

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

BEACON FREE PRESS

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CELEBRATE AMERICA'S SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL



A group of members of America REV250 gathered in Beacon recently. The group has been working on different events to celebrate America's 250th in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo

Fireworks, ice cream to highlight America 250 in Beacon

By Kristine Coulter

There are many events happening around Beacon to commemorate America 250. From fireworks, readings of the Declaration of Independence to ice cream, the local Beacon community will be celebrating the country's semiquincentennial.

Take an approximate 20-minute boat ride to Bannerman Island on Friday, July

3. There one can see the classic film "1776," a movie that was made in 1972. The event is from 6-10 p.m.

Fourth of July fireworks will take place on July 3rd, the day before Independence Day, at Memorial Park. Walk or ride one's bike, as parking is limited. Festivities are from 8-10:30 p.m.

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Reading of Declaration, music in Fishkill on July 4



Above: The annual Reading of the Declaration of Independence will take place at Van Wyck Hall on Saturday, July 4.

Right: Alex Prizgintas, a classically trained musician, will present a program inside Van Wyck Village Hall in the Village of Fishkill on Saturday, July 4.

-Archive photo, courtesy photo

By Kristine Coulter

The tradition of the reading of the Declaration of Independence will take place on the steps of the Van Wyck Village Hall, 1095 Main St., in the Village of Fishkill on Saturday, July 4 at 11 a.m. as the local community celebrates the nation's 250th anniversary. There will also be music and the ringing of the bells.

"Reading the Declaration of Independence together is a powerful way to

honor our nation's founding principles and celebrate the freedoms we enjoy today. As we approach America's 250th anniversary, it is especially important to reflect on the words and ideals that continue to unite us as a people," said Village of Fishkill Mayor Kathy Martin in a statement.

Alex Prizgintas, a classically trained musician, will present a program inside Village Hall at 11:30 a.m. He will bring his amplified cello for the performance.

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Walkway fireworks to celebrate our nation's 250th Anniversary

By Jim Donick

The annual July 4th Independence Day Fireworks Spectacular on the Hudson River is particularly special this year as the United States celebrates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The Hudson River was very much key to the success of the United States' quest for independence and, thus, the celebrations on the river will stretch from the largest ever gathering of Tall Ships in New York Harbor all the way to Poughkeepsie and beyond.

Friends of the Walkway Over the Hudson is again a proud sponsor of the City of Poughkeepsie's annual fireworks.

Friends of the Walkway Executive Director Lori Robertson, notes that, "In this 250th anniversary of the United States, the Friends of the Walkway invites the community to experience the City of Poughkeepsie 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular from the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge. Folks will secure a perch 212 feet above the Hudson River at nearly eye level with the dazzling display."

The public is promised a memorable evening. The Friends of the Walkway note that tickets for the event are going fast. Tickets sell out every year and will not be available for purchase on-site dur-

ing the event. It will be a busy evening.

Space is strictly limited at this event and tickets are required for all attendees. Children 12 and under are free, however a ticket must be reserved for them online in advance for admittance.

On Saturday, July 4 at 6 p.m., Walkway Over the Hudson will open exclusively to ticket holders, offering panoramic twilight views and an unforgettable perspective on the professional fireworks show launching between 9-9:30 p.m.

Food and beverage concessions will be available on-site. Guests are permitted to bring their own food and beverages and may bring small personal coolers. Bags and coolers may be subject to inspection.

Prohibited items must be removed by the owner prior to entry. No glass - Including all glass containers for food, beverages, and baby food/bottles. Items in glass containers must be repackaged into non-glass containers prior to entry.

Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park is a smoke and alcohol-free facility. The Walkway is a carry-in, carry-out park. Visitors are expected to deposit all waste in an appropriate container or take it home.

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The annual fireworks celebration will take place on July 4 on the Walkway Over the Hudson. Pictured is from a previous year's celebration.

-Photo by Jim Donick

19 thriving students celebrate milestone at Anderson Center for Autism commencement



From left: A graduate leads his fellow students, staff and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance during the 102nd Commencement ceremony at the Anderson Center for Autism on June 26. He is accompanied by Assistant Principal Jayson Pistritto. Additional speakers included Principal Kristin Warren and Chief Development Officer Eliza Bozenski, speaking on behalf of Philip Bronzi.

-Photos by Curtis Schmidt

By Curtis Schmidt

Nineteen students were honored during the 102nd annual commencement ceremony on Friday, June 26 at the Anderson Center for Autism in Staatsburg.

Patrick Paul, CEO/Executive Director at Anderson Center for Autism, said “This is a milestone that represents tremendous work and unwavering perseverance on the part of our students with autism - but also reflects the dedication of caring families and team members who have believed in their potential every step of the way.”

Prior to each student receiving their diplomas, one graduate led his fellow students, staff and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance. And, as Assistant Principal Jayson Pistritto noted “He did not miss a word.”

The Class of 2026 includes Brandon M., Luke S., Francisco W., Enrico Q., Aiden V., Owen K., Jakks V., William F., Joseph D., Michael D., Christian S., Cameron P., Maxwell K., Hershy S., Devin H., Asher E., Ryder E., Anson D., and Winston L.

In her message to the graduates, Principal Kristin Warren noted, “To our graduates, this day belongs to you. Each of you have traveled a unique path to reach this moment. Along the way you

have learned new skills, overcome challenges, discovered your strengths, and grown in ways that may not be visible to others.

“As you move into the next chapter of your lives, know that you are surrounded by people who believe in you, care about you, and celebrate who you are. Continue to grow. Continue to explore. Continue to be proud of who you are.

“And as we celebrate today, may we all remember a lesson our graduates teach us every day...kindness matters.”

Commencement speaker Philip J. Bronzi, Chair of the Board of Trustees of Anderson Center for Autism, was unable to attend and his speech was given by Eliza Bozenski, Chief Development Officer, Anderson Foundation for Autism.

Anderson’s mission is especially meaningful to Bronzi and his family, as his nephew, Stevie, has been a member of the Anderson community for nearly 15 years. Through Stevie’s journey, Bronzi has had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the life-changing impact Anderson has on the individuals it serves and their families.

Speaking from Bronzi’s speech, Bozenski stated, “First, I want to thank the dedicated staff of the Anderson Center for Autism. Every graduate we

celebrate today arrived at this moment because of the commitment, compassion, and hard work of so many people throughout this organization.

“I would especially like to recognize the Executive Team and Senior Management for their leadership and vision. Their commitment to providing best-in-class programming ensures that Anderson continues to fulfill its mission every day, creating opportunities for students to learn, grow, and thrive.

“And to all of the staff who make that mission a reality, thank you. In particular, I want to recognize our Direct Support Professionals. These extraordinary individuals live the mission of Anderson every single day. They provide care, encouragement, patience, dignity, and hope. They celebrate victories both large and small, and they walk alongside our students and residents through every challenge. Simply put, they are angels on this Earth.”

To the families gathered at the event, she stated on behalf of Bronzi, “Congratulations. This is undoubtedly a bittersweet moment. Graduation marks both an ending and a beginning. Along the way, you have faced challenges, celebrated milestones, overcome obstacles, and demonstrated extraordinary

perseverance. Through it all, you have been your graduates’ greatest advocates, strongest supporters, and most consistent source of love.

“Your graduates are here today because of their hard work and determination—but also because of the love, encouragement, and belief you have shown them every step of the way. This achievement belongs to you as well.”

And to the graduates, “I am humbled and honored to be here as part of your journey. Today represents years of effort, growth, courage, and accomplishment. This milestone is truly extraordinary, and each of you should be incredibly proud of what you have achieved.

“As you take the next step forward, remember that your accomplishments today are not the end of your story—they are the foundation for all that lies ahead. We at Anderson are honored to have been part of your journey, and we are excited to see all that you will accomplish in the years to come. May we continue to celebrate the potential, the achievements, and the bright futures of these remarkable graduates.”

The event concluded with a barbecue meal for all, along with music and even a photo booth.

Declaration of Independence Reading set for July 4th

The annual Reading of the Declaration of Independence will take place at noon on Saturday, July 4th, Independence Day, at One Municipal Plaza in Beacon.

Readers of the Declaration will be City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou and Beacon Declaration of Independence Reading Committee Chair Dennis Pavelock.

There will also be raffles, refreshments and more.

Police: 34-year-old man’s body recovered after cliff diving into Fishkill Creek

Beacon Police, Fire and EMS were dispatched for a call of an individual who had been cliff diving into the Fishkill Creek did not resurface at approximately 7:35 p.m. on Thursday, June 25. Police, Fire and EMS personnel arrived approximately 6 minutes after the call to the scene area, located south of 508 Fishkill Ave. Witnesses told officials that a 34-year-old Newburgh man, identified as Vincent Javinett, had jumped off the cliff and into the water, and after he had not resurfaced for several minutes, they called 911.

Beacon Fire entered the water in an

attempt to make a recovery but were unable to locate him. New York State Police eventually dispatched a dive team and his body was recovered from under the water.

Beacon Police Chief Thomas Figlia said there was an investigation and police recovered video evidence from the scene which confirmed beyond a doubt, that the incident was a tragic accident. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Javinett’s family and loved ones, said the chief.

