

BEACON FREE PRESS

Volume 75, Number 36

September 9, 2026

REMEMBERING 9/11: 25 YEARS LATER



Beacon resident Elaine Leinung stands next to the monument and salvaged portion of the South Tower of the World Trade Center at American Patriot Park in the city of Beacon. Leinung's 22-year-old son, Paul James Battaglia, worked on the 100th floor of the North Tower on 9/11.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

Writing helps Beacon resident recall special times with son

By Kristine Coulter

Elaine Leinung will be holding a book signing for her book, "I Am Still Your Mother: Love Does Not End at Goodbye," and a conversation about grief, healing and hope on Thursday, Sept. 17 at Grinnell Library, 2642 E. Main St. in Wappingers Falls from 6-7:30 p.m.

First, though, Leinung must get through the remaining days in early September.

Leinung and her husband moved to

Beacon several years ago. Leinung saw the Patriot Garden with the 9/11 Memorial off Verplanck Ave. at Matteawan Road, when she and her husband were looking at possibly buying a house in Beacon.

"I was very moved and very touched, even in Beacon they have a memorial. I was very happy about that," shared Leinung.

Continued on page 3

Beacon Players' performance to honor all lost on 9/11

By Kristine Coulter

They weren't born yet on that horrific day in September 2001 that changed America and the world, but students from local high schools will host "an evening you will never forget."

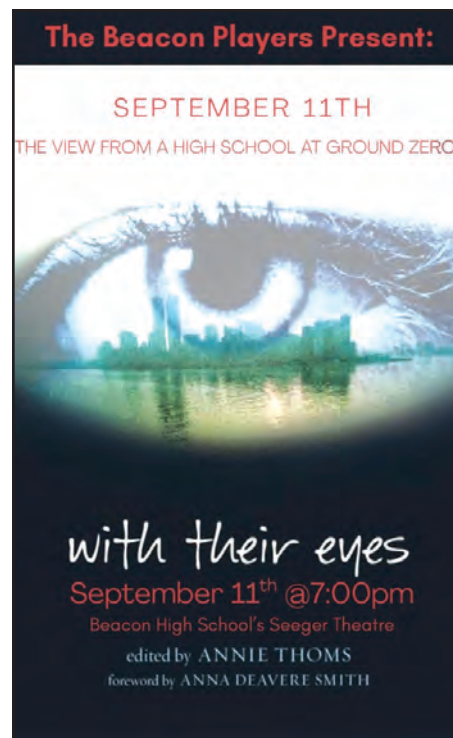
The Beacon Players will present "September 11th the View From a High School at Ground Zero: With Their Eyes," on Friday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Seeger Theatre in Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Rd., in Beacon. Along with Beacon High School students, there will be guest students from other high schools joining the Beacon High School Players for this very special show that will honor the 25th anniversary of the terror attacks on the World Trade Center.

Evangeline Santise is one of the participants.

"I wanted to take part in this event because I believe that "With Their Eyes" discusses important topics that needs to be talked about," Evangeline stated via email.

Gabriella Diaz, who is also taking part in the production, stated in an email, "I want to be part of this 9/11 tribute to hopefully show through my character what the people at this time felt and give that emotion to the audience, highlighting the importance and tragedy it brought to the world."

According to Giana Rodriguez, who will also be a part of the night's show, "I wanted to take part in this event because it was such a pivotal moment in history that deserves to be recognized by people of all ages. I wanted to find a place where



The Beacon High School Players will perform "With Their Eyes," on Friday, Sept. 11 at Beacon High School.

-Courtesy image

I could respectfully honor the lives of those we lost while still having hope for the future, and this event is exactly that."

Continued on page 2

Stanford 9/11 Memorial comes to life for 25th remembrance

By Jim Donick

For the 25th remembrance of the tragic attacks on the World Trade Center, the Town of Stanford is going all out to prepare their annual memorial to that national nightmare. Very importantly, they have also included the young people of the community to play a major role, both in preparing the memorial and also in competing in a special essay contest.

On the hillside in front of the town hall will be 2,955 flags to recall each person who died that day. Additionally, and special to this year, there will be ribbons attached to round cork name tags on the fence. Those tags will each have the name of one of the victims. This is an addition for this year, and co-chairman Ed Zick notes that it is particularly meaningful. For the 25th anniversary the organizing committee decided to focus efforts heavily on local children.

"We want to make this very real for them as well. This way the memory will stay alive," said Zick.

Continued on page 5



Red Hook artist Richard Wambach prepared this special composite image for the Town of Stanford Fire Department and their special project for the 25th anniversary of the 9-11 tragedy.

-Courtesy of Richard Wambach

REMEMBERING 9/11: 25 YEARS LATER

Beacon Players' performance to honor all lost on 9/11

Continued from cover

Beacon Players Director Anthony Scarrone, who was in New York City on 9/11, said, “For many students and audience members, September 11, 2001, exists primarily in textbooks, documentaries, and stories told by older generations. Those born after the attacks have no firsthand memory of the fear, confusion, and uncertainty that swept across the country, nor of the profound ways the tragedy altered American life. This event was created in response to that growing distance.”

Scarrone added, “Through theater, spoken word, and music, the production offers young people an accessible and emotionally meaningful way to encounter this history. Performance can transform facts into human experiences, inviting audiences to ask questions, develop empathy, and explore the events that followed 9/11, as well as the ways its consequences continue to influence our communities and the world.”

Giana stated, “People that take part in this event will walk away with a deeper understanding of just how unexpected this all was and to appreciate their day by day lives. While sometimes our daily tasks may seem boring, some would give everything to do what we take for granted.”

By taking part in this event, Gabriella remarked, “I’ve been able to really see the impact it had on this world and see the good hearts of many people who had helped each other in this hard time.”

For Evangeline, “taking part in this event has shown me how even though this horrific event left no person unscarred, people have the ability to come together to move forward and heal as a community.”

“Stories of volunteers, neighbors, families, and ordinary people offering help will reinforce the idea that even in moments of profound darkness, humanity can respond with care and strength,” remarked Scarrone. “Together, the performance and exhibit seek to honor those who were lost while reminding audiences of what becomes possible when people stand together.”

Scarrone shared about the approach of each annual anniversary of that tragic day where so many were lost.

“The approach of each anniversary brings the experience back to me in ways that are both intimate and difficult to express. Having survived that day, I continue to carry memories of the people I lost, the scenes that remain sharply etched in my mind, and the knowledge that millions of lives were

permanently changed. Gratitude is present alongside grief: I am thankful to have survived, and I recognize the responsibility and privilege of sharing what I remember. Certain moments remain extraordinarily vivid, including the disbelief of witnessing such cruelty and devastation unfold, the fear that seemed to reach every corner of the nation, and the uncertainty about what might happen next. Still, amid the horror, I remember an equally powerful response—the compassion, resolve, and solidarity that brought people together when the country was facing unimaginable loss,” he stated.

The Beacon Players director told about the hard work and dedication these students have put into this production.

“They have examined the historical record, listened to personal accounts, considered the human cost of the tragedy, and challenged themselves to perform material that is unfamiliar and emotionally demanding. Their preparation has required discipline as well as sensitivity, and they have approached every aspect of the work with maturity, thoughtfulness, and sincere respect for those whose lives were affected. By using spoken word and music to interpret these stories, they are helping carry the memory of 9/11 into the future and offering younger audiences a meaningful point of connection to an event they did not personally witness,” said Scarrone.

Evangeline commented, “People should attend to witness the hard work and dedication we put into this play and to participate in the remembrance of September 11th on its 25th anniversary.”

Gabriella explained, “I do believe people should attend this event because I believe it will give the audience an emotional feel of that time and see the importance of this day. And it gives a motivation to be part of the change in the world for the better.”

“People should attend because they will get a chance to see what exactly happened that day shown in a new light. We have worked on this with nothing but respect and admiration and when people attend this event they won’t just witness, they will learn,” said Giana.

Scarrone also mentioned, “An accompanying lobby exhibit will focus on the hope, compassion, and resilience that emerged during the difficult days and months afterward. Although the display will recognize the enormous loss, grief, and suffering endured by countless individuals and families, it will also draw attention to the courage of first responders, the generosity of

strangers, the unity of communities, and the perseverance of those who faced unimaginable challenges.”
It was noted that in light of the pro-

found significance of this event, there will be no admission fee for the performance. Donations will be directed to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

Beacon resident remembered



At Patriot Garden in Beacon there is a memorial for Jupiter Yambem, a 41-year-old Beacon resident, and all the heroes who gave their lives on the morning of September 11, 2001. Yambem was a banquet manager at Windows on the World restaurant in Manhattan. The restaurant was on the 106th and 107th floors of the North Tower. Yambem was born in Manipur, India. At the age of 21 he immigrated to America.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

Local municipalities to commemorate 9/11

The following municipalities have announced 9/11 Memorial Services.

Town of East Fishkill

Friday, September 11
6 p.m. Patriotic Concert
7 p.m. Remembrance Service
East Fishkill Community Center
890 Route 82
East Fishkill

Town of Fishkill

Friday, September 11
11 a.m.
Town of Fishkill Police Department
801 Route 52
Fishkill

Town of Wappinger

Friday, September 11
8:30 a.m.
Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer 9/11 Memorial Park
Route 9 North & Old Hopewell Road
Wappingers Falls

Village of Fishkill

Friday, September 11
8:30 a.m.
Van Wyck Hall
1195 Main St.
Fishkill

Village of Wappingers Falls

Friday, September 11
5:30 –8:30 p.m.
Mesier Park
Wappingers Falls

Now Hiring For Our Sales Department!

CELEBRATING MUSICAL DIVERSITY

KZE

WKZE.COM

98.1

Resumes:
gm@wkze.com

It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 877-516-1160 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC

Be prepared before the next power outage.

**IMPACT**
PR & Communications

Win the Region's Best: HV Credit Union Announces Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes



**HudsonValley**
CREDIT UNION

**IMPACT**
PR & Communications

REMEMBERING 9/11: 25 YEARS LATER

Writing helps Beacon resident recall special times with son

Continued from cover

This Friday, Sept. 11, it will be 25 years ago that Leinung’s eldest child, her son, Paul James Battaglia, 22, worked on the 100th floor of the North Tower on 9/11 when the World Trade Center was hit by terrorist attacks. Leinung said Battaglia had a “knack for numbers.” Paul worked for Marsh & McLennan. He interned with the company while attending Regis High School in Manhattan during his senior year. He attended and graduated from the State University of New York Binghamton. After graduation, his internship became a full-time position with the company. He was a risk consultant, she stated. While with the company, he kept a website, Battaglia.org of photos he took.

Leinung said her eldest child “was just a lot of fun.” She noted, “Paul was like born at 40.”

She recalled at that point in his life in 2001, “He was really in a good place. We had a lot of fun the night before. I have a lot of happy memories,” she said. Leinung said sometimes she was Battaglia’s “partner in crime.”

“He had a wicked sense of humor,” she said. Battaglia’s mentor was Harry Taback, Leinung’s cousin, who was also lost in the World Tade Center attacks. He was 56 years old.

On that early morning in September 25 years ago, Leinung was at a conference. One of her colleagues said a plane hit the World Trade Center.

Leinung knew her oldest son was gone, she said. He had a meeting that day, Leinung recalled, and she knew Battaglia liked to be early for his meetings.

She was walking toward the World Trade Center covered with ash. Police officers were trying to turn people around. She made her way down to St. Vincent’s Hospital. Eventually she would make her way to the family’s Brooklyn home.

Grief, said Leinung, is cyclical. It comes at different times. Leinung noted that people, Americans especially, want everything finished and tied up in a nice bow.

