



# BEACON FREE PRESS

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## DC Legislature launches Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee

### From County reports

Legislature Chair Yvette Valdés Smith has announced that the Dutchess County Legislature is addressing a gap in public safety by launching the Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee (AWCS) with a goal of better protecting both the animal and human residents of Dutchess County. The resolution (2026095) passed unanimously at the Dutchess County Legislature's June Board meeting on Monday, June 8.

Legislator Anna Shah (D-Town of Poughkeepsie), author and sponsor of the AWCS resolution said, "Over the past several months, Legislator Alexander and I have met with law enforcement, animal welfare organizations, shelters, rescues, and community stakeholders across Dutchess County.

"One message was clear: animal welfare is about more than animals," Shah continued. "Preventing cruelty, supporting responsible stewardship, and strengthening coordination among community partners helps protect both animals and people while promoting public safety, public health, and community wellbeing. The AWCS committee provides a transparent forum in the legislature to take much needed action towards sustainable, coordinated and cost effective solutions."

Legislator Eric Alexander (D-Amenia), sponsor and co-author of the resolution added, "For too long, Dutchess County has depended on a patchwork of solutions, barely held together by good intentions. This new and necessary committee, will ensure that the animals in our county get the attention they deserve, and that the agencies assigned to this important mission, are given the resources they need to work together, cohesively and effectively, to protect their welfare."

Minority Leader Michael Polasek (R-LaGrange) said "The Minority Caucus was proud to support the creation of the Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee. We are hopeful that this committee will help bridge gaps between the municipalities responsible for animal control, strengthen coordination among county agencies, and bring together the many non-profit organizations that are already doing this important work. By fostering collaboration and communication, we can build a more effective and unified approach to protecting animal welfare across Dutchess County."

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## Marathon reading of the U.S. Constitution set for June 19 in Beacon

### By Kristine Coulter

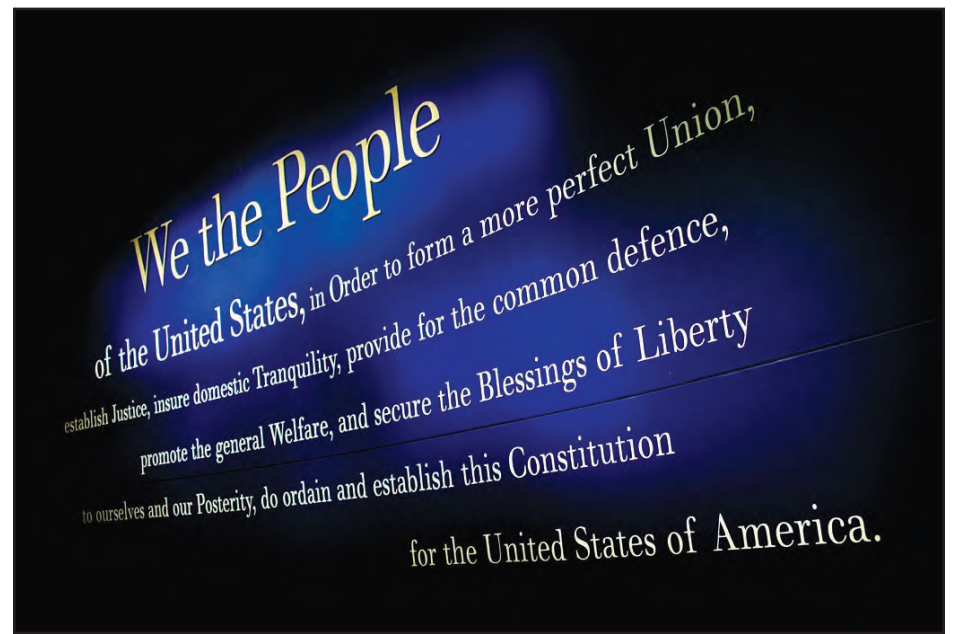
"We the People: A Marathon Reading of the United States Constitution" will take place on Friday, June 19, from noon – 4 p.m., at the Memorial Building, 413 Main St., in Beacon.

Local residents will have the opportunity to read the entire contents of the U.S. Constitution and there will be interpretive commentary provided by Professor Beau Breslin of Skidmore College.

"This seems apt action as we think about the state of our nation right now. We defend the Constitution by making it alive in the present. As Poet Laureate of both Dutchess County and Beacon, I consider it my responsibility to think of language as civic action," said Ruth Danon, a local resident who is in collaboration with Stephanie JT Russell, Mitch Corrado, and Mike Jurkovic on the event.

Danon, said, "The idea was inspired by my friend, the writer Jennifer Egan, who held a similar event in Brooklyn. I thought it was a wonderful concept and shared it with colleagues in the Hudson Valley; we are now in the process of scheduling several more of these events."

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The Preamble Wall at the entrance to the National Constitution Center Museum main exhibit, We the People, in Philadelphia. Anyone can read the Constitution at the Memorial Building in Beacon on Friday, June 19.

-Photo courtesy National Constitution Center

## Vibrant network inspires students with Harvest-To-Table choices

### Todd Middle School shines

### By Curtis Schmidt

The goal is to inspire middle school students to make nutritious, sustainable food choices during the formative years of their lives. It's a Harvest-To-Table initiative and it's coming together at Orville Todd Middle School in the Spackenkill District with the help of five collaborating partners.

Leading the effort is Interim Food Service Director Larry Anthony. He retired last year, but has been on a mission to connect farms and schools with the goal of benefiting children for many years. He is an Education Specialist Master Instructor/Culinary Arts Training Team with the NY State Department of Education in Child Nutrition.

"This vibrant network of school and community partners connects agriculture, environment, health and culinary arts through the unique contributions of each partner," said Anthony. "By connecting the dirt in the garden to the food on the plate, this partnership shows students that eating healthy isn't just good for their bodies - it's delicious, fun and impactful for their local community."

Partners include the following:

- The School Garden & Environmental Club: Students see their hard work come full circle. The club helps harvest fresh, seasonal produce directly from the School Garden, demonstrating the power of sustainable, hyper-local food production.



Culinary Institute of America student Christian Hurdle slices peaches in the Orville Todd Middle School kitchen with staff member Zev Bordowitz.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

- The School District Food Services Department: Bridging the gap between the garden and the cafeteria, Food Services ensures the event aligns with school nutrition goals and showcases how fresh ingredients can be integrated into daily school meals.

- The NY Local 30% Initiative: This initiative highlights the economic and environmental importance of farm-to-school pipelines, celebrating the mile-

stone of sourcing 30% of school meal ingredients from local New York farms.

- The Dutchess County Health Department: Public health educators are on-site to facilitate interactive activities that promote lifelong healthy lifestyles, emphasizing the vital role school gardens play in community wellness and chronic disease prevention.

Continued on page 3

# County celebrates Hyde Park's Ralph Osterhoudt at inaugural 'Veteran of Distinction' ceremony

## Nominations now open to honor living Dutchess County veterans

### From County reports

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has announced the launch of the County's new "Veteran of Distinction" program, an initiative that recognizes outstanding living County veterans for their military service and their continued contributions to our local community. Building on the success of the "Honor-A-Veteran" program, launched last year to honor deceased veterans, this new effort invites residents, families, and friends to nominate local veterans whose stories deserve to be highlighted and celebrated.

Hyde Park resident Ralph J. Osterhoudt Sr., Private First Class in the U.S. Army who served during World War II, was the first "Veteran of Distinction" honoree at the inaugural ceremony on June 9, held at Hyde Park Town Hall.

Serino said, "Our 'Veteran of Distinction' program is a meaningful way for us to thank the veterans who have given so much to our country and to Dutchess County. Our Honor-A-Veteran ceremonies have shown how deeply this community values those who served, but those tributes honor veterans who are no longer with us. This new program gives us the chance to recognize our heroes while they are still here to feel that appreciation. That's why we're beginning with our World War II veterans — members of the Greatest Generation whose stories we must preserve and celebrate before we lose the opportunity. I encourage residents to nominate a veteran in their life so we can honor their service together."

On Christmas Eve 1944, PFC Osterhoudt sailed to Europe with thousands of U.S. troops to join the Battle of the Bulge, later considered America's greatest World War II victory. In early January 1945, he and his battalion were transported in cramped French "40 and 8" boxcars to the front lines, where he fought in the Ardennes, the Colmar Pocket and the Siege of Bastogne dur-



Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Office of Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche joined the family of Army PFC Ralph Osterhoudt Sr. and the community in celebrating his service at the County's first "Veteran of Distinction" ceremony.

-Courtesy photo

ing some of the harshest winter conditions of the war. He was also among the first 32 American soldiers to enter the Auschwitz death camp. After returning home to Staatsburg in 1946, he worked at the local post office, founded Osterhoudt Electric and became an active American Legion member dedicated to supporting fellow veterans.

Serino said, "I've had the pleasure of calling Ralph my friend for years, so it is very heartwarming for me that he is our first 'Veteran of Distinction.' Ralph embodies all we envisioned with this program: He's a veteran with a record of honorable service to our nation, who returned home to Dutchess County, where he has continued to contribute to his community for 80 years! Though our new

program, we look forward to celebrating the service of Ralph's fellow veterans and thanking them in person for all they've contributed to Dutchess County."

