

BEACON FREE PRESS

Figlia appointed new police chief in Beacon

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon City Council voted to appoint Lt. Thomas Figlia as the City's new police chief. Chief Sands Frost is retiring, and his last day will be June 14, it was stated during the Council meeting on May 20.

City Administrator Chris White said "there will be some overlap" as Figlia will begin on June 10 and Frost's last day will be four days later. There will be a public swearing-in ceremony for Figlia and other new hires on June 17, it was stated.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou said, "We all did our interviews" and that Figlia was "well received."

"This time in line of succession, it was Tom," said the mayor.

Frost said he "grew up in the city" and still has family and friends in Beacon. Even though he is retiring, Frost said, he still "wants the best" for Beacon.

"[Figlia] shares a lot of the feelings I have" for the City, said the current chief.

Figlia, according to Frost, was the chief's "right hand man."

"No one knows the policies better than Tom," remarked Frost, who is retiring after almost 41 years.

Figlia joined the Beacon force in the early 2000's. In 2015, Figlia was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. According to Frost, Figlia began supervising patrol shifts and taking on more training responsibilities, including for use-of-force policy instruction and sexual harassment prevention. He was given responsibility for maintenance of the Department's in-car camera systems and oversaw the body-worn camera pilot program, it was noted.

Figlia was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2018 and was tasked with assisting in supervising and evaluating Patrol Sergeants and Detective Sergeant, it was stated. He also reviewed and tracked all Departmental use-of-force incidents to ensure compliance with policy and law, for managing full implementation of the body-worn camera program, and overseeing all Department training programs.

Figlia, who moved to Beacon with his family in 1989, is the son of former Howland Public Library Children's Librarian Ginny Figlia, "Miss Ginny."

Figlia said he graduated from Beacon public schools.

When this opportunity came forward, "I put my name forth," said Figlia. He said he wants to see "the strides made" in the community continue.

"I have an investment in the community," said Figlia.

"I think he is the best choice," said Frost.

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May 29, 2024

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering the 'heart and soul' of the Howland Cultural Center

Florence Northcutt 1927-2024

By Kristine Coulter

Florence Northcutt, Howland Cultural Center (HCC) president emeritus, died on May 17. Northcutt was 97 years old. She was born on March 26, 1927. Northcutt Hall, located in the HCC, was dedicated in her honor in 2022.

"Florence Northcutt was the heart and soul of the Howland Cultural Center," stated Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou during the City Council meeting on May 20.

Theresa Kraft, the current president of the HCC told the Council during the meeting, "Florence will be remembered as a visionary and a generous leader."

Northcutt "cherished the ideals of cultivating an artistic, thriving cultural community," said Kraft. "Her leadership and volunteer spirit greatly enriched our community, especially through her work at the Howland Cultural Center over the past 38 years.

"We - and those she served [at the HCC] - are tremendously grateful for the extraordinary impact Florence had made in the lives of children, adults and families," remarked Kraft.

"It is with a heavy heart that we share this news," she said.

Continued on page 2



Florence Northcutt, president of the Howland Cultural Center from 1996-2017, died at the age of 97 on May 17.

-Photo by Ross Corsair

BCSD voters approve 2024-25 Budget Lewine, McNair, Stadler elected to BCSD board

By Kristine Coulter

Registered voters in the Beacon City School District (BCSD) voted to approve the 2024-25 Budget on May 21. The other three propositions on the ballot also passed. Current Beacon City School District Board of Education member Flora Stadler was reelected to office. LaVonne McNair and Christopher Lewine were also elected to seats on the BOE.

The Budget vote was 720 'Yes' to 244 'No.' BCSD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Matthew Landahl told Beacon Free Press before the election that "[i]f the budget pass-

es, a homeowner with a median valued home will pay an average of \$100 more per year."

Landahl stated on the BCSD website the day after the election, "I want to thank the community for supporting our budget work this year. We are very excited to move forward!"

Proposition #2 was regarding the purchase of an electric-powered bus. The proposition read: "Voters will vote on the following proposition, which reads as follows: 'Shall the bond resolution authorizing the purchase of two zero-emission school buses at

Continued on page 2



Flora Stadler

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IN MEMORIAM***Remembering the 'heart and soul' of the Howland Cultural Center****Continued from cover*

On October 30, 2022, Northcutt was honored during a dedication ceremony at the HCC on Main St. in Beacon. The main gallery in the HCC since that time, has been known as Northcutt Hall.

During an interview with Beacon Free Press at that time, Northcutt said, "I was speechless. It was one of those moments that was jaw dropping; you can't do anything. I was so surprised. I didn't know what to say initially."

Northcutt recalled during that 2022 interview, after moving to Beacon, she wanted to get involved in the community and was seeking a place where she could volunteer. A friend told her about the HCC on Main St., which was designed by one of the country's great architects, Richard Morris Hunt (who designed the Great Hall of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty). "The moment I walked into that beautiful building, I loved it," remarked Northcutt, who was president of the HCC from 1996-2017.

Northcutt was also honored by the

Dutchess Arts Council with the Dutchess County Executive Arts Award for Special Citation in 2001.

Denise Doring VanBuren, president of the Beacon Historical Society, said via email, "Florence became an institution in Beacon. She will be long remembered for her devotion to our city and to the arts, as she was absolutely vital to our community's rebirth into a cultural destination. When researchers and residents alike look back on the transformational era that revitalized Beacon, the name of Florence Northcutt will loom large indeed. But beyond that lasting civic contribution, she was a gracious, kind and witty woman whose sweet disposition was unforgettable. We will miss her."

Kraft stated that Northcutt did not want any services. A future day to celebrate Northcutt's life will be announced. The ceremony will be held at the HCC, said Kraft.

"The work of the Center is never done, and we will follow in her footsteps," concluded Kraft.

Kraft noted that Northcutt's family asks that donations in Northcutt's name be made to the HCC.



The main gallery in the Howland Cultural Center was named Northcutt Hall in October 2022 in honor of Florence Northcutt. Northcutt, who was a former president of the HCC, died on May 17 at the age of 97.

-Archive courtesy photo

Lewine, McNair, Stadler elected to BCSD board*Continued from cover*

a maximum cost of \$990,000 (\$495,000 per bus), but only if the District receives subsidies of at least \$400,000 (\$200,000 per bus); authorizing the issuance of up to \$990,000 bonds (5 year maximum maturity) and, with respect to such bonds, providing for a tax levy therefor in annual installments; pledging the District's faith and credit for debt service; delegating powers with respect to bonds and notes; and providing for an estoppel procedure, be approved?"

The results were 595 'Yes' to 364 'No.'

Proposition #3 was to purchase three 72 passenger gas buses.

The proposition stated the following: "Shall the bond resolution authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum cost of \$485,000; authorizing the issuance of up to \$485,000 bonds (5 year maximum maturity) and, with respect to such bonds, providing for a tax levy therefor in annual installments; pledging the District's faith and credit for debt service; delegating powers with respect to bonds and notes; and providing for an estoppel procedure, be approved?"

Voters voted 668 'Yes' to 289 'No.'

The Capital Project was also approved by voters by a vote of 711 'Yes' to 244 'No.' That proposition stated: "The following is what the proposition states: "Shall the bond resolution authorizing a School District Improvement Program at a maximum cost

of \$49,950,000; authorizing the use of \$500,000 capital reserve funds, the issuance of up to \$49,450,000 bonds (30 year maximum maturity) and, with respect to such bonds, providing for a tax levy therefor in annual installments; pledging the District's faith and credit for debt service; delegating powers with respect to bonds and notes; and providing for an estoppel procedure, be approved?"

3 elected to BOE seats

Four candidates were seeking three seats on the BOE. The candidates were Stadler, McNair, Lewine and Megan Phillips. Stadler received 695 votes. Her term begins right away to finish the term of former BOE member John Galloway Jr.

McNair received 657 votes. Lewine had 596 votes. Phillips received 514 votes. McNair and Lewine's terms will be from July 1 and expire June 30, 2027.

Stadler told Beacon Free Press in an email, "I'm grateful that I have the opportunity to keep doing this important work."

"I'm very grateful to the voters for giving me an opportunity to serve Beacon schools," Lewine said in an email to Beacon Free Press on May 23. "I'm looking forward to working with the Board to continue their great progress. I commit to prioritizing student wellbeing, rich instruction in our classrooms, and building a close partnership with



Christopher Lewine and LaVonne McNair were elected to the Beacon City School District Board of Education on May 21.

-Courtesy photos

the community. It takes all of us working together to provide a wonderful education for our children."

Phillips said in an email on May 23, "I decided to run for School Board on a whim. My experience in education and teaching made this seem like a logical next step but this was also new and in many ways uncomfortable for me. I am humbled by and grateful for the support I have received. I truly love living here and know I will find a way to give back to the community who welcomed my grieving

family with open arms less than two years ago. I am still finding my way in this new life and uncertain what the future holds. If it works out next time, I would definitely run again. Congratulations to the newly seated Board members!"

McNair did not respond to a request for comment.

Landahl said, "Thank you to Vickie Jackson, the Clerk of the Board of Education, for coordinating the election and to all of our election workers for helping things run smoothly."

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Special project 'blooms' into new ThinkDifferently effort at Fairgrounds

By Curtis Schmidt

A special project that combines the exceptional talents and efforts of many local individuals and a working-together community spirit is "blooming" into a variety of colorful planter boxes at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.

This all revolves around the ever-evolving ThinkDifferently efforts of individuals representing the Fair, Dutchess County government and the local business community. On the organizing end, Vicki Imperati of the Fair is teaming with Dana M. Hopkins, County All Abilities Program Director and Tony Capalbo from Phantom Gardener Nursery in Rhinebeck.

"Last year we implemented a ThinkDifferently Recycled Garden Art class in the Horticulture Department, which was well received," said Imperati. "We had a brainstorming meeting in February with those that were involved and came up with the idea of having various agencies for those with a disability to participate by offering them the opportunity to come in and plant some of the planter boxes throughout our grounds."

