

BEACON FREE PRESS

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May 13, 2026

County Legislature requests investigation on Camp Nooteming

County reports

Dutchess County Legislature Chair Yvette Valdés Smith is calling for a deeper investigation into the County's purchase of Camp Nooteming and its relationship with the for-profit Pathfinder Academy. Following the release of a special report from the Dutchess County Comptroller's Office, Chair Valdés Smith and county legislators have questions regarding the camp, which was purchased in 2022 for \$4.2 million under former County Executive Marcus Molinaro.

"In 2022, when the County moved to purchase Camp Nooteming, then-County Executive Marcus Molinaro assured the legislature that the property was being acquired to increase free outdoor opportunities for Dutchess County youth," said Valdés Smith. "From the very beginning, the County Executive's office misrepresented the nature of the purchase and minimized and outright hid the extent to which taxpayer dollars were being used to prop up a financially unstable for-profit entity. I want to thank Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair for his office's thorough audit."

The report found that, since 2022, the County has subsequently spent upwards of \$600,000 for upgrades to the property, with an additional \$1.2 million appropriated to pay Pathfinder for professional services and rental fees related to the operation of the Camp.

Speaking on behalf of the Republican caucus of the County Legislature, Minority Leader Mike Polasek (R-LaGrange) said, "Camp Nooteming was purchased to protect an important community asset and preserve it for public and youth use instead of allowing it to be lost to private development. When it became clear that the operator was not fulfilling its contractual obligations, the County acted appropriately and terminated that relationship. Our focus now is on ensuring the property is used to expand opportunities for Dutchess County youth while maintaining full transparency and accountability to taxpayers throughout the process."

Legislator Brendan Lawler (D-Hyde Park) and Chair of the Legislature's Budget Committee said, "It is abundantly clear that County Republicans can't miss an opportunity to squander taxpayer money. Camp Nooteming is just the latest example of poor decisions made out of public view and which offer little to no benefit to residents. The public demands a full accounting of what happened and who's responsible."

"This report makes it abundantly clear that the Legislature was sold a bill of goods. What remains less clear is who really benefited from the public purchase of a property that most residents aren't allowed to use," said Legislator Brennan Kearney (D-Rhinebeck) and Chair of the Legislature's Government Services and Administration Committee. "Since local use of this Park by Pleasant Valley or any other Dutchess County residents was obviously never the point, as revealed in this report, it's time for some answers - honest ones, this time."

Ribbon-cutting held for opening of Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the new Mirbeau Beacon, on the site of the former Craig House property.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

By Kristine Coulter

A ribbon-cutting ceremony and tours of Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, described as "a wellness resort rooted in balance & the classic joys of life, was held on Thursday, May 7. The spa is located on the site of the former estate of Eliza and Joseph Howland, which was built in 1859. The site was once a retreat for celebrities of the last century. The mansion was for a time a private psychiatric hospital, called Craig House Sanitarium, which opened in the early 1900s and closed in 1999. The hospital served such celebrities as author Truman Capote, and actor Jackie Gleason.

"Welcome to Mirbeau. Mirbeau - welcome to Beacon," said City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou.

The 72 guestrooms at Mirbeau Beacon, which as stated on the Inn's website, "whisks you away to the Loire Valley of France." According to the website, one can choose a Mansion Room or Suite, which is in the historic 19th century mansion. The other option is a room or suite in the Spa Chateau, which is located on three floors above the Spa, it was noted.

"This [property] laid fallow for decades," said the mayor.

The site now has "sprawling gardens." The ponds located on the spa grounds are said to be inspired by Claude Monet's "Giverny." One can enjoy "casually elegant dining" at The Bistro & Wine Bar. One may also hold private events and meetings at Mirbeau

Beacon, it was noted.

Michael J. Dal Pos, CEO of Mirbeau Hospitality Services, said, it was "surreal" to be standing there with the project coming to life. He also noted it was the "most challenging project." He thanked the Mirbeau team and partners.

Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini toured the property. He said it is an excellent example of reuse. "I would love to see Carnwath like this," he said of the Italianate-style Carnwath Manor with a view of the Hudson River and is located on 99.7 acres, in the town of Wappinger.

Continued on page 9

Voters to head to the polls to decide on BCSD proposed budget and BOE candidates

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon City School District School Budget Vote and Election is set for Tuesday, May 19. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. Voters who reside within the city limits of the City of Beacon will go to Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rd., to cast their ballots.

BCSD voters within the boundaries of the Town of Fishkill, or the Town of Wappinger, (that are part of the Beacon City School District and who reside outside the city limits of the City of Beacon), will vote at Glenham Elementary School, Chaase Dr., in Fishkill. It was noted that the boundaries may not match the voter's mailing address. If one has a question regarding one's voting location, call the District Clerk at 845-838-6900 ext. 2010.

According to the Budget Presentation last month, the Total Tax Levy at the Tax Cap is \$52,342,777 and the Tax Levy

increase is 4.47%.

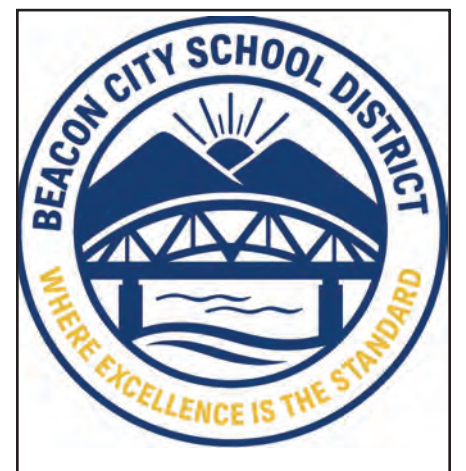
The Proposed FY27 Expenditures:

- Salaries - 50%
- Benefits 25.3%
- Debt Services 7.5%
- Miscellaneous 17.3%

The Total Estimated Budget for FY27 is \$91,850,000. The budget adopted for 2025-26 is \$87,720,000, according to the presentation, which is a difference of \$4,130,000 or 4.71%, according to the presentation.

Estimated tax impact on an average home if assessments remain the same, said during the presentation, would be, for Beacon residents \$213/year; Fishkill residents \$213/year and Wappinger residents \$244/year.

Beacon City School District Superintendent of School Dr. Matt Landahl said in one of his Updates to the community: "The major new expenditure



Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on May 19. Voters will cast their ballots regarding the 2026-27 Beacon City School District Budget and Board of Education candidates.

-Courtesy image

Continued on page 3

Voters to cast their ballots regarding Wappingers CSD proposed budget, BOE candidates

By Kristine Coulter

Polls will be open on Tuesday, May 19 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. for voters to cast their ballots regarding the 2026-27 proposed budget for the Wappingers Central School District (Wappingers CSD). Voters can also choose Wappingers CSD Board of Education trustees.

For the fifth consecutive year, the Wappingers CSD proposed budget remains under the tax cap. On the district's website, the proposed budget is described as "sustaining the programs and services students need and deserve, while remaining fiscally responsible to our taxpayers."

The proposed budget contains a tax levy increase of 2.59%, according to officials. Another proposition is requesting 25 gasoline- and diesel-powered buses (15 replacements, 10 new).

"The 2026-27 Wappingers Central School District Budget Proposition continues to provide for the vital programs and services that our students and families have relied on over the past five years, while continuing to remain fiscally responsible to our taxpayers," said Wappingers CSD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dwight Bonk via email.

The Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year was \$321,239,071. The Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year is \$336,894,345.

"We have been able to continue to propose budgets under the tax cap through careful and deliberate financial planning and intentional fund management. Based on this planning, we are able to apply nearly \$15 [million] of our General Fund balance toward the budget which will greatly reduce the direct costs to our taxpayers. We remain "Focused on Today, while Planning for Tomorrow," by meeting the immediate, and diverse needs of our students while simultaneously building the sustainable foundation required for the decades to come," stated the superintendent.

Bonk remarked that the district's "primary responsibility" is to the current students in the Wappingers CSD. As a result of that responsibility, the 2026-27 budget, he said, "will continue to prioritize academic support, extracurricular activities, and professional development for staff."

According to Bonk, the Wappingers CSD will focus on:

- Academic Excellence: Maintaining small class sizes and providing our educators modern tools and professional development.
- Student Wellbeing: Continuing to prioritize the importance of a safe school environment through our School Resource Officer Program combined with necessary mental health resources and services, to support all students in our schools.
- Exploration and Discovery: Protecting our robust offerings in the arts, athletics, and Career and Technical Education (CTE), allowing students to pursue their passions.

Long-range planning

Bonk explained the Wappingers CSD's long-range planning. The focus of the long-range plan, as stated by the superintendent, follows:

- Infrastructure: Implementing a proactive facilities maintenance plan to modernize our buildings, improve energy efficiency, and prevent costly emergency repairs.
- Innovation: Integrating emerging technologies and future-ready curricula that prepare students for a rapidly evolving global workforce.
- Fiscal Stability: Building responsible reserves and pursuing Federal, State, and local grant funding to insulate our programs against unpredictable shifts in state funding or economic volatility, as well as continued development of business/education partnerships to prepare today's students for tomorrow's opportunities.