Grief “is very rough but you learn to live with it,” she said.

Leinung complied all the messages and condolences she and her family received from people about Paul in the book “The Guest Book: In Memory of Paul James Battaglia.”

A description of the book states: “This book is a collection of messages, reflections, and memories shared on a website Paul created shortly before his death. In the days, months, and years following September 11, 2001, friends, family, and



A plaque at Patriot Garden in Beacon, which states: “New York American Patriot Gardens Paying Tribute to those Victims and Heroes of the September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attack.”

loved ones returned to that space to write—to grieve, to remember, and to stay connected. The entries appear as they were originally written, preserving the voices, language, and immediacy of that time. Together, they form a living record of love, loss, and the enduring impact of one life. This book is offered in remembrance of Paul and in gratitude to all who took the time to share their words.”

Her younger son is putting on a reading in Manhattan on Sept. 10th about what he wrote regarding 9/11. Leinung is not sure if she will be in Manhattan on Sept. 11th though, she said. She has been writing things down for a while. It was three years ago, she remarked, when she realized, “I lost Paul longer than I had him. I had been writing things down a long time.”

In “I am Still Your Mother: Love Does Not End at Goodbye,” Leinung writes: “I was putting on mascara when I heard the front gate click. I thought, ‘If I’d been five minutes earlier, I could have ridden the train with him.’ I loved the feel of his suit against my shoulder, the scent of his cologne. But he walked too fast; I wouldn’t have caught him. Another train would have come, but that wasn’t the point. I just missed one last ordinary moment.”

“America was supposed to be protected,” she said. Battaglia, and all the others that were lost and have since been lost, “were victims of war. They were civilian casualties of the war,” Leinung stated.

“Loss of life is forever...it’s permanent. It’s not that I don’t love my life,

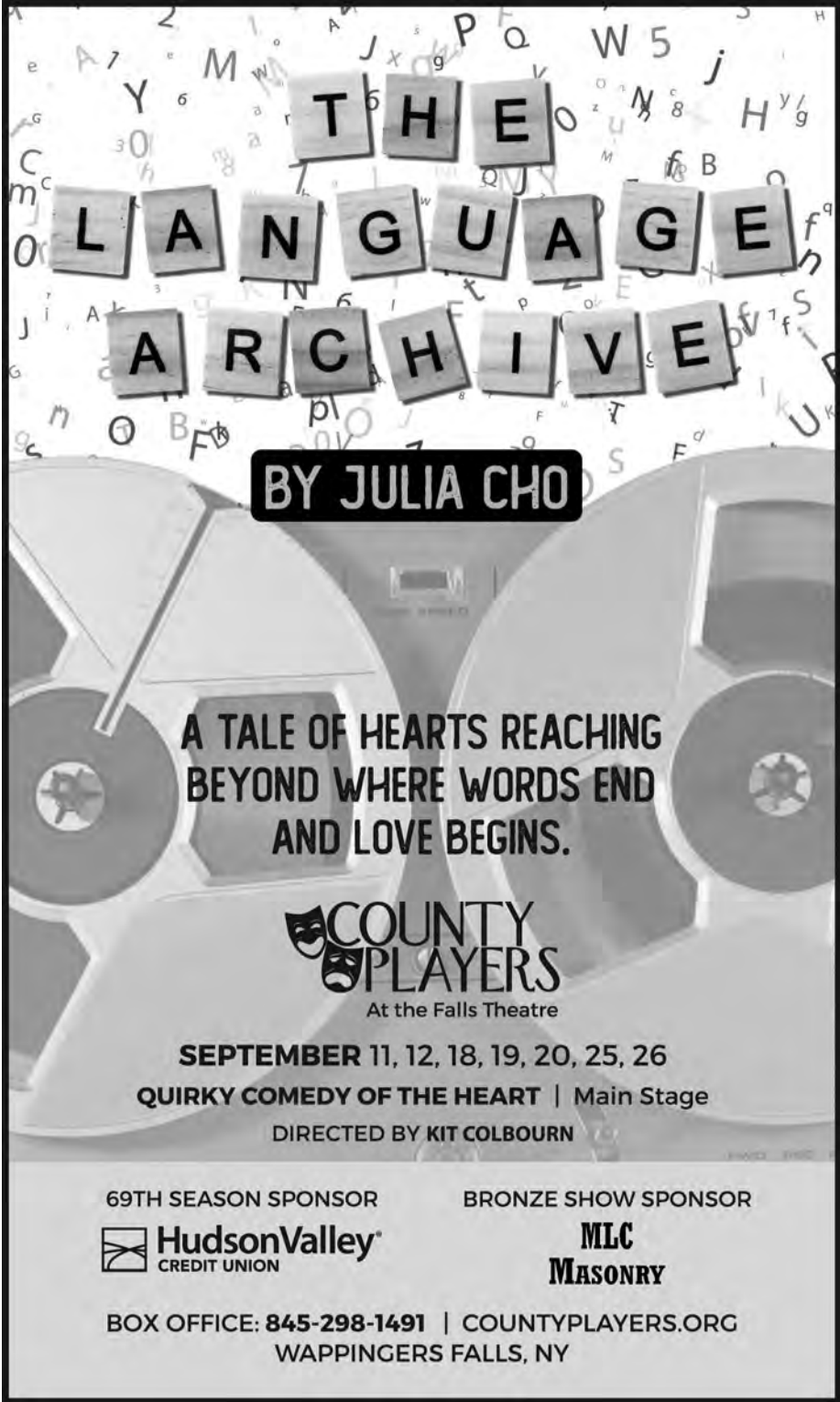
‘cause I do love my life.” She added she has her husband, her two other children, has been blessed with grandchildren and had a great career as a nurse.



The pin with a photo of Paul James Battaglia worn by his mother, Elaine Leinung.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter

“But there’s this empty space. That’s just the way it is,” Leinung said.



THE LANGUAGE ARCHIVE

BY JULIA CHO

A TALE OF HEARTS REACHING BEYOND WHERE WORDS END AND LOVE BEGINS.

COUNTY PLAYERS
At the Falls Theatre

SEPTEMBER 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26
QUIRKY COMEDY OF THE HEART | Main Stage
DIRECTED BY KIT COLBOURN

69TH SEASON SPONSOR
 **HudsonValley**
CREDIT UNION

BRONZE SHOW SPONSOR
MLC MASONRY

BOX OFFICE: **845-298-1491** | **COUNTYPLAYERS.ORG**
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY

STORMVILLE AIRPORT'S
ULTIMATE YARD SALE
September 19, 2026
Visit www.stormvilleairportfleamarkets.com
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Rain or Shine
428 Rt. 216, Stormville, NY

A BARGAIN HUNTER'S PARADISE
Come see what over 300 families have to sell!

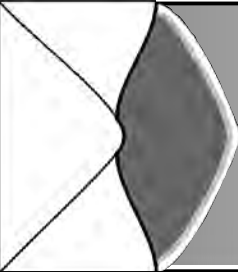
Clothing
Books
Furniture
Baby Items

Toys
Bikes
Tools

Household Items
Sporting Goods
Exercise Equipment
& Much, Much More!

Booth space and table rentals available
Call 845-226-4000
Free Admission & Parking • Food Concessions

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.

Heroes of 9/11

To the Editor:

They will come to the rescue in engines of red,
Not knowing of the danger that lies straight ahead.
Straight to the towers as fast as they might,
These brave men and women were first at the site.

Into the Towers with hoses in hand,
They rush up the stairways to save whoever they can.
Buildings afire with smoke everywhere,
Determined to go forward, they dare.

In so many minutes since they arrived,
Most of these men and women will not be alive.
The first Tower will crumble, the second one falls,
The bravest of the brave have made their last call.

So many have died who rushed to ground zero,
Magnificent they were, so many fallen heroes.
Forever, they will remain as a symbol of giving,
The ultimate sacrifice they made for us living.

The country today was awakened by terror,
It will live in our hearts, but we shall endeavor.
Death and destruction have come to us all,
They have threatened our freedom, but we will stand tall.

As the day goes on and the smoke starts to clear,
Our country will witness terror and fear.
The evil has come; they have struck the first blow,
You have threatened America, “You will reap what you sow.”

Leslie Pisaturo, 11/23/01
Town of Poughkeepsie

BEACON FREE PRESS

Published Weekly, Wappingers Falls Shopper, Inc.
84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
Albert Osten, President

serving the communities of:
Wappingers Falls, Hopewell Junction, Southern Poughkeepsie,
New Hamburg, Red Oaks Mill, Fishkill, Chelsea, Wiccopee,
New Hackensack and Stormville
Publisher - Albert Osten
Editor - Kristine Coulter
Reporter - Morgan E. Maier
Art Director - Sharon Browne
General Manager - Curtis Schmidt
Advertising Representative - Jaimie Rodriguez
Advertising Assistant - Roxanne Hoffman
Advertising rates - furnished upon request
To advertise - 845-297-3723 - sdnadvertising@aol.com
Advertising deadline is Friday at noon
Telephone: 297-3723 Fax: 297-6810
E-Mail address for letters: newsplace@aol.com

(USPS 665900)

(USPS 665900)

THE BEACON FREE PRESS (ISSN 0192-9631) is published weekly by the Wappingers Falls Shopper, Inc., 84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Second-Class postage paid at Wappingers Falls, 12590 and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BEACON FREE PRESS, 84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

Recent news on victims services funding is just a ‘band-aid’

To the Editor:

Governor Kathy Hochul’s August 28 announcement of an additional \$36 million in funding for crime victim services is welcome news for survivors and the organizations that serve them. Family Services applauds the Governor for responding to advocates' concerns and taking action to address the severe funding reductions announced by the Office of Victim Services (OVS) in July.

The additional funding provides important relief, but it does not resolve the larger problem. Family Services, which initially faced a nearly 50% funding cut, has seen its tentative annual award increase from roughly \$440,000 to \$563,000. While that helps avoid some immediate service reductions, it still represents a 33% decrease from its current funding level of \$865,000.

Family Services’ crime victim services program is still not made whole. This is a Band-Aid, not a long-term solution. We still want our state government to address the underlying problems with the award process and explain how longstanding providers ended up facing cuts of this magnitude in the first place. This will have serious consequences for our organization, our victim services system, and the thousands of victims and survivors who rely on these services each year.

Across New York, victim service providers are being asked to meet increasing needs while navigating funding uncertainty and significant cuts. These organizations provide critical services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes. When funding becomes unstable, providers struggle to retain experienced staff, maintain programs, and ensure that survivors receive timely support.

Equally concerning are the unanswered questions surrounding the OVS procurement process. Family Services and other providers continue to seek transparency about how applications were evaluated and funding decisions were made. Despite Freedom of Information Law requests, key details about the methodology remain unclear.

For organizations that have served their communities for decades, this issue extends beyond a single funding cycle. Family Services has provided victim services for more than 30 years, building essential infrastructure in the local public safety system.

Survivors deserve more than temporary relief. New York must ensure a victim services system that is transparent, stable, and sustainable, with adequate resources to support trusted providers and guarantee meaningful access to services. We urge state leaders to continue pursuing transparency, reexamine the procurement process, and fully restore funding so survivors can count on the support they need when they need it most.

Leah Feldman
Chief Executive Officer
Family Services

Rolison comments on restoration of funding for victims services organizations

To the Editor:

Following multiple calls for restoration efforts, Senator Rob Rolison released the following statement on the recently announced restoration of domestic violence services, rape crisis and child advocacy center funding:

“I am glad our voices were heard and that Governor Hochul is restoring funding for New York’s victim services organizations and child advocacy centers. From the moment these devastating cuts were announced, we made it clear they were unacceptable by writing to the Governor, while continuing to push for action at the State and County level.