Hopkins noted that the flower boxes are pre-existing boxes that have been previously used at the Fairgrounds. Capalbo prepped the boxes with soil and had the plants ready to go. Each individual attending received at least a 2'x2' section to create their planter box design with flowers. She said they had 16 individuals participate on May 22 and 18 are registered for May 29.

"We had tremendous interest from our partner agencies – within hours of sending out the email that the planter box workshops were ready for registrants - the dates were filled," said Hopkins, noting

that the idea was a great fit for agencies and residents. "Most of the agencies are involved in gardening to some degree, whether it is in their day program or their residence."

Hopkins pointed out that the Fair is "a showcase of talents for so many people in our community. These flowerboxes add to the vibrancy of the Fair and highlight how people of all abilities contribute to the fun and beauty of the Fair for everyone to enjoy.

"The guys and ladies who participated were so proud of their work. They wanted to learn, even if they hadn't planted before. One person said they had bad hands, but still they were determined to do the plantings and they did it!"

Capalbo said, "I really enjoyed seeing all of the individuals smile and get excited to plant flowers. One of the biggest reasons I started working in the horticulture field was because of the enjoyment I get every time I'm outside planting and working with the plants and the soil. It was awesome to share some of that with the individuals. At Phantom Gardener, we work really hard to show people from all walks of life and abilities how enjoyable it can be to plant flowers and be outside and this was another avenue to continue that message."

Signs will be made and attached to the planter boxes - noting that they were created by a specific agency. The agencies and individuals were given a choice of a group name or using their agency name and they chose their agency name, illustrating how proud they are of the agency.

The men and women who are doing the plantings came with the agencies day pro-



Individuals from New Horizons Resources proudly show their talents and skills after planting flowers in boxes at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, May 22. Joining them are, at left, Olivia Clark, coordinator of Intellectual/Developmental Disability Services, Tony Capalbo of Phantom Gardens Nursery and Dana M. Hopkins, All Abilities Program Director, second from right.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

grams including In Flight Inc., Anderson Center for Autism, New Horizons Resources, Access Supports for Living, Greystone Programs and Cardinal Hayes Home for Children.

Hopkins noted that some of the day programs are considered WOW, or With Out Walls, meaning they are out and about in the community for the day, doing different activities and volunteer work. For the agencies that didn't have the opportunity to engage in the DC Fairgrounds Flower Box Workshops, Hopkins' staff were able to connect them to Susanne O'Neil and Serge Nalywayko from Dutchess County Parks. Those agencies, Abilities First and Devereux, will be working with Parks

on plantings across Dutchess County Parks properties.

Hopkins added, "We have been grateful to partner with the Dutchess County Fair to offer ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday as part of Fair week since 2016, offering people of all abilities and their families the opportunity to enjoy the Dutchess County Fair. The Main Gate opens earlier this day for individuals with developmental disabilities or sensory challenges to enter ahead of the crowds. The rides, games, and other attractions on the midway lower their sounds and lights for the morning to reduce visual and audio over-stimulation."

Capollari, McFarland, Morgan win seats on WCSD BOE

2024-25 Budget passes

By Kristine Coulter

Registered voters in the Wappingers Central School District (WCSD) voted to pass the 2024-25 Budget on May 21. The bus proposition on the ballot also passed. Board of Education candidates Michael McFarland, Virgil Capollari and John S. Morgan were elected to seats on the BOE.

The Budget vote was 2,009 'Yes' to 794 'No.' WCSD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dwight Bonk told Beacon Free Press the day after the election "We are very grateful to the entire Wappingers CSD community for their continued support of our District!"

Proposition #2, which was the Bus Proposition, passed with a vote of 1,954

'Yes' to 846 'No.'

The proposition was for a bus purchase in the amount of \$2,668,863. The proposal would include a replacement of 8 large buses and the purchase of 15 vans. "The District uses 5-year revolving bond anticipation notes (BAN) to finance the purchase of school vehicles," said Bonk before the election.

BOE election results

McFarland received 2,143 votes. Capollari had 2,026 votes. Morgan received 2,082 votes. Christopher Costabile received 959 votes.

Last night's victory (May 21) for the Wappingers School Board is truly a testament to the hard work and dedication of the

entire Board of Education Trustees and WCSD staff. Over the past two years, it has been a real privilege to serve alongside them on the Capital Improvement, School-wide Safety and Security Committees," stated Capollari in an email to Beacon Free Press on May 22. "Through my involvement in these committees, I have gained a deeper understanding and appreciation for the inner workings of the District. It is reassuring to witness the commitment to putting our children and WCSD stakeholders at the forefront of all decision-making processes."

Capollari said, "Our children deserve nothing but the best opportunities for their education, and I am excited to continue

working collaboratively towards achieving this goal. Together, we will strive to create an environment that supports the growth and success of every student.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the community for their unwavering support throughout this journey. It is through our collective efforts that we can make a difference in the lives of our children and contribute to the continued success of the Wappingers Central School District."

On May 24, Morgan stated, "I certainly am appreciative for the confidence that the community has placed in me once again." He noted that he was "most pleased with the overwhelming support" of the passage of the budget.

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Dutchess volunteer firefighters honored at Firefighter's Home



Dutchess County Volunteer Firefighter's Day at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson was on Sunday, May 19. It's the one day that Firefighters from Dutchess County come up and put on a barbecue for the members at the Firefighter's Home. We had members from Dover FD, East Fishkill FD, Hughsonville, FD, New Hackensack FD, Pawling FD, Pleasant Valley FD, Rhinebeck FD, Rombout Fire Company and Wassaic FD. After the great barbecue lunch, it was time to give donations to the Home DCVFA, Rombout and Hughsonville FD gave donations to the ice cream machine fund, because everyone likes ice cream.

-Courtesy photo

VA grants more than 23,656 claims for New York Veterans, survivors

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs expects to grant its 1 millionth PACT Act-related disability compensation claims to Veterans and survivors since President Biden signed the bill into law on Aug. 10, 2022 — including 23,656 claims to Veterans and survivors in New York. The grant rate for these 1 million claims is 75% — a sharp increase from pre-PACT levels — and VA has delivered more than \$156,351,904 in earned benefits to New York Veterans and survivors. Additionally, since the PACT Act was signed into law, more than 16,473 New York Veterans have signed up for VA health care.

The PACT Act expanded VA health care and benefits to millions of Veterans, including adding “presumptive” service connection for hundreds of conditions linked to burn pits, agent orange, and other hazards while serving our country. Presumptions such as these lower the burden of proof required to receive disability benefits, helping Veterans get the benefits

they deserve as quickly as possible. The average nationwide service connection rate for Veterans with these granted claims is 70%, meaning that they receive more than \$20,000 in earned benefits payments from VA each year.

VA encourages all Veterans to visit VA.gov/PACT to learn more and apply for the care and benefits they deserve.

VA Secretary Denis McDonough said, “Whenever a Veteran gets a claim granted, it means life-changing monthly payments and access to no-cost VA health care for that condition. We’re proud that we’ve granted 1 million PACT Act-related claims for Veterans and survivors, but we won’t rest until every Veteran and every survivor gets the VA health care and benefits they deserve.”

“Thanks to the PACT Act, VA is delivering more benefits to more Veterans than ever before,” said Under Secretary for Benefits Joshua Jacobs. “We encourage all toxic-exposed Veterans and their survivors to apply today for care and benefits at VA.gov/PACT. When you apply, we

will stop at nothing to get you the benefits you’ve earned.”

Through the PACT Act, VA has been able to help millions of Veterans get the health care and benefits they deserve. Key impacts include:

- More Veterans are enrolling in health care: More than 400,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care over the past year, a 30% increase year-over-year. This is critical because Veterans who come to VA are proven to have better or equal health outcomes, higher satisfaction scores, and trust VA outpatient care at 91.8%.

- More than 5.4 million Veterans have been screened by VA for toxic exposures: These screenings are a critical step to detecting, understanding, and treating potentially life-threatening health conditions. Of the 5.4 million Veterans who have received the screening, 44% reported at least one potential exposure.

- Veterans are applying for benefits at all-time record rates: Thanks to the largest outreach campaign in VA history, Veterans and survivors submitted 2,433,729 claims applications in 2023 — an all-time record and 39% more than in 2022. Veterans and survivors are on pace to break this record again in 2024.

- Veterans exposed to toxins and other environmental hazards are now eligible for VA health care: In March, as directed by President Biden, VA announced that all Veterans who meet eligibility requirements and were exposed to toxins and

DCFS hours impacted on June 5

The Dutchess County Department of Family and Community Services (DCFS) will conduct staff training on Wednesday, June 5, and the department’s main Poughkeepsie office at 60 Market Street will be closed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., except for emergencies. The department’s offices in Millbrook and Beacon will likewise be closed during the morning of June 5, and will open at 1 p.m.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) or public assistance is always available at mybenefits.ny.gov; those looking to recertify for SNAP or public assistance, to report changes or to view case details can use the same site.

Additionally, DCFS applicants and recipients can access the NYDocSubmit mobile application, available for free through their preferred app store, to take pictures of their documents and submit them to DCFS.

DCFS clients looking to make child support, Medicaid spend-down, assistance repayments or temporary housing share payments can do so through a secure link on the department’s webpage: dutchessny.gov/Departments/Community-Family-Services/DCFS-Make-a-Payment.htm.

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- 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.

HV Vipers capture league championship



Players, coaches and staff of the Hudson Valley Vipers are pictured after winning the American Premiere Hockey League championship last week against Toledo.

-Courtesy photo

By Rich Thomaselli

The Hudson Valley Vipers have won the American Premiere Hockey League (APHL) championship, defeating the Toledo Mobsters with a final score of 7-4.

The Vipers are based in Poughkeepsie.

Key performances were delivered from star players, including Captain Max Henry, who led the defense, while goalie Jack Messing saved 55 shots. The Vipers offense was led by Rob Clerc.

"The grit and determination from this Vipers squad never ceases to amaze me. All the tough battles through the season led to these final playoff games," said head coach Joey Bonitatibus.

"Even after traveling so far and being down in the first period of both games, we never gave up. We never lost hope. There was no other option but victory. Ultimately, this is a group of players who share a common goal and compet-

itive mindset. Everyone pushes to do their absolute best for the teammate next to them. I've been part of a lot of teams before but this one is special. It's been an honor to coach them and couldn't be more proud for what they accomplished."