Monthly "Veteran of Distinction" ceremonies will take place on the second Tuesday of each month from April through November, hosted in the community where the honored veteran resides. This year's ceremonies will spotlight members of the Greatest Generation—Dutchess County's living World War II veterans.

Speaking about the ceremony, as well as his continued commitment to his fellow veterans, PFC Ralph Osterhoudt Sr. said, "It was great. It was wonderful. I thank everybody from the bottom of my heart. I thank everyone for coming. It meant so much to me. ... I keep up with

any veterans organization, even the flea market out at the airport; there's probably 3,000 people out there in that airport. There's probably not a person of those 3,000 people that would have any idea about thinking about World War II and the guys that died, except the ones that talk to me. And if I talk to a thousand of them, that means the veterans that didn't make it were recognized, and that's what I want to do. I don't want people to forget them."

### Nomination requirements

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current Dutchess County resident
- Have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge
- Have served during wartime or peacetime; there are no restrictions on service dates or duration

### How to nominate

- Applications may be submitted:
- Online: [dutchessny.gov/veteranofdistinction](http://dutchessny.gov/veteranofdistinction)
  - In person: Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs, 1335 Route 44, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569
  - By email: [veterans@dutchessny.gov](mailto:veterans@dutchessny.gov)

All applications must include appropriate military separation documents (DD-214, WD AGO 53-55, NGB-22, or casualty report).

Dutchess County Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche said, "Dutchess County veterans have sacrificed to keep us safe, and we are honored to thank them in person and share their stories of selfless service. We encourage our community to nominate the deserving American heroes in your life so Dutchess County can publicly celebrate their service."

For more information, contact the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs at 845-486-2060.

## County Comptroller: County sales tax revenues \$2.2 million less than 2025 projection

### From County reports

The Dutchess County Comptroller's Office has completed its annual report on the County's sales tax revenues for year ending 2025. Sales tax collections totaled \$265.8 million in 2025, up 0.8% from 2024, but \$2.2 million less than what had been projected for the 2025 budget.

Dutchess County collected approximately 2.75 times more in sales tax than property tax, comprising 41% of all County revenue in 2025, according to the

Comptroller's Office. There were two notable updates to sales tax collection last year:

Dutchess County received Home Rule approval from the State Legislature to permit the County to extend its previously increased sales tax rate from 3% to 3.75% through November 30, 2027.

Beginning March 1, 2025, sales tax

began to apply to all short-term rental occupancy units.

According to the 2026 adopted budget, sales tax revenue is projected to be \$268.4 million. This projection is likely to be impacted by the rising cost of fossil fuels and, effective June, a new sales tax cap on gasoline at \$3/gallon took effect. As of the publication of this report, year-to-date sales tax payments are up by 5.86% compared with 2025, it was stated

by the Comptroller's Office.

"Because sales tax revenue is so vital to the County's finances and prone to the whims of consumer decision-making, we will continue to monitor sales tax collection on a monthly basis," said Dutchess County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair.

The special report on 2025 Sales Tax Revenue can be found on the Comptroller's website.

## Latin Dance Night set for June 25 at Towne Crier

Dining and Latin Dancing at the Towne Crier Café, 370 Main St., on Thursday, June 25 at 6:30 p.m., in Beacon. Fine dining and full bar are available all evening. The lights are low, the sound is full and the ambiance is warm and intimate. Attire is whatever suits one's mood – from blue jeans to dazzling sparkles. Admission is

\$15, which can be paid at the door. For reservations (not required), please call the Towne Crier at 845-831-5500. Please send Song Requests at least two days in advance. For more information, call Rhoda at 845-765-0667 or [rhodaja@optonline.net](mailto:rhodaja@optonline.net).

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Geeks OnSite

# Vibrant network inspires students with Harvest-To-Table choices



Continued from cover

• The Culinary Institute of America (CIA) Student Chefs: Bringing professional flair and culinary excitement, CIA student chefs lead the cooking demonstration. They teach middle schoolers basic knife skills, flavor balancing and creative ways to make fresh vegetables taste incredible.

All of the partners and components came together to produce a great meal for students at the end of May with food choices like Chicken Fajita Nachos, Arugula/Peach Salad with Feta and School-Grown microgreens, plus basil and peach smoothies. Anthony termed the event a “screaming success” as the students kept asking for more.

Microgreens and plants take place with 7th grade Life Science students and the Environmental Club, advised by instructor Kim Rogers. The microgreens unit was introduced this year in the classes of Rogers and fellow instructor Melissa Walsh. Rogers said students explored plant growth, germination, photosynthesis, nutrition and sustainability through work with broccoli and radish microgreens.

The classroom greenhouse and indoor growing projects are integrated throughout the science curriculum to help students connect concepts to real-world applications. Students take part in planting, observing growth, maintaining plants and harvesting.

Instructor Elyse Joy works with her 7th grade Life Science class in the school greenhouse and hydroponics system in the classroom. Parents donated seeds and soil. Seedlings are started in the greenhouse and then transferred to the garden located at Vassar College Community Gardens. The herbs go to the cafeteria and vegetables are used to make dishes for the students to enjoy, like Swiss chard quiche and kale chips.

Anthony, who is also a CIA alumnus, enjoys working with current CIA students in the project. Student Julianna Hromek sees it as an opportunity to “apply our knowledge and give back to the community. We want to explore ways to do that now so that we can continue the process in our professional work.”

Christian Hurdle said he and fellow CIA students enjoy the interaction and learn as they work with the school cafeteria staff. “We blend experiences like this with our business administration and applied food studies,” he said.

Additional help has come from community partners, including Milestone Mill of Kingston, Dagele Brothers Produce of Orange County, Bread Alone, Indoor Organic Garden of Poughkeepsie, New Corn Crib and donations from local businesses including Miscedra Insurance, Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, Lowes Home Improvement Stores and Candreva Environmental Foundation.



## ‘Fit Dutchess’ works to help young people build lifelong healthy habits

Editor’s note: The Dutchess County Department of Health contributed to this article.

By Curtis Schmidt

According to the Dutchess County Department of Health, “Fit Dutchess” is a new initiative bringing together organizations from across the county to improve community health through a unified mission.

At its core, “Fit Dutchess” works to help young people build lifelong healthy habits - encouraging them to try nutritious foods, learn where their food comes from, and understand how daily choices shape long term well-being. To ensure lasting impact, “Fit Dutchess” is organized into three committees - Nutrition, Stakeholders and Engagement. These groups meet regularly to share ideas, form new partnerships, and strengthen each other’s work, ensuring a consistent and community-driven approach.

Among the early champions of “Fit Dutchess” is committee member Larry Anthony, former Director of Food Services for the Red Hook, Rhinebeck, and Pine Plains school districts and, most recently, Interim Director of Food Services for the Spackenkill district. From the start, Anthony has played a key role in building healthier school environments. His collaboration with teachers, cafeteria staff, and community partners highlights the importance of school-based initiatives in the “Fit Dutchess” model.

Through his “Harvest to Table” initiative,

Anthony helped re-energize school gardens with support from Master Gardeners and connected with student chefs from the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) to introduce fresh, local ingredients into school cafeterias. These efforts exemplify how creativity and collaboration can transform student experiences around food.

Programs inspired by this work continue to gain momentum. One example is the “Dutchess Youth Kitchen,” the Dutchess County Department of Health’s hands-on, after-school cooking and nutrition series recently offered in the Poughkeepsie City and Spackenkill school districts, with support from the Poughkeepsie Farm Project. Together, these initiatives are planting the seeds for healthier futures across Dutchess County.

Anthony said the “Fit Dutchess” program interaction with Todd Middle School in the Spackenkill District promotes the school garden and connects students to the food that they eat.

“It’s an incredible honor to be working with Dr. Livia Santiago-Rosado and the entire ‘Fit Dutchess’ team,” said Anthony. “We are connecting the dots and closing the gaps that exist between community and school gardens with the students and school nutrition programs.”

The team includes local leaders of institutions such as the CIA, Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County, local community gardens and local school district administrators.

Clockwise from top left, students work in the greenhouse at Todd Middle School. Seventh-grade instructor Kim Rogers, center, holds a plate of microgreens. Cafeteria staff members Sylvia Sanders, Tina Alessandro and Steve Lawler prepare salads. Interim food service director Larry Anthony works with CIA student chef Julianna Hromek. Todd Middle School students give a “thumbs up” to the Harvest-to-Table lunch.

-Photos by Curtis Schmidt and courtesy photos

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# Viewpoints

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. Please include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. **Deadline for letters is Friday at noon.** Letters must be submitted by e-mail to be considered for publication. Letters can be e-mailed to [newsplace@aol.com](mailto: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.