Transportation Proposition on the ballot

"Our Transportation Proposition will allow us to purchase 25 new gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles: we will add to the fleet and retire older buses, moving toward our goal of having all transportation provided by in-District buses," explained Bonk.

Requirements for voting

- To vote one must be:
- A permanent resident of the district for at least 30 days immediately prior to the vote
 - 18 years of age or older



Polls will be open on Tuesday, May 19 regarding the 2026-27 proposed budget for the Wappingers Central School District. Voters can also choose Wappingers CSD Board of Education candidates.

-Courtesy image

- A U.S. citizen
- Registered with the school district or the Dutchess/Putnam County Board of Elections (depending on county of residence)

To learn about how register, for early, absentee, military ballots, visit the District's website at <https://www.wappingersschools.org>.

The following are the voting locations (one can check which school to vote in by going to the Wappingers CSD website)

- Fishkill Elementary School, 20 Church St., Fishkill
- Fishkill Plains Elementary School, 17 Lake Walton Road, Wappingers Falls
- Gayhead Elementary School, 15 Entry Rd., East Fishkill
- Myers Corners Road Elementary School, 156 Myers Corners Road, Wappingers Falls
- Vassar Road Elementary School, 174 Vassar Road, Poughkeepsie
- Wappingers Junior High School, 30 Major McDonald Way, Wappingers Falls

'Strength of community'

Bonk stated, "The strength of our schools is a reflection of the strength of our community. By balancing immediate needs with visionary planning, we are not just maintaining a school system; we are cultivating a thriving environment where every child can succeed today and lead tomorrow."

Meet the Candidates for Wappingers CSD Board of Education

There are three candidates running for the Wappingers Central School District School Board. The following are the candidates in their own words from the District's website:

Steve Shuchat

"For 26 years, until my retirement, I proudly served the WCSD as Principal of Van Wyck. I began as an elementary and middle school teacher, coach, athletic director, and later a high school administrator. I led Van Wyck to recognition as a NYS and National School to Watch and served on the Capital Improvement, Safety, and Health and Wellness Committees. As principal and former president of the Wappingers Administrators Association, I strengthened my skills in negotiation, fiscal oversight, budgeting, and human relations while supporting capital projects and district initiatives."

He noted, "I earned my master's degree and doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University. As a Board member, I will promote academic excellence, fiscal responsibility, safe schools, and opportunity for every child."

Keith Odums

"As a longtime Wappingers resident and proud parent in the Wappingers Central School District, I know our community values strong schools, responsible budgets, and opportunity for every child. I am seeking re-election as School Board Trustee to continue delivering results. Graduation rates have risen above 94%, reflecting the dedication of our students and educators."

He stated, "I've supported expanded pathways like P-TECH and trade programs starting in 9th grade to prepare students for real-world success. I've backed fair strategies to retain teachers and plans to modernize facilities, address growing enrollment, and strengthen special education so more students can learn close to home. I remain committed to listening, leading, and putting our community first. Experience You Trust. Results You See. Vote May 19th."

Ellen Mead

"In 1986 my husband and I moved to Dutchess County with our two children. Having a degree in Psychology, Early Education and Special Education made finding the best school district a priority. WCSD was the obvious choice. My three children are graduates of WCSD and my grandson a current student."

She said, "I'm proud to say that I was an employee of the district for a little over 26 years. My career began as a long-term Teaching Assistant, a permanent position at Gayhead Elementary then at John Jay HS ending with 20+ years teaching at WJHS."

Even though I am retired the WCSD and Education are important to me. It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Education."

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'5K Run & Walk with the Dogs' to benefit ARF on May 17

The Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) announces its annual "5K Run & Walk with the Dogs," taking place on Sunday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Memorial Park in Beacon. This year's event has special significance as ARF celebrates 40 years of rescue and adoption services for animals in need.

For four decades, ARF has been a cornerstone of animal welfare in Hudson Valley, providing compassionate care and second chances for thousands of cats and dogs. The annual 5K is one of the organization's popular community events, bringing together animal lovers, families, and supporters to advance this lifesaving mission. Last year 27 local supporters took part in the event.

"The ARF 5K Run and Walk with the Dogs has truly become a part of the local community," said ARF President David Rocha. "Each year, we've seen the support grow with more participants, both two and four-legged. The event is an integral part of our fundraising efforts, and as we look to our next 40 years, we know our supporters will continue to help us carry forward ARF Founder Barbara Shea's vision."

Participants are encouraged to bring their families, friends, and four-legged

companions for a day of fitness, fun, and community spirit. Whether running competitively or walking casually, attendees of all ages and abilities are welcome.

Some of the event highlights include:
•5K Run & Walk with or without a Dog – Professionally chipped race with medals.

•1K Kids Fun Run – Open to children ages 3-10.

•Fundraise \$100 & get a free event T-shirt – Support ARF's mission through peer-to-peer fundraising

•Best Dog Costume Contest – A crowd-favorite celebration of creativity

•Special Prizes for Dogs – Registered pups receive a customized tag

In addition to the races, attendees can enjoy vendor exhibits, raffles, music, face painting, and more, making it a festive day for animal lovers across the region.

Register at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/ARF5K>

Standard registration fee is \$20/\$35 from April 1 – May 16. On Race-Day the price increase to \$30/\$40. Event is stroller-friendly. Children under 3 participate for free.

For more information, visit www.arfbeacon.org.

Wappingers CSD students recognized by Elks



On Thursday April 16, Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 presented February and March Student of the Month awards to Wappinger Junior High School students. The students were chosen for their hard work, friendly attitude, kindness and being focused. Students received a certificate and gift card for their accomplishments.

Beacon Elks thanks Giacomo's Pizza Cafe for sponsoring this event with them. Pictured (back row): Christina Colarusso, teacher Cathy Oken, Youth Activities Chair, Iris Pannazzo (Feb. 8th Grade), Catherine Perri, teacher, Alandra Price, Assistant Principal

Front Row: Kaylee Flynn (7th Grade), Dylan Paccha (8th Grade) and Jeanine McAuley, Exalted Ruler.

-Courtesy photo

Voters head to the polls to decide on BCSD proposed budget and BOE candidates

Continued from cover

of the 26-27 budget is the 9-period day at Rombout Middle School. A 9-period day allows for a health class and a "Welcome to 6th Grade" class in 6th grade, exciting new electives in 7th grade, and more technology, art, and music offerings for 8th graders, depending on the courses they select. It also allows students greater access to academic intervention services. We are in the process of designing new courses and working on the details, and we will keep you updated!"

Qualified voter

A qualified voter is a person who is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the date of the Budget Vote. A qualified voter is not required to be a registered voter.

Petitions must state the residence of each signer, and the name and residence of each candidate.

3 Board of Education seats on ballot

BCSD voters will elect three members to the Board of Education.

According to the District Clerk, there are three candidates running, current

member Eric Schetter, Jermaine Wright and Kaitlyn Secor

- Two members will be elected to the Board of Education for a three-year term commencing July 1 and ending June 30, 2029 plus a remainder term commencing May 20, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026; and

- One member to the Board of Education for a three-year term commencing July 1 and ending on June 30, 2029.

Propositions

Voters will also vote on a bond resolution adopted by the BOE on March 9 authorizing the purchase of school buses (two wheelchair vans, one 72-passenger bus and two small school buses (vans)) at a maximum estimated cost of \$640,000.

The District is to pay the costs thereof; and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law.

Anyone with questions, may email landahl.m@beaconk12.org.

Check the budget webpage at: <https://www.beaconk12.org>.

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5 DCC students present original research at SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference

Five students from Dutchess Community College's (DCC) Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) presented original research at the 2026 SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) on April 24 at SUNY Upstate Medical University. DCC was one of 33 SUNY colleges to participate.

Jennalayah Waddell's project, "Analyzing Alterations in Landscapes Using Satellite Imagery and Geographic Information Systems," explored the use of Quantum GIS (QGIS) software to generate landscape maps and analyze changes in terrain, demonstrating the application of geospatial technology to real-world environmental questions.

Breanna Torres and Jordane Gordon presented "Aperture Photometry of an Unstudied Variable Star Using Multi-Filter Observations," documenting the light output of a variable star using photometric measurements. Their findings were uploaded to the AAVSO international database, contributing to the global astronomical community.

Iliana Soto's work, "The Global Impact

of U.S. Health Policy," examined the impacts of cuts to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). "If these modern public health agendas persist," Soto concluded, "the consequences for future global health security may be severe and irreversible."

Brianna Vivace's study, "Survivorship of Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms Under Extreme Environmental Conditions" examined how high-stress freezing conditions affect endemic cyanobacterial populations and their toxicity.

The students were joined by faculty mentor Dr. Samantha Langton and Mabel Almanzar, coordinator of CSTEP.

At DCC, CSTEP supports students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through academic enrichment, mentoring and access to opportunities such as undergraduate research and conference participation.

