

BEACON FREE PRESS

Volume 75, Number 41

October 14, 2026

Marist to honor 4 athletes, plus Giorgis, Gartland in inaugural Hall of Fame event



Longtime Marist University trustee Jack Gartland will be enshrined as one of 6 in the inaugural Marist University Athletics Hall of Fame class on Oct. 23.

-Courtesy photo

By Morgan E. Maier

Four accomplished student-athletes, a record-setting basketball coach and a longtime trustee will be enshrined as the inaugural Marist Athletics Hall of Fame class as Marist is set to celebrate decades of Red Fox achievements during its Homecoming and Reunion weekend on Oct. 23-24.

The festivities at McCann Center will celebrate Terence Fede (Class of 2013), Rachele Fitz (Class of 2010), Chris Tracz (Class of 2005), Rik Smits (Class of 1988), Brian Giorgis, and Jack Gartland. Fede, the first Marist alum drafted to the NFL, played three seasons with the Miami Dolphins. Fitz was a standout women's basketball player, holding the records still in all-time points and rebounds.

Tracz stands as the winningest pitcher in Marist baseball history, reaching three NCAA tournaments during his career (2001-2005). The current head coach at Army West Point, Tracz holds records in innings pitched, strikeouts, starts, and complete games. Smits led the men's basketball team to its first NCAA Tournament appearance in 1987, then spent his entire 12-year career in the NBA with the Indiana Pacers.

At the helm of Marist women's basketball, Giorgis won 11 conference titles and led his team to a program-best Sweet Sixteen finish in 2007. As president of the James J. McCann Charitable Foundation, the late Jack Gartland secured millions of grant dollars to drive facility renovations and expansions on campus, building the success of Marist programs that persists today. In 1999, Marist President Dr. Dennis Murray declared, "No volunteer has done more for students, faculty, and alumni of our college than Jack Gartland."

The Hall of Fame event on Oct 23 begins with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m., and the plaque installation and ceremony will follow at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online via the Marist Athletics website (goredfoxes.com). Register at the "2026 Hall of Fame Celebration" page under the Tickets tab.

"The establishment of our Hall of Fame is the perfect way to showcase the long, celebrated history of outstanding athletics programs that have brought great distinction to Marist. We are fortunate to have an extensive number of impressive individuals and teams that have made Red Fox Nation

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Pumpkins highlight annual Sloop Club festival on Oct. 18

By Kristine Coulter

October is here and so is the Beacon Sloop Club's (BSC) annual Pumpkin Festival. The festival will be held at the Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon on Sunday, Oct. 18 from noon – 5 p.m.

"We strive to provide attendees with a choice of free crafts, feature quality vendors, and promote environmental awareness," said Joyce Hanson, member of the BSC.

"We are an all-volunteer organization with a strong environmental message, and we are dedicated to keeping as much single-use plastic out of our festival as possible. To support this effort, we require all vendors to use compostable products. Please note that we provide free water for refillable water bottles, and we only permit the sale of beverages in compostable cups, glass bottles or cans," she noted.

Hanson explained that this festival, as the Strawberry and Corn festivals do, features two solar-powered stages with local Hudson Valley performers throughout the day. She said one stage is dedicated entirely to children's entertainment.

Robert May, president of the BSC, explained, "We have planned a number of exciting changes and improvements which, I think, will delight festival-goers. We have several new children's activities that should entertain and enthrall our children guests of all ages."

He added, "We have invited several new vendors, who are thrilled to join the festival, alongside old festival vendor favorites. Several new and exciting musical acts will grace our main stage and



The Beacon Sloop Club will host its annual Pumpkin Festival on Sunday, October 18, at the Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo

family stage, joining popular musicians from past years, and perhaps a few who haven't played for us in a number of years. But perhaps the most exciting news is our sloop Woody Guthrie will be making its first public appearance since it has been completely refurbished. Our Woody looks beautiful! It's been freshly repaint-

ed and the interior partially rebuilt and newly varnished. Many structural improvements have been made. We can't wait to show our sloop off. We hope many of our festival guests will sign up for a free sail during the festival."

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'It's contagious' - love of fiber arts, animals powers thriving NYS Sheep & Wool Festival

46th annual event set Oct. 17-18 at DC Fairgrounds

By Matthew Fetzer

For many, the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival is more than just an annual event. It's a celebration of agriculture and community that brings people together each fall at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck. As this year's festival approaches Oct. 17-18, local farmers and longtime attendees are looking forward to celebrating the traditions that have made this event a staple of the Hudson Valley.

What once started as a livestock auction and market in 1980 has evolved into one of the biggest fiber arts and agricultural events in the Northeast over the last 46 years.

According to the official NYS Sheep and Wool Festival website, "What began as a gathering of shepherds and wool producers has grown into a vibrant tradition that brings together artisans, educators, farmers, vendors, and curious newcomers to share a passion for fiber arts, livestock,



Katie Drum will be showing her sheep in the Breed Barn at this weekend's NYS Sheep & Wool Festival at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.

-Courtesy photo

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'It's contagious' - love of fiber arts, animals powers thriving NYS Sheep & Wool Festival

Continued from cover

and rural heritage. Whether you're shopping for handcrafted goods, attending a workshop, watching sheep competitions, or meeting fellow makers, the NYS Sheep and Wool Festival offers something for everyone."

More than 100 vendors will be in attendance at the festival, selling textiles, farm products, and other goods. Workshops will be offered throughout the weekend. From spinning to wreath-making, to crocheting and embroidery work, dozens of workshops are available to the general public (fees vary by workshop).

Events such as the sheep show, livestock displays, seminars, used-equipment auctions, and children's activities are all very popular at the festival.

One of the festival's featured competitions is "Make It With Wool," a fashion contest run by Meegan Veeder-Shave, the director of the program at Patchwork Pastures in Hyde Park. There are five divisions in the contest: Pre-teens (age 12 and under), Juniors (ages 13-16), Seniors (ages 17-24), Adults (age 25 and older), and Made for others (any age).

Pre-teens can make a sweater, jumper, skirt, vest, or shirt, while the other divisions must make a complete outfit, according to their website. Made for others must be worn by the person for whom the garment is intended. Judging is based on appropriateness to the contestant's lifestyle, coordination of fabric with garment style/design, contestant's presentation, construction quality, and creativity.

"This is such a fascinating community," said Veeder-Shave. "I love the outreach and different interactions that we have with people. Some people get into sheep because of discussions that they've had with us. There are lots of places where people can be more than just a shopper here."

That sense of community is part of what makes the festival so special for many other Hudson Valley-based farmers and fiber artists. One longtime participant is Lauren Drum, who has been showcasing for over 30 years. As sheep owners, she and her 14-year-old daughter Katie display them at the breed barn on the fairgrounds. Drum regularly serves as the ring steward for the sheep show demonstration, while her Katie was the wool ambassador for the past two years.

"There's a lot more people interested in sheep and wool than you generally think," said Drum. "The number of people that you see at the festival is astronomical and just to know that there's that many people that are interested in the different aspects of wool is really cool."

"I love sharing things with the people that love sheep wool," said Drum's daughter, Katie. "I love showing them where their wool comes from and how many different types of sheep there can be. I love to make the connection in their brains and watch their minds being blown."

Visitors to the festival will have the chance to pet the sheep and feed them treats in the breed barn, according to Drum.

The Crisp family, owners of Old Beach Farm in Poughquag, will also be in the breed barn. Alicia Crisp, along with her husband, Jimmy, will display their Romney sheep. As a member of the Dutchess County Sheep



Jackson and Jimmy Crisp of Old Beach Farm will be displaying Romney Sheep. -Courtesy photo

and Wool Growers Association, the organization responsible for the festival, Crisp hopes that more people can be introduced to the world of fiber arts.

"I always make it a point to tell people who have never been to the festival to come out," said Crisp. "Sometimes people will tell me, 'Why would I want to go? I'm not inter-

ested in fiber arts,' but you will be. It's contagious. You will fall in love with the fiber animals, and you will fall in love with the fiber arts."

Additional information on tickets, vendors, and workshops can be found on the official NYS Sheep and Wool Festival website sheepandwool.com.