Cliff diving into the Fishkill Creek is extremely dangerous and should never be attempted.

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GENERAC

Fireworks, ice cream to highlight America 250 in Beacon

Continued from cover

Do not forget to check out the BonfireWORKS Foundation present "REV250 Illuminated" from 9-11 p.m. It will also take place on July 4 and July 5.

Then remember why one is celebrating this special anniversary, by attending "Beacon Celebrates REV250 - 1776-2026:250 Years of Liberty" on Independence Day at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 413 Main St., with a reading of the Declaration of Independence and a poem by Beacon Poet Laureate Ruth Danon.

There will also be a reading of the Declaration of Independence at noon on Saturday, July 4, at the Municipal Building with the Beacon Fourth of July Declaration Reading Committee at 1 Municipal Plaza.

Care for a treat? Stop by the oldest home in Dutchess County for the Madam Brett Homestead Ice Cream Social, 50 Van Nydeck Ave., in Beacon from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, July 4.

According to Emily Murnane, with the Homestead, "We decided to host an ice cream social because it seemed like a classic, nostalgic summer event that would appeal to guests of all ages. Everyone can appreciate a cold treat on a hot day!"

"America 250 is about more than just patriotism. The fireworks and parades are really just an excuse to enjoy a beautiful day with our neighbors, and we need more opportunities to come together," remarked Murnane. "That's how a community stays connected, and the more connected we are, the more we're inclined to treat each other with kindness."

Murnane said, "America 250 is also a great opportunity to learn about our nation's history. We hope that those whose interest is sparked by this season of celebration will remain curious even after the festivities have ended. The Homestead has 300+ years of stories, and we're looking forward to sharing with our visitors!"

On Sunday, July 5, from 5-7 p.m., at the Veterans Memorial Building, 413 Main St., there will be "Cannons & Cocktails: The Declaration of Independence," with Colonel Sean Sculley and host Scott Ramsey. Explore the Declaration of Independence and enjoy cocktails, brought to one by Denning's Point Distillery.

Col. Sculley, who noted his time spent presenting history in these programs and for this article is done in an unofficial capacity and he is not representing the official views of the United States Military Academy, the US Army, or the Department of Defense, was asked via email what is something about the Declaration of Independence that most people don't know about?

He replied, "I think few people recognize that the premise of the Declaration, that all people are created equal and possess inherent rights that should be protected, is really a culmination of the previous 250 years. From the Scientific Revolution that changed our conception of the universe to the philosophies of Enlightenment thinkers on the purpose of government, beliefs about where power came from shifted dramatically from religious leaders and monarchs to "We, the People." Five succinct clauses in the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence distilled almost three centuries of thought, science, religion, and war into the guiding philosophy that is the foundation for the United States and our Constitution.

Ramsey said in a statement, "This conversation isn't just about what was happening in 1776. It's about courage, conviction, and the moments when people choose to act despite uncertainty. The Declaration of Independence remains one of the most extraordinary examples of that."

Col. Sculley said, "This momentous anniversary is an opportunity to encourage people to learn more about the founding of our country and inspire them to become even more dedicated to civic engagement. For me, the American Revolution never ended. Its philosophy is not a goal to achieve but a vision that each generation has the opportunity to strive towards. America's past is replete with both successes and failures, not because our founding principles are flawed but because people are imperfect. It is my hope that learning about our past, and especially about the American Revolution, can inspire us to be proud of ourselves and our communities while encouraging us to continue the work started 250 years ago."

For more information, visit <https://sites.google.com/view/beacon-rev250-events-calendar?usp=sharing>.

Reading of Declaration, music in Fishkill on July 4

Continued from cover

"In representing the three pillars of Patriotism, Praise, & Protest, some of the songs featured will include "God Bless America," "America The Beautiful," "Amazing Grace," "We Shall Overcome," "We Gotta Get Out of This Place" made popular by The Animals, "Fortunate Son" by Creedence Clearwater Revival, and a concluding musical journey covering the history and all verses of Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land," said Prizgintas.

Prizgintas noted he is thankful to have a long-standing working relationship with the staff at Blodgett Memorial Library in the village of Fishkill. He has partnered with them for cello shows and local history lectures over many years.

"Earlier this year, they asked me if I was able to participate in their 4th of July celebration, and I was honored to be considered," Prizgintas remarked.

From an "outside perspective," said Prizgintas, "it is very nice to see a local municipality that works to blend in local history and the patriotic spirit along with music."

Julie Spann, library director for

Blodgett Memorial Library, one of the organizers of this event, said in an email, "It is going to be fantastic this year. We have Senator Rob Rolison reading the Declaration. Eagle Scout Owen Brown presenting his project- historical walking tour of the Village of Fishkill." She noted after Prizgintas' performance there will be refreshments served (donated by ShopRite).

Martin stated there will be guided tours available after the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

"This project is the perfect blend of technology and history. It makes our history accessible and will be enjoyed by our community for years to come," stated Martin about Owen's project.

There will also be the ringing of the bells at the Fishkill Reformed Church, 1153 Main St. The bells will ring 250 times at 12:30 p.m.

"The Reformed Church will welcome anyone interested in ringing the bell (total 250 times) and will get a certificate and Fishkill Creamery coupon for an ice cream treat that day. Brendan Sohan is our vocalist that always sings the National Anthem and it is always a superb performance," said Spann.

Comptroller releases first in 'By the Numbers' series

Dutchess County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair has released the first in a new series of brief, informational reports for County leaders and taxpayers. Each "By the Numbers" one-sheet will focus on a particular population or subject relevant to County taxpayers. The first in the series, focusing on Veterans, was produced in coordination with the Office of Veterans Affairs, and includes data such as periods of service, demographics, and available benefits.

"It's been a priority from the start of my time as Comptroller to present the public with regular, easily digestible data points that can better inform them about where they live, work, and pay taxes," said the Comptroller. "We're hoping that this series of regular reporting will be a useful

source of information for residents as well as policymakers."

"Understanding the number of veterans residing in our County is crucial for ensuring they receive the support and resources they deserve," said Adam Roche, Director of the Office of Veterans Affairs. "Accurate data allows us to tailor our programs and services effectively, ensuring that every veteran knows they are valued and cared for in our community."

Each "By the Numbers" will always be available in full on the Dutchess County website, as well as related social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram).

If you have any ideas for the next topic send an email to comptroller@dutchessny.gov.

Congrats, BHS grads!



Members of the Beacon High School Class of 2026 toss their caps in the air during the graduation ceremony on June 24 at Heritage Financial Park in Fishkill.

-Courtesy photo

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
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- 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.

Moratorium on data centers in East Fishkill provides time for evaluation of future decisions

To the Editor:

I would like to thank East Fishkill Town Supervisor Nick D'Alessandro and the Town Board for unanimously approving a three-year moratorium on large-scale data centers and creating a task force to study their potential impacts before any future proposals move forward.

While no formal application has been submitted to the town, the fact that a project of this scale is being evaluated by the New York Independent System Operator should raise important questions not only for East Fishkill, but for communities throughout the Hudson Valley.

According to public reports, the facility being evaluated could require as much electricity as approximately 800,000 homes — more than six times the electricity used by all homes in Dutchess County combined. A project of that scale deserves careful review and robust public discussion before any decisions are made.

At a time when families and seniors are already struggling with rising utility costs, residents have every right to ask what projects of this magnitude could mean for energy prices, infrastructure, water resources, and quality of life.

The Town Board's action provides East Fishkill with the time needed to carefully evaluate projects of this scale and ensure residents have a meaningful voice in decisions that could affect the community for decades to come.

I also want to thank the many residents, advocates, and community leaders who participated in the public hearing and shared their perspectives. Their engagement demonstrated the importance of local democracy and community involvement.

East Fishkill has taken an important and prudent step. I am encouraged that other communities are beginning to have these conversations as well. In the Town of Fishkill, Town Board member Greg Totino recently announced plans to develop legislation addressing large, high-consumption projects and exploring whether developments of this scale should require direct voter approval.

As communities across the Hudson Valley confront increasing development pressures, proactive planning will be essential. Responsible growth means planning for the future, not gambling with it.

Mike Schade

Candidate for Dutchess County Legislature (District 17)
Fishkill

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Supporting data center moratoriums

To the Editor:

Dozens of Hudson Valley residents and advocates from Food & Water Watch, Indivisible 845 and For The Many gathered last week outside East Fishkill's Town Hall to demand the Town Board stop Treetop's proposal for a massive

data center in East Fishkill and enact a local three-year moratorium on data centers. Impacted community members called on elected officials across the state and country to pass moratoriums to create regulations for the significant environmental impacts, loss of public funds, and electricity costs associated with data centers.

The moratorium measure passed.

The people of East Fishkill and the Hudson Valley have made it abundantly clear: They don't want massive, noisy, polluting, expensive data centers in their backyards, and they're ready to show up and fight to protect their communities. The people of East Fishkill have spoken. Now, we need the rest of our elected officials to meet the moment and stand with their constituents, just like the leaders of East Fishkill have. Governor Hochul must get with the program and make a statewide moratorium on the law. If Congressman Lawler was smart, he would support the same action at the federal level.