In addition to research presentations, the conference featured professional development workshops and a career fair connecting students with graduate study options and future career pathways.



From left: Dr. Samantha Langton, Breanna Torres, Brianna Vivace, Jordane Gordon, Jennalayah Waddell and Mabel Almanzar. Not pictured: Iliana Soto.

Participation in SURC reflects DCC's commitment to hands-on learning beyond the classroom, helping students strength-

en key academic and professional skills and engage with peers from across the SUNY system.

Tickets for the 2026 BCSD Film Festival now available

It's time to get one's tickets for the red-carpet event – as hundreds of students have been hard at work crafting amazing films for all to see at this year's BCSD Film Fest!

Elementary School Films set for May 15

This event will take place Friday May 15, at the Seeger Theater at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rad. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. for red carpet interviews with the 2026 student filmmakers, photo booth with friends and family, concessions, raffle, and the film fest merch shop. The show starts at 6:30 p.m.

Middle and High School Student Film on May 18

This star-studded event will take place on Monday, May 18 at the Beacon Movie Theater, 445 Main Street. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for red carpet interviews with the 2026 student filmmakers, photo booth with family and friends, movie theater concessions, a raffle, and film fest merch shop. The show starts at 7 p.m.

If one has questions, please reach out to filmfest@forbeaconschools.org.

For tickets and more information, visit BCSD Student Film Festival — Foundation for Beacon Schools.

Off-duty firefighter rescues kayaker in distress

City of Beacon Medic 1, the City of Beacon Police Department, and the New Hamburg Fire Department were dispatched for a report of an overturned kayaker struggling in the Hudson River off the shoreline of Long Dock Park in the City of Beacon. At the time of the dispatch, City of Beacon Fire Department units were operating at another incident in the immediate vicinity. Due to their close proximity, the Beacon Fire Department rescue boat was underway within minutes of dispatch, stated City of Beacon Fire Chief Thomas Lucchesi in a press release.

While the Beacon Fire Department was still en route, off-duty City of Beacon Fire Lieutenant Robert Simmonds Jr., who was in the area at the time, immediately

entered the Hudson River to assist the kayaker, who was in obvious distress. Lieutenant Simmonds was able to reach the victim and bring the victim toward shore, according to a press release.

Once near the shoreline, officers from the City of Beacon Police Department assisted in removing the kayaker from the water. The kayaker was transferred to the care of EMS personnel and transported to a local hospital by City of Beacon Medic 1 for evaluation and treatment. The City of Beacon Fire Department would like to recognize the selfless actions of Lieutenant Robert Simmonds Jr., whose immediate intervention played a critical role in the successful rescue of the distressed kayaker, stated Lucchesi.

Fishkill Ave. paving completed early

Paving work along Fishkill Avenue is completed according to a social media post on the City of Beacon's Facebook page last week.

"The City of Beacon is pleased to announce that paving work along Fishkill Avenue was completed early, thanks to the efficient and professional work of the City's Highway Department, in partnership with Clove Excavators. Thank you to City staff

for their logistical planning, diligent outreach to impacted areas, and effective progress along this key roadway... and painting/stripping should following in the coming weeks.

Thank you to the community for your patience as this generational road rehabilitation project is in its final phases," it was stated in the post.

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINE

Due to a holiday press schedule for Memorial Day, the May 27 issue of Beacon Free Press will have early deadlines for all departments.

Editorial and calendar submissions must be received by Thursday, May 21, at noon.

Advertising must be received by Thursday, May 21, at 5 p.m.

Contact cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com for more information.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Policy on letters:

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published, with the exception of political figures.
- 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.

HUDSON VALLEY NATURALIST

BY FRANCINE WIZNER

You gotta seed it to bean-lieve it



“Butterfly Pea,” *Clitoria ternatea* can feature white or blue flowers. *-Photo by Aadhipkesavan (edited) and Photo by Dr. Raju Kasambe (edited)*

Clover close-up. *-Photo by Francine Wizner*

Kathy Simon’s white clover jelly. *-Photo provided by Kathy Simon*

Most plants make seeds as their basic reproductive unit. We eat a lot of them – including wheat, quinoa, and pecans – even though we may think of some of them as grains or nuts. Seeds are often small because they are easier to disperse. But some plants make big seeds with greater energy and vigor.

Bean there, done that

Beans are big seeds. Coffee, chocolate, and vanilla are called beans. But they aren’t. Baristas extract their concoctions from big seeds of the Coffee Berry Tree. To make their sweets, Ghirardelli and Hershey use the big seeds that grow in pods along the trunks of Cacao Trees. Check the ingredients of your favorite ice cream to learn if its flavor is from pure seedpods of Vanilla Orchids, rather than artificial flavoring.

The seeds that produce coffee, chocolate, and vanilla are not true beans, because they are not part of the Legume (Fabaceae) Family. Their culinary name was bestowed due to their physical appearance. But those tropical seeds are not legumes because they lack some key characteristics.

Legumes have flowers that are commonly called “butterfly-like,” though Carl Linnaeus, the architect of both modern botany and taxonomy, named one family genus *Clitoria* for a reason. I think Butterfly Peas, and all other legumes, look a lot like – ahem – something besides a butterfly.

Legumes have lots of protein. Fabaceae, whether eaten as a half-cup serving of rehydrated beans, lentils, or peas (pulses), or fresh, provides about 7 grams of plant-based protein. That is roughly equivalent to the protein in one ounce of meat. Legumes have more protein than other vegetables because they fix nitrogen.

Nitrogen isn’t broken, it’s loose
About three-quarters of our atmosphere

is nitrogen gas. As a gas, nitrogen atoms are locked in a strong bond, making them chemically non-reactive. Plants and animals can’t access the element, yet need it for life processes, such as genetics, creating proteins, chemical reactions, and photosynthesis.

In the same way that a house’s foundation is fixed to the ground, atmospheric nitrogen is fixed into compounds that can be absorbed. Anchor bolts and footings hold the house to the earth; soil microbes perform most natural nitrogen fixation on Earth. Nitrogen-fixing microbes use an enzyme to break the chemical bonds of nitrogen gas and turn it into nitrogen compounds, dissolved in water, which plants can access.

Nearly all plants benefit from water-soluble nitrogen that various microbes make available. However, some plants have special relationships with nitrogen-fixing microbes. The most significant of those are legumes.

Don’t make lawn maintenance clover-whelming

Legumes are varied. They are both herbaceous and woody. They provide food and forage; when they die, their nitrogen fertilizes surrounding plants.

A common legume seen in many lawns is clover. A lawn containing a clover-grass mix strikes a balance. The grass provides a “skeleton” during the winter, when clover dies back. The clover provides “living fertilizer” and stays green in July and August when grass may brown from heat. If the clover is allowed to bloom, the bee population is supported. Clover also grows densely, which can help prevent other, less desirable, weeds from taking root.

Clinton Corners Clover Jelly

Foraging runs in Kathy Simon’s family. Her brother has made sauerkraut from edible wild greens, wine from flowers and berries, and hard cider and apple cider vinegar from apple scraps. Kathy, a

Clinton Corners resident, was inspired by his foraged creations.

The many (herbicide- and pesticide-free) clover blossoms in her lawn prompted her to make clover jelly last season. YouTube taught her how! Kathy says it’s a great source for instruction on making jellies from non-traditional ingredients. This is the recipe she followed:

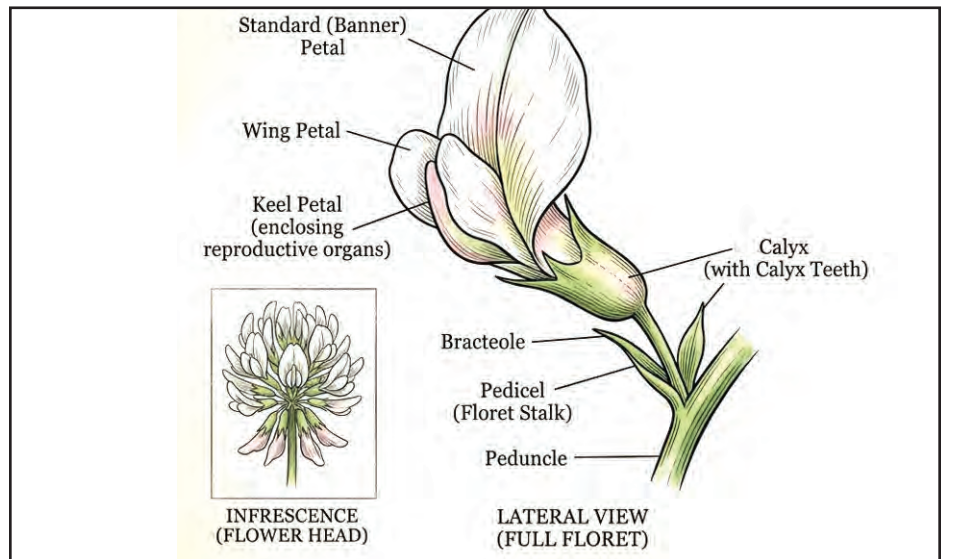
- 2 cups white clover blossoms, having as little brown in them as possible and no stems! (they impart a bitter flavor)
- 2 ½ cups boiling water
- ¼ cup lemon juice
- 1-4 cups sugar
- 1 package of pectin (Kathy used Pomona’s Universal Pectin for its lower sugar content)

Procedure: Wash and drain the blossoms and place them in a large heat-proof jar. Pour in the boiling water, cover, and allow them to sit overnight. Then, squeeze out the liquid so that you have 2 ¼ cups of “tea.” Next, follow the instructions for making jelly on your package of pectin.