Resolution to cover Flock cameras passes in Legislature's Public Safety Committee

From Legislature reports

Legislator Chris Drago (D-Stanford) has introduced a resolution directing that any Flock Safety license plate reader camera still installed in Dutchess County after Oct. 25 be covered with opaque, non-damaging material within seven days, and stay covered until it comes down. The measure successfully passed out of last Thursday's Public Safety Committee of the Dutchess County Legislature unanimously, and went to a full board vote Tuesday, Oct. 13.

On Sept. 25, District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati announced that Dutchess County would stop using Flock's automatic license plate readers. The DA stated that it would take no longer than 30 days to remove the devices.

Until then, dozens of cameras remain mounted on poles across the county, looking exactly as they did when they were recording every passing vehicle.

The resolution directs the County Executive and County departments to carry out the covering safely and without damaging the equipment, which remains

Flock's property until removed.

"Since Dutchess County deactivated its Flock cameras on September 25, I have called for the cameras to be covered pending their removal, giving residents visible assurance that they are no longer operating. With no action taken, I introduced a resolution requiring that any County Flock cameras still standing after the October 25 removal deadline be covered. Covering the Flock cameras is a small act, but an important step toward restoring public trust by demonstrating respect for residents' privacy and freedom. I urge the

County Executive to act now to cover all Flock cameras immediately because privacy is foundational to American democracy," said Drago.

Legislator Eric Alexander (D-Town of Washington) added, "At the Flock forum, citizens expressed great urgency about eliminating surveillance cameras in Dutchess County. Now they are demanding certainty about when they will be physically removed. This resolution will address their concerns by establishing a date certain for the cameras to be covered before they are removed."

Hudson Valley researcher examines 'Playing with Emotion' for study

Hudson Valley researcher and Bradley University graduate student Victoria Alexeev is recruiting adults for "Playing with Emotion," an online experimental study examining how specific elements of video games may affect short-term emotional responses.

Alexeev notes that video games have had a complicated history with mental

health, and as games have become a larger part of everyday life, questions about their effects on mental health continue to generate public concern and scientific debate. Social scientists believe better research can help consumers, parents, gamers, and clinicians understand how gameplay may affect emotion, behavior, and mental health.

Existing research tends to treat video games as a broad category. Alexeev's research takes a more specific approach by examining what happens when individual elements of game-play are studied separately. Different game systems ask players to make decisions, respond to challenges, interact with information, and engage with a game in different ways. Playing with Emotion tests whether those differences are associated with measurable changes in how players feel during play.

Participants complete three short game levels containing different activities and answer brief questions about their emotional state throughout the experience. The study also records game-play data related to how participants interact with the game.

Participation takes approximately 10 to 15 minutes and can be completed online

using a desktop computer, laptop, or mobile device. Participants must be at least 18 years old and have basic English proficiency. Individuals with photosensitive epilepsy, seizure disorders, or severe motion sickness are not eligible to participate.

Alexeev is a graduate researcher in Bradley University's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program and founder of VGTx, or Video Game Therapy, a research initiative examining how video games, game mechanics, and interactive systems affect emotion, cognition, behavior, and mental health.

Playing with Emotion has been reviewed and approved by Bradley University's Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research, Study #I-2026-031-BU. Adults interested in participating can visit PlayingWithEmotion.com to learn more and begin the study.

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IMPACT

PR & Communications

Bridging More Than the Hudson Valley, CFHV Announces Award to Walkway







See story.
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Pumpkins highlight annual Sloop Club festival on Oct. 18



The Beacon Sloop Club will hold its annual Pumpkin Festival on Sunday, October 18 at the Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon. Pictured are volunteers slicing pumpkin pies during a previous year's festivities.

-Courtesy photos Beacon Sloop Club



Pumpkins will be the highlight of the annual Pumpkin Festival, set for Sunday, Oct. 18 in Beacon. The festival is held by the Beacon Sloop Club.

Continued from cover

This season, said May, is a “magical time of year along the Hudson River. So, we will be offering fresh pumpkin pie, locally sourced apple cider, hot chili, and

local pumpkins, all things that remind us of fall. That’s what will make it different from the Strawberry Festival and the Corn Festival.”

There will be something for everyone,” May said of the vendors. “And

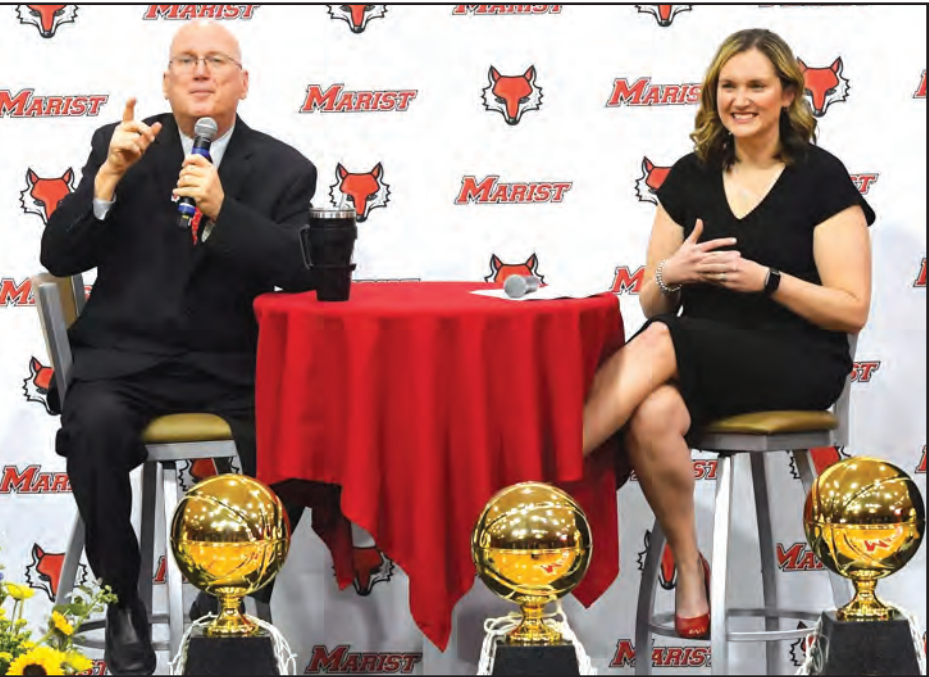
there will be some exciting gift ideas for the holidays! In addition, the club will have its own merchandise table where we will be offering unique and tasteful shirts, hats, and other club-related items.”

What does May hope people take away from attending the Pumpkin Festival and all the BSC festivals held this year?

“It was our founder Pete Seeger’s

wish to create festivals as a way of bringing people together to celebrate each other and to appreciate the natural beauty of the Hudson River and surrounding areas. Perhaps they would become inspired to advocate for the preservation of nature in our beautiful area. That is our wish as well.”

Marist to honor 4 athletes, plus Giorgis, Gartland in inaugural Hall of Fame event



Continued from cover

proud during their time at Marist and beyond, and I’m excited to have this new way to honor the tradition of excellence they helped establish,” said Director of Athletics Tim Murray.

Record-setting women’s basketball coach Brian Giorgis is among six individuals who will be enshrined as the inaugural Marist University Athletics Hall of Fame class on Oct. 23.

-Courtesy photo

Fall Garage and Rummage Sale set for Oct. 22 -24

The Women’s Parish Club of St. Joachim-St. John the Evangelist Church will be holding its Annual Fall Garage and Rummage Sale on Thursday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 and 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

and Saturday, Oct. 24 from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Joachim’s gymnasium, Leonard Street, in Beacon.

Come in and shop! Browse the “Red Carpet” section with new and gently used brand named items. Shop and enjoy a leisurely lunch.

Veterans Dinner set for Oct. 28

Beacon Elks Lodge 1493 will host a Veterans Dinner, honoring all who served, on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 5 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Lodge, Wolcott

Ave., in Beacon.

One can sign up by calling or texting, 845-235-4618.