A victory parade is scheduled for June 2 outside the McCann Ice Arena at the MJN Center in Poughkeepsie. More information will be updated on social media so that fans can welcome their champions and join in the celebration.

Henry said "The Vipers are a special group, we started this season with one goal in mind and that was to win the championship. We accomplished exactly that with everyone pulling their own weight from the front office to the coaching staff to every rostered player. We took this opportunity and ran with it as a team."

Melanie's Law passes in the Assembly



Melanie's Law, named for the late Dutchess County resident Melanie Chianese, was passed by the NYS Assembly.

-Courtesy photo

Melanie Chianese was a resident of Dutchess County who fell victim to a loophole in order of protection laws. Chianese's mother's ex-boyfriend — who was previously barred from visiting Chianese's mother and son — killed Chianese. She was mourned within the community, and through the partnership of Assemblyman Anil Beephan, Assemblyman Brian Cunningham, and Sens. Rob Rolison and Michelle Hinchey, a bill to close that loophole and provide equal orders of protection to all members of a family has been approved by both legislative bodies. The bill, Melanie's Law, now makes its way to Gov. Kathy Hochul's desk.

Senator Rolison (39th District) said in a statement, "This is a great day for New Yorkers and one step closer to the goal of protecting domestic violence victims and families across our state. Melanie's Law is bipartisan legislation that will close a

dangerous legal loophole and empower survivors. Now Democrats and Republicans alike must come together to urge Governor Hochul to sign this critical bill into law as soon as possible."

"This could not have happened without bipartisan support, which is why I want to thank my colleague in the Assembly, Assemblyman Cunningham, and my colleagues in the Senate, Senators Hinchey and Rolison, for their unwavering support and dedication to this important issue," Beephan said.

"I want to thank Cheryl, Melanie's mother, for sharing her story and bringing awareness to this issue. I feel incredibly honored to have been part of this body of advocates and legislators to enact real change that will protect people in the future. The best of government is people coming together to solve problems, and in Melanie's memory, I was glad we could do that here," Beephan concluded.

Hudson Valley hockey team renamed 'Venom' after acquiring Elmira squad



From left are Kayli Berardinelli, Hudson Valley Vipers, Event Manager/Social Media; Christine Manning, Hudson Valley Venom, VP/Director of Entertainment; Pat Manning, Hudson Valley Venom, President; Don Kirnan, FPHL, Commissioner; Alexandra Vittorini, Hudson Valley Venom, VP/Director of Communications and Zeidan Nesheiwat, McCann Ice Arena, Executive Director.

-Courtesy photo

By Rich Thomaselli

Former New York State Assemblyman Pat Manning, owner of the Hudson Valley Vipers, has acquired the Elmira River Sharks of the Federal Prospects Hockey League (FPHL). The team will be renamed Hudson Valley Venom and will continue to play in the FPHL.

"We are thrilled to be playing among the elite as the Hudson Valley Venom in the FPHL," said Manning. "This acquisition allows us to strengthen our commitment to providing high-quality, affordable, family entertain-

ment and development opportunities within our community."

The FPHL attracts players from North America and Europe to participate in a paid, professional league.

In preparation for the upcoming season, the Hudson Valley Venom will be hosting and attending community events and meet-and-greet sessions to engage with fans and introduce the team's players and coaching staff. Details about these events and ticket sales for the 2024-2025 season will be announced next month.

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	Jersey Shore PHI	23	19	.548	1.0	4-6	L2
	Aberdeen BAL	22	20	.524	2.0	4-6	W2
	Brooklyn NYM	22	20	.524	2.0	4-6	L1
	Hudson Valley NYY	20	19	.513	2.5	6-4	W1
	Wilmington WSH	20	20	.500	3.0	5-5	L2
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRIK
	Rome ATL	21	19	.525	-	5-5	W2
	Bowling Green TB	22	20	.524	-	5-5	L2
	Winston-Salem CWS	21	21	.500	1.0	7-3	W2
	Greenville BOS	19	23	.452	3.0	5-5	L1
	Asheville HOU	18	22	.450	3.0	6-4	L1
	Hickory TEX	15	26	.366	6.5	3-7	W1



RENEGADES RAMBLINGS

'On road again...' and impact by Jace Avina

By Rich Thomaselli

TIME AWAY: The Renegades returned to the road last week in Brooklyn for a six-game series with the Cyclones, as they continue a stretch where they play 16 of 22 games away from home. After a two-week road trip to Aberdeen and Wilmington, Hudson Valley hosted Jersey Shore last week.

MIDWEST REINFORCEMENT: Jace Avina debuted with the Renegades on April 17 after being traded to New York for Jake Bauers in November from Milwaukee. The 20-year-old has quickly made a big impact for the Renegades. Avina had a 23-game on-base streak snapped last week. That streak is the second-longest in the South Atlantic League this season behind Kristian Campbell of Greenville.

NYC ARRIVAL: For the first time this season, the Renegades travel to Coney Island to face the Brooklyn Cyclones. The former NY-Penn League foes will play 24 times in the regular season, including 15 games at Maimonides Park. Brooklyn and Hudson Valley faced off 24 times in

2023 as well, with the Cyclones taking 14 of 24 matchups from the Renegades.

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY PLEASE: Because of rain, Hudson Valley will now play eight games in six days vs. Wilmington from June 4-9.

The Renegades have played only 36 games, three less games than Brooklyn, Jersey Shore, and Aberdeen, their fellow South Atlantic League North Division foes.

OFFENSIVE ASSISTANCE: Rafael Flores has made an instant impact for the Renegades since being reinstated off the IL on May 10. He has boosted his average from .200 on May 10th to .278, and his OPS has jumped from .676 to .825.

INTERNATIONAL OUREACH: The Hudson Valley Renegades and the Bhutan Baseball & Softball Association have partnered to present Bhutan Night on August 20 at Heritage Financial Park. The team is currently fundraising to bring over several Bhutanese baseball players for baseball and cultural enrichment tour of the Hudson Valley and New York.

Players Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	Avg	OBP	SLG	OPS
1 JaredSerna SS	HV	38	144	29	36	10	0	7	26	29	28	4	5	.25	.38	.465	.845
2 OmarMartinez C	HV	33	116	16	29	6	1	5	16	29	32	0	0	.25	.401	.448	.849
2 JesusRodriguez C	HV	37	145	26	45	9	1	5	22	18	23	3	3	.31	.388	.49	.878
4 JaceAvina CF	HV	29	113	19	35	13	0	4	22	14	37	4	0	.31	.402	.531	.933
4 KikoRomero 3B	HV	26	78	13	17	4	0	4	13	17	34	4	1	.218	.378	.423	.801
6 RafaelFlores 1B	HV	29	98	11	26	10	0	2	18	15	28	1	1	.265	.365	.429	.794
6 RocRiggio 2B	HV	28	109	18	23	6	2	2	10	21	23	7	2	.211	.346	.358	.704
8 KyleBattle LF	HV	18	37	13	6	1	0	1	3	7	17	5	0	.162	.304	.27	.574
8 JoshMoylan 1B	HV	30	100	13	22	3	1	1	10	20	28	0	1	.22	.352	.3	.652
10 BeauBrewer 3B	HV	15	41	3	10	1	0	0	2	5	12	0	0	.244	.326	.268	.594
10 JuanCrisp P	HV	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 ColeGabrielson RF	HV	24	72	13	15	6	1	0	5	11	19	2	2	.208	.367	.319	.686
10 AnthonyHall RF	HV	11	33	3	3	0	0	0	1	9	13	1	0	.091	.286	.091	.377
10 TylerHardman DH	HV	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	.25	0	.25
10 DJLeMahieu 3B	HV	2	7	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	.286	.286	.429	.715
10 GarrettMartin LF	HV	15	48	7	10	4	1	0	9	3	17	5	1	.208	.321	.333	.654
10 NelsonMedina CF	HV	27	92	7	14	2	0	0	11	10	48	7	0	.152	.243	.174	.417
10 AlexanderVargas SS	HV	5	15	1	3	1	1	0	5	3	1	1	1	.316	.4	.716	
10 JorbitVivas 2B	HV	2	8	3	5	1	0	0	5	1	1	0	0	.625	.667	.75	.147

*Statistics taken on 5/24/24

Pitcher Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WHIP	Avg	
1 CamSchlitter P	HV	3	1	1.8	7	7	0	0	0	0	35	15	13	7	4	2	18	42	.94	.125	
2 SebastianKeane P	HV	3	3	5.11	8	8	0	0	0	0	37	38	21	21	3	3	18	35	1.51	.277	
3 BenShields P	HV	1	1	3.51	9	2	0	0	0	1	25.2	22	12	10	3	1	4	34	1.01	.227	
4 ColeAyers P	HV	1	2	2.52	15	0	0	0	0	2	25	20	10	7	1	2	7	33	1.08	.215	
5 TrentSellers P	HV	4	1	2.82	10	0	0	0	0	1	22.1	14	11	7	2	0	16	30	1.34	.173	
6 MattKeating P	HV	0	1	3.24	11	0	0	0	0	2	25	16	10	9	3	0	10	27	1.04	.176	
7 JacksonFristoe P	HV	0	2	5.4	7	7	0	0	0	0	20	18	13	12	1	1	18	24	1.8	.257	
7 JoelValdez P	HV	1	0	2.29	10	0	0	0	0	2	3	19.2	12	5	5	0	2	6	24	.92	.182
9 KyleCarr P	HV	0	2	6.49	7	7	0	0	0	0	26.1	32	27	19	2	1	23	22	2.09	.305	
10 LuisArejula P	HV	1	3	4.96	10	0	0	0	1	3	16.1	12	12	9	1	1	10	17	1.35	.207	
11 BaronStuart P	HV	1	1	4.13	5	5	0	0	0	0	24	23	12	11	1	2	11	16	1.42		



Renegades Extra!



