- **Pasture raised** - The crop and its outdoor enclosure are moved around the property to fresh pastures of grass.

- **Free Range** - The hens have access to the outdoors and natural daylight.

Why did the chicken cross the road? Because it was a "free range" chicken!

Mark Adams is an agricultural advisor to the Dutchess County Executive, Dutchess County B.O.C.E.S. and Cornell University.

The West Point Band presents 'Dance With Me'

The West Point Band will present three performances of "Dance With Me," a vibrant program celebrating the connection between music and dance, as part of its 2025 Winter Concert Series. These concert are free and open to the public; for more information visit westpointband.com.

"Dance With Me" offers an eclectic mix of musical styles inspired by dance rhythms. The program features classics such as James Reese Europe's lively "Castle House Rag" and Rachmaninoff's sweeping "Symphonic Dance No. 1," alongside "Hip Knot," an original composition by the band's Deputy Commander, Capt. Philip Tappan. The performances will also showcase the talents of featured soloists: Staff Sgt. Francisco Aisporna will bring his vocal artistry to Michael Bubl 's "Haven't Met You Yet" and "Sinatra in Love," while Staff Sgt. Patrick

Sikes will shine in Oscar Navarro's "Concerto for Clarinet." This dynamic program promises an engaging and moving musical experience for all.

Performance Schedule:

Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., New Paltz, NY: West Point Concert Band, Old Main at SUNY New Paltz, Old Main, Tricor Ave, New Paltz

Saturday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m., West Point, NY: West Point Concert Band, Eisenhower Hall Theatre, 655 Ruger Rd, West Point

Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 p.m., New Brunswick, NJ: West Point Concert Band, Nicholas Music Center at Rutgers University, 85 George St, New Brunswick, N.J.

For West Point Band concert information, cancellations and updates, visit www.westpointband.com, or follow on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and X.

Sabellico Farm

Harvest CSA for 2025

Sign up now

- 20 week share of our 2025 garden harvest of seasonal, fresh produce, herbs, microgreens & edible flowers.
- Plenty of exclusive benefits for CSA members include a 5% discount on all Sabellico purchases along with extra discounts throughout the year.
- Priority access to our Pick-Your-Own gardens with more veggies, flowers & herbs.

Email csa@sabellico.com for more info.

REVERSE MORTGAGES
IS IT THE RIGHT CHOICE?

Get the Facts from a local Certified Reverse Mortgage Professional (CRMP) Mario L. Martirano
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE!

Call today for more information and free analysis
(914)420-1950
MarioM@1st2ndMortgage.com

1st 2nd Mortgage Company of N.J., Inc. is a Licensed Mortgage Lender, California Department of Corporations, 603899; Connecticut Department of Banking, DeLaware State Bank Commission 00496; Florida Office of Financial Regulation, 061059; Georgia Department of Banking and Finance 3769; Hawaii Division of Financial Institutions, 111598; HI 880725; HI 1035049; Maryland Commissioner of Financial Regulation, 198113; MI 13391; New Hampshire Banking Department, 1862196; New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, 830241; New York Department of Financial Services, LMBC 110965; New York Department of Financial Services, 8501000; North Carolina Office Commissioner of Banks 41-218587; Ohio Department of Commerce RM360505.1000; Oregon Division of Financial Regulation 115981; Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities, 29187; South Carolina Commissioner of Consumer Finance MLS-115981; Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending, TEXAS MORTGAGE BANKERS DISCLOSURE; Virginia Bureau of Financial Institutions; Virginia State Corporation Commission, MC199; Washington Department of Financial Institutions, CI-115981; Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, 119818A.

Give Life Give Blood

Obituaries

Paul W. Hait and Jo-Ann P. Hait



Paul W. Hait, 63, and Jo-Ann P. Hait, 65, of Wappingers Falls, NY, passed away tragically on Sunday, January 26, 2025, at their home.

Paul was born on July 29, 1961, at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY to Malcolm and Ann Henion Hait. A 1979 graduate of Roy C. Ketcham High School, he earned two bachelor's degrees and built a lifelong career at IBM, where he held various roles, primarily as a Semiconductor Engineer. Beyond his professional achievements, Paul was deeply committed to his community. He served as a volunteer firefighter with the Hughsonville Fire Department and was a dedicated board member of the Wappingers Rural Cemetery, following in the footsteps of his brother, father and grandfather.

Paul had a profound love for the history of Wappingers Falls, often walking the neighborhood and village with their beloved dog, Lady Madonna, greeting everyone along the way with a smile, a laugh, and a great story. As he fought some tough health problems over the last few years he never got down. He remained positive and took one day at a time. Yoga became a very important part of his life and helped him tremendously as he faced his health battles. He made many friends through his journey with yoga and on yoga retreats. He was currently working on getting his Yoga teacher certification.

Jo-Ann was born on May 15, 1959, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Yonkers, NY to Joan R. and Edward B. Fresenius. She grew up in Northern Westchester County with her three brothers and graduated from Somers High School in 1977 before attending Berkley Secretarial School. She began her career at Union Carbide in Armonk, NY, and later dedicated over 18 years to the Arlington School District's Transportation Department. However, her most cherished role was being a mother. Her greatest pride and joy were her son, daughter, and granddaughter.

Jo-Ann nurtured lifelong friendships, treasuring the bond she shared with her close girlfriends. Their regular getaway weekends were a source of joy, laughter, and sisterhood that she held dear to her heart.

