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BEACON FREE PRESS

Volume 75, Number 29 *July 22, 2026*

Hochul highlights statewide moratorium on new hyperscale data centers

From state reports

Governor Kathy Hochul held a roundtable with State, business and local leaders from across the state last week to highlight her Executive Order that creates the nation's first moratorium on new hyperscale data centers, establishing the standards for data center development and creating a blueprint to support localities. The Governor is temporarily pausing State environmental permits for up to one year in order to build a nation-leading regulatory framework that protects ratepayers, the environment, the energy grid and communities across the state.

"Progress shouldn't arrive with a higher utility bill, depleted water supply or noise pollution, which is why I signed the nation's first ever statewide moratorium on hyperscale data centers," Hochul said.

President Donald Trump posted on Truth Social, in part, last week, "One of the biggest Driving Forces in the Future for Jobs, are Data Centers. They are big, strong, bold, and Money Machines for the State in which they are built. Governor Kathy Hochul, for political reasons, has terminated all Data Centers being built, or to be built, in New York State."

"New York State has made a terrible decision. All of this Income, and other Benefits, will be going to Red States, and some Blue, where Data Centers are sought as Cash Cows, with Lower Taxes and Record Setting Jobs. They must pay for their own Water and Power, and any leftover goes back to the State and local Community. Data Centers are tremendous WINS for the States and Communities that are lucky enough to get them. New York should change its Policy, IMMEDIATELY," Trump stated, and noted the U.S. should not lose "all of this incredible new Technology, to China, and other countries!"

New York State is experiencing growth in demand for data center development driven by artificial intelligence and other computing operations. The increase in demand has led to proposals across the state for the construction and operation of data centers that could require massive amounts of energy and water to run and cool thousands of computer servers.

Assemblymember Didi Barrett said, "New Yorkers across the state have expressed support for a pause on new hyperscale data centers and common-sense regulations to protect our natural resources, communities and ratepayers. I commend Governor Hochul for her leadership in signing this timely executive order. It's a critical first step. There is still much more to learn, discuss and do to fully understand the impact of data centers. I look forward to continuing to work with the Governor, Senator Gonzalez and my Assembly colleagues to ensure progress."

Continued on page 5

Bannerman Castle Trust to host 'Epic Broadway!' in collaboration with Broadway in Beacon

By Francesca Oliva

The Bannerman Castle Trust is bringing Broadway to one of the Hudson Valley's most unique venues in collaboration with Broadway in Beacon. Audiences can experience "Epic Broadway!" on July 24 and 25, with a cast of Broadway and Off-Broadway performers taking the stage on Bannerman Island for two evenings of live musical theater.

"For someone who's never been, it's a completely immersive experience," said Kelly Ellenwood, deputy executive director of the Bannerman Castle Trust and a performer in the production. "You get on the boat, you kind of leave everything behind, and then you get to this magical place, and you get to see a magical show."

The evening begins with a 25-minute boat ride from Beacon to Bannerman Island. After arriving, guests can explore the historic site before taking their seats for a performance featuring songs from beloved Broadway musicals. Following the performance, guests will hear a lecture about the island and have an opportunity to ask questions.

The production features performers with more than 30 Broadway and Off-Broadway credits, including Tony Award nominee Sean Allan Krill, Mamie Parris, Melvin Tunstall III, Anne Fraser Thomas, Jen Malenke, Will Reynolds, Alex Kunz and several additional performers.

Continued on page 2

The Bannerman Castle Trust, in collaboration with Broadway in Beacon, will dazzle audiences with "Epic Broadway!" on July 24 and 25 on Bannerman Island. There will be a cast of Broadway and Off-Broadway performers taking to the stage for two evenings of live musical theater.

-Courtesy photo Bannerman Trust

HV artists may submit works for 100th anniversary of the Dummy Light exhibition

By Kristine Coulter

Hudson Valley artists have the chance to use their talents to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Dummy Light in Beacon. Howland Public Library will be holding an exhibition, "The Dummy Light at 100," to honor the local landmark. According to organizers, artists are asked to use their creativity but to keep the dummy light the central part of their works. Submissions are due by Friday, August 1. Submission guidelines and the online entry form are available at https://beaconlibrary.org/call-for-art

Denise VanBuren, Beacon Historical Society president, said, "Everyone loves the Dummy Light! It has become such an iconic landmark here, and it's been captured by artists for many years in a variety of mediums. We can't wait to see what types of artwork will be submitted!"

Artists may submit works in the following eligible media categories: painting, drawing, collage, textiles, and mixed media. Due to limited space in the Community Room, a juried review process will occur to select works that will be shown, it was noted. Selected artists will be notified next month.

Continued on page 5

This year is the 100th anniversary of the Dummy Light in Beacon. The Beacon Historical Society and Howland Public Library will be holding an exhibition on the Dummy Light later this year. Artists are asked to submit work by Aug. 1.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

‘Beloved’ Dover resident recognized during ‘Veteran of Distinction’ ceremony

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino with Helen Slocum-Mostachetti, a Dover resident, who was honored during the recent “Veterans of Distinction” ceremony.

-Photos courtesy Dutchess County Gov’t

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, right, and Office of Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche, left, joined Helen Slocum-Mostachetti and her family at the County’s “Veteran of Distinction” ceremony on Tuesday, July 14 in Dover.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the County’s Office of Veterans Affairs celebrated U.S. Army Nurse Corps Second Lieutenant (2LT) Helen Slocum-Mostachetti, a beloved Town of Dover resident who served during World War II, at the County’s most recent “Veteran of Distinction” ceremony, held at Dover Town Hall on July 14.

Serino said, “Helen’s life reflects the very best of our community. She has served our nation, cared for others and built a lasting legacy of love and dedication. Her story reminds us of the impact one person can have through a lifetime of service. She is a true American hero. It was so special to celebrate with Helen and her family as we honored her as a Dutchess County ‘Veteran of Distinction.’”

Helen Slocum-Mostachetti graduated from Dover High School in 1941, completed her nursing training at then-Vassar Brothers Hospital, and served as a nurse in the Army Nurse Corps from 1945 to 1947, caring for wounded veterans at Army hospitals in Texas and Oklahoma. After her military service, she devoted decades to nursing and education in the Hudson Valley, retiring in 1981 before continuing as a school nurse and substitute teacher for the Dover Union Free School District. At the age of 103, Helen is renowned locally for a lifetime of service to her country and community, as well as her enduring love of family, golf, the New York Yankees and New York Jets.

Dutchess County Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche said, “Helen represents the strength and dedication we honor in all of our veterans. She answered the call to serve our nation and cared for those who sacrificed for our freedom. Her service, resilience and commitment to others are an inspiration to us all.”

Monthly “Veteran of Distinction” ceremonies 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 are spotlighting members of the Greatest Generation, Dutchess County’s living World War II veterans.

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

In person: Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs, 1335 Route 44, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

By email: veterans@dutchessny.gov

All applications must include appropriate military separation documents (DD214, WD AGO 5355, NGB22, or casualty report).

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

Bannerman Castle Trust to host ‘Epic Broadway!’ in collaboration with Broadway in Beacon

Continued from cover

The partnership between Bannerman Castle Trust and Broadway in Beacon grew through years of collaboration within the local arts community. Ellenwood has worked with Broadway in Beacon founders, Jen Malenke and Will Reynolds, since the organization’s early days, later collaborating with Alex Kunz as the program expanded.

“It was just a natural fit,” Ellenwood said. “We brought everyone together, talked about it and decided to move forward.”

Beyond entertaining audiences, performances like “Epic Broadway!” support the Trust’s mission of preserving and sharing Bannerman Island. In addition to offering guided historic tours, the organization continues to expand its arts programming, encouraging visitors to return and experience the island in new ways.

According to Ellenwood, theatrical programming on the island was conceived by Bannerman Castle Trust founder and Executive Director Neil Caplan.

“His dream was to produce theater on the island,” she said. “Every year it’s evolved and becomes even more spectacular.”

Over the years, the visitor experience has also evolved, with improved seating and expanded programming helping transform the island into a destination for both history and the performing arts.

“It is going to be a production of very high-caliber performances in an incredibly dramatic setting,” Ellenwood said.

“Epic Broadway!” will be held July 24 and 25 on Bannerman Island. Limited seats are still available at bannermancastle.org. Proceeds from the performances will help fund ongoing restoration efforts on the historic island.

WWII Army veteran William Cole memorialized at 'Honor-A-Veteran' ceremony in Hyde Park

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the County's Office of Veterans Affairs memorialized the life and legacy of U.S. Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) William "Bill" Cole, a respected Hyde Park resident, at this month's "Honor-A-Veteran" remembrance, held last week at Roosevelt Fire District Station 3 in Hyde Park.

William Cole was a member of "the Greatest Generation," who answered his nation's call by enlisting in the United States Army in 1944 and serving with the 5th Infantry Division in the European Theatre during World War II. After returning home, he built a career with IBM and remained deeply committed to his family, church and community as a dedicated parishioner of St. James Church and member of American Legion Post 1303. Known for his humility, generosity and willingness to help others, SSG Cole quietly lived a life of service and sacrifice. He was recognized for his military contributions with the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross in 2001. SSG Cole passed away on Jan. 9, 2007 and is remembered for his courage, loyalty and lasting impact on those who knew him.