IMPORTANT: Add lemon juice to set the pectin, balance the flavor, brighten the color, and provide acidity for safer storage. Place the jar in a 212°F water bath for 10 minutes for shelf-stable storage.

Kathy has previously made jelly from dandelion flowers and lemon balm leaves. She gets satisfaction not just from growing and foraging her own food, but also from turning a “weed” into something delicious. When you make it yourself, you know all of the ingredients!

Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over 3 decades teaching in Ulster County. She creates science-themed instructional materials and books, as well as being a Citizen Scientist in the management of her current home in an enchanted woodland of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com>.



AI-generated graphic of clover.

-By Francine Wizner

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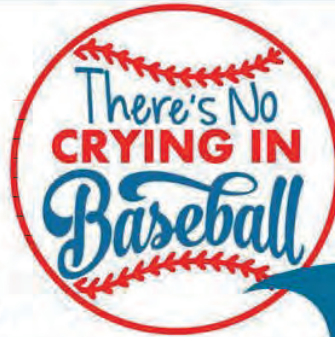
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RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Hudson Valley grabs four wins in series vs. Winston-Salem

By Morgan E. Maier

In their first of two straight home-stands, the Hudson Valley Renegades won four of six from the Winston-Salem Dash. With the series win, the Renegades improve to 14-17 on the season and sit in fourth place in the South Atlantic League North.

Cold Cole Man

Gerrit Cole was back on the bump for another rehab start on May 5; the Dash were quick to pounce. The visitors tagged Cole for five runs, including two in the first inning. Roderick Arias hit a solo shot, one of two Renegade hits on the day, and was the only Renegade to reach base twice (1 H, 1 BB). On Thursday, May 7, the country dances were knocking boots as Hudson Valley pitching got knocked for a 7-3 loss. Wilson Rodriguez and Josh Moylan each had two hits. Moylan hit a two-run blast in the seventh inning, but the two runs were immediately returned in the top of the 8th inning.

Go West!

Kyle West was a one-man RBI production factory on May 11, showcasing his strongest work for the Mother's

Day crowd. West knocked in his third home run of the season, a solo shot in the fourth inning. As a solid Franyer Herrera start was holding a 1-0 lead for the Renegades, West went yard in the following inning. West knocked in four more on a slam to right field, his team-leading fourth homer of the year. West leads the team in RBI (24), followed by Kaeden Kent. Herrera improved to 2-0 on his season as four relievers produced an inning apiece to close the game. Chris Veach earned the save.

Walkoff and Washouts

Connor McGinnis was the Gatorade-laden hero on May 8, a two-strike, two-out single that scored a pair of runs for the comeback. Trailing by one, the Renegades had the bases crowded for McGinnis when he came up huge in the bottom of the ninth. Kaeden Kent knocked McGinnis with an RBI single, innings earlier. On May 6, the Renegades needed just eight innings to get hot. It was hardly half that — as Hudson Valley exploded for 10 runs over the first three innings. Luis Serna went 5.0 scoreless, with seven strikeouts and five walks. Arias was 3-4 with four RBI; Core Jackson



Roderick Arias of the Renegades is safe at the plate with a head-first slide in a May 6 victory over the Winston-Salem Dash.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

was a perfect 3-3 with an RB. Kaeden Kent reached base five times, adding a stolen base to three walks, two runs and an RBI.

The Renegades will stay home for another week, as the Frederick Keys come in across the Hudson. As the Renegades look to push through the top half of the division standings Hudson Valley will hope to repeat the early successes it saw against Frederick.

The Renegades will stay home for

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Greensboro PIT	21	12	.636	-	8-2	W3
	Frederick BAL	19	13	.594	1.5	7-3	W1
	Wilmington WSH	18	14	.563	2.5	6-4	W1
	Hudson Valley NYY	18	14	.563	2.5	4-6	W3
	Jersey Shore PHI	15	17	.469	5.5	5-5	L1
	Brooklyn NYM	8	24	.250	12.5	3-7	L3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Bowling Green TB	22	11	.667	-	7-3	W3
	Winston-Salem CWS	18	15	.545	4.0	3-7	L3
	Rome ATL	18	15	.545	4.0	6-4	W3
	Hub City TEX	16	16	.500	5.5	7-3	L1
	Greenville BOS	14	19	.424	8.0	1-9	L3
	Asheville HOU	8	25	.242	14.0	3-7	L3



May			
05/13/26	vs. Frederick	11:05 AM	Education Day presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/14/26	vs. Frederick	06:35 PM	Healthcare Appreciation Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/15/26	vs. Frederick	07:05 PM	In Our Baseball Era WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/16/26	vs. Frederick	05:05 PM	Military Appreciation Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/17/26	vs. Frederick	02:05 PM	Pirates Day WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/26/26	vs. Bowling Green	06:05 PM	Women in Sports Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/27/26	vs. Bowling Green	11:05 AM	Education Day presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/28/26	vs. Bowling Green	06:35 PM	Beach Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/29/26	vs. Bowling Green	07:05 PM	Star Wars Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/30/26	vs. Bowling Green	05:05 PM	2026 Renegades Team Card Set presented by Dutchess Tire Center WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
05/31/26	vs. Bowling Green	02:05 PM	Halloween in May WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets





Renegades Extra!



IMPACT

PR & Communications

Eastdale Village Unveils New Piazza - a Vibrant Gathering Space Ahead of Summer Programming



See story, page 8

IMPACT

PR & Communications

Jones' Mother's Day first hit leads former Renegades moving up to MLB



Spencer Jones, who got his minor league start with the Hudson Valley Renegades, knocked a 2nd-inning single for his first MLB hit on Sunday. It was a "Mother's Day special" for Jones as his Mom and family were in attendance at the Milwaukee vs. Yankees game.

-Archive photo by Dave Janosz

By Morgan E. Maier

The New York Yankees opened the month of May with a roster shakeup featuring three Renegades alumni. With a combined jersey number of 238, Spencer Jones, Brendan Beck and Elmer Rodriguez-Cruz made long-awaited debuts with mixed results.

Jones had a quiet first week on the MLB roster, going 0-for-8 before finally punching through on the Yankees' Mother's Day slate. A 6'7" massive frame in the batter's box, the 24-year-old struck out five times before notching his first career hit. New York hopes it is first of many for its top prospect, whose arrival propelled rumor mills for the better part of two seasons. The Yankees were swept by the Milwaukee Brewers in Jones' debut series. You wouldn't know it looking at Jones' family, beaming from the seats as he found outfield grass for a second-inning RBI single.

Beck called his own May 7 debut a "dream come true" on a YES Network interview. After nearly five seasons in the system, Beck was critical in a Yankees' bullpen game, offering three steady innings against the Texas Rangers. A first career strikeout closed Beck's first inning of work, as he erased a two-out walk to Danny Jansen. Beck allowed two runs on as many hits, throwing 28 of 52 pitches for strikes. New York's bullpen barrage proved successful, as the Bombers held on 9-2.

After two big league starts, Rodriguez-Cruz is still working out his own mechanics. He did not display the controlled burn that's plagued so many hitters, from Low-A to Wilkes-Barre. In his first start, Rodriguez walked four batters in 4.2 innings, while giving up three earned runs. The Yankees would win 7-4, but Rodriguez's no decision leaves him seeking a win. He went 4.0 innings in his following start, allowing 2 runs to cross in the eventual loss.

The organization will likely see a further shakeup as once-injured, established Yankees prepare for their season debut. Anthony Volpe, Jasson Dominguez and Carlos Rodón will be at the center, as the former prospects and current second-rotation pitcher look to contribute to the AL East favorites. Some players will return to minor league assignments still savoring their taste of the majors.

Hobby to career - Passion for best photos drives Dave Janosz

Editor's note: Pictures are worth a few thousand words...but what does it take to get the perfect sports shot? Writer Morgan Maier spent a ballgame with Hudson Valley Renegades photographer Dave Janosz to see how he prepares for game day - and getting the best shots.

By Morgan E. Maier

Below the sea of pinstripes and Hudson Valley Renegades tees, a purple spot in the field captures a perfect shot. You've seen him on the concourse, training a lens on the walkoff hero and one-in-a-million shots, but Dave Janosz is the guy in a signature purple palette, creating lasting moments from one shot. Except for when the Winston-Salem Dash are in town, of course, then Dave will be wearing anything but the opponents' palette.