On October 7, 1984, Paul and Jo-Ann married in Somers, NY and this past October, they celebrated 40 years of marriage. Jo-Ann and Paul had a special love that they shared throughout their lives. Their kindness and generosity was felt by many. They lived their lives helping others by spreading peace and love. Knowing they are together is our only comfort.

Family was always their top priority, and they embraced every opportunity to create lasting memories. Whether it was vacations to Long Beach Island, trips to Florida, or trips to Antigua later in life they loved traveling together. From late spring to early fall, Paul and Jo-Ann spent most of their time on the Hudson River. They loved the peacefulness of the river. "Picture yourself in a boat on a river with tangerine trees and marmalade skies."

Their love of boating and embrace of all those they came in contact with through their time on the water made them the cornerstones of whatever marina they called their summer home. Whether you were stopping by for sage or salty advice, mechanical help, a belly laugh, or an evening of great conversation, they were always there with open-arms. They were dearly loved and cherished by their boating community and it is where they made so many wonderful relationships. There was nothing better than sitting on the aft deck of their boat, listening to music and raising a glass to the sunset, or friendship, or whatever the toast of the evening was.

Music was a constant in their lives, with the Beatles holding a special place in their hearts. Paul, a talented musician, played the piano, harmonica, keyboard, ukulele, and guitar, and together, they believed in the power of music to heal the soul. "Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection, the lovers, the dreamers, and me."

Paul and Jo-Ann are survived by their beloved son, daughter, and granddaughter. Paul is also survived by his sisters, Gail Scotto (Louis) and Susan Hamilton, along with several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother Donald Hait, his brother-in-law Barry Hamilton, his Uncle Gerald Hait and his Aunt Sandra Hait. Jo-Ann is survived by her three brothers, Jeff (John), Tom (Suzanne), and Barry (Anna Marie) Fresenius, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents.

In accordance with the family's wishes, services and interment will be private. A celebration of life will be held in early April, with details to be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent in Paul Hait's name to support Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center at <http://mskcc.convio.net/goto/paulhait> or in Jo-Ann and Paul's name to the ASPCA.

Arrangements are entrusted to Straub Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home. To send the family a personal condolence, please visit our website at www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

Phyllis Maisel

POUGHKEEPSIE - Phyllis Maisel, 76, of Poughkeepsie, NY, passed away on January 24, 2025 at the Pines of Poughkeepsie Nursing Home. She was born on September 21, 1948 in Poughkeepsie, NY, the daughter of Marvin & Vera McKenzie Maisel.

She was employed at Dutchess Community College as a Clerk in the mail room. Phyllis was a member of Faith Assembly Church in Poughkeepsie, where she participated in the Women's Bible Group and Disciple Classes.

She is survived by brother: Gordon (Eleanor) Maisel of Poughkeepsie and 4 nieces. She was predeceased by a brother Edward M. Maisel.

Visitation was on Friday, January 31, 2025, at the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Service followed in the Funeral Home. Burial will be in the spring at LaGrange Rural Cemetery, Poughkeepsie, NY.

If you wish to send an online condolence, please visit our website at: www.wgmillerfuneralhome.com.

Gwendolyn Olive Cardarelli



Gwendolyn Olive Cardarelli, 83, an area resident for 62 years, died unexpectedly on February 2, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Gwen always said, "You've got to participate in life!" and that she did. Every day of her life was full.

Gwen was born in Schenectady, NY on May 17, 1941, the youngest of 4 children born to John Henry Albert Tomkins and Olive (Stephens) Tomkins. She is predeceased by her siblings John "Jack" Tomkins, Keith Tomkins, and Sheila Lindsay.

She was raised in a very musical family with the strong religious influence of the Salvation Army. She described having a wonderful childhood playing,

climbing trees, and singing. She went to Bryant College in Providence, RI where she met the love of her life, John Cardarelli, who would blow up her teetotaling upbringing and give her new ways to share her energy and love. They were married on September 1, 1962 and went on to start their family in Dutchess County having 3 daughters. John died on June 4, 1994.

Gwen achieved her Master's Degree in social work in 1983 with most of her professional life as a Social Worker at Vassar Brothers Hospital. She was an active member of various organizations including the New Hackensack Reformed Church, Adirondack Mountain Club, Hudson Valley Ski club, and Mid-Hudson Bicycle Club. She volunteered for Meals on Wheels, the Boardman Library, and a host of other groups over the years.

Gwen was the picture of gregarious. Everywhere she went she saw someone she knew, and if she didn't know anyone, she would make a friend before she left. She was always sports and activity focused as a kid and this never slowed down. From Jazzercise in the 80's, skiing, bicycling - including weeks long cycling tours in Europe and other destinations - to hiking, bowling, golfing, kayaking, and pickleball. She was probably most known for dancing, often 4 nights a week and having no hesitation to drive an hour or more to go. She was known for hearing a song and saying, "I know a dance to that one!" And when shoe shopping she had to try a pair on and do a little shimmy to make sure she could dance in them.

Gwen was always up for a shopping trip or an art gallery, movie or concert, an educational talk or lecture. She regularly took adult learning courses and loved to share the fascinating things she learned. She was interested in everything and loved to read and learn. She took tap dancing lessons, piano lessons, Italian, painting, just to name a few. Her energy, excitement for life, and constant interest in learning paired well with traveling. A typical question for her daughters was "Where is your Mom? What's she up to now?" The answer was often another country, sailing the south of France, ziplining in Costa Rica, camping on the Mexican Baja, bicycling through Europe, or something of the like. Everyone wanted to "be like her when I grow up!"

