

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Renegades grab 2 wins to start 30th season

By Rich Thomaselli

Here we go! The Hudson Valley Renegades opened their 30th anniversary season by winning two of their first three games over the Bowling Green Hot Rods in Bowling Green, Ky.

A strong night at the plate for Jesus Rodriguez was not enough as the Renegades fell to Hot Rods, 6-1 in the opener on Friday night. But Hudson Valley came back a day later to post a 14-2 victory and on Sunday, it was thrice as nice as three Renegades pitchers combined for a two-hit shutout and a 3-0 win. Cam Schlittler threw six innings for the victory.

The opening game, played on Friday, April 5, was the first of a nine-game road trip to start the season for the Renegades.

The Hot Rods started strong, sending eight batters to the plate and struck for four runs in the bottom of the first against Sebastian Keane. Making just his third professional start and first in High-A, the right-hander allowed three hits and walked two in the first.

Keane (0-1) departed after just 1.2 innings in which he allowed four runs on five hits and three walks with one strikeout. He left with the bases loaded, but Yorlin Calderon coaxed a fly out from Hunter Haas to escape the jam. Calderon was terrific out of the bullpen, tossing 3.1 scoreless innings while allowing one hit and striking out three.

Jesus Rodriguez got the Renegades on the board in the top of the second inning with a leadoff home run to right field off Trevor Martin.

The Renegades loaded the bases in the top of the fourth with one out against Trevor Martin, but did not score. Martin (1-0) tossed five innings, allowing one run on five hits while striking out nine and not issuing a walk.

The Renegades have lost three of their last four Opening Night games, including three straight season openers on the road (2021, 2022 and 2024). Friday's game was the first game in Renegades history played in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

In Saturday's victory, monster games from Omar Martinez and Rafael Flores and a combined one-hitter, the Renegades dominated from the beginning.

Martinez finished 4-for-5 with three runs scored, a home run, two RBIs and a walk, while Flores went 3-for-5 with two runs scored, a home run and three RBIs. Jared Serna kicked off the offensive barrage with a leadoff home run in the top of the first against Alex Cook. He tucked the sixth pitch of the game inside the foul pole down the left field line for his first home run as a Renegade after blasting 19 in 2023 with Single-A Tampa.

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VetRep acquires new space in Beacon

Organization allows veterans to express their experiences creatively

By Kristine Coulter

Veterans have unique and different experiences. So, who would be better to use their experiences as writers, actors, artists and more? Now, these creative people have a new – expanded – location, to do just that.

The pioneering arts organization Veterans Repertory Theater, known as VetRep, is expanding its venture from Cornwall in Orange County to include a new location on Main St. in Beacon. The former Mechanics Savings Bank, 139 Main St., will now be the new home for VetRep.

"I can't tell you how great it feels to finally control our own calendar and be able to platform all the work we've compiled from our veteran writers and artists," said Christopher Paul Meyer, a veteran who comes from an acting family. Meyer is the artistic director and president of VetRep.

The Beacon location gives VetRep a new 12,000 square-foot space that will host potentially three performance areas. Earlier plans, according to VetRep information, was for a location in Cornwall, at 1 Angola Road.

The prospect of the Beacon site was too good to pass up, said Meyer. He remarked, "People have asked me what went wrong at 1 Angola and my answer is, 'You mean, what went right!' We're incredibly grateful things have played out the way they did. Having the opportunity to execute two transformative projects in two of the most dynamic and interesting municipalities in the Hudson Valley is a privilege we don't take lightly."

Meyer knows about the entertainment industry. His grandfather was a pioneering radio and theater actor, Ralph Camargo. Meyer's mother, Felice Camargo, per-



Jonathan Gorst, managing director for VetRep, left, with Christopher Paul Meyer, the artistic director and president of VetRep, in the organization's new space at 139 Main St. in Beacon. They are standing by the former bank vault.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

formed in Broadway and theater productions, notably in "Fiddler on the Roof," "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" and was a "Fosse" dancer. His aunt, Victoria Wyndham, also in the acting world, was known for her role as Rachel Cory on the soap opera "Another World." Meyer's cousin is also an actor. Meyer's father was drafted into the military and served honorably.

It was on 9/11, getting off at the sub-

way stop on his way to jury duty in New York City, that Meyer saw the second plane hit the World Trade Center's South Tower. "That changed a lot in me," he said. He remarked, "I felt a lot of guilt. Then I joined the military." He joined the U.S. Army. Meyer served 14 years in the Army Reserve and National Guard.

"I have the opportunity to plant roots. This is the time to do it," he said. And to offer people world-class entertainment.

Continued on page 2

DCTC conducts feasibility study for Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail

By Kristine Coulter

A feasibility study has been launched for a Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail. The study, which can be found at <https://www.beaconhopewellrailtrail.com/about>, will determine the feasibility of constructing a 13-mile rail trail along the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) Beacon Line: an inactive rail corridor that runs between the Hudson River in the City of Beacon and the hamlet of Hopewell Junction in the Town of East Fishkill, according to County officials. The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) is evaluating the feasibility of constructing a 13-mile multi-use rail trail along the MTA's Beacon Line.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "This feasibility study will look at the opportunities and challenges of the potentially developing a trail along this section of the MTA's Beacon Line. Right now, adding a trail along this corridor is only an idea."

"The Beacon Line runs between the Hudson River in the City of Beacon and



A feasibility study is now available regarding a possible Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail.

-Courtesy image

the hamlet of Hopewell Junction in the Town of East Fishkill. The study area (see map below) includes portions of the City of Beacon, Village of Fishkill, and Towns

Continued on page 3

VetRep acquires new space in Beacon

Continued from cover

There will still be the Parlor in Cornwall, which is a 16-seat location on Quaker Ave. At this spot, shows will be performed from this month through December.

In October, from the 11th – 13th, VetRep will host its Savage Wonder Festival of Veterans in the Arts. This will mark Phase 1 of the site's build-out, explained Meyer, which will also be VetRep's planned year-round programs that will be presented on the stage in Beacon.

"Following the festival, the Main Street location will serve as VetRep's main stage, featuring at least two bars and housing the future Savage Wonder Gallery of Veteran Art. The non-profit gallery will exhibit art from veterans, underscoring VetRep's commitment to the arts and the veteran community," according to VetRep information.

Meyer said he does not want to "convert" anyone, because he thinks "that hurts" the theater experience. The theater works "come from veterans' experiences"

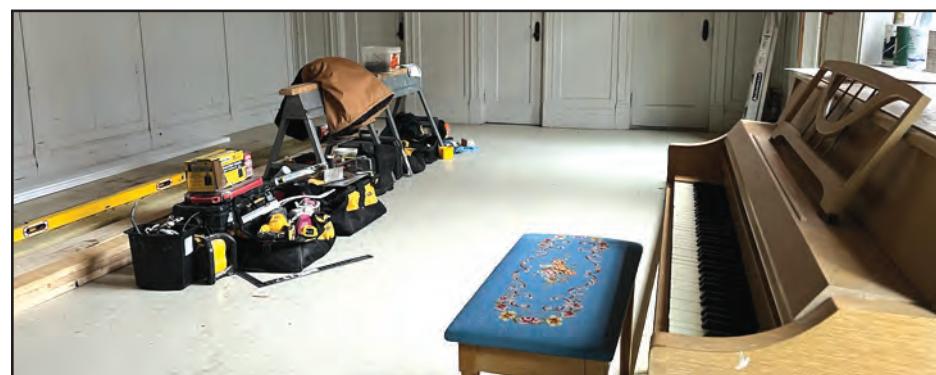
and there is enough drama in those incidents," he explained,

On the VetRep website, www.vetrep.org, one can find applications and how to submit one's works.

"I will review every one of them," noted Meyer. Submissions are then whittled down, and go on to theater professionals, he explained.

In Orange County, at the Lemon Building, 257 Main St., in Cornwall, according to the agreement with VetRep, will be known as VetRep Imaginarium, which is described as "a permanent show incubator complete with a gallery, bar/cafe/lounge, and jewelbox performance space."

"Our community is proud of the fact that we helped support VetRep as they began their journey in Cornwall at the Parlor and are now expanding to multiple locations at 257 Main Street in Cornwall - known as the Lemon Building - and in Beacon. We look forward to finding out later this Spring whether VetRep's New York Forward project application is awarded and to a continued partnership with Chris Meyer and the rest of their team as they embark on fulfilling this



One of the rooms that will be transformed at the new VetRep location on Main St. in Beacon.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

important mission for veteran artists," said Josh Wojehowski, Cornwall Town Supervisor, in a statement.

The 2024 season at the Parlor began on April 6 which were staged readings of ten-minute comedies and dramas by veterans.

As for the new Beacon location, Meyer said, "When I first walked in, I was like 'This is awesome. I can't wait to see where all the problems are. But [everything] has gone smoothly and quickly.' He said being able to offer fellow veter-

ans opportunities is the tangible aspect of having the new space.

It is a privilege to work in this environment every day. I think it's really cool," said Meyer.

For more information on the Savage Wonder Festival lineup in Beacon, the season at the Parlor, tickets, or further information, visit vetrep.org. One may also find information on how to donate to VetRep on the website.

Raymond named president of Central Hudson

The Board of Directors of Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation announced today the appointment of Stephanie Raymond as President of Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation, effective Monday, April 8. Raymond will serve as President until Christopher Capone's retirement in October, at which time she will assume full responsibilities as President and CEO.

"We are excited to welcome Stephanie Raymond to Central Hudson," said Margarita Dilley, Chair of the Board of Central Hudson. "Stephanie brings extensive utility experience across a wide range of areas, including operations and engineering, project management, customer service, strategy, regulatory, and finance. She is forward-focused, sparks innovative thinking, and brings a fresh perspective to Central Hudson's strong executive team."

Under Raymond's leadership, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL) consistently achieved top-quartile and best-in-class results across critical areas, including customer satisfaction, safety, reliability, and operational excellence. Among her achievements were a 28% improvement in grid reliability and a significant 22% enhancement in customer satisfaction scores.

"The Board thanks Chris for his nearly two and a half decades of service to Central Hudson and its customers, and is

grateful for his leadership and dedication," said Dilley. "In early 2023, Chris agreed to delay his planned retirement to assume the role of CEO, with a key focus on further stabilizing the company's customer billing system. Under his leadership, the company strengthened its commitment to customer service and outreach to important community stakeholders. We know there is more work ahead, but Chris' commitment to upholding Central Hudson values and culture highlight his legacy to the organization."

"On a personal note," Dilley added, "Chris has been an exceptional CEO and a pleasure to work with."

Raymond and Capone will work closely together during a transition period to ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities.

"I am deeply committed to advancing Central Hudson's strategic initiatives, with a particular emphasis on fortifying our commitments to our customers. I am eager to cultivate meaningful partnerships with our dedicated employees, valued customers, regulatory bodies, elected officials and local communities in the coming months," stated Raymond. "Central Hudson is a strong gas and electric utility, with a long history of unwavering dedication to providing safe and reliable service to customers. I'm proud to build on these strengths alongside the company's strong leadership team."

"I fully support Stephanie as our new

President and future President and CEO," said Capone. "While I will truly miss our employees, I look forward to a new stage of my life with family and friends. I wish Stephanie and my colleagues all the best as they continue operating this critical institution in the Hudson River Valley. It has been my privilege to work with them for more than two decades, and I can say without hesitation that their dedication is truly outstanding and inspiring."

Most recently, Raymond served as the President of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL). In this role, she held operational oversight of the electric delivery company, serving 1.4 million customers across 29 counties in eastern and central Pennsylvania.