These organizations are lifelines for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, and they should never have been put in a position where critical services were at risk. This restoration is an important step and proof that speaking up matters. I will continue working to ensure our local providers are made whole and have the stable, reliable funding they need to continue their lifesaving work.”

Rob Rolison (R-39th district)
New York State Senate

Jury finds Wappingers Falls man guilty of aggravated unlicensed operation and DWI

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announced recently that John Spiegel Jr., 35, was found guilty of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, and Driving While Intoxicated with Two Previous Convictions of Designated Offenses Within 10 Years, a Class D Felony, following a jury trial.

District Attorney Anthony Parisi said, “Driving while intoxicated is not a victimless crime, it is a reckless choice that can have devastating and irreversible consequences. Mr. Spiegel had been convicted of impaired driving offenses before, had lost his privilege to drive, and yet once again chose to get behind the wheel while intoxicated. That repeated disregard for the law and the safety of others is precisely why we aggressively prosecute repeat DWI offenders.”

The charges in the Indictment stem from a traffic stop on June 21, 2025, on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Milan. A New York State Trooper stopped

Spiegel while he was traveling north-bound near mile marker 72. During the traffic stop, the Trooper reported smelling an odor of alcohol coming from Spiegel. The Trooper asked Spiegel to exit the vehicle and perform standardized field sobriety tests. Spiegel refused to perform the tests. Spiegel further refused a chemical breath test. He was subsequently placed under arrest and transported to Rhinebeck State Police Barracks.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Fluck and Assistant District Attorney Chelsea Paglia of the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office. The Honorable Karen Edelman-Reyes presided over the trial and scheduled sentencing for October 19. The defendant faces 2 1/3 – 7 years in state prison.

The Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office thanks the New York State Police for their work on this case.

REMEMBERING 9/11: 25 YEARS LATER

Stanford 9/11 Memorial comes to life for 25th remembrance

Continued from cover

Each of the classes in the Pine Plains Central School District took some of the names and students hand-wrote them, one at a time, until all 2,955 names had been written. Zick noted, “none of these kids had even been alive when the towers fell, and this exercise gives them a sense of the reality and the size of the event. This was accomplished by all of the grades, first through 12th, so some of them look like they were written by very young children and some beautifully done by some of the older ones. Everyone took part.” The names will be attached to ribbons and then hung on the fence in alphabetical order.

Julie Roberts, principal at Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center, said that her school did 1,400 of the name tags.

“At first,” she said, “this was just a project to make sure it was done right ... but then the enormity hit. These were all ‘somebody’s somebody’ and they became real people.”

Kirsten Fischetti, the principal of Cold Spring Early Learning Center, has the youngest students to have taken part. Students and teachers placed a great deal of importance on this program. They “wanted to do it right.” Her students came to understand the importance of writing these names on the tags. They came to understand that the more we say these names, the more these people’s memories will live on. Fischetti notes that they, too, came to understand that each

one, like themselves and their own friends, was “somebody’s somebody.”

Chris Boyd, principal at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, reports that his students handled 1,500 of the name tags and, like the other schools, did it in the May time frame before school let out for the summer.

“Doing it in the spring,” he recalled, “gave them time to really process this memory and make it real.”

The now-annual event has special significance for the co-chair, Ed Zick. He’s a Stanford firefighter.

“Twelve hundred of our brother fire fighters died, and many are still dying now from the poisons they absorbed there,” he said. “We keep their memories alive.”

One local firefighter, a long time volunteer in Hyde Park, Paul Tegtmeier, had only recently joined the FDNY (Fire Department of the City of New York). He died in Tower 2.

The display is now in place. Flags are on the hillside, and name tags on the fence. At night, each of the nearly 3,000 flags will be lit by small tea-light candles that will shine through the night. Additionally, each night, the sky will be lit up with two searchlights pointing straight up as a reminder of the two towers that are no more.

The other major activity for the Pine Plains School District students was the essay contest. The Stanford Fire Company invited local students to sub-



The entire community is coming out to be a part of Stanford’s 9/11 Memorial. Last week, more than 40 people worked in a drizzly rain, hanging ribbons and name plates on the fence around Town Hall.

-Photos by Jim Donick

mit essays reflecting on the events and aftermath of the 9/11 tragedy. The underlying theme was to be focused on the famous Mr. Rogers’ advice in times of trouble: “Look for the helpers.” In other words, who tried to make things better? The students’ entries were divided into three groups based on grade.

The winners for each division were:

- Grades 1 to 4 - Juliana Medick - Grade 3
- Grades 5 to 8 - Juliet Morgan Shields - Grade 8
- Grades 9 to 12 - Darren J. Morrey - Grade 12.

Each group was given an assignment on the topic of helpers after the tragedy of 9/11. The topics were of an increasing level of sophistication. The winner in each group will read their essay and receive a \$250 honorarium at the memorial service on the 11th of September.

On September 11th the memorial will begin early in the morning with members of the community reading aloud the names of each of the victims. At 7 p.m. there will be a memorial ceremony hosted by the Stanford Fire Department. All are welcome.

Memorial for Local 9/11 Hero



The Paul Tegtmeier Memorial is located at Hackett Hill Park in Hyde Park. -Photo by Jim Donick

By Jim Donick

On Friday, Sept. 11, at 6:30 p.m., the Paul Tegtmeier Memorial Committee will host a 25th anniversary commemoration of the World Trade Center attacks at the Tegtmeier Memorial at Hackett Hill Park in Hyde Park.

A long-time volunteer in Hyde Park’s fire department, Paul Tegtmeier had only 18 months prior to the attack realized his dream to become a New York City firefighter. In New York he was a member of Ladder Company 46. On the

morning of September 11, 2001, Firefighter Tegtmeier was detailed to work a day tour with Engine 26. When the call came in, Engine 26 responded directly to the World Trade Center site. Tegtmeier and the crew entered Tower 2 (the South Tower) to ascend and operate on the fire floors. He perished when the South Tower collapsed. He was 41 years old.

This annual ceremony is held in memory of Paul A. Tegtmeier and all those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001.

County to host Patriot Day Memorial Ceremony on Sept. 11th marking 25th anniversary

Dutchess County Family Court Judge Tracy C. MacKenzie will host Dutchess County’s annual Patriot Day Memorial Ceremony on Friday, Sept. 11, at 8:30 a.m., on the steps of the Dutchess County Family Court building, 50 Market St., Poughkeepsie, as the nation marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The service’s keynote speaker will be Retired FDNY Battalion Commander Keith E. Cartica and will include as a ceremonial flag lowering and a moment of silence to remember and honor those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. All are invited to attend.

This ceremony has been annual tradition that began in 2002, on the first anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The event is hosted each year by Dutchess County Family Court Judges and includes remembrance of the Court Officers who lost their lives. The annual event is always well-attended by Dutchess County Government employees and local residents.

Attention: Business Owners

Here’s the best advertising opportunity in Dutchess County

3 for 1

Place your advertisement in three different entirely local newspapers for ONE low price

Reach over 50,000 readers

Southern Dutchess News
Northern Dutchess News
Beacon Free Press

Call (845) 297-3723 for details
Email: Advertising@sducthessnews.com

Barrett announces \$75,000 funding for Dutchess Outreach

Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Dutchess/Columbia) announced that she has secured \$75,000 for Dutchess Outreach. This funding will help Dutchess Outreach source locally grown food from farms in the 106th Assembly District and support the operation of the Farm Stand, a mobile food pantry program in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

For over 50 years, Dutchess Outreach has worked consistently to combat food insecurity in Dutchess County, providing fresh, local foods to those in need.

“Our Hudson Valley region is blessed with world-class farms that have fed our region for generations. As a longtime advocate for combatting food insecurity, I believe the solution starts in our own backyard – sourcing local food from our small and mid-sized farms to feed our communities,” said Barrett. “I am thrilled to secure \$75,000 in funding for Dutchess Outreach to purchase food from local farms here in the 106th

Assembly District and to continue supporting their successful Farm Stand in a Town of Poughkeepsie, a mobile food pantry that distributes thousands of pounds of food to local families.”

“We are incredibly grateful to Assemblymember Didi Barrett for this \$75,000 investment in our community. At a time when more families are struggling to afford healthy food and local farmers are facing tremendous economic pressures, this funding allows us to address both challenges at once,” said Renee Fillette, Executive Director of Dutchess Outreach. “This is exactly the kind of investment we need: one that strengthens families, supports farmers, and builds a more sustainable and resilient local food system. We are deeply grateful to Assemblymember Barrett for understanding that these issues are connected and for continuing to champion solutions that benefit the entire community.”



Assemblymember Didi Barrett, center, is pictured with staff members from Dutchess Outreach.

-Courtesy photo

County Executive, Sheriff promote positive school environments

As students across Dutchess County prepare to return to classrooms for the 2026-27 school year, County Executive Sue Serino and Sheriff Kirk Imperati remind the community that everyone plays a role in creating a safe, welcoming and respectful environment for children, both in schools and on the roads.

The County leaders are encouraging parents, educators, students and drivers to work together to help ensure every child feels supported, protected and ready to learn throughout the school year.

Serino said, “A new school year is a fresh start full of excitement and opportunity. When we choose kindness and respect, we help every student feel welcome, supported and ready to learn. Together, we can give our children the confidence to grow, succeed and shine.”

Serino emphasized that strong relationships between families, educators and students are key to building positive school communities. By treating one another with compassion and understanding, she said, we can create environments where all students have the opportunity to thrive.

Imperati reminded drivers that keeping students safe extends beyond the classroom and into the community. As children walk, bike, ride buses and travel to and from school, motorists are urged to slow down, remain alert and follow traffic laws, especially during busy arrival and dismissal times.

Sheriff Imperati said, “The safety of our students is a shared responsibility. Drivers must stay focused, follow the rules of the road and take extra precautions in school zones. Please slow down, watch for children

crossing the street, follow the direction of crossing guards and never pass a school bus with its red lights flashing. A few extra seconds of caution can help prevent a tragedy.”

Drivers should plan ahead and allow additional time for their commutes so they can safely stop for school buses. Under New York State law, all vehicles must stop when a school bus has flashing red lights, including on divided highways such as Routes 9, 44 and 55.

Motorists who fail to stop for school buses may face tickets and fines. School buses throughout Dutchess County are equipped with stop-arm cameras through a partnership with BusPatrol LLC to help identify violators. Eleven of the County’s 13 school districts participate in the program.

In addition to promoting roadway safety, Serino and Imperati reaffirmed their contin-

ued commitment to supporting safe and positive learning environments through ongoing partnerships with local school districts.

Imperati said, “Our School Resource Officers are an important part of our commitment to student safety. These trained professionals provide guidance, build relationships with students and staff, and help schools remain safe places where children can learn and succeed.”

Serino said, “Great things happen when families, schools and communities work together. Dutchess County is proud to stand beside our schools and support the students who make our communities so special. We wish every student, teacher and family a happy and successful school year filled with learning, growth and new opportunities.”

Events for Hudson Valley Climate Solutions Week announced

Hudson Valley Climate Solutions Week 2026 launches Sept. 12 - 20. Led by Sustainable Hudson Valley, the region-wide events series highlights the wide range of work being done to deal with climate change, emphasizing ways to get involved. This includes shifting the energy system to renewable sources with storage to stabilize the grid, shifting the use of materials from throwaway to circular, and adapting to the unpreventable impacts of climate change – from floods to droughts to fires.