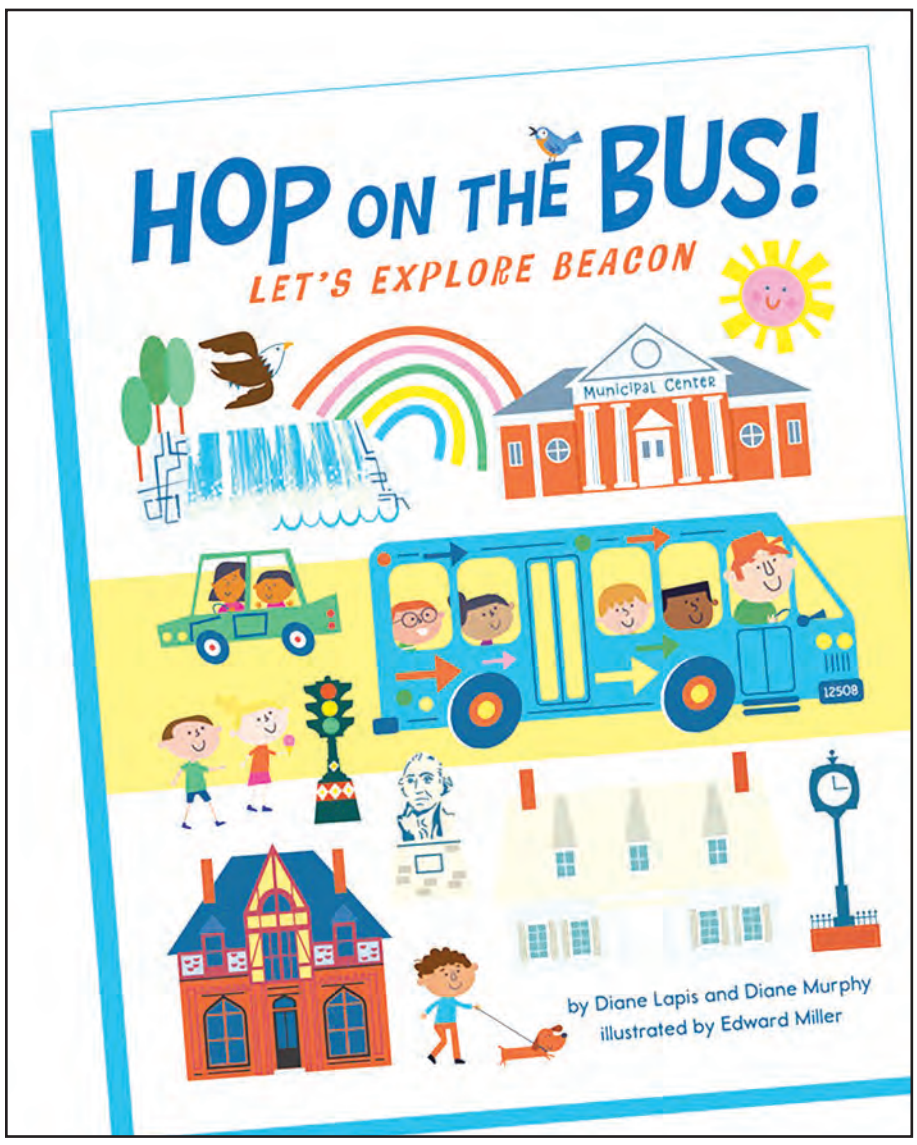
Serino said, "William represented a generation that showed great courage and commitment to our country. His life of service, kindness and dedication to his community leaves a lasting example for all of us. Dutchess County honors his sacrifice and the legacy he built through his actions, and we continue to proudly celebrate our heroes like William through our 'Honor-A-Veteran' program."

Dutchess County invites nominations for its monthly "Honor-A-Veteran" ceremonies, held April through November, to pay tribute to deceased U.S. Armed Forces veterans who served in wartime or peacetime. Community members can submit nominations and required military documentation for consideration through the County's Office of Veterans Affairs, with the next ceremony scheduled for Aug. 20. Learn more and download applications at dutchessny.gov/honoraveteran.

The family of World War II Army veteran William Cole with Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and members of the Office of Veterans Affairs during the recent "Honor-A-Veteran" remembrance ceremony held last week in Hyde Park.

-Photo courtesy Dutchess County Gov't

Opening reception for 'Hop on the Bus! Let's Explore Beacon' on July 25



An opening reception for the new book "Hop on the Bus! Let's Explore Beacon" will be held at the Howland Public Library on July 25 in Beacon.

-Courtesy image

Howland Public Library and Beacon Historical Society invite the community to celebrate the opening of the "Hop on the Bus! Let's Explore Beacon" gallery exhibit, an immersive reading experience that brings the pages of the new book to life. A reception will be held at the Howland Public Library on Saturday, July 25 from 2-4 p.m.

Visitors are invited to stroll through the gallery and explore the pages of the book! Inspired by the Beacon Free Loop, the book takes readers on a journey from Mt. Beacon to the Hudson River, making more than 50 stops at historic buildings and markers, statues, parks, and other notable landmarks. Featuring vibrant illustrations alongside historic photographs, the exhibit offers readers of all ages a unique way to discover the people and places that have shaped the community.

The celebration will include an opportunity to meet authors Diane Lapis and Diane Murphy, along with illustrator Ed Miller, who will share the inspiration behind the project. Families can also enjoy hands-on activities for children and sweet treats throughout the event.

Copies of "Hop on the Bus! Let's Explore Beacon" will be available for purchase.

Created in celebration of the Beacon Historical Society's 50th anniversary, "Hop on the Bus! Let's Explore Beacon" is a 32-page guidebook designed for readers ages 7 and up. Blending history, art, and interactive activities, the book encourages readers to explore Beacon with curiosity while learning about the city's rich heritage. Additional educational and hands-on projects can be found at www.beacon historical.org/hop-on-the-bus.

The exhibit and celebration offer an opportunity for families, history enthusiasts, and community members to experience the book in a new way, meet its creators, and celebrate the partnership between the Howland Public Library and the Beacon Historical Society.

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, 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.

Reader: Clearwater issue missing from article

To the Editor:

"Tall ships, flyovers mark July 4 party in NYC" in your July 8, 2026 issue is not a news item, but rather a sanitized press release.

The U.S. Coast Guard disregarded the U.S. Constitution and barred The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater from participating after she was invited to sail alongside the Portuguese NRP Sagres III (which ironically was mentioned in the article). Contrary to the false narrative fomented by the Sail4th 250 organization, on the auspicious 250th anniversary of its founding this was a shameless clamping down on free speech by a branch of this nation's military.

Rather than repeat the facts, I invite readers of the Beacon "Free" Press to check out an open letter from the Clearwater organization: https://www.clearwater.org/clearwater-blog/sail4th-250-parade-of-sail-update/,

Please stop being apologists for the current administration while whitewashing "news"germane to locals. Hudson Valley readers deserve better than bird cage liner.

Marc Alain Steier, Esq.
Beacon

Editor's note: There was no attempt to "sanitize" or "whitewash" on the part of our newspapers. This was simply an article covering the event itself from one of our contributing writers. The letter from the Clearwater organization was not sent to our email addresses. We are looking into the issue.

Beacon has changed, but Beacon community spirit endures

To the Editor:

The Beacon community welcomed me eleven years ago when I moved here from Brooklyn. While much has changed here in that time, the very palpable Beacon camaraderie endures.

Thank you to the countless neighbors, mailman, landscapers and people I met while searching for my indoor cat, "Sunny," who ran off Saturday morning, July 11. Their support was invaluable and very real. They held me up and gave me hope, as I was truly heartbroken. Sunny came home Monday morning!

So, while Beacon will continue to evolve, we must never lose the incredibly special Beacon community spirit. Go Bulldogs!

Doris Weinreb
Beacon

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County Legislature passes tax incentive to address housing shortage by increasing accessory dwelling units

The Dutchess County Legislature has announced legislation, sponsored by Legislator Trevor Redl (D-Town of Poughkeepsie), to encourage the construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), commonly known as backyard cottages, in-law apartments, and garage apartments; by adopting a New York State property tax exemption authorized under §421-p of the Real Property Tax Law.

The proposed local law would allow Dutchess County to opt into an existing State tax incentive designed to encourage homeowners to create additional housing on residential properties. To ensure the exemption serves its intended purpose, the legislation would limit eligibility to ADUs used for long-term residential housing and exclude units used as short-term rentals, such as Airbnb or VRBO.

Legislator Trevor Redl (D-Town of Poughkeepsie) said, "Accessory dwelling units are widely recognized as just one way to increase housing supply. ADUs provide flexible housing options for seniors wishing to age in place, young adults entering the housing market, caregivers, and working families, while allowing homeowners to make better use of existing residential properties."

"To reduce the cost of housing, we need to use every tool in the toolkit, and create a wide variety of housing. ADUs provide gentle infill development, adding housing stock without creating sprawl and without straining services like water, sewer, and the electric grid. I'm proud to advance this common-sense solution," said Legislator Lisa Kaul (D-Town of Poughkeepsie)

The resolution passed unanimously. The local law will take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State and will apply only to accessory dwelling unit projects with building permits issued on or after the effective date.

Water rescue at Norrie Point State Park

The Town of Hyde Park Police Department issued a release on July 16 with details of a water rescue at Norrie Point State Park in Staatsburg.

On July 16 at approximately 7:20 a.m., the Dutchess County 911 Center received a report of two individuals who had fallen from a cliff approximately 15 feet into the Hudson River at Norrie Point State Park. Due to the nature of the incident, a Water Emergency Response was initiated, with police, fire, EMS, and specialized rescue resources responding to the scene.