During her tenure at PPL, Raymond managed various responsibilities, from strategic planning and operations to customer service, regulatory compliance, financial management, and business services. Under her leadership, PPL consistently achieved top-quartile and best-in-class results across various critical areas, including customer satisfaction, safety, reliability, and operational excellence. She successfully drove a 28% improvement in grid reliability and a 22% enhancement in customer satisfaction. This success was achieved while effectively managing costs and improving operational efficiency by



Stephanie Raymond

over 50% during a 10-year period. She demonstrates a strong focus on safety, quality, and performance.

Before her tenure at PPL, Raymond spent a decade in the telecommunications industry in progressively responsible senior leadership positions. During this time, she successfully led several organizations through periods of significant growth and large-scale business transformation. Stephanie earned her bachelor's degree in business administration-finance/strategic management from California State University in Sacramento and completed the Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Education Program.

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'The Beacon Monologues' set for April 12 at the Howland Cultural Center

By Kristine Coulter

Ten writers and 9 actors from the City of Beacon will take part in a professional live theater performance called "The Beacon Monologues." Each monologue will run for 7-10 minutes.

"I put out some messages through friends and a local literary event. I simply described the event and then let people come to me if they were interested. Given that this is our first iteration there wasn't a deluge of interest, but enough folks were willing to take a risk on me and the project and I'm humbled and grateful they did," explained Jamie Mulligan. Mulligan is producing the performance, which will be held at 8 p.m. on April 12 at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon.

Mulligan was asked what he hopes people take away from listening to monologues, which are centered around Beacon.

"I hope our audience takes away a thoughtful and nuanced view of beacon and the communities that live here. We have an amazing little city and I hope we can all be proud of the things that make us unique. I hope people take away a feeling of pride for where we are lucky to live. I also hope we learn how to elevate the conversation above the rancor of social media. There's so much friction there that's unnecessary. We need to learn how to live together even when we come from different places," replied Mulligan.

So why was it important that the actors and writers live in Beacon?

This project is meant to build community in Beacon, replied Mulligan, which is why the actors and writers live in the Beacon community. "That can mean different things to different overlapping communities. I wanted to build a theater community, too. A lot of local theater artists have to go outside Beacon to practice their craft, I hope to provide a high-quality space to do that within our borders," he remarked.

The 10 writers are: Emily, Murnane, Doug Donaldson, Bob Bozic, Gary Sunshine, Joanna Castle Miller, Courtney Campbell, Janeen Foy, Twinkle Burke, Doug Donaldson and Andrew Saloman.

Murnane explained, "I decided to participate because my position in Beacon is fairly unique. I am "Old Beacon" - born and raised in Beacon with a long family tree in the area, but also a child who grew up during the Beacon Renaissance/the rise of "New Beacon."

Murnane said, "My monologue is written from the critical, cynical perspective of an "Old Beaconite" and explores the root of resistance to change: grief for what is lost, especially when the loss comes at the end of decades of loyalty to one's hometown. I hope those who hear the monologue leave with a more compassionate understanding of why some Old Beaconites are critical of change, and



Emily Murnane is one of the writers of 1 of the 10 monologues.

-Courtesy photo

also some perspective on why our older generations may struggle to communicate their grief in a socially acceptable way."

Ultimately, Murnane, described her monologue as "a two-way love letter."

"One side is to Old Beacon: 'I hear you, and I am doing my best to help preserve what you kept safe for me to also love someday.' The other is to New Beacon: 'I am so happy you love this place too- will you let me show you how?'"

The 9 actors are: Sarah-Jane Casey, Jessica Jeliffe, John Blesso, Eli Walker, Shane Bly Killoran, Erin Cummings, Kerry Gibson, Dan Anderson, and Jeremy Plyburn.

What does Mulligan hope the Beacon community learns about the area after hearing the monologues?

"I hope they learn some history, some geography, and some more knowledge about the two worlds of "old Beacon" and "new Beacon" I hope they gain perspective about where others are coming from and what it means to truly love your neighbor," said Mulligan.

"I'd like the city people to know that this show is trying to do a lot. It's not all an easy listening experience. Some of these stories will challenge our sensitivities. I should also include a trigger warning as some subjects of bigotry, assault, and racism are explored herein," stated Mulligan.

General admission tickets are \$25 and sold on EventBrite, search for Beacon Monologues.

For more information on tickets, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-beacon-monologues-tickets-840630677987?aff=oddt-creator>.

DCTC conducts feasibility study for Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail

Continued from cover

Trail in Beacon, and the William R Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail and Empire State Trail in Hopewell Junction (East Fishkill)," the potential trail site states. "The study will document the challenges and opportunities of constructing a rail trail, and then present several design concepts to stakeholders and the public for review and feedback. The study will ultimately produce a recommended trail concept with cost estimates – though as a feasibility study, it does not imply any commitment to fund or build a trail by New York State, Dutchess County, or any local municipality in the study area."

City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou said recently, "We successfully encouraged the County to consider expanding their rail-trail system with Metro North's former Beacon Line – running from our train station, along Fishkill Creek, Main

and Route 52, north to Hopewell. Dutchess County Planning kicked off a feasibility study in late 2023, so this exciting decade-long project has begun."

Serino said, "The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC)'s study will provide relevant stakeholders, including us here at the County, with the information needed to better understand what a potential trail would look like, how much it would cost, and most importantly, how it would align with the needs and priorities of our local communities."

The three key tasks of the trail study are:

- Inventorying and assessing existing conditions (including natural resources, road crossing, and structures)
- Preparing and evaluating preliminary design concepts
- Preparing a final concept plan with cost estimates

The goals of the study are:

- Inventory existing conditions along the rail corridor and assess the challenges with constructing a potential rail trail
- Understand the community's concerns, desires, and needs for a rail trail
- Determine the current and future needs of the MTA and the rail corridor
- Identify and document existing natural resources and assess potential environmental impacts of a potential rail trail
- Identify ways to protect and restore natural resources along the rail corridor
- Identify any historic structures or elements along the rail corridor
- Determine logical connection points and trailhead locations
- Develop conceptual plans and details for a potential rail trail
- Estimate the cost of designing and constructing a rail trail
- Identify possible funding sources and

opportunities

The trail site stated: "The Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Study is being guided by an Advisory Committee with representatives from Dutchess County, New York State Department of Transportation, Metro-North/MTA, City of Beacon, Village of Fishkill, Town of Fishkill, Town of East Fishkill, and the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail."

Some of the questions in the study include:

- Would you support developing a rail trail along the Beacon Line corridor?
- Which factors do you think are the most important when evaluating the potential for a rail trail?
- Which of these amenities would you like to see on the rail trail?

To take the survey, or to learn about the prospective trail, visit <https://www.beaconhopewellrailtrail.com>.

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Viewpoints

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Policy on letters:

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published.
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The 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.

Investing in childcare a priority

To the Editor:

Safe and affordable childcare is not a luxury. For many working parents in the Hudson Valley, finding flexible childcare is a necessity that makes a productive work-life balance possible. Unfortunately, Albany has failed New Yorkers when it comes to adequately addressing the childcare crisis in our state.

New York currently has 1,326 fewer childcare providers than it did four years ago. The Empire State is the sixth-most expensive for infant care in the US, clocking in at an average of \$15,934 annually. As state Senator, I've met too many parents on both sides of the political aisle who feel desperate, wondering if they're going to find an affordable childcare option that works for them while avoiding the long waitlists plaguing most providers.

We can do better. I'm sponsoring a series of bills in the Senate to reduce the high costs of childcare on working parents and expand options for families of all types. First, not all parents work nine-to-five jobs; many are in nontraditional occupations which require flexibility on the part of care providers. My legislation S.8964 would expand provider hours and give families more choices.

Providers also need help covering the high costs imposed by state regulations and mandates. S.8964, my measure to grant tax credits for facility improvements and upgrades, would reduce provider overhead and help them focus on what matters most: our kids. I also introduced S.7204, legislation to help parents find affordable childcare closer to home by establishing a Consumer Directed Childcare Pilot Program.

The childcare crisis made in Albany didn't happen overnight and won't be solved immediately either. However, we can make meaningful changes to the current childcare system that will give parents more choices and reduce soaring costs. My plan would save the average family in New York over \$2,300 a year.

An investment in childcare is a down payment on a better future. I'll continue to work with a bipartisan coalition of Senate colleagues to address the childcare crisis head-on.

Rob Rolison

NYS Senate, 39th District

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Beacon Police Blotter

The following was submitted by the City of Beacon Police Department.

March 1: City Code Violation-Fishkill Avenue-Daral Reilly, 53, of Beacon, was charged with Obstruction of Governmental Administration & Open Container.

March 2: Trespass-Mountain Lane- Caller reported an abandoned car was parked on his property. Report taken. Investigation conducted. The vehicle was towed.

March 4: Criminal Mischief-North Cedar Street- Ryan Manzi, 31, of Wappinger Falls, was charged with Criminal Mischief 3rd.

March 4: Criminal Mischief- Main Street- Caller reported that her business studio had a broken window. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 4: Warrant-North Avenue-Saul Soto, 40, of the Bronx, Bronx County, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

March 5: Disabled Vehicle- Wolcott Avenue- Michael J. Ciechalski, 57, of Wappingers Falls, was charged with DWI, Operating Motor Vehicle while Impaired by drugs & Miscellaneous Vehicle & Traffic.

March 5: Larceny-Hastings Drive- Caller reported that someone had stolen money from him. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 8: Disturbance-Franklin Avenue- Lawrence A. Woods, 23, of Beacon, was charged with Harassment 2nd.

March 8: Fraud-Main Street-Caller reported that he was a victim of identity theft. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 10: Traffic Stop- Verplanck Avenue-Moises D. Salinas, 26, of Newburgh, Orange County, was charged with DWI, Suspended Registration & Miscellaneous V & T.

March 11: Harassment- Tompkins Terrace- Caller reported a Landlord-Tenant dispute. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 12: Theft of Service-Main Street-Caller reported individuals left his establishment without paying the bill. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 13: Traffic Stop-Rt 9D-Jorge J. Ordonez, 36, of Newburgh, Orange

County, was charged with DWI & Miscellaneous V & T.

March 14: Warrant-Rte. 52- William Z. King, 31, of Cold Spring, Putnam County, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

March 17: Disturbance-Willow Street- Ryan M. Bahret, 22, of East Fishkill, was charged with Disorderly Conduct.

March 17: Public Lewdness- Main Street- Jonathan R. Troise, 39, of Yorktown Heights, was charged with Exposure of a Person.

March 22: Unwanted Party-Colonial Road- Officers responded to a call for an intoxicated individual refusing to leave callers' home. Report taken. Subject complied and left residence.

March 22: Traffic Stop-Beacon Street- Denise A. Grey, 62, of Beacon, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation Vehicle 3rd & Miscellaneous V & T.

March 23: Public Lewdness-Main Street- Brian W. Nichols, 41, of Sunnyside NY, was charged with Obstruction of Governmental Administration, Resisting Arrest & Lewdness.

March 23: Warrant-Main Street- Michael S. Horton, 35, of Beacon, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

March 25: Dog Bite- Front Street- Caller reported being bitten by a dog. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 26: Warrant-Main Street- Timothy L. Leggiero, 35, of Beacon, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

March 28: Arrest-Municipal Plaza- Nicole L. Oberle, 42, of Beacon was processed on an open Warrant of Arrest.

March 29: Dog Bite-Green Street- Caller reported that two dogs got loose and attacked her dog. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

March 30: Civil Matter-Union Street- Caller reported paying a fee for services not rendered. Report taken.