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October 17th
9:00AM**

SOUP & SALAD

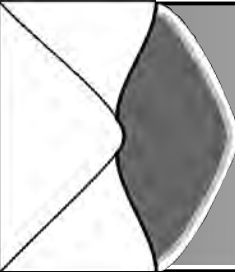
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Viewpoints



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

GUIDELINES FOR POLITICAL LETTERS

- Maximum 200 words
- Must be sent via email
- Provide a phone number where we may reach you to confirm you have written the letter-writers
- We will run as many letters as possible, space permitting, in our Oct. 28 issue. Please note that we will NOT run negative letters against any candidate in the Oct. 28 issue; only letters endorsing candidates will be run in that issue.

EDITOR’S NOTE: We appreciate the passion that people feel for their candidates and their political parties, but encourage letter-writers to express support for their candidates in a positive and instructive manner. It is easy to criticize others, but at the local level, we know that great things can be accomplished through cooperation. We have faith that our readers, and our communities, can rise above the partisan fray in this election season, and emphasize the good that their candidates will do.

Reasons to vote for Mike Schade

To the Editor:
Why am I voting for Mike Schade for the Dutchess County Legislature and not his opponent? Because his opponent was elected to both the Fishkill Town Board and the Dutchess County Legislature and has not delivered nor presented any legislation that affects our lives in a meaningful way. I am a retired senior. I am 85 years old. I have lived in the “north country” since the early 1970’s and in Dutchess County since the early 2000’s, and I take offense to that. It’s accounting time!
Mike Schade’s opponent, helped take our tax dollars and enabled the former power-brokers to change Dutchess Stadium into a place where the Yankees/Renegades fans can’t afford to enjoy themselves. It is, financially, almost as bad as going to the Bronx. In my opinion, while in office, he has not presented any legislation that affects our lives in a positive manner.
Mike Schade is a proven advocate and a problem solver. He has helped pass Fishkill legislation protecting renters from excessive rent hikes. Mike worked to put a 3-year moratorium on the mega data centers in East Fishkill, protecting residents from higher energy costs. He has led national campaigns to remove toxic chemicals from food packaging.

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, Wicopee,
New Hackensack and Stormville
Publisher - Albert Osten
Editor - Kristine Coulter
Contributing Writers - Matthew Fetzer, Morgan E. Maier
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(USPS 665900)

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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.

Mike Schade’s priorities are to lower costs for Dutchess County’s working families and seniors. He supports responsible growth without worsening traffic ... like in the Village of Fishkill. He wants to cut wasteful spending and bring more resources back to us, locally.
I know Mike Schade and I believe he will do these things for Dutchess County.
Elliott Terman
Fishkill

Anderson Foundation for Autism to honor Vanessa & Patrick Ryan at Gala on Oct. 24

Anderson Foundation for Autism has announced that registration is now open for its 2026 Gala, sponsored by Pamal Broadcasting, NFP, and CDPHP. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24 at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie, with a cocktail hour beginning at 6:30 p.m., and dinner, dancing, and the program starting at 7:30 p.m. Honorees this year are Anderson parents, philanthropists, and advocates Vanessa and Patrick Ryan, residents of Mahopac.

Executives from Anderson estimate that 300 guests will attend the gala, and that the organization expects to meet or exceed its event fundraising goal of \$200,000. Proceeds from the annual gala are used to advance the organizational mission by directly supporting the educational, vocational, residential and clinical services that help “optimize the quality of life for individuals with autism.”

Patrick Paul, CEO and Executive Director of Anderson Center for Autism, said, “It will be our great privilege to honor Patrick and Vanessa Ryan this year, who have demonstrated unwavering commitment to our agency and to our broader cause. We fully anticipate that this will be a sell-out event, and encourage anyone interested in attending to reserve their tickets as soon as possible.”

A long-time accountant with a career spanning nearly 40 years, Patrick Ryan is currently the CFO of an asset management firm in Greenwich, Connecticut called AQR Capital Management. His wife of 30 years, Vanessa, is employed by the Putnam County Office of Senior Services, where she manages a program that provides medical transportation to senior citizens. Their family also includes three children: Peter, Ciara, and Sean.

In a joint statement, the couple responded to the news that they were being honored as follows: “We were initially surprised, and of course happy as we are proud of our association with Anderson Center - but most of all humbled. We feel honored to be chosen but want to share that the group of Direct Support Professionals who live, work with, and take care of our son are the ones doing God’s work – we are just lucky to be part of this program.”

Dr. Tina Marie Covington, PhD., BCBA-D, LBA, Chief Operating Officer



Vanessa & Patrick Ryan of Mahopac are Anderson Center for Autism parents and philanthropists. They will be honored at the Anderson Foundation for Autism Gala at the Grandview in Poughkeepsie on Saturday, Oct. 24.

-Courtesy photo

at Anderson (who will step in as CEO/Executive Director following Paul’s retirement later this year), said “In addition to honoring the Ryans with the well-deserved VV Anderson Community Service Award, we will also present two of our very own team members (yet to be named) with ‘Above and Beyond Awards.’ Having a chance to publicly applaud people we truly cherish and admire is always a moving experience; we very much look forward to an uplifting program again this year.”

Eliza Bozenski, Chief Program Officer at Anderson Foundation for Autism, said “We are incredibly grateful to the many people who make our gala so successful, year after year - from our sponsors and volunteers to the attendees themselves. Like our other fundraisers,

this tradition brings together people from all walks of life who share a passion for our mission. Not only do we get to recognize the inspiring honorees and award winners during the gala program, but we all have a chance to celebrate Anderson’s far-reaching impact and our vision for the future.”

For more information, call 845-889-9208 or visit AndersonCenterforAutism.org/Gala.

Public comment period, public hearing on Dutchess County

2025 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report
The Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development invites public comments on its draft 2025 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), which outlines Dutchess County’s accomplishments for the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership programs for the period July 1, 2025 to July 31, 2026.

The draft CAPER has been available for public review for a 15-day period from Saturday, October 10 to Sunday, October 25. The draft CAPER is available on the County’s website and during normal business hours at DCDPD, 85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 107, Poughkeepsie.

A public hearing will be held in-person and virtually on: Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 10 a.m.
Dutchess County Planning and Development
85 Civic Center Plaza; Suite 107; Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Virtual Link: <https://bit.ly/4wK7gDk>

Written comments and questions may be directed to Gail Padalino, Community Development Administrator via mail (at the above address), email to communitygrants@dutchessny.gov, or phone at 845-486-3600. All comments will be considered and included in the final Report as appropriate, which will be forwarded to HUD on or about Monday, Oct. 27.

Melanie Chianese Foundation holds annual Domestic Violence Awareness Community Day in Wappinger

By Kristine Coulter

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On Saturday, Oct. 10, the Melanie Chianese Foundation held its second annual Community Day for Domestic Violence Awareness at Brexel-Schlathaus Park in Wappinger. The five-hour event brought together domestic violence organizations and community partners from five counties – Dutchess, Orange, Putnam Ulster and Westchester, in Wappinger. There were raffles, giveaways, and live music.

Among the local vendors was John C. of Dual Captures Photography. “I know [this event] is very important for Melanie’s mother, Cheryl [Chianese]. I hope it raises awareness about domestic violence and support people who are going through stuff like that,” he said.

Melanie Chianese was murdered on May 29, 2022. She was an innocent, secondary victim of domestic violence. The man convicted of fatally stabbing Chianese was sentenced to serve life in prison without parole in April 2023.

Fran Malone, of Charm & Elegance, said she met Cheryl while at pickleball. “We started talking,” said Malone. She said the issue of domestic violence “needs to be discussed. The sad part is you can’t really do anything until something happens. It’s a tough situation for someone to be in.”

“This is going to raise awareness for people in these situations,” remarked Malone.

Local businesses participated as well. OG Burgers & Fries, started by Carey Paterson, was one of the food trucks on site. “It’s a great cause. It’s something

super relevant for our community, unfortunately,” said Kelly S., with OG Burgers & Fries.

Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini, who helped host the event along with the Town of Wappinger, introduced State Senator Rob Rolison and Assemblyman Anil Beephan Jr. They talked about getting Melanie’s Law passed. The law expanded domestic violence protections, regardless of age, to all family and household members of a named victim.