Events will showcase private and public sector examples of climate leadership that invite participation, including:

- A Clean Power Expo at Red Hook’s beautiful Rose Hill Farm, creating a space where people can learn how to upgrade their energy systems while maximizing their savings by talking to experts, for free; chat with contractors, interact with

- the tech, and check out cars;
- An art exhibition at the Cunneen-Hackett Center in Poughkeepsie “What Comes Back: Renewal and Resilience,” explores sustainability through contemporary art; bringing together artists working across various mediums to examine how ecosystems, communities, and materials recover, adapt, and endure;
- Learning how Vassar College is pushing forward sustainability through an outdoor walking tour that showcases building decarbonization, waste reduction, and regeneration of the campus ecosystem; a space to learn about the rewards and challenges of pushing forth sustainability.

Highlighted on www.hvclimatesolutionsweek.org, events happening in Dutchess County also include:

- Innovative compost site tour in Rhinebeck showcasing a municipal and farm partnership and the use of hemp ani-

- mal bedding as a compost feedstock;
- Team leader training for hosting “The Coolest Recycling Drive,” a model for collecting and properly recycling appliances containing refrigerants, a climate super-pollutant that is often ignored;
- A webinar on how to start a Repair Cafe, freeing communities from the energy waste of the throwaway economy;
- A webinar on how to get a job in the expanding field of sustainability with Bard Graduate Programs in Sustainability Director Eban Goodstein;
- A Lunch and Learn webinar on creating and implementing climate adaptation plans for communities, with Neil Bettez, Ph.D., Climate Adaptation Team Coordinator at the Hudson River Estuary Program;
- Native plant sale at Vassar College;
- Inspiring tour of one of the region’s most innovative green building and regen-

erative design models, the Omega Center for Sustainable Living & Eco Machine in Rhinebeck.

According to Executive Director Melissa Everett, “This annual outpouring unites and strengthens the amazing movement of innovators taking direct action to roll out cleaner technologies and more regenerative practices. More than ever today, it’s on us. There is excitement as well as determination among us.” Climate Solutions Week brings neighbors, innovators, artists and organizers together to share what’s working. According to project lead Kiara Carman, “Together, we imagine and invent what’s next - local, hands on, and scalable. However you show up, you’re part of the momentum toward regional solutions and community.”

Learn more at www.hvclimatesolutionsweek.org.

RENEGADES FEATURE

Ex-Renegades playing key roles for Yankees

By Morgan E. Maier

Even if the Hudson Valley Renegades are out of the playoffs, they must be doing something right. Of the players who have taken the field for the New York Yankees in 2026, plenty of former Renegades are scattered across the field. Several High-A Hudson Valley alumni in particular have been key to the Bombers’ playoff contention.

First up is Cam Schlittler. The accolades keep coming for the fireball-slinging pitcher, who has amassed 200+ strikeouts, an All-Star nominee, and more in his first full MLB season. Once the South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year, Schlittler has embraced his role as a top Yankee starter, and the team — and fans — are at ease when he takes the mound. If he finishes out the season as he’s played all season, he is an easy favorite for the American League’s top pitcher award.

Ben Rice is the undisputed MVP of the Yankees in the absence of Aaron Judge. Judge has been sidelined by injury since May 31, but the Bombers have remained in playoff contention. The key is Rice, who sees time at first place and designated hitter. New York has been hit with a smattering of other injuries, and Rice remains a constant slugger. He cooled a bit in summer after a red-hot start, but Rice is still cooking in his career year.



Pitcher Cam Schlittler, above, and outfielder Spencer Jones, right, are just two of the former Hudson Valley Renegades who are keeping the New York Yankees in the playoff hunt this season.

-Courtesy photos

The newest Yankees were teammates for a short time in Hudson Valley:



Elmer Rodriguez (Cruz) and George Lombard Jr. In nine Triple-A appearances between big league starts, Rodriguez posted a 2.13 earned run average. He most recently appeared against the Houston Astros on August 26. The Yankees won 9-3 in a game that was knotted at three in the

seventh inning.

Lombard sent shockwaves through baseball with a fiery debut series, including a home run and plenty of “did-you-see-that” plays at shortstop. Some say it’s Derek Jeter reincarnated. I’d say he’s just as fun of a player to watch as he was in Hudson Valley a short time ago.

Spencer Jones can make a great play in the outfield one inning, and turns heads on the warning track the next. Another Renegade alumni known for his slugging, Jones has seen ample playing time in the absence of the Yankees outfield trio: Judge, Cody Bellinger, and Trent Grisham.

Trade rumors swirled around catcher Austin Wells all summer, but since July he has shown New York that he’s exactly where he should be. On August 30, Wells launched two home runs in the same inning, becoming the sixth Yankee to reach the unusual milestone.

All of these players are homegrown Yankee prospects, farmed by the eagle-eyed scouts of a perennially-contending professional franchise. Fans suspect that we may be seeing the assembly of the Yankees’ Gen-Z Core Four. But who will be the Bronx’s next household name - or names? Only time may tell, but many Hudson Valley fans already have their picks.

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

So close! Renegades fall just short of playoffs as Greensboro advances

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades entered the final week of the regular season on the cusp of postseason baseball. Yet as the Wilmington Blue Rocks started the series with two shutouts, it was soon clear that the season would be over after Sunday, Sept. 6.

The Greensboro Grasshoppers clinched the second spot of the North Division, while Hudson Valley and Wilmington battled for third place in the standings. Thanks to a five-game winning streak to boost their lead in the standings, Greensboro has dashed

Hudson Valley’s hopes once again.

The Renegades came up with a fight at the turn of the weekend, but their playoff hopes were dashed. The Labor Day celebration came early for the visiting team, who had their own shutout waiting for the Nationals’ High-A affiliate. The Renegades soared to a 7-0 shutout on Sept. 3, thanks to a few notable offensive performances. Willy Montero went 3-for-4 with an RBI single. Home runs came in threes in the seventh inning, leaving little doubt about the Renegades redemptive win.

Jackson Lovich knocked a home run

to score Montero and Robbie Burnett. Enmanuel Tejeda extended the lead to three with a home run. To no surprise on the Renegades’ side, David McCann also homered, a solo shot. Burnett, always accountable for getting on base, worked three walks.

Though 2026 ends in Wilmington, the Renegades have much to be proud of this season: a few record-setting home runs, fond farewells for the players promoted through the season, and a whole lotta fun, among many other notable moments.

See you next year!



David McCann was one of three Renegades to slug homers in a 7-0 win over Wilmington last week.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

‘Pyrocene’ author Stephen Pyne to speak at Cary Institute on new age of wildfire

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies will host a science conversation featuring environmental historian Stephen Pyne, a leading authority on the relationship between people and fire, including the history of fire management, on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m. He will be joined in conversation by Cary ecologist Winslow Hansen, who directs a national collaborative aimed at reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Guests can attend in-person at Cary’s auditorium in Millbrook or via live stream.

Fire is often seen as a force of destruction, but it has shaped life on Earth for over 400 million years and remains essential to many healthy ecosystems. Pyne and Hansen will discuss how our relationship with fire has changed, from ancient, mutual dependence to today’s era of megafires — what Pyne has coined the “Pyrocene.”

Drawing on historical insights and case studies from the Western U.S. to the Northeast, they will examine the rise of “bad fire”, why we have too little “good fire” on the landscape, and how climate, fossil fuel combustion, and land use decisions have reshaped fire behavior. They will also explore what it will take to restore a more balanced relationship with

fire, and the role that communities, policy, and land stewardship can play.

Pyne is a professor emeritus at Arizona State University and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has written dozens of books on fire history, including Between Two Fires: A Fire History of Contemporary America and The Pyrocene: How We Created an Age of Fire and What Happens Next. His work is informed by 15 seasons as a wildland firefighter on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.

Hansen is a forest ecologist who has conducted research across western North America, from New Mexico to interior Alaska, and is the founding director of the Western Fire and Forest Resilience Collaborative. This event is free and open to all. There will be time for audience Q&A following the presentation. Registration is required. There are separate signups for in-person seating in our Millbrook, NY auditorium and virtual access via live stream. Copies of Pyne’s most recent book, The Pyrocene: How We Created an Age of Fire, and What Happens Next, will be available for purchase and signing from Merritt Bookstore.

Free ‘Patriotic Park Jam’ Concert set Sunday, Sept.13 at Bowdoin Park

County Executive Sue Serino and the Office of Veterans’ Affairs, in partnership with Mental Health America of Dutchess County’s (MHADC) Veterans Programs, will again show the County’s appreciation to local veterans with a free Patriotic Park Jam concert on Sunday, September 13 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the bandshell at Bowdoin Park in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

The live music event will feature performances from The Funky Plantains and G.I. Jam, among others. The concert will be open to all, with no registration needed to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic, lawn chair, and blanket and enjoy some great live music.

County Executive Sue Serino said, “Our Parks and our veterans are part of what makes Dutchess County such an amazing place to live. We are excited to celebrate the service of our veterans with an afternoon of great free entertainment at beautiful Bowdoin Park! So, grab your lawn chair and pack a

picnic to join us for a wonderful day with friends, family, and fun.”

Veterans’ Affairs Director Adam Roche said, “I know from working with our local veterans, that these events mean a lot to them, and they feel the love. We are grateful to our community partners at MHA of Dutchess County for helping bring these two bands to Bowdoin Park to honor our local men and women. We can never thank our brave service members and veterans enough for all they have done for our nation.”

The concert will feature the funk and rhythmic grooves of the Funky Plantains, a musical group supported by MHADC’s Fox Program; classic rock, Motown, and R&B hits from the 1960s through the 1980s from G.I. Jam, a local band comprised of active or retired service members; and other local performances.

For more information on Dutchess County’s Office of Veterans’ Affairs, visit dutchessny.gov/veterans or call 845-486-2060.

get growing!

by mark adams



Bug-eyed nuisance

Spotted lanternflies have Mark singing the blues.

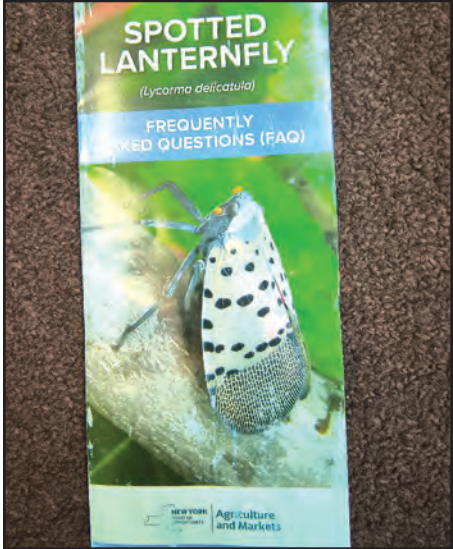
“Spotted Lanternfly Blues”
By Mark Adams

I woke up this morning! And what did I see?
A strange sticky substance on my heavenly tree.
I stood at the window rubbing my eyes.
Oh, lordy, please don't tell me it's those spotted lanternflies.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
Oh, lordy please don't tell me, I've got the spotted lanternfly blues.
Went out to my vineyard with a bottle of wine.
Those colorful creatures were all over the vines.
I drank down the bottle and I started to dream --
A giant spotted lantern fly was comin' after me.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
Oh, mama, don't you leave me.
I've got the spotted lanternfly blues.
Now the summer has ended, they've all disappeared.
At first I was thinking I had nothing to fear.
But they laid their egg masses, little pellets of clay.
Those lanternflies are tellin' me they'll be back again some day.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
I'm down and out in Poughkeepsie.
I've got the spotted lanternfly blues.