March 31: Fraud-Municipal Plaza- Caller reported being the victim of scam. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Number of Calls - 667
Auto Accidents - 30
Domestics - 11

Beacon Police: Teen with loaded gun, man with forged passport arrested in separate incidents on same day

The Beacon Police Department was called to Tompkins Terrace for a possible burglary in progress on Wednesday, April 3. According to law enforcement, upon arrival, the suspects had fled but through an investigation a description of the suspects was obtained. Officers then began to search the area and quickly located three suspects fitting that description.

While investigating them, officers discovered that one of the suspects was allegedly in possession of a loaded, illegal handgun. A 17-year-old male and a 16-year-old male were each charged with Criminal Trespass 2nd (A-Misdemeanor). A 15-year-old male was charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd (C-Felony), Criminal Possession of a Firearm (E-Felony), Criminal Possession of a Weapon 4th (A-Misdemeanor) and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Person Under 16 (Juvenile Offense). All

three were processed and released with appearance tickets. Due to the juvenile status of the suspects, no further names or information can be released at this time.

Alleged forged passport, identity theft

In an unrelated incident, on that same day, the Beacon Police Department responded to a call at Hudson Valley Credit Union for a possible identity theft. Upon arrival officers located a suspect who initially attempted to flee the location. He was allegedly found to be in possession of a stolen credit card as well as a forged passport in the name of the victim.

According to Beacon police, Zebediah Schildkraut, of Brooklyn, was charged with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument 2nd (D-Felony), Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 4th (E-Felony) and Criminal Impersonation 2nd (A-Misdemeanor). He was processed and released with an appearance ticket.

County Task Force: Beacon man arrested for criminal possession, sale of controlled substance

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force began an investigation several months ago related to dangerous drug sales in the City of Beacon. As a result of this investigation, the Drug Task Force identified Jerami Davis, 34, a Beacon resident, as a person alleged to be selling cocaine.

Davis was arrested by Drug Task Force Agents on March 22, and arraigned in Dutchess County Court on an Indictment charging him with 2 counts of criminal sale of a controlled substance in the third degree, class B felonies and; 2 counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance in the third degree. Davis was released by Dutchess County Court to the supervision of Dutchess County Probation.

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force warns the public that cocaine is often mixed with fentanyl, a dangerous drug that is the leading cause of overdose deaths in Dutchess County.

If anyone has information regarding this case or about any other individuals selling drugs in Dutchess County, you are urged to contact the Drug Task Force confidential tip line at 845-463-6040 or by sending an email to the following address:DrugTaskForceTips@gmail.com

As with any criminal case, the charges described above are merely an accusation and those individuals named in this release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

\$32 million for SUNY, Office for People With Developmental Disabilities partnership program



A \$32 million investment was announced for the partnership between SUNY and the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities to expand the Direct Support Professional microcredential program. The announcement was made at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie.

-Courtesy photos

Governor Kathy Hochul announced on March 20, a \$32 million investment to expand the Direct Support Professional microcredential program offered by the State University of New York (SUNY) in partnership with the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). The funding will allow SUNY to expand the program on campuses where it already exists and add programs at additional campuses to help grow the Direct Support Professional workforce in New York State and support New Yorkers with developmental disabilities. SUNY anticipates supporting up to 6,000 students by 2030 through this expansion.

"Every day, direct support professionals help New Yorkers with developmental disabilities thrive in their day-to-day lives," Governor Hochul said. "Through this \$32 million expansion, we are helping to grow this crucial field and ensure students have the training they need to pursue this vital career path and care for their fellow New Yorkers."

In February 2023, Hochul announced OPWDD awarded SUNY \$5 million to upskill, through microcredentials, the current Direct Support Professional (DSP) workforce, enabling direct support professionals to secure national certification and college credit toward a certificate, associate or bachelor's degree. Early this year, New York State invested an additional \$20 million in the program.

The announcement was made at Dutchess Community College (DCC), where SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr. and OPWDD Commissioner Kerri E. Neifeld joined President Peter Grant Jordan and the DCC community for a recognition ceremony of the college's first DSP cohort. The new microcredential was completed by 15 students during the Fall 2023 semester. As of Spring 2024, DCC has 173 students participating in the program. [Learn more about DCC's DSP program at www.suny-dutchess.edu/dsp]

King said, "Microcredentials provide a path for New Yorkers to boost their skills and increase upward mobility. The demand for the Direct Support Professionals microcredential program was vast, far exceeding expectations, which shows there are many people willing to learn to provide compassionate care for the most vulnerable New Yorkers. I'm proud to expand this program to additional SUNY colleges thanks to the amazing partnership between SUNY and OPWDD. Together, we can support the individuals who continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those with developmental disabilities."

OPWDD Commissioner Kerri E. Neifeld said, "OPWDD is thrilled with the success of the SUNY DSP Microcredential Program and with the participation that continues to expand statewide. The program is an opportunity for professional growth and a deeper understanding of the field of direct support.

With the addition of six new campuses, SUNY is helping to increase the pipeline for this incredibly important profession that changes lives for people with developmental disabilities. I thank Chancellor King for championing this effort and we look forward to our continued partnership."

Dutchess Community College President Peter Grant Jordan said, "This partnership with the New York State OPWDD and SUNY has been instrumental for us in building a truly innovative and successful program, which epitomizes the purpose of community college. It has helped us to build a robust curriculum and offer additional wrap-around supports, allowing more than 190 students who've participated in the program thus far to prioritize their education, while continuing to care for some of our most vulnerable citizens. We are proud to serve our community by offering this Direct Support Professional program and the accompanying certifications, and we look forward to its continued growth and impact within the Hudson Valley region."

The first class began at Niagara County Community College followed by SUNY Corning, Dutchess Community College, Empire State University, Finger Lakes Community College, Fulton-Montgomery Community College, Jefferson Community College, Mohawk Valley Community College, SUNY Morrisville, Onondaga Community College, SUNY Schenectady and Tompkins Cortland Community College.

As the program continues to expand, six new campuses were announced to begin offering the Direct Support Professional microcredentials, including:

SUNY Canton
Farmingdale State College
Jamestown Community College
North Country Community College
SUNY Oneonta
Orange County Community College

SUNY Canton President Zvi Szafran said, "SUNY Canton is excited to be a partner in SUNY's expanding partnership



A \$32 million investment was announced for the partnership between SUNY and the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities to expand the Direct Support Professional microcredential program. The announcement was made at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie.

with OPWDD. By developing and offering microcredentials and other stackable credentials designed to expand employment opportunities for the developmental disability community, we enhance skills, unlock opportunities, and address workforce needs in our area. Participating students will thrive in this program and be well-suited for an expanded range of meaningful jobs. SUNY Canton's participation helps us exemplify our campus motto of 'Everyone is Welcome Here.'

SUNY Orange President Dr. Kristine Young said, "New Yorkers with developmental disabilities are struggling to access quality care in part because our statewide workforce is lacking credentialed direct support professionals to serve them. Governor Hochul has identified a plan to address that shortage and SUNY, as a system, is stepping forward in partnership with the Governor and the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. SUNY Orange is eager to join our colleagues across SUNY who have already begun this critical work."

Supported through federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, this microcredential program is aimed at helping to upskill and retain individuals already working in the profession and to encourage new professionals to enter the field. Each microcredential program was designed to support national certification from the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) and award academic credit that can be applied toward meeting degree requirements in human services, psychology, sociology, addiction studies and more at the certificate, associate, bachelor's and master's levels. Successful completion of up to four microcredentials in the series will result in a SUNY microcredential and up to four national certifications: DSP I, II, III and Front-Line Supervisor.

The program provides a \$750 stipend to eligible students who successfully complete each microcredential and certification in the series. In addition, grant funding will cover tuition, books, course materials, NADSP credentialing for students, and educational support.

No injuries, damage reported to Dutchess County 911 after 4.8 earthquake hits New Jersey, New York area

No injuries, damage reported to Dutchess County 911 after earthquake hits New Jersey, New York area

The effects of a 4.8 magnitude earthquake, originating near Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, were felt across the Hudson Valley and beyond on April 5, including in Dutchess County.

At this time, there have been no injuries or damage throughout the county reported to the 911 Communications Center.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has been coordinating with Dutchess County Emergency Response to monitor the situation. DCEER has been in contact with state and federal authorities, as well as communi-

cating with local municipalities. Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, as well Dutchess County Public Works and other County departments, have been assessing roadways, buildings and other infrastructure for any possible damage.

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (NY) released a statement regarding the earthquake in which she stated her office was "closely monitoring the situation" and for New Yorkers "to stay safe and follow the guidance of our first responders and public officials."

To learn more about earthquakes, including how to respond before, during and after an earthquake event, this Ready.gov page is a resource: ready.gov/earthquakes.

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SPORTS NOTES

Hudson Valley Renegades have come a long way in 30 great years

By Rich Thomaselli

WAPPINGERS FALLS — Call me warped, or that I have a terrible sense of humor, but there's only one thing I think of when I set foot in Heritage Financial Park, formerly Dutchess Stadium.

And that one thing that I think of is flushing.

Moments before the Hudson Valley Renegades played their first-ever game at the park 30 years ago, after relocating from Erie, Pennsylvania, team officials had every available employee flush the toilets simultaneously in the stadium to make sure the sewage system was working properly.

To this day, I still laugh about it with former general manager Steve Gliner and Vice President Rick Zolzer.

It's not the only thing I think about, of course. The parking lot was still unfinished on opening night 30 years ago, and was filled with rocks and boulders. In fact, in the coming weeks after the season opener, one of those rocks made a gash in the undercarriage of my car, and I was leaking power steering fluid all over the

place and getting home was an adventure.

Then there was the game itself. I will never forget that Hudson Valley won in extra innings on a walk-off single by Roberto Santa. I had to write the mean story that night, but my colleague, Mark Bickel, suggested the opening line - Santa Always Delivers.

But for some reason, the flushing of the toilets is always a standout.

It just makes me think how far the franchise has come in 30 years. The team also came here as a farm club of the Texas Rangers and then the Tampa Rays. There were no natural or familiar ties with a parent glow. And the team was a member of the New York-Penn League and had only 38 home games.

Now the Renegades are an affiliate of the New York Yankees and have 72 home games.

After more than a generation here, the team has been able to enjoy sustained success thanks to the evolution of the management.

And yes, the toilets still work and the parking lot is paved.

Renegades grab 2 wins to start 30th season

Continued from cover

Making his professional debut, Kyle Carr set the Hot Rods down in order in the first before running into some trouble in the bottom of the second. Bowling Green struck for two runs on a hit — a double by Brock Jones — while taking advantage of three walks to take a 2-1 lead. The Renegades jumped back in front in the top of the third as the first four batters reached against Cook (0-1). Serna walked, then Jesus Rodriguez singled. Martinez and Garrett Martin delivered back-to-back RBI singles to give Hudson Valley a 3-2 lead.

Trent Sellers (1-0) replaced Carr and fired 3.0 hitless innings in his professional debut, racking up seven strikeouts in the process. Leonardo Pestana followed with 2.0 hitless frames in his first outing of the season.

Martinez ripped a solo home run to left field to lead off the top of the fifth and kickstarted a five-run inning. Kiko Romero and Cole Gabrielson each collected RBI singles, while Serna brought in two more runs when a groundball was booted by Hot Rods third baseman Brayden Taylor to break the game open at 8-2.