East Fishkill's three-year moratorium comes on the heels of towns including Lysander, Oneonta, North Tonawanda passing moratoriums on data centers, the town of Dryden passing a ban on data centers, and Monroe County passing a resolution in support of a moratorium. The town of Brookhaven on Long Island will consider an 18 month moratorium at their next town board meeting on July 16th. Meanwhile, Governor Hochul is considering a one-year statewide moratorium bill passed by the legislature earlier this month. If the 1 year moratorium bill is signed into law, municipalities like East Fishkill will still be able to keep their longer moratoriums.

Congressman Mike Lawler, who has several data center proposals in his district, including proposals in Orangeburg, East Fishkill and at Indian Point in Buchanan, has thus far failed to support a federal moratorium like the one introduced in the U.S. House by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

The rally and passage of the three-year moratorium came amidst growing opposition to AI data centers across the state and country. Residents of towns where data centers are being proposed are stepping up to fight back against noise pollution, increased water consumption and electricity costs, grid instability, and environmental damage that would result if data centers are built.

Melissa Hoffmann

Poughkeepsie

Organizer with Food & Water Watch

Memo to Representative Pat Ryan – stay away from the Crypto money

To Representative Pat Ryan:

I am a constituent of yours living in Salt Point. I support you politically and vote for you every chance I get. That pattern of behavior will not change for the foreseeable future, short, I suppose, of your name coming up in the Trump-Epstein Files™, as Jimmie Kimmel is wont to represent them.

Other than as a victim of Ghislaine Maxwell, of course!

However, I do wish that you had read your Paul Krugman more carefully on the scam that is Crypto. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/06/06/opinion/cryptocurrency-bubble-fraud.html>.)

And that is just one of many pieces Krugman has written about Crypto. If you need more by this Nobel Laureate and paragon of progressive Democratic politics, just put the query "Paul Krugman on Crypto" to Gemini, Claude, or even ChatGPT – whose CEO, Sleazy Sam Altman himself supports Crypto. Then read the results, and the underlying documentation which Gemini conveniently supplies. Or, if you are too busy picking up campaign contributions from other sources, have your Chief of Staff, Dan Torres, to do it in his spare time, and report the results back to you.

If you are as intelligent as you seem – I have chatted with you face-to-face at various fund-raising events and have always been impressed by you in person -- then, we are convinced, no amount of cozening campaign contributions by the Crypto Lobby will suffice to get you to continue to support the kleptocratic-promoting sociopathy (however ill-informed) of Crypto.

Indeed, the fact that Donald Trump, family, friends, and fawning courtiers are all-in on Crypto would hopefully be enough for you to return the nickels and dimes Crypto has dropped into your campaign cup along the way.

Indeed, announce an epiphany, and give back the money. You don't need it. You almost certainly didn't ask for it in the first place. It was sent to you, unsolicited, as a "poisoned fruit" by the Crypto Lobby, which has pre-emptively tried to compromise every politician in sight, no matter the party.

Remember, if you lie down with dogs, you will, eventually, get fleas. So, just don't do it!

Ed Reno

Salt PointM

'Opinion' writer comments regarding the president 'simply are not true'

To the Editor:

The guest "OPINION" writer made many opinionated comments with respect to the current Commander in Chief Donald J. Trump that simply are not true in the June 17 edition of Southern Dutchess News.

The President of the USA must act like an executive to advance the agenda that was promised to the American people who elected him. Therefore, the President must direct the executive office like a CEO of a corporation within the enumerated US Constitution and US Laws. A President who acts like a figure head will therefore not keep his election promises. I'm not going to address each false opinion cited in the guest "OPINION."

However, I want to point out one favorite false accusation that is summarized as follows: Salvadoran citizen and "Maryland man" Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia [KAAG] has become the Joan of Arc of the American left. "Abolition" for these activists means that no illegal immigrant should even be detained, let alone be deported. No "process" is complete unless the alien wins.

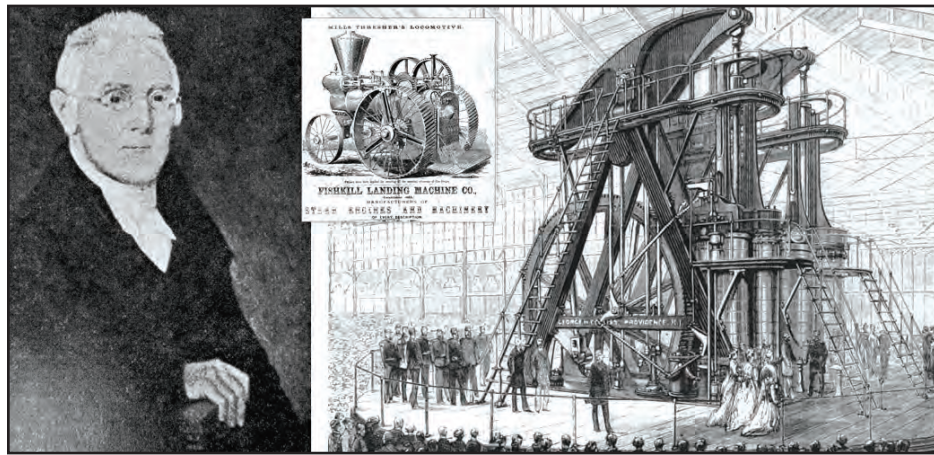
For progressives, no one is ever deportable, whatever their criminal history, and whatever the imbalance between what they take and what they give.

Helmut Gartner

East Fishkill



1776: How have we remembered?



The great difference between the 1826 and 1876 celebrations cannot be overstated. Above left: In 1826 there were living veterans like Jacobus Swartwout (DCHS yearbook 1966) and the visit of Major General Lafayette that kept the ties to 1776 very personal. By 1876, the celebration of the birth of America was focused more on the celebration of its industrial might. Shown is a view of the Corless engine at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial exhibition that inspired the Fishkill Landing Machine Company to develop one of Dutchess County's most famous products (inset). DCHS images.

By Bill Jeffway

Let's examine the celebrations of our nation's founding at 50-year intervals. We are about to reach the fifth such anniversary, counting 1826, 1876, 1926, 1976, and 2026. If we are lucky, we may live to see two such events. Comparing them, broadly through the lens of local history, can help us see how deep-seated principles can endure, or vanish. We can see how people become icons and become memorialized and remembered.

There is no doubt that the deaths of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson on July 4, 1826, forever gave that anniversary of our nation's founding a divine providential dimension. It took several days for word to spread, so the Fourth of July festivities proceeded without this knowledge. But when word arrived, the nation was stunned. (Not to be outdone, President James Monroe died July 4, 1831. Perhaps more optimistically, President Calvin Coolidge was born July 4, 1872.)

The greatest local highlight, still fresh in the public's memory in 1826, was the September 1824 arrival of Major General Lafayette for a two-year national tour. It was his first return trip from France since the end of the Revolutionary War. Although aged, there were several impor-

tant local, living people, like Colonel Jacobus Swartwout (1732—1827) of Fishkill, who served in the war. And there were lesser-known veterans, like Milan's Andrew Frazier (1742—1846), who by July 4, 1826, had become a landowning, successful farmer after being born into enslavement at the Manor of Morrisania, a kind of "proof point" to the American promise.

We had come out of a period that was called at the time the "Era of Good Feelings." There was a sense that conflict was receding. It turned out to be the calm before the storm. The 1824 U.S. presidential election, which was decided by the U.S. House of Representatives after no candidate received an Electoral College majority, was, and continues to be, referred to as the "corrupt bargain" that made John Quincy Adams president. In the 1828 rematch, Andrew Jackson won and ushered in what became known as the era of Jacksonian Democracy, marking the arrival of the common man in the U.S. presidency and throughout society.

Although New York State was about to abolish slavery in 1827, in 1826 there was an awareness that the "divided house" of free and enslaved states that Lincoln warned about in 1858 could not stand. This



This photo of the cast of the pageant presented July 9, 1926, at White Plains New York representing the ratification by New York of the declaration of independence. Pageants were among the items encouraged by New York State to help educate the public on the importance of New York's role in the revolution. DCHS yearbook 1926. In 1976 there were many traditional parades and fireworks. There was also a growing awareness that the celebration of our history required the preservation of historic properties like the Elmendorf (lower image) that is handsomely operated by Historic Red Hook.

-Photo by Bill Jeffway.

was a time of optimism and dread, a sense of losing a familiar past and embracing an unprecedented, uncertain future.

1876 events

By the time of the 1876 celebration, there were no living people with direct ties to the Revolutionary War. Instead, there were descriptions of those who were living who recalled Lafayette's local visit to Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, and today's Beacon. The Poughkeepsie Journal reported, "The visit of Gen. Lafayette to this country in 1824 and his reception by the military in this city is still remembered by many citizens, Gen. Thomas L. Davis, who conducted him along the line, and Capt. Samuel B. Dutton, who commanded the cavalry on the occasion are still living, as are several who stood in the ranks and saluted the grand old revolutionary hero." These were the last of the diminishing living ties to 1776.