By now, I don't have to tell you what a spotted lanternfly is, unless you've been living under a rock, or anywhere west of the Mississippi River. The Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener booth at the Dutchess County Fair was swamped with questions about spotted lanternflies. In a nutshell – they don't bite, they won't cause much damage in the garden unless you are growing grapes, they are a nuisance on their favorite tree – ailanthus, or tree of heaven, which is a fast-growing junky invasive species, dripping honeydew (which they “excrete,” to put it politely) all over your car. And putting to rest a persistent rumor, no, they do not land on woodchucks and suck their blood.

Spotted lanternflies are actually giant leaf hoppers. According to Google's Gemini AI, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation has “mandated” that people kill spotted lanternflies on sight. I asked Gemini what they mean by “mandated.” It turns out that the mandate serves as an official civic directive rather than a law. Private citizens cannot be fined for failing to kill a spotted lanternfly on their property.

Whew. I was getting worried. I'm sure that various cameras and satellites have observed me not killing them. I fact, I think spotted lantern flies are kind of cute, although they do have a rather inscrutable visage. If I stomped on them, I would create a hazardous slippery



Above: The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets publishes an informational brochure on the spotted lanternfly.
Right: The spotted lanternfly's meal of choice is the ailanthus, or tree of heaven.
-Photos by Mark Adams

mess on my front porch.
And our kitten would have one less “toy” to chase.
If you are so inclined, you can buy Captain Jack's Spotted Lanternfly Eliminator, made from clove oil. Or Harris Spotted Lanternfly Killer, a powerful synthetic pyrethroid insecticide. Or you can just wait until our native birds learn to eat them. Meanwhile, enjoy the show, and buy some spotted lanternfly jewelry – earrings, neck-

laces and amulets.
And type in “Spotted Lantern Fly Blues Mark Adams” on YouTube to hear my song, accompanied by Jeff Sherban and Vito Petrocchio, recorded at Tavern 23 in downtown Poughkeepsie.

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

Win the Region’s Best: HV Credit Union announces Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes

Hudson Valley Credit Union (HVCU) has announced a Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes as part of its participation in this year's Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival. The sweepstakes will run from September 12 through September 19, giving participants the opportunity to enter for a chance to win one of three experiences celebrating the best of the Hudson Valley and beyond. The sweepstakes is open to individuals who are 18

years of age or older.*
Participants may choose to enter one or more of the following prize drawings:
• Wildflower Farms Getaway Package featuring a two-night stay in a Bower Cabin, two 60-minute spa treatments, dinner for two at Clay (up to \$300), and applicable taxes.
• Culinary Institute of America Experience, including a \$500 gift card that may be used toward dining, classes,



tours, and other eligible offerings.
• The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark Family Getaway, including a \$600 gift card that may be applied toward accommodations and eligible resort experiences.

Individuals may enter online at hvcu.org/HVWFF, at any HVCU branch location, or at either HVCU booth during the Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival. Entrants may submit one entry per prize drawing. All entry methods are treated equally.

The sweepstakes is part of HVCU's larger initiative to bring the Hudson Valley to life at this year's festival. Attendees can enjoy a build-your-own bouquet experience featuring locally grown blooms from Ulster County-based Hudson Wildflower Co., as well as complimentary samples of alcohol-infused ice cream from Orange

County-based Toppings.
“Our commitment to the Hudson Valley extends beyond financial services,” said Tina Ludwig, senior vice president, head of experience activation at HVCU. “It’s about investing in the people, businesses and experiences that make this region such a special place to live, work and visit. Through the Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes and our involvement with the Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival, we're proud to showcase local organizations and experiences that help make our region unique.”

One winner will be selected for each prize drawing through a random drawing conducted on or about September 21. Winners do not need to be present to win.

For complete official rules or to learn more, visit hvcu.org/HVWFF.

FEEL SAFE ON EVERY LEVEL

Improve Accessibility

Comfortable Design

Made in the USA

Call Today for a FREE Quote

1-844-268-5816

LIFETIME WARRANTY

Financing Available with Approved Credit

\$750 OFF

+ FREE Installation of your new Safe Step Stairlift

* With purchase of a new Safe Step Stairlift. Not applicable with any previous stairlift purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Not available in every state. Expires 12/31/26. CSLB 1082165, NSCR 0083445, 15VTH1086000, CGC1537181, ROC 312990, CCB 244331, SAFESSW784PS, PA127501, MDDC 134223, TN 5887, RL804333, RDB 49248, UT 13229623-5301

BUYING COMIC BOOK COLLECTIONS!

TOP PRICES PAID!

Honest and Reliable, 30+ years experience. Local Collector/Seller Putnam/Westchester/Orange/Dutchess and more

Call or text Richard: 917-699-2496

email: smileLP@aol.com

Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

hudson valley naturalist

by francine wizner



A maker mindset: Creativity in nature, teaching, and life

In the woodlands of Dutchess County, nature’s builders are busy constructing – albeit without the required permits from local municipalities. Beavers at Tivoli Bays and Lake Walton weave massive hardwood dams, remodeling local hydrology into thriving marshy real estate. High in the canopy, paper wasps mix wood fibers with saliva to engineer geometric nesting cells. Along the banks of the Wappinger Creek, jewelweed grows spring-loaded seed pods storing kinetic energy until a mere touch explodes the next generation into the world. Nature proves that the drive to build is hardwired.

Practicality and fulfillment
Members of the plant and animal kingdoms are makers of necessity – their survival depends upon shelter or reproduction. Humans create out of more than just necessity. Maslow’s Framework proposes that humans are driven by a spectrum of requirements, ranging from basic survival to connection, esteem, and fulfillment. It makes sense to prioritize a secure roof or a steady paycheck. Yet, even in moments of chaos, humans value aesthetics. Like the beavers and jewelweed, we are innate makers driven to learn, appreciate beauty, and create a meaningful legacy.

Teaching
I found producing unique instructional materials the most rewarding aspect of teaching. Making discoveries while devising new ways to present information is fun. It provides the perfect excuse to dive deeply into niche science topics. I become happily lost investigating these curiosities – and teaching something improves your understanding of it, as well.

Find your inner-maker
There are many ways to integrate creativity into your daily routine. Aside from art for beauty’s sake, useful crafts include textiles, pottery, and woodworking. You can beautify your home with photography, murals, or handmade accents, or explore edible pursuits like cooking with local ingredients, artisanal baking, and brewing craft beverages. An informal sampling of our area’s handy-crafters reveals how these disciplines fill hours of entertainment both indoors and out.

Beauty for home and family
June K. and Rebecca Smith Paul, both from Pleasant Valley, enhance their homes with creativity. June created a ceramic koi and alligator to decorate her pond, designing with glazes to pay homage to her living fish. She loves seeing the bursts of color after the pieces are fired in the kiln. Meanwhile, Rebecca focuses on photography to reflect genuine moments. Capturing her daughter running down a dirt road, Rebecca used a zoom lens and a low stance to adopt the child’s perspective. This technique created leading lines into the distance, conveying a feeling of being wild, young, and free. “If you just slightly switch your perspective, the moment you capture can be one-of-a-kind,” she explains.

Repurposed items
Sometimes new life can be breathed into old items. Andy Layden and Jessica Williams make use of what others might call cast-offs. Andy beautifies the packaging of



Andy Layden and Jessica Williams make use of what others might call cast-offs. At right are Andy’s repurposed bottles and boxes. At left is Jessica’s eco-friendly floristry.

-Courtesy photos

previously used products, while Jessica uses things found in nature. Andy explains, “My Mom is the artist in the family and my inspiration. I enjoy mandala dot art, [which uses repeating patterns that grow out from a center point]. When I retired, I wanted to work with my hands. I collect bottles and cigar boxes to transform.” Jessica teaches workshops on eco-friendly floristry to encourage decorating with real plants rather than synthetics. At first, participants may be unsure, but Jessica notes, “at the end of class, they astonish themselves with the beauty of what they’ve created! Connecting people with their innate creativity is immensely satisfying.”

Libraries teeming with makers
Dutchess County libraries host introductory workshops that encourage lifelong learning and make artistic experiences accessible. The Hyde Park Library hosts a Knit and Crochet program. Director Lisa Palmer says the activity “encapsulates the benefits of creativity and socialization. Knitting lowers stress, but a group setting combats loneliness.” Paint Night at the LaGrange Association Library is another popular offering alongside take-home crafts, paper quilling, fiber arts, and jewelry making. Grace Wright, the Adult Services Coordinator, notes that these programs are “a great way to foster community and creativity in an accessible way.” At the Pleasant Valley Library, Grace Burns teaches paper quilling and crafts, using the workshops to bring people together. To ensure all abilities participate, she adapts the activities for arthritis or eyesight concerns. “The joy on participants’ faces when they show each other their finished artwork is priceless,” says Burns.

Your unique mark
From the hardworking beavers at Tivoli Bays to the community workshops inside our local libraries, Dutchess County is alive with creative energy. Building and creating are essential pathways to human joy, deeper learning, and meaningful connection. By observing the natural building habits in our local wetlands, we unlock a deeper understanding of our own creative drives. Whether producing unique instructional materials, framing a photograph, or learning a new craft alongside neighbors, engaging our inner maker allows us to appreciate the world’s beauty while actively leaving our own unique mark upon it.

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.



June K. and Rebecca Smith Paul of Pleasant Valley enhance their homes with creativity. Left: June created a ceramic koi and alligator to decorate her pond. Right: Rebecca focuses on photography to reflect genuine moments.

-Courtesy photos



Nature proves that the drive to build is hardwired. Right: Wasps build nests. Left: Jewelweed grows seedpods.

-Photos by Francine Wizner

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.youtube.com/@PVMapleLodge>.



Dutchess County libraries host introductory workshops that encourage lifelong learning and make artistic experiences accessible. Top: The LaGrange Association Library offers Adult Paint Night as one of its many activities. Bottom: Participants display their works at Pleasant Valley Library’s Paper Quilling workshop.

-Photos by Grace Burns

Have Computer Problems?

Get \$20 OFF Any Service

Use Coupon Code 42513

Call Now Get a Free Diagnosis 866-848-0045

24/7 Emergency Service
Data Recovery
Virus Removal
Regular Maintenance

Friendly Certified Computer Repair Experts

Geeks OnSite

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS:
2026 HOME IMPROVEMENT FUNDING
NOW AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA

Roof • Windows • Siding • Bathrooms • Heating & More

Is your home telling you it's time?

- ✓ Roof showing age, leaks, or storm damage
- ✓ Old, drafty windows driving up energy bills
- ✓ Outdated bathrooms or exterior issues
- ✓ Projects you "planned" to do-but put off because of cost

You may qualify for special home improvement funding programs not available to the general public.

- ✓ Lower out-of-pocket costs
- ✓ Spread payments over time
- ✓ Move forward without delaying needed work

Even homeowners who could pay cash are encouraged to check eligibility.

ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED
Programs, appointments, and installations are available on a first-come, first-served basis in yqur area. Programs change frequently and may close without notice.

CALL NOW TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY
888-849-9991
or visit [NyProgramFunding.com](https://www.NyProgramFunding.com)

APPROVED APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE THE WORK COMPLETED BY A QUALITY REPAIR CREW PROVIDED BY HOMEOWNER FUNDING. NOT AFFILIATED WITH STATE OR GOV PROGRAMS. LICENSE NY-RC-H-21274

Obituaries

Alan Piciacchio



Alan Piciacchio, 59, of Fishkill, NY, formerly of Farrell, PA, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, August 22, 2026.

Alan was born January 3, 1967, in Sharon, PA to Isadore and Irene (Yevchak) Piciacchio. He was a 1985 graduate of Farrell High School and was Class President and Valedictorian. Following high school, he attended Penn State University earning a BS and MS in Ceramic Science and Engineering and remained a proud Nittany Lion. While in college he belonged to the Delta Upsilon fraternity, later serving as Historian. He authored a 130-page book celebrating his fraternity’s 100-year anniversary in 2011. He shared strong camaraderie and love with his DU brothers.