Rolison said, “I got to know Cheryl through a tragedy.”

Beephan stated, “Cheryl built this entire coalition around her daughter’s story.”

Congressman Mike Lawler noted Melanie’s Law was passed with “bipartisan” effort.

Dutchess County Legislator Rob Faust said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino was unable to be there but asked him to attend and to present a \$1,500 donation. The donation will go towards the scholarship established in Melanie’s memory, he said.

Cheryl explained the scholarship is for a student who will go into Human Services. “So, they can go on with their degree. It’s what Melanie wanted to do,” said Cheryl.

Cavaccini noted with the scholarship fully funded, there will be a future memorial site at Schlathaus Park – a gazebo.

A Prayer and Moment of Silence were held at noon to remember Melinda “Mindy” Brugger and those whose lives have been lost to domestic violence. Brugger, an EMS captain, was killed in an



Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini, from left, and Cheryl Chianese listen as Melinda “Mindy” Brugger’s daughter, Allison, makes remarks during the annual Community Day for Domestic Violence Awareness at Brexel-Schlathaus Park on Saturday, Oct. 10 in Wappinger.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

act of domestic violence in August in her Ulster County residence, according to law enforcement.

Brugger’s daughter, Allison, said, “I want to thank the people who spoke here today.”

Dutchess County Legislator Emma Arnoff said, “It’s important to them that their elected officials really understand what they are going through.” She noted legislators will be able to take training.

A tribute song was performed by Patty Atkinson and her son, Hudson.

For the NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline: call 800-942-6906, or text 844-997-2121.

Board of Elections staff meet with County partners to review election preparedness

The Dutchess County Board of Elections met on Oct. 5 with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office and the Department of Emergency Response as part of its ongoing coordination with county partners in preparation for the 2026 General Election.

“These planning conversations are a standard part of election administration — ensuring that all county agencies are aligned, communication channels are established, and that everything is in place for a smooth Election Day experience for Dutchess County voters,” said Democratic Elections Commissioner Lisa Jessup.

The Board distributed a recent advisory from the Attorney General’s office regarding voting rights and the 2026 election, information on all polling locations as well as the different types of observers allowed in polling locations.

Sheriff Kirk Imperati said, “As Sheriff I take my public safety responsibilities very seriously, and that includes helping to ensure that every voter in Dutchess County is able to exercise their right to vote in a safe and peaceful manner. I am proud to partner with the Board of Elections and Department of Emergency Response in this effort, and as a result a

well-coordinated plan is in place to protect the safety and security of Dutchess County voters as they head to the polls this fall.”

“Dutchess County voters should feel confident that their elections are well-organized, well-supported, and in good hands,” said Republican Commissioner Erik Haight. “We are proud to work alongside outstanding county partners who share our commitment to making sure every voter has a safe, accessible, and positive experience at the polls.”

The meeting also addressed early voting and election day security as well as contingency plans for any interruption at a polling site. “The Department of Emergency Response proudly partners with the Board of Elections and the Sheriff’s Office ahead of each general election to ensure that all aspects of public safety are well coordinated,” said Commissioner William H. Beale.

“We are proud to be the only county in the state with vote centers, meaning voters can vote at any polling location within their city or town on Election Day,” said Jessup. “This is not only a convenience for voters, but a built-in back-up plan in case of any emergency where a poll site experiences a disruption for any reason.”

Early voting in Dutchess County begins October 24th at seven sites around the county. The 2026 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd. Voters are encouraged to visit <https://elections.dutchessny.gov/> for information on voting hours and locations for early voting and election day. The last day to register to vote in the 2026 election is Oct. 24.

Early Voting Information

Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 26, noon-8 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 28, noon-8 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive, Rhinebeck
Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
Cornell Cooperative Extension, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook
Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
Board of Elections Training Center, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls

Visit elections.dutchessny.gov for sample ballots and more information.

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Marist drops back-and-forth battle with Columbia, 41-28

By Morgan E. Maier

Career highs for quarterback Sonny Mannino and receiver Reed Shumpert highlighted a milestone-filled Friday night for Marist University football last week. The back-and-forth matchup took three ties, five lead changes, and 20 unanswered fourth-quarter points for Columbia to seal a 41-28 win.

The third 300-yard passing game of Mannino's career marked a career high (321). Mannino connected with Jayden Taylor to tie the game in the second quarter, and Jeremy DeCaro gave the Red Foxes a 14-7 lead with under three minutes to play in the half.

Columbia scored two touchdowns in 29 seconds to send them ahead before half-time. Marist knotted the game at 14 on the first second-half drive, thanks to a 55-yard touchdown pass from Mannino to Zach Garmont. Mannino ran in his third credited touchdown to put them ahead early in the first quarter.

The Lions responded with a score, but a missed extra point kept Marist ahead by one. Columbia jumped on Marist's late miscues on both sides, and held the

home squad scoreless through the end of the game.

Isaiah Simmons led Marist with 76 rushing yards on 17 carries. Shumpert recorded 105 receiving yards for the first 100+ yard game for any Marist receiver this season. Wayne Adair recorded his first career interception. Chase Hatton had seven stops and a fumble recovery. Braylen Ricks had the first multi-sack game of his career, made all three of his tackles for loss, and blocked an extra point attempt.

"There is plenty of good in all three phases. Offensively, career-high for yards with Sonny, [I] thought he played extremely well. In general, there was a lot to be proud of; the yardage statistics were good. At the same time, today was ultimately a game where we lacked execution in critical moments, and it showed up in all three phases," said Marist head coach Mike Willis.

Marist's record stands at 3-3. They will return to play league opponent Drake on the road in Des Moines, Iowa on Saturday, Oct. 17. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. Eastern time.



Quarterback Sonny Mannino had a career high with 321 passing yards, but it wasn't enough as Marist University fell to Columbia, 41-28. The Red Foxes own a 3-3 record on the season.

-Courtesy photo

VETERANS NEWS WITH ADAM ROCHE

During National Breast Cancer Month, female veterans urged to prioritize health

It takes bravery and determination to serve in the military; no one will dispute that. Whether it's the immense commitment of one's time; the weeks, months or even years spent away from home and loved ones; the trials on both the mind and body or the challenges of putting one's country above self, life in the Armed Forces takes a certain type of person.

For our female veterans, it's important that the same resolve remains with them when they return to civilian life.

As we recognize National Breast Cancer Month in October, it's a good reminder for the women in our lives, including our female veterans – whether they're our mothers, grandmothers, wives, sisters, aunts – that it's critical to prioritize their own health. As County Executive Sue Serino says, it's important to "make the appointment" and keep up to date with all your medical screenings. It's critical for both yourself and the loved ones who count on you.

Our female servicemembers deal with many of the same health concerns as their civilian counterparts, though their time in the military is often also accompanied by challenges distinct to their service. That could mean being deployed overseas, unpredictable schedules, demanding tasks or unfamiliar environments; these can all add to the stress of military life. That's why it's so important that, if our female

servicemembers and veterans don't feel just right, they voice their concerns and seek the medical care they need.

As many breast-cancer survivors, including County Executive Serino, will tell you, being vigilant can make all the difference. They know just how important regular screenings are, as they can often detect cancer early, when treatment can save lives. And while there is no hard-and-fast guidance about when and how often every woman should start getting mammograms – each woman has her own unique risk factors, including family history – any time is the right time to start a conversation with her doctor.

Putting off that discussion, though, shouldn't be an option. Your health is too important to your loved ones, your friends and, of course, you!

Be mindful of any changes in your body – things like pain, swelling, lumps or something else that just doesn't seem right – and don't just assume they'll go away; please discuss them with your doctor.

Cancer screenings, though, are just part of the broader conversation about our own health as veterans, including our female heroes, in particular.

Do you know your numbers? How's your cholesterol? What about your blood pressure? Are you getting enough sleep? Eating a healthy diet? Are you getting enough physical activity? It might seem like a lot, but

these are things to be mindful of.

Just as important as our physical health is our mental health. It's a sign of strength and self-awareness to talk to someone if we feel anxious, alone, depressed or overwhelmed. If something is on your mind, please know that help is available.