Schlittler turned in a phenomenal outing on Sunday. The right-hander had the best outing of his career thus far, setting a new career-high with 6.0 innings and tying his career-best with seven strikeouts. Schlittler (1-0) allowed just one hit and one walk in the outing while becoming the first Renegades pitcher to complete six innings in a start in 2024. Between Saturday and Sunday, the Renegades pitching staff combined at one point to not allow a hit to Hot Rods across 10.2 innings and yielded just three hits across the last two games of the series. Seven total pitchers combined to hold Bowling Green to no runs across the final 16.1 innings of the series. The game remained scoreless into the top of the sixth, when the Renegades broke through against Hot Rods reliever Jake Christianson. Jesus Rodriguez and Josh Moylan got the inning started with back-to-back singles before Garrett Martin doubled to center to chase home Rodriguez. Alexander Vargas lifted a sacrifice fly to left to plate Moylan and grow the lead to 2-0.

This was the first shutout of the 2024 season for the Renegades, who threw 13 shutouts in 2023, although they didn't record their first until their 40th game of the season.

Traditional Okinawan Karate students attend Spring Shuai, testing in New Paltz



Green belts Camila Scocozza, center, and Mikaela Smilkstein, right, perform Seiunchin Kata as part of Traditional Okinawan Karate's spring Shuai.

Courtesy photo

New Paltz Karate Academy's Shuai is a celebration of the karate community, an opportunity for students to be promoted, and, often, the culmination of months or years of dedication.

The event, held in New Paltz on Saturday, March 23, drew students from five locations, plus their families and friends. The event included students from Traditional Okinawan Karate schools in New Paltz, Pleasant Valley, East Fishkill, Brooklyn and Kinnelon, NJ. The Shuai is a semiannual event and an opportunity for the students to come together and demonstrate their skills for families and friends.

Groups of students performed self-defense demonstrations and kata (martial arts forms consisting of striking, blocking and kicking combinations).

The final segment of the shuai was the promotion of the students who had been tested

earlier in the day. The highest promotions were those at black-belt level:

- Junior Black Belt: Monserrat Mota, and Rowan Shortle.

- Shodan (First degree black belt): Donald Allen, Corrine Cady, Rolando Gonzalez, Griffin Landrum, Edward Townsend, Matthew Weir, Jesse Wright, and Cody Zavodsky.

- Nidan (Second degree black belt): Ryan Bair, Tyler Campbell, Andre Graham, Tara Keating, Joshua Post, Zachary Remling, and Martin Toder.

- Sandan (Third Degree black belt): Linda Engler.

- Rokudan (Sixth Degree black belt): Janet Frommer.

Traditional Okinawan Karate has Dutchess County locations in Pleasant Valley and East Fishkill. They can be reached at 845-635-1426 (Pleasant Valley) or 845-797-2258 (East Fishkill).

Get on Down dance at Elks Lodge April 13

Get On Down at the Elks Lounge Dance Night on Saturday, Saturday April 13 at 7 p.m. at 900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), Beacon. The lights are low, the sound is full and the ambiance is warm and intimate. Attire is whatever suits your mood — from blue jeans to dazzling sparkles. These

dances are informal and even if you come alone, you can always find a friendly partner on the dance floor. \$15 admission includes a variety of delicious complimentary snacks, and a full cash bar is available.

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

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Kyriacou delivers State of the City address

By Kristine Coulter

"Beacon, I am proud to report to you that the State of Our City, continues to be excellent," was one of the statements from Mayor Lee Kyriacou during his State of the City on April 1. He remarked that he wanted to deliver "the achievements of this past year and our goals for the coming one."

"To place this in historical context, Beacon has made a spectacular transformation in the 30+ years since I first joined the City Council in 1993 – from a down-and-out factory town with a largely boarded-up Main Street, into a rejuvenated small city with a thriving Main Street, preserved history and natural beauty – the envy of the Hudson Valley. That transformation did not happen by miracle or accident, but rather through rethinking the city's direction, thoughtful zoning and other changes documented in our Comprehensive Plan, and decades of gradual change led by those who love and serve this city," said the mayor.

There are "new challenges" that the City and residents face, acknowledged Kyriacou. Among those challenges:

How do we complete updating our 100-year-old infrastructure?

How do we thoughtfully manage growth and development?

How do we continue to improve quality of life?

How do we do our part to ease a national housing shortage and support everyone in our community?

How do we finance all that while not overburdening taxpayers? So, how have we done?

Kyriacou said the City's "financial position remains the best it has been in the decades." The mayor remarked, "2023 was the first year of Beacon's new 10-year sales tax sharing agreement that I negotiated with Dutchess County. The City gained more than \$1,000,000 in additional sales tax revenue last year, which will grow to more than \$2,000,000 a year. To put this into context, an extra million-plus in sales tax revenue is equal to 10% of our property tax base, which the City can put to use without raising your taxes."

The 2024 City operating budget of \$35 million "continued to lower property tax rates, resulting in our lowest rate since 2010," claimed Kyriacou. He added: "In addition to keeping tax rates low, we are committed to minimizing any tax increases. The Mayor's 2024 Budget kept the overall increase in total property taxes to 2% – despite higher inflation, and well below the State's allowable tax cap. The Mayor and administration are fully committed to continuing this policy/trend."

Regarding new construction, "[t]he City and taxpayers continue to benefit from new construction, which added \$27 million in 2023 to Beacon's tax base, and more than \$100 million over the past 3 years. New construction adds tax revenue for expanded City services without burdening current taxpayers." Beacon has an Aa2 Moody's bond rating, for lower interest rates.

Public safety

"The City is a safe community – with great police and fire teams. Our biggest ongoing challenge is a national one: dwindling volunteers for fire/EMS services, and a need to fund a shift to more career staffing – which we work on gradually in each City budget," said Kyriacou. The City of Beacon Police Department recently has 2 officers leave for other departments. The mayor noted that his 2024 budget added "another cost-effective civilian police dispatcher, which frees up officers to be out in the community."

"In my first term, we fully funded going from three to four firefighters 24/7; we later promoted staff to have a lieutenant on every shift. In 2023, we said thank you to retiring Chief Gary Van Voorhis and welcomed new Fire Chief Tom Lucchesi," said the mayor. He also mentioned the new green energy fire station. "And the biggest and most obvious news – if you pass by Route 9D and Main Street – is that last June the City broke ground on our largest capital project ever: a \$14.6 million rehabilitation/expansion of the Beacon Fire Station."

He also noted that "2023 marked the first year of major City budget funds for local EMS service, with both a new contract for advanced life support ambulance service from Ambulnz, as well as funding to improve the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps (BVAC)."

Infrastructure, Route 52 and the Dummy light

"The Mayor's Budget consistently prioritizes long-term investment, and the City Administrator maximizes non-City funding

sources to avoid undue tax burden. Some \$40 million in infrastructure projects are underway or beginning in 2024," remarked the mayor.

Kyriacou explained, "The City began redesign work on Teller and Fishkill Avenues – a key City artery – more than 20 years ago. This administration secured almost 100% Federal and State financing, finished right-of-way and other preparatory work, and is awaiting bids on the projects. The \$8.8 million current phase will rebuild the road, sidewalks and curbs, plus underground utility upgrades on Teller from Wolcott to Main, and on Fishkill from Main to Memorial Park. We hope to begin construction in 2024, and continue to seek funding to extend further on Fishkill Avenue to the City border."

The City continues to invest in "its long-term investment in our drinking water and wastewater systems, including settling tanks, dewatering system and pump station for wastewater treatment; and finishing updates on two dams and soon beginning rehabilitation of the Melzing Dam," he said.

More than 14 more streets in 2023 were repaved, said Kyriacou. Among the streets were Wolcott/9D, Alice, Cross, Eliza, Green, Harbor Hill, Hillside, Maddox, Robin, South Davies, University, West Church and Willow, and added new sidewalks by South Avenue Park and new railings on the creek-side boardwalk at Madame Brett Park.

The mayor also remarked that the Dummy Light was repaired last year and there is new striping and signage to steer vehicles clear.

Quality of life

Kyriacou discusses issues that will enhance the quality of life for Beaconites and those who visit the city.

"We continued to implement the City's Comprehensive Plan, focusing on Main Street's long-term success, along with environmentally sustainable density in a few areas, and even a rethink of Route 52," he said. The Mayor's Main Street Access Committee "wrapped up its meetings, and the City has been implementing "quick wins" – better signage, side street stop signs, pedestrian crossings and "bump-outs" that slow traffic," said the mayor.

It was noted by the Kyriacou, "Beacon received a "Walkers Paradise" rating of 96 out of 100 from WalkScore, compared to an average score of 48 for NY State. We are working with the County's Public Transit system on increased options on three bus routes in June 2024."

The mayor also remarked on the numerous trail systems, parks and increase in programs offered by the Beacon Recreation Department. He also mentioned the new Mayor's Committee that will look at the section of Route 52 where Healey Brothers car dealership once was located.

Adding Affordable Housing, climate leadership

"Beacon is a Hudson Valley leader in effective affordable housing, with roughly 30% of Beacon's rental units in affordable programs (second only to Poughkeepsie City). We are working with the County to redevelop the Main Street parking lot of its Motor Vehicle building for affordable housing. We recently submitted a letter of intent to New York State to become a Pro-Housing Community," said Kyriacou.

He said he is "committed to making Beacon a model of sustainability for the Hudson Valley" and remarked the entire City government "runs on 100% renewable electricity – the lion's share from the City's own solar farm on our old landfill, plus purchase of Renewable Energy Credits." The City continues to implement its green fleet policy, adding both all-electric and hybrid City vehicles each year, he said.

Good government

"Beacon's form of government has a part-time Mayor, who manages a full-time, professional City Administrator. I believe residents, taxpayers and employees deserve a professionally run city – one that uses taxpayer funds effectively, that empowers department managers, and develops our employees. We have an outstanding City Administrator, and use outside professional services for our City Attorney, City Planner and City Engineer," said Kyriacou. "I believe in empowering managers, and encourage robust debates on priorities and how to get things done, and I believe we get much better results and more satisfied employees."

"In closing, as I said at the start, the state of Beacon is excellent. I am truly proud of the work we have accomplished together in the past year and during my four plus years as Mayor," concluded Kyriacou.

Zachary Pulse and Friends concert April 12 in East Fishkill

By Kristine Coulter

The Howland Chamber Music Circle will present a "no ticket required" concert series at the East Fishkill Community Library, 348 Route 376, in East Fishkill. The first concert is scheduled for April 12 at 6:30 p.m. The concert will feature Zachary Pulse and Friends. The concert will be held in the rotunda of the library.

"This series has brought three great local organizations together for the first time. The concerts are being presented by the Howland Chamber Music Circle, sponsored by the East Fishkill Recreation Department and hosted by the East Fishkill Community Library. I hope our three organizations find many future opportunities to work together. Being able to bring world class musicians to the East Fishkill Community Library is thrilling," said Lu Ann Kaldor, who is with the East Fishkill Community Library.

Paul Stoddard, who is the president of the Howland Chamber Music Circle, stated, "The Howland Chamber Music Circle has held "Pop-up" concerts in the past, most of them before COVID. The concerts are intended to give the community a chance to enjoy chamber music for free. They also employ local musicians and will hopefully interest the public in regular Howland Chamber Music Circle concerts, as well as those of other presenters."

The concerts have usually been held in Beacon, Stoddard noted, "but we had one last Spring at the Hopewell Reformed Church. That one was requested by an East Fishkill resident who also helped organize it. It was so successful that the town of East Fishkill asked us to have more. This year, the library was selected for three concerts. They are partly sponsored by the town, and are organized by the Howland Chamber Music Circle. Two of these concerts will focus on classical music and one on jazz."