## There is still hope for the historic Hudson River State Hospital

### To the Editor:

On June 3rd, a fire devastated the stately Administration Building on the Hudson River State Hospital property upper campus above where the Shop Rite was recently built on the lower campus. The building stands proudly at the top of the hill, and its brick shell still stands after the fire. This historic building was planned for reuse and there is still hope this can happen.

Over the past several years, the Town of Poughkeepsie Historic Commission has been working with the Town and the developer to save several of the historic buildings that were feasible to save and reuse, which resulted in a Letter of Resolution with the State Historic Preservation Office requiring five of the buildings (including the Administration Building) be secured for future adaptive reuse. Following this fire, the Commission sent the Town a letter advising that not all is lost. Their letter states that the Administration Building should not be deemed a total loss until it has been evaluated through an independent third-party engineering study because it may still be able to be reused.

Historic structures just like this have repeatedly been restored following catastrophic damage. One notable example is a similar state hospital building in Danvers, MA. Following extensive deterioration and partial demolition, the exterior masonry shell was preserved and incorporated into a successful redevelopment project that retains its historic character. Today the property is known as the Bradlee Danvers, residential housing.

Another example is right in our backyard in Rhinebeck. The Wyndcliffe mansion was an abandoned ruin for decades, but now the historic brick shell is serving as the foundation for an extensive restoration effort and reconstruction of the interior.

The Administration Building at Hudson River State Hospital is the architectural and historic centerpiece of one of the most significant sites in the Town of Poughkeepsie. As stated in the Commission's letter, "its importance to the Town's identity, history, and cultural landscape demands that every reasonable preservation option be thoroughly explored before irreversible decisions are made."

Not only is the property on the National and State Registers of Historic Places, but it

also holds the National Historic Landmark designation. Only 3% of the sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places are recognized as National Historic Landmarks. Even in its current condition, opportunities likely still exist to utilize federal and state historic preservation incentives to rehabilitate the structure in a manner that retains its historic character.

So let's see what the engineering study says before we jump to conclusions.

Stephanie Lewison  
LaGrange

## Lisa Kaul will make our home a better place to live

### To the Editor:

I'm writing to tell you why I'll be voting for Lisa Kaul in the upcoming Democratic State Senate primary. I'm young and trying to start a life in the Hudson Valley. Twenty-two years and counting, but each year gets harder than the last. I'll probably never own a home, or be able to raise a family, or have more than two grand in my checking account.

Reading financial advice tells me to move somewhere cheaper, away from my family, friends, and home, a complete non-starter for me. I want representation that's looking out for me, that can help solve the problems in my life.

Lisa Kaul shines as the clear winner of the candidates in the Democratic Primary for Senate District 39. She's had huge wins in the Dutchess County Legislature, improving affordability, accountability and the environment. She's been endorsed by the do-ers of the world: unions like the Nurses Association and Communication workers of America, elected officials like Pat Ryan, and county committees with a history of putting up victorious candidates. If there's anybody who can make our home a better place to live, it's Lisa, and that's why I'll be voting for her in the Democratic Primary on June 23rd.

Michael Reilly  
East Fishkill

## Ways to learn about Beacon's role during the American Revolution

The American Revolution in the Hudson Highlands," will come on June 23 at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 900 Wolcott Avenue. The speaker will be Col. Seanegan Sculley, who has served in the U.S. Army since 1995 and who earned his PhD in History from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 2015. He currently serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of History and War Studies at the United States Military Academy. Col. Sculley is also the author of *Contest for Liberty: Military Leadership in the Continental Army, 1775-1783*. We're especially proud to share that he and his wife Jenny currently live in Beacon. All are welcome to attend.

### Hike to Mount Beacon

Local historian Chris Cring will lead a hike to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) monument atop Mount Beacon on July 4. Participants will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the Scenic Hudson parking lot (corner of Wolcott and Howland avenues). Along the 1.2-mile uphill trek, Chris will discuss the history of the mountain and Beacon's pivotal role in the Revolutionary War, including the story behind the famous "beacon" signal fires.

The group will maintain a slow, steady pace and should reach the summit within an hour. Although the hike begins with a climb up 144 metal stairs, the effort is well rewarded: the summit offers stunning, panoramic views of Beacon and beyond. Once at the top, hikers will explore the ruins of the Mount Beacon casino and the brick powerhouse of the historic incline railway. From there, they will take a brief quarter-mile walk to the DAR monument. (Shown are some of the 600 people who climbed Mt. Beacon in a similar outing in honor of the monument's 100th anniversary on July 4, 2000.) Return to the parking lot is expected by 11 a.m. All are welcome, and there is no fee, but please come prepared. Be aware that the terrain is relatively steep and features sections of loose rocks. It is recommended that you:

- Wear sturdy hiking shoes/supportive footwear.
- Bring plenty of water or electrolyte drinks.
- Take a hiking stick or trekking pole to help with stability on the loose rocks during the descent.

To join or learn more, text your name, the number in your party and questions to Chris at 845-249-5305.

## Marathon reading of the U.S. Constitution set for June 19 in Beacon

### Continued from cover

Who can take part in the reading?

"Anyone who is interested is invited to participate. We will have designated readers who have selected specific portions to read, as well as open sections for community participants," said Danon.

Breslin will be presenting during the event.

Breslin relayed that Danon reached out to him and invited me to participate and, frankly, I never miss an opportunity to talk about the Constitution," he said via email. "I am deeply honored that she and the folks in Beacon are interested in what I have to say."

Breslin was asked what he thinks people will be surprised to know about the Constitution?

"So many things, but I'll give you three off the top of my head: 1.) The United States Constitution is the shortest, by word count, of any national Constitution in the world (it is the length of a basic feature article in a publication like *People* magazine).

2.) It is the longest enduring national

Constitution in the world (the average lifespan of constitutions around the GLOBE is a mere 19 years. Ours is now 239 years old from the drafting moment).

3) Those who wrote and ratified the Constitution – including James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and Alexander Hamilton – would be surprised and even a little angry that our Constitution has endured for almost a quarter millennium."

Danon said she hopes people who attend "will come away knowing what's in the document that so many in so many roles swear to defend and with a greater appreciation of the brilliance, complexity, and challenge the Constitution offers us so many years after its initial construction."

"I hope they come away with a renewed appreciation of how our Constitution changed the world (I'm not being hyperbolic) and, simultaneously, how it is broken and in need of significant repair. Put another way, I hope people realize that the Constitution is both worthy of reverence and ill-designed for the problems of the twenty-first century," said Breslin.

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## OPINION

As America celebrates 250 years, our founding ideals are challenged

By Paul Donnelly

As I close out another school year as a U.S. History and Government teacher on the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, I thought it would be appropriate to reflect on our nation's founding ideals within the context of where we are as a country politically. The 13 colonies revolted against a monarchy with the aspirations of establishing a government devoted to the Enlightenment principles of human rights. This fledgling country was founded on the ideals of protecting "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Essential to this ideal, the framers based the idea of government on the consent of the governed, which established that governments get their power to rule from the people, not a king or despot.

The colonists despised monarchy, having risked their lives fighting for independence and autonomy. Consequently, when the newly independent states created their first constitution, the Articles of Confederation, there was no executive branch. The people were afraid that a strong central government would threaten the rights of the citizens. That weak government failed, so a new framework of government was created that included a President. Under the Constitution, this executive would be constrained by Congress. Congress gives orders, and the President executes these orders.

Two hundred and fifty years later, our country is facing a crisis. Donald J. Trump is acting more like a monarch than an elected executive. Three examples of this include: keeping standing armies on the streets during peacetime, the President's attempts at taxation without representation, and interfering with the judicial system.

One of the many grievances the colonists had against King George was their accusation that he was keeping standing armies in their streets as a way to enforce British law, intimidate the colonists, and infringe on their liberty. The king imposed this without the consent of colonial legislatures. President Trump has engaged in similar acts. For example, last year, Mr. Trump deployed the National Guard in several states, including California, Oregon, and Illinois, against the wishes of the governors of those states. More recently, he has used armed federal agents in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to enforce an immigration crackdown that resulted in the deaths of two Americans.

Another grievance that colonists had was imposing taxes without consent and cutting off their trade. The colonists had no colonial representatives in the British Parliament but were forced to pay taxes to the Crown. Last April, when the President announced his "Liberation Day" and unilaterally applied tariffs on imports from almost 100 countries, he usurped congressional authority and imposed what is essentially a national sales tax. The Constitution clearly gives Congress alone the power to tax.

Finally, the last example of how Mr. Trump acts more like a king than an elected president is his interference with the courts. According to the Declaration of Independence, the colonists accused the King of destroying the rule of law and obstructing judicial powers. Mr. Trump has repeatedly undermined the judicial system by granting pardons to convicted felons, including the perpetrators involved in the January 6th insurrection, some of whom were serving lengthy sentences for assaulting police officers. The most controversial abuse of this power occurred when he pardoned Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández, who was convicted in federal court and sentenced to 45 years in prison for running Honduras as a "narco-state." Beyond these examples, the administration's actions have further undermined the judicial branch; most tragically, the deportation of Kilmor Abrego Garcia which was carried out against a 2019 court order barring his removal due to fears of persecution by MS-13. Garcia spent over three months in a prison in El Salvador while the administration claimed it could not retrieve him.