The nation's signature event was the massive Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, which we can come to understand through the detailed writings of Poughkeepsie's Edmund Platt in his diary as he describes (in sixteen pages of notes) his August 1876 five-day trip there. Platt was a major figure locally, forming the massive Luckey Platt department store, supporting Christian missions to Turkey, and working to create YMCAs (Young Men's Christian Association) locally and nationally. This is what he wrote about the massive steam engine made by Corliss: "The Corliss engine is a prominent thing standing near the center of Machinery Hall. It is 50 ft high, has two working beams and a flywheel 30 or 40 feet in diameter, two cylinders 40 inch and 120 inch in stroke, the boiler is outside, it is 1,400 horsepower and able to drive all the machinery on exhibition here." One of Dutchess County's most successful businesses, the Fishkill Landing Machine Company, was successful in using the Corliss prototype for its own manufacturing, making a national name for itself and creating one of Dutchess County's most

famous products.

Looking at 1926

By 1926, America's military and industrial might had been demonstrated through its victorious role in World War I (1917 to 1918). New York State's focus on history involved correcting what it saw as an over-representation of the role of New England (Boston in particular), Pennsylvania, and Virginia in the narrative of our country's founding. So, New York State put an emphasis on concrete substantiation of local events and people by passing a law outlining how to celebrate!

The things from that period that remain visible today are the roadside historical markers used to "designate sites that are of historic significance in the colonial, revolutionary or

state formative period." To locate original signs, look to the middle, at the bottom; each sign should have a date of when it was erected.

But the law laying out 150th anniversary plans was much broader. The recommendations included "literary and musical exercises, addresses, plays, parades, fireworks, pageants, moving pictures, historical exhibitions, games, contests, historical pilgrimage, history ball or party, erection of a Liberty Pole, markers and monuments," among other things. The 371-page book, *The American Revolution in New York*, was published by the state as a guide to celebration.

Moving on to 1976

In 1976 the nation's signature event was "Operation Sail." In New York Harbor there were two hundred ships and perhaps six million viewers. Although the ships did not sail north from Manhattan, there is a tie to Dutchess County. The tie reflects the increasing memorialization of people who have passed away. U.S. President Ford launched the ceremonies by ringing a bell on the USS Forrester. The ship was named for Beacon (then Matteawan) resident James V. Forrester, who was Under Secretary of the Navy under President Franklin Roosevelt and Secretary of the Navy under President Truman.

A review of the 1976-1977 DCHS Yearbook reveals the news that the "Friends of Elmendorph" in Red Hook had organized and raised funds to successfully purchase the aging Elmendorph Inn, which was described as "currently decrepit, but historically deserving, historically interesting, structurally useful and culturally enriching." Plans had been under way to demolish the building. The demolition of New York City's Penn Station between 1963 and 1966 is considered to have been the "wake-up" call showing that major efforts were needed for historic landmark preservation, including efforts around places like the Elmendorph.

This period is well studied as the period of Vietnam and the resignation of President Nixon, meaning the bicentennial occurred in a period of unprecedented change.

Now, in 2026, "Rev250" is taking shape in another period when past achievements can inspire us to take on what can seem like unprecedented challenges by recalling the principles that endure, sometimes at great cost, and the innovation that becomes necessary to create from a combination of the present, and a wish for the future.



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

Viewpoints

Our Country We Pray For Thee

To the Editor:

Our stars and stripes are being disgraced,
The morals of our country have been displaced.
They have violated our laws and burned Old Glory,
They are trying to rewrite the American story.

Our country was formed as a country of laws,
We should band together and further this cause.
Or we will allow what's happening to get even worse,
We will be a nation that will become perverse.

Let's protect our country, these United States,
We must protect ourselves from these blatant mistakes.
Dear Lord in heaven, protect us all,
Don't let our country crash and fall.

I really believe in our nation that we will stay strong,
We will come together and will all get along.
Prayers are needed, and we must continue to fight,
We must reject the dark and come back to the light.

Leslie Pisaturo
Town of Poughkeepsie

Dining and dancing July 9

"Get On the Good Foot" Dining and Dancing at the Towne Crier Café on Thursday, July 9 at 6:30 p.m., at 379 Main Street in Beacon. Fine dining and full bar are available all evening.

Admission is \$15, which can be paid at the door. For reservations (not required), please call the Towne Crier at 845-831-5500. For more information, call Rhoda at 845-765-0667 or rhodaja@optonline.net.

Veterans Dinner at Elks Lodge

Beacon Elks 1493 will be having a Veterans Dinner on July 8 at 4 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 900 Wolcott Ave., in Beacon.

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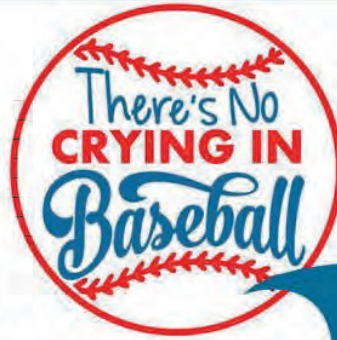


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RENEGADES FEATURE

Hernandez highlights benefits of MLB 'Development List'

By Morgan E. Maier

Twenty-one-year-old catcher Diomedes Hernandez rejoined the Hudson Valley Renegades this week, activated for the first time in nearly a year. Since entering the New York Yankees organization as a teenager in 2022, Hernandez has spent considerable time on the Minor League Baseball Development List. The Renegades activated him on June 25 – but how do both the team and player benefit from nearly a year off the roster?

Players and teams have much to gain from the Minor League Baseball Development List, implemented in the league's 2021 restructuring. It is an opportunity to work on mechanics, pitch management, or other fundamentals, and not to be confused with the disabled list. Only healthy players may remain on this list. There are regular film sessions, along with engagement with team professionals. Effective for some players is practicing without the pressures of

game situations. The resources highlight the direct training that this designation offers, among other bonuses for the parent teams that relate to roster management.

The Yankees have been able to explore roster shakeups and promotions without holding a spot for the young catcher. As major league clubs prepare for the player draft (held July 11-12), some roster maneuvering must be settled to accommodate new additions.

There is no minimum or maximum term a player can stay on the Development list; Hernandez has been placed eight times, for various lengths of time. The most recent stretch since rejoining the Renegades on May 27 went four weeks. Though Hernandez was once assigned to Hudson Valley (August 10-17, 2024), he never saw High-A action. Hernandez played 10 games for Double-AA Somerset in 2025, blasting an RBI double in his first Patriots at-bat.

Hernandez is one of many players



Diomedes Hernandez

-Courtesy photo

in his young career. Debuted for the FCL-Yankees at 18, Hernandez is part of the 2022 International Free Agent (IFA) class that includes current Renegades teammate Roderick Arias.

Hernandez trained in Tampa, Fla., at the BayCare Player Development Center and Scouting Complex, not far from where he caught eyes as a member of the Tampa Tarpons at age 19. At the central hub for the Yankees' player development, Hernandez stayed ready, sharpening his game until his name was called.

New players will soon emerge from the Yankees' scouting radar. Some will be NCAA alumni. Others are teenagers, like Hernandez was when he was scouted out of Venezuela. As Diomedes continues developing within the Yankees organization, Hudson Valley fans will hope to get a better glimpse of him this time around.

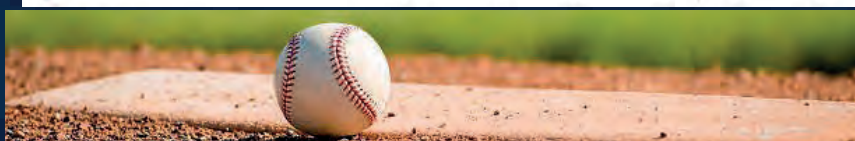
across Minor League Baseball assigned to the Development List multiple times

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Greensboro PIT	7	2	.778	-	7-2	W5
	Wilmington WSH	6	3	.667	1.0	6-3	W1
	Brooklyn NYM	5	4	.556	2.0	5-4	W3
	Frederick BAL	5	4	.556	2.0	5-4	L1
	Hudson Valley NYY	4	5	.444	3.0	4-5	L1
	Jersey Shore PHI	2	7	.222	5.0	2-7	L3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Bowling Green TB	6	3	.667	-	6-3	W1
	Asheville HOU	5	4	.556	1.0	5-4	W4
	Hub City TEX	4	5	.444	2.0	4-5	W1
	Winston-Salem CWS	4	5	.444	2.0	4-5	L1
	Greenville BOS	4	5	.444	2.0	4-5	L4
	Rome ATL	2	7	.222	4.0	2-7	L5



July			
07/01/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Celebration of Baseball WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/02/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/03/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/04/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	Independence Day: Happy 250th Birthday, USA! presented by Central Hudson Gas & Electric WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/05/26	vs. Wilmington	02:05 PM	Unicorn Day WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/07/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	'90s Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/08/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	Jewish Heritage Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/09/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	Harry Potter Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/10/26	vs. Rome	07:05 PM	Renegades: The Musical! WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/11/26	vs. Rome	05:05 PM	Christmas in July WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/12/26	vs. Rome	01:05 PM	Princes & Princesses Day WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/28/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Italian Heritage Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/29/26	vs. Jersey Shore	12:05 PM	Super Splash Day presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/30/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Video Game Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/31/26	vs. Jersey Shore	07:05 PM	WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets Fireworks Friday





Renegades Extra!