During the first concert of this 3-concert series, Pulse will play oboe, Daniel Garcia play classical guitar, Kathy Patrick-Bosman on viola, and Brad Hubbard on saxophone



Zachary Pulse and Friends will perform April 12 in East Fishkill.

-Courtesy photo

and flute.

"The program will feature an unusual combination of instruments. — oboe, saxophone/flute, violin/viola, and guitar — playing solo and chamber music repertoire from the 18th through 21st centuries. Selections to be announced at the performance will include the music of J. S. Bach (and those who follow in his lineage), plus composers from Europe, North and South America. A unique set you won't hear anywhere else!" Pulse said in an email.

Two concerts are scheduled for May. The first one will be on Friday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. and will feature Gwen Laster's New MUSE4tet. Then on Friday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m., HotWrk Ensemble will perform.

Kaldor remarked, "Over 50 years ago my mother, a violinist, started a chamber music series at the library in our hometown. Last year was her quartet's final performance. I feel, in a way, that I'm continuing her legacy."

For more information, call the East Fishkill Community at 845-221-9943 or visit eflibrary.org.

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love to cook



by vicki frank day

A new signature dish

A creamy and cheesy potato casserole is a delicious option to accompany just about any meat dish.

I think everyone who cooks, no matter how often, must have at least one recipe they come to rely on. Maybe it's one you love preparing or it's easy to put together for any occasion. Maybe it's a crowd favorite that you have to make or bring lest a riot ensue. Whatever the case, like it or not, that, my friends is probably your signature dish.

Now, maybe I'm being a bit snarky here but, if we're honest, that description may have called to mind a certain dish made by a certain person you know that they always bring to gatherings that don't go with anything and no one ever requests. It's just what they do. Like Aunt Tilly's ambrosia salad or your sister-in-law's prune whip. While you have to appreciate the effort they made, it's OK to feel a little angst when you see them come through the door. Still, these also fit the definition of a signature dish. Just not necessarily the good kind.

The trick to a truly great signature dish is finding one that works for you and will be welcome wherever you serve it. This takes a level of awareness that, admittedly, some people just seem to lack. If you're asked to bring something, maybe ask what else is being served to see if your go-to is appropriate. Maybe tuna noodle casserole isn't the best choice for a fancy cocktail party, even if people like it. And

if you're not asked to bring anything, don't feel obligated to do so. Likely your host has the menu all planned down to the last detail and your franks and beans might not be a good or welcome fit.

I'm not trying to be cruel or shame anyone who tries to do the right thing. As a cook who takes a long time carefully planning menus, I definitely appreciate the thought behind wanting to contribute. Please don't think me pretentious, but that also means I've taken great care in putting together things that (hopefully) complement each other. The hope is that in the process I'll find a new signature dish that is in every way a success, one I can add to my list of go-to recipes for when the need arises. According to my mother, I did just that with a side dish for Easter, one that will work in many situations, is pretty quick and easy to make and is a crowd-pleaser to boot.

Since ham is usually the protein of choice on our Easter table, potatoes in some form are always a must. I have several recipes for scalloped potatoes and gratins I've relied on over the years, but this year I wanted something different and, if I'm honest, a little easier. I had ideas and started searching online to see if anyone had done what I was thinking about. Of course they had, so I took inspiration from several recipes and came up



Potato-Gruyere Casserole.

-Photo by Vicki Day

with this one that turned out to be a hit and, after reading the room, it's a keeper for sure, a new signature dish, if you will.

POTATO-GRUYERE CASSEROLE

Dicing the potatoes rather than thinly slicing them was the first goal. Parboiling them reduced the baking time and insured the spuds would be cooked through. And then there's the rich cheese sauce which puts this over the top. The presentation isn't exactly elegant, but the flavor makes up for that, making it perfectly suited for a holiday meal or a weeknight dinner. It was excellent with ham but would be great with pork chops, steak or roast chicken. Yellow or, preferably, Yukon Gold potatoes work especially well for this. Being waxy varieties, they have a creamy texture, hold their shape when cooked, have thin skins so there's no need to peel them and have a sweet, buttery flavor.

NOTE: You can assemble this a day ahead and bake prior to serving.

INGREDIENTS

3lbs Yukon Gold potatoes, unpeeled, cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cubes
 1/3 cup milk
 3 tablespoons flour
 1/2 teaspoon granulated garlic
 2/3 cup chicken stock or broth
 1/2 stick (4 tablespoons) butter (salted)
 1 cup sour cream
 4 cups Gruyere cheese, shredded and divided
 Salt and pepper to taste
 1/4 cup chopped scallions (green parts only from 3)

METHOD

Grease a 9x13 baking dish. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Bring potatoes to a boil in heavily salted water (with 1/4-1/2 cup of salt) and

cook until fork-tender, about 10 minutes. Drain and transfer to a large mixing bowl.

Whisk milk, flour and garlic together in a small bowl.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, bring chicken stock and butter to a boil. Pour in milk mixture and cook, stirring constantly, until it thickens. (I forgot to write down how long this took but you'll know when it coats the back of a wooden spoon).

Lower heat and season with salt and pepper. Add sour cream and 2 cups of the Gruyere, stirring until cheese melts.

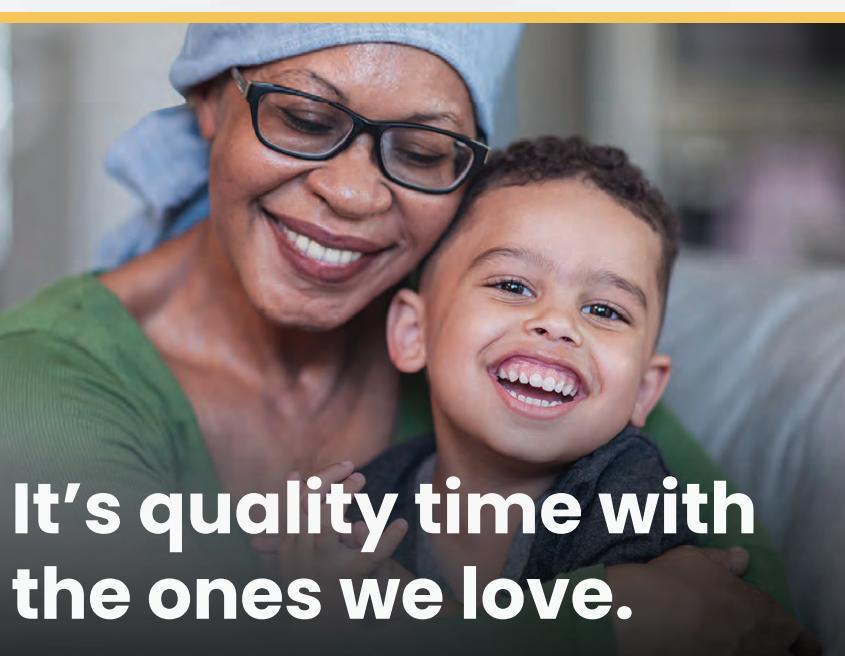
Pour cheese sauce over potatoes in the bowl. Mix well to coat. Transfer to prepared baking dish, top with remaining Gruyere and sprinkle with chopped scallions. Bake until golden brown and bubbly, about 25 minutes.

Serves 8-10.

While we jokingly call this my new signature dish, it's definitely a new favorite and you can bet I'll make it again and again. It's just one of those recipes that can fit with any occasion or no occasion at all; and that it's rich, cheesy and satisfying only makes it that much better. Maybe I'll stick to just serving it at my own gatherings for now, just in case. Better to leave them hungry for more. No offense to Aunt Tilly. 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.

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The Mount to present 'John Proctor is the Villain' April 11 - 13

The Mount Saint Mary College theatre group will present Kimberly Belflower's "John Proctor is the Villain" from Thursday, April 11 through Saturday, April 13.

The performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. each night in the Aquinas Hall Theatre, 330 Powell Ave., Newburgh, Orange County. Admission is \$5, or free with a Mount ID. Seating is limited. Reservations are suggested.

For tickets, call the box office at 845-569-3273.

"John Proctor is the Villain" tells the story of a group of teenaged students at a rural high school in Georgia as they explore The Crucible by famous playwright Arthur Miller. Holding a contemporary lens to the American classic, they begin to question who the hero of the story really is, discovering their own power in the process. And in the middle

of it all, they find that sometimes, life imitates art.

"It's funny, it's tragic, and I think it's very well written," said James Phillips, associate professor of Theatre. "It's really clever how it takes the plot and ideas of The Crucible and brings them into a modern setting...The playwright is clear that that change doesn't happen easily, but it can and does happen."

"John Proctor is the Villain" is extremely contemporary and relevant, having been released only about three years ago.

"It's really the hot play of the moment right now," Phillips explained, adding that the Mount is one of the first theatre groups in the Hudson Valley to be performing it. "It's an important piece because it mirrors modern life."

For more information, visit www.msmp.edu.



The cast and crew of Mount Saint Mary College's production of "John Proctor is the Villain."

-Courtesy photo by Matt Frey

Magical 'Phantom of the Opera' at Beacon High School on April 19-21

Something magical is happening in Beacon. This April for the first time in forever the Beacon High School drama organization, the Beacon Players is collaborating with the premier dance studio Ballet Arts Studio in presenting the incredible king of musicals, The Phantom Of The Opera.

For months now both organizations have been working diligently to produce this incredible musical that just closed after 35 years on Broadway. It promises to be the most spectacular performance that the beacon players has ever presented. Early in the summer of last year, the decision was made to take on this incredible and difficult masterpiece and the first thought that came to the mind of the Director Anthony Scarrone was to contact a company that could handle the beautiful ballet movements that are required in a piece this important there were no options, it could only be handled by Katie Bissinger, Artistic Director of Ballet Arts Studio.

Katie commented that, "I am excited that Beacon audiences will see ballet on stage in story form, that the community will be able to see dance out front in the community..."

Katie went on to say, "This is a huge opportunity for students to learn dance as part of their theater training, having dance is part of the triple threat needed if pursu-

ing a career."

After speaking to Katie, the collaboration was set, and an introduction made to Marissa Paull Gorst our amazing Choreographer who among amazing other credits, most recently onstage in CATS the Musical, she has also danced professionally in the Las Vegas production of The Phantom Of The Opera and with New York City Ballet, Miami City Ballet, New Orleans Ballet Theatre, Dances Patrelle, Bergen Dance Theater, Westchester Ballet Company and Neville Dance Theater, to quote a section of their mission statement, can give you an idea of the quality of work and attention paid in detail by this extraordinary company.

"At Ballet Arts Studio, we focus on individual artistry and technical excellence, within a disciplined, respectful environment, not only to create professional dancers, performers and artists, but also to transform young people into confident adults who are critical thinkers with curious, imaginative minds. Our students gain the resources needed to fulfill their potential, lead meaningful lives, and realize dreams."

The Beacon Players have always worked so hard to bring quality theater through our students to the community by making sure that our members have the best technical and performance elements to work with and there is absolutely no difference with the

show if anything the collaboration is proving to be an amazing educational experience for both organizations.

To watch the two organizations that are comprised of students from the Beacon city school district grow and learn within the scope of their individual disciplines is amazing. This extremely difficult show is the perfect vehicle to provide a challenge for all of us.

Katie said that, "Everything has to service the story, the lights, the costumes, the dance, the sets everything." Scarrone could not agree more he added," it is our

goal to merge all of the elements to present the entire story, allowing all of the various facets to present this beautiful production in the light that it deserves, this collaboration will certainly provide that.