These are just a few examples of how the current president is acting more like a king than an elected executive. As Americans prepare to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary, we should be reminded of how many colonial grievances against King George III now apply to President Trump. In the context of the current state of the presidency, the Declaration of Independence reads more like articles of impeachment against Mr. Trump rather than a 250-year-old rebuke of King George III.

Paul Donnelly has taught U.S. History and Government in Poughkeepsie for over twenty years. Alongside his career in education, he serves the community as a member of the Hyde Park Town Board.

### Sholes Miller Rodriguez & Brown attorneys included in HV Magazine's 2026 Top Lawyers list



The team of attorneys from Sholes Miller Rodriguez & Brown, include from left, Joseph P. Petito, Kimberly L. Brown, Robert Irving Miller, Leilani J. Rodriguez, and Randy L. Braun.

-Courtesy photo

Hudson Valley Magazine has recognized top regional attorneys for their expertise, including the attorneys at Sholes Miller Rodriguez & Brown, PLLC. These honorees, recognized for excellence in specific practice areas are selected through peer reviews and independent research. Hudson Valley Magazine's "Top Lawyers" list is a regional recognition program that highlights distinguished legal professionals across more than 35 practice areas.

The 2026 Top Lawyer Recognitions (Hudson Valley Magazine) from Sholes Miller Rodriguez & Brown include:

- Robert Irving Miller for Civil Law Litigation
- Kimberly Brown for Personal Injury
- Leilani Rodriguez for Appellate Law

- Joseph Petito for Family Law
- Randy Braun (Randy L. Braun Attorney at Law) for Labor and Employment

For the complete, definitive 2026 list, see the "Top Lawyers" feature in the March issue of Hudson Valley Magazine or view at: <https://hvmag.com/life-style/hudson-valleys-top-lawyers>

For more than two decades, Sholes Miller Rodriguez & Brown, PLLC has served clients throughout the Hudson Valley with experienced legal representation. The firm represents clients throughout the New York metropolitan area, the Hudson Valley, and the Capital District, delivering strategic, results-driven legal counsel across a wide range of practice areas.

## Bill introduced in Congress to award Chief Nimham the Purple Heart



A Bill to award Chief Daniel Nimham, the last sachem of the Wappinger people, a Purple Heart for his sacrifice during the American Revolution was introduced to Congress by Congressman Pat Ryan. The announcement was made during the Fishkill 250 event at Heritage Financial Park earlier this month. It was stated that Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra has been working with Ryan to have the Purple Heart awarded posthumously to Nimham.

-Courtesy photo

## Juneteenth Riverfront Festival set for Friday



Howland Public Library will be celebrating at the Beacon Juneteenth Riverfront Festival on Thursday, June 19! Stop by Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. to see the library team. They will have a tent set up with a selection of books to browse and a fun, hands-on craft for the little ones.

Pictures is the Library staff at the 2025 Juneteenth event.

-Courtesy photo

## Elks honor RMS students



Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 presented April's "Student of the Month" certificates on at Rombout Middle School. The students were chosen for their positive attitude, kindness, thoughtfulness and helping their peers. The students received a certificate and gift card for their accomplishments.

The Beacon Elks thanks Glazed Over Donuts for sponsoring this event with them. Pictured (l-r): Caroline Brown (6th Grade), Evan Eraca (7th Grade), Angel Cruz (8th Grade Teacher Ms. Simms, Cathy Oken, Lodge Member, Teachers Ms. St. John Ms. Winkelmann, Ms. Plass and Jeanine McAuley, Past Exalted Ruler.

-Courtesy photo



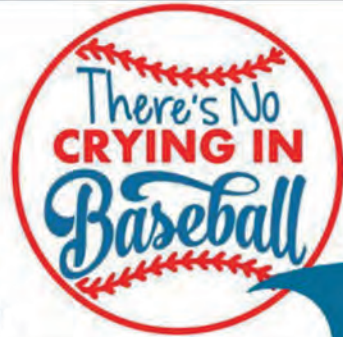
# Renegades Extra!



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### But You CAN Wine!

## RENEGADES FEATURE

# Josh Moylan crushes No. 25, becomes Renegades HR leader

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley's most-recognized Renegade has solidified another piece of franchise history. Josh Moylan, with a resounding home run against the Jersey Shore BlueClaws on June 10, became the Renegades' career leader in home runs, notching one more on a career-high tally this season. Known to get a walk-off water bath or pie to the face, Moylan has found ways to impact the Renegades this season offensively.

Shy of the halfway point of 2026, Moylan has eclipsed his single-season home run total — and cemented his name at the top of Hudson Valley's High-A History. On June 10, Moylan plunked a solo shot to left center. As the baseball landed beyond the fence, his Renegades up by a half-dozen, Moylan had become the franchise home run leader, an honor previously held by Spencer Henson's 24.

Moylan's first multi-home run game of the season — and



The versatile fielding and hitting star of the Hudson Valley Renegades — Josh Moylan — is now the team's career leader in home runs with 25. That mark was previously held by Spencer Henson.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

first since June 23, 2024 — helped propel Hudson Valley's come-from-behind

win over the Frederick Keys on June 5. Moylan would launch his 11th of the season days later.

Though Hudson Valley has experienced the inconsistencies of summer, Moylan continues a jubilant June. More than a stalwart infielder, Moylan appears in left field, first base, and third, while offering a reliable designated bat. He is hitting nearly .300 in June (.289 as of June 14), and continues to boost the Renegades with the bat, and performing at various defensive positions. Among others, he is the career leader in home runs, games played, extra-base hits and runs batted in.

For three seasons, Moylan, 23, has been a Hudson Valley mainstay. He has come into the organization with a commitment to career and community, forging connections, and this year, especially, forcing an outfielder's glance above the wall he's meant to defend.

### League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Greensboro PIT	40	23	.635	-	7-3	W3
	Frederick BAL	38	22	.633	0.5	5-5	L1
	Hudson Valley NYY	29	33	.468	10.5	6-4	W1
	Wilmington WSH	28	34	.452	11.5	2-8	L3
	Brooklyn NYM	25	37	.403	14.5	7-3	W1
	Jersey Shore PHI	24	38	.387	15.5	2-8	L1
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Bowling Green TB *	45	17	.726	-	7-3	W3
	Winston-Salem CWS	36	27	.571	9.5	4-6	W2
	Hub City TEX	33	29	.532	12.0	8-2	W5
	Rome ATL	32	30	.516	13.0	4-6	L3
	Greenville BOS	25	35	.417	19.0	5-5	L2
	Asheville HOU	16	46	.258	29.0	3-7	L5



July			
07/01/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Celebration of Baseball WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/02/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/03/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/04/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	Independence Day: Happy 250th Birthday, USA! presented by Central Hudson Gas & Electric WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/05/26	vs. Wilmington	02:05 PM	Unicorn Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/07/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	90s Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/08/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	Jewish Heritage Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/09/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	Harry Potter Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/10/26	vs. Rome	07:05 PM	Renegades: The Musical! WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/11/26	vs. Rome	05:05 PM	Christmas in July WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/12/26	vs. Rome	01:05 PM	Princes & Princesses Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets





# Renegades Extra!



## Homers and hits set the pace as HV wins series over Jersey Shore



Both Wilson Rodriguez, left, and Core Jackson went deep for the Renegades last week. Rodriguez hit a grand slam on June 11 and Jackson hit a solo shot on June 14.

-Photos by Dave Janosz

**By Morgan E. Maier**

Welcome to summer! The Hudson Valley Renegades were home for one week only this month, and pinched the BlueClaws for four wins at Heritage Financial Park. A franchise record, over-the-fence offense and a long-sought series win highlighted the Renegades' week in sweltering Hudson Valley heat.

**Roderick Rolls** - With Hudson Valley donning their Fenómenos Enmascarados identity jerseys on June 14, Roderick Arias' aggressive baserunning nearly released Hudson Valley from a 3-3 deadlock, advancing 90 feet from the go-ahead run after a passed ball. Though the Renegades would strand Arias there, they wouldn't wait long for the game-changing swing. And the next came even faster.

Core Jackson knocked a solo home run for the lead, and Eric Genter matched it for a 5-3 lead. Wilson Rodriguez was inches from a third straight shot, but a fortuitous blast of wind got Jersey Shore out of the inning with a 5-3 deficit. Hudson Valley would go on to win the game 5-3, and the series four games to two.

Arias had a hit in each game he played this series, marked by hard contact and tougher baserunning. Arias had two hits in the Renegades' opening 5-0 win, and again on June 12, as the infielder extended a 7-game hitting streak, dating back to the previous series against Frederick. In the finale, Arias had a pair of hits and an RBI.