Dutchess County is unmatched in the services we provide for our neighbors dealing with mental health concerns. You're never alone in Dutchess County, so if ever need to speak to a trained professional who wants to listen and help, please call or text 988, our Dutchess County Suicide & Crisis HELPLINE, and then press 1 for veterans, any time of the day or night. As always, I also invite you to call me at our Office of Veterans Affairs at 845-486-2060 or visit us at 1335 Route 44 in Pleasant Valley.

Our veterans' health – both physical and mental health – is so important, and I want to make sure our female vets, especially, hear this message and don't neglect their own health while they might prioritize the well-being of someone they hold dear.

All too often these days, the women in our lives become caregivers, either by choice or circumstances, and that duty becomes their main focus, almost to the exclusion of all else. If you've cared, or continue to care, for your friends, your family, your community or your fellow veterans, it's easy to forget to take care of

yourself. If your life in uniform was defined by your selfless service, it's understandable that you might put off that checkup with your doctor or forgo that health screening to care for someone else.

Let me be clear: Your health deserves to be your top priority. You can't take proper care of others until you take care of yourself. Putting yourself first isn't selfish; it's the best way you can support those who rely on you.

Your military service has gained you countless benefits and services, both health-related and beyond. My Veterans Affairs staff and I are here to help you learn about all you're eligible for. Please know there is no shame in asking for help. These supports aren't hand-outs; you have earned them through your defense of our nation, and I want you to fully utilize whatever is available to help you.

I ask all our female veterans to let this month be a reminder about the importance of your own health. If you've been meaning to set up a doctor's appointment, please call and schedule it today. Enjoy a healthy meal. Make time for yourself, get outside, take a stroll and stay active.

We thank you all and appreciate your service. My hope is you never forget how much you mean to so many people in Dutchess County. Please take care of yourself – and your health.



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that’s italian!

by luigi coppola



Mom’s advice

Why mess with a winning formula?

When my wife Lisa and I were getting married, we were given advice from many people on the secret to a happy marriage. We got advice from our priest, advice from the people we bought our furniture from, advice from our wedding photographer, advice from the caterer, advice from the jeweler where we bought our wedding rings, from central Hudson when we got the power turned on in our first apartment. Friends, relatives, strangers. All had advice.

However, the advice that I remember the most was the advice that my mother gave to Lisa.

Mom: Leeza, Ima gonna tell you howa to maka sure Luigi, he’s a happy with you.

Lisa: Yes, Mom.

Mom: Listen. Hesa a very simpla man. He noa wanta a lot.

Lisa: Yes, Mom.

Mom: Hesa nota, how you say, a luxury person.

Lisa: Yes, Mom.

Mom: Thisa is you first lesson ... Maka sure youa usa the Clorox bleach when you washa hisa clothes.

Lisa: Yes ma- ... What?

Mom: Yesa the Clorox. Donta usa the

cheap bleach. Cloroxa isa the best. Thisa way when he sweats ina the kitchen ata the restaurant, he always gonna smella nice.

Lisa: OK?

Mom: Number two ... Always usa the Tide soap for the laundry.

Lisa: Yes, Mom?

Mom: I usa the Tide for a longa time. Ita works very nice. Pop, hea lika it.

Lisa: Yes, Mom?

Mom: Finalmenta (Finally). Maka him the pizza de scarole (Escarole pie). Thisa way, his stomacha is a full, his closa are a clean and hesa gonna be happy.

Lisa: Yes, Mom.

Mom: Anda thatrsa it. OK?

Mom’s advice was always simple without a lot of fluff.

To this day, Lisa and I use Clorox Bleach, Tide laundry soap and eat Escarole pie. Thirty-four years of marriage and still happy with each other. Is it the Clorox, Tide and Escarole Pie? After 34 years, why take a chance now?

Please enjoy this recipe for escarole pie. Buon Appetito!

Escarole Pie

Ingredients

For the escarole

2 large heads of escarole, washed. Wash it right before you cook it.

20 raisins

15 black olives

15-20 pignoli nuts

pinch salt

pinch pepper

5 cloves garlic, diced fine

¼ cup olive oil

For the pie dough

1 ¾ lb. all purpose flour

1 ½ cup water

2 tbsp. olive oil

1 pinch baking powder

1 pinch salt

1 pinch sugar

Method

In a bowl, place all the dry ingredients for the pie crust. Add the water and mix by hand until the dough comes together. Make it into two balls and set aside.

In a large pot, add the olive oil and garlic. Cook on high heat until brown and reduce the heat to medium.

Add escarole and cover. After a few minutes, add remaining ingredients and let simmer on low heat for 20 minutes or until the escarole is tender.

Roll out a dough ball until it is round and

flat. Get a large frying pan (one that can be placed in the oven) and coat the bottom generously with olive oil. Place the dough into the pan, allowing the sides of the frying and hanging outside the pan.

Add the escarole.

Roll out the other dough ball and lay on top of the escarole.

Roll together the bottom dough and the top dough to form a ring around frying pan. Coat the top of the pie dough with olive oil.

Place the pan on Medium heat and “fry” the bottom for about 10 minutes.

Place the pan in the oven at 350 degrees and bake for 30 minutes or until the top of the pie is golden brown.

Remove and let rest for 30 minutes. Can be served hot or cold. Cold is better.

Because of the rich flavors, this goes great with red wine.

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

Award-winning executive Kristen Huss returns to Renegades as new GM

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and their ownership group, Diamond Baseball Holdings (DBH), the club’s owner and operator, have announced that Kristen Huss will become the ninth General Manager of the Renegades.

Huss will be the first female General Manager in the team’s 32-year history. She rejoins the Renegades front office where she worked first as a game day employee selling programs in 2001, eventually rising to become Assistant General Manager in 2013. After departing to serve for three seasons as the General Manager of the Pittsfield Suns of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, she returned to the Renegades as Vice President of Community Partnerships after the 2018 season before departing in April 2021.

“I am incredibly grateful to return to the Renegades as General Manager. The Renegades have always held a special place in my heart, and I am proud to see all that the organization has accomplished over the years,” Huss said. “To come back to the organization where my professional career began is a truly special and meaningful full-circle moment. I have so many great memories here and have formed many long-lasting relationships that have helped shape my career. I look forward to working with this talented staff and seeing our amazing fans, and I’m excited to have the opportunity to lead the organization into its next chapter.”

While with the Renegades, Huss was named the New York-Penn League Female Executive of the Year in both 2013 and 2015, and was named one of Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce’s “40 Under 40” in 2015. In her time with the

Suns, she was named the 2017 Futures League Executive of the Year and was inducted into the New England Baseball Hall of Fame as part of its Class of 2017.

“Kristen’s return to the Renegades is an exciting moment for the organization and we’re thrilled to welcome her back,” said Pat Battle and Peter Freund, Executive Chairman and CEO of Diamond Baseball Holdings, respectively. “Having grown through many roles with the club, she brings a deep understanding of the team, its fans and the Hudson Valley community, along with a proven track record as a leader and we’re confident she’ll make an impact as General Manager.”

Since leaving the Renegades, Huss has been the Senior Resort Operations Manager at LEGOLAND® New York Resort in Goshen, where she oversaw aspects of the park focusing on parking, admissions, guest services, guest communications, VIP experiences, retail, park presentation, and attractions.

Huss graduated from Fairfield University with a bachelor’s degree in marketing in 2006 and was a Ticket Office Intern with the Renegades that summer before joining the front office full time after the season as a Ticket Sales Account Manager. She was promoted to Director of Ticket Sales and Customer Service in 2007, and was promoted again to Assistant GM following the 2012 season.

Huss replaces Tom Denlinger at Renegades General Manager, who will be departing the club to become the new President of the Charlotte Knights, the Triple-A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox.

Renegades clubhouse manager Ryan Shute named SAL Home Clubhouse Manager of Year

Major League Baseball announced last week that Hudson Valley Renegades clubhouse manager Ryan Shute has been selected as the 2026 South Atlantic League Home Clubhouse Manager of the Year.

“It’s an honor to be named the 2026 South Atlantic League Home Clubhouse Manager of the Year. It’s another reminder of just how fortunate I am to be able to do what I do and show up to work everyday at a baseball field,” said Shute.