Upon arrival, Town of Hyde Park Police officers located the two individuals in the water, both of whom were in distress. Fire department rescue personnel successfully removed both subjects from the water. They were treated at the scene by EMS personnel before being transported to a local hospital. Both individuals were reported to be in stable condition.

The identities of the individuals are not being released due to the medical nature of the incident.

All responding units cleared the scene and returned to service by approximately 9:59 a.m.

The Town of Hyde Park Police Department was assisted by the Roosevelt Fire District, New York State Police, Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, New York State Park Police, Fairview Fire District, City of Poughkeepsie Fire Department, East Kingston Fire Department, Hyde Park Fire Department, West Clinton Fire Department, New York City Department of Environmental Protection Aviation Unit, Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response, Ulster County Department of Emergency Services, Empress EMS, and LifeNet Air Methods.

The Town of Hyde Park Police Department thanked all responding agencies for their coordinated efforts and professionalism, which resulted in the successful rescue of both individuals.

Latin Dancing set for July 23

Latin Dancing at the Towne Crier Café on Thursday, July 23 at 6:30 p.m., at 379 Main Street in Beacon. Lose yourself to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Bachata, Cumbia, Reggaeton and much more, played by DJs Rhoda and Al. 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. Please send Song Requests at least two days in advance.

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

Beacon's Annual Cookout set for July 25

Beacon's Annual Cookout will be held on Saturday, July 25, beginning at 10 a.m. at South Ave. Park. There will be BBQ favorites, music and entertainment, games and activities and family-friendly fun.

Take a 'dip' in the River Pool

By Kristine Coulter

The River Pool at Beacon is open.

"The pool opened earlier than it usually does. It was assembled in record time, and a full team of lifeguards were ready to work. The opportunity to cool off during these heat waves has happily brought people to the pool," said Marianne Loach, with River Pool.

Loach shared, "People are delighted to have a safe place to dip and cool off in the river."

The rainbow-colored circular floating pool with a netted bottom is open Tuesdays-Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. until Labor Day in September.

According to riverpool.org, "It is securely installed in the Hudson River, located off the north shore of Pete and Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park, in Beacon, NY. Swimmers safely sit & float in The River Pool, to relax and cool off with an on-duty lifeguard."

It is noted on the site, "The late Pete Seeger, noted American folk singer, and his wife Toshi, were social/environmental activists, and founding members of River Pool. They believed that River stewardship begins with being on, near, and in the river."

Loach remarked, "The small pool is in a beautiful location on the Hudson River surrounded by beautiful scenery with a chance to watch different fowl such as eagles, osprey, cormorants, ducks, geese and others. For children it's great for safe playing and splashing. For adults it's a chance to cool off."

On the website, one can check out the water quality sampling by the Dutchess County Health Department.

The annual River Swim was cancelled this year. The Swim is a way funds come in to keep the pool going.

"It's disappointing that the River Swim was cancelled because Newburgh dock insurance would not cover the swim event this year. Once again, further limiting swim access to the Hudson River," said Loach.

The River Pool is located at 2 Red Flynn Dr. in Beacon.

"Volunteers are always needed and appreciated for installing and removing the River Pool from the river. We welcome all support," said Loach.

The River Pool is open for people to dip and cool off.

-Courtesy photo

The River Pool project has been funded in part by a grant from the New York State Environmental Protection fund through the Hudson River Estuary Program on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

HV artists may submit works for 100th anniversary of the Dummy Light exhibition

Continued from cover

Why does VanBuren think the dummy light has become such an important landmark to visitors and residents of Beacon?

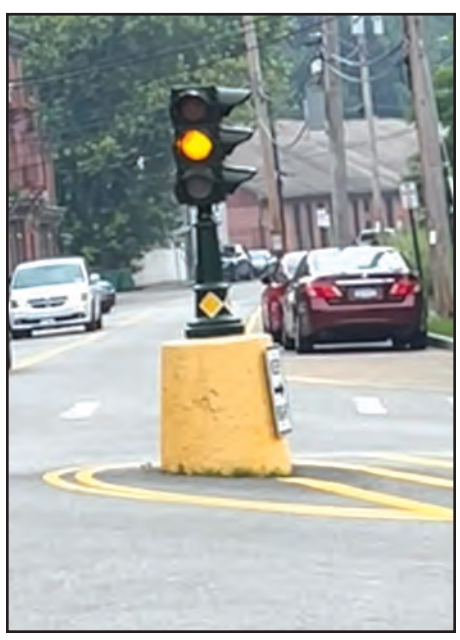
"It's unique, it's functional and it's kind of kitschy! It's like a member of the family for many of us! We joke about it, we give directions by it and we literally fight for it when someone suggests removing it.," she said.

As for the words come to her mind when the Dummy Light is mentioned?

VanBuren replied, "PURE BEACON! Through good times and bad, the Dummy Light has stood as a sentinel -- literally directing Beaconites. Thanks to the city's stewardship, it continues as a necessary traffic signal. But it's more than that: It's a symbol of unique Beacon history and culture."

The exhibition will be on view beginning in September and runs through October in the Community Room.

For more information, submission guidelines and online entry form, visit https://beaconlibrary.org/call-for-art.



There will be an exhibition in Beacon at the Howland Public Library for the 100th anniversary of the Dummy Light.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

Beacon Police Blotter

The following is from the City of Beacon Police Department.

June 4: Criminal Mischief- Vail Avenue-Dean M. Catalano, 55, of Beacon, was charged with Criminal Mischief 3rd.

June 4: Auto Accident- Main Street-Officers responded to two car Auto Accident-Hit & Run Accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

June 5: Assault-Fishkill Avenue-Donald J. Sniffen Jr., 71, of Beacon, was charged with Assault 3.

June 6: Traffic Stop-Veterans Place-Ryan A. Manzi age 34 of Beacon, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation Vehicle 3rd.

June 6: Trespass-South Brett Street-Caller reported that a company trespassed and put stakes in her yard with out permission. Report taken.

June 6: Fraud-Liam Drive-Caller reported being a victim of Fraudulent Activity. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

June 6: Fight-East Main Street-Officers responded to a call of a fight in progress. Individuals had left the scene as officers arrived. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

June 7: Harassment-Municipal Plaza-Caller reported that an individual known to him threatened to harm him. Report taken.

June 8: Harassment- South Brett- Caller reported getting harassing messages from someone known to her. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

June 10: Harassment- South Davies Terrace- Caller reported ongoing harassment from an individual known to him. Caller wants to document the incidents. Report taken.

June 11: Unattended Death- Beacon-Officers responded to a call for an Unattended Death. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

June 13: Other-Long Dock Park- Caller reported a Male taking pictures of people. Report taken.

Junee 15: Auto Accident- Hit & Run-Main Street- Caller reported damage to her car as a result of a Hit & Run Accident. Report Taken. Investigation Conducted.

Number of Calls: 343
Auto Accidents: 14
Domestics: 9.

Hochul highlights statewide moratorium on new hyperscale data centers

Continued from cover

Last month, the East Fishkill Town Board approved a three-year moratorium on Data Centers.

Earlier this year, the Governor directed the Department of Public Service (DPS) to begin the Energize NY proceeding, which will require data centers to either pay more for their energy or supply their own, allowing the state to keep energy more affordable for New Yorkers. As part of that proceeding, the Governor is now also directing DPS to develop a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for data centers to ensure new data centers coming online are being held to consistent standards.

During the development of this GEIS, which will take up to a year, a moratorium will be in place and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will not issue any discretionary permits not already deemed complete, it wsa stated. The state will use the GEIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of the construction and operation of data centers in the state, including their effect on energy demand, water use and quality, and air quality. Once the State finalizes these standards, the moratorium will be lifted, allowing new data center projects to proceed as long as they follow state, zoning code and other local approvals, it was stated in a release.

The Governor also directed Empire State Development (ESD) to issue a Community Investment Framework (CIF) within 60 days, which will provide clear guidance to local entities to help them negotiate community benefits as part of any large-scale data center deal, including local infrastructure improvements, child care investments, and direct financial support for their community. The CIF will also establish frameworks that provide organized labor a seat at the table and prioritize prevailing wage standards and project labor agreements for data center construction, local hiring, apprenticeships and workforce development to maximize economic benefits. This framework will additionally include a formula to help communities assess where to begin investment negotiations. An outline of the CIF is currently available on ESD's website, and the public is able to submit feedback.

It ws noted, additionally, the Governor is directing DPS to consider creating a New York Grid Acceleration Fund to require data centers to invest in the state's aging grid infrastructure and energy needs so all New Yorkers benefit from responsible development, according to the release. The fund could support the procurement of new clean energy supply and establishment of an insurance pool to which developers may need to contribute to protect against speculative large loads that create uncertainty and increase costs. DPS will also consider approaches to require data centers to fund new clean electric generation dedicated to their operations, including but not limited to customer-sited distributed energy resources and battery storage.

Hochul is pursuing legislation to repeal sales tax exemptions for massive data centers across the state.

This year, Hochul launched the FutureWorks Commission to advise on policy and private sector actions to protect the security of workers while harnessing the economic benefits of AI for all New Yorkers. This blue-ribbon Commission is composed of nation-leading experts, workers' advocates, and business leaders, and will be charged with advising Hochul on how to navigate the AI transition.