**Grandeur** - A Wilson Rodriguez

grand slam was not enough to salvage the Renegade win streak on June 11, as Rodriguez pummeled a shot straight to center. It would give the Renegades a lead, a four-run third inning, but Jersey Shore would claw back to a four-spot of its own. In the sixth, a bullpen dismantling would cost Hudson Valley its lead – and the win – as Jersey Shore caught its first win of the series. Kyle West took the BlueClaws out of the park three times in the first two games, sending the Renegades to back-to-back wins to start the series.

**BlueClaws Unmasked** - Another caped crusade ensued on June 12 with Superheroes and Villains Night, as the Dutchess County crowd reveled in their 11-3 hometown heroism. Josh Moylan hit his 11th home run of the season, as all Renegades reached base in the victory.

Emanuel Tejada led the way with 3 hits. Genter, Rodriguez, Cam Troyer, and Jackson knocked in 2 runs each, as Hudson Valley overcame an early two-run deficit to earn Rory Fox his third win of the season.

Hudson Valley continues on the road the rest of June, first facing the Rome Emperors, who are coming off a losing bout with Bowling Green Hot Rods. Both Hudson Valley and Rome sit two spots from the bottom of their respective divisions, and look to close the ever-lengthening gap between their squads and the league leaders.

### RENEGADES EXTRA



Kyle West took the BlueClaws out of the park three times in the first two games last week, sending the Renegades to back-to-back wins to start the series. Above, West shakes hands with Manager Aaron Bossi after hitting one of his three home runs.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

# McKible, Golden top of BHS Class of 2026

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon High School (BHS) Class of 2026 will graduate this month.

"We are so proud of the Class of 2026. Our graduates have really distinguished themselves in the classroom, on the field, and on the stage. They demonstrated resilience and determination throughout their time in high school, and I know that the same drive that defined their time here will carry them far," said Corey Dwyer, principal at BHS.

Oscar McKible is this year's Valedictorian at BHS. Samiha Golden is this year's Salutatorian.

"I was excited, but more than anything I was relieved. Being valedictorian had been a personal goal for me since 5th grade when I found out what it was, so I was happy to be able to actually live up to it," shared Oscar via an email from the school.

Oscar noted, "I'll miss a lot of things. I like the small community of Beacon High School, it's nice to know and be known by so many of my peers. More than anything, I think I'll miss my teachers. I have close relationships with so many teachers



Oscar McKible and Samiha Golden are Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Beacon High School Class of 2026.

-Courtesy photos

at Beacon High School, and I'm sad to leave them behind." He added, "I also think I will miss the Beacon High School Band and the Beacon Players, I think they have been very core experiences/communities that have let me express myself out of just academics."

Oscar plans to attend Boston

University to major in Health Science.

"I intend to pursue epidemiology and focus on zoonotic diseases in the future," he said, which is the study of infectious illnesses that spread between animals and humans, according to the Cleveland Clinic.

As far as advice for the students who will begin their high school days in September, Oscar offered, "Give yourself the chance to explore! I certainly focused a lot of my time on academics, but there is so much more to school. Search for interesting clubs you want to be a part of and take classes that sound like they might be fun. Don't pigeonhole yourself into one thing, try to find a wide range of new experiences."

"To be honest I was kind of out of it when I was first told. I was rushing to go on a trip and I had a lot going on and I didn't fully process it. As I had time to think more though I thought about how my younger self would have genuinely been stunned because to me the idea of being Salutatorian or Valedictorian was impossible, I thought you had to be like a

full blown genius. I also thought about my grandparents. They have always really valued doing well in school because they were able to come to this country because my grandpa worked so hard in school and got a full ride scholarship to the University of Chicago. My grandpa passed away when I was younger but I thought about him and hoped that he would be proud," said Samiha via an email.

What will Samiha miss about high school?

"I will miss the people most. Both my friends and the teachers and staff who have always been there for me and taught me so much. They are what make coming to school each day worth it. Talking and laughing and stressing about work with my friends are all things I will miss." Samiha continued, "I will also miss getting to be a part of the Beacon Players. Some of my best memories have been in that theater performing on stage and laughing backstage with the close friends I made through the organization. Beacon Players shaped the person I am today and I will miss it more than I can express."

Samiha will be attending Yale University in Connecticut and will be double majoring in Ethnicity, Race, and Migration and Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies.

Is there some piece of advice you would offer to students who will be starting their high school days in September?

"Honestly just try to enjoy it and make sure to find your people. If I hadn't had my friends and teachers I knew were really there for me I don't think I would have been able to do half the things I did and I most definitely would not have enjoyed high school as much as I did. High school is what you make of it and for me I loved it. Find something you love and go after it," said Samiha.

## Garden club 'spruces up' George Washington bust to celebrate America's 250th



The Tioronda Garden Club spruced up the George Washington bust, at Wolcott Ave and Teller Ave., to celebrate America's 250th anniversary.

According to a post on the City of Beacon's Facebook page, this sculpture of the "Father of Our Country" was created by Avard T. Fairbanks for the U.S. bicentennial in 1976 and was erected in 1999 by the Melzingah Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution in honor of the 200th anniversary of the Washington's death.

-Courtesy photo

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## Grayson Hugh to headline June 19 show at Towne Crier



Singer-songwriter and piano virtuoso Grayson Hugh returns to the Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon on Friday, July 19. Joining him will be his wife, vocalist Polly Messer; opening the show at 8:30 p.m. will be The Red Dirt Girls.

Hugh's songs have been called "a soul-rock stew, with a dash of blues and a pinch of country" (Stone Phillips, *The Today Show*) and his voice has been compared to soul legends Sam Cooke and Otis Redding. His piano playing has been called "a veritable cyclone of soul, drawing its energy from such diverse regions as the swamp-land funk of Professor Longhair, the testifying soul of Ray Charles, with the rhythms of African drumming and bluegrass thrown in the mix." (Benny Metten, *Ctrl. Alt. Country*, August, 2010)

Opens the Red Dirt Girls are all about harmonies. Inspired by the classic trio work of Emmy Lou Harris, Linda Ronstadt and Dolly Parton, as well as Red Molly and the Wailin' Jennys, their repertoire is best described as Americana – a blend of country and folk.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Visit [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com) or call 845-855-1300 to purchase and for more information.

-Couresty photo

## love to cook

by vicki frank day



# Chicken Piccata

Light and satisfying for a special, warm-weather meal

The other night while in a quandary over what to make for dinner, I did what I often do when I don't have a plan: I looked in the fridge for inspiration. Once I knew what I had to work with, the next step was: What was I in the mood for? It was a warm night but not unbearably hot, so something on the light side was in order. But I wanted a proper dinner, not a salad. Chicken is usually a great choice on such occasions, and so I knew just the thing that would hit all the marks – Chicken Piccata.

A dish of chicken breasts in a buttery *beurre blanc* kissed with fresh lemon and the briny pop of capers is both light and satisfying. Served with mashed potatoes and a fresh, green salad, it's just about the perfect summer meal when you're craving something a little special. I hadn't made it in a very long time and with everything I needed on hand, it was definitely overdue and just the thing!

But before we get to the recipe, a little history, although when all is said and done, it may not be definitive. This is one of the many recipes with different origin stories and meanings, so please take this with a proverbial grain of salt. Take piccata, for instance. The word suggests it may be named for the piquant nature of some of the ingredients (lemon and capers) or perhaps even a region of Italy, but it isn't. It more likely refers to the method used. Piccata, it seems, can be roughly translated from Italian to mean "pounded" or "seasoned." Both are apt, since either chicken or veal are traditionally pounded (or sliced) thin for quick cooking and served in a bright and zesty sauce.

What isn't really up for debate is that it came about when millions of Italian immigrants settled in America in the 1930s. Veal was probably the first meat of choice. The other ingredients are associated with Sicily. Which begs the question: were they making it in Italy before they came over? Since I couldn't find a definitive answer and don't know anyone in Italy to ask, I'll just say it doesn't seem like it would be easy to find

there, but there are probably dishes that are similar. (I did warn you this wouldn't really clear things up). I think one thing is clear: that the Italians brought their passion for food with them to America and we are all lucky they did!

And now, a few words about the method when using chicken. You want boneless, skinless breasts for this. You can buy whole breasts, place them on a cutting board between sheets of plastic wrap and pound them thin with a mallet (or rolling pin) or get thin-sliced chicken cutlets. I have done both, though I prefer pounding them myself. At least I usually do. This time I did neither. I tried something different and cut each breast in half lengthwise so I ended up with four pieces. Why? Well, it was easier and the last time I made it I remember it was a little dry (probably due to over-cooking on my part) so I thought I'd keep them a little plumper and yes, I know, it isn't traditional but, oh my! They were tender, silky and moist and cooked to perfection.

There's also a key or two for success. First, season the flour. I used salt, freshly ground pepper and garlic powder, and quite a bit at that. Second, dredge that chicken really well through that flour – several times on both sides – and don't be afraid to pat on more just before adding to the hot skillet to make sure it's completely coated. Third, and perhaps most important: DO NOT overdo it on the lemon! This is where most people get it wrong, in my humble opinion. You may think more is better, but I promise you, not in this case. One tablespoon of fresh juice is perfect for four breasts. You will taste it without it being acrid or overpowering. Butter + lemon + wine + capers in balanced amounts is a miracle and more than enough zestiness. To each his own, but I urge you to try it this way first; and if you don't agree, then add more to suit your taste. As for the capers – those lovely little pickled flower buds from the caper bush – they aren't for everyone but if you've never tried them, you might be delighted by the briny, peppery brightness they lend to the dish. I'm a



Chicken Piccata.