Gwen was exceptionally thoughtful and generous, always thinking about what she could do for someone else. She would often cook or bake something to bring to someone, sometimes for no particular reason. She never went anywhere "empty-handed." She always wanted to help, to make people feel better. She did that. She made people feel good, better, everywhere she went.

Perhaps her greatest joy was being a mother. She told her daughters always that they were her blessings, her treasures, that she couldn't have imagined her life without them. She showered them with endless love in endless ways. She is survived by her daughters, Beth Donohue and her husband, Matthew, Sharon Strack, and Janet Cardarelli and her husband, John Audi. Her endless love was also extended to grandchildren, Matthew Donohue and his wife Destiny, Ryan Donohue, Jesse Strack, Estelle Strack, and her great-grandchildren, Jonathan and Carmen Donohue.

Because you are reading this, there is still time to be like her when you grow up.

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. There was a celebration of her life.

In Gwen's memory, her family has asked that everyone "pay it forward" by donating in her memory to an organization that would mean something special to her.

Alfred J. Gallo



Alfred J. Gallo (Al, Freddie to his family) died on February 8, 2025 at his home.

Born May 13, 1928 in Clarksburg, West Virginia, he was the son of Dominick Gallo and Gladys (Phyllis) Boffi. He married Nora Rita Riggleman Feb. 3, 1951, who predeceased him on July 24, 2017.

He was also predeceased by two brothers, Michael Gallo and Rocco Gallo; two sisters, VityAnn Hauver and Rosemary Talbott; and also one grandson, William Odell.

Survived by his brother, Sandy Ciancio; his daughter, Phyllis Odell (Robert), Hopewell Junction, NY, three sons, James Gallo, Poughkeepsie, NY, Joseph Gallo, Stormville, NY, and Michael Gallo (Linda), Stormville, NY. Several grandchildren, great grandchildren, one great great grandchild, and his cat, Gatta.

At the age of 13, Al started working in the West Virginia coal mines.

He served in the U. S. Army as Quartermaster at the end of World War II. Afterwards, he was self-employed for several years in Clarksburg, WV.

After moving to New York State, he was employed by Mid-Hudson Chevrolet for eight years, then he worked for the City of Poughkeepsie Department of Public Works as shop supervisor until he retired in 1992.

Al was always helping out in the community. Though not a member of Stormville Fire Company, he put in countless hours over the years helping with the vehicles and helping at work details to renovate the buildings.

He always stopped to help stranded motorists along the highway. He is remembered by many young men in our community as the gentleman who taught them to do oil changes and other routine maintenance on their cars in his front yard mechanic classes.

He loved his family, his garden and his steel guitar. A loving husband, dad, grandpa and Big Papa! Al was a good man! We're grateful for the many years we got to spend with him.

Calling hours will be held on Friday from 4-7pm at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Stormville Fire Company or Hudson Valley Hospice.

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

Classified

Place your ad today! Call 297-3723

Deadline Thurs at 3 p.m • Publication Wednesday

Fax your ad today! 297-6810

Classified Rates

Classified Line Ads
20 words \$12.50; each additional word 20¢

Classified Display Ads
\$14.50 per column inch

If submitted by deadline, ads appear in three newspapers: Northern Dutchess News, Southern Dutchess News & Beacon Free Press

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

- 100 Help Wanted
- 105 Employment Opportunity
- 106 Business Opportunity
- 107 Situations Wanted
- 120 Schools
- 121 Special Instruction
- 122 Musical Instruction
- 140 Nursery Schools
- 141 Child Care
- 142 Day Care
- 143 Baby-sitting
- 145 Adult Care
- 150 Announcements
- 151 Adoption
- 152 Novenas
- 154 Lost & Found
- 155 Personal Services

- 201 Home Improvement
- 202 Cleaning Services
- 203 Lawn Services
- 221 Professional Services
- 222 Tax Experts
- 223 Beauty Services
- 225 Business Services
- 226 Travel & Services
- 227 Bridal Services
- 295 Financial
- 296 Mortgages
- 300 Real Estate
- 301 Townhouses & Condos
- 302 Commercial Property
- 304 Mobile Homes
- 305 Lots & Acreage
- 400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

Classified Index

- 401 Apartments for Rent
- 402 Rooms for Rent
- 403 Furnished Rooms
- 404 Furnished Apartments
- 405 Wanted to Rent
- 406 Garages for Rent
- 407 Vacation Rentals
- 408 Houses for Rent
- 420 Commercial Rentals
- 500 Musical Merchandise
- 501 Kid Stuff
- 502 Clothing
- 503 Furniture
- 504 Appliances
- 505 Free Items
- 506 Computers
- 507 Sports Equipment
- 508 Exercise Equipment

- 509 Office Equipment
- 510 Firewood
- 511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
- 512 Winter Merchandise
- 516 Misc. Merchandise
- 700 Pets & Supplies
- 701 Free Pets
- 702 Lost & Found Pets
- 703 Pets for Adoption
- 710 Garage & Yard Sale
- 711 Tag Sale
- 712 Moving sale
- 713 Rummage Sale
- 714 Flea Market
- 715 Craft Corner
- 716 Barn Sale
- 717 Estate Sale
- 718 Auctions
- 719 Antiques

Contact Us

Call: 845-297-3723
Fax: 845-297-6810
E-Mail: sdnadvertising@aol.com
Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm

200 Services

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-866-448-8311 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

204 Health

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-399-2719

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-819-7060

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-855-399-2582

DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company
A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!
CALL NOW! 1-855-225-1434
Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket
This is real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan
You can get coverage before your next checkup
Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.
1-855-225-1434
Visit us online at www.dental50plus.com/mypress

Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

I live alone, but I'm never alone.