Dave is in his fifth season photographing the Renegades, future Yankees and current Minor League baseball hopefuls.

Where art and learning exist, there is Dave Janosz, especially if baseball is involved. He quotes the architect Frank Lloyd Wright. He trains with wildlife photographers and MLB staffers to learn more about contrast and color, ready to implement the lessons at the first click.

Dave grew up in the age where posed cards were common to baseball fans as chewing gum. The signature swing pose and faux-home run smile that defines an era of baseball players and its fans. Dave captures the real thing at every Hudson Valley Renegades home game, his work living in media day promotions and social media drafts.

Like young fans swinging through air in their bedrooms a la Barry Bonds and Babe Ruth, Dave has seen enough baseball photos to replicate them, perfectly. It is within the last five seasons — his first in the industry, that he's begun to develop his own style.

Dave's season signature has shifted from getting the staple shots to seeking emotion. Early on, his concentration on new players, draftees and classic baseball card stock often missed emotion. Now, fans see the team awaiting a home run hitter at home plate, strings of water and Gatorade suspended in midair like a bouquet of "Welcome Home" balloons.

"I'll never forget the name of the player that hit the walk-off hit, that they celebrated around; those make for really memorable pictures and images. It's fun for me to be so close to it, making a picture of their excitement, their happiness. It's like they could be 12 years old the way they celebrate and I just, I feed off of that energy big time," said Dave.

The first inning he sees a new player, Dave is learning the cues. Will a starter hurl with emotion? When he erases a leadoff double with a strikeout, is there a chance for celebration? If yes, he'll have a direct line of sight to the pitcher.

The players learn about Dave too, over



Renegades photographer Dave Janosz is all over the field with players and fans during games at Heritage Financial Park.

-Courtesy photo by Matthew Turri.

the course of a season or a few. They can rely on his weekly provision of shots to send to family back home, or flicks worthy of a profile picture refresh. Though he's a sports-only photographer, he hasn't yet turned down a player request for a maternity or engagement shoot.

Dynamic Elements Photography is the brand. At Heritage Financial Park, clad in purple and a batting helmet in either baseline well, or combing the concourse for candid shots that scream "Minor League Baseball" without a single word, is the face.

Passion for photography came alongside a desire for change. A quarter century in the education field behind him, the self-stated hobbyist made the switch. Yet leaving the school didn't end Dave's learning, or yearn for creating something to smile about.

He knows the sound of a home run off the crack of a bat, and when the infield grass will get a sun-soaked inning of prime photo lighting.

Emotion tells the story, and a team's investment in its craft dictates the zeal for success. Everyone wants to reach the next level, just as much as they will go absolutely bonkers for whichever one of them gets the big hit.

"Every at-bat matters to them. And I feel like that makes for good pictures because they're invested in it. There would be no storytelling image to an emotionless team, but everybody here is trying to get to the next level to try to get to the Yankees, to try to make their career. Everybody's invested, you know? And I feel like that helps feed my pictures," said Dave.

The same could be said for Dave's body of work. The reaction shots, responses to his work tell a story. Dave's field persona shows more. He's a lifelong baseball fan with a second career as a photographer (with a wealth of experience in the tri-state area), who got his start as the dugout's favorite dad with a camera.

In baseball leagues Little to big, players being themselves, to Dave, bodes for a more valuable shot. Those of parents and kids riddled with excitement on a travel team's media day, or Minor leaguers finding a mode to thrive off-field. A million words can be told in a single shot, but Make-a-Wish initiatives and clinic days tell a story no box score could. In one photo, a fan hugs his favorite 'Gade, his request for connection answered and enshrined, all in one moment.

"Some of the best images are of fans, just having a good time at the ballpark. That's very relatable because if you like baseball, if you like sports, you like the experience that it is to come here, you remember having a good time and how you felt when you were at the game. So if I can capture the picture that tells the story about how they're feeling when they're there, that's good," added Dave.

His work supplies motion, a pop of color to every baseball story written in black and white and etched in the memories of those who live them. "Thank you for capturing this moment," a player tells Dave Janosz, days removed from his first walk-off home run.

It was — is — the artist's pleasure.

Eastdale Village unveils new Piazza - a vibrant gathering space - ahead of summer programming

Eastdale Village announced the completion of its newest community amenity on May 5: a thoughtfully designed, open-air Piazza that will serve as the central gathering space within the popular live, work, play destination. Located on the south side of the community, the Piazza debuts ahead of Eastdale's signature summer programming.

Enhancing Eastdale's walkable, neighborhood-centered environment, the Piazza offers an inviting and inclusive space for residents and visitors alike. Inspired by the timeless character of European public squares, it reflects a vision of community living, where culture, connection and leisure intersect, a central focus of Eastdale's mission

"The Eastdale Piazza is a fitting culmination to the construction along Eastdale Avenue South and is reflective of considerable input from many talented members of our design and construction teams, foremost among them Giovanni Palladino," said John Hettinger, President of Kirchhoff, the real estate investment firm responsible for Eastdale Village. "The Piazza is intended to serve as a unique, active venue in the Hudson Valley, which our team will thoughtfully program throughout the year with wonderful events for the community."

Beginning early May and running through September, the Piazza will serve as a central hub for Eastdale's signature lineup of free community events, offering a consistent and recognizable destination for the season. Featured events include Movies on Main, a recurring outdoor family-friendly film series under the stars; the Farmers' Market, featuring local vendors and fresh, seasonal offerings from Hudson Valley vendors; and Eastdale Unplugged, a new acoustic



Beginning in May and running through September, the Piazza will serve as a central hub for Eastdale's signature lineup of free community events, offering a consistent and recognizable destination for the season.

-Courtesy photo

music series showcasing emerging, local talent in an intimate setting. Additional events and programming will be introduced throughout the season, reinforcing Eastdale Village as a destination for community connection.

"From the outset, the vision for the Eastdale Piazza was to create the social heart of the community—a space where architecture and everyday life seamlessly come together," commented Giovanni Palladino, Kirchhoff's Director of Architecture & Design. "We approached the design as an architecturally framed civic living room, one that feels both intimate and open, inviting people to gather,

connect and linger. By reinforcing Eastdale's commitment to thoughtful placemaking and pairing the space with dynamic, year-round programming, the Piazza becomes more than a destination — it becomes a shared experience that

evolves with the community."

For more information and announcements of upcoming events, visit www.eastdalevillage.com and follow Eastdale Village on Instagram and Facebook.

Church to honor first responders on May 17

Hopewell Reformed Church will host a First Responders Appreciation Sunday on Sunday, May 17 at 9:45 a.m. at 143 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction. The event marks the conclusion of National Police Week and is dedicated to recognizing and honoring the courage, sacrifice, and service of local first responders.

The service will feature distinguished guests and speakers, including:

- Sheriff Kirk Imperati, Dutchess County Sheriff's Office
 - Major Dan Smith, Troop Commander, Troop K, New York State Police
 - Chief Derrick Cuccia, East Fishkill Police Department
 - Chief John Jackson, East Fishkill Fire District
 - Chief Gary Saltzburg, Rescue Captain, East Fishkill Rescue Squad
- Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, who will offer remarks
During the service, Rev. Douglas

Leonard, Senior Pastor of Hopewell Reformed Church, will present awards to each participating agency and offer a prayer of blessing for police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and all who serve on the front lines of public safety.

"We are deeply grateful for the men and women who put their lives at risk every day to protect our community," said Rev. Leonard. "This service is a small but heartfelt way to say thank you and to lift them up in prayer."

The event was organized with the leadership of Dutchess County Legislator Robert Faust, a member of Hopewell Reformed Church, who serves as chair of the event committee.

Members of the public are invited to attend and join in expressing appreciation for the dedication and sacrifice of local first responders.

For more information, please contact the church office at hrchurch@hrcra.org or call 845-221-9542.

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Ribbon-cutting held for the opening of Mirbeau Inn & Spa in Beacon



Attendees gather at Mirbeau Beacon for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tours on May 7.



One of the gardens that can be seen from the Spa.



One of the Facial rooms in the Spa at Mirbeau Beacon.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter



Some of the items that are available at the Spa.

Continued from cover

Kyriacou said, "I get chills to see this property restored, to see how far the community has come." The mayor noted Mirbeau has hired 100 people and will probably hire another 100 individuals.

Beacon resident Kelly Ellenwood is with the Bannerman Castle Trust, which has been restoring Bannerman Castle and other areas on Pollepel Island (which once served as a military surplus and arsenal warehouse owned by Francis Bannerman VI, a military antiques dealer).

"It's beautiful. They retained the charm," remarked Ellenwood. She added,

"I'm thrilled that this is done."

The Beacon Historical Society posted on social media, in part, "The property has gone unused for more than a quarter of a century — how thrilling to see it loved again."

"We are truly honored to be part of the City of Beacon. We cannot wait to share this property with you," said Dal Pos.