The history of Ballet Arts Studio, and the hard work of the Beacon Players combined will certainly do justice to the king of musicals the The Phantom Of The Opera.

There are two casts performing in four shows, April 19 at 7 p.m., April 20 at 1 and 7 p.m. and April 21 at 2 p.m.

Tickets and cast information at beaconplayers.com.

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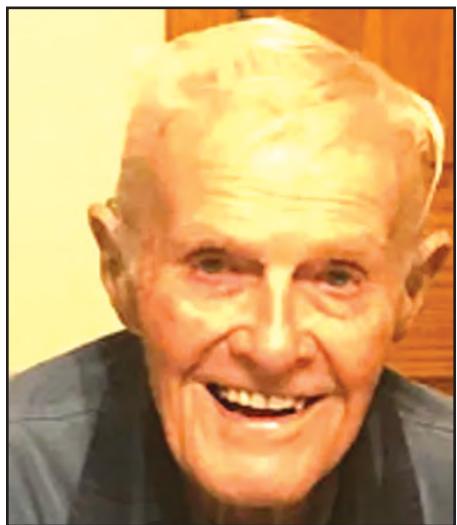
Having been informed that there was a need for undergarments for female veterans at VA Castle Point, American Legion Post 1758 in Hopewell Junction voted to disburse \$500 to help fill the need. On March 25, after having made a purchase of the needed items, Post members presented them to Nicole Embry, chief of the Center for Development & Civic Engagement.

Pictured, from left, holding some of the donated items are Bill Meyer, Nicole Embry, Post Commander Jim Reynolds, John Call and Bill Kriebel.

-Courtesy photo

Obituaries

John R. Lyons



WAPPINGERS FALLS - John R. Lyons 94, of Wappinger Falls passed away peacefully on Saturday March 30, 2024 at his home. He was born in Wappinger Falls on November 2, 1929 the son of James C. and Anna Bain Lyons.

He graduated from Wappinger Falls High School in 1947 where he stood out in baseball and football. John served in U.S. Army from 1951-1953. On September 25, 1954, he married the love of his life Olive M. Johnson at St. Joachim's Church in Beacon, NY who he was married to for 65 years. John was employed at Central Hudson until he retired in 1992.

He was an avid fisherman who enjoyed tying his own flies. He also enjoyed

watching sports and traveling with family and friends. He loved sitting on the beach in Rhode Island and playing Pinochle with family and friends. He cherished visits with his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his children Michael Lyons (wife Jackie) of Hyde Park, Cathy Benicase (husband Alan) of Highland, Bernadette Stevens (husband Ralph) of Milton who predeceased him, and Carol Wachenheimer (husband Steve) of Lagrangeville, 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sister Regina Burke and his brother Vincent Lyons. There were no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday April 6 at St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Jackson St., Fishkill. A burial at St. Joachim's Cemetery followed the Mass. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice or Fishkill Food Bank, 717 Rt. 9, Fishkill, NY 12524. Arrangements are in charge of Delehanty Funeral Home. To send a condolence, visit www.delehantyfuneral.com.

Michael J. Lucas



FISHKILL - Michael J. Lucas, a lifelong area resident and longtime resident of Fishkill, passed away on March 31, 2024 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Poughkeepsie. He was 79 years old.

Michael was born on March 5, 1945 in Beacon, son of the late John and Marion Dotterer Lucas. He graduated from Beacon High School and attended Dutchess Community College.

Mike had retired from M & T Bank where he worked in telecommunications. He was a past president and member of the Data Processing Management Association (DPMA). He also was a longtime coach and volunteer for Little League Baseball in the Town of Poughkeepsie. He was a season ticket

holder for the Marist College Women's Basketball team and enjoyed attending their games. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved to hunt and fish. He was a longtime member of the Garrison Rod and Gun Club and the East Hook Sportsmen Association. He also enjoyed music, especially doo wop music. He often attended The Lead East Oldies Festival and car show where he had fond memories of listening to and signing with some of the groups.

Mike is survived by his son, John Lucas and his wife, Kristin; his grandchildren, Connor, Katelyn and Kyle who gave him much joy and pride; his former and supportive wife, Nancy Lucas and lifelong friends.

Family and friends gathered on Thursday, April 4 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A funeral service was held at the funeral home. A graveside service was held on Friday, April 5 at Cold Spring Cemetery.

The family wishes to extend their thanks and appreciation to the ICU doctors, nurses and entire staff at Vassar Brothers Medical Center for their care and treatment of Mike.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to either the Dutchess County ASPCA or the American Diabetes Association.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Cary Institute to host April 11 lecture on ecological success stories

With Earth Day approaching, residents are encouraged to join Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies on April 11 to discover inspiring examples of ecological success stories, where science has led to effective solutions and a cleaner environment for all. In the hybrid event, Cary Institute senior research fellow Peter Groffman will discuss how ecosystem science spurred policy and management decisions that led to the return of the bald eagle, curbed acid rain, and reduced nutrient pollution to freshwaters.

Groffman will discuss these success stories, and how lessons learned can be applied to current challenges, including climate change and science denial. Register to watch the talk in-person or online on April 11 at 7 p.m.

"Ecology has been very powerful in its ability to diagnose problems, propose solutions, have those solutions implemented by society, and then track the success," said

Groffman, who studies urban ecology and how climate change alters microbial processes that support plant growth and air and water quality.

The seeds of the April 11 talk were planted at a conference Groffman led on the successes, frontiers, and limitations of ecology. The idea resurfaced after he was recently elected the 2025 president of the Ecological Society of America, he said.

"I'm very proud to be the ESA president-elect, because I think we've done really well as a scientific discipline." What makes ecology such a successful discipline? Groffman credited ecology's collaborative nature, its ability to combine perspectives from different disciplines, and its genuine efforts to incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion. For example, unlike in many branches of science, women have earned half of all ecology PhDs for the last 20 years.

"White men aren't the only people who



Joseph M. Viggiano

WAPPINGERS FALLS - Joseph M. Viggiano, a long-time resident of Wappingers Falls, NY, passed away peacefully on April 2, 2024, at the age of 86 with his loving family by his side.

Born October 1, 1937, in Yonkers, NY, he was the son of Frank and Catherine (Vetrano) Viggiano.

Joe attended Yonkers Public Schools and proudly served in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1958 with an honorable discharge. He then attended and graduated with honors from the RCA Institute of Technology through the GI Bill. Joe furthered his education and graduated from the University of Bridgeport receiving a bachelor's degree Cum Laude in Electrical Engineering. Joe had a suc-

cessful 30-year career as a senior research associate at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, NY. Once retired, he took a part-time position at the Garrison Golf Course where he worked for nearly 20 years.

Joe enjoyed traveling and spending time at The Jersey Shore with his family. He was an avid NY Mets and NJ Devils fan. He loved golf and was a champion bocce player. He also enjoyed playing softball, even competing against the renowned King in his Court.

He leaves behind his wife Janet of 61 years. He is also survived by his sons Joseph (Donna), Robert (Diana), Vincent (Ellen Marie), Grandsons Dean (Rachel), Shane, Ryan, and Braydon.

His sister Margaret Gorman survives him along with many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grand-nephews.

Joe is predeceased by his brothers Carmine and Frank Viggiano.

Calling hours were Sunday, April 7, 2024, at McHoul Funeral Home Inc. 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, April 8, 2024, at St. Columba Church, 835 Route 82 Hopewell Junction, NY. Interment with military honors followed at St. Denis Cemetery, 604 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction, NY.

In lieu of flowers donations in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association at www.heart.org.

Delores Eckes



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Delores Eckes, A long-time resident of Dutchess County, Wappingers Falls NY, entered into peaceful heavenly rest on Thursday March 28, 2024.

Delores is the youngest child of her long-deceased parents Norman and Frances Scaparro who migrated from Europe in the early 1900's to N.Y.C. She is also the sister of her predeceased brother Joseph Scaparro and her predeceased sister Margaret Pepitone. Delores currently is survived by her four lovely children: Suzanne, Robert, Lynn, and Laura. She is also survived by her ten wonderful grandchildren and her four great grandchildren who brought love and joy into her life.

Delores had a very strong background and career in fashion merchandising and business management.

Delores is a beautiful rose in a heavenly garden. Her countless donations to assorted charities were inspirational, leaving a lasting impression for all those blessed to have known her. Her lovely smile, compassionate eyes, and her gentle touch have warmed our hearts over and over again. Delores' sense of humor will forever be cherished as she brought laughter and healing to the soul. In honor of Delores' lifetime victories and many achievements, we celebrate the amazing, strong, and brave women she was and always will be in our hearts.

Together we raise a glass in memory of Delores. Cheers! You did it! Well-done! You are amazing! We love you, Salute!!

In honor of Delores Eckes, a service will be held on April 12, 2024, at Wappingers Rural Cemetery at 2pm. There will be a celebration of life from 3-6pm at River Valley Arts Center Wappingers Falls, NY.

Cary Institute to host April 11 lecture on ecological success stories

have good ideas," said Groffman. "The more we can bring in people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, the stronger and more creative our science will be."

Case in point: It was a female scientist — Rachel Carson — who revealed to the world that the pesticide DDT was killing off animals (including the emblematic bald eagle) and contaminating the world's food supply. As Groffman will detail in his talk, Carson's book not only led to a nationwide DDT ban, but it also kicked off the modern environmental movement, the first Earth Day, and the passage of pivotal environmental legislation that has dramatically cleaned up America's skies and waters.

"In order to figure out the effects on bald eagles, you had to have strong science about birds, and about pesticides, streams, and insects, and you had to put it all together," said Groffman, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of this environmental success

story. These traits that ecology values so much — diversity and multidisciplinary collaboration — are also going to be key in helping to address climate change and other ongoing challenges, Groffman asserts. The impacts of climate change cut across nearly all parts of the living and nonliving world; as such, it is going to take people with a wide range of strengths and specialties to solve it. Although he acknowledges the challenges ahead, Groffman has a positive outlook.

"I think we are already rising to the challenge of climate change," he said. "We've done really good science. We have proposed the solutions, and the solutions are being implemented. Whether it's going to be fast enough, I don't know. But I think in 2050 we're going to look back and say, 'Sometime around 2016, they really started to turn the ship around and get serious about decarbonizing the economy.'"

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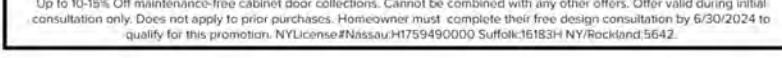


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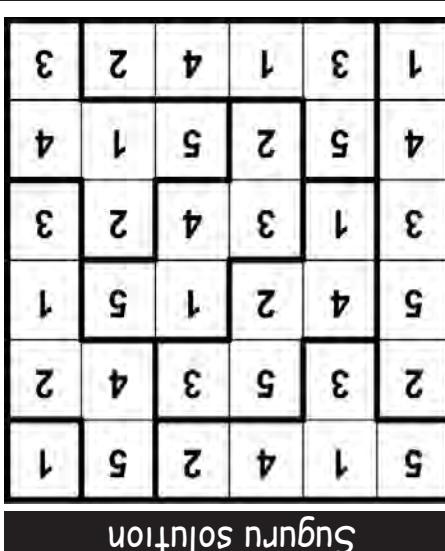
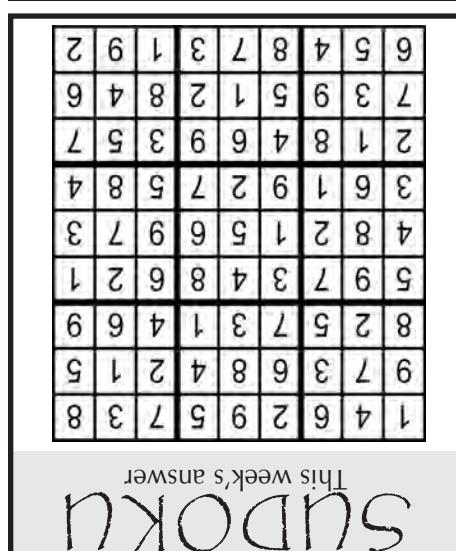


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DC Legislature launches new Facebook page

The Dutchess County Legislature launched a new Facebook page to continue reaching their constituents. The page's name is "Dutchess County Legislature" and can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyLegislature> or through the search bar.