Life Alert® is always there for me.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.



Life Alert Batteries Never Need Charging.

For a FREE brochure call:

1-800-404-9776

Home Improvement

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-855-399-2076

Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgramFunding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-888-605-1496

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-866-247-5728

219 Attorney Legal

DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-888-454-4717. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider

905 Autos Wanted

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-403-3374

516 Misc. Merchandise

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

Autos Wanted

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-888-251-3135.



PLANNING A MOVE?

Our classifieds should be your first source: Whether your looking to sell unwanted items before the move, find new furnishings, or just simply a place to live

- Our classified section offers:**
- Houses for rent
 - Apartments for rent
 - Realtors
 - Schools
 - Estate sales
 - Professional services
 - And so much more

Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main St. Wappingers Falls
845-297-3723

Real Estate SHOWCASE

Kimberlee Markarian

Associate Real Estate Broker
m. 845.505.9174 | d. 845.244.2188
kmarkarian@bhshudsonvalley.com
kimberleemarkarian.bhshudsonvalley.com



LET ME HELP YOU IN 2025!
Most of my listings have SOLD!
If you are thinking about selling your home, I'm here for you when you are ready... Please give me a call!!

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES

HUDSON VALLEY
PROPERTIES

Let me show you the way home.

892 Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524



We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

226 Travel Services

SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277

521 Internet

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-855-399-2803

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

Call an Expert

Chris Neil Designs

Artistry and Precision
Leaves a lasting
Impression

- * Interior
- * Exterior
- * Painting
- * Staging
- * Interior
- * Decorating

(845)392-4930

For Sale:
Dark cherrywood hutch in excellent condition.
Glass shelves, four drawers and four lower cabinets.
Dimensions - 5 feet wide x 7 feet high x 16 inches depth.
\$250 or best offer.
Call 845-406-7733



Get **40% off** your kitchen install.



Kitchen Magic
KITCHEN & BATH SOLUTIONS

Experience a new standard of service every step of the way.

Learn more and schedule your free design consultation.
(855) 281-6439

*Discount applies to the installation of new cabinets and replacing only. Minimum of \$10,000 project value. Offer valid on new customer agreements only. Offer valid through March 31st, 2025. Offer may not be combined with other offers. License #119260000, License #119260000, License #119260000.

BOGO
40% OFF
Minimum purchase of 4

+ \$200 OFF
Your Entire Purchase
Minimum purchase of 4

ENDS 4/30

888-448-0421



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE,
WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.

Plans start at just \$20/month.
Switch & Save Today
844-919-1682 Consumer Cellular

SAVE ON YOUR
Travel Plans!

Up to **75%**
more than **500 Airlines**
and **300,000 Hotels** across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money



Spend your travel dollars when you get there **not getting there!**

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now **877-988-7277**

THE HOME IMPROVEMENT HEADQUARTERS

Jacuzzi BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW
855.564.2680

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 3/31/25



Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

Before **After**



LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!

UP TO 50% OFF INSTALLATION

FREE ESTIMATE
1.855.492.6084

ERIE HOME MADE IN THE U.S.A. Expires 4/30/2025

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licenses/

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB
1-855-916-5473

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445



FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

Award-winning author to discuss WW II photograph, book at DCC

The Dutchess Community College Foundation (DCCF) will host an illuminating lecture by renowned historian Dr. Wendy Lower, supported by the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The event will take place on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. in the James & Betty Hall Theatre.

Dr. Lower, the John K. Roth professor at Claremont McKenna College and director of the Mgrublian Center for Human Rights, will share insights from her 10-year investigation into a rare photograph that captured a harrowing moment in history—a family's murder in Ukraine during the Holocaust. Her research revealed the identities of the individuals in the image and uncovered new details about the atrocities of the Nazi regime, open-air massacres and efforts toward postwar justice.

Her findings, chronicled in the award-winning book "The Ravine: A Family, a

Photograph, a Holocaust Massacre Revealed," delve into the role of family and ideology in history. Dr. Lower is also the author of "Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields," a finalist for the National Book Award.

This lecture is free and open to the public. It is facilitated by Dr. Werner Steger, DCC professor of history and recipient of the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. For more information, visit www.sunydutchess.edu/endowed-chairs or contact the Dutchess Community College Foundation at 845-431-8407.

If you require sign language interpreting services or other accommodations, please submit your request at least two weeks in advance by contacting Linda Bertolozzi at 845-431-8058 or bertoloz@sunydutchess.edu. Visitors are encouraged to park in Lot D (GPS address: 97 Cottage Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601).