In his remarks, Kyriacou told those gathered that years ago, Dia Beacon was the first leap for the city. Mirbeau Beacon is the next step as a destination for tourism and arts, he said.

Mirbeau Beacon is at 11 Mirbeau Lane in Beacon. For more information, visit <https://beacon.mirbeau.com>.

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'You have lost America by the Irish'

A musical history lesson at the Beacon Sloop Club

There is a moment in history that most Americans have never heard — and it changes everything you thought you knew about the Revolution.

In 1784, Lord Mountjoy stunned the British Parliament with a blunt assessment: "America was lost by Irish emigrants... the major part of the American Army was composed of Irish, and it was their valor that determined the contest." More than 175 years later, President Kennedy stood before the Irish Parliament and said the same thing.

It's a chapter of history most Americans never learned — yet nearly 250,000 Irish immigrants had settled in America by the time of the Revolution, and almost one-third of the Revolutionary forces, including 1,500 officers, 22 generals, and more than a dozen sea captains, claimed Irish ancestry. More signers of the Declaration of Independence came from Ireland than any other foreign country, and the first naval engagement of the war was com-

manded by an Irishman.

So, could the Revolution have been won without them? Come to the Beacon Sloop Club, Red Flynn Dr., on Thursday, May 21 at 7 p.m. and find out.

Presenter Bill Devlin will bring this forgotten chapter to life through an illustrated PowerPoint presentation, tracing the soldiers, commanders, and everyday heroes whose sacrifice made American independence possible.

The evening's history will be accompanied by live traditional Irish music performed by the musicians of the Andy McGann Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann — the world's largest organization dedicated to preserving Irish music, dance, and culture. On May 21, they bring the songs and ballads of the Revolutionary era to the banks of the Hudson.

The event is free and open to the public. All are welcome. For more information, visit www.beaconsloopclub.org.

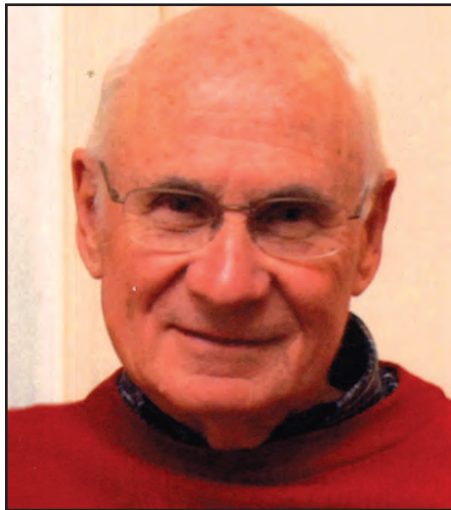


A musical history lesson will be held at the Beacon Sloop Club on May 21 in Beacon.

-Courtesy image

Obituaries

Paul E. Robitaille



Paul E. Robitaille, 97, passed away at home in Fishkill, NY, on May 2, 2026, with the support of HV Hospice. Born in New Bedford, MA, Paul was the son of Hector and Claudia Dextraze Robitaille. French was his first language.

Paul and his twin brother, Raymond, began their service together in the Naval Reserves. He later served in the U.S. Army with the 577th Engineer Battalion at Fort Benning, GA. Following his military service, Paul earned degrees in Industrial Engineering and an MBA.

He worked as an engineer for Raytheon before joining IBM and relocating to New York. At IBM East Fishkill, Paul held leadership roles in Equipment Services, Facilities Operations and Maintenance, and Security for the GTD division.

Paul lived a life defined by integrity

and simplicity. He was brave, too, even skydiving at ages 88 and 90 to raise funds for his differently abled son, Peter, and the agency that supported him. Paul credited his longevity to staying active—he was an avid reader, a Fishkill Village walker, and a senior exercise class enthusiast.

Later in life, Paul found love again with his beloved wife, May. He cherished meaningful relationships with his stepfamily and treasured time spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Paul is survived by his son, Dana (Marie) Robitaille; daughter, Paula Robitaille (Brian Marcinkowski); grandsons Nicholas (Kelly) Robitaille, Luis Robitaille (fiancée Amy), Scott Marcinkowski, and Gregg Marcinkowski; and great-granddaughters Remi and Teagan. He is also survived by stepdaughters Linda Peltier and Shelley (Tony) Piccone; step-grandchildren Nino (Laura) Piccone, Heather (Mike) Sannicandro, Nick Piccone (Jessica), Bonnie Peltier (Wade), Jennifer (Rob) Brewer, Monique Peltier (Mike), Michael (Pamela) Harris, Brendan (Shannon) Harris, and Rick Harris; and seventeen step-great-grandchildren.

Paul was predeceased by his brothers Louis, Wilfred, Leo, Hector, and Raymond; his sister, Beatrice; the mother of his children, Barbara Sherman; his beloved wife, May Robitaille; sons Philip and Peter Robitaille; and stepson and step-grandson, Richard, Jr. and Joshua Harris.

In keeping with his wishes, a private service has taken place. Paul is laid to rest beside May in the Wortman Mausoleum at Fishkill Rural Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were handled by the McHoul Fishkill Funeral Home.

In Paul's honor, please consider a memorial donation to Greystone Programs, Inc., the non-profit agency that provided Paul's son, Peter, with a safe, loving, and dignified home for nearly forty years. Donations may be made at [greystoneprograms.org](http://www.greystoneprograms.org).

Daniel J. Quinn



Daniel J. Quinn, a longtime Poughkeepsie area resident, passed away on May 6, 2026 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie; at the age of 58. He was born in Brooklyn, NY on May 16, 1967, son of Patricia (Brodnicki) Quinn and the late James Quinn. Grew up in Queens, and after high school he went onto the Le Cordon Bleu Culinary School in France where he found his passion for culinary arts.

Dan worked in various restaurants and catering halls throughout his life; from Ondine's in Connecticut, Harold's in Stormville, NY. He was a chef at Ship Lantern Inn in Milton for many years, and later as a sous chef at Charlotte's Restaurant and Catering in Millbrook, New York.

Dan was known as a jack-of-all-trades; from culinary and cooking, animal lover he was a dog trainer; he enjoyed leatherworking. He also loved karate, and was a motorcycle enthusiast.

On June 28, 2008 at Bykenhulle House in Hopewell

Junction, NY, he married Renee G. Koehler, who survives at home. The love of his life though was his beloved daughter Teaghan Quinn, whom he is also survived by.

Along with his devoted wife Renee, beloved daughter, Teaghan, and his mother Patricia Quinn, Daniel is survived by his brother Peter Quinn and his wife Sophia; his nephew Tommy Quinn, his two nieces Jessica and Alyssa Quinn, and a host of dear friends.

His Family will gather with Friends to celebrate and honor his Life on Saturday, June 13, 2026 from 2-6PM at DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, New York. Interment will be private at the discretion of his family. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Mary J. Cardascia



Mary J. Cardascia, 102, born and raised in the Village of Wappingers Falls, passed away peacefully on May 5, 2026 at her home. She was born on December 15, 1923, to Fermo and Margherita (Pozza) Priante. On October 25, 1947, she married Robert R. Cardascia at St. Mary's Church, Wappingers Falls. She was a parishioner of St. Mary's Church and was devoted to her Catholic faith. Mary is survived by her children: Margaret (Mark) D'Angelo, Robert (Jayne) Cardascia Jr., Diane (Jerry) Comatos, James (Heidi) Cardascia, Richard (Jackie) Cardascia, MaryAnn (Mike) Maneri, Susanne (Steve) Holtman. Mary's legacy of love shines brightly through her 17 adored grandchildren: Brevan, Carine, Andrew, Dale, Beth, Amber, Justin, Robbie, Rocco, Dominic,

Anthony, Rose, Maria, Michael, Lauren, Emily and Brian and 20 great-grandchildren and still growing. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews who cherished their Aunt Mary. She was predeceased by her husband Bob and daughter Cathy and by her sisters; Gina Paolilli and Ida Bracone, her brother Lino Priante and her special niece Joanne Burke.

Mom's greatest joy was when she was surrounded by family and friends. They were always welcomed with open arms. Her family was blessed to have her for so many years and will miss her dearly.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to Mary's caretakers: Karen, Becky, Bridget and Illiana for their compassion, kindness and loving care shown to Mom.

Her Family received Friends on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 11AM on Wednesday, May 13th at St. Mary's Church, 11 Clinton St., Wappingers Falls, followed by interment in St. Mary's Parish Cemetery.

Her Family wishes for Memorial Contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 80 Washington Street, Suite 204, Poughkeepsie NY 12601. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Pamela Ann Rivera



Pamela Ann Rivera, 62, of Hopewell Junction, NY, passed away peacefully on May 6, 2026, at Taconic Rehabilitation and Nursing at Hopewell. She was born in Hudson, NY, on February 2, 1964, the daughter of the late Wesley Robert Gelhorn and Katherine I. (Folmsbee) Gelhorn.

Pamela was raised in the Town of Stuyvesant and attended Kinderhook Schools, graduating from Ichabod Crane High School. She went on to earn an Associate's Degree in Business from Columbia-Greene Community College.