Alan began an outstanding career with IBM in NY, starting as a Process Engineer, and rising through the ranks of the IBM

Academy of Technology. Following 30 years with IBM, his division was divested and became Kyndryl. Alan achieved the rank of Distinguished Engineer as Data Engineer, Manager of Integrated Service Management, and VP of Operations Architecture. In 2024, Alan became Chief Executive Officer & Founder of a consulting firm named Alanytics. He worked with Apex Engineered Products as Chief of Staff and VP of Sales Solution Engineering. Throughout his educational and work careers, he obtained numerous professional awards, certifications, licenses, and several patents.

Alan freely gave much of his time to volunteer efforts, serving the Streamside Knolls Homeowner Association as President and Vice-President; the INFORMS Analytics Society of NJ as President; and the Beacon youth Soccer Club as Secretary, Treasurer, and Fundraising Volunteer. He also co-founded a local soccer league for adults, the United Football Club of Beacon.

Alan never forgot the town that raised him: Farrell, PA. He recently served as President of the Adhoc committee, working to promote the city. He spearheaded a fund-raising event for the local library where he spent many hours during his childhood. He was proud to be inducted into the Farrell Alumni Hall of Fame in 2015. His love for all things Farrell, and his classmates from & was evident.

The most important thing to Alan was his family. He loved his children unconditionally, and he was the best soccer, swim, and dance dad, and their biggest cheerleader from the sidelines. He was dog-dad to his beloved pets, Roxie, Penny, and Rocket. They took many hikes up Mt. Beacon to watch the sunrise. Alan also enjoyed skiing, basketball, and volleyball. Alan may not have realized how many lives he touched, and the impact he made on people. He always noticed people for who they were, making them feel seen and valued. He was upbeat, warm, kind and funny, a one-of-a-kind guy you would hope to come across. His humor was witty and sometimes off the wall and quirky. He even tried his hand at stand-up comedy in New York City and locally in Beacon, NY. His prolific sense of humor often made him the life of the party.

Alan is survived by his son Justin and daughter Vanessa. He is also survived by his brother Louis (Sharon), sister Janet Puhak, and sister Celeste, who is one of his favorite people on earth. He leaves behind many beloved nieces and nephews, who mourn the loss of their “fun uncle”. His great-nieces and nephews had the privilege of getting to know him. He also leaves many extended family members. The family wishes to thank the hundreds of Alan’s friends, classmates, former coworkers, DU brothers, fellow Nittany Lions, and soccer pals who have reached out to tell funny Alan stories, and to mourn his passing.

Alan was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law Bill Puhak. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Alan’s memory to the agency that provides services for his sister Celeste; Whole Life Services, Inc. 1565 E. State St. Hermitage, PA 16148 and to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Hudson Valley / Westchester 199 Water St. 11th Floor New York, NY 10038 <https://supporting.afsp.org/campaigns/AlanPiciacchioMemorialFund>.

His Family will gather to remember and celebrate with Friends on Saturday, September 12, 2026 from 3:00 - 7:00 PM at DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. A Celebration of Life will be held a later date in Western PA and Interment at St. Anthony’s Cemetery, Hermitage, PA. Messages of sympathy, stories and photos can be shared on Alan’s Memorial Page: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Andrew Whitson



Andrew Whitson, 79, known to many as “Wildcat Whits,” passed away on September 1, 2026, surrounded by family and friends.

A lifelong resident of Beacon, Andy was the son of the late Herbert and Ruthie Whitson and brother to Nancy Handley and to the late John Whitson.

Andy served as a Sea Bee in the United States Navy in the Vietnam War before beginning a 20+ year career with IBM. Retirement from IBM hardly marked the end of his working life. In the years that followed, his resume took a few unexpected turns: phlebotomist, owner of his own limousine route and finally, school bus driver. If nothing else, Andy was never afraid to try his hand at something new.

Andy was a member of the Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni Corp., a distinction he

carried with him his entire life. If you knew him for any length of time, there’s a good chance you heard him declare, “But I’m a Caballero!” He was an active member of St. Rocco’s and the Elks Club, and a volunteer firefighter with Tompkins Hose Fire Company. Andy was also one of the original coaches of the Beacon Soccer League, coaching not only his own children but generations of young players throughout the community.

He lived on his own terms. He never met a casino he didn’t like, enjoyed playing softball in the Beacon softball league, watching the Yankees, and had a particular passion for performing the songs he grew up with, whether or not the occasion remotely called for a performance. He loved tropical destinations and once the New York winters rolled in, he was more than ready to head south.

Survivors include his wife, Georgia Whitson; his daughter, Michelle Morrow; his son, Evan Whitson and daughter-in-law, Erin; his bonus daughter Sue Wiand (Keith Wiand) and his grandchildren, Ewan Davidson, Mace Morrow, Maddox Morrow and Simon Whitson; bonus granddaughters, Allison Frost (Derek Frost) and Abby Wiand; as well as many life-long friends and extended family members, all of whom knew better than most that life with the Wildcat and his shenanigans was rarely uneventful.

Family and friends gathered on Friday, September 4 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. Members of the Elks held services, and Military Honors followed.

Wherever he is now, we hope he’s on a hot streak and taking song requests. Memorial donations in memory of Andy may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice. To send a personal condolence, please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Elizabeth Anne Jordan



Elizabeth Anne Jordan, affectionately known by her family and friends as ‘Liz / Betty’, passed away on August 27, 2026, surrounded by family and friends. She was born to William and Lillian Humphries on May 25, 1947 in Queens, NY.

Elizabeth graduated from John Adams High School and SUNY New Paltz. She worked as an admissions counselor at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie, NY; for over 30 years, where she also taught courses and led countless clubs, organizations, and events over the years.

Liz is survived by her partner, Stephen Wilantewicz (and family) of Wappingers Falls, NY; daughters Wendy Jordan of

Wappingers Falls, NY and Holly (Robert) Avella of MD; granddaughters, Avery and Rylie; sister Valerie Heller of Westhampton Beach, NY; and brother Robert (Jocelyn) Humphries of Hopewell Junction, NY; as well as her beloved nieces, cousins, and many lifelong friends.

Her Family gatherer and received Friends on Saturday, September 5th at the DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 E. Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY; where a Prayer Service was offered. A Private Cremation followed, and interment will be at the discretion of her family. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

NDH launches Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program

Northwell Health’s Northern Dutchess Hospital has launched a transformative new initiative - The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program, providing critical resources and support to caregivers across the Hudson Valley. The groundbreaking program is made possible by a generous \$300,000 gift from the Thomas Thompson Trust and additional philanthropic contributions, resulting in over \$500,000 raised to date to strengthen caregiver services at the hospital.

This endeavor directly addresses the emotional, physical and financial strain faced by an estimated 110,000 family caregivers in Dutchess, Columbia and Ulster counties. According to recent studies, nearly 60% of family caregivers find themselves in high-intensity situations. Northern Dutchess Hospital’s own Center for Healthy Aging has seen demand for caregiver support increase, with roughly half of all mental health visits focused on caregiver concerns.

“Through my years of caring for patients and my own personal experience, I’ve witnessed just how much love, energy and sacrifice caregivers pour into supporting others,” said Dr. Andy Wilson, president of Northern Dutchess Hospital. “Too often, caregivers carry that responsibility quietly and without enough support of their own. Seeing The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program take shape is incredibly meaningful because it recognizes the vital role caregivers play and reminds them that they are not alone.”

Born into poverty and entering domestic service as a housekeeper at just 13 years old, Elizabeth Rowell Thompson never forgot her humble beginnings, even after marrying Boston businessman Thomas Thompson and later inheriting considerable wealth as a result of a trust her husband established. Elizabeth was an advocate for those facing hardship, particularly working women with children.

After Thomas’ death, she gave generously to the communities of Rhinebeck, NY, and Brattleboro, VT. where she had homes. For more than a century, the Thomas Thompson Trust has carried that mission forward. Elizabeth’s enduring legacy of recognizing and supporting those striving to care for themselves and their families serves as the direct inspiration for this new program.

Carrying that legacy forward and building on the proven success of Northern Dutchess Hospital’s Center for Healthy Aging, which has offered caregiver support since 2012, The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program will significantly expand and integrate support across inpatient, outpatient and community settings. Led by Allison Gould, LCSW, the program will provide coordinated, comprehensive services including:

- Supportive counseling for caregivers and their families
- Support groups
- Educational workshops
- Volunteer caregiver coaches
- Resource referrals
- A quiet space for caregivers to decom-



Representatives of The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program include, front from left Chaplain Jody Spiak, Manager Patient Experience Jennifer Sinnott and Manager Caregiver Program Allison Gould. In back are Assistant Manager Guest Services & Patient Experience Matthew Murray and NDH President Andy Wilson, MD.

-Photo courtesy of Northwell Health

press

“Caregiving is one of the most challenging experiences a person can face, and something that no one should have to go through alone,” says Allison Gould. “We have seen the difference that caregiver support interventions make. Time and again, caregivers have shared that support groups, counseling, and resource navigation services have been invaluable as they traverse the caregiver’s journey. We are thrilled to now be able to expand these essential services to reach caregivers across our hospital’s service areas and throughout the community. Our program is for everyone, at every stage of the caregiving experience.”

To ensure broad impact, the program will actively collaborate with a robust network of partners. Within Northern Dutchess Hospital, this includes spiritual care, patient experience, case management and various clinical departments like oncology and primary care. Beyond the hospital setting, key partnerships extend to county health departments across the region, including the Alzheimer’s Association, County Offices for the Aging and local organizations such as Rhinebeck at Home and Red Hook Responds, ensuring integrated support and wide community reach.

The Northern Dutchess Hospital Foundation will continue fundraising efforts to expand the program’s reach in the years ahead. Future goals include creating a dedicated center, where caregivers can gather, learn and connect as well as establishing an endowment to sustain the program’s operating costs through current and legacy gifts. For more information or to support the program, contact the Northern Dutchess Hospital Foundation at 845-871-3176.

For more information about caregiver support services, contact 845-871-3392 or email ndhcaregivercenter@nuvancehealth.org.

- Southern Dutchess News
- Beacon Free Press
- Northern Dutchess News

Classified

Place your ad today! Call 297-3723 Deadline Thurs at 3 p.m • Publication Wednesday Fax your ad today! 297-6810

Classified Rates

Classified Line Ads
20 words \$12.50; each additional word 20¢

Classified Display Ads
\$14.50 per column inch

If submitted by deadline, ads appear in three newspapers:
**Northern Dutchess News,
Southern Dutchess News
& Beacon Free Press**

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

100 Help Wanted	201 Home Improvement	401 Apartments for Rent	509 Office Equipment	720 Vendors Wanted
105 Employment Opportunity	202 Cleaning Services	402 Rooms for Rent	510 Firewood	721 Wanted to Buy
106 Business Opportunity	203 Lawn Services	403 Furnished Rooms	511 Lawn & Garden Equip.	722 Bazaar
107 Situations Wanted	221 Professional Services	404 Furnished Apartments	512 Winter Merchandise	723 Consignments
120 Schools	222 Tax Experts	405 Wanted to Rent	516 Misc. Merchandise	724 Farmers Market
121 Special Instruction	223 Beauty Services	406 Garages for Rent	700 Pets & Supplies	725 Collectibles
122 Musical Instruction	225 Business Services	407 Vacation Rentals	701 Free Pets	750 Events
140 Nursery Schools	226 Travel & Services	408 Houses for Rent	702 Lost & Found Pets	800 Boats
141 Child Care	227 Bridal Services	420 Commercial Rentals	703 Pets for Adoption	801 Campers & Trailers
142 Day Care	295 Financial	500 Musical Merchandise	710 Garage & Yard Sale	802 Motor Homes
143 Baby-sitting	296 Mortgages	501 Kid Stuff	711 Tag Sale	803 Recreational Vehicles
145 Adult Care	300 Real Estate	502 Clothing	712 Moving sale	900 Autos for Sale
150 Announcements	301 Townhouses & Condos	503 Furniture	713 Rummage Sale	901 Vans/SUV's
151 Adoption	302 Commercial Property	504 Appliances	714 Flea Market	902 Trucks
152 Novenas	304 Mobile Homes	505 Free Items	715 Craft Corner	903 Motorcycles
154 Lost & Found	305 Lots & Acreage	506 Computers	716 Barn Sale	904 Auto Parts & Tires
155 Personal Services	400 Townhomes & Condos for rent	507 Sports Equipment	717 Estate Sale	905 Autos Wanted
		508 Exercise Equipment	718 Auctions	
			719 Antiques	

Contact Us

Call:
845-297-3723

Fax:
845-297-6810

E-Mail:
sdnadvertising@aol.com

Monday-Friday
9 am-4 pm

200 Services

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-877-290-0023 Have zip code of property ready when calling!