Dr. Wendy Lower

-Courtesy photo from DCC

• Southern Dutchess News
• Beacon Free Press
• Northern Dutchess News

Classified

SDN Subscriber ads

<p>107 Situations Wanted</p>	<p>403 Furnished Rooms</p>	<p>503 Furniture</p>	<p>516 Misc. Merchandise</p>	<p>516 Misc. Merchandise</p>	<p>516 Misc. Merchandise</p>	<p>903 Motorcycles</p>
<p>House Cleaner Needed. Small home, 2 BD, 2 bath, every other week. Must drive. Call: 845-522-0879</p>	<p>2 rooms, Private Bathroom and Entrance. Semi furnished, into private home. No Kitchen. Call: 845-784-8964</p>	<p>Sofa with reclining ends, \$75. Recliner Rocker, \$50. All good cond.. Blue in color. 845-297-0131</p>	<p>CANNON FOR SALE, Full size Napoleon Howitzer Smooth Bore. 2.125 inch. Original Civil War fittings, all equipment, Trailer. Fed. Exempt. \$25,000. Ron Shaner 845-266-0334</p>	<p>Magnisium Alum Alloy 16' extension ladder, 8' glass reinforced step ladder, Make offer. 845-297-6369</p>	<p>New Bathroom Vanity with sink, \$60 10" Deluxe Electronic Radial Saw with 44" cabinet and 2 doors. Leave message, 845-426-4441</p>	 <p>1993 Harley Davidson FLHTC 1340cc, Black/Chrome, \$5,000 OBO. CALL: 845-554-6317</p>
<p>House Cleaner Needed. Small two bedroom, two baths. References and Driver License Required. 845-325-2337</p>	<p>503 Furniture</p> <p>Patio set, glass top with four chairs with cushions. 9 foot umbrella with stand. Used once, \$350. Call 845-297-4741</p>	<p>Bunk Bed set with ladder, one dresser. Early american style, great condition \$175. 845-227-5922</p>	<p>Brand New Holiday candles, brass tone, cordless, adjustable height with multiple time settings + 4 extra bulbs, 4 candles, \$20. 2 boxes (8candles), \$30. Call 845-264-0240</p>	<p>AC Prtable, \$80 - Dehumidifier, \$60, Grill Free, Snare Drum, \$80, Wicker shelf, Lamp, \$40. 845-418-0069</p>	<p>Outdoor Mult. Position Reclining Chair, Cost \$75 New. Large Size. Call: 845-297-2105</p>	<p>904 Tires</p> <p>Hitch receiver for bike rack. Will fit any Prius. Excellent condition. New \$265, Now \$135. 845-896-5197</p>
<p>Residential and Commercial Clean outs. Disposal of unwanted items Carpentry work Interior and Exterior Painting. Property Management Call Craig 845-891-8930</p>	<p>Queen size wood sleigh bed box spring mattress included. Exc. Cond. Best offer. 845-625-3213</p>	<p>504 Appliances</p> <p>Large Air Fryer, never used, have all attachments, booklet. I don't have room on my counter, \$75 OBO. 845-242-7717</p>	<p>Treadmill Exerciser (Pro-Form Crosswalk #395). Excellent condition, \$150. 845-677-5293 call mornings.</p>	<p>Special Bike made in Denmark, good cond., \$75. 845-401-7654</p>	<p>Four Kenwood KL777 100W speakers, wood cabinet, exc. cond., \$225. 845-337-6509</p>	<p>1933 Chevy Master Reupholstered front seat Recomed bumpers Rebuilt engine NewBattery New front floormat, \$15,300. 845-831-6673</p>
	<p>4 set Antique wood dining chairs upholstered seats exc. cond. Best offer. 845-625-3213</p>	<p>516 Misc. Merchandise</p> <p>European lead figures and European model cars HO Marklin Trains 1940's - 1970's. Large collection, very nice, reasonable. 845-221-0893</p>	<p>European Lead figures, also European Model Cars HO Marklin Trans 1940's-1970's large collection very nice resonable. 845-221-0893</p>	<p>Tor-1950's Tube AM,FM & Record Player, \$250 OBO. 845-831-8698</p>	<p>900 Autos For Sale</p> <p>2005 Lexus ES330 for sale. Best Offer. Runs good. Still driving on road. 845-297-0084</p>	
<p>401 Apartments for Rent</p> <p>Victorian, BEACON 9D / mins. RR - 70 NYC Hwy, Spectacular Hudson Views, Rest. Antiques, Hiking, biking, Mountains, 2BD + Den, DW / WD, Split - Level, \$2,800. Suitable 1 - 3. 914-960-0069 or 914-584-7137</p>	<p>Day Bed Frame Twin white Decorative Head and Side Frame. Excellent condition, \$100. 845-226-8896</p> <p>2-drawer, wide, metal fiing cabinet. Good shape, tan, has lock but no key. 19 D x 30 W x 28 H. \$25. 845-227-5922</p>	<p>10" (TC250B) Tilesaw 2.5 H/P with PVD tray. 3340 RPM with mini pum Chicago power tool, \$150 OBO. Ping Pong table MDSport Not Used, \$125 OBO. 845-831-8698</p>	<p>AC Filters-Precision Aire, 30 x 30 x 1 pleated-model 40, \$8 each. 845-264-0240</p>	<p>Paintball Equipment for sale. Guns cases hoppers tanks masks all in good working order. Asking \$150 for all. 914-420-5626</p>	<p>2012 Jeep Wrangler 83,000 miles. Fantastic shape. Must see to appreciate. Many accessories including cover and tow package. Text 845-401-6648.</p>	

FREE!