She dedicated 33 years of service to the New York State Division of Parole as a parole program aide at Downstate Correctional Facility in Fishkill, NY, where she was respected for her professionalism, reliability, and compassion.

Active and athletic in her youth, Pamela enjoyed softball and volleyball in Hudson and later became an avid bowler. It was through bowling and her work that she met the love of her life, Atilano "JR" Rivera. They married on February 4, 1995, in Niagara Falls, NY, and shared 31 years of devotion, partnership, and adventure. Pamela also loved long distance bike riding and cherished time spent outdoors.

She is survived by her own family: her brother, Wayne Gelhorn, and his wife, Jane; her sister in law, Diane Gelhorn; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and her brother, Wesley Maynard Gelhorn.

She is also survived by her husband, Atilano "JR" Rivera, and his sisters: Linda Anello and her partner, Steve; Rose Burrus and her husband, Butch; Vickey Rhodes and her husband, Nick; along with many nieces and nephews who loved her dearly.

A private interment at the family plot in Firwood Cemetery, Stuyvesant, NY, will be held at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to Delehanty Funeral Home, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. To leave a message of condolence or share a memory, please visit the funeral home's website.

Southern Dutchess News
Beacon Free Press
Northern Dutchess News

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

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

100 Help Wanted

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. (NYSE: AMD) is a global semiconductor company that designs & develops a wide range of microprocessors & graphic processor units. AMD has the following positions in Fishkill, NY. Multiple open positions:

MTS Silicon Design Engineer to Research, design, develop, and/or test electronic components and systems for semiconductor and related device manufacturing. (ref. code(s) 85344: \$185000 - \$217200).

Silicon Design Engineer to Research, design, develop, and/or test electronic components and systems for semiconductor and related device manufacturing. (ref. code(s) 85397: \$137877.50 - \$153600).

All positions require related degree and/or experience and/or skills. Multiple open positions. For full information, incl any travel reqs, remote work options & to apply online, visit our careers page at <https://www.amd.com/en/corporate/careers> and click the FIND JOBS button or search ref#.

TOWN OF STANFORD is looking to fill the position of Clerk to the Town Justice.

25 hours per week, pay commensurate with experience.

Contact the Town Clerk for complete job description at Rbell@stanfordny.gov or 845-868-1366, option 5.

200 Services

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219 Attorney Legal

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516 Misc. Merchandise

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Announcement

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES: HOLIDAY PRESS SCHEDULE ISSUE.

Southern/Northern Dutchess News and Beacon Free Press will have an early deadline for the May 27th ISSUE. Advertising must be received by: May 20th

CALL: 845-297-3723 for more information.

521 Internet

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-323-0160

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401 Apartments for Rent

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DIMARCO PLACE I, WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY

One (1) bedroom apartment AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY, rent is \$1,768.00 per month and a one month security deposit. Rent includes electric for lights, cooking, air conditioning (wall-thru air conditioners provided), heat, hot water, water, sewer and trash collection. Tenant is responsible for cable, phone and internet service. All household members must be 55 years or older or disabled. Credit/Criminal Background Check is required. Property is SMOKE-FREE. Income restrictions apply. Please call (845) 297-2004 for an application.

MEADOW RIDGE FAMILY COMPLEX, Beacon, NY

THREE (3) bedroom apartment AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY, rent is \$1,764.00 per month or join SHORT WAIT LIST for Two (2) bedroom apartment, current rent is \$1,540.00. One month security deposit is required. Tenant is responsible for electric for lights, cooking air conditioning (wall-thru air conditioners provided) as well as cable, phone and internet service. Included in rent is heat, hot water, water, sewer and trash collection. Credit/Criminal Background Check is required. Property is SMOKE-FREE. Income restrictions apply. Please call (845) 297-2004 for an application.

MEADOW RIDGE II SENIOR RESIDENCE, Beacon, NY

One (1) bedroom apartment AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY, rent is \$1,507.00 per month or join SHORT WAIT LIST for Two (2) bedroom apartment, current rent is \$1,575.00. One month security deposit is required. Tenant is responsible for electric for lights, cooking and air conditioning (wall-thru air conditioners provided) as well as cable, phone and internet service. Included in rent is heat, hot water, water, sewer and trash collection. All household members must be 62 years or older. Credit/Criminal Background Check is required. Property is SMOKE-FREE. Income restrictions apply. Please call (845) 297-2004 for an application.

HIGHLAND MEADOWS SENIOR RESIDENCE, Beacon, NY

AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY, One (1) bedroom apartment, rent is \$1,247.00 per month and Two (2) bedroom apartment, rent is \$1,561.00. One month security deposit required. Tenant is responsible for cable, phone and internet service. Included in rent is electric, heat, hot water, water, sewer and trash collection. All household members must be 62 years or older. Credit/Criminal Background Check is required. Property is SMOKE-FREE. Income restrictions apply. Please call (845) 297-2004 for an application.



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NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES:

Due to a Memorial Day Press Schedule Southern & Northern Dutchess News and the Beacon Free Press have the following early deadlines for Classified Display Ads:

May 27th Issue Deadline is as follows:
 May 20th deadline before noon.
 Email: roxannesdn@aol.com or Call: 845-297-3723 Ext. 1003 for more information.

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401 Apartments for Rent

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502 Clothing

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503 Furniture

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508 Exercise Equipment

Drive Exercise Peddler with digital display by Othos, manual, portable, rarely used, \$12. Call: 845-264-0240

516 Misc. Merchandise

Appalachia Stainless Steel Fire Pit. Used once with Propane tank, New Condition, \$200. 845-226-6242

Tor-1950's Tube AM,FM & Record Player, \$250 OBO. 845-831-8698

Magnesium Alum Alloy 16' extension ladder, 8' glass reinforced step ladder, Make offer. 845-297-6369

AC Prtable, \$80 - Dehumidifier, \$60, Grill Free, Snare Drum, \$80, Wicker shelf, Lamp, \$40. 845-418-0069

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904 Auto Parts and Tires

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PETS

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NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES:

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, the Southern & Northern Dutchess News and the Beacon Free Press will have the following early deadline for

Classified Display ads: May 27th, 2026 issue:

Submit Classified ads by NOON on Wednesday, May 20th.

Call (845) 297-3723 for more information.

PETS

Hello, my name is Cupcake! I am a 8 week old boxer/hound mix looking for my forever home! I am super sweet and playful and love everyone I meet. I am fully vetted up to what is age appropriate and I can't wait to find my new family. If you would like to adopt me please go to www.incrediblepupspetrescue.com and submit an adoption application.

Hello, my name is Binx! I am a 7 month old Collie mix looking for my forever home! I am super sweet and playful and love everyone I meet. I'm good with kids, dogs and cats. I am fully vetted up to what is age appropriate and I can't wait to find my new family. If you would like to adopt me please go to www.incrediblepupspetrescue.com and submit an adoption application.

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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Email (with "Free line ad" as the subject) your subscription name, address, phone number, & subscriber ID, along with your ad to: sdnadvertising@aol.com

Ads should be limited to 20 words including a contact phone number (must be included in ad). If using this coupon it's recommended that it's delivered in person or mailed.

Faxes are accepted, but not recommended. Our fax number is: (845) 297-6810

Ads run for 2 weeks. If after 2 weeks you wish your ad to run again, it must be resubmitted. We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.

Southern Dutchess News, 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

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Email: _____

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

Howland Chamber Music Circle to close season with renowned pianist

The Howland Chamber Music Circle (HCMC) will close its 2025-2026 Chamber Series and its Piano Festival with the internationally renowned pianist, Isata Kanneh-Mason. She will perform at the Howland Cultural Center on Sunday, May 17, at 4 p.m. Following the concert, audience members can meet the musician and enjoy complimentary refreshments. All ticket holders are invited to the reception. To purchase a ticket, visit www.howlandmusic.org. The Howland Cultural Center is at 477 Main Street in Beacon.

British-born Isata Kanneh-Mason has already played many of the world's great concert halls, in spite of her youth (she's 30-years-old!). She is the eldest of the 7 remarkably musical children of her family, performing with her siblings frequently (most often, with her brother Sheku, a cellist) and as a soloist. Kanneh-Mason has played for the First Night of the BBC Proms, as an orchestral soloist at Carnegie Hall, at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, and elsewhere. Kanneh-Mason has received many awards, including the coveted Leonard Bernstein Award from the Schleswig-Holstein Festival and an Opus Klassik award for best young artist.

At her HCMC recital, Kanneh-Mason will book-end the afternoon with two Beethoven sonatas, starting with the "Moonlight," and ending with the "Waldstein." In addition she will play Ravel's "Gaspard de la nuit," and two works by the contemporary, Bulgarian-born, London-based composer, Dobrinka Tabakova. Kanneh-Mason's first album showcased only the works of Clara Schumann, and she has continued to highlight women's compositions through the ages. Her

recently released recording, "Prokofiev," presents her long-standing love for the music of Sergei Prokofiev.