201 Home Improvement

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-877-271-0003

AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-877-318-7982

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-888-605-1496

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-516-1160 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-866-247-5728

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In-Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service, Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-916-5473

204 Health

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-855-484-2093.

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-877-468-3979

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-877-536-0251

219 Attorney Legal

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-877-315-0990.. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider

226 Travel Services

SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277



295 Financial

End your tax worries today. Let us make your tax problem our priority. Scared, stuck with high tax amounts? Our A+ tax professionals can help. Call for a FREE consultation. Call Priority Tax now 1-877-663-7719

300 Real Estate

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

302 Commercial Property

Building for Sale
Route 9
Wappingers Falls, NY
845-897-9555

Estate Sale

ESTATE SALE:Call (845) 765-0667

Tag Sale

MULTI-FAMILY
TAG SALE
Saturday, Sept. 12th
9AM - 6PM
13 Truffle Ridge Rd
(off Old Hopewell Rd)
Town Wappingers Falls
Rain Day/Date
Sunday 9/13

516 Misc. Merchandise

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682



521 Internet

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-877-461-0663

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

521 Internet

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

905 Autos Wanted

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2026. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-484-3467 today!

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-403-3374



300 Real Estate

Call **888-448-0421** by **9/30**

Kimberlee Markarian

"I treat each & every one of my buyers & sellers like family."

Associate Real Estate Broker
m. 845.505.9174 | d. 845.244.2188
 kmarkarian@bhhshudsonvalley.com
 kimberleemarkarian.bhhshudsonvalley.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | **Hudson Valley Properties**
HomeServices

Let me show you the way home.

892 Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524

and **300,000 Hotels** across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money.

Spend your travel dollars when you get there **not getting there!**

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now **877-988-7277**

*Promotional offer includes 25% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. Cannot be combined with other offers. See representative for full warranty details. DC 420223000087, AZ ROC 344027, AR 036690206, CA 1035795, CT HIC.0671520, FL CB0506678, ID RCE-51604, IA C127230, IA 5595944, MD MHIC164488, MI 213292, MI 262300331, MI 262300330, MI 262300329, MI 262300328, MI 262300318, MI 262300173, MN JNR0205-810524, MT 266192, NE 50145-34, NV 0086990, NV 13VH13285000, NM 408693, ND 47304, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10N91, UT 10783658-5501, VT 174.0000871, VA 1EAFF1H763P36, WV WV0506912, WI 537-DCDFR

We work fast and are ready to help with your sale when you are. Call today to see if our fast cash offer aligns with your home sale needs!

CALL 1-888-704-5670

Not for mobile homes, not for homes listed on the market.

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/27/26. Licenses at IBRLicenses.com

*Free third item with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13/HT1096000

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/27/26. Licenses at IBRLicenses.com

*Free third item with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13/HT1096000

Trust the Nation's #1 Roofing Contractor
Award-Winning Roofing and Customer Service

**FREE ESTIMATE
SCHEDULE TODAY!**
Call 1.855.492.6084

CALL TODAY! 1.855.492.6084

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie/indices/

-Only service animals with valid ID please- SEE YOU AT OKTOBERFEST 2026! #germaniaofPoughkeepsie.

Southern Dutchess News
Beacon Free Press
Northern Dutchess News

Classified

SDN Subscriber ads

107
Situations
Wanted

Residential and Commercial Clean outs. Disposal of unwanted items
Carpentry work
Interior and Exterior Painting. Property Management Call
Craig 845-891-8930

409
Roommates
Wanted

House Partner to share a fine home. Great area 20 minutes from Train Station,\$1,200/month
Female older first class.
845-401-7654

410
Studio's

Studio Apartment available Sept. Town of Poughkeepsie. Electric heat included. No Smokers, No Animals. Good area for commuters, \$1,200.
845-522-0879

500
Musical
Merchandise

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

501
Kid Stuff

Graco Pac and Play Bassinet mobile. Great condition asking, \$75.
845-897-5812

503
Furniture

Sleep number California King mattress, dual firmness adjustment control,new compressor, excellent condition, like new, \$400.
845-505-8843

4 set Antique wood dining chairs upholstered seats exc. cond. Best offer.
845-625-3213

Trundle bed solid oak, twin size, bookcase headboard, drawers mattress's like new, \$350.
845-505-8843

China Hutch, TV Cabinet, Queen Mattress & Boxspring, hardly used, Sealy Brand, Best Offer,
Call 845-797-9724

White Wickerr bassinet with newer mattress \$40 plus painted maple high chair \$20 both use for 3 generations.
845-897-5455

503
Furniture

Kitchen table solid Oak, round, two leaves, four chairs, excellent condition, \$400. 845-505-8843

Day Bed Frame Twin white Decorative Head and Side Frame. Excellent condition, \$100. 845-226-8896

Outdoor Mult. Position Reclining Chair, Cost \$75 New. Large Size. Call: 845-297-2105

Patio set, glass top with four chairs with cushions. 9 foot umbrella with stand. Used once, \$350. Call 845-297-4741

Bedroom set sokid wood furniture four pieces plus two mirrors great condition, \$200. 845-505-8843

Spiral Stair case never used, \$950. Regular stair case 4' wide interior. 845-401-7654

508
Exercise
Equipment

For Sale Cubii JRI under desk elliptical Bike Pedal Exerciser practically new, \$125. 845-297-2925

516
Misc.
Merchandise

Werner Ext. Ladder, Fiberglass, 24', D6224-2, 300 lbss, like new, \$200. 845-297-9607

Four Kenwood KL777 100W speakers, wood cabinet, exc. cond., \$225. 845-337-6509

Guideposts Amish Sugercreek Mysteries, hardcover books one thru twenty-five series, great condition asking \$45. Great fictional writers, 845-897-4214

Compressor - Cambell Hausfeld Model Century - A.C. Motor, 120V 240W - 125 PSI Max, 20 gal tank, Price \$150. Call 845-226-7409 leave message.

Original Wooden Brio Train Set. Over 45 pieces including train, 3 different types of track and speciality pieces.\$75 845-264-0240

Nautical collection for over 50 yrs Newburgh, Beacon ferry parts. Collectors pieces. 845-401-7654

516
Misc.
Merchandise

1980 Winter and Summer Olympic Sports stamp prints and blocks of stamps in original envelopes, 11 X 14, \$20. 845-592-0450

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

50 years of collecting good stiff antiques call for appointment. 845-401-7654

Queen size wood sleigh bed box spring mattress included. Exc. Cond. Best offer. 845-625-3213

Paintball Equipment for sale. Guns cases hoppers tanks masks all in good working order. Asking \$150 for all. 914-420-5626

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

Back to School

523
Seasonal
Merchandise

Propane Fire Pit Table with Tank. Used Once, asking \$110.00.
845-226-6242

711
Tag Sale

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE
Saturday, Sept. 12th 9AM - 6PM
13 Truffle Ridge Rd (off Old Hopewell Rd)
Town Wappingers Falls
Rain Day/Date Sunday 9/13

900
Autos For
Sale

1957 Mark II one of a kind secone owner, \$57,000 orig-inal. 845-401-7654

Pets for Adoption


Pets For Adoption ARF, Beacon, NY 845-831-5161
54 Simmons Lane PO Box 1129 Beacon, NY 12508

Pets For Adoption ARF, Beacon, NY 845-831-5161
54 Simmons Lane PO Box 1129 Beacon, NY 12508

Pets for Adoption

Sheeley: 7 yrs. 4 mos. Female, black short hair good with other cats. Can be shy with new people but when she knows you she demands attention with adorable trills and will even let strangers give her a soft pat. Sheeley leans into pets and has dense wooly fur that is so soft and is ok being picked up. She would love to snuggle up with you. She likes to play and has lived with other kitties before. Adopt: ARF, Simons Lane, Beacon, NY

Kaido: Mixed Breed Dog, Male, 1 yr, white with tan, yellow or fawn, medium size 55lbs good with kids, good with other dogs, housetrained. Kaido is very friendly, cuddly and loves car rides and wals. He's pretty much perfect. Adopt: ARF Beacon, NY

Champ, Dachshund & Terrier Mix. Adult 3-8 yrs, Male, Small 0-25 lbs, Medium coat, color, White/Cream, Red/Chestnut/Orange. He's Friendly, Loyal, Loves kisses, Protective and Affectionate. Adopt: ARF, Simons Lane, Beacon NY

Legal Notices

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza
- Suite One
Beacon, New York
12508
Phone
(845) 838-5002
September 4, 2026
SUBJECT:
Variance
Application
Applicant:
Jonas Concepcion
Address:
39 Masters Place
Tax Grid No.:

Legal Notices

30-6054-39-257726-00
Zoning
Classification: R1-5
Dear Neighboring Property Owner:
Jonas Concepcion, 39 Masters Place, has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for area variance relief from Beacon Zoning Code Section 223-26 B.(2), to allow for the construction of a driveway in the front of

Legal Notices

the principal building, which requires relief from the following:
1. Section 223-26 Off-street parking, loading and vehicular access.
B. Location, use, design, construction and maintenance.
(2) In any residence district, no designated off-street parking area or structure shall be developed in any front yard forward of the

Legal Notices

principal building, except as approved by the Building Inspector or Planning Board for an unusual lot configuration. Nor shall any off-street parking area or structure be developed in a residence district in any minimum side or rear yard setback adjacent to a street line or in any other side or rear yard within five feet of the lot line. However, off-

Legal Notices

street parking spaces shall be permitted in residential districts as indicated in §223-17C.
The driveway, as proposed, would require a 5-foot side yard setback variance, as well as a variance for parking in the front yard forward of the principal building.
The full application is available online at: [https://www.beacon](https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/)

Legal Notices

[ny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/](https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/)
The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this application at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM, in the Municipal Center courtroom, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York. You are invited to be present to voice your support or objection to this

Legal Notices

appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on September 15, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov
Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

Diversions

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a

FREE SHOWER PACKAGE

PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP

WALK-IN TUB

1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082185 N5CB 0082999 0083445

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

© StatePoint Media

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

3				5	
2				4	
				3	
3					
			4		5

© 2023 krazydad.com

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: EMMYS

ACROSS

1. Cut off

6. "Be quiet!"