PRIVATE PARTY NOT FOR BUSINESS USE

Classified Ad

for Southern Dutchess News Subscribers only
*Your personal use only *Restrictions apply *One word per line

(Home phone)

Name: _____ ID#: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SORRY, WE CANNOT TAKE THE SUBSCRIBERS' FREE LINE ADS OVER THE PHONE
Ads must be received by 12 noon the Friday prior to publication. We cannot acknowledge receipt of ads.
Free ads run "space available." We do not guarantee placement.
Email (with "Free line ad" as the subject) your subscription name, address, phone number, & subscriber ID, along with your ad to: sdnadvertising@aol.com
Ads should be limited to 20 words including a contact phone number (must be included in ad).
If using this coupon it's recommended that it's delivered in person or mailed.
Faxes are accepted, but not recommended. Our fax number is: (845) 297-6810
Ads run for 2 weeks. If after 2 weeks you wish your ad to run again, it must be resubmitted.
We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.
Southern Dutchess News, 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

**Safe Education
Secure Fun**

Yes, send me the Southern Dutchess News for the next 52 weeks for just \$10.
Call to ask about our 2 & 3 yr. prices!!!

Payment Method Check
 Money Order
 Credit Card

Visa Mastercard Discover

Card # _____
Exp. Date: _____ Access Code: _____
Signature: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Mail Coupon To:
Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
Coupon must accompany payment

BAU February exhibits open

Exhibitions at BAU Gallery in Beacon are through Sunday, March 2, at 506 Main St., Beacon. Saturdays and Sundays noon-6 p.m. or by appointment.

Gallery 1: BAU Open First Prize Exhibition Briana Babani: Stuff and Nonsense

Babani's work is rooted in rigorous material exploration and labor-intensive technique. Repetitive gestures and motifs are a recurring theme, as are dualities between graphic and textural, playful and restrained, familiar and strange. She is interested in toying with notions of familiarity, functionality, and value — to that end, ubiquitous materials and forms provide a critical point of departure.

Briana Babani is an award-winning artist and designer currently living and working in New York's Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Midwest, received her BA in painting from Yale University, and then lived and worked in New York City's fashion district before earning her Master's Degree in Interior Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Gallery 2: BAU Open Awardees Exhibition Irja Bodén and Choro Leslie Meyers: Elemental Terrain

Elemental Terrain is an exhibit of ceramic sculptures by Irja Bodén and ink drawings by Choro Leslie Meyers. The artworks beckon viewers to engage with its colors, lines, and textures while also encouraging reflection on the urgent issues of climate change and environmental destruction. Choro Leslie Meyers Elemental. Meditation in art form. This body of work brings nature to the page. Mountain is here. Earth, Air, Fire, Water and Space are here. Seasons and Time are here. Magic and the Goddess are here. Reflecting the interconnection of all beings, I invite you to look deeper, to touch into presence, and to

find peace and freedom in the color and the lines.

Irja Bodén Irja Bodén's ceramic sculptures feature stacked forms that are both embossed and layered, complemented by a multi-colored glaze surface. Her creative process begins on the wheel, where she transforms clay into abstract sculptures that tell a narrative. These works draw on "chthonic" references—connecting to the earth—and weave together themes of place, memory, and loss, reflecting personal and universal experiences. Bodén's art challenges the distinctions between craft and fine art.

Beacon Room: Reframing Memory, Pamela Vlahakis with guest artist Sile Marrinan

In this exhibition, two photographers have joined together to use visual storytelling to reimagine the memories of their mothers through the lens of their own family lives today. The photographers use light, space and material to add new layers to the memories of their mothers, who have passed, and to explore an inter-generational bond that transcends time and loss. Through their work, they investigate how photography, as a bridge between past and present, can help us reconnect with our histories and shape our sense of self in the here and now. Pamela Zaremba Pamela Zaremba is a photographer who lives and works in Westport CT, and is a member of the Beacon Artists Union Gallery in Beacon, NY. The driving force behind her work is her desire to help others to see the beauty in subjects that might otherwise seem ordinary. Her photos serve as snapshots of a memory, and allow the viewer into an intimate conversation with the photographer and subject. Sile Marrinan Sile Marrinan is a photographic artist drawn to the subtle, ethereal qualities of light. Her



Pamela Zaremba, "Perched." Wall Installation, 36 x 60 inches, year unknown. Sile Marrinan, "Noticing (ii)." Archival Inkjet Photograph, 20 x 30 inches, 2022.

-Courtesy images from BAU and artists

work is an intuitive exploration, capturing the moods that light creates as it shifts and transforms the world around her. Through her camera, Sile observes how light—ever-changing—renders familiar subjects in new

ways. This practice allows her to find beauty in the ordinary, uncovering moments that might otherwise go unnoticed, while simultaneously preserving time—as if attempting to hold onto a precious moment that has already passed.

MLK Parade on Feb. 17

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade, founded by Pete Seeger, was postponed from MLK Day, January 20 to Presidents Day, February 17.

Sponsored by the Southern Dutchess Coalition (SDC) and the Beacon Sloop Club at the Springfield Baptist Church, 8 Mattie Cooper Square in Beacon.

The schedule follows:
8:30 a.m. free Continental Breakfast
9 a.m. Opening Ceremony in the Church
9:30 a.m. Parade

10:45 a.m. Program in the church which includes MLK Essay Presentation, SDC Gospel Choir, and speaker Rev. Barbara Williams from Springfield Baptist Church

Program followed by a free dinner, which one eat there or take home.