-Photo by Vicki Frank Day

big fan!

Oh, and one more thing: This is not fried chicken in that it doesn't develop a crisp coating as it cooks, nor do you dip it in egg batter (as in Chicken Francese). The flour mixture adds to the richness and texture of the sauce and helps the chicken stay moist and tender.

## CHICKEN PICCATA

What else can I add, except serving suggestions. Pasta may seem like the logical choice, but in honor of my Italian friends who prefer pasta as its own course, I prefer mashed potatoes, which are brought to a whole new level when drizzled with the velvety, zesty sauce. Rice would be good, too. Serve green beans, broccolini or an arugula salad and you have a lovely meal.

This recipe, as discussed, uses two breasts cut lengthwise. If you're using thin-sliced or pounded cutlets, you may need to reduce the cooking time by about 1 minute per side. Also, if you prefer not to use wine, use ¾ cup chicken broth or stock.

## INGREDIENTS

2 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut in half lengthwise (to make 4 pieces)  
Flour (start with 1 cup), for dredging

1 teaspoon garlic powder  
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste (at least 1 tablespoon each)  
4 tablespoons butter, divided  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
½ cup dry white wine  
¼ cup chicken broth or stock  
Zest from one lemon (about 1 tablespoon)  
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
1 tablespoon capers, drained  
Fresh chopped parsley  
Freshly grated Parmesan cheese

## METHOD

Place flour, salt, pepper and garlic powder in a shallow dish and whisk together. Dredge each chicken breast piece through the flour mixture to thoroughly coat both sides.

Melt 2 tablespoons of the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. When melted, add olive oil. When hot, add chicken. Cook 4-5 minutes undisturbed until golden brown. Flip and cook 4-5 minutes more. Transfer cooked chicken to a plate.

Remove skillet from the heat. Add wine and broth, stirring up any browned bits. Return to heat and add remaining 2 tablespoons butter, lemon juice and zest and capers. Whisk until smooth (I just realized what a funny word that is). Return chicken to the skillet and cook about 5 minutes more, turning once.

Garnish with parsley and a sprinkle of Parmesan. Serves 4.

A debt of gratitude to the Italian-Americans who have added so much to our culinary repertoire and, in so doing, richness to our American heritage. In fact, a huge thank you to all of our ancestors who brought their family recipes with them through Ellis Island. They made America the literal melting pot it has become, a unique treasure for us all.

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

## DC Legislature launches Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee

Continued from cover

Legislator Emma Arnoff (D-LaGrange) stated, "As a mental health clinician, I've worked with people who struggle to care for their pets and others who rely on them for emotional support. This committee will bring together agencies, volunteers, and county partners to address these challenges and more—working collaboratively to better support both animals and the people who depend on them."

Prior to the June 4th Committee meeting, where the resolution to establish the AWCS was introduced, representatives from the Dutchess County District Attorney and Sheriff offices spoke in favor of the new committee, emphasizing the urgent need for resources, intra-county cooperation, and coordinated strategies to address the problem.

Sheriff Kirk Imperati said, "The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office has had

dedicated professionals devoted to animal rights for many years. Having even more partners in this extremely important work will only strengthen our resolve and will go a long way toward eradicating these crimes and sending a strong message to those who commit them. I am excited to join forces with Chair Valdés Smith and members of the Legislature to work together on this newly established committee to achieve our common goals."

Senior Assistant District Attorney Nicholas La Stella reported that he would be leading the office's recently launched Animal Cruelty unit.

La Stella, Deputy Unit Chief of the DA's Special Victims Unit, was chosen because of the "significant overlap between animal cruelty and special victims cases. The number of victims of domestic violence who report animal cruelty is between 70-80%; people who abuse people they perceive as weaker often abuse animals as well."

## 'Death and the Fool' at Howland Cultural Center

"Death and the Fool," A Medieval Folly, a play created by Happenstance Theater will take the pace at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon on Saturday, June 20 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 advance This is a Tarot-inspired mystery play. It's full of slapstick comedy, music from the Middle Ages, puppetry and whimsy to drive away fear and offer

relief from impending doom, just as folly brought light to the Dark Ages. As the Fool faces Death and seeks guidance, you too can consult the Oracle, be comforted by the High Priestess, trust in the Doctor if you dare, and give your troubles to the Crone.

For more information, go to <http://www.howlandculturalcenter.org>.

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## The lost art of naming the Post Office



Recent photographs of the building of the former Barrytown Post Office built in 1830 at the Edgewater Estate. "Barry" refers to the US Postmaster at the time, William T. Barry. No doubt the gesture of recognition was made to help accelerate or ensure an approval for what was a new post office at the time. In a reversal of the usual dynamics, the hamlet eventually took the name from the post office.

-Photos by Bill Jeffway.

### By Bill Jeffway

In 1845, Dutchess County had 58 post offices. In rural Dutchess, they were usually part of a general store and served as informal gathering places for the community.

The post office—and the local postmaster—were important and influential. Postmasters were appointed by the President of the United States, usually with advice from local political leaders and the area's congressman. The position carried considerable prestige and influence. The postmaster controlled what news came in and out of a community and, at times, could influence how quickly mail moved. Perhaps the most extreme example of this influence occurred in the years before the Civil War, when some Southern postmasters refused to deliver abolitionist literature that they believed might encourage "uprisings" among enslaved people.

The recent announcement by the Jenrette Foundation that it has launched a campaign to restore Red Hook's Barrytown Post Office building (postal operations ceased there in the 1990s) provides an opportunity to look back at the dynamic role post offices and postmasters played in nineteenth-century Dutchess County. The Jenrette Foundation maintains the impressive Edgewater estate, built in 1824 by John R. Livingston. The home was a wedding gift for his daughter Margaretta, upon her marriage to Captain Rawlins Lowndes Brown of Charleston, South Carolina. Brown (ca. 1792–1851) descended from two prominent South Carolina families: the Browns of Georgetown and the Lowndes family of Charleston.

As one of the Hudson River landings in the town of Red Hook, then known as Lower Red Hook Landing, the area served from the late 18th century as an exchange point where local farmers sold their products and obtained manufactured goods arriving from around the world. The landing was adjacent to wealthy estate owners at Steen Valetje, Massena, and Rokeby.

A mixed blessing arrived in the form of the New York City-to-Albany Railroad, completed by 1850. Although a railroad stop generally benefited a community, in this case the tracks were laid very close to the Edgewater house and physically separated it from the post office. Such was the cost of progress. Nevertheless, the post office prospered and survived many of the closures that occurred during the early

twentieth century, remaining in operation until the 1990s.

### Towns, hamlets & families

The most obvious name for a post office reflected the town or hamlet in which it was located. Some names reflected geography or topography: Fishkill, Fishkill Landing, and Fishkill Plains; North Amenia and South Amenia; Red Hook and Upper Red Hook. Perhaps the most remarkable example was the post office known as "West North East." It was located in the western portion of the town of North East at a time when North East still included what later became the town of Milan. When Milan was formed in 1818, the post office became known simply as Milan.

Often, post offices took their names from local families, usually after those families had already given their names to a hamlet or locality. Examples include Beekman, Clinton Hollow, Adriance (in Fishkill), Stormville, Arthursburg, and Shookville.

In an extraordinary public tribute to a national figure—perhaps second only locally (albeit a distant second!) to the 1788 naming of the town of Washington after George Washington—the applicant for a new post office in 1829, a man named Michael S. Martin, agreed to have the office named after the sitting U.S. Postmaster General, William T. Barry. In a reversal of the usual pattern, the hamlet eventually took its name from the post office.

The story unfolded against the backdrop of national politics. In 1828, Andrew Jackson defeated John Quincy Adams in a rematch of the fiercely contested 1824 election, which Adams had won through what critics labeled the "corrupt bargain." Jackson's victory ushered in the era of Jacksonian Democracy and the rise of the so-called common man. Jackson appointed William T. Barry as Postmaster General. Like many members of Jackson's administration, Barry proved a controversial figure.

Locally, naming a post office after Barry was not a risky political gesture. Returns from the 1828 presidential election show that Adams carried only four Dutchess County towns—Beekman, Hyde Park, Pawling, and Union Vale—while Jackson won Red Hook by one of the largest margins in the county.

Over time, efficiency began to influence postal naming practices. In 1895 there was an effort to combine some



Top: In a photo taken by a young woman, Nina McCullough, she used to create a photo and poem scrapbook she made for her grandmother. She wrote under the image, "Clinton Hollow Post-office. This is the country grocery, where all the farmers go / to sit and chat and help to keep the pickle barrel low." Bottom photo: early 20th century image of the Bulls Head Post Office and store, also in the town of Clinton, reflecting the busy social and commercial scene.

two-word post office names into a single word. As a result, "Pleasant Ridge" became "Pleasantridge," while "Quaker Hill" became "Quakerhill." Sometimes the changes were subtle but intended to standardize usage. The post office known as "Annandale" in 1864 later became "Annandale-on-Hudson" in 1916.