Youth Field Betterment Program held at Lee Town Park in E. Fishkill



By Rich Thomaselli

The Hudson Valley Renegades and primary sponsor Heritage Financial Credit Union worked together on their 2024 Youth Field Betterment project at Lee Town Recreation Park in East Fishkill on Monday, May 20.

2024 is the second year of the Youth Field Betterment Program presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union. In 2023, the Renegades and HFCU renovated Sauter Field at Spratt Park in Poughkeepsie. Lee Town Recreation Park was announced as the recipient of the 2024 renovation on March 29.

Lee Town Recreation Park is part of

the East Fishkill Babe Ruth, and all-volunteer program with a focus on all-inclusive youth development in the game of baseball. The focus is on more than just baseball as they seek coaches and volunteers who can set positive examples and act as role models throughout the season and beyond for the children playing.

East Fishkill has also opened its enrollment to children from neighboring communities with baseball programs that have seen their enrollment numbers decline to the point of limiting their ability to continue their programs so that all children have a place to play.

Staff from the Hudson Valley Renegades and primary sponsor Heritage Financial Credit Union worked together to upgrade the fields at Lee Town Recreation Park in East Fishkill on Monday, May 20.

-Courtesy photos

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades split games with Brooklyn with Major Leaguer LeMahieu in lineup

By Rich Thomaselli

As Yankees infielder DJ LeMahieu made two rehab appearances with the Hudson Valley Renegades last week the team split the games with the Brooklyn Cyclones at Maimonides Park, losing 7-1 and winning 16-3. LeMahieu had one hit in each game.

LeMahieu is the fifth Major League rehabber in the Yankees era for the Renegades, and the first since Carlos Rodon in 2023.

On Tuesday, playing five innings at third base for Hudson Valley, LeMahieu was 1-for-3 in the game, with an RBI single in the sixth inning for the Renegades' lone run.

After three scoreless innings each from starters Cam Schlittler and Jonah Tong, the

Cyclones got on the board in the fourth. Mateo Gil and Christopher Suero both walked. A throwing error by Rafael Flores on a groundball allowed Gil to score. Suero came home later in the inning, after an error by Omar Martinez on a pickoff attempt following a strikeout. In the fifth, William Lugo reached on an error and a two-run home run by Wilfredo Lara off Hueston Morrill extended the lead to 4-0.

In the sixth, the Renegades got on the board. Cole Gabrielson notched a triple to right, and came around to score on the LeMahieu RBI single up the middle. Hudson Valley had just five hits in the game, but four went for extra bases.

It didn't get much better a day later.

While it is difficult to have an afternoon start after a night game, try this one on for size – an 11 a.m. start because of a special promotion. The Cyclones won in a low-scoring affair, 3-1.

The Renegades jumped out to an early lead in the top of the first with Jesus Rodriguez kicking off a two-out rally with a single. After a Tyler Hardman walk, Jace Avina drove in Rodriguez with a single for his 19th RBI of the season to put the 'Gades in front 1-0. Brooklyn struck back in the top of the third against Jackson Fristoe when Karel Paz singled with one out and stole second base. Nick Morabito brought Paz home with an RBI single, and a throwing error by Fristoe (0-2) allowed Morabito to

reach third. Fristoe then walked the next three batters to force in another run and put the Cyclones ahead 2-1.

In LeMahieu's second rehab game on Thursday night, the offense exploded for 18 hits in the 16-3 victory over the Cyclones. The team's 18 hits was the second-highest tally for the Renegades in a game this season.

LeMahieu went 1-for-4 with a double and run scored, getting a five-run first inning started for the Renegades. Minor League rehabber Jorbin Vivas had five hits and drove in five runs, while Omar Martinez was 2-for-5 with a two-run home run and five RBIs. Four Renegades had multi-hit games.

Results from the rest of the series were not available due to early holiday deadlines.

General Manager Q&A

Summer mindset and handling opportunities of a split-season

Editor's note: Each week reporter Rich Thomaselli speaks with Hudson Valley Renegades General Manager Zach Betkowski to discuss thoughts on the Renegades and on minor league baseball in general.

Summer is unofficially here, so does the mindset and mentality of the front office change at all?

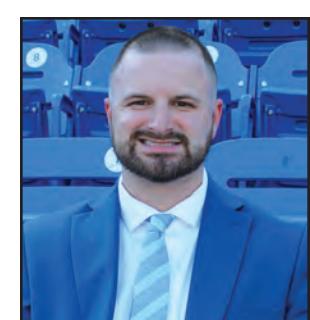
Not really. We have a mindset here that it's always opening day. It's always somebody's opening day. So we give an A+ effort, whether there's 500 people in the stands or

5,000. Plus, we still have to train the marketplace because for 25 years they were used to being a short-season team and the season started at Father's Day. But I still think we've done the best job we have ever done in getting more people out to the ballpark. As far as the staff goes, we'll be ready.

What does it mean to the franchise to have a major league player do his rehab assignment here? Are you able to use it in some of your marketing strategies?

Of course. (DJ LeMahieu of the Yankees played for the Renegades last week in a reha-

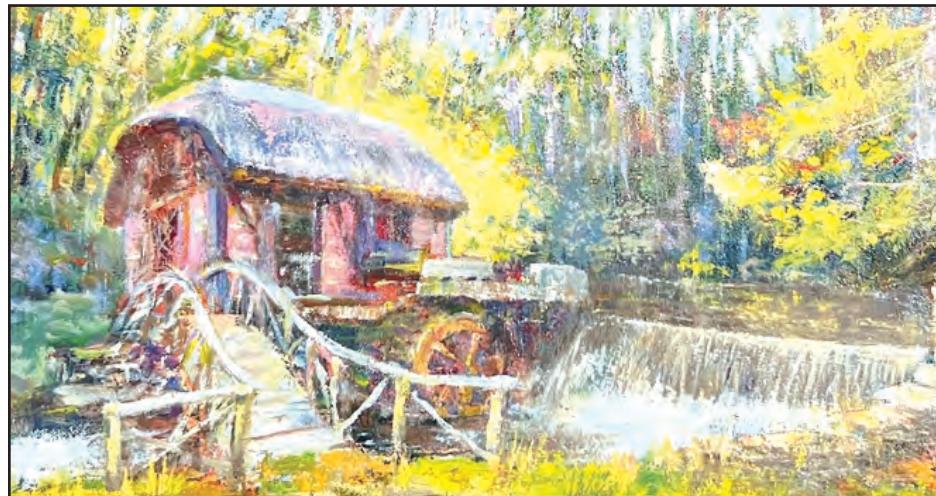
bilitation assignment but the game was at Brooklyn.) But I would be remiss to say that I didn't wish the game was at home because we would have got a nice little ticket bump. But I think it does a lot for the franchise in that the Yankees know we have the proper accommodations for them. And they have a lot of trust in us. We take a lot of pride in that trust. But I think we still get a nice bump from a Facebook post or a tweet. While we might not have been able to monetize that because DJ wasn't physically here, it's still a nice piece of content that we can put out there to our fan base.



What are the benefits and the drawbacks of the split season?

Well, the benefits are, if you're a first-half winner, which we were last year, we have essentially two to three months to promote the playoffs, which is tremendous. There really aren't any drawbacks because it does give a lot of teams a fresh start. Maybe they sign their draft picks and have a chance at the playoffs and clinching the playoffs in the second half. It's like it's a completely new team. I guess one drawback would be as if it doesn't work out in the second half. But I really like the way Minor League Baseball is set up.

Rhinebeck Bank welcomes back Tatiana Rhinevault for new art exhibition



Tatiana Rhinevault has enjoyed plein air painting (painting outdoors) and her exhibit at Rhinebeck Bank's Rhinebeck Branch will include paintings that capture the natural beauty of landscapes throughout the Hudson Valley.

-Courtesy image

Supervisor seeks volunteers, organizations for Wappinger's 150th Celebration in 2025

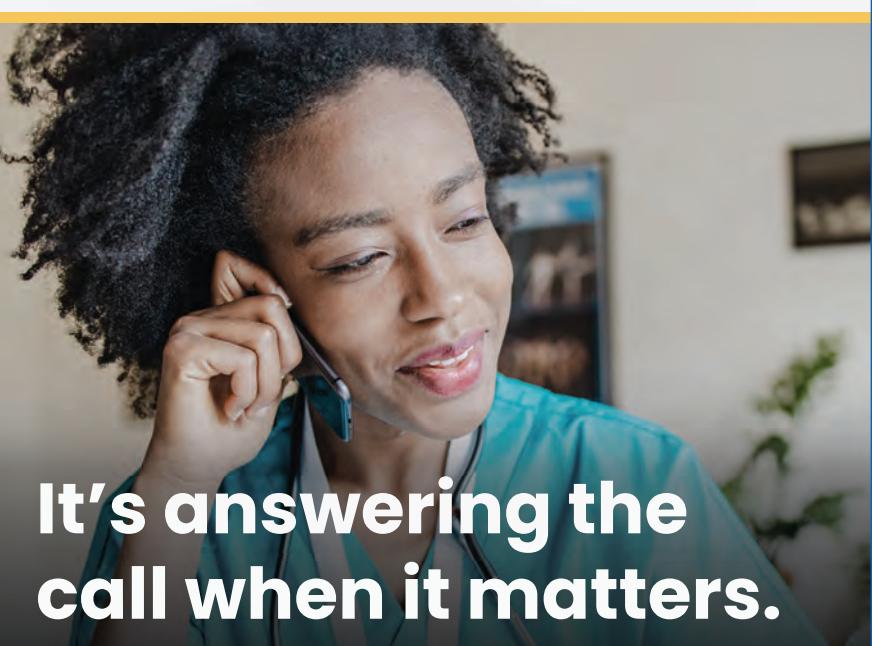
On May 20, 149 years ago, in 1875, the New York State legislature officially adopted legislation that created the "Town of Wappinger." Residents of what was then the northern portion of the Town of Fishkill petitioned the State to create their own separate Town. The Town of Wappinger is the youngest and yet second most densely populated Town in Dutchess County.

In preparation of Wappinger's sesquicentennial next year, Town Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini has announced the creation of a community-wide committee to ensure that 2025 is a year to remember.