The page will be posting public and legal notices, advertising for Committees and Boards, pictures from events, among other things.

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2020 Bobblelection Headbangers Bubbleheads. Biden or Trump, \$15 each. Cast of 18 mix/match, \$200. 845-337-3778

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

Numerous LP's, CD's, DVD's, Cassettes, 8 Tracks, 8-Track AM-FM, AMP Tower Record Player. Open to offers. 845-705-6791

Crutches Aluminum adjustable 5'2" to 5'10". Easy to adjust, excellent condition, only used for short time, \$10 for pair. 845-705-6791

**516
Misc.
Merchandise**

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Craftsman table saw, multipus molding, blades, Delta drill press, Bench grinder, bench belt sander, chop saw, stand & others. Best offer 845-297-6369

20 weights bar & dumb bells lifting bench, best offer. Roof Top Carrier for car, make an offer. 845-297-6369

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

Precious Moments 1990 Hoppy Easter Friend 1998, Life Can Be a Jungle 1990, Birthday Club in Box \$8 each. 845-705-6791

Craftsman 10-inch Radial Arm Saw with stand Model 509346. 845-797-5046, \$25, Good Condition. 845-797-5049

**516
Misc.
Merchandise**

Vintage Staffordshire-Fine Bone China. Two Tea cup and saucer set Springtime and Wild Flowers. Excellent condition, \$10 set. 845-705-6791

**712
Moving Sale**

Many small appliances, Kerge coffee pot, Belgian Waffle Maker, Pressure cooker, many others. Call for others. Best offer. 845-297-6369

**719
Antiques**

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

**903
Motorcycles**

1993 Harley Davidson FLHTC 1340cc, Black/Chrome, \$5,000 OBO. CALL: 845-554-6317


**503
Furniture**
**For Sale
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Call 845-392-6421

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get growing!



"Ralph! Tell your son to marry that girl!" Sue and I had just started dating, and the only way we could spend time together was if she helped out on the farm. On this occasion we drove the box truck to Kinderhook, to pick up 300 fifty-pound bags of potatoes from Lindenwald Farms. Eddie Myers, a good friend of my dad's and a whirlwind of energy with a high booming voice – a combination of Danny DeVito and Pee Wee Herman – was tossing the bags to me while I threw them to Sue, who was stacking them in the truck.

About an hour later, Eddie made the famous phone call that changed my life, and Sue's, into a dream come true.

I took my father's advice.

Sue Gotthardt was a 16-year-old bartender at Club 44 in Pleasant Valley when I first laid eyes on her. After a few rum and cokes, I worked up the nerve to ask her out. I remember she laughed in my face. She doesn't remember any of that, but I didn't forget her.

Four years later, I stopped at Brighton Diner in Arlington on my way home from Squire's East. I plopped myself down at the counter next to my friend Scott. Sue was working the late shift, trying to earn enough money to pay her way through Cornell University. She invited Scott to a party at her house, and added, "Bring your friend." She must have noticed me, because years later, she remembers that I ordered a cheeseburger and a glass of milk, and left a 25 cent tip. (Tuition at Cornell has gone up since then.)

At the party, I asked Sue to come with me to the Dutchess County Fair, our first date. I was driving a 1941 Mercury Coupe. Getting out of the car, the door handle broke off in Sue's hand. That should have been a warning right there, but she must have sensed that we would at least have an interesting life together.

Sue graduated from Cornell with a degree in Consumer Economics. I dropped out and dragged myself home to work on the farm. It was the 1970s. Nobody knew what was going on. When people grumble about the state of the world today, I remind them to think back to the 1970s. Sue ended up working with me on the farm.

Sue and I got married on April 12, 1975. We had a nice reception at Ray Renzo's Italian Restaurant, and then took off in my 1964 Chevy Impala convertible with no plans, stopping that first night at the Berkshire Motor Lodge and ending up a week later at Acadia National Park on the coast of Maine. That was the first of our

iconic completely unplanned vacations.

Forty-nine years later, our friends (many who've been together almost as long as we have) ask us what's the secret to our long, and by most standards, incredibly delightful and romantic marriage.

"Separate bathrooms," is my short answer. Sue prefers a quip that we copied from an old Jiggs and Maggie comic strip.

Q: What's the secret to your long marriage?

Jiggs: I make all the big decisions and Maggie makes all the little decisions.

Maggie: So far, there haven't been any big decisions.

Seriously, most everyone we know gives Sue a lot of credit for putting up with me. We work together, and live together, almost 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I drag Sue everywhere I want to go: Metallica concerts (which she actually liked), Easter Island, Tasmania, Ethiopia, Yankee games, 50 hikes in the Hudson Valley, kayaking on the Amazon, white water rafting in Panama, where she flipped out of the raft, wading across Rio Congrejal in Honduras (which she hated). We've been through the usual family events – births, weddings, funerals, graduations, class reunions, and a few legendary parties (sorry if your invitation got lost in the mail).

Here's the one constant in our storied relationship:

Date night. Our weekends are, or at least they were when our parents, aunts and uncles were still around, taken up by family events, parties or social obligations. Week nights mean meetings, shopping or for Sue, workouts at the gym. But every Wednesday we observe date night – just the two of us. No board meetings, no to get togethers with friends. It could be a movie, a bike ride in the summer, a swim in the pool, a ball game, even a concert or a Broadway play. Or a quiet dinner at home.

I would recommend to all my friends starting out: set up a date night. Sue and I have enjoyed 2,548 of them so far, with many more to come.

Postscript from Sue:

I admit to not looking forward to that first date. But I was looking for someone smart, so I had looked up Mark's high school average. He is very smart. And I found out on that first date how much fun he is. And I knew on that first date that I would marry him. Mark is very family oriented, and on one of our early dates, he brought our sisters (we each have a sister 14 years younger than

Sue and Mark celebrate 49 years of togetherness.



Above: Sue and Mark Adams on their wedding day – April 12, 1975.

-Courtesy photo

Right: Date night.

-Photo by Samantha Schimpf



Legal Notices

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza
- Suite One
Beacon, New York
12508
Phone
(845) 838-5002
April 4, 2024

SUBJECT:
Variance Application
Applicant:
Jason and Jodi McCredo
Address:
11 Highland PI
Tax Grid No.:
30-6054-31-327768-00
Zoning Classification:
R1-10
Dear Neighboring Property Owner:
Jason and Jodi McCredo, 11 Highland Place, have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for relief from Section 223-26 C. (1) Location, to allow the relo-

cation of the driveway to the front yard of the home. The applicant is seeking relief from the following:

1. Section 223-26 C. (1) Location. The off-street parking facilities which are required by this section shall be provided on the same lot or premises with such structure or land use; except that off-street parking spaces required for structures or land uses on two or more adjoining lots may be provided in a single common facility on one or more of said lots, provided that a binding agreement, in a form approved by the Corporation Counsel, assuring the continued operation of said parking facility during the life of the structure or the land

use the parking is designed to serve, is filed on the land records prior to approval of the plans for said parking facility. In any residence district, no off-street parking facility shall be developed in any required front yard or in any required side or rear yard adjacent to a street line or in any other side or rear yard within five feet of the lot line. However, off-street parking spaces shall be permitted in residential districts as indicated in §223-17C. The full application is available online at: <http://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/>

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meeting to be held on April 4, 2024, at 12:00 PM.

ing to be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7:00 PM, in the Municipal Center courtroom, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York. You are invited to be present to voice your support or objection to this appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on April 16, 2024, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov

Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board
Secretary

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza
- Suite One
Beacon, New York
12508
Phone
(845) 838-5002
April 4, 2024

SUBJECT:
Variance Application
Applicant:
Nicholas Merrifield and Julia Rexon

Address:
48 Church Street
Tax Grid No.:
30-5954-28-944902-00

Zoning Classification:
R1-5
Dear Neighboring Property Owner:

Nicholas Merrifield and Julia Rexon, 48 Church Street, have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for relief from Section 223-17 D. to allow an addition to the rear of the existing second floor, which requires relief from the following:

1. Section 223-17 D. to allow for a 4 ft 5 in side yard setback (10 ft required)

The full application is available online at: <http://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/>

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7:00 PM, in the Municipal Center courtroom, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York. You are invited to be present to voice your support or objection to this appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on April 16, 2024, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-21-24
On-Call Commercial Interior and Exterior Glass Repairs and Replacements
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 30th day of April 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