Renegades Extra!

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RENEGADES FEATURE

Commanding presence!

Tanner Bauman's 6-foot-5 frame sets the stage for southpaw rising through the ranks for Yanks

By Morgan E. Maier

When the New York Yankees drafted Auburn's Tanner Bauman two seasons ago, they got another reliable lefty arm within a formidable prospect pitching staff.

The 24-year-old Jacksonville native was a ninth round pick in 2024. He comes to the midpoint of the season having seen action in Tampa, Hudson Valley and a spell in Somerset this season. With a 3-0 record in 22 games, Bauman has become a repeat apparition from Aaron Bossi's bullpen.

Bauman acted as starter and reliever as an Auburn Tiger, over two seasons in the program. His second and final year in the Tiger orange and blue saw a dominant campaign - particularly in his strikeout and usage. Bauman was second on the team in innings, adding a career-best 6.0 sharp frames in his final Auburn appearance.

Bauman's 6-foot-5 frame brings a commanding presence to the Hudson Valley mound; a 27-12 strikeout to walk ratio bodes well for the southpaw's rise through the Yankee ranks. With a minor league career that has offered seven starts, Bauman has not earned a loss since his arrival to High-A Hudson Valley in 2025.

Bauman does his best work on the road; his earned run average (1.50) a fraction of what he's displayed at Heritage Financial Park this season (8.03). Bauman allowed three straight Brooklyn baserunners on July 17, ending his inning-long outing on two straight strikeouts.

Left-handed pitcher Tanner Bauman has put together a 3-0 record while appearing in 22 games this season with Tampa, Hudson Valley and Somerset.
-Photo by Dave Janosz

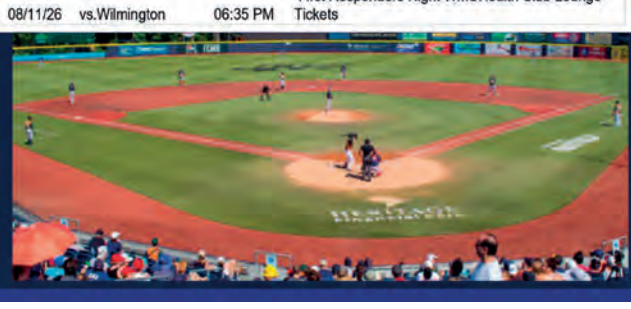
League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Greensboro PIT	15	9	.625	-	4-6	L1
Wilmington WSH	14	10	.583	1.0	5-5	W3
Frederick BAL *	13	10	.565	1.5	6-4	W2
Hudson Valley NYY	13	11	.542	2.0	7-3	W2
Brooklyn NYM	12	11	.522	2.5	5-5	L2
Jersey Shore PHI	5	18	.217	9.5	3-7	L3

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB *	16	8	.667	-	9-1	W4
Asheville HOU	15	9	.625	1.0	6-4	W1
Winston-Salem CWS	12	12	.500	4.0	4-6	L3
Rome ATL	10	13	.435	5.5	4-6	L1
Greenville BOS	10	14	.417	6.0	5-5	L2
Hub City TEX	7	17	.292	9.0	2-8	W1

HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES

July			
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
August			
08/01/26	vs.Jersey Shore	05:05 PM	Faith & Family Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/02/26	vs.Jersey Shore	02:05 PM	Rascal & Rosie's Anniversary Party WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/11/26	vs.Wilmington	06:35 PM	First Responders Night WMCHealth Club Lounge Tickets



Renegades Extra!

IMPACT
PR & Communications

Guardian Revival Names Kim Haight To Role of Chief Executive Officer

See story, page 8

GUARDIAN REVIVAL

IMPACT
PR & Communications

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades break loose with pair of wins after All-Star game break

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades returned to their regular season schedule over the weekend, and took twin wins in the July 19 doubleheader. While the Brooklyn Cyclones continue a hardly-thunderous season, the Renegades' snap of offense and bullpen pitching outlasted the Saturday storm warning on Coney Island.

R & R - Sometimes it's a break that makes things better — even if it's a week off, or a night. When the originally June 18 edition was rescheduled for the following day, Roderick Arias and Robbie Burnett bookended the Renegades lineup with five runs batted in apiece. Arias was 2-for-3, a home run short of hitting the Cyclones for the cycle. The ninth batter Burnett had a pair of RBI doubles — including a two out, three-run blast, to complete a 2-for-2 outing.

Bullpen Beasts - Six relief innings. One hit. It became the tale of the tape for the Renegades bullpen on Sunday, where the visitors outscored the Cyclones 19-4 in the doubleheader.

Bryce Warrecker notched his first win of the season in relief of Allen Facundo, who allowed one run and two hits over 4.0 innings. Where Facundo conceded six bases on balls, the relief trio of Warrecker, Thomas Balboni and Willy Sanchez combined for two baserunners the rest of the way. Balboni earned the hold and Sanchez notched the save for a 5-2 victory. Core Jackson was 3-for-4 with 3 RBI, including his 12th home run of the season.

Roderick Arias continued his torrid hitting pace with a homer and five RBIs as the Renegades rocked Brooklyn in a doubleheader on July 19.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

Two-hit Bits - Hudson Valley didn't take kindly to being two-hit in the opener. Luis Durango had both; a pair of singles and a stolen base to get him closest back to home. Brady Kirtner and Tanner Bauman came on in relief of Bryce Cunningham after 5.2 innings. Brooklyn tacked on two down the stretch, as the Renegades' bats stayed silent the rest of the way for the 4-0 loss.

The Renegades next travel to Wilmington to battle the Blue Rocks. Henry Lalane (No. 14 ranked prospect) is projected to start the opener in Delaware, his second appearance since moving to High-A play. With the Renegades tailing the second-place Blue Rocks by one game (as of June 20), the week brings an opportunity to make up ground on the Washington Nationals affiliate.

RENEGADES EXTRA

Pitcher Allen Facundo, left, allowed just one run and two hits over 4.0 innings in a win over Brooklyn on Sunday, July 19. Bryce Warrecker notched his first win of the season in relief during that game. In the hitting category, Core Jackson was 3-for-4 with 3 RBI, including his 12th home run of the season.

-Photos by Dave Janosz

Guardian Revival names Kim Haight to role of Chief Executive Officer

Guardian Revival, a Hudson Valley-based nonprofit focused exclusively on supporting the mental health of military members, veterans and first responders – collectively known as guardians – and their families, at no cost to them, announced the appointment of Kim Haight to chief executive officer, following her service as interim CEO since March. After leading the organization through a period of transition, Haight emerged as the natural choice to continue guiding Guardian Revival's mission.

Bringing more than a decade of nonprofit executive experience in strategy, advocacy, crisis response and mission-driven program development, Haight has provided steady leadership, continuity for staff and partners and a clear focus on sustaining the team's momentum. Her appointment reflects the board's confidence in her ability to lead Guardian Revival into its next chapter while keeping the mission grounded in its values of connection, healing and service.

"Kim has led with clarity, compassion and consistency since stepping into the interim role," said Alex Othmer, former Navy SEAL and president/co-founder of Guardian Revival. "She has earned the trust of our team and demonstrated the kind of mission-driven leadership this organization needs. The board is confident she is the right person to lead Guardian Revival forward."

Under Haight's leadership, Guardian Revival will continue to expand its core programs supporting the growing needs of the military, veteran and first responder community including:

• Another Summit, offering outdoor adventure activities such as hiking, backpacking, canoeing and fly fishing

• Boots & Paws, providing free companion puppies and dog visitation events

• Encore, connecting guardians to free opportunities to learn, play and share music

• Homefront, equipping the families of guardians with support through education, wellness and other experiences

• RISE, delivering wellness workshops, retreats and resources to help guardians recharge

• Dwyer Vet2Vet of Putnam, which Guardian Revival administers to connect veterans through events, information and resources

Before joining Guardian Revival, Haight, who lives in Poughkeepsie, built a career centered around public service, community resilience and the well-being of vulnerable populations. A graduate of Marist University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in public administration, she served as executive director of The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse (CPCA) and as director of advocacy for the New York State Children's Alliance – roles that involved cross-sector collaboration with government, law enforcement, mental health providers and community stakeholders. This experience in organizational leadership and partnership-building has strengthened Guardian Revival during this transition and positioned the nonprofit for continued impact in the months and years ahead.

"Guardian Revival's mission is deeply meaningful and it has been a privilege to serve in this role over the past several months," said Haight. "I'm honored by the board's confidence and committed to building on the organization's strong foundation as we continue supporting the guardians and families who rely on our programs."

Kim Haight

-Courtesy photo

Elizabeth Hewitt named Chair of Cary Institute Board of Trustees

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies haas announced that Elizabeth Hewitt has been named Chair of its Board of Trustees, effective June 2026.

An experienced not-for-profit financial executive, Hewitt brings deep expertise in investment management, governance, and strategic leadership. She formerly served as Chief Investment Officer at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and is now Chief Investment Officer at Miras Investments, an institutional single-family office. She has also served on the boards of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and The Madeira School and currently serves on the board of the Dana Foundation.

Hewitt has been on Cary's Board of Trustees for several years, most recently as Co-Vice Chair and Chair of the Investment Committee. Throughout her tenure, she has brought strategic insight and sound financial stewardship in support of Cary's mission.