Cavaccini stated, "Wappinger is a community truly blessed with an amazing past and I am even more excited for our future. The creation of this 150th anniversary taskforce will allow us to engage with our neighbors of all ages and backgrounds to plan memorable activities and events for the entire 2025 calendar year."

Residents and organizations who are interested in being a part of history by assisting with the Wappinger 150th Celebration in 2025 are encouraged to contact the Office of the Town Supervisor at Supervisor@TownOfWappingerNY.gov or calling 845-297-2744.

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Tatiana Rhinevault has returned to exhibit her artwork at Rhinebeck Bank's Rhinebeck branch, located at 6414 Montgomery Street in Rhinebeck, through Friday, June 14. Everyone is encouraged to visit the branch during regular business hours to enjoy this amazing art exhibit.

After graduating from the Moscow Institute with a Master's Degree in Fine Arts in 1988, Rhinevault began work restoring icons in Moscow's old churches, as well as painting new ones. Over the years, she visited and painted in countries throughout Europe, including Hungary, Yugoslavia, Spain, Holland, France and Italy.

In 1990, she illustrated the "Moscow Map in English" for the United States, British and Canadian Embassies in Moscow. It was during her US Embassy work that she met her husband, and they moved to the United States in 1991. From 1998 to 2001,

Rhinevault was the permanent artist featured at the Gallery Revel in Soho, NYC. She also held a solo exhibit in 2017 at the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, NY and participated in group exhibits at the Windham Fine Art Gallery in 2019 and at Vassar College in 2023.

She works in several mediums, including watercolor, acrylic and oil, utilizing rich, dark colors in combination with diffused window light to create images that are simultaneously calming and magnetic to the eye. Recently, she has enjoyed plein air painting (painting outdoors) and her exhibit will include paintings that capture the natural beauty of landscapes throughout the Hudson Valley.

Rhinevault lives in Hyde Park with her husband, Carney, and her son, Peter.

For further information regarding her artwork, please visit her website at www.TatianaRhinevault.com.

Rombout administration names honor students

The following students attending Rombout Middle School in the Beacon City School District have been named to the 3rd-quarter honor roll, according to the school administration.

Principal's Honor Roll

8th Grade

Kaylyn Adusei, Owen Allee, Gavin Bruno, Skylar Carr, Zahara Cone, Claire Cumming, Evelyn DePalma, Maysie Doyle, Saoirse Fehilly, McKenna Griffin, Henry Gute, Maeve Haley, Drew Kelly, Maximilian Kong, Heidi Maeng, Louise Mauks, Desmond McGrath, Zechia Mickler, Claire Morgan, Zora Nicholls, Austin Ricketts, Evangeline Santise, Hazel Schein, Shane Signorelli, Gonzalo Soria-Velecela, Caellum Tripaldi, Owen Youatt

7th Grade

Natalie Allen, Luna Ayers-Uekawa, Vivianna Bailey, Hazel Balogh, Amaya Bravo, Fiona Burke-Smith, Madison Carr, Ethan Cason, Ivy Cohen, Sebastian Concepcion, Elodie Duquesne, Kylie Ebeling, Lilah Fisher, Alice Gabel, Jordan Garzon, Edith Giunta, Carolina Guerra, Lucien Guido-Taylor, Manasvi Gupta, Silas Hayes, Samih Jabar, Samantha Johnson, Davia Kelleher, Julian Khan, Pixie Kimberg, Miles King, Ileana Lawrence, Vivienne Lipari, Anthony Lopez, James Mack, Auwaab Mohammed-Murtada, Suvi O'Shea, Dominick Pulcastro, Dion Qelaj, Zbigniew Rybak, Jonathan Saraceno, Ashley Senior, Silas Stampleman, Daniel Tschang, Emery Vergolina, Anita Vigeant, Marina Winters

6th Grade

Lucinda Arginsky, Leo Aymar-Blair, Sirah Bah, Olivia Bellis, Aiden Berry, Amaziah Buffin, Madison Clark, Gianna Cruz, Dean Cumming, Meera Diebboll, Dafne Garcia, Josiah Gibbs, Charlie Jelliffe, Jonah Landahl, Regan Laug, Jonah Lipman, Johanna Marquez, Kai Mason, John McKay, Mikayla McMahon, Daniel Mulligan, Tavin Pennock, Avery Persico, Colten Powlis, Jack Reeves, Aaliyah Ridore, Lorenzo Sait, Roberto Sampson, Emmylou Shay, Anna Sheehy, Madeline Smith, Olivia Specker, Yidoen Tenzin, Justinas Turner, Nathon Velazquez-Benitez, Kevin Vogrincic, Braden Webster, Henry White, Zuri Yeboah

High Honor Roll

8th Grade

Loreimi Alcantara, Abigail Atkins, Kiersten Barber, LilyBerry, Breannah Brace, Noa Buckland, Jayla Bunch, Wyatt Burgos, Erica Cabrera, Sarah Camara, Amari Clarke, Lia Cosentino, Andrea Delgado, Jake DeLuise, Ryan DiNobile, Leah Fahlman, Christa George, Zoe Hammond, Troi Harvey-Semple, Alejandro Herrera, Melody Longino, Justin Mann, Ruby Martin, Victoria Maruggi, Braelyn Milligan, Uswhah Mohammed-Murtada, Gabriel Montleon, Elise Moran, Payton O'Connell, Brandon O'Dell, Olivia Ortiz, Oscar Pages, Gabriel Peluso, Sofia Posso-Salcedo, Nour Raouf-Said, James Reyes, Maeve Rinaldi, Khloe Roci, Giana Rodriguez, Thalia Rodriguez, Isabella Ruffy, Nathaniel Salvati, Benjamin Seaman, Vardan Singh, Hunter Smith, Eliza Verdichizzi, Derek Waltke, Hayden Wilson

7th Grade

Brayden Arroyo, Matthew Browne, Jack

Bunker, Lily Cheyne, Connor Coldrick, Braeden Eraca, Willow, Faiella, Natalia Garcia, Nathan Hayden, Grace Just, Lexie Kaplaneris, Nahlia Keane, Ralph Marinaccio IV, Celest Marshall, Ramiro Martinez Jr. Michael Medina, Elena Moleano, Sarah Pillcurima-Panama, Noah Postolan, Adrian Quezada, Sanaa Richardson, De'Jaun Rigby, Ivan Rinaldi, Tallix Roan, Sophia Romero, Landon Soltish, George Stadler, Ryan Sulca, Sherley Tacuri, Everett VanCott, Jaliyah Vasquez, Callie Winther, Colin Witkowski

6th Grade

Nia Abonyoh, Alexis Aduamah, Grey Andersen, Daniel Aquino, Mikaela Arce, Erick Arpi, Walter Bean, Parker Bennett, Preston Bennett, Mateo Buckland, Troy Burch, Ninalyse Caccamo, Lucas Campos, Ali Cosentino, Sofia Cruz, Riley DiTata, Nathan Domanski, Amelia-Emich, Hudson Faust, Julianna Gannon, Alicia Green, Elias Havers, Asher Hetling, Matilda Hoffman, Sarai Horne, Kai Illa-Hanca, Mario Jovel, Jayden Kasmaei, Zeev Korman-Bennis, Damien Mayers, Ava Morgan, Conal O'Sullivan, Anthony Patino, Maya Pellegrin, Ian Ramkalawon, Kareem Raouf-Said, Hailey Seddon, Ethan See, Lucas Simms, Bryce Smalls, Victoria Squilla, Louisa Virgadamo, Nathanyel Walden

Honor Roll

8th Grade

Kendall Adnams, Aaron Aduamah, Jacqueline Albra, Jesse Apostolou, Caden Balfour, Hawah Camara, Anthony Castano, Zooey Dredring, Joseline Duran, Kyle Fairbanks, SaRiah Faust, Daniel Lamothe, Bethlee Manzano-Cabello, Josue Martell, Oliver Meyer, Henry Mulligan, Ismael Munoz, Charlotte Netboy, Emily Nivicela-Jarama, Caleb Ramirez, Luis Ramon, Stephanie Ramon, Mackinley Roland, Julie Vogrincic, Caleb Wells-McGurk, Cayden Williams, Jude Williams, Luna Yawman, Trey Zapencki, Josefine Zezza

7th Grade

Lorelei Aakjar, Riley Anderson, James Bailey, Sadie Bottone, Emmett Bram, Roman-Brandt-Cannon, Hawken Brickman, Marcus Brooks Jr., Sheyla Caballero-Perez, Jackson Coultas, Shuprova Das, Hailey Day, Gabriela Diaz, Shaniya Evans, Grace Fleming, Jack Garrett, Christian Gomez, Emmett Havers, Weston Hetrick, Michael MacDougall, Alicia Miller, Madelyn Newcomb, Yailin Novas-Perez, Negatu Price, Jordan Rojas, Sara Sanusi, Dominic Vargas, Joshua Velazquez, Isabel Viera, Lily Vogrincic

6th Grade

Myla Ballard, Evelyn Barreto-Llivipuma, Jessiah Beckwith, Charlie Brittain, Adran Conklin, Mason Cruz, Trey Davis, Liam Elwood, Riley Elwood, Jo Finley, Avery Fisher, Mia Gombiner, Bryce Jackson-Lane, Luis Jimenez-Bueso, Phillip Johnson, Ciel Koerner, Cole Martin, Max Mawson, Sophia Milam, Charles Montleon, Azhane Moultrie, Qahtan Murshed, Victoria O'Dell, Jaxson Pultz, Ella Reyes, Mary Rinaldi, Naomi Rivera, George Robitaille, Margaret Schall-Wharton, Isabella Sherilla, Ledion Shtanaj, Angelina Soria, Joscelyn Sweat, Elliot Trabka, Elianna Watkins, Trinittee White, Eoin Williams.

County Public Safety Dispatchers recognized for accomplishments with EMS Awards

The Dutchess County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council hosted its annual EMS Awards Ceremony on May 22, which was during EMS Week, at the Dinsmore Golf Club in Staatsburg, to recognize dedicated EMS providers, agencies and local hospital staff. Several Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response 9-1-1 Public Safety Dispatchers were among the honorees recognized for their work and dedication in the field. Public safety dispatchers have a critical, behind-the-scenes role in EMS, particularly during recent high stress incidents that have included suicide attempts, explosions, and other life-threatening situations.