We are approaching the anniversary of the real end of the romantic, strategic, and political era of post-office naming arrived on July 1, 1963.

On that date, the United States Post Office Department introduced the five-digit ZIP Code system to move mail

more quickly and efficiently. The term "ZIP" stood for "Zone Improvement Plan." Four additional digits were added through the ZIP+4 system in 1983. Together, these changes removed much of the local identity that had once been attached to postal destinations.

Today, Dutchess County residents are identified more readily by numbers than by the colorful postal place names that once dotted the landscape—from the rural 125-series ZIP Codes that range from Amenia (12501) to Wingdale (12594), and the four in the 126-series assigned to Poughkeepsie that include Vassar College.

A rich source for the county's postal history is the work of Roy Ahlquist, who researched and privately published extensive studies of Dutchess County post offices during the 1990s. Through the courtesy of the Ahlquist family and the efforts of Clinton Town Historian Craig Marshall, these materials are available in the Dutchess County Historical Society research library. At the time of publishing, Ahlquist himself said he was not sure how Barrytown came to be named, this is a more recent finding.

In each of his publications Ahlquist beautifully wrote, "it is suggested that this booklet be used as a notebook as well. To that end text is printed only on one side of a sheet of paper. Reasonably large margins are used so that there is space to enter additional information. In other words, consider this booklet as a foundation on which you can build." What a wonderful sentiment, and an offer we accept with pride and a sense of responsibility!



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

## Obituaries

### Richard Zuckerman



Richard Zuckerman, a loving husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2026. He was 79 years old.

Born on November 25, 1946, in Manhattan, Richard was the son of the late Edward and Pearl Essner Zuckerman. On June 7, 1970, he married the love of his life, the former Karen Pearlberg, who survives him at home. This year, they would have celebrated 56 years of marriage together.

Richard dedicated more than four decades of his professional life to serving others as an administrator for nonprofit organizations that supported individuals

with developmental disabilities and emotional challenges. His work reflected the compassion, patience, and kindness that defined his character. He was also a longtime member of the Beacon Hebrew Alliance.

A man of boundless energy and generosity, Richard was deeply involved in his community and family. When his children were young, he was the Committee Chair for Cub Scout Pack 54 and then served as a Scoutmaster of Troop 95. An avid outdoorsman, Richard enjoyed running and participated in numerous 10K races. He found joy in nature, whether tending to his garden, keeping his bird feeders full, or exploring the wonders of the night sky through his interest in astronomy. He was a life-long lover of music, from singing doo-wop on the steps of his synagogue in the Bronx to instilling a love of classic rock music in his children. He enjoyed antiquing and craft fairs, especially artisan pottery. He loved watching baseball and was a passionate fan of the New York Yankees.

Richard was passionate about preserving and enjoying the natural beauty of the Hudson Valley. He served as an Ambassador for Walkway Over the Hudson and volunteered with Scenic Hudson, helping to maintain trails and assist with projects at Long Dock Park in Beacon. He will also be remembered for his quick wit, warm smile, and wonderful sense of humor that could brighten any room.

Above all else, Richard cherished his family. Nothing brought him greater happiness than spending time with those he loved and watching his family grow.

Richard is survived by his beloved wife, Karen Zuckerman; his son, Mitchell Pavao-Zuckerman and his daughter-in-law, Barnet, and their children, Evelyn and Sagan Pavao-Zuckerman; his daughter, Brett Zuckerman and her children, Nora and Corinne Lopez, and her partner Steven Secor; his twin brother, Ronald Zuckerman and his wife, Carol; his sister-in-law, Wendy Brown Zuckerman; his wife's sister, Jan Lori Pearlberg; and his nieces and nephews, Lori (Jerry), Gregory, Danielle (Anthony), Wendy and their families.

In addition to his parents, Richard was predeceased by his older brother, Mark Zuckerman, and his mother- and father-in-law, Ena and Herbert Pearlberg.

Family and friends gathered on Wednesday, June 3, at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A funeral service was held with Rabbi Justin David officiating. Burial will follow at the Beacon Hebrew Alliance Cemetery, 274 Osborne Hill Road, Fishkill.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association.

To send a personal condolence, please visit [www.riverviewbyhalvey.com](http://www.riverviewbyhalvey.com).

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey.

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

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Deadline Thurs at 3 p.m • Publication Wednesday

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Southern Dutchess News  
& Beacon Free Press

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

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106 Business Opportunity  
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143 Baby-sitting  
145 Adult Care  
150 Announcements  
151 Adoption  
152 Novenas  
154 Lost & Found  
155 Personal  
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902 Trucks  
903 Motorcycles  
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### 401 Apartments for Rent

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS, INC- WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY

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#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

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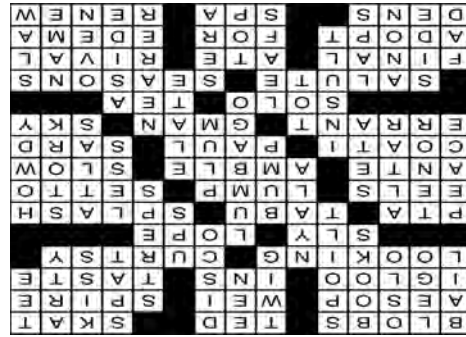
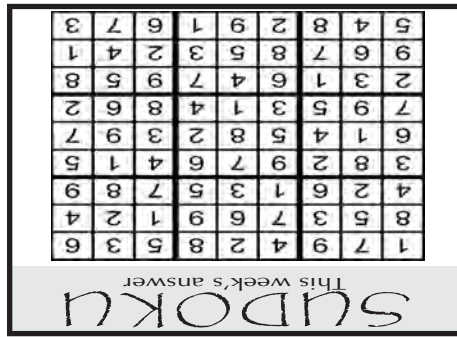


The BonfireWORKS Foundation to present 'REV250 Illuminated'

The BonfireWORKS Foundation presents "Rev250 Illuminated," a series of projections celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on municipal buildings and other iconic locations in Beacon, from 9-11 p.m. The projections will take place on June 19 & 20, June 26 & 27, July 3, 4 and 5.

For more information, visit https://www.bonfireworksfoundation.org.

this week's puzzle solutions



Legal Notices

Legal Notices

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DUTCHESS COUNTY POLLING PLACES

Pursuant to the provisions of New York State Election Law, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in the below listed towns/cities in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. ALL POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Qualified voters may vote at ANY poll site location WITHIN YOUR TOWN OR CITY listed below.

Table with 4 columns: Town, Election District(s), Site, and Address. Lists various locations across Dutchess County for the June 23, 2026 primary election.

LISA JESSUP and ERIK J. HAIGHT, COMMISSIONERS
DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
112 DELAFIELD STREET, SUITE 200
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601 845-486-2473
www.elections.dutchessny.gov

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-69-26 After-Hours Telephone Answering and Messaging Services

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-56-26 Police and County Vehicle Upfitting - Parts, Installation and Repairs

LEGAL NOTICE

To all voters of Dutchess County, New York Primary Election, Tuesday, June 23, 2026

The following is a true and correct list of all nominations of candidates for the offices to be filled at the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, certified to us or filed in our office pursuant to the provisions of Election Law.

ALL POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Democratic Primaries: Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Drew Warshaw, Raj Goyle, New York State Senate District 39

Gay Lee, Lisa Kaul, Evan R. Menist, New York State Assembly District 106, Didi Barrett, Samuel Hodge, Congressional District 17, Effie Guadalupe, Phillips-Staley, Cait Conley, Beth Davidson, John Cappello, Michael Sacks, Amenia Town Board, P. Damian Gutierrez, Kimberly Travis, Rhinebeck Town Supervisor

Debbie Hecht, Amanda Miller, ERIK J. HAIGHT, LISA JESSUP

COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS

DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 112 DELAFIELD ST., STE 200, POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601 845-486-2473 www.dutchesselections.com

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to New York State Election Law §4-118, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, as follows:

DEMOCRATIC PARTY Comptroller New York State Senate District 39 New York Assembly District 106 Congressional District 17

Amenia - Member of Town Board

Rhinebeck - Supervisor

LISA JESSUP and ERIK J. HAIGHT, COMMISSIONERS DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 112 DELAFIELD STREET, SUITE 200, POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601 845-486-2473 www.elections.dutchessny.gov

LEGAL NOTICE

Resolution 2026090 June 9, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the County Attorney of Dutchess County in the County Office Building, County Attorney's Conference Room, 5th Floor, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York, on the 25th day of June 2026 at 10:00 AM, on the following local law:

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2013, WITH RESPECT TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY SELF-INSURED WORKERS' COMPENSATION PLAN - RESOLUTION 2026090.