"I was drawn to Cary Institute for its combination of rigorous science and real-world impact," Hewitt said. "I'm inspired by their commitment to making the world a better place. Cary's research team is known regionally for their work on tick-borne disease, forest health, and the Hudson River – but they are also leaders on the national and global stage, with work on things like wildfire, natural climate solutions, and diseases like Ebola, Zika, and SARS."

As Board Chair, Hewitt will help guide Cary through its next chapter of scientific discovery and organizational growth. She begins her tenure at a time when Cary is expanding its staff and broadening the reach of its research programs.

Hewitt notes, "As climate impacts become increasingly evident around the world, keeping a pulse on our planet has never been more important. Cary's scientists are building innovative models and frameworks that combine emerging technology and world-class science to give us a powerful view of ecosystem health. Their work and leadership informs practical solutions for climate resilience and ecosystem management."

"Beyond being a research powerhouse, Cary is a neighbor who is committed to sharing its science with the community," Hewitt adds. "For those living near Cary's Millbrook, NY headquarters, I encourage you to visit its 2,000-acre campus, hike its trails, attend its public programs, and explore its offerings for students."

Dr. Joshua Ginsberg, President of Cary Institute, commented, "Elizabeth brings strategic vision and a deep appreciation for the role science plays in addressing today's environmental challenges. She has been an invaluable member of our Board, and I look forward to working with her as we continue to expand the impact of Cary's research."

Ginsberg also thanks outgoing Board Chair Scott Ulm for his eight years of exceptional leadership. During his tenure, Ulm helped steer a major capital campaign that transformed the Institute's Millbrook headquarters, fostered a culture of scientific collaboration, and guided the organization through the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic. "Scott's contributions have left Cary stronger than ever, and we thank him for his dedicated service," Ginsberg said.

WMCHealth Network completes hospital integration and unification

Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth) has announced that eight of its hospitals have been unified under a single hospital license, an administrative change that will help WMCHealth operate as a more connected health system.

Doctors, nurses and care teams will be able to share information more easily, coordinate care faster and better support patients who need advanced services across the network.

Patients will continue to receive care from the same physicians and caregivers at the same local hospitals. WMCHealth employee pay, benefits, seniority and day-to-day work responsibilities will remain the same.

"This unification strengthens our ability to deliver safe, high-quality and consistent care for every patient we serve," said David Lubarsky, MD, MBA, FASA, President and Chief Executive Officer of WMCHealth. "While nearly all of these changes are expected to take place behind the scenes, the benefits for patients, physicians and employees will be felt every day."

The change includes: HealthAlliance Hospital in Kingston, Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern, Bon Secours Community Hospital in Port Jervis, St. Anthony Community Hospital in Warwick, St. Josephs Place skilled nursing facility in Port Jervis.

Margaretville Hospital is not part of this integration to preserve its Critical Access Hospital designation, and most of the network's nursing homes are also excluded. Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie already operates as a division of Westchester Medical Center.

The integration will help patients benefit more directly from WMCHealth's network-wide resources and specialized services while continuing to receive care locally.

WMCHealth is also advancing plans to unify its electronic medical record (EMR) platform across all hospitals, in alignment with New York State's Safety Net Transformation Grant strategy to improve stability and quality across safety net providers. A unified EMR will give clinical teams consistent, real-time patient information to support faster, better-informed decisions.

hudson valley naturalist **by francine wizner**

The Audacity of galls: They stay on brand

Widespread galls on maple leaves induced by parasites.

-Photos by Francine Wizner

Gall-makers are specialists.

-Generated by A.I.

Walk through any forest in springtime, and you will likely find thousands of peculiar bumps, blisters and fuzzy swellings on the emerging leaves and twigs. These are plant galls, and they represent one of nature's most audacious heists. Interestingly, while these growths are common across nearly every continent, the word "*gall*" stems from the Latin *galla*, meaning a round tree swelling—a linguistic crossover completely unrelated to the historic European territory of Gaul.

Gall-causing organisms belong to a diverse guild of specialized parasites, whose behavior is studied under the scientific field of cecidology (seh-sid-OL-uh-jee). Each parasite type uses a unique mechanism to force its chosen plant to grow a specialized home and food source.

Overriding host genetics

In nature, a massive evolutionary divide separates ordinary organisms from these parasites. While typical garden aphids simply suck sap and everyday mites spin webs, gall-formers possess an exclusive biological toolkit. Specialized lineages of insects, mites, fungi, bacteria, roundworms and viruses secrete precise mimic proteins, hormones or viral genetics. These molecular keys override the DNA of a host plant's immature stem cells, forcing the plant to build customized, nutrient-rich shelters for the invaders.

Developing wasp and aphid larvae find secure nursery shelters within these structures. Mites utilize the humid bunkers to safely raise multiple generations. Fungal pathogens exploit the distorted tissue to develop and eventually broadcast their spores. Bacterial infections drive direct genomic transformation, creating localized food factories for multiplying clones. Meanwhile, soil-dwelling roundworms warp roots into underground feeding chambers, and specialized viruses manipulate cellular pathways to construct tumorous housings along stems.

The ultimate specialists

These organisms are strict botanical specialists. They are host- and organ-specific, operating within a narrow seasonal window. Because they must hijack the plant's growth hormones right as new cells actively divide, gall formation is heavily concentrated during the burst of early spring. Once a leaf or branch hardens for the summer, it becomes structurally immune to new manipulation.

This strict requirement means a perfect genetic match is mandatory. Mites specialized for maple leaves cannot spread to a nearby rose bush. Even on a single leaf, different species target completely different tissues. For instance, on hickory leaves, two different species of *Phylloxera* insects divide the territory: one forms stem galls that restrict water flow and kill twigs, while another forms benign globular galls between the leaf veins.

Universal parasites

While individual species are limited to specific hosts, the phenomenon of gall-making is nearly universal across the plant kingdom. Golf-ball-sized growths swell on goldenrod stems, bulbous fungus smut warps corn kernels, and bacterial crown galls infect roses. Even non-flowering ferns and mosses are vulnerable. A mature tree can support hundreds of different gall-inducing species. Conifers like pines and spruces are less prone to diverse insect galls because their sticky resin and defensive chemistry repel most attackers, though they still host specialized woolly insects called adelgids.

Cosmetic blemishes or fatal injuries?

These tiny invaders interact with plants through saliva, secretions or molecular mechanisms that trigger localized tissue irritation. Most resulting bumps or fuzzy growths are merely unsightly blemishes. Because they cause insignificant damage to the overall health of a mature tree, experts generally recommend no treatment.

However, location matters. Galls that encircle branches can disrupt the flow of water and nutrients, causing dieback or stunting young trees. Furthermore, galls caused by systemic bacterial infections or aggressive rust fungi can seriously weaken or eventually kill the host plant.

Abnormal spherical growths induced by tiny invaders on hickory leaves.

Possible Oak MARBLE Gall, which targets twigs & buds. It is similar to, but denser than Oak APPLE gall, which targets leaves.

Metabolic Drain

In natural ecosystems, close, long-term biological relationships between different species are symbiotic. While some symbioses are mutualistic (benefiting both) or commensalistic (leaving the host unaffected), gall-making is strictly parasitic.

Even when gall damage appears purely benign, it stems from a theft of energy. The invaders hijack the plant's genetic programming, forcing the host to divert valuable resources away from its own growth and reproduction to build and feed the enemy's home. Because the developing larvae continuously consume living tissue, the plant incurs a persistent metabolic drain.

A history of irritation

The word "*gall*" carries several meanings that these parasitic organisms exemplify. Our gallbladder stores bile, a bitter fluid that helps digest fats. In ancient humoral medicine, an excess of yellow bile—also called gall—was thought to make a person irascible or audacious. Separately, by the 12th century, friction sores on horses were called galls. Over time, the word evolved to mean any skin irritation, and eventually, the act of vexing someone.

Whether inducing a metabolic drain on a host plant, acting as an acerbic substance, or causing a historical medical irritation, galls are living proof of biological audacity. They are bitter, brazen, abnormal growths that literally bend nature to their will.

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

Obituaries

Franklyn F. Richey

Franklyn F. Richey, a longtime resident of Village of Wappingers Falls, passed away peacefully at home with his family on July 7, 2026; at the age of 80. He was born in Yonkers, NY on January 15, 1946, son of the late Franklyn & June (Karst) Richey.

Franklyn proudly served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam Era from 1965 to 1970, until his honorable discharge. He was a former member of the Wappingers Falls VFW Post 5913.

On July 30, 1966 in Mahopac, NY, he married Brenda S. Carney, who survives him at home.

Franklyn worked as an iron worker for Metro-North Railroad for 30 years, until he retired.

Franklyn was an avid sports fan, and enjoyed coaching his three sons when they played youth sports such as basketball, baseball and football. He was a huge San Francisco Giants fan, from the days when they were in New York; he was also a fan of the Chicago Bears. Most importantly and aside from sports, he loved his family, particularly his granddaughters.

Along with his beloved wife of 59 years Brenda Richey, Franklyn is survived by his three sons: Franklin Richey Jr. and his wife Carole; John Richey; Stephen Richey and his wife Rosanne Richey. His three granddaughters Daycia Ponder, Ava Richey and Paige Richey, whom he adored and cherished dearly. He is also survived by his twin-sister Jacklyn Robbins; his nephews Billy, Jamie (Kate), and niece Mary Beth; and can't forget his beloved dog 'Daisy.'

Along with his parents, Franklyn was predeceased by his brother Allyn Richey.