“I’d like to thank the New York Yankees for continuing to trust me year in and year out with their players and coaches. I’d like to thank those players and coaches, not just from this season, but all of them over the course of my time in this organization, for making my time easier and more enjoyable. And lastly, a big thank you to the Hudson Valley Renegades front office for being so supportive of our players, coaches and staffs throughout the first six years of this partnership.”

The 2026 season was Shute’s sixth year as the Renegades Home Clubhouse Manager and eighth in the Yankees organization, previously working for the Short-Season A Staten Island Yankees in 2019 and Rookie-level Pulaski in 2018. Before joining the Yankees, Shute was the Visiting Clubhouse Manager for the Carolina Mudcats during the 2017 season.

A native of the Hudson Valley and 2011

graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Shute spent four summers as a Stadium Operations and Groundskeeping Assistant for the Renegades from 2012-15. He graduated from Saint Leo University in Florida with a bachelor’s degree in Sports Administration.

“This is such a well-deserved honor for Ryan. His positive impact goes way beyond the clubhouse,” said Renegades manager Aaron Bossi. “His care for our team is evident every day, and he takes tremendous pride in making the clubhouse a place where everyone feels at home and has what they need to succeed. We’re fortunate to have him and proud to see his hard work recognized.”

The winner of the award was selected by Major League Baseball with nominations made by individuals across the industry, including field managers and general managers.

Shute becomes the third member of the Renegades support staff to garner a major South Atlantic League award, joining Jonathan Becker who was named 2022 SAL Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Professional Baseball Athletic Trainers Society (PBATS) and Danny Smith who was named 2022 SAL Strength & Conditioning Coach of the Year by the Professional Baseball Strength & Conditioning Coaches Society (PBSCCS).

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Bridging more than the Hudson Valley, CFHV announces award to Walkway

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has awarded its first loan through its Local Impact Fund for Tomorrow (LIFT) program, providing Friends of the Walkway with bridge financing to complete the final phase of its New York State-supported lighting improvement project for the Walkway Over the Hudson.

The first of several LIFT loans already in the pipeline, this loan demonstrates how charitable capital can be put to work to help nonprofits across Dutchess, Ulster and Putnam counties.

The loan will allow Friends of the Walkway to move forward with replacement and supplemental lighting while it awaits reimbursement from a capital grant awarded by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Launched in March 2026, LIFT provides nonprofits with flexible bridge financing when they have committed grant funding but need capital before reimbursement arrives. LIFT offers loans of up to \$50,000 at 2% interest. CFHV provides the loans, while Ulster Savings Bank contributes 10% of each loan and originates and services the financing.

The model is designed to make each charitable dollar work again and again: when a loan is repaid, the funds return to LIFT and become available to another nonprofit in Dutchess, Ulster or Putnam County.

From left are Lori Robertson, Executive Director of Friends of the Walkway; Laura Washington, President & CEO of Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley; and Carlos Santiago, CFA, First VP Commercial Credit Officer at Ulster Savings Bank.

-Courtesy photo



Aaron Leonard announced as Vice President Operations & Organizational Development of Hudson Highland Fjord Trail Inc.

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) announced today the appointment of Aaron Leonard as Vice President, Operations & Organizational Development. Leonard brings a long history of executive leadership with experience in nonprofit management, public safety, the military, and outdoor programs to this new role at HHFT.

A Village of Cold Spring resident, Leonard has been a longtime supporter of the Fjord Trail and its mission. The



Aaron Leonard

-Courtesy photo

“For much of my career in the outdoor adventure field, I’ve seen what happens when people are given meaningful opportunities to connect with nature and with each other,” Leonard said. “In my work with veterans and first responders, many of whom may be living with PTSD and other effects of repeated exposure to stress and trauma, I’ve seen healing, reductions in loneliness, and a renewed sense of belonging. I’ve also seen barriers to access that have prevented some of our nation’s heroes from exploring our parks and public lands, the very places that they swore an oath to defend. I truly believe that the Fjord Trail will provide meaningful access to nature for people of all ages and abilities.”

Leonard is a retired U.S. Army officer and combat veteran whose service included four combat tours. Following his military career, he continued that commitment to service through nonprofit leadership, where he has led organizations through growth and change, managed multi-million-dollar budgets, and built programs and led teams focused on service and community impact. His commitment to the Hudson Highlands community also extends beyond his professional work. Since 2021 he has served as a volunteer firefighter with Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1, and since 2025 has led Cold Spring’s American Legion Post 275.

In his new role, Leonard will focus on organizational development, operations, staff support, internal systems, and helping HHFT build the capacity needed for the Fjord Trail’s future.

Leonard lives with his wife Leslie in Cold Spring. Together, they have eight children and two grandchildren.

last decade of Leonard’s career has been focused on removing barriers to experiencing the outdoors and its benefits, particularly for veterans, military families, and first responders. In leadership positions with Sierra Club’s Military Outdoors and, most recently, as CEO of Beacon-based Guardian Revival, Leonard has helmed initiatives to expand outdoor access—including to New York State Parks and other public lands and waters—and build outdoor experiential programs that strengthen connection, resilience, and community among veterans and first responders.

Public invited to share ideas on future of new ‘Brickyard BOA’ in Town of Poughkeepsie

The Town of Poughkeepsie will host a public workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Poughkeepsie Town Hall, 1 Overocker Road, to seek public input about the future of the Brickyard Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA), located on and around the former Kmart site on Burnett Boulevard and Tucker Drive along

Route 44 (Dutchess Turnpike). There will be a brief presentation about the process and findings so far, followed by opportunities for discussion and public engagement.

More information is available at the project website, www.brickyardboa.com. Members of the public can also complete an online survey at the site.

2026 JEWEL GEISSINGER RATZLAFF KEYNOTE LECTURE

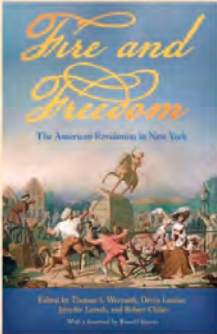
THOMAS WERMUTH

Author of *Fire and Freedom: The American Revolution in New York*

Saturday, October 17, 2:30-4:30 pm,
Boardman Road Branch Library
(141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie)



Dr. Thomas Wermuth’s *Fire and Freedom* presents lesser-known New York–centered Revolutionary War stories; it explores how state power reshaped loyalty, and how Indigenous and enslaved people influenced postwar New York. Dr. Wermuth is the Co-Founder & Director, Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist University.



Registration required.

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Beacon Film Society presents ‘Down by the Riverside’ at Howland Cultural Center

The Beacon Film Society will present the Beacon premiere of feature documentary film “Down by the Riverside” by Jodie Childers and Dan Messina. The premiere will be held on Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon.

In the 1960s, the American folk singer Pete Seeger devised an extraordinary plan: he built a 106-foot sailboat to save the polluted Hudson River. Down by the Riverside follows the unlikely story of the Clearwater, a boat that launched a movement. An intimate portrait of Pete, his wife Toshi, and the grassroots community they anchored for over 40 years, the film takes the audience on a musical and nautical odyssey, showing how an unconventional campaign to save a beloved American waterway prompted a green revolution. The tale of the Clearwater

is a parable for our time, offering hope for a fractured nation and revealing how participatory imagination can solve environmental problems and transform how we relate not only to the earth but also to one another.

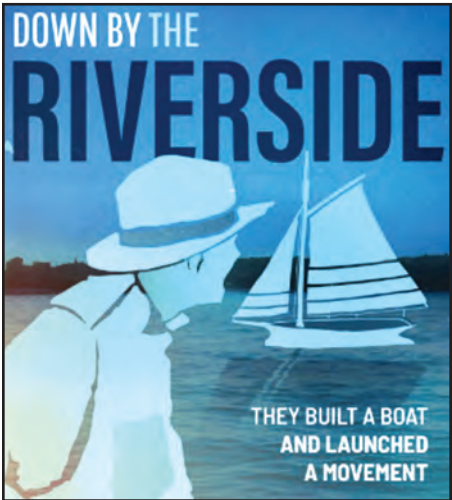
Q&A following the screening features co-directors Jodie Childers and Dan Messina.