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**FKC&S Founding Partner Jeffrey Feldman
Announces Retirement After 46 Years**



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RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Walkoffs rampant during HV's crazy week in Bowling Green

By Morgan E. Maier

A wayward start to this road series saw the Hudson Valley Renegades lose in last-frame fashion, dropping each decision to the red-hot Bowling Green Hot Rods. While the Gatorade flowed off a trio of Hot Rod walkoffs, starters and offense revved the Renegades to a pair of wins over the weekend. The Renegades are now 33-38 on the season and are in 4th place in the Northern Division of the South Atlantic League.

One Run Stunners - The teams combined for a single run through six innings of the opener until a Josue Gonzalez sacrifice fly knotted the score in the seventh. Hudson Valley led by two into the bottom of the ninth inning before Bowling Green completed its first of three straight walkoff wins. Wilson Rodriguez, Luis Durango and Kyle West each had two hits. The next one-run result took the Hot Rods an extra inning. Hudson Valley, holding a two-run lead, was held scoreless after the fifth inning.

Bowling Green got both back late on a balk and a wild pitch, respectively. Bowling Green's automatic runner Caden Bodine scored from second on a soft fly to the outfield in the 10th, effectively ending the game - and Renegades hopes to salvage a win over the South Division leaders. Starter Allen Facundo was strong on June 25, the night Caleb Durbin took fellow Hudson Valley alum Cam Schlittler deep in Boston. Facundo struck out 10 to set up Enmanuel Tejeda's ninth-inning home run to force extra innings. The visitors fell 6-5 in 11 innings, the fifth walkoff loss in Hudson Valley's previous

seven games.

The W(ake up) - June 26 saw the turnaround that the Renegades needed. The first win was more than a strike in the left side column; it was the offensive alarm the team desperately needed. All Renegades reached base in the 13-3 win, blasting 17 hits and going 6-for-13 with runners in scoring position. Where they'd fallen in a string of one-run games, Hudson Valley's offense left no doubt of this win. Rain delayed the game, but Eric Genter and Kyle West wasted little time with back-to-back two-out, first-inning doubles. Roderick Arias was 4-for-5 with 2 RBI. The Renegades took it wire-to-wire, backed by 8 innings from starter Rory Fox. Hansel Rincon offered a perfect relief inning, 8 Hudson Valley batters notched at least one hit for the second straight game.

Yabba-dabba Doubleheader - When an inclement Saturday called for two seven-inning Sunday games, the Renegades made no bones about taking on the Cavemen (Bowling Green's alternate jersey identity) early. Kaeden Kent opened the 8-0 win with a leadoff solo shot. He finished with a 3-3, 2-RBI night. Kyle West scored a two-run blast, and Roderick Arias sent a meteoric home run to left field to lead off the sixth inning before Core Jackson's two-run double got the 'Gades up seven. Franyer Herrera matched his offense's outburst by clobbering Bowling Green batters, allowing just three hits and one walk. He also matched a season-high with eight strikeouts. Herrera was perfect for five frames of the seven-inning complete game shutout, tossing 57 of 83 pitches (68.67%) for strikes.



June 26 saw the turnaround that the Renegades needed. The first win was more than a strike in the left side column; it was the offensive alarm the team desperately needed. All Renegades reached base in the 13-3 win, blasting 17 hits and going 6-for-13 with runners in scoring position.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

The Renegades found less success in the second half, going 1 for 12 with runners in scoring position. Eric Genter launched a first-inning home run, but the Hot Rods accelerated for three more in their opening frame. Hudson Valley scored two in the top of the seventh after loading the bases, but the comeback turned extinct with two runners left on base. Bowling Green took wins of the finale and the series with the 5-3 triumph.

It was the Renegades' first series without Heritage Financial favorite Josh Moylan,

promoted to Double-A Somerset Patriots at the start of the week. Moylan set the team record in all-time home runs this season, and leaves atop a plethora of Renegades statistical categories. Congratulations, Josh!

Fireworks, fastballs, and family fun await Hudson Valley's home return. A celebration of internet culture, baseball, and three-day festivities for America's 250th birthday highlights the Renegades' first of two straight homestands, as they get set to host the Wilmington Blue Rocks.

RENEGADES EXTRA

Moylan is moving up the minor league ladder



Last week's series vs. the Bowling Green Hot Rods was the Renegades' first series without Heritage Financial favorite Josh Moylan, who was promoted to Double-A Somerset Patriots at the start of the week. Moylan set the team record in all-time home runs this season, and leaves atop a plethora of Renegades statistical categories. Congratulations, Josh!

Photos by Dave Janosz



Walkway fireworks to celebrate our nation's 250th Anniversary



Attendees at a previous year's celebration anticipate the fireworks show on the Walkway Over the Hudson.

-Archive photo



Friends of the Walkway Executive Director Lori Robertson

Continued from cover

- The schedule of the evening includes:
- 4 p.m. - Walkway closes to the public for event setup and safety Preparations
 - 6 p.m. - Walkway re-opens to ticket-holders
 - 8:45 p.m. - Last entry onto Walkway

- 9 - 9:30 p.m. - Fireworks show begins
- The Walkway closes immediately after the conclusion of the fireworks show. In the event of rain, the fireworks will launch on Sunday, July 5. Alerts will be posted online at walkway.org and the Walkway's social media networks. Tickets are available online from the

Friends of the Walkway, as well as at Adams Fairacre Farms and other locations around the valley. General admission is \$25, Seniors/Veterans - \$20 and

children 12 & under are free. Walkway members receive discount admission. To learn more and become a member to receive your discount code, visit join.walkway.org.

Unique songs, stories at 'Local Heroes: A Beacon in Song' on July 5



Four singers join for "Local Heroes: A Beacon in Song" with Jake Bernz, Michael Falco, Chihoe Hahn and Steve Kirkman on Sunday, July 5 at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon.

For the first time, all four of these performers are coming together to share their songs and stories. Each has their own unique style that truly resonates with the listener and brings them to the heart of the song, like a beacon.

Tickets are just \$15 online in advance or \$20 at the door.

-Courtesy photo

FKC&S founding partner Jeffrey M. Feldman announces retirement after 46 years

After more than four decades of serving clients and shaping one of the Hudson Valley's most respected law firms, Jeffrey M. Feldman, founding partner of Feldman, Kleidman, Collins & Sappe LLP (FKC&S), has announced his retirement. Feldman and Paul S. Kleidman founded the firm in 1986 with three guiding principles: provide exceptional legal representation, create a workplace where employees could thrive and prioritize giving back to the community. Forty years later, those values remain at the heart of FKC&S and are reflected in the firm's enduring impact on clients, employees and the communities it serves.

"As I look back on the last 40 years of the firm, what stands out most are the relationships," Feldman said. "The clients who trusted us, the colleagues who became life-long friends and the community organizations we were fortunate to support have made this career more rewarding than I ever could have imagined."

Over the course of his career, Feldman helped build FKC&S into an award-winning firm recognized for excellence in personal injury litigation and medical malpractice defense. Along the way, FKC&S has helped countless clients throughout the Hudson Valley and Capital District navigate challenging circumstances, seek justice and find a path forward during some of life's most difficult moments.

Equally important to Feldman was creating a workplace where people felt valued and supported. The firm's culture of collaboration and mentorship has resulted in extraordinary employee longevity. Patricia "Patti" Porcaro, the firm's longtime office manager, worked alongside Feldman for more than 40 years, while several other team members have dedicated decades of service to the firm.

Beyond the courtroom, Feldman and Kleidman believed strongly in supporting the community. From sponsoring local youth sports teams and nonprofit initiatives to serving on boards and volunteering their time, corporate philanthropy and volunteerism have remained core parts of the firm's identity since its founding. While



Jeffrey M. Feldman

-Courtesy photo

stepping away from the daily practice of law, Feldman plans to remain active in the community through his involvement with Family Services, Hudson Valley Hospice, the Town of LaGrange Parks & Recreation and other organizations. In a recent appearance on the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce's "The Hudson Valley Business Scene Show," Feldman reflected on his decision to retire.

"I decided it was time to stop working seven days a week and spend more time with my family and our grandkids — and enjoy life," he said. The firm will continue under the leadership of partners Robert R. Sappe, Kathryn C. Collins and Bain R. Loucks, who remain committed to the values that have guided FKC&S for the past 40 years.

"One of the greatest strengths of FKC&S has always been its people," said Sappe. "We have an incredibly talented team of attorneys and professionals who care deeply about our clients and our community. As we look to the future, we remain focused on delivering exceptional legal services while preserving the collaborative culture that has made this firm special."