County Executive Sue Serino said, "As we continue to highlight the importance of EMS as an essential service, we are thrilled to celebrate the accomplishments of so many dedicated people who are serving in the EMS field, helping to save lives every day, including our own Dutchess County Public Safety Dispatchers. When people call 9-1-1 for help, they have the expectation of getting help quickly. We are grateful to all those who are diligently working every day to ensure that happens. We recognize the challenges facing the EMS profession across the nation, and we are committed to developing solutions to ensure this essential service continues to be available to anyone who needs it."

Erin Downing was honored with the EMS Communications Specialist of the Year Award. Downing began her career with Dutchess County's 9-1-1 Center in 2021 and was promoted to Public Safety Dispatcher in October 2023. In her role, she has taken numerous calls from individuals, or those whose family members were experiencing significant medical emergencies or mental health crisis, including suicide attempts. Downing handles these intense and sensitive calls with compassion, empathy and professionalism, remaining on the line with the caller until first responders arrive on the scene, and has been a critical part of saving lives. This is the second time Downing has received the EMS Communications Specialist of the Year Award.

Public Safety Dispatchers Peggy Mulligan, Linda Polinsky, Kerry Vittone, Joe Dingee, Doug Eighmy, Dan Emery, Andrew Ludwig, Catherine Larkin and Brian Labulis, who comprised the Dutchess County 9-1-1 Center's "Group Three" team were all honored with the Excellence in EMS Quality and Safety Award, given to EMS personnel who have made a significant contribution to enhance the focus on the delivery of EMS in the community, leading to a measurable and sustainable improvement in EMS safety, patient care quality and/or the efficiency of response or resource development. Group Three was recognized for its speed, accuracy and compassion in taking calls during crises, including the November 2023 gas explosion and house fire in the Village of Wappingers Falls and the June 2023 tractor trailer rollover accident into a body of water in the Village of Millerton. During incidents such as these, dispatchers must manage a rapid influx of calls, dispatch hundreds of units and assist with essential communications, all while handling other 9-1-1 calls from throughout the rest of the county. Despite the stress and intense nature of such emergencies, the dispatchers remained focused, working together and in collaboration with first responders, both on the radio and the phone.

Hot Wrk Ensemble set for May 31 in East Fishkill

The Howland Chamber Music Circle, sponsored by the town of East Fishkill, will present Hot Wrk Ensemble, held in the rotunda at the East Fishkill Community Library, 348 Route 376, on Friday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m. This is the final performance of the no ticket required concert series.

Hot Wrk Ensemble is a saxophone/woodwind and percussion trio founded in 2020 by award-winning musicians J Brooks Marcus (J Why), Lois Hicks-Wozniak and Brad Hubbard. Hot Wrk Ensemble is committed



The EMS Communication Specialist of the Year Award went to Erin Downing.

In 2023, public safety dispatchers at the Dutchess County 9-1-1 Center answered more than 210,000 individual phone calls and dispatched assistance to over 118,000 individual incidents through the 9-1-1 Computer Aided Dispatch system.

Director of Dutchess County 9-1-1 Timothy Darcy said, "Our 9-1-1 Center Dispatchers handle every call with a consistent level of calm professionalism. Whether coordinating resources during significant emergencies, helping individuals in mental health crisis or answering accidental 9-1-1 calls, our dispatchers treat each caller with the same calm empathy and skill, while helping ensure first responders receive relevant information. We are proud to celebrate these individuals' dedication to their work and the wellbeing of our community."

Highlighting the importance of EMS and addressing challenges that plague EMS response has been a top priority for County Executive Serino. EMS across the nation, and here in Dutchess County, has been challenged by dwindling numbers of people choosing to volunteer or pursue careers, due to multiple factors, including the high stress nature of the profession, often coupled with low pay. Empowering the current workforce and finding new ways to recruit and retain talent in EMS is part of a multi-pronged effort, led by Dutchess County Emergency Response, in collaboration with local municipalities and fire and ambulance districts, to deliver a comprehensive EMS strategy that is patient-centered, consistent, reliable, affordable and sustainable.

Commissioner of Emergency Response Dana Smith said, "We continue to work with our municipal partners to find sustainable ways to ease the burden on our EMS system and are proud to celebrate the work of the EMS professionals who remain tirelessly dedicated to meeting the needs of residents every day. Our staff at the 9-1-1 Center are committed to helping save lives and make a difference in our community, and we are grateful for their professionalism and compassion for callers and first responders alike."

This year's recipients of the Dutchess County EMS Council Awards include:

Basic Life Support Provider of the Year
Kyle Maxwell, Northern Dutchess



The Dutchess County 9-1-1 Center's "Group Three" team was honored with the Excellence in EMS Quality and Safety Award. Pictured, from left, are Public Safety Dispatchers Joe Dingee, Linda Polinsky, Dan Emery, Andrew Ludwig, Doug Eighmy, and Kerry Vittone (not shown Peggy Mulligan, Brian Labulis and Catherine Larkin).

-Courtesy photos

Paramedics (NDP) EMS Advanced Life Support Provider of the Year
Heather Fraleigh, NDP EMS
EMS Agency of the Year
East Clinton Rescue Squad
Harriet C. Weber EMS Leadership Award
Jeffrey Cotter, Rhinebeck
EMS Educator of Excellence
Susan Prezzano, NDP EMS
Communications Specialist of the Year
Erin Downing, Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response
Excellence in Quality and Safety
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Registered Professional Nurse of Excellence
Heather Fraleigh, Northern Dutchess Hospital
Physician of Excellence
Dr. Dan Miller, Northern Dutchess Hospital
EMS Mentor
Susan deHaan, East Clinton EMS Lifesaver

Serino concluded, "This week and all year long, we are grateful to the brave men and women who serve as first responders within our communities, including all those who serve in EMS."

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June 6, 13 & 27

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June 20

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to creating community through diverse, genre-electric "chamber grooves" that include everything from Bossa Nova, Son Jalisciense, Scarlatti, contemporary classical and collaborative improvisation. Both questioning and answering, "what is chamber music?" Wrk explores, deconstructs and "wrks" out concepts of traditional chamber music and the concert experience.

The library is only open for the concert event – regular library services will not be available.

Beacon Repair Café set for June 2

The Beacon Repair Café will be held on Sunday, June 2, from 1-4 p.m. at the Beacon Recreation Center, 23 West Center St. This is a free community event to try to give new life to one's

beloved but broken item and avoid the landfill.

To learn more, go to: <https://www.tinyurl.com/repaircafebeacon2024>.

Tour of historic landmarks in Clinton, Garden After-Party set June 15

Events will raise funds upgrades at Creek Meeting House



Two of the 12 historic landmarks on the Clinton Historical Society's June 15 Driving Tour include 359 Nine Partners Road, left, and the Creek Meeting House, both in Clinton Corners.



-Courtesy photos

By Craig Marshall
Vice President, Clinton
Historical Society

Join the Clinton Historical Society's self-guided Historic Landmarks Driving

Tour on Saturday, June 15. Docents posted at twelve landmark Clinton properties will offer exterior tours and historical information from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., followed by an After-Party in the gardens at

Mole Manor.

The Town of Clinton is a Dutchess County gem remarkable for its rich tapestry of historic homes and well-preserved rural landscape.

"Clinton has an extraordinary number – 338, in fact – of historically significant properties," said Cynthia Koch, Clinton Historical Society president. "This is almost 50 percent of the 777 structures in our town built before 1965, which shows how little the landscape has changed."

The tour takes participants at their own pace through the hamlets of Clinton Corners, Schultzville, Hibernia, and to visit old farm and mill houses nearby. A keepsake tour map includes suggested lunch spots along the route.

The Clinton Historic Landmarks Driving Tour is a follow-on of the Society's successful 2019 Driving Tour and seeks to raise awareness of the rich architectural assets of Clinton. Further, as Koch notes, "This is a major fundraiser to help support the \$1.5 million restoration of our 1777 Quaker stone meeting house, known as the Creek Meeting House, where the tour will begin. Listed on the National Register, the meeting house, which was built during the American Revolution, requires major restoration,

including structural, safety, and HVAC improvements to keep it preserved for future generations.

"Just this year," she continued, "we completed Phase I, which installed ADA-accessible parking, entrance, and restroom."

Other highlights of the event include a Silent Auction, where donated items include watercolors by artist Olin Dows (1904-1981), a ski week in Vail, Colorado, a week's working stay at Primrose Hill Farm, a researched historic house history, a piece of jewelry from Zimmer Brothers, chef's services for dinner for 10, and more. Visitors can test their knowledge of vintage farm tools and antiques in "What Is It?" contests along the tour.

Registration and tour maps may be obtained at the Creek Meeting House, 2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners beginning at 11 a.m. Registration is \$50 for Clinton Historical Society members, \$60 for non-members, and \$40 for Garden After-Party only. Free for kids 12 and younger. For more information and to register in advance for a 5% discount, visit the CHS website: <https://clintonhistoricalsociety.org/2024-driving-tour-registration/>.

Obituaries

Margaret A. Ireland



July 11, 1931 — May 21, 2024
WAPPINGERS FALLS, FORMERLY OF COLD SPRING - Margaret A. Ireland, 'Peggy', a life-long Cold Spring resident, recent years of Beacon and Wappingers Falls, passed away suddenly on May 21, 2024; at the age of 92 years old. She was born in Cold Spring, NY on July 11, 1931, daughter of the late Emerson James & Alice Louise (Myatt) Pierce. Peggy attended and graduated from Haldane Central School District.

In 1950 in Cold Spring, NY, she married the late Charles H. Ireland, who predeceased her after 38-years of marriage.

Peggy was a production supervisor at the Fairgate Rule Company in Cold Spring, NY for many years; prior to that she worked at Sonatone in Cold Spring.

She was a former member of the Cold Spring Baptist Church in Cold Spring, NY.