At said time and place, all parties interested will be heard.

Dated: June 11, 2026 Poughkeepsie,

New York

Susan Serino

Dutchess County Executive

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.



# Patrouille de France conducts flyover at West Point to commemorate America's 250th



*In commemoration of America's 250th anniversary, the Patrouille de France conducted a flyover of West Point on June 9 as part of their national goodwill tour across the United States.*

*Featuring eight Dassault Alpha Jets and one Airbus A400M, the flyover honored more than two centuries of friendship between France and the United States, a bond forged during the American Revolution and strengthened through generations of military cooperation, shared sacrifice and enduring partnership, according to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.*

*Coordinated through the French military attaché to the U.S. Military Academy, the flyover was part of the team's planned transit down the Hudson River to New York City, where commemorative flights recognize the historic ties between the two nations, including France's gift of the Statue of Liberty to the American people, it was stated.*

*-Photos courtesy US Military Academy at West Point*



## RMS honor students announced

The following students made the honor roll for the 3rd quarter of the 2025-26 school year at Rombout Middle School.

### Principal's Honor Roll 6th Grade

Reese Anderson, Henry Aymar-Blair, James Barrett, Caroline Brown, Elliott Browning, Abeni Buffin, Emily Calle, Baylyn Carr, Emilia Colarusso, Alice Courtney, Edward Cygan, Reina Cygan, Gianni DeLayo, Theodore Embry, Charles Flynn, Nigella Follari, Jose Garcia Llivipuma, Oona Giunta, Henri Green, Alessandra Guerra, Brynn Harvey, Hazel Harvey, Asma Husna, Vivienne Jemison, Ruby Kimberg, Charlotte Larsson, Pietro Laygo, Henry Limanni, Zoey Martinez, Bo Mason, Howard Mauks, Amelia Mawson, Ryan McNally, Eliot Merkhofer, Morgan Meyer, Joshua Mingst-Tuttle, Madison Nicholas, Clara Partlow, Mateo Pintado, Merit Roan, Walter Roberts, Olivia Santise, Will Varricchio, Amelie Vigeant, Evan Zalewski

### 7th Grade

Logan Alvarado, Iiya Armwood, Skyler Ciancanelli, Emmett Coleman, Violet Costello, Rana Craig, Grace Daley, Iris Dotson, Evan Eraca, Aoibhinn Fehilly, Audrey Fisher, Linnea Gabel, Margo Gentle, Nyomi-Navii Gillman, Orly Groppen, Samoya Haye, Mia Hernandez, Ania

Krasikova, Dean Macaluso, Samuel Mack, Camille Murphy, Anya Piester, Emma Posey, Mosammat Rahman, Emily Rottenkolber, Gisella Sanchez, Sabine Schenck, David Verdesi, Madelyn Westlake, Delanie Winther

### 8th Grade

Nia Abonyoh, Lucinda Arginsky, Leo Aymar-Blair, Evelyn Llivipuma, Parker Bennett, Kamilah Corte-Illescas, Gianna Cruz, Sofia Cruz, Dean Cumming, Meera Diebboll, Josiah Gibbs, Kai Illa-Hanca, Charlie Jelliffe, Jonah Landahl, Regan Laug, John McKay, Asa Partlow, Avery Persico, Colten Powlis, Lorenzo Saiset, Emmylou Shay, Anna Sheehy, Madeline Smith, Kevin Vogrincic

### High Honor Roll 6th Grade

Josiah Agosto, Thiago Anel, Anjali Arya, Helen Barreto Llivipuma, Francis Boyle, Samuel Cerchiara, Oceane Cloutier, Jordan Cuevas, Lily Di Pietro, Reese DiTata, Aiden Fish, Harrison Fowler, Gus Greenburg, Timoteo Haskell-Ramirez, Paige Johnson, Caleb Lampon, Ella Langkafel, Stella McEvoy, Brandon Mejia, Mariah Mercer, Liam Miller, Kelsey Murphy, Zadié O'Shea, Serenity Oleksa, Damecia Ortiz, Lewis Page, Ruby Pages, Na'yeli Robinson, Cooper Rosborough, Grace Santiago,

Leonardo Sardanopoli, Emily Seymour, Jackson Troust, Porter Wilson, Dylan Witkowski, Dara Zalewski

### 7th Grade

Ember Allred, Maya Ariel, Alexander Arroyo, Kevin Boyle Jr., Haley Brandstrom, Dylan Brown, Caiden Burks, Jacob Bustamante Cruz, Amadou Ceesay, Adeline Clark, Frances Coulon, Arianna Diaz, Savannah Dick, Mirella Digneo, Alden Emich, Lucas Genao, Allayna Graham, Francesca Guido Taylor, Morgan Jamin, Nahlia Kelland, Makenzie Kiernan, Elijah Macaluso, Jake Maxaner, Sonja McCollum, Jack McGrath, Carter McVicker, Scarlett Mejia, Madyson Mericle, Danny Nivicela Jarama, Cassidy O'Sullivan, Evan Pantojas, Atticus Perez, Luna Punsoda-Drew, Acadia Rodriguez, Julian Romero, Ryleigh Russak, Naomi Simons, Mateo Spaccarelli, Macon Stadler, Elan Stim-Fogel, Fiona Suckow, Alejandro Suscal Sinchi, MacKenzie Thorpe, Olivia Velazquez, Leo Virgadamo, Finn Woolston, Finnegan Zellinger, Rufus Zimmerman

### 8th Grade

Alexis Aduamah, Mikaela Arce, Olivia Bellis, Preston Bennett, Aiden Berry, Mateo Buckland, Ninalyse Caccamo, Lucas Campos, Madison Clark, Adran Conklin, Ali Cosentino, Trey Davis, Riley DiTata, Nathan Domanski, Radcliffe Dunne, Marina Garcia Llivipuma, Gianna Giangrosso, Alicia Green, Asher Hetling, Sarai Home, Jayden Kasmaei, Jonah Lipman, Johanna Marquez, Cole Martin, Laila Martinez, Max Mawson, Mikayla McMahon, Ava Morgan, Daniel Mulligan, Anthony Patino, Maya Pellegrin, Tavin Pennock, Jack Reeves, George Robitaille, Roberto Sampson, Ledion Shtanaj, Olivia Spiecker, Joscelyn Sweat, Elliot Trabka, Justinas Turner, Nathen Velazquez Benitez, Louisa Virgadamo, Braden Webster, Henry White, Zuri Yeboah

### Honor Roll 6th Grade

Gianna Antunes, Austin Beal, Howard

Blumenthal, Fabian Cabrera Ortiz, Alexis Campbell, Miah Cooper, Avery Dent, Alexander Diaz, Stefanos Diaz, Za'Kyrah Green, Maci Greenspan, Harper Hughes, Michaela Jawor, Victoria Jimenez Bueso, Nyla Jordan, Jayden Konco, Emma Kostro, Walter Lackaye, Evangeline Longino Romero, Charles MacDougall, Mason Marinaccio, Samantha Mendoza, Oliver Michaels, Brody Miller, Christopher Munoz, Aayan Patel, Jayson Pavelock, Petyon Pawlak, William Pereira, Rory Roman, Jennifer Sansone, Josiah Torres, Frammelys Vilomar Feliz, Isaiah Williams

### 7th Grade

Mackenzie Alicea, Henry Allee, Christian Alzate, Kingsley Ashton, Daisy Bernacchia, Madison Bostock, Maximus Burton, Connor Campbell, Zoey Darcy, Maxxum Digneo, Hana Dika, Samara Friedman Quinn, Christian Garcia, Athena Grey, Zavier Hazim, Milania Hubbard, Oliver Jackson, Alyssa Keels, Caleb Martell, Maxwell McKinnon, Lesly Morocho Llivipuma, Maaliya Paulin, Jesus Perez Jr., Yali Perez Novas, Timothy Perez-Sample, Ella Posey, Vincent Pulcastro, Mavis Quezada Farez, Madeline Richardson, Christian Robinson, Otis Robitaille, Ezekiel Rodriguez, Jackson Simonetta, Jariel Solis, Mason Soltish, Ava Spence, Max Staab, Ariya Valverde, Lucas White, Skyler Zingone Redfield

### 8th Grade

Grey Anderson, Daniel Acquino, Jessiah Beckwith, Amaziah Buffin, Troy Burch, Layla Clarke, Angel Cruz, Mia Cuautie, Adriana Dabbs, Gia DelBianco, Hudson Faust, Avery Fisher, Julianna Gannon, Matilda Hoffman, Luis Jimenez Bueso, Phillip Johnson, Ciel Koerner, Anthony Marotta Jr., Kai Mason, Damien Mayers, Charles Montleon, Qahtan Murshed, Conal O'Sullivan, Jaxson Pultz, Malachi Quarles, Ian Ramkalawon, Ella Reyes, Mary Rinaldi, Hailey Seddon, Alahni Segarra, Lucas Simms, Angelina Soria, Victoria Squilla, Angel Vigil Garay, Nathaniel Walden and Elianna Watkins.

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