Jodie Childers is a documentary filmmaker and writer based in NYC and Charlottesville, VA, where she is an assistant professor at the University of Virginia. She produced The Other Parade, and she directed and shot “Down by the Riverside,” which premiered at the Woodstock Film Festival. Her writing has been featured in *American Quarterly*, the *Journal of Transnational American Studies*, *Comparative American Studies*, *The Conversation*, *Jacobin*, *Transatlantica*, *The Pittsburgh Review of Books*, *Boulevard*, and *The Hopkins Review*, among others. She holds a Ph.D. in

American studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Brooklyn College.

Dan Messina is a showrunner, director, and editor with twenty years of experience in nonfiction film and television. He directed the documentary feature “Down by the Riverside,” which premiered at the Woodstock Film Festival, and The Other Parade, which screened at Frameline and was broadcast on RTE. Dan is currently the showrunner for the hit series “The Real Murders of Atlanta” on Oxygen. He also executive-produced “Women on Death Row” for A&E, and he has served as showrunner, producer, and editor for shows on Discovery+, National Geographic, Investigation Discovery, and OWN, among others.

Tickets: \$20 door/\$15 advance online: bit.ly/BFS-OCT-16.



The Beacon Film Society will present the Beacon premiere of “Down by the Riverside.”
-Courtesy image

HEADS UP, HIKERS!

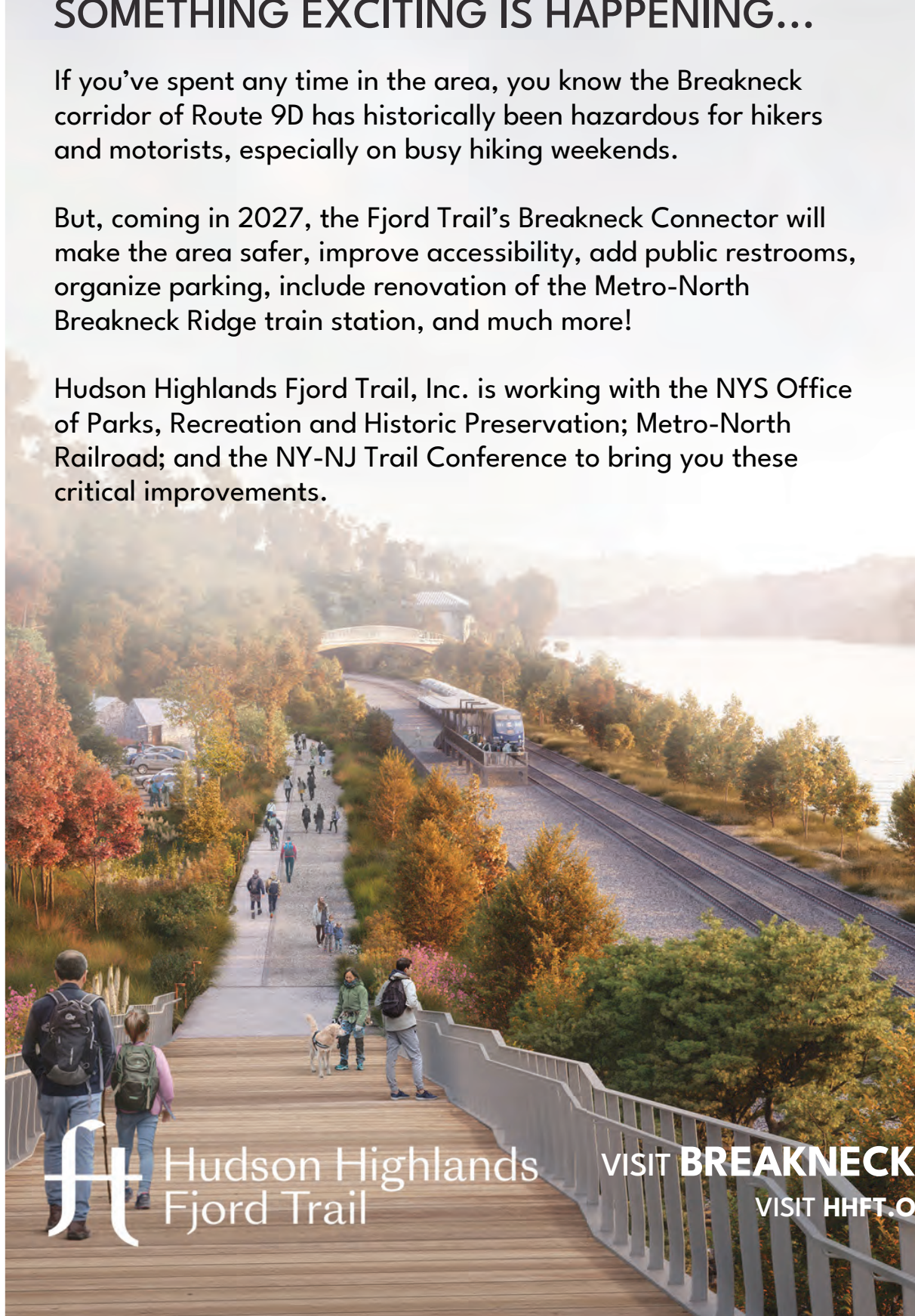
THREE BREAKNECK RIDGE AREA TRAILHEADS REMAIN CLOSED FOR IMPROVEMENTS

SOMETHING EXCITING IS HAPPENING...

If you’ve spent any time in the area, you know the Breakneck corridor of Route 9D has historically been hazardous for hikers and motorists, especially on busy hiking weekends.

But, coming in 2027, the Fjord Trail’s Breakneck Connector will make the area safer, improve accessibility, add public restrooms, organize parking, include renovation of the Metro-North Breakneck Ridge train station, and much more!

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. is working with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Metro-North Railroad; and the NY-NJ Trail Conference to bring you these critical improvements.



CLOSURE IMPACTS

- ⊗ **BREAKNECK RIDGE TRAIL and WILKINSON MEMORIAL TRAIL** closed from trailhead to Nimham Trail
BROOK TRAIL closed from trailhead to Cornish Connector
- ⊗ **METRO-NORTH RAILROAD BREAKNECK RIDGE TRAIN STATION** closed — no train service at Breakneck
- ⊗ **NO PARKING ON ROUTE 9D** in area north of Breakneck Tunnel



Hudson Highlands
Fjord Trail

VISIT **BREAKNECK.INFO** FOR ALTERNATIVE HIKES
VISIT **HHFT.ORG** FOR INFO ABOUT THE FJORD TRAIL

Concept rendering: Darstudio

Obituaries

Emily Claire McMillen



Emily Claire McMillen of Beacon entered into eternal rest on October 2, 2026. She was 30 years old.

Emily was born on February 27, 1996. She was the daughter of Kurt and Lauren McMillen.

Emily was a bright light that brought love and laughter into any room. She enjoyed spending time with her friends, family and pets. Emily enjoyed being outdoors, gardening, baking, going to concerts and most of all spending time with her beloved niece. Emily had an energetic spirit and a beautiful smile.

Emily was predeceased by both her maternal and paternal grandparents.

Emily is survived by her mother, Lauren McMillen of Chelsea. Her father, Kurt McMillen and his partner Lisa Hasbrouck of Beacon. She is also survived by her brothers Sean McMillen of Chelsea and his daughter, Mila. Kyle McMillen of Chelsea and his

fiance Makenzie. And her paternal uncle, Donnie McMillen of Beacon. Emily's partner Jeff, also resides in Beacon.

We all love and miss you so much, Emily. Fly high with your butterflies.

Family and friends gathered on Friday, October 9. at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

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

Marion M. Terralavoro



Marion M. Terralavoro, 91, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2026 at the Renaissance Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Staatsburg, NY.

Born and raised in Beacon, NY; Marion was the beloved daughter of Grace and Joseph Angelo. On September 9, 1954, she married the love of her life, Alfred "Alfie" Terralavoro. They shared 25 wonderful years together until Alfie's passing.