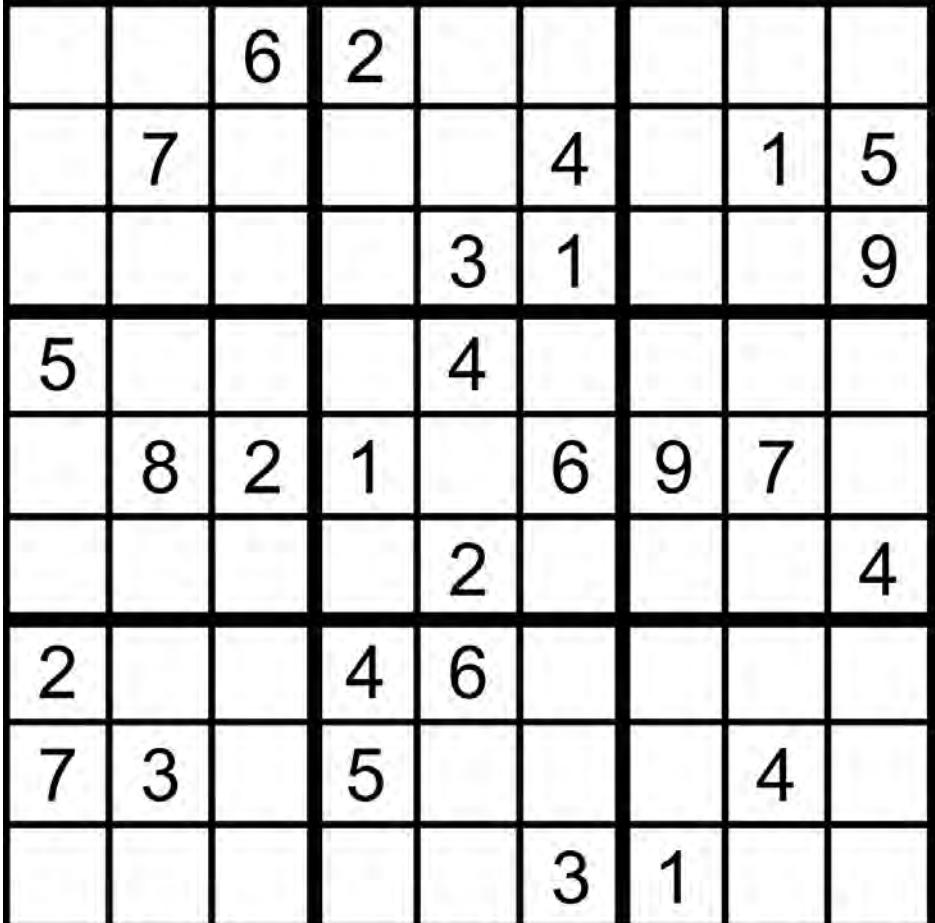
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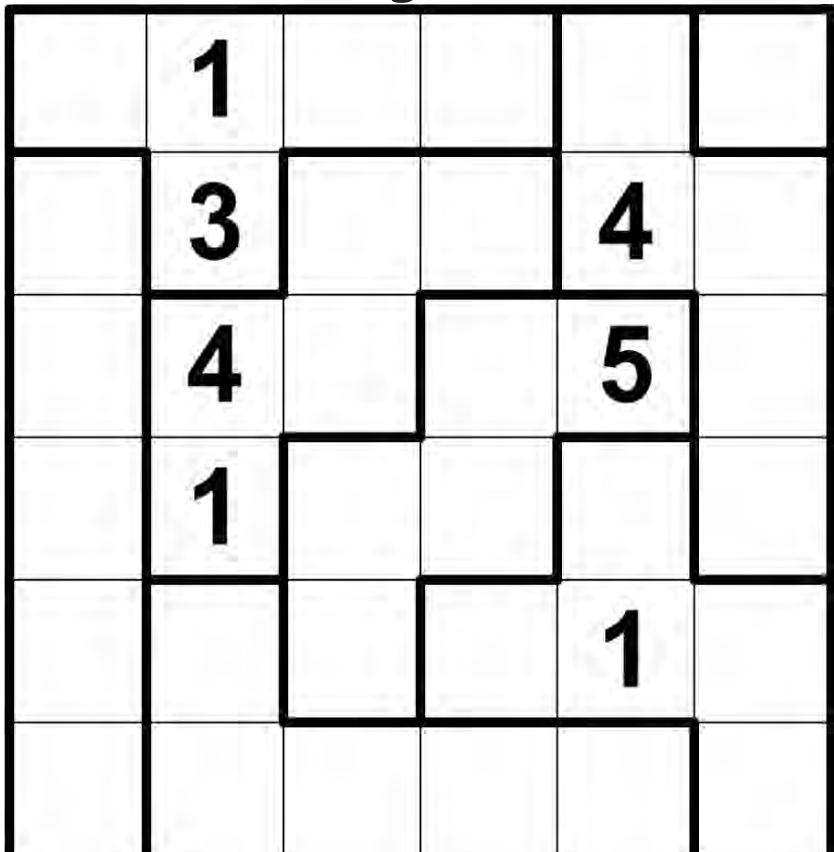
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Suguru



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: SHAKESPEARE

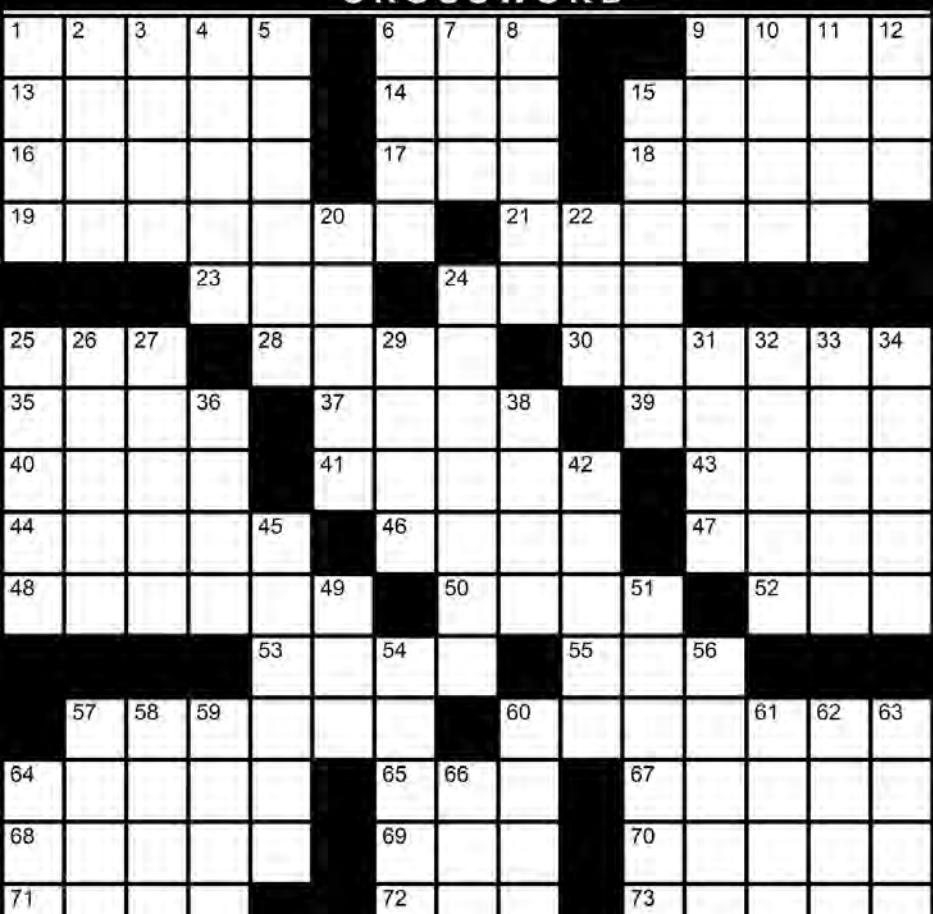
ACROSS

- Type of help center
- Fake tooth
- What geysers do
- Lagoon wall
- Acronym, in brief
- Syrup producer
- Papal court
- It often comes with Aloha!
- External
- *Richard III: "A horse! A horse! My ___ for a horse!"
- *Romeo and Juliet: "Parting is such sweet ___"
- Animal's nose
- Fail to mention
- Capone's family
- *Hamlet: "O, this is the poison of ___ grief"
- Soap froth
- Iris holder
- "He ___, She Said"
- Apso
- Cheap form of payment?
- Bert's roommate
- Not in favor
- Hipbone-related
- The Destroyer, in Hinduism
- Thomas the Engine's warning
- "Heart of Darkness" author
- Brewer's kiln
- Beer choice
- Not a verb
- Comic cry
- *The Tempest: "We are such stuff as ___ are made on"
- *As You Like It: "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely ___"
- Primateologist's concern, for short
- "This land is your land"
- *Macbeth: "Our ___ master's murder'd!"
- Scoundrel
- Hi ___ monitor
- Wombs
- "A Visit from St. Nicholas" beginning
- Teacher's favorite
- Got ready for a close up

DOWN

- Nordstrom's outlet
- Purse for the red carpet
- Cape on Tierra del Fuego
- Set straight
- Like a knife
- Comes before a storm?
- The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
- Spectrum maker
- Wild ox of India
- Plotting (2 words)
- Multitude
- Having Everything Revealed, singer and songwriter
- *Hamlet: "When we have shuffled off this ___ coil"
- Corpulent
- Tin Woodman's "medicine"
- "Two cents"?
- *Twelfth Night: "If ___ be the food of love, play on"
- Convex molding
- Nigeria's western neighbor
- Listening devices
- *Hamlet: "To be, or not to be: ___ is the question"
- Capital of Vietnam
- Bar by estoppel
- Indian restaurant condiment
- Petri dish filler
- Prima donna
- Artist's tripod
- High tea sandwich
- Pignon's honorific
- Destroy a document (2 words)
- Seize a throne
- City in Japan
- Type of sailing vessel
- Capital of Latvia
- Outback birds
- "Blast from the ___"
- "The ___ of Tammy Faye," movie
- Uncommon
- Went down slippery slope
- Cathode-ray tube
- *Merchant of Venice: "But love is blind, and lovers cannot ___"

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The solutions to the Sudoku, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on page 6.

Locust Grove Estate presents Antique Appraisal Day April 14

By Kate Goldsmith

Want to know more about that family heirloom that has been passed down for generations? Or how about those items you rescued from grandma's attic – could they be treasures in a dusty disguise?

Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie – itself home to an impressive (and voluminous) collection of antiques – is hosting their Antique Appraisal Day this Sunday, April 14. Bring up to five items to be appraised by a team of experts led by Robert Meringolo, founder of The Appraisers Roadshow and a former Sotheby's associate. Collectibles are also welcomed. Baseball cards, records, small works of art, jewelry, watches, coins, toys ... you bring it, they will appraise it.

Early Bird admission is \$50 at 9:30 a.m. for up to five items (limited to 10 people). Regular admission is \$35 by timed entry from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for up to five items (limited to 15 people every half hour).

The event will be held in Locust Grove's Welcome Center, at 2683 South Road (Route 9) in Poughkeepsie.

"It looks like [the event] will be totally sold out, so get tickets quickly," advised Ken Snodgrass, Locust Grove's Executive Director. If there are any tickets remaining on the day of the event, they will be sold at the door, he said.

Snodgrass said that Antique Appraisal Day had been an annual event until the pandemic. The event resumed last year and attracted 150-200 people, he said.

The timed ticket entry helps keep lines to a minimum, he added.

Snodgrass was asked if he had any advice

for those coming to the event.

"Keep it simple," he said. Remember, you'll have to carry the objects. This might not be the time to bring in that nine-foot-tall armoire or large marble sculpture. "Keep it practical, and keep an eye on your possessions," he added.

Even if you have no intention of selling a particular item but are curious to know more about it, the experts from The Appraisers Roadshow will be happy to help.

Locust Grove's Italianate Mansion was built in 1830 and lived in as a summer house by Samuel A. Morse from 1850 to 1872. Its last inhabitant, Annette Innis Young, lived in the mansion for 80 years, from 1895 to 1975. It is her family's collection of fine art, furniture, textiles, and ceramics that grace the 25 rooms of the historic mansion, appointed just as it was around 1920.

Young's mission "to preserve the estate for the enjoyment, visitation, and enlightenment of the public" is achieved through sponsorship, membership, and event ticket sales. Antique Appraiser Day is one of several fundraisers that help Locust Grove provide a variety of programming and support the operations of the estate's 20 buildings (and the museum collections housed within them) on 250 acres, both at the Poughkeepsie estate and Locust Lawn in Ulster County, which was also owned by the Young Family.

"Our most recent project was the restoration of the Music Room, just across the hall from the Drawing Room," said Snodgrass. "Thanks to donated funds we were able to reproduce the original wallpaper in 2023. While the original was



Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie will host their Antique Appraisal Day this Sunday, April 14. Attendees can bring up to five items to be appraised by experts from The Appraisers Roadshow. Locust Grove is home to a collection of antiques featuring 15,000 pieces of silver, china, furniture, paintings, decorative arts, clothing, jewelry, fans, books, chandeliers, and more. In the photo, taken in the Drawing Room, Locust Grove's Executive Director Ken Snodgrass points to a gilt-bronze clock (French, c. 1825) with scenes from the "Iliad." Also on the mantel are a pair of covered jars (Chinese, 1825-1850) decorated in blue with scenes of peonies in a garden, and a pair of gilt-bronze candlesticks (French, 1825-1850), in the form of caryatids (statues of women in classical attire).

-Photo by Kate Goldsmith

removed in 1979, an unused roll of the original paper was stored in the attic. That roll was scanned, color corrected, and then an exact match was printed and hung in the room – it now looks exactly the way it did more than a century ago!"

He added, "We're currently raising funds to reproduce the paper for the Parlor and can't wait to fix that room too!"

Visit www.lgny.org to reserve a timed entry for Antique Appraisal Day and for more information.



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