His Family will gather with Friends to remember and celebrate on Saturday August 8th, 2026 from 9-11am at DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, where a service will be offered. Interment will immediate follow to the Veterans Section of the Wappingers Falls Rural Cemetery, West Main Street, Wappingers Falls, where Military Honors will be rendered by the United States Navy Honor Guard at 12PM.

To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Jane Agfalvi

Jane Agfalvi, a resident of Poughkeepsie and formerly of Schenectady, NY, passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by her family on July 14, 2026; at the age of 90. She was born on January 5, 1936 in Poland, daughter of the late Ignacy Pawlak (her father) and Bronislawa Pietrasek (her mother).

Jane immigrated to the United States in 1951, and became a naturalized citizen in 1956; early on she worked for United Baking in Schenectady. Later on she worked as a dietary aide at St. Clare's Hospital in Schenectady, until she retired.

Jane loved to cook, she was an avid New York Yankee fan; she also enjoyed reading and solving crossword puzzles.

Jane is survived by her three sons: Michael Agfalvi of Poughkeepsie, NY; Edward Agfalvi of Hagertown, MD; Robert (Kimberly) Agfalvi of Orting, WA. Her six grandchildren will also cherish her memory. She is also survived by her two brothers: John and Alex Pawlak; and several nieces & nephews.

Along with her beloved parents, Jane is predeceased by her siblings: Lodja (Novakovic), Stanley Pawlak, Wladaslawa (Paluch), and Henry Pawlak.

Her Family will gather for a graveside service in August 2026 at the LaGrange Rural Cemetery, Overlook Road, Poughkeepsie, NY. Arrangements were entrusted to the care of DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, New York. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Sallie Ruth Foster

Sallie Ruth Foster, 89, of Tampa, Florida, formerly of Dunnellon, Florida, and Wappingers Falls, New York, went home to our Lord on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. Sallie was the youngest child of George Harold and Lois Baird Simmons.

Sallie was born on March 24, 1937, in Oneonta, New York, where she spent her formative years before moving to Poughkeepsie, New York, to attend Vassar Brothers Hospital School of Nursing. It was there that she met her lifelong friends and was introduced to a handsome man in a trilby hat.

Sallie married John W. Foster on July 5, 1958. Together they shared a beautiful life for 64 years, until John's passing in 2023. Sallie and John were loving parents to John W. Foster Jr. (Linda S.), Scott G. Foster (Renee M., deceased), and Jacqui L. Disler (John C.).

Sallie was a proud grandmother to Caroline F. Heberling (Ryan), Mallory M. Arndt (Scott), Natalie E. Foster, and Mitchell M. Disler. She was also blessed with three great-grandchildren: Logan W. and Leighton J. Heberling, and Grady Foster Arndt. She was eagerly awaiting the arrival of great-grandchild No. 4, due any day.

Sallie was a devoted mother who set aside her nursing career to be a stay-at-home mom. She was always willing to volunteer her time and energy, bake treats for classroom parties, and drive her children to and from their sporting events. She was the mom everyone expected to see—and hear—cheering loudly and proudly from the sidelines. She happily continued that tradition as her grandchildren became involved in swimming, dance, theater, and, of course, baseball.

In her later years, after her children and grandchildren were no longer competing in sports or participating in extracurricular activities, she faithfully followed Duke basketball and the New York Yankees.

Sallie was a devoted and fiercely loyal friend who will be missed by so many. Once Sallie gave her love, it was forever given, as evidenced by her 84-year friendship with Lani King and more than 60 years of friendship with her VBH Sisters. She never missed sending a birthday or anniversary card and continued writing letters until the very end to those she held dear.

We know that eternity has reunited her with all those she loved and lost. We also hope it includes many more games of Yahtzee, O's (Dominoes), and, because she is once again with the handsome man in the trilby hat that captured her heart all those years ago, playing Pinnacle.

A Celebration of Sallie's Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 13312 Cain Road, Tampa, FL 33625. Immediately following the service, there will be a gathering of family and friends in the Parish Hall. Interment will take place on Friday, September 18, 2026, at 10am at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to St. Mark's Thrift Store (13310 Cain Road), where Sallie happily volunteered on many Thursdays, chatting with friends, sorting donations, and purchasing even more "treasures" (much to her family's amusement)—always insisting on paying more than the listed price.

Lisa Marie Megna

Lisa Marie Megna, a longtime Beacon resident, passed away at the Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital in Newburgh, NY; at the age 59. She was born in Cold Spring, NY on March 17, 1967, daughter of Carol J. (Ferrara) and the late Paul J. Megna. She attended Beacon City Schools and graduated from Beacon High School. Lisa went onto attend Mount Saint Mary College in 1994, and Adelphi University in 1995.

Lisa worked for Dutchess County Community and Family Services, in the Probation Department, and Youth Services as a social worker, for 7-years.

Lisa was inspired to start her own business, she owned and operated for 3-years the Choose-2-Lose Bariatric Center in Hopewell Junction, New York.

Lisa will be remembered for being that 'fun-loving' person, who loved life. She had a deep love for her Christian faith. She enjoyed various crafts and loved photography.

Along with her loving mother, Carol Megna, Lisa is survived by her brother Paul M. Megna, and her nephew Michael O'Connor and great-nephew Oliver. She is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins & friends; all who loved her dearly.

Arrangements were entrusted to the care of DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, New York. A Celebration of Life and Interment will be held privately later at her family's convenience. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue festival set July 24

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue will hold "Stars, Stripes & Sanctuary," a summer celebration and music festival bringing the community together for an evening of live music, food, family fun and connection at the sanctuary on Friday, July 24, starting at 5 p.m.

Held during the national celebration of America's 250th birthday and the Year of the Horse, the event will transform the 42-acre accredited horse sanctuary into a vibrant community gathering space where guests can experience the mission of people helping horses heal people.

The event will feature live music, local vendors, food and beverages, community partners, interactive experiences, and opportunities to meet the rescued horses who now serve as educators, ambassadors, and partners in healing for veterans, first responders, youth, women, and families throughout the region.

Casual summer attire recommended; boots or comfortable shoes encouraged due to uneven farm terrain. This indoor/outdoor event will be held rain or shine. Visit www.luckyorphans.org for tickets and more information.

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue (LOHR), located in Dover Plains, is the only accredited horse rescue in Dutchess County offering equine-assisted programming with licensed and certified staff. Accredited by the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance, Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, Certified Horsemanship Association, and recognized as a USEF Community Outreach Program, LOHR is known for integrating Thoroughbred aftercare with education, youth development, and community wellness initiatives.

The sanctuary currently provides lifelong care to more than 40 rescued horses while offering programs that serve hundreds of individuals annually through equine-assisted experiential learning, youth development initiatives, volunteer opportunities, and community outreach.

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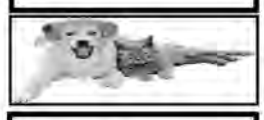

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Gabby: Domestic Short Hair Cat. Senior 8+ yrs, Female,small 6 lbs, color: Tortoiseshell, Calico. She's Curious, Friendly, Playful, Athletic, Smart and Funny. Adopt: ARF, Simons Lane, Beacon, NY

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

Tabby: Domestic short Hair Cat. Adult 3-8 yrs, Female, Medium 7-11 lbs. Tabby is a Buff/Tan/Fawn color. Personality is Affectionate, Curious, Gentla, Playful, Quiet and Shy. Adopt: ARF, Simons Lane, Beacon, NY

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Historic appeal is alive with music, classics for Hyde Park Car Show

By Jim Donick

The 2026 Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Car Show is upon us. Scheduled for Sunday, July 26, the event is all-but-unique in pulling the whole town together for a happening that has become more of a celebration of the community than simply a great car show. Nearly the entire town finds a way to take part.

John Coppola, President of the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, notes, "The Car show is an event the whole chamber enjoys and supports. On show day, nearly every member of the chamber will be there to help out. Sunday is often the only day off they get from their businesses and they give that to the event."

Rob Sweet of Sweet's Funeral Home has been a supporter of the event from the very beginning. "It's a great community event and a fundraiser for the chamber," he said.

Event chairman Stu Davis said they are expecting a very large turnout of cars this year. "One of the major annual shows usually comes right before our weekend," he said, "But that show isn't happening this year."

There will be cars from all over this part of the state, as well as many coming in from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

"We are particularly happy to have the Harvest Band live at the car show again this year," said Davis. Harvest is one of the longest-standing live bands in this part of the state, having been performing since 1972 and providing Top 40 hits, Motown, Disco, Classic Rock, Contemporary Country, Broadway hits, and timeless Standards - something for every crowd and occasion.

Steve Wanzer, the band's keyboard artist, said "We enjoy doing the car show. We look forward to walking around the field when we take a break and seeing so many really neat cars and seeing so many folks we know."

Coppola notes that the car show has developed over time into this centerpiece of the Hyde Park summer. "Back in 2010, George and Lynn Golden came to me with an idea to do a car show and we were happy to lend our support. The event was later taken over by Stu and Bunny Davis and they have worked to grow this event into what it has become."

The car show runs from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the old Hyde Park Motors lot (Across from Town Hall) on Route 9, Hyde Park. Registration for show cars is $20 starting at 10 a.m., with the trophy presentation at 3 p.m.. Motorcycles are welcome. Show cars receive dash plaques and trophies. There will also be food and a 50/50 raffle. Spectators may attend free.