HCMC now offers tickets at prices to include music lovers who may have been unable to afford our tickets in the past. A limited number of tickets will be available on a pay-what-you-wish basis. These tickets will be released one week prior to each concert.

For more information on this performance, the Howland Chamber Music Circle, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.howlandmusic.org.

Right: British-born renowned pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason will perform in Beacon on May 17.

-Courtesy photo



this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer
SUDOKU

S	A	S	S	O	N	E	T	R	A	C	E				
I	N	D	E	X	T	U	N	E	A	T	I	O	N		
E	L	U	D	E	C	R	U	S	C	O	R	N			
L	U	C	I	L	L	E	J	E	S	S	I	C	A		
F	E	R	N	T	O	T	O								
E	A	R	N	E	D	A	T	O	P	S	P	A			
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D	O	R	I	G	U	P	S	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	A

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

Suguru solution

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-33-26

Parts for Heavy-Duty Vehicles for Dutchess County Public Transit Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 26th day of May 2026 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.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-62-26

Specialty Paper Bids will be received until 11:00 a.m. on the 19th day of May 2026 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>

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gov, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza - Suite One
Beacon, New York 12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
May 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: 393 Fishkill Avenue, LLC and 397 Fishkill Avenue, LLC
Address: 393 Fishkill Avenue, 397 Fishkill Avenue, and 7 Conklin Street
Tax Grid No.: 30-6055-80-392032-00
30-6055-80-399035-00
30-6055-80-394041-00

Zoning Classification: GB
Dear Neighboring Property Owner: 393 Fishkill Avenue, LLC and 397 Fishkill Avenue, LLC, 393 and 397 Fishkill Avenue, and 7 Conklin Street, have applied to the Zoning Board of Ap-

Legal Notices

peals for relief from Section 223-13.G.(1), to allow the construction of a retaining wall that will not exceed 8 feet 5 inches in the rear yard, and Section 223-17 D., Attachment 1, to allow the construction of a four-story building with a building height of 48 feet, which requires relief from the following:

1. Section 223-13 Yards; building projections, heights and accessory structures G. Walls and Fences (1) The yard requirements of this chapter shall not be deemed to prohibit any necessary retaining wall nor to prohibit any fence or wall, provided that the height of such fence or wall does not exceed four feet in front yards, six feet in side yards and six feet in rear yards, except that mesh garden or deer fencing shall not exceed eight feet in height. Notwithstanding the four-foot height limitation for fences and walls in front yards, the Planning Board shall have the discretion to approve a fence or wall up to six feet in height in front

Legal Notices

yards in connection with site plan approval where necessary for screening purposes.

2. Section 223-17.D., Attachment 1, to allow for a building height of 48 feet (maximum height of main building permitted: —/35 (stories/feet))

The full application is available online at: <https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/>
The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 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 May 19, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov
Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-51-26

Equipment Replacement Parts
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 28th day of May 2026 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.

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza - Suite One
Beacon, New York 12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
May 8, 2026

SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: David Simon and Laura Volpacchio
Address: 17 Pleasant View Avenue
Tax Grid No.: 30-6054-13-227338-

Legal Notices

00
Zoning Classification: R1-10
Dear Neighboring Property Owner: David Simon and Laura Volpacchio, 17 Pleasant View Avenue, have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for relief from Section 223-17D, Attachment 1, to allow for the construction of an addition to the existing garage and to the front of the existing home, which requires relief from the following:

1. Section 223-17 D., Attachment 1, to allow for a side yard setback of 7 feet (15 ft. required) for the proposed addition to the garage
 2. Section 223-17 D., Attachment 1, to allow for a front yard setback of 16 feet 8 inches (20 ft. is required) for the proposed front porch
- Please note that per §223-13 B. Porches. No porch may project into any required yard. Any two-story or any enclosed porch, or one having a roof and capable of being enclosed, shall be considered a part of the building in determining the yard require-

Legal Notices

ments or amount of lot coverage.

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

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 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 May 19, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov
Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

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

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

Suguru

	4	1				1
						2
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	2				3	1
3	5					

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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: TV MOMS

ACROSS

1. Ionic and Corinthian predecessor
6. Good times
9. Al fodder
13. Offer two cents
14. Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
15. Interior designer's concern
16. Not fiction, pl.
17. Big head
18. Fear-inspiring
19. "Good Times" mom
21. "The Sopranos" mom
23. Possessive pronoun
24. Gumbo pod
25. Protrude
28. Catcher's catcher
30. *Marvelous Midge Maisel's first name
35. "Metamorphoses" poet
37. Chows down
39. Millionaire maker
40. Time for eggnog
41. Sure sign of fire
43. "Frasier" actress Gilpin
44. TSA PreCheck alternative
46. Mosque V.I.P.
47. Arabian bigwig
48. Received salary
50. At the apex
52. Masseur's office
53. "Where the Red ____ Grows"
55. Likewise
57. "Arrested Development" mom
61. "Fresh off the Boat" mom
65. Circumvent
66. French vineyard
68. Open disrespect
69. Dewey Decimal System, e.g.
70. 252-gallon cask
71. Cause anxiety (2 words)
72. Back talk
73. Extra point
74. Vanish without this

DOWN

1. Take of a hat, e.g.
2. Traditional October birthstone
3. Puerto follower
4. Opening, colloquially
5. #55 on periodic table
6. Part of an eye
7. "Married with Children" mom
8. Investor's asset
9. Hold as a conviction
10. Unit of land often featuring a home
11. Load sixteen tons, e.g.
12. Geometry calculation
15. Divert from course
20. Between washes and styles
22. Casino's pull
24. Foot rest
25. "Stranger Things" mom
26. Throat dangler
27. Mosaic artist
29. "Friday Night Lights" mom
31. Tug-of-War gear
32. List entries
33. Like anchor aweigh
34. "Schitt's Creek" mom
36. Martin of Rat Pack
38. 3-handed card game
42. Bring character to life
45. Response to stimulus
49. Ctrl+Alt+____
51. Lemony cream dessert
54. Right-hand page
56. Academy Award
57. Orchid garlands
58. Forearm bone
59. Cow chow, pl.
60. "Beware the ____ of March"
61. "The Handmaid's Tale" mom
62. Letter before kappa
63. Nile dweller, for short
64. Writer Rice
67. ____-D.M.C.

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to the Sudoku, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on page 14.

'Spring Fling' at the Fairgrounds - super shopping, plus food & wine

Over 200 vendors to greet visitors Friday - Sunday



Variety is the name of the game with the many vendors at the "Spring Fling Bazaar" at the DC Fairgrounds.

-Courtesy photos



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By Curtis Schmidt

If you're a bargain hunter and a foodie/wine lover, this one's for you.

A shopping extravaganza – plus plenty of food, wine and much more – is coming to the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck on May 15-17 in the form of the "Spring Fling Bazaar."

Organized by Tori's Company of Delaware, the Bazaar marries multiple concepts with more than 200 vendors from across the country – all selling items on the spot from everything for the home and outdoor living, to jewelry to hand-made products to specialty foods and New York Wines and distilled spirits.

Veteran showmen Charley Dooley and Al Larkins call the Bazaar "a hybrid show," due to the remarkable variety of vendors. Dooley has been producing shows all over Vermont and the Northeast since the 1970s and is mentoring Larkins, a vendor/producer who travels to more than 40 shows each year.

While shopping is the focus of the "Spring Fling Bazaar," visitors will also find a food court and a NY wine and spirits sampling area where customers can sample hundreds of products with small sips before buying and taking home bottles and cases.

"Visitors are purchasing directly from the makers and producers and avoiding mark ups from the middleman," said Larkins. "The Bazaar is not limited to home and outdoor living exhibits; there are several jewelers, furniture makers, personal care products, and specialty food

producers – all showcasing their latest creations. And if you want to get away from it all, there are even vendors marketing vacations and cruises."

Larkins urges patrons "to bring money for this shopping extravaganza" because the variety is exceptionally unusual. He added, "Cash is king, you always get better deals when the vendors see green."

The famed Pompanoosuc Mills Furniture Store, with locations all over the Northeast, leads the furniture vendors. And Dooley says visitors will find "a plethora of jewelers." He added, "We'll have everything from pickles to RVs." Visit springflingbazaar.com for a full list of vendors.

Dooley says he and Larkins are "happy to bring the Spring Fling to the best venue in Hudson Valley – the Dutchess County Fairgrounds – where there is plenty of free parking."

Andy Imperati, President/CEO of the Fairgrounds, stated, "We are excited to have the Spring Fling Bazaar as part of the Fairground's lineup of events. As we do for any event, we wish them success and hope that the 'Spring Fling Bazaar' becomes a staple here at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds."

While the rain or shine event will be mostly indoors, Dooley notes that many vendors will also choose to be outside – depending on the weather. Hours are Friday 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information and to buy tickets in advance for only \$10, visit springflingbazaar.com. pets, please.