9. Yellowjacket

13. Brunch offering

14. Lawyers' org.

15. Capital of Vietnam

16. Without illumination

17. Harland David Sanders' title, abbr.

18. Abhorrence

19. * _____ Theater, Emmys venue

21. *2026 Emmy Awards host

23. Fah follower

24. Like a certain eagle

25. Grill master's acronym

28. Aussie's neighbor

30. Kick the bucket

35. Look angry

37. Opposite of riches

39. Holiday spirit spreader

40. Soprano's song

41. Introduction

43. Flocculant, for short

44. Queen Elizabeth's favorite dog breed

46. Dog command

47. * _____ show, like nominated "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"

48. Works dough

50. Highest volcano in Europe

52. "I agree"

53. Winter woe

55. Publisher's revenue source, pl.

57. **"Euphoria" Lead Actress nominee

61. *Most nominated series for 2026 Emmys (2 words)

65. Love, in Paris

66. Don't waste

68. Ottoman Empire VIP

69. Carried a torch

70. Biochemistry acr.

71. Scrabble pieces

72. Editor's "let it stand"

73. " _____ or nothing"

74. Kind of peak

DOWN

1. Fish a.k.a. porgy

2. European sea eagle

3. Velum, pl.

4. "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey," e.g.

5. Did the test again

6. Quarterback's downfall

7. *Network/streamer with most nominations for 2026 Emmys

8. Chinese Checkers predecessor

9. Dry riverbed

10. Type of cuckoos

11. Middle Eastern market

12. Type of cotton fiber

15. Vast multitudes

20. Bird sound

22. Matterhorn, e.g.

24. Biased

25. *Nominee Jason Bateman's " _____ Rabbit"

26. B on Mendeleev's table

27. One-twentieth of a ream

29. W in VFW.

31. Huck Finn's escape

32. Embedded design

33. Fur shawl

34. *Jean Smart's nominated comedy

36. Sitar music

38. *Assigned spot in #19 Across

42. Myna, alt. sp.

45. Driver's license alternative (2 words)

49. Sushi sauce

51. Experts

54. "Little House on the Prairie" protagonist

56. "The rain in _____ falls mainly on the plain"

57. Nukes

58. What exhaust pipes do

59. Opposite of all

60. Simon and Gurfunkel, e.g.

61. Bluish green

62. Robinson Crusoe's turf

63. Short for Theodora

64. *Nominated Mark Ruffalo's drama series

67. *Connor Storrie's nominated show, acr.

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				

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

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



The value of things we can see and touch

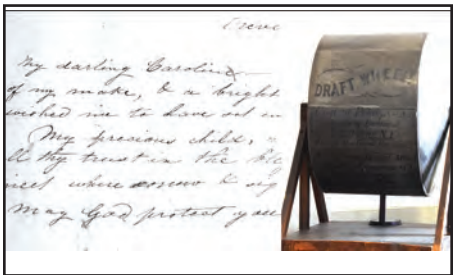
By Bill Jeffway
Addressing the topic, “The Value of Local History,” Lewis Mumford spoke to members of the Dutchess County Historical Society who gathered at Troutbeck in Amenia one hundred years ago, on September 15, 1926. They came to hear this thirty-year-old young man, already an emerging national writer, address what might seem a simple question to an audience that needed no convincing. But putting an answer into words is harder than it looks, and a century later we benefit from his having done so. We also see how Mumford’s advocacy of local history fit with larger philosophical discussions about history at the time, including George Santayana, the source of the famous quote in 1905, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

The recent discovery of one of Mumford’s books signed by Santayana in December of 1926 as he gave it to a friend, is an example of Mumford’s argument that the things that we can see and touch have a unique power to ignite the imagination.

In 1926, Mumford published what became one of his most significant books, “The Golden Day.” In it, he was amplifying Santayana’s thinking that an active engagement in learning about our past was the only way to have human progress. In “The Golden Day,” Mumford confirmed his alignment with Santayana saying about history, “When we are integrated [with our past] we grow like the tree; the solid trunk of the past and the cambium layer where life and growth take place.”

Mumford would go on to become one of the most influential American writers on cities, architecture, technology, and the relationship between people and the places they create. But on that September afternoon in Dutchess County, he turned his attention close to home.

Mumford and his wife were at the Amenia estate of Joel and Amy Spingarn, the progressive reformers who would become the Mumfords’ own neighbors once the couple bought a house nearby. Troutbeck was no ordinary country retreat: it was the site of the Amenia Conferences of 1916 and 1933, pivotal gatherings at which the NAACP’s early



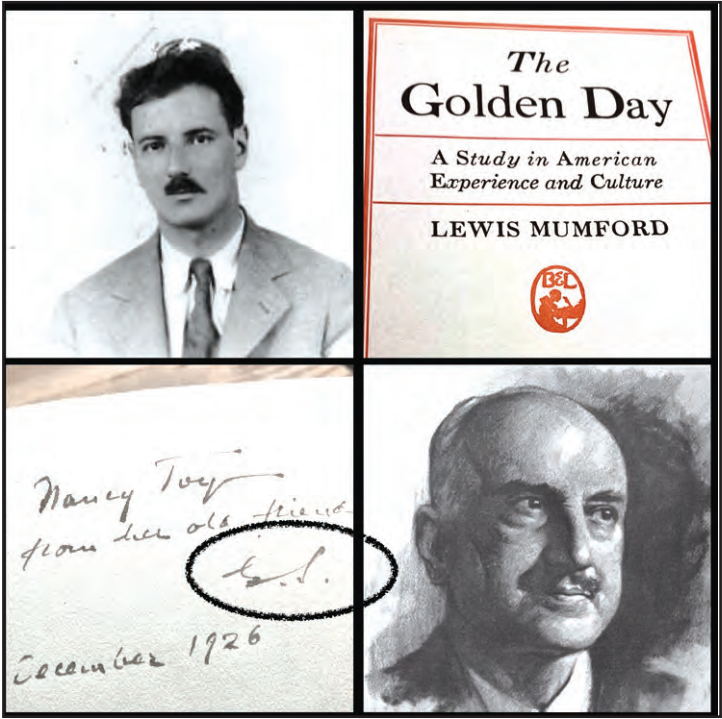
Above left to right: Among the powerful things we can “see and touch” in DCHS Collections is the December 21, 1840 letter to two-year old Caroline Clowes (who would go on to be the famous painter) from her mother who died three days later on Christmas Day. In the letter, Elizabeth Clowes tells her daughter to “trust in the Lord.” The draft wheel used in Poughkeepsie in 1863 during the Civil War when the volunteer effort was no longer adequate to carry on what became America’s deadliest war. Names on cards were pulled from a small door in the back.

leadership shaped the strategy of the emerging civil rights movement (See Julia Hotton, DCHS 2022 Yearbook). Mumford’s message to the historical society that day is no less relevant now.

“The things that we can see and touch are those that awaken our imagination,” Mumford told his audience, contrasting them with “scenes and incidents one has taken solely out of books and secondhand accounts.” That distinction may be the simplest explanation of why local history matters. History can easily become abstract. We memorize dates, wars, presidents, legislation, great national movements.

Then, suddenly, the distance between past and present begins to collapse. The person was here. The road was traveled. The words were written by an actual hand. You feel a connection not possible in any other way.

That was not an argument against books or scholarship – Mumford was himself a formidable scholar. But he argued that the physical evidence around us gives history an immediacy that books



Above top left to right: Photo of Lewis Mumford around the time of his September 1926 Troutbeck address and the title page of his book The Golden Day published the same year. In his book Mumford expressly refers to the historian George Santayana who famously wrote in 1905, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Above lower left to right: In December 1926 Santayana inscribed a copy of Mumford’s book and gave it to a friend [DCHS Collections]. Also, in December 1926 Santayana wrote to Mumford making several critical points about this writing.

-Archives at Indiana University, Indianapolis].

alone cannot. He saw this clearly at Troutbeck, where the surrounding landscape of Amenia offered evidence of successive generations: family names, houses, roads, architectural styles, traditions, and stories. A historian, he suggested, could use fragments like these much as a naturalist uses a handful of bones to reconstruct a much larger creature.

That leads to his second important idea: local history is not “less” than national history. Quite the opposite.

Mumford argued that when we examine a particular community carefully, its history inevitably leads outward. War, slavery, emancipation, industrialization, and changing ideas about government all eventually leave their traces somewhere. National history happens locally.

A law may be passed in Albany or Washington, but its consequences arrive at somebody’s doorstep. A war discussed in histories of presidents and generals eventually means a particular young man leaves a particular farm.

Mumford described great events as waves moving across the country and leaving something behind in individual communities. That metaphor remains useful today. The American Revolution left its deposit here. So did slavery and abolition, immigration, and the shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy. The struggle for women’s rights, the arrival of the railroad and the automobile, two world wars, and the civil rights movement can all be found in Dutchess County, if we take the time to look.

Local history, then, does something more important than provide colorful anecdotes to decorate the national story. It changes our understanding of that story.

There is another part of Mumford’s argument that feels especially apt on its hundredth anniversary. He treated remembering the past and imagining the future as inseparable acts, not opposite ones. A community with a sense of its own past has a sense of continuity. It understands that people came before, made choices, succeeded, failed, built things, destroyed things, solved problems and created new ones, and that we are doing precisely the same thing for the generations that will follow. We are not standing outside history. We are somewhere in the middle of it.

That idea may have even greater relevance in 2026 than it did in 1926. We live increasingly in a world that is instantaneous, digital, and geographically unmoored such that we had to create a new word: the “deep fake.” Artificial intelligence can search, reconstruct, and interpret enormous bodies of material, and millions of historical documents can be consulted without leaving home. Those are remarkable opportunities. But they also make Mumford’s distinction more important, not less. A digital image of an eighteenth-century document is use-

ful; it is still different from standing before the document itself. A photograph of an old house conveys information. Walking through its doorway conveys something else. Reading that an event happened at a particular place gives us knowledge. Standing there can awaken imagination – and imagination is essential to historical understanding, because history gets understood through the eyes and ears we have developed from our own unique, personal experience. This is how different people can take different lessons looking at the “same” history.

Perhaps that is part of why Mumford’s address has endured. The Dutchess County Historical Society published “The Value of Local History” in its 1927 Yearbook, and it has been reprinted and cited ever since. Its message was never simply that communities should celebrate themselves or collect charming stories about earlier days – Mumford explicitly warned against that kind of narrow local pride. The deeper purpose of local history was self-knowledge.

“The Golden Day” made much the same argument about the country as a whole and it found real readers among the very people it examined. A first edition of Mumford’s book survives, inscribed by “G.S.” (Santayana himself), to Nancy Toy, a friend from his Harvard years, and dated December 1926 – the same month Santayana wrote to Mumford directly to discuss the book. The item offers a small, tangible thread connecting the philosopher who diagnosed America’s divided culture and need to embrace history, the book that answered him, and the valley where Mumford first tried the argument out on his neighbors.

By understanding one place deeply, we begin to understand larger places. By understanding people who lived before us, we become better equipped to understand people whose experiences differ from our own. And by recognizing that the landscape around us is filled with evidence of earlier lives, the seemingly remote past becomes personal.

A century after that gathering at Troutbeck, Mumford’s most enduring lesson may also be his simplest: history is not somewhere else. It happened here and it is vitally important if we want to improve generation to generation. The local things we can still see and touch can help us imagine it.



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

RESORTS WORLD CASINOS

SIGN UP & Set Sail

JOIN GENTING REWARDS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE CRUISE FOR TWO AND UP TO \$500 FREE SLOT PLAY T&Cs Apply

Resorts World HUDSON VALLEY

VOYAGES

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PLAY THE NEW YORK LOTTERY GAMES. PLEASE PLAY RESPONSIBLY. 24-HOUR PROBLEM GAMING HOTLINE: 1-877-8-HOPENY(846-7369)