The cars on display will represent nearly every era and type of car one can imagine. Expect to see antiques from the earliest years of motoring to wild looking hot rods and customs, as well as sports cars and even family sedans.

Anthony Vesnaver owns the Hyde Park Vintage Emporium. Beyond being another sponsor of the event, he's also a car enthusiast to his fingertips.

"I'm definitely a car enthusiast myself," he said, "so sponsoring the show was an easy decision. I collect classic Lincoln Town Cars, and one of my favorite things about the hobby is that every car has a story. Whether it's a family road trip, a first car, or something someone has spent years restoring, those stories are what make these events special. Classic cars fit naturally with what we do at the Vintage Emporium. People come to our shops because they appreciate history, craftsmanship and things that have stood the test of time. A great classic car has that same appeal."

"One thing I always notice at car shows," he continues, "is how they bring different generations together. Someone will stop to tell you about the car their parents owned, while a younger person is seeing it for the first time. I love that connection."

Check hydeparkchamber.online/ car-show for information, full list of event sponsors and cancellation notices. Rain ate is August 2.

The cars on display at this year's Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Car show will represent nearly every era and type of car one can imagine. Expect to see antiques from the earliest years of motoring to wild looking hot rods and customs, as well as sports cars and even family sedans.

-Courtesy photo

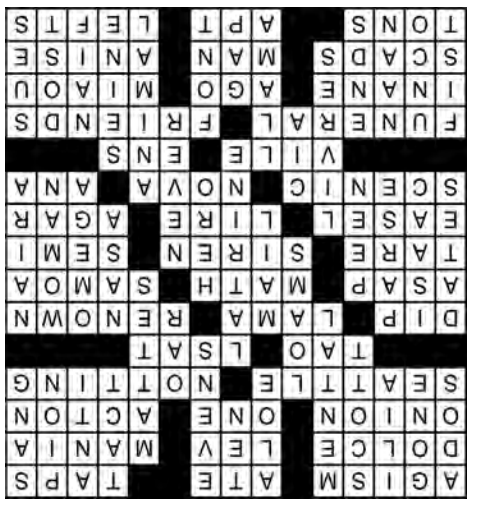
Open Mic Night set for July 24

Howland Cultural Center's Open Mic Night will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 24. This is one's chance to perform before a welcoming audience, or just to be a part of it. They ask for a $5 cover at the door and will have refreshments available. To put in a bid to perform, arrive at 6:15 p.m. and sign up. The hosts are Jay Strauss and friends.

this week's puzzle solutions

Sugaru solution

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



SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-49-26

Fire Extinguishers: Inspection, Test, and Maintenance

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 30th 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.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCB-12-26

NAME OF PROJECT: Generator & Transfer Switch Install at 45 & 50 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

Project Description: Design of Provisions for a Portable Generator at 45 Market Street and Design of Replacement Life Safety Generator at 50 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/ county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpw contracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site.**

Bids for the above project will be received by: Lorraine Grant, Contract Specialist Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before **11:00AM Wednesday, August 5, 2026,** and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization.

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Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business **Wednesday** July 29, 2026, and emailed to Lorraine Grant at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is September 1, 2026; the anticipated substantial completion date is January 31, 2027. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2026017448

Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable, and NYSDOL Contractor Registry requirements. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess at a meeting held on June 8, 2026, adopted a local law entitled:

LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2026, A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND LOCAL LAW NO. 6 of 2013, WITH RESPECT TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY SELF-INSURED WORKERS' COMPENSATION PLAN.

The intent of this Local Law is to allow the County's Workers' Compensation Plan Manager to acquire and keep in force during the life of the Plan, an Excess Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Insurance Policy, the cost therof to be paid from the funds of the Plan, or to allow the Plan Manager to join a public group self-insurer pursuant to Section 50(3-a) of Workers' Compensation Law.

A copy of the local law is available at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature where it may be inspected during regular office hours.

JULIE SHIROISHI
Clerk
Dutchess County Legislature
Dated: July 17, 2026

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.

Diversions

SUDOKU

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

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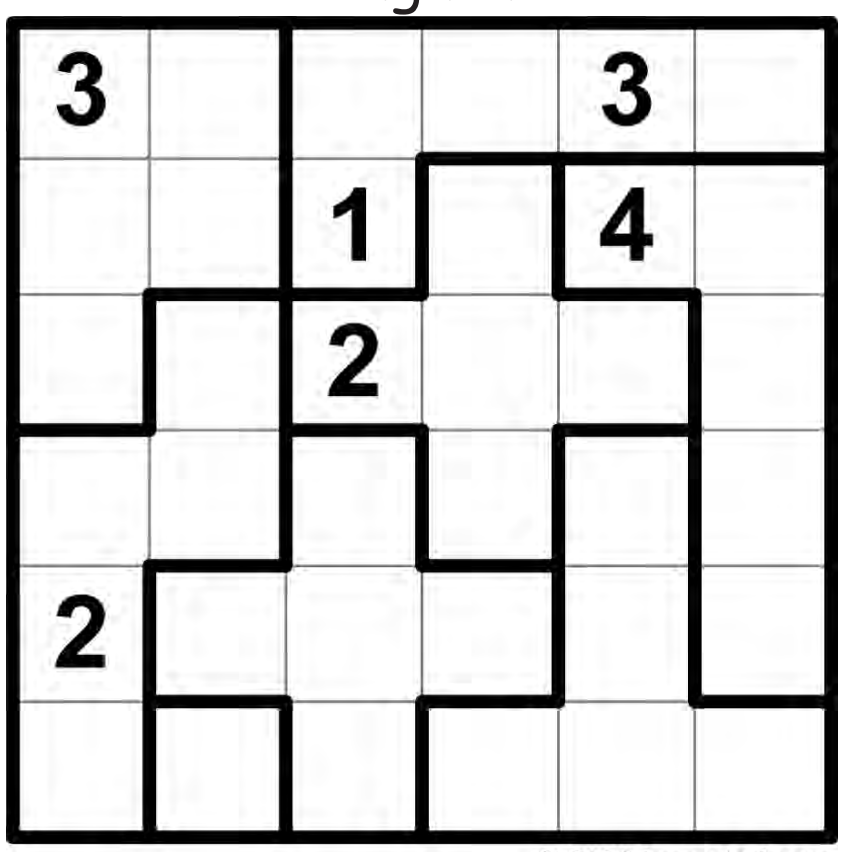
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Suguru



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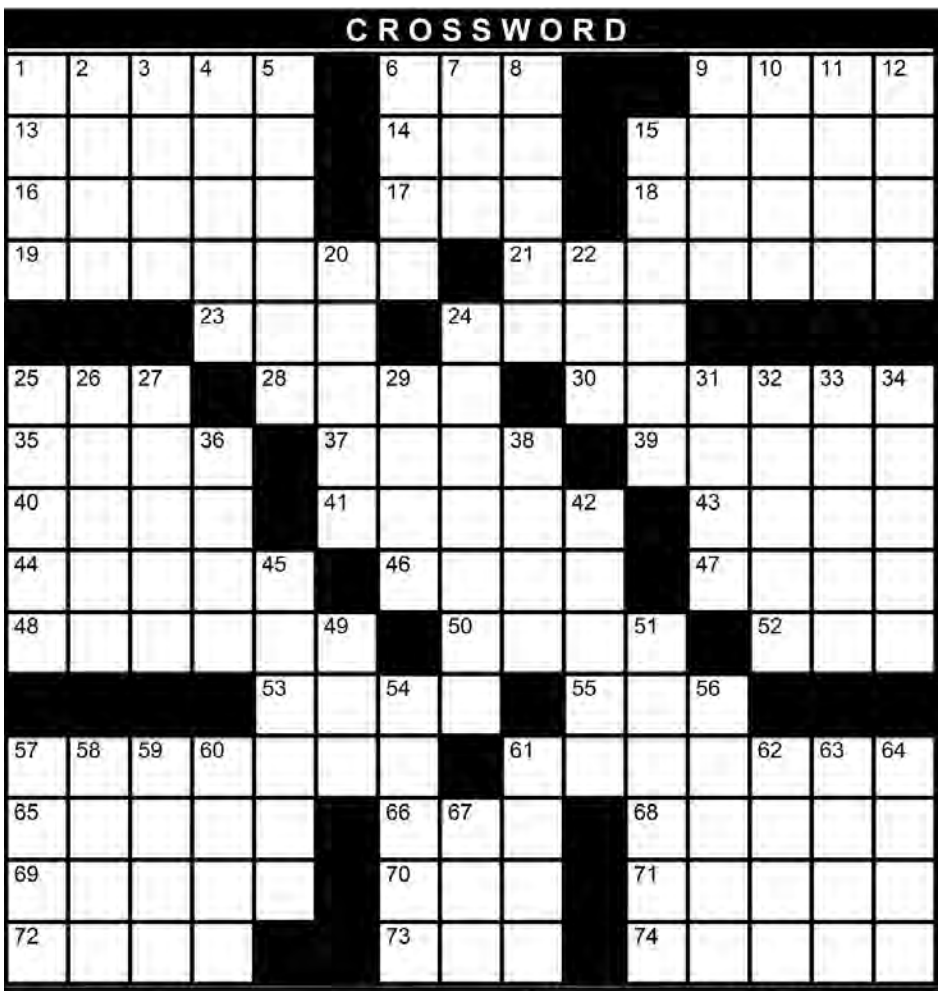
The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally,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