Upon retirement she took up being a Sam's Club Greeter at the store in Fishkill, NY. She also enjoyed going to yard sales, ballroom dancing, reading, and attending the St. John's Seniors and the 'Gadabouts' traveling group in Beacon. She also enjoyed an evening of bingo with friends or a good laugh with the girls. Peggy knew how to enjoy life's simplest pleasures.

Peggy is survived by three children: Charlene Raymond, Charles W. (Leslie) Ireland, and Colleen A. (Wayne) Karabinos. She is also survived by her 8 grandchildren & 5 great-grandchildren.

Along with her husband and parents, Peggy was predeceased by her brother William Pierce.

Her Family will gather to Celebrate her Life on Saturday, June 15, 2024 with a Graveside Service at 10 a.m. in the Cold Spring Cemetery, 36 Peekskill Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.LibbyFuneralHome.com.

Ann C. McKinney

WAPPINGERS FALLS - Ann C. McKinney (Wiand), 92, of Wappingers Falls passed away on May 17, 2024, surrounded by her family. She was born on October 11, 1931 to Frederick and Catherine (McGrath) in Poughkeepsie NY.

She married Franklin McKinney on October 24, 1954, at St. Mary's Church in Wappingers Falls, NY. Franklin predeceased her in 2017.

She was also predeceased by her parents, a sister, Margaret (Peggy) Nenni and a beloved Niece Debbie.

She is survived by a daughter Lorraine and Fiance John Hayward of Highland and sons Michael and Thomas McKinney of Wappingers Falls, and a grandson Matthew Francioli and his wife Karen of Highland, NY.

She is also survived by Nancy McKinney, lifelong friend and sister-in-law.

She leaves behind many Nieces and Nephews.

A small graveside service will be held May 24, 2024 at the Wappingers Falls Rural Cemetery on May 24, 2024 at 10 AM.

In lieu of flowers, one can donate to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Central Hudson to host two in-person customer service events

Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. will host two more in-person customer service events in its Kingston District Office on Thursday, June 6 and in its Poughkeepsie District Office on Thursday, June 27. Central Hudson began hosting open house events in 2022 to provide customers the opportunity to meet with representatives to address concerns in a face-to-face setting.

"In-person events provide our customers an alternative experience and the opportunity for meaningful interactions with our employees," Central Hudson President Steph Raymond said. "We are happy to answer questions and address concerns in a setting that allows customers to build trust with their energy provider."

Customers will be contacted via email with an invitation to set up an appointment. When signing up, customers will be provided a time slot to meet with a customer service representative who will walk each customer through their account in a one-on-one setting. In order to provide the highest level of customer service, customers must make an appointment to meet with a representative to discuss their account.

Central Hudson is working to increase its overall accessibility to the communities it serves. Since December 2022, the company

has hosted more than 25 different events throughout the service area, including two previous events in Kingston and Newburgh this year. The Utility has also partnered with several state and local elected officials to assist hundreds of concerned customers at events held in Dutchess, Greene, Orange and Ulster counties.

The Kingston open house will be held at Central Hudson's district office located at 2001 Ulster Ave. in Lake Katrine from 5 – 7 p.m. Poughkeepsie's open house will be held at Central Hudson's Poughkeepsie office, at 284 South Ave., also from 5 – 7 p.m.

Central Hudson will continue to host additional by appointment only customer service events, as well as other informational events, throughout its service area in 2024. Announcements of future events for all customers will be made in the coming weeks and months.

Central Hudson offers assistance and payment programs to help customers manage their accounts. Visit <https://www.cen-hud.com/en/account-resources/assistance-programs/>. Customers looking to learn more about Central Hudson's transition to monthly meter reading can visit <https://www.cen-hud.com/en/account-resources/monthly-meter-reading/>.

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Opportunity

106 Business Opportunity

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142 Day Care

143 Baby-sitting

145 Adult Care

150 Announcements

151 Adoption

152 Novenas

154 Lost & Found

155 Personal

200 Services

201 Home Improvement

202 Cleaning Services

203 Lawn Services

221 Professional Services

222 Tax Experts

223 Beauty Services

225 Business Services

226 Travel & Services

227 Bridal Services

295 Financial

296 Mortgages

300 Real Estate

301 Townhouses &

Condos

302 Commercial Property

304 Mobile Homes

305 Lots & Acreage

400 Townhomes &

Condos for rent

401 Apartments for Rent

402 Rooms for Rent

403 Furnished Rooms

404 Furnished

Apartments

405 Wanted to Rent

406 Garages for Rent

407 Vacation Rentals

408 Houses for Rent

420 Commercial Rentals

500 Musical Merchandise

501 Kid Stuff

502 Clothing

503 Furniture

504 Appliances

505 Free Items

506 Computers

507 Sports Equipment

508 Exercise Equipment

509 Office Equipment

510 Firewood

511 Lawn & Garden Equip.

512 Winter Merchandise

516 Misc. Merchandise

700 Pets & Supplies

701 Free Pets

702 Lost & Found Pets

703 Pets for Adoption

710 Garage & Yard Sale

711 Tag Sale

712 Moving sale

713 Rummage Sale

714 Flea Market

715 Craft Corner

716 Barn Sale

717 Estate Sale

718 Auctions

719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted

721 Wanted to Buy

722 Bazaar

723 Consignments

724 Farmers Market

725 Collectibles

750 Events

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Tibetan singer and activist to perform on June 2 in Cold Spring

The Highlands Choral Society will present Tibetan singer and peace activist Loten Namling in a rare U.S. appearance, performing traditional Tibetan songs with the theme of Unconditional Love. The concert will take place on Sunday, June 2, at 3 p.m. at the Highlands Chapel, 216 Main St. in Cold Spring,

Putnam County.

Loten has dedicated his entire life to preserving the Tibetan culture, primarily through performing traditional music at venues large and small across the globe, from the Berlin Music Festival to a tiny remote village in Nepal. In his own words, "I have never killed an ant,

or a fly, but the world seems only to listen to violence. We all want freedom, peace, and equality for everyone on this earth."

Following his tradition of always collaborating with musicians from whatever country he is performing in, special guest guitarist Patrick Stanfield Jones will be

accompanying Loten on several songs. The Highlands Choral Society Board will be hosting a reception following the concert, for any and all who would like to meet and talk with Loten.

Tickets are available via TicketSpice via this link: <https://highlandschoralsociety.ticketspice.com/lotennamling6-2-24>

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

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

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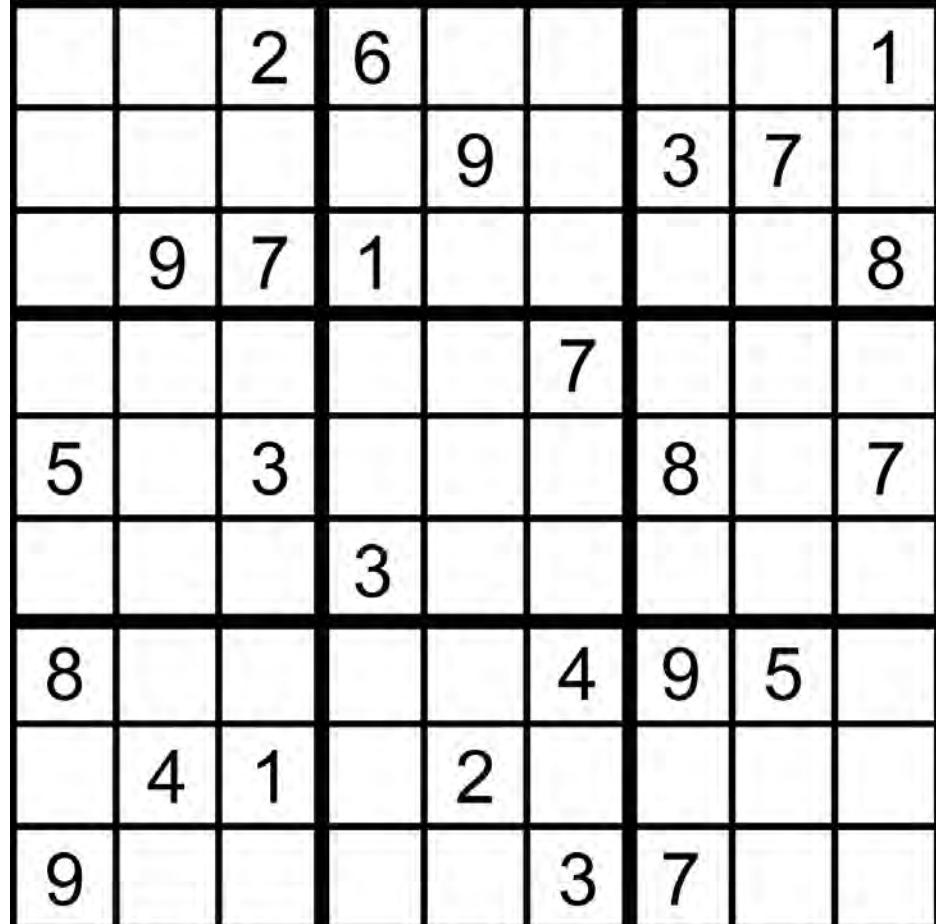
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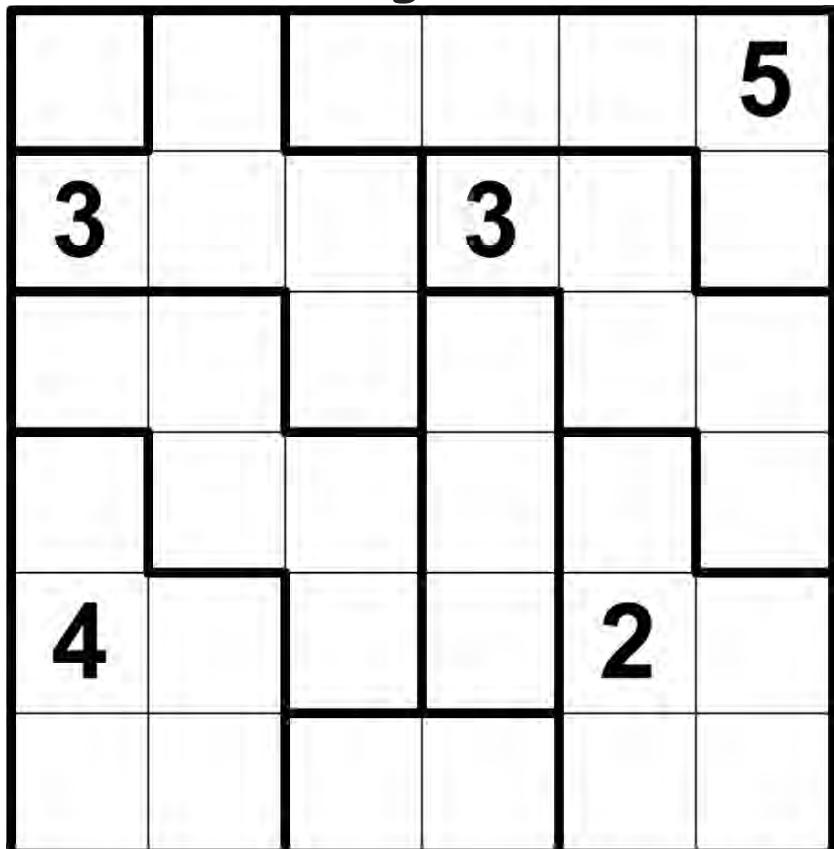
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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: OPPOSITES