Questions? Call or text Bonnie Champion at 845-264-5663

this week's puzzle solutions

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

EDEN	FEY	N	EN						
REMIT	ELKS								
EPICS	LILT								
ODOR	CHOC								
	OLATE								
	WYLI								
LADY	BUG								
AMEX	CINEMA								
REPORT	RES								
IDON	EMPTOR								
VERONA	RESOLVE								
	PRO								
	DOSES								
GAL	ENTINE								
AP	ERAS								
TA	BASAL								
STO	AP								

4	2	3	5	3	2
1	5	1	2	1	4
2	3	4	5	3	5
4	1	2	1	4	1
3	5	4	3	2	5
2	1	2	1	4	3

Sudoku solution

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-12-25
Operational and Staffing Analysis of the Justice and Transition Center
Division of the Sheriff's Office
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal

Legal Notices

onor before 2:00 p.m., March 5, 2025. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions 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.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the

Legal Notices

submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-11-25
Professional Services for Workspace Needs Assessment for Dutchess County Government
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., February 25, 2025. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting

Legal Notices

"Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.
City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza - Suite One
Beacon, New York
12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
February 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: Lendita Mavraj
Address: 6 Cliff Street
Tax Grid No.: 30-5954-27-799935-

Legal Notices

00
Zoning Classification: T
Dear Neighboring Property Owner: Lendita Mavraj, 6 Cliff Street, has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for relief from City Zoning Code Section 223-17.D. to allow the primary building on the property to be converted from a one-family residence to a two-family residence, which requires relief from the following:
1. Section 223-17.D. to allow for a minimum lot area per dwelling unit of 1,631 sq ft (2,500 sq ft re-

Legal Notices

quired)
Additionally, the applicant is seeking relief from Section 223-17.D. to allow the construction of an addition and deck to the primary building, which requires relief from the following:
2. Section 223-17.D. to allow for a 6 ft rear yard setback (20 ft required)
The full application is available online at: <https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/>
The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meet-

Legal Notices

ing to be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 7:00 PM, in the Municipal Center courtroom, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York. You are invited to be present to voice your support or objection to this appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on February 19, 2025, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov
Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

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

Diversions

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF

SPECIAL OFFER

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 00B3445

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

© 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

	4					
5						3
			1			
5						
4						
					2	4

© 2023 krazydad.com

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: VALENTINE'S DAY

ACROSS

1. Past participle of spit
5. King Kong, e.g.
8. Greek portico
12. Not to be mentioned
13. Congeal
14. ____ cell carcinoma
15. Top of Kilimanjaro, e.g.
16. Periods of time
17. D-Day beach
18. *Holiday the day before Valentine's Day
20. Shade of beige
21. Quantities on doctors' prescriptions
22. Not amateur
23. *Letters to Juliet destination
26. Come to final conclusion
30. *Ultimate Valentine's vow?
31. Purchaser
34. Zelensky's capital
35. Move a plant
37. High-____, as in an image
38. Tubular pasta
39. Not Visa or MC
40. *Moving Valentine's Day date option
42. "Annie get your ____"
43. a.k.a. ladybird
45. Maximum
47. "Rub A Dub Dub" vessel
48. Suburb of Dallas
50. Skunk's defense
52. *Sweet Valentine's gesture
56. Long stories
57. Rhythmic way of talking
58. Yours and mine
59. Send, as payment
60. The E of B.P.O.E.
61. A bit of water
62. Biblical paradise
63. Elfin
64. Sign of boredom

DOWN

1. Doe's mate
2. One of Three Bears
3. Cain's brother
4. Prom night garb
5. Bird of prey's nest
6. *Make them in advance of Valentine's Day
7. "Or ____?"
8. *"Cupid" singer (2 words)
9. Russia's Terrible one, e.g.
10. Pearl Harbor island
11. Between Fla. and Miss.
13. Ship's floating wreckage
14. Afrikaners' ancestors
19. Group of nine singers
22. For each
23. All over the internet
24. Possible allergic reaction
25. Lassoed
26. *Baby's breath's partner
27. Texting vocabulary, e.g.
28. *Cupid's mom
29. Black tie ____
32. Snob
33. Gymnast's goal
36. *a.k.a. "love hormone"
38. Deck alternative
40. Chicago baseballer
41. Defrauds
44. Explosion
46. Pleasing notes succession
48. At the same time
49. Too much egg middle
50. Newspaper piece
51. Five and ____
52. Staff leader
53. Heavenly glow
54. Think, archaically speaking
55. Sport spectator's TV acronym
56. Before, old English

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				53	54	55
56							57				58		
59							60				61		
62							63				64		

SWITCH & GET
\$25

Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: **GZ590**

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

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

Seeger Theater at Beacon High School to host 'A Night of Broadway' on Feb. 22

Vocalist Hugh Panaro, well known for performing as the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom of the Opera" over 2,000 times, joins the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra (HVSVO) to present "A Night of Broadway." Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor André Raphael will lead the orchestra for this Pops concert packed with Broadway hits. Panaro has starred in numerous other productions as well, including "Les Misérables" and "Sweeney Todd." The performance will take place in Seeger Theater at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rd. on Saturday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m. The doors open at 6:45 p.m. The Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra invites concertgoers to explore

a wide range of Broadway gems from "The Music Man," "Jersey Boys," "Wicked," and of course, "The Phantom of the Opera." The evening will be filled with some of the most iconic music written for the stage. Reduced ticket prices are available for seniors and students, and children under 5 are invited free of charge. Music and theater lovers of all ages are welcome to attend!

For tickets, visit the HVSVO website: <https://www.hudsonvalleysymphony.org/events>.