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love to cook

by vicki frank day



Scottish Cranachan

A dessert that celebrates the bonhomie fostered by the World Cup, just in time for America's 250th

Because July 4th marks America's 250th birthday, I naturally wanted to write something celebratory and relevant to commemorate it. I thought about it for a long time, but every idea I had fell flat. I kept going back to dishes people in the new nation made back then, but research yielded some spectacularly odd recipes: Fried Lamprey, Soused Mackerel, Baked Beef Tea, Partridge Soup, Useful Soup ("for benevolent purposes"), Wiggins Red Flannel Hash to name a few. NOT making me love Early American food!

My intentions were good. It was fascinating and I spent a crazy amount of time poring over old recipes, but nothing seemed right, or easy, to share. Then something rather unexpected happened. While researching with YouTube videos in the background, I caught a bit of the excitement that is World Cup soccer. Now, I don't usually watch the sport, but with the U.S. hosting, it's everywhere. What pulled me in was the overwhelming surprised European response to America. I had no idea how badly our country was thought of overseas or even how VERY different things are here. Before I knew it, I was riveted by video after video of Europeans reacting to barbecue, free refills of beverages, huge portion sizes, the variety and enormity of Buc-ees, Target and Walmart and the size and beauty of America. Wow – it was A LOT to take in and gave me new perspective. It also made me even prouder to be an American.

But what really warmed my cockles was the Scottish. They love their soccer, their team and their whisky. But they also love our beer and literally drank Boston out of it. Not only that but everywhere they went throughout our country, the "Tartan Army" spread joy, good vibes and good times. Everywhere they graced was a party, and they endeared themselves to Americans from coast to coast. They even sang our National Anthem word for word. Peace, joy, love and revelry were the themes, friendships were made, and national pride was wonderfully rampant. In fact, all the visiting nations shared their love of country and left with a new-found love of ours. It was really the gift America needed on its milestone birthday, and my heart is fuller because of it.

So a new idea came to mind: a thank

you/homage to the beloved Scots who gave us so much and left overwhelming happiness and a zest for life in their wake. The logical choice was found in something sweet that embodies so much of the country's spirit, the traditional Scottish dessert cranachan (pronounced KRAH-nuh-kun): raspberries layered with whisky and honey-kissed cream with a smattering of toasted oats for good measure. Known as the King of Scottish desserts, this rich, cool treat traditionally celebrates the June raspberry harvest, making this even more fitting to share now.

As Europeans in particular have found American things to differ from what they're used to, the reverse is also true. For example, apparently Scottish raspberries are sweeter than ours, so I added honey when I mashed them to make up for that. The cream in Europe is also quite different, and originally this was likely made with a soft, fresh Scottish cow's milk cheese called Crowdie. Heavy cream in the U.S. won't whip up as rich or thick as the double cream they have across the pond, so I added a few tablespoons of mascarpone for extra richness and a little more structural heft. This is traditionally sweetened with heather honey, but that can be hard to find here (I used clover).

The oats are another debate. Some say to use steel cut (or pin) oats, which are essentially whole chopped groats with a chewy texture, while others say 'no way' because they're too hard, even after soaking. I went with another popular choice – rolled oats – which worked just fine and added a delightful nuttiness and texture when toasted. Quick oats are not recommended, probably since they would be mushy (fun fact: they're called instant oat flakes in Great Britain). Then there's to toast or not (you should), to soak or not (I tried both and am on the fence) and whether to add them to the whipped cream or make them a separate layer (I did a bit of both). Of course, we can't forget the Scotch whisky! (It's typically whiskey in America and Ireland and whisky in Scotland, Canada and Japan, funny enough countries without an e in them!) Again, it's a matter of preference. Some use brands with peaty smokiness but most seem to prefer the lighter, honeyed nuances of single malts. The bottom line is you WILL taste it no matter how much you use, so pick a good one with flavor that suits



Scottish Cranachan.

-Photo by Vicki Frank Day

your taste.

CRANACHAN

I found quite a few variations ranging from very simple to pretty complex but the ingredients are basically the same across the board and, because they all play a big part, use the best quality you can find. Amounts of everything are also up for debate according to taste, so use more or less of whatever you like. I found this combination and method to be tasty, but just like the Scots you should go with the flow, have fun and make it your own. If you make this for the 4th of July you could even add a layer of crushed blueberries for a red, white and blue dessert. The Scots won't mind a bit!

A note on presentation: Use cut crystal rocks glasses (or any you'd serve whisky in), parfait or stemmed glasses. Clear are best so you can see the layers. You could also use one big clear bowl.

INGREDIENTS

3/4 cup rolled oats
2 cups fresh raspberries
2 cups heavy cream
Pinch of salt
2-3 tablespoons mascarpone
2 tablespoons honey (or more to taste)
2 tablespoons Scotch whisky (or more to taste)

Toast the oats: Spread them in a single layer on a baking pan. Move oven rack down one from the top position and turn on the broiler. Toast oats just until golden and fragrant watching constantly so they don't

burn, 2-3 minutes. Alternately, place them in a pan on the stovetop over medium heat, shaking the pan until golden. Set aside to cool. Once cool you can, but don't have to, place half the oats in a small bowl and add a few tablespoons of cream. Stir and refrigerate. You can also add a wee bit o' whisky (wink wink).

Place raspberries in a bowl and mash them with a fork. Reserve a few whole berries (3 for each glass) for the top. Add a little honey if they're tart.

Make the cream: Place heavy cream in a large bowl. Whip until just starting to thicken. Add a pinch of salt and honey, then mascarpone and whisky. Continue to whip until stiff peaks form. Add more honey if needed. Mix about 1/3 cup of the whipped cream to the soaked oats, if using.

Assemble: Place a layer of berries on the bottom of each glass. Add a layer of the cream mixed with oats, more berries, a sprinkle of toasted oats, then plain cream. Top each with 3 whole berries and a sprinkling of toasted oats. Drizzle with a little honey if you like.

Serves 2-4 depending on glass size and appetite.

The World Cup brought the world together, literally and figuratively. We shared our beautiful nation and all that makes it truly great with the world, they in return shared their cultures with us, we all embraced every bit of it and we're all better for it. For just a little while we all just got along, reveling in what makes us the same rather than focusing on the differences. We shared a few precious moments and our American hospitality with a world that views us differently, now understanding and appreciating our patriotism. Celebrating our similarities as well as what makes us all unique united us and made us forget for the moment all the trouble in the world. Here's to hoping that prevails. I'm grateful for the indomitable American spirit and neighborliness and for all those who visited, like the Scots, who left us perhaps better than they found us. What a gift! Happy Birthday America!

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.

Five, free family-friendly movies at Upper Landing Park in Poughkeepsie

'Lilo & Stitch' set for July 11

Five free, family-friendly movies will be shown on the big screen beneath the Walkway Over the Hudson at the Upper Landing Park, Poughkeepsie this summer.

The screening dates and films are:

July 11th - Disney's Live Action - "Lilo & Stitch"

July 18th - "Hoppers"

July 25th - Apple-TV's- "F1"

August 1st- "Mario Brothers Galaxy Movie"

Doors open at 7:30 p.m., followed by the feature film at sundown at approximately 8:30 p.m. These events are held under the stars at Upper Landing Park, 83 North Water Street, Poughkeepsie. Shows are sunshine only. Bring blankets and chairs.

The Millman Harris Romano Foundation, Dutchess County Parks, Poughkeepsie Public Library and Walkway Over the Hudson are the presenting partners for the film series. Additionally, and the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum is providing accessible parking. This year's broadcasting sponsor is iHeart Media.

Jode Millman, Millman Harris Romano Foundation Chairman, said, "We can't wait to be back at Upper Landing Park to offer Movies Under the Walkway and are thrilled with our stellar movie lineup. We are also grateful to our community partners and sponsors who have joined together in support of our family-friendly nights down by the Hudson River."

"Our program would not be possible without the support of our sponsors - Marshall and Sterling Insurance, PFK O'Connor Davies Accounting, Page Lumber and Woodworking, FastSigns, and our media sponsor iHeart Media.

Admission is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, and picnics while viewing the movies. The events are sunshine only. Free parking will be available at The Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, and Metro North parking areas.

Up to date movie schedule information, can be found @MoviesUnderTheWalkway, @DutchessCountyParks and at @WalkwayOverTheHudson Facebook pages as well as on their websites.

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get growing!

by mark adams



250 years of gardening

Mark highlights some of the area's horticultural gems and the gardeners who created them.

Dr. David Hosack could not save Alexander Hamilton from his mortal wound after the duel with Aaron Burr. During the night of July 11, 1804, Hosack sent word to Dr. Samuel Bard in Hyde Park, hoping for assistance, but Bard was unable to help.

Hyde Park, the estate of Dr. Bard, now the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, purchased by Dr. Hosack after Bard's death, became a showplace for the naturalistic style of landscape gardening sweeping the new nation in the years following the American Revolution. And the tradition lives on – Dutchess County is famous nationwide as a garden showcase. Here are five famous gardeners who shaped our heritage:

- Dr. Samuel Bard – George Washington's personal physician was ahead of his time when he sketched plans for his estate in Hyde Park in 1764. "I think straight lines should be particularly avoided, except where they serve to lead the eye to some distant and beautiful object – serpentine walks are much more agreeable," he wrote. By 1806, the estate included a sunken flower garden, flowering shrubs, a greenhouse for tropical foliage, melons from Italy, vines from Madeira and a lake stocked with goldfish shipped from China. Most of the trees we can see now at Vanderbilt were planted by Dr. Hosack. Together the two doctors created a landscape that inspired homeowners across the nation.