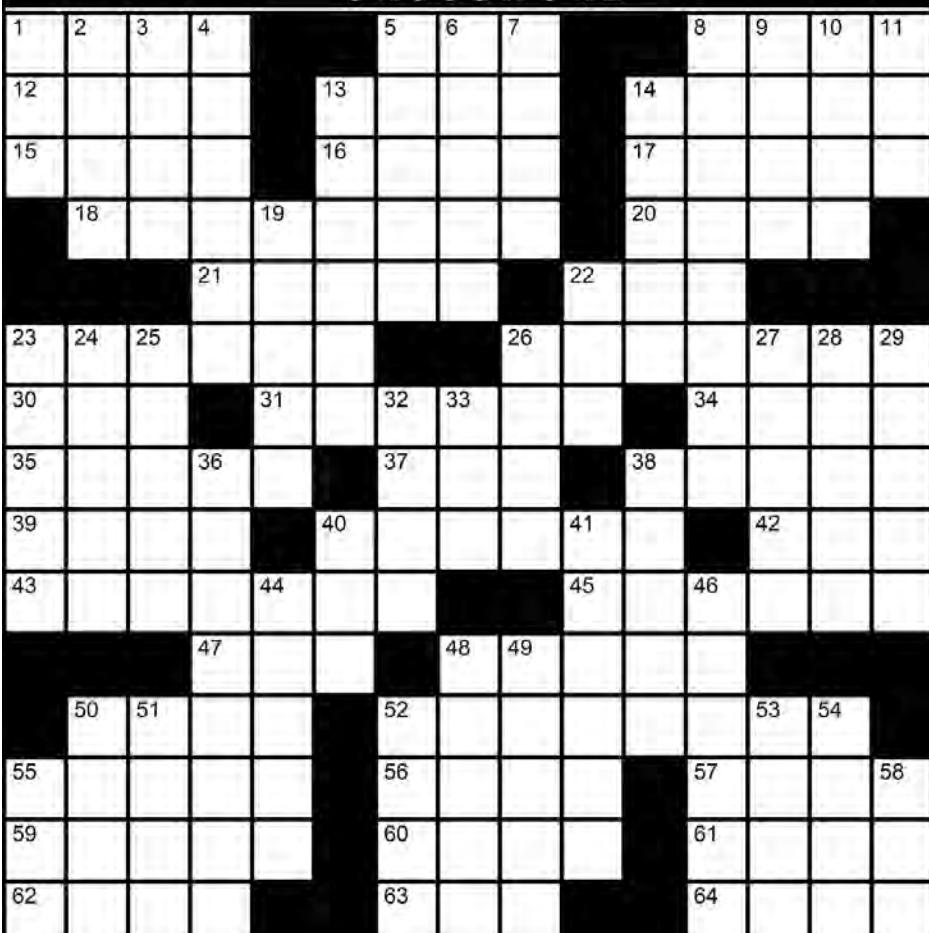
ACROSS

1. Clothing joint
5. *Opposite of good
8. *Pre-
12. Guesstimate (2 words)
13. Sudden impulse
14. Group dice game
15. Stead
16. Naive person
17. Fancy necktie
18. *Compass point opposites (2 words)
20. A pinch between the cheeks
21. Earth tremor
22. Before skip and a jump
23. Constantly worry about something
26. More infinitesimal
30. Catch a wink
31. One weber per square meter, pl.
34. *Pre-recorded
35. Deed hearings
37. Cribbage piece
38. Bread spreads
39. Plural of focus
40. Making the way, in a way
42. "I Like ___," 1952 campaign slogan
43. Of somber color
45. *Like bride's accessories (2 words)
47. 60 mins., pl.
48. Indiana ball player
50. One of Three Bears
52. *Day periods (2 words)
55. Vernacular
56. Part of church
57. Soap bubbles
59. Type of small salmon
60. Bound
61. Domingo, Pavarotti and Carreras, e.g.
62. Nicholas II of Russia, e.g.
63. Key next to spacebar
64. Where users review

DOWN

1. Fa follower
2. Between Ohio and Ontario
3. *Opposite of on land
4. Fluffy dessert
5. Hillsides in Scotland
6. Anti-seniors sentiment
7. *Opposite of awkward and clumsy
8. *Door instruction (2 words)
9. Fairy tale opener
10. Flat-bottomed boat
11. Bambino
13. Not like #26 Down
14. Popular breakfast item
19. MCAT and LSAT, e.g.
22. *Hers
23. *Switch positions (2 words)
24. Louisiana swamp
25. Glasses, for short
26. Three biblical sages
27. A logical connection (2 words)
28. Extract a memory, e.g.
29. Stitch again
32. R&R spots
33. Tolstoy's given name, in Russian
36. *Irwin Shaw's title opposites (2 words)
38. Checked out
40. Pimple fluid
41. Marked
44. Speak like Pericles
46. *Not airtight
48. Teacher's pet, e.g.
49. Balance sheet entry
50. *Cons
51. Muslim honorific
52. Facts
53. Donned
54. Nervous biter's victim
55. College assessment test, acr.
58. Janitor's tool

CROSSWORD



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

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by francine wizner



Hummingbirds: A lot in a little package



The hand-in-glove match of narrowly shaped, nectar-bearing flowers to slender nectar-sipping hummingbird beaks is evidence that hummingbirds were shaped by co-evolution.

Hummingbirds have the musculoskeletal system of birds, but fly like insects.

-Photos by Robert Rightmyer, Valley Visions

I have a little buddy that sips nectar from my petunias in the summer. She zips about from flower to flower, and then she is gone in a flash! She is a Ruby Throated Hummingbird. Diminutive hummingbirds can illustrate several abstract biological concepts.

Co-evolution: The hand-in-glove match of narrowly shaped, nectar-bearing flowers to slender nectar-sipping hummingbird beaks is evidence that hummingbirds were shaped by co-evolution. Most flowering plants need pollinators. Some plants are pollinated by bees or bats. But flowers with long nectaries require specialized pollinators. Hummingbirds fill that niche.

Survival of the Fittest & Sexual Selection: Even the smallest hummingbirds can be quite aggressive against much larger birds. Their extraordinary mobility allows hummingbirds to successfully chase away potential predators like hawks and crows. Hummingbirds are also aggressive against other hummingbirds! This can result in fights over good feeding territories.

Evolution has acted not only to make flower and beak shapes complementary, but also to make some beaks weapon-like. Two examples of fierce hummingbird beaks are found on swordbill and tooth-billed hummingbirds. The beak of a swordbill is as long as its body. Male tooth-billed hummingbirds' beaks are thick, rigid, and hooked at the end. The weaponized adaptations of those hummingbird bills make them more fit for their environments. The birds use their beaks to fight off rivals for mates, thus improving their chances of passing their genes to future generations.

Our local Ruby-throated Hummingbirds don't have long or hooked beaks. But they can still be quite aggressive! This is especially true near hummingbird feeders or desirable flowering plants like trumpet creepers and lobelia.

Respiration and Nutrition: Cellular respiration is the process of getting energy from nutrients, specifically sugar. Unlike humans, whose bodies suffer ill-effects from high sugar consumption, the bodies of hummingbirds efficiently move sugar through their digestive and circulatory systems and into their muscle cells very quickly. As the tiny birds zip about, they're burning the sugar that they've eaten within the last hour. With all of their frenetic movements, it's not surprising to learn that their metabolism is 77 times faster than humans'.

In the human body, sugar is processed through a complex series of steps. Excess sugar is stored in the liver. Hormones regulate the absorption and release of sugar so that our bodies have a steady supply for our daily activities. In humans, elevated blood glucose can damage the cardiovascular system, kidneys, eyes, and nervous system.

Aerodynamics: Hummingbirds have the musculoskeletal system of birds, but fly like insects. They specialize in the most energy-expensive form of locomotion in nature: hovering. They can also perform aerial maneuvers, including 180 degree turns.

The birds rotate their wings in a figure-eight pattern. That movement pushes air forward, backward and downward, generating lift force on both the forward and back strokes of the wing. By adjusting the angle of its wings and tail, hummingbirds can hover in one spot, move forward or backward, or pivot to either side.

Researchers are inspired by hummingbirds' flight forms and agility. They are working to design aerial vehicles that mimic hummingbird movement. Some flying robots, such as drones, have been developed that can hover. Improvements are still necessary in terms of duration of flight and the amount of noise produced.

Scientific Inquiry: Hummingbirds are good research subjects. They will fly to feeders, undeterred by humans. They also fly well in wind tunnels and cages. The tiny birds are capable of learning. Scientists have speculated that, because they live on the edge in terms of their energy budget, they may require greater intelligence to remember the locations of food sources.

The next time you catch a glimpse of a hummingbird, take a moment to appreciate their awesomeness. They can teach us much about science. They are a lot in a little package.

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://www.gertrudekatzchronicles.com/> and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>.