This performance is made possible in part by the Ann and Abe Effron Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and the Vassar Brothers Institute.



Right: Vocalist Hugh Panaro, well known for performing as the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom of the Opera" over 2,000 times, joins the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra (HVSVO) to present "A Night of Broadway" on Saturday, Feb. 22 in Seeger Theater at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rd. in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo

Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra set for February 15 in Newburgh

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra (GNSO) continues its 2024/25 season on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 4 p.m. at Aquinas Hall on the Mount Saint Mary College campus in Newburgh, Orange County. In collaboration with a partner of many performances, Moxart, they will present Concert of Concertos.

Maestro Ger shared his insights on this performance, "Concertos are such a dynamic and exciting form. It is all about me versus us, us versus them. It is a dialogue between the group [orchestra] and

the individual [soloist]. Sometimes this dialogue is amenable and cooperative, sometimes conciliatory, sometimes competitive, and sometimes an outright confrontation."

GNSO's concertos will include Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto, which is "filled with all the sweeping melodic fervency for which Tchaikovsky is so justly famous". The next piece, Aaron Copland's Clarinet Concerto couldn't be further from this: "gentle and melancholic to start, the concerto opens with understated soft-

ness, chords delicately rocking back and forth, over which the clarinet quietly pours its sad song". And lastly, we have Rachmaninoff's First Piano Concerto, filled with extraordinary pianistic bravura and astonishing technical virtuosity, which is sure to bring the house down.

Ticket prices are - Balcony \$80, Center Reserved \$65, General \$55, Senior Citizen (62+) \$35, Students (with current Student ID) are \$10 for general seating. They can be purchased at the door, by visiting www.newburghsymphony.org or

calling 845- 913-7157.

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra is celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of the leading cultural institutions of the Hudson River Valley. It was founded in 1995 by Dr. Woomyung Choe and its first president, the late George Handler, who was followed as president after 10 years by the late Fred McCurdy. In addition to six regular subscription concerts, the Orchestra performs special engagements, including the summer concert at Boscobel House and Gardens.

WIN A NEW GMC

Friday, February 28
10pm

Earn Entries All Month Long!

*Actual model and color may vary.

Newburgh, NY
RWHudsonValleyNY.com
1-84 | Exit 36B 1-87 | Exit 17

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PLAY THE NEW YORK LOTTERY GAMES. PLEASE PLAY RESPONSIBLY. 24-HOUR PROBLEM GAMING HOTLINE: 1-877-8-HOPENY (846-7369)

County Players announces 2025-26 schedule

County Players, one of the longest running community theatre companies in the area is proud and excited to announce their 68th Season for 2025-2026! Season membership subscriptions are now available!

Season 68 Main Stage Season-County Players presents five full productions beginning with July 2025 the Comedy "Lips Together, Teeth Apart" by Terrance McNally, Directed by Kit Colbourn; in September 2025 is the Detective Comedy "Bullshot Crummond" by Ron House, Diz White, Alan Sherman, John Neville-Andrews, and Derek Cunningham, Directed by Jeffery Battersby; November 2025 is the Pulitzer Prize winning charming Comedy "The Dining Room" by A.R. Gurney, Directed by Christine Crawfis; February 2026 is the sizzling Courtroom Drama "A Few Good Men" by Aaron Sorkin, Directed by Michael J. Frohnhoefer, and in May 2026- the Musical Comedy "Something Rotten" with Book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell, Music & Lyrics by Karey Fitzpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick, Directed by Jeff Wilson.

CP2 Readers Theatre Mini-Festival Series - In this well-received program there are no costumes, no sets, no props, and the actors perform with scripts in hand. The three mini-festivals of two readings are scheduled:

Mini-Festival #1 - October 2025: "Misery" by William Goldman, based on the Novel by Stephen King, Directed by Jeffery Battersby; "Dracula" by Stephen Dietz, based on the novel by Bram Stoker, Directed by David J. Ringwood

Mini-Festival #2 - December 2025: "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley" by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon, Directed by Kit Colbourn; "The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley" by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon, Directed by Michael J. Frohnhoefer

Mini-Festival #3 - March 2026: "Dear Jack, Dear Louise" by Ken Ludwig,

Directed by Cynthia Topps; "Camping with Henry and Tom" by Mark St. Germain; Directed by Matt Andrews

For info regarding all of the Main Stage productions and CP2 Series of Readers Theatre visit countyplayers.org/season-68/ Season Subscriptions are available, kindly visit app.arts-people.com/index.php?subscription=cpi.

Group Sales- County Players offers group discounts to performances that can be used as fundraising events for your business or organization - for info simply visit countyplayers.org/group-sales/

Auditions - Dates for auditions for all upcoming Main Stage shows and CP2 readings will be announced, and all County Players audition info may be found at countyplayers.org/shows/auditions or go to CountyPlayers.org and look for "Auditions."

Sponsors- Hudson Valley Credit Union proudly sponsors County Players' 68th Season. For the list of all opportunities to Sponsor a Show or Event, or to advertise in the season programs, kindly visit: countyplayers.org/sponsorship-and-advertising/

Performance rights - "Lips together, Teeth Apart," "Misery," "Dracula," "The Dining Room," "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley," and "The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley" are presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. dramatists.com; "Bullshot Crummond," "A Few Good Men," "Dear Jack, Dear Louise," and "Camping with Henry and Tom" are presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. concordtheatricals.com; "Something Rotten" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, New York, NY. MTIShows.com.