- Andrew Jackson Downing – The naturalistic style of gardening was all the rage when A.J. Downing published "A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening" in 1841. The book went on to sell 16,000 copies over 10 editions. Downing defined the "picturesque landscape" as a design style that mimics nature, creating a bold alternative to a manicured lawn. His influence is evident in the current enthusiasm for native wildflowers, pollinator gardens and "no mow May." You can see an example of

Downing's work at Springside National Historic Landmark, 185 Academy Street in Poughkeepsie.

- James Brown – The formerly enslaved Master Gardener at Mount Gulian, the Verplanck family's estate in Beacon, was influential in a way that is dear to my own heart – he kept a diary. From 1829 until a few years before his death in 1868, Brown wrote about daily garden tasks, local events, the weather and even recipes. He records a visit to Newburgh in 1845 to see a newly unearthed mastodon skeleton. Most famously, his entry on November 8, 1837, reads "The election at Fishkill took place this day at which place James F. Brown voted for the first time." His garden, which he tended alongside Mary Anna Verplanck, has been partially restored at Mount Gulian Historic Site. Destination Dutchess is sponsoring a garden tour at Mount Gulian August 1 and 2, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Reservations accepted at info@mountgulian.org.

- Beatrix Farrand – By the time landscape designer Beatrix Farrand began her career in 1895, European influence, especially Italianate landscape, was in vogue. Farrand combined this style, which utilized stone terraces, walls and central walkways with naturalistic features, making sure to utilize the site's original layout. The restored Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, adjacent to the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, is one of the few remaining examples of her work.

- Chauncey Stillman – Bringing landscape gardening almost into the 21st century, or should I say back to the Classical Italian Renaissance style, the Wethersfield Estate in Amenia is quite possibly the finest restored landscape in the Hudson Valley. Chauncey Stillman, heir to a banking fortune, worked tirelessly to improve agriculture, pioneer soil and water conservation, and turn his home into a showcase – a thousand acres laced with hiking trails and gardens. My friend



The formal garden at Wethersfield in Amenia.

- Photo by Mark Adams

and fellow classmate (Arlington, class of 1968) Pete Sepe was the farmer for a few dozen years when Wethersfield was a working farm, raising hundreds of Romney sheep. The gardens are open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with a \$15 reservation. Access the Wethersfield

Estate and Garden Reservations page.

Let's keep up our tradition for the next 250 years.

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

Obituaries

Maren Olga Aleck Graf



Maren Olga Graf, 85, of Wappinger Falls, New York, passed away peacefully on June 11, 2026, surrounded by loved ones.

Maren was born on May 16, 1941, in Sioux City, Iowa. She had a younger brother, Gary Aleck. Her parents Gustav J. Aleck and Olga A. Sixta Aleck, both preceded her in death.

Maren spent many years with Dominick Cannizzaro and found her greatest joy in spending time with the people she loved. Her passion, strength, and devotion to her family leave a lasting legacy that will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

She is survived by her nine children: Wade Graf and his wife, Marybeth, and

their daughter, Megan; Rocky Ross and her husband, Russell; Liesl Graf and her daughters, Katrina and Larisa Yanicak; Todd Graf and his wife, Tiffany, and their children, Emily and Aleck; Adam Graf and his daughter, Alyssa; Camille Johns and her husband, James, along with stepchildren Colin, Ceth and Cianna; Aaron Graf and his wife, Antoinette Morin, and his children, Brandon and Madison; Dane Graf and his wife, Amy, and their children, Olivia, Camryn, and Dane; and Evan Graf and his wife, Jennifer, and their daughters, McKenna, Cadence, and Riley.

Maren will be remembered for her strength of character, confidence, and unwavering love for her family. She enjoyed listening to music, playing the piano, playing bridge, and cooking meals that brought family and friends together. Above all, she cherished spending time with her children, grandchildren, and loved ones, creating memories that will be treasured for generations.

Maren will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by her family, friends, and all whose lives she touched.

*"Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near."

Frank 'Franz' Bakter



Frank "Franz" Bakter was born in Trenton, New Jersey on April 30th, 1956 to Martin and Romana Bakter. He spent the majority of his life in Wappingers Falls, New York and graduated Roy C. Ketcham High School in 1974.

A man of many talents and trades, he was proficient in carpentry, plumbing, home renovation & automotive repair. His hobbies were many and varied; possibly chief among them was his love for fishing. He was a perennial jokester, always looking to share new and funny jokes he had come across. He always enjoyed hearing new ones from others to add to his repertoire. He was also a big fan of movies and music. The live concert experience was something he enjoyed as

much as being on a fishing boat. His all time favorite band was The Allman Brothers Band. Frank took great pride in the comparisons he sometimes drew to Greg Allman. Such a fan was he that his daughter was named for the song "Melissa". Through his strength, determination and faith, he was able to conquer his past demons and celebrated eight years of sobriety prior to his passing!

Frank was twice married in his life. His first marriage to Ginger Hoyt in 1982 beget his daughter Melissa. His second marriage to Cindy Donahue in 1988 beget his son Franz.

Frank passed away on June 27th, 2026 from complications related to metastatic cancer. He is survived by his brothers Leo, Edward and Keith; his daughter Melissa and her husband, Anthony; his grandchildren Francesca and Giovanni; and by his son Franz.

Per his final request; funeral services will not be held but a private celebration of life memorial will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 East Main Street in Wappingers Falls. To send the family a personal condolence, please visit our website at www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

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Contract# C20A0485 C20A0493 C20A0494 C20A0495 C20A0496 C20A0497 C20A0498 C20A0499 C20A0500 C20A0501 C20A0502 C20A0503 C20A0504 C20A0505 C20A0506 C20A0507 C20A0508 C20A0509 C20A0510 C20A0511 C20A0512 C20A0513 C20A0514 C20A0515 C20A0516 C20A0517 C20A0518 C20A0519 C20A0520 C20A0521 C20A0522 C20A0523 C20A0524 C20A0525 C20A0526 C20A0527 C20A0528 C20A0529 C20A0530 C20A0531 C20A0532 C20A0533 C20A0534 C20A0535 C20A0536 C20A0537 C20A0538 C20A0539 C20A0540 C20A0541 C20A0542 C20A0543 C20A0544 C20A0545 C20A0546 C20A0547 C20A0548 C20A0549 C20A0550 C20A0551 C20A0552 C20A0553 C20A0554 C20A0555 C20A0556 C20A0557 C20A0558 C20A0559 C20A0560 C20A0561 C20A0562 C20A0563 C20A0564 C20A0565 C20A0566 C20A0567 C20A0568 C20A0569 C20A0570 C20A0571 C20A0572 C20A0573 C20A0574 C20A0575 C20A0576 C20A0577 C20A0578 C20A0579 C20A0580 C20A0581 C20A0582 C20A0583 C20A0584 C20A0585 C20A0586 C20A0587 C20A0588 C20A0589 C20A0590 C20A0591 C20A0592 C20A0593 C20A0594 C20A0595 C20A0596 C20A0597 C20A0598 C20A0599 C20A0600 C20A0601 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Hello, my name is Cupcake! I am a 8 week old boxer/hound mix looking for my forever home! I am super sweet and playful and love everyone I meet. I am fully vetted up to what is age appropriate and I can't wait to find my new family. If you would like to adopt me please go to www.incrediblepupspetrescue.com and submit an adoption application.

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150 Announcements

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES:
DUE TO A HOLIDAY PRESS SCHEDULE FOR THE JULY 8TH ISSUE.
THE SOUTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & THE BEACON FREE PRESS WILL HAVE AN EARLY DEADLINE FOR THE JULY 8TH ISSUE.
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Growing Gardeners program to start July 7 at Beatrix Farrand Garden

The Beatrix Farrand Garden Association (BFGA) will present Growing Gardeners, a weekly story and craft program presented in partnership with the Hyde Park Free Library District, Staatsburg Library, and Adriance Memorial Library. Designed for children entering 1st through 3rd grade, this engaging program connects stories, nature, and hands-on creativity. The programs will be held Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. from July 7 to Sept. 1.

Each week, a guest librarian will read a garden-themed story, followed

by a fun, age-appropriate craft led by a BFGA volunteer.

Programs take place outdoors on the lawn inside the Walled Garden (weather permitting), or in the pavilion during hot or rainy conditions.

Families are encouraged to stay and enjoy the garden together. Free parking, restrooms, and a water refill station are available at the nearby Wallace Center.

Advance registration is requested at <https://beatrixfarrandgarden.org/>

Weekly schedule:

- July 7 – Butterflies in the Garden
- July 14 – Trees Are Awesome!
- July 21 – What Do Worms Do?
- July 28 – Bees Are Buzzing
- August 4 – Do Plants Drink Water?
- August 11 – Birds Live in the Garden Too!
- August 18 – Why Do Plants Live in the Dirt?
- August 25 – Flowers Come in Many Shapes and Colors
- September 1 – Leaves Are Falling – It Must Be Fall!