THEME: ROM-COMS

ACROSS
1. Anti-seniors sentiment
6. Ingested
9. “Lights out” tune
13. *”Sweet” villa (2025)
14. Leo, in Moscow
15. Mood disorder
16. Blooming bulb
17. *It happened on how many nights? (1934)
18. Follow up on (2 words)
19. *Sleepless where? (1993)
21. *Certain London Hill (1999)
23. “____ Te Ching”
24. Future J.D.’s hurdle, acr.
25. Chips accompaniment
28. Tibetan monk
30. Celebrity
35. Please do not delay, acr.
37. S.A.T. section
39. Polynesian island country
40. Scarlet O’Hara’s home
41. Singing femme fatale
43. Rig or truck
44. Artist’s support
46. Italian money, 1861-2002
47. Petri dish gel
48. Like a longer route?
50. ____ Scotia
52. RNs’ org.
53. Morally reprehensible
55. Ensign, for short
57. *Not a wedding (1994)
61. *They were reaping benefits (2011)
65. Silly
66. Gone by
68. Generational divide
69. Oodles
70. Each one for himself?
71. Ouzo flavor
72. A whole lot
73. Pertinent
74. Not rights

DOWN
1. Without further ____, pl.
2. Departed
3. Hip bones
4. *Actor Foley of #13 Across
5. Kind of block
6. Healing gel producing plant
7. *How many days to lose a guy? (2003)
8. 0 and 2, e.g.
9. Diplomat’s forte
10. ____-perspirant
11. One quark plus one antiquark
12. Spilled the beans
15. Dull surfaces
20. Fertile topsoil, pl.
22. Boat propeller
24. Army bathroom
25. *Fifty of these, to jog her memory (2004)
26. Newton of science
27. Dissect
29. *AOL delivery (1998)
31. Org. with a mission
32. Last letter, to Homer
33. *Pretty one (1990)
34. Nigerian money
36. Part of a hammerhead
38. Villain’s rival
42. *When has she been kissed? (1999)
45. Books, in Paris
49. Langley, VA org.
51. Fauna member
54. Peruvian beast of burden
56. Rive Droite and Rive Gauche separator
57. Hand-to-hand combat weapon
58. Unconstitutional and uncommon have it in common
59. Indian flatbread
60. Odds’ partners
61. Arial, e.g.
62. Naive, alt. spelling
63. Olden days “do”, second person singular
64. Files suit
67. Fall into it

CROSSWORD



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

BAU Gallery opens new exhibitons

BAU Gallery announces July exhibitions, which will feature:

- Nataliya Hines Ghost in the Machine
- Robin Adler, Karen Allen, Eileen Sackman Bone Broth
- William PK Carter Blessings of Extinction: remembering what came before, and imagining what comes next

The exhibitions will be on display from Friday, July 10, through Sunday, August 2

Artist Talk will take place on July 31, 5:30 p.m., with Nataliya Hines and William PK Carter.

For Sport or For Beauty will be held on July 26, at 2 p.m. and Beyond the Sternum, August 2, at 5:30 p.m.

Nataliya Hines' 'Ghost in the Machine'

"Ghost in the Machine" explores how meaning is constructed, inherited, and adapted in service of a new mythos. Titled in reference to Arthur Koestler's concept of the fragmented mind, the work reflects on the tension between self and system, and the imperfectly evolved impulse to reconcile the two. The nine paintings in this exhibition depict figures emerging from primordial folkloric memory and personal history, forming a speculative mythology. Grounded in the elemental, cyclical sensibility of nature-based belief systems, the works consider how experiences of transcendent beauty in nature can provide a sense of connection and continuity. The exhibition reflects an uncanny, preternatural space for navigating the harmony and discordance within identity and our need for belonging; it is a place to consider a past and future of our own in the shadow of the one written for us.

Robin Adler, Karen Allen, Eileen Sackman with 'Bone Broth'

Structural integrity drives this three-person exhibition by Robin Adler, Karen Allen, and Eileen Sackman. Just as a skeleton supports an organism, the bones of a composition and materials dictate artistic form. Together, these artists explore the limits of the structures beneath: how much pressure and strain a foundation can endure before deteriorating, and the tension required to bring a creative vision to life. Through translucency and light, abstract figuration and shadows, and emotional tone, Adler, Allen, and Sackman seek to unearth the beauty of structure within each of their works.

William PK Carter's 'Blessings of Extinction'

"Blessings of Extinction" compares short-term adaptation to long-term evolution in nature, arguing that the survival of a marginalized species depends on the eventual extinction of its predators: white supremacy and heteronormativity. In that comparison, this exhibition highlights the impact that an individual's seemingly small lifestyle changes can have on the overall trajectory of their entire community—demonstrating how choosing to be visibly authentic in one's daily life sends ripples of hope through those who've come before and will come after them.

The show includes wall-mounted illustrative quilts depicting the evolution of a fantastical creature and three puppet performances held in and outside of the gallery. This project is made possible with funds from the New York State Legislature and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson. In partnership with Dutchess County Pride.

Nataliya Hines' "The Mother Tree," 2026, acrylic on canvas, 39 in. x 32 in.
-Image courtesy BAU Gallery

that's italian!

by luigi coppola

The Great Chicken Escape of '06

About 20 years ago, Pop decided he was gonna be a chicken farmer. Not for money. For the eggs. Just because, as Momma put it, *"Your faddah, he need-a somethin' to keep him outta my kitchen."*

Every winter, they'd head to Florida, leaving me in charge of the chickens. Easy job … until the blizzard from hell showed up. Snow everywhere. Snow on the coop. Snow in my boots. Snow judging my life choices.

I go out to feed the chickens — open the coop — and boom. Gone. All of them. Not a feather, not a cluck, nothing.

I panic. I call Pop in Florida.

Me: "Pop, the chickens are gone."

Pop: "Gone? Whaddaya mean gone? They don't-a drive!"

Me: "They're missing! I think a raccoon got them."

Pop: "A raccoon? All-a twelve? What, he bring a the U-Haul?"

In the background I hear Momma yelling:

Mom: "Tell him check-a the fence! Tell him check-a the gate! Tell him check-a his brain!"

Pop: "Your mothah say you gotta check-a your brain."

Me: "Thanks, Pop. Very helpful."

I spend the whole day imagining the lecture I'm gonna get when they come home. Mom crying like she lost money. Pop shaking his head like I ruined the family legacy. But the next morning — there they are. All twelve chickens. Just strolling around the yard like they went out for cappuccino.

I called Pop back.

Me: "Pop, they're back."

Pop: "Back? Where they go, Atlantic City?"

Mom: (yelling in background): "I told-a you! Chickens, they smarter than him!"

It took me a while to figure it out.

The snow had piled so high inside the fenced area that the chickens simply walked up the snowbank, stepped over the fence, took a little winter vacation, and came back when they felt like it. They didn't escape. They just … took the stairs.

When I finally explained the whole snowbank situation, Pop just shook his head like he was disappointed in both me and gravity.

Pop: "So the chickens, they figure it out … but you? Nothin'. Mamma mia."

I could picture Mom crossing her arms, giving me that look — the one that could curdle milk — and said:

Mom: "Eh. In this family, even the chickens get-a more respect than you."

And that, right there, was the moment I realized: I wasn't just chicken-sitting … I was being outsmarted by poultry and out-appreciated by my own parents. Anyway, Chicken Cacciatore is an old-fashioned favorite. "Cacciatore" mean "hunter" in Italian. Fitting, don't you think? Enjoy the recipe!

Chicken Cacciatore

Ingredients:

4 chicken thighs
2 chicken breasts, bone-in and skin-on
2 tsps. salt, plus additional to taste
1 tsps. freshly ground black pepper, plus more as needed
½ cup all-purpose flour, for dredging
¼ cup olive oil
1 large red bell pepper, chopped
1 medium onion, chopped
3 garlic cloves, finely minced
¾ cup dry white wine
1 32 oz. jar of Coppola's Marinara
¾ cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
3 tbsps. capers, drained
1 ½ teaspoons dried oregano

Directions:

Season the chicken pieces with 1 teaspoon each of salt and pepper. Lightly coat all the pieces in flour, shaking off the excess.

Heat the olive oil in a large, heavy sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add the chicken in a single layer and brown well on both sides, about 5 minutes per side. If the pan is crowded, brown the chicken in batches. Transfer the browned pieces to a plate.

In the same pan, add the chopped bell pepper, onions, and garlic. Cook over medium heat until the vegetables soften and the onion becomes translucent, about 5 minutes. Season lightly with salt and pepper.

Pour in the white wine and let it simmer until reduced by half. Stir in the Marinara Sauce, the chicken broth, capers, and oregano. Return the chicken to the pan, turning the pieces so they're coated in the sauce.

Bring everything to a gentle simmer. Cook over medium-low heat until the chicken is fully cooked — about 30 minutes for the breast pieces and about 20 minutes for the thighs.

Serve over hearty pasta. Rigatoni or penne. Oh and, of course, a nice loaf of bread.

Luigi Coppola is one of five brothers born to Francesca and Antonio Coppola. The Coppola family came to America from Naples, Italy in 1954. Antonio and his brothers opened their first restaurant in Poughkeepsie in 1961. Luigi and his brothers Nick, John, Antonio and Vincent have carried on the family tradition in the way their parents taught them, using classic recipes taught to them at their apron strings. Visit their website at www.coppolas.net.