Jack McCarthy, a graduate of Roy C. Ketcham High School, was inducted into

the Naval Academy Class of 2030 on June 25th, marking the beginning of six challenging weeks of basic midshipman training Plebe Summer.

Approximately 1,200 candidates are selected each year for the Academy's "plebe" or freshman class, and each student is required to participate in Plebe Summer. During this time, plebes have no access to television, movies, the internet, or music and restricted access to cell phones. They are only permitted to make two calls during the six week of Plebe Summer.

Kits, fabrics and more at Skyllkill's Flea Market and Silent Auction on July 8

Skyllkill's Annual Flea Market and Silent Auction will take place at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville on Wednesday, July 8. Come to the Skyllkill Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America (EGA) annual flea market. Doors open at 10 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. Silent Auction is from 10-11 a.m.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillEGA or email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer
SUDOKU

K	N	E	W	L	A	D	L	E	E	S	C	E	D	E	S		
L	E	E	S	C	E	D	E	S	A	D	U	L	T	S			
S	D	U	E	S	H	A	N	G	O	C	K	T	R	U	T	H	S
R	O	S	Y	E	M	U											
M	A	E	N	A	D	R	E	P	S								
A	S	S	E	T	E	T	N	A									
S	A	S	H	A	F	O	O	T	S	A	R	I					
S	H	O	W	R	I	L	L	E	A	R	T	H					
A	L	P	Y	A	L	E	R	I	P	E	S						
A	L	I	H	E	R	B											
R	I	G	H	T	S												
L	U	X	E	S	D	N	A										
L	L	A	M	A	I	O	N										
A	S	T	O	R	L	E	I										

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

Sudoku solution

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 8, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, June 22, 2026.

/s/Julie Shiroishi
Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2026076

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$4,731,679, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,365,840 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY a portion of THE COST THEREOF.

- Specific object or purpose:** Construction Management Services Building
- Period of probable usefulness:** 5 years
- Maximum estimated cost:** \$4,731,679
- Amount of bonds to be issued:** \$2,365,840 bonds
- Other monies:** \$2,365,839 State grants-in-aid
- SEQRA status:** Type II Action

Legal Notices

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Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, June 22, 2026.

/s/Julie Shiroishi
Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2026077

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DESIGN COSTS FOR THE CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT FOR THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$8,707,356, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,353,678 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY a portion of THE COST THEREOF.

- Specific object or purpose:** Design costs for the DCC transformation project
- Period of probable usefulness:** 5 years
- Maximum estimated cost:** \$8,707,356
- Amount of bonds to be issued:** \$4,353,678 bonds
- Other monies:** \$4,353,678 State grants-in-aid
- SEQRA status:** Type II Action

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-77-26
Rebid for Air Compressor Preventive Maintenance

and Repairs
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 9th day of July 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting

our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-82-26
Pressure Seal Forms – PSF2W
Bids will be received un-

til 2:00 p.m. on the 16th day of July 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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

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

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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

								2
5						3		
								2
						4		
3				5				5

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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

ACROSS

1. Last name behind Waldorf Astoria
6. Hawaiian flower garland
9. What beanstalk did
13. Pack animal
14. Charged particle
15. Lacking guile
16. Lumen per square meter, pl.
17. Crime scene evidence, acr.
18. Roast host
19. *Unalienable ones in the Declaration of Independence
21. *Colony that originally abstained from voting on independence
23. Baba of "One Thousand and One Nights"
24. Parsley or basil, e.g.
25. Mountain peak
28. *Four Declaration signers were alums of this CT Ivy Leaguer
30. Most mature, as in fruit
35. It must go on?
37. Small brook
39. *"...to assume among the powers of the ____"
40. Cap and gown accessory
41. Where there's trouble
43. Rani's dress
44. Useful quality
46. Volcano off Sicily coast
47. State on Old Glory
48. Dionysus' follower
50. Dems' opponents
52. Not divisible by two
53. Like certain people's glasses
55. Australia's flightless bird
57. *First Declaration of Independence signer
61. *Self-evident ones
64. Not a minor
65. "____ it or lose it!"
67. Songs for two
69. Formally surrenders land
70. *Last name of the only brothers to both sign the Declaration
71. Last Supper cup
72. "If you only ____!"
73. Boy
74. Item in diary

DOWN

1. *____ men are created equal
2. Talk like a drunk
3. Fare ride
4. Opposite of alpha
5. In a foolhardy manner
6. Jar covers
7. Long, long time
8. Stupid or silly
9. Risqu
10. Puerto ____
11. ____ and anon
12. 168 hours
15. Rookie
20. Beauty pageant winner's headgear
22. Make a blunder
24. Serfdom, archaically speaking
25. Indian black tea
26. Capital of Tibet
27. One's entourage
29. *Liberty's partner
31. Permission to leave
32. Muse of love poetry
33. Nickname for a certain violin
34. *Certain George, with The
36. *"...in the course of human events..."
38. Like TV's famous ranger
42. Candle shape
45. Fortune teller's deck, pl.
49. Who is Bugs Bunny talking to?
51. Blemish
54. Cranial bones + facial bones
56. Driver's 180
57. Bypass firewall, illegally
58. Yemeni port
59. Classic art subject
60. Ball of yarn
61. Started during the Ryder Cup, e.g.
62. Miami basketballer
63. Cookbook direction
66. Shining one in "America the Beautiful"
68. Sylvester Stallone's nickname

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
	19				20			21	22					
			23				24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41				42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
					53		54			55		56		
57	58	59	60					61				62	63	
64						65	66			67				68
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

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Put yourself in the picture with Alexander and Elizabeth Hamilton



The Hamilton Photo Station at the Beacon Visitor Center off Route 9D in Beacon. -Courtesy photo

An AI image of what the Hamiltons and the DePeyster House resembled in 1781. -Image courtesy of Christopher Cring

Did you know that Alexander and Elizabeth Hamilton lived in what is today's Beacon from April until August 1781? They honeymooned in Beacon after their December 1780 wedding in Albany, while Hamilton was serving as an aide to General Washington (who was stationed across the river in Newburgh, Orange County). The Hamiltons stayed in the 1743 home of Abraham DePeyster, a nephew of Madam Brett, which was located on the Fishkill Creek near today's Madam Brett Park on South Avenue.

Highway and Recreation departments. Appreciation is extended to Mayor Lee Kyriacou and all involved in the effort.

"It's a fun way to remind locals and visitors alike of the significant Revolutionary War history that happened right here in Beacon," said Denise Doring VanBuren, President of the Beacon Historical Society. To learn more about Beacon's role in the war, visit the Historical Society's exhibit "Mt. Beacon to the Hudson River: Beacon During the American Revolution," which continues on Thursdays 10 a.m.-noon and Saturdays 1-3 p.m. It describes the importance of Beacon's riverport, the Revolutionary War figures who visited/stayed here, events that transpired and even some of the folklore that has been carried through the generations. The exhibit is a companion to the Society's Revolutionary War in Beacon map (www.BeaconHistorical.org/Rev-250). Both are free of charge.

Now you can put yourself into the picture where this history happened! To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Beacon Historical Society has created a photo station at the Visitor Center where one can pose as the Hamiltons! The life-size artwork was painted by BHS Trustees Anne Forman and Elizabeth Foster, and the display was designed by the City of Beacon's

2026 RCK grad Jack McCarthy inducted into Naval Academy

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"plebe" or freshman class, and each student is required to participate in Plebe Summer. During this time, plebes have no access to television, movies, the internet, or music and restricted access to cell phones. They are only permitted to make two calls during the six week of Plebe Summer.

Free rabies vaccination clinic on July 18 in Beacon

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH), in partnership with Hudson Valley Animal Rescue & Sanctuary (HVARs), will host a free

rabies vaccination clinic for pets on Saturday, July 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Beacon Recreation Department, located at 23 West Center Street in Beacon. The

clinic is open to dogs, cats and domestic ferrets that are at least 3 months old. Advance registration is required and will open at hvars.org.

Rabies vaccinations will be provided at no cost to Dutchess County residents; non-residents pay \$15 per pet. Dogs must be leashed, and cats and ferrets must be transported in carriers. Vaccinations will be good for three years with proof of prior vaccination; for those without proof, the vaccination will be good for one year. Microchipping will also be available for \$45 per pet, and a one-year distemper vaccination will be available for \$25 per pet.

New York State law requires all cats, dogs and domestic ferrets to be vaccinated against rabies by 4 months of age and to remain current on their vaccinations.

Pet owners who fail to comply with these requirements may face fines of up to \$200.

Residents who observe an animal behaving unusually should contact their local law-enforcement agency. Anyone who is bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed to an animal, or whose pet has been exposed, should contact the DCDOH at 845-486-3404 during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or 845-431-6465 evenings and weekends. DCDOH staff will investigate the incident and provide guidance on any necessary next steps.

For more information about rabies prevention, visit dutchessny.gov/rabies or contact the Dutchess County Department of Health at ehs@dutchessny.gov.

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