Marion is survived by her daughter, Debra (husband Keith) of Harwich, MA, and her three sons: David (Wappingers Falls, NY), Steven (Poughkeepsie, NY), and Jeffrey (Bronx, NY). She was a devoted "Mima" to her two cherished grandchildren, Mitchell (Orlando, FL) and Erika Hedgecock Zingaro (husband Domenick of Stamford, CT), and her two great-grandchildren, Dante

Alfie and Theo Domenick. She is also survived by her sister, Dolores Vitanza (Stamford, CT), and her brother, Joseph Angelo (Beacon, NY), as well as a large, loving extended family of sisters- and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins. Marion deeply enjoyed every family gathering and the moments spent with those she loved.

A proud alumna of Mount St. Mary's Academy and Krissler Business Institute, Marion was active in her community through the Mothers' Guild and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and a longtime parishioner of St Mary's Church in Wappinger Falls NY. Throughout her career, she worked for the Spackenkill School District, Marist College, and part-time at The Culinary Institute of America before enjoying her retirement.

Marion found joy in life's simple and creative pleasures: Broadway plays, reading, shopping, ceramics, watching professional figure skating, and traveling—especially trips to Cape Cod. Renowned for her famous lemon meringue pies and black-and-white cookies, Marion's greatest delight was her family. As a devoted grandmother, she never missed an event or milestone, always cheering on her grandchildren with pride.

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the wonderful nursing staff and aides at the Renaissance, for their compassionate care and support.

Funeral Arrangements were entrusted to the care of DELEHANTY FUNERAL HOME, 64 E. Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY. Services will be private at the discretion of her family, and a private interment at St. Mary's Cemetery in Wappingers Falls, New York. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Her Family wishes for memorial donations to be made in Marion's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105.

Catalina I. Guzman



Catalina I. Guzman, a resident of Beacon, entered into rest on October 1, 2026 at her home. She was 46 years old.

Catalina was born on September 26, 1980 in San Salvador, El Salvador, the daughter of Luis A. Guzman, Sr. and Ana G. Guzman. She had worked as a counselor and manager with Putnam ARC in Cold Spring.

Catalina enjoyed the outdoors, especially hiking and hunting. Mount Beacon and the Hudson River were among the places she loved spending time.

Catalina is survived by her parents; her brother, Luis A. Guzman, Jr.; her sister, Gloria Alicea and her husband, Eric; her nieces and nephews, Skylene, Hannah, Giancarlo and Kha'elo; her maternal

grandparents, Pedro & Maria; and her aunts, uncles and cousins.

Family and friends gathered on Wednesday, October 7. at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A funeral service was held at the funeral home. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery, 375 Washington Avenue, Beacon.

To send a personal condolence, please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

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

Ellen Louise (White) McSpedon



Ellen Louise (White) McSpedon passed away unexpectedly, Friday October 2, 2026 at Vassar Hospital, with her children by her side. After beating cancer earlier this year, a ruptured aortic dissection led her back to her husband and family in heaven. As her daughter might say, she died of "a broken heart" at age 69.

She was born May 8, 1957 in Manhattan NY, grew up Glenham NY, graduating from Beacon High School. After marrying her beloved husband George on June 16, 1979, she spent the last 42 years in Wappingers Falls NY, where they raised their family. Ellen was predeceased last year by her husband of 46 years, George Kenneth McSpedon (July 2025), sister Deborah Graf (Sept. 2013), father John "Patrick" White (March 2010) and mother Minnie (Boehm) White (Sept. 2019).

She is survived by their two daughters, Kelly McSpedon and Wendy McSpedon Hildebrandt (Jason Hildebrandt) of Wappingers Falls NY; Step-sons: Philip McSpedon (Debbie Moore), George Decker McSpedon (Rebecca Andersen), and Michael McSpedon. Her Grandchildren: Brennan & Avery Avila; Philip Jr, & Jake McSpedon; Matthew & Hannah McSpedon; Finley, Riley & Cooper McSpedon; Her brother Patrick White (Tootsie) of Savannah GA and uncle Hank Boehm (Janet) Conway SC. Ellen was a caregiver her whole life, always putting others first.

While taking care of her children, grandchildren and elderly parents, she spent many years working as a monitor for Wappingers Central School District and always supported and helped with her husband's business, Du-Put Construction. While many knew her as "Mrs. M." or "Mrs. Du-Put", she was much deeper than that.

An animal lover that couldn't turn away a lost dog, a chipmunk with a broken leg, or a pigeon that was hit by a passing car. Her "green thumb" filled their home and gardens with greenery and color. Her home-cooked meals and warm, fresh-baked treats were her way of taking care of everyone. No one ever left her kitchen hungry, and her family always had full bellies and full hearts. Whether you needed a place to stay, were looking for advice or just needed an ear to listen, she always made herself available. Even if it meant staying up until 2am, she would just make a pot of tea and put the coffee pot on. Her door was always open.

A truly beautiful soul inside and out.

Her Family will gather with Friends to remember & celebrate her Life on Wednesday, October 21st from 5-8PM. Interment will be private at the discretion and convenience of her family. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes for memorial donations to be made to either the American Cancer Society, 2678 South Road, Suite 103, Poughkeepsie NY 12601 or to Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington DC 20090-6011. To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit: www.DelehantyFuneral.com.

Robert Arnold Janicker



Robert Arnold Janicker, a Wappingers Falls resident since 1972, formerly of Pawling and New Jersey, passed away on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at the Pines Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Poughkeepsie. He was 94 years old.

Son of the late Arnold and Barbara (Dohn) Janicker, he was born in Sayreville, NJ on June 26, 1932. In his youth, Robert was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hunting, and skeet shooting. In 1951, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country during the Korean Conflict. He was honorably discharged from service in 1953.

He worked as an Industrial Arts teacher at Beacon High School for 20 years, retiring in 1990. He then became a teacher at McQuade Children's Services in New Windsor. He also served as a board member for the Beacon School District.

Robert was a longtime parishioner of St.

Mary, Mother of the Church in Fishkill and member of the Free & Accepted Masons in Pawling NY.

On April 9, 1955, he married Lynn Ruth Benintende in West New York, NJ. After nearly 68 years of marriage, he was predeceased by Lynn in 2023.

Survivors include his daughter, Phyllis Capone & her husband Steven of Poughkeepsie; his son, Arnold Janicker & his wife Amber of West Virginia; eleven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife and parents, Robert was also predeceased by his daughter, Robbi Lynn Janicker; and his sister, Joan Perry.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10:00am on Thursday, October 15 at St. Mary, Mother of the Church, 106 Jackson Street, Fishkill, NY. Entombment will follow at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, Fishkill, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Regional Food Bank of the Hudson Valley (www.regionalfoodbank.net) or Dutchess Outreach (www.dutchessoutreach.org).

Arrangements are under the direction of McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc. For online tributes, visit Robert's memorial page at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Guardian Revival's One Mile Challenge raises \$78,658 to support military and first responders' mental health

Guardian Revival, a nonprofit serving military members, veterans and first responders – collectively known as guardians – and their families, has concluded its fifth annual One Mile Challenge with \$78,658 in donations. More than 578 people across 35 states and Washington, D.C. walked, ran, rolled or rucked (walked with weight) one mile a day in September to raise awareness around guardians' challenges with mental illness and suicide.

"Our guardians carry the weight of trauma, loss, responsibility and so much more," said Kim Haight, CEO of Guardian Revival. "Too often, that weight goes unseen and unsupported. The One Mile Challenge is our way of showing up for our guardians and helping carry that weight."

Recognizing that mental health challenges, depression and suicide are disproportionately high for those who serve, Guardian Revival created the One Mile Challenge to support the programs that encourage connection, resilience and healing. These initiatives include Another Summit, which offers outdoor adventure activities such as hiking; Boots & Paws, which provides free companion puppies; and RISE, which delivers wellness workshops, retreats and resources to help guardians recharge.

"The entire Guardian Revival team extends its heartfelt gratitude to those who stepped up and showed up this September," added Haight.

To learn more about Guardian Revival and its offerings or to get involved, visit guardianrevival.org.

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NY FALL SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Hudson Valley softball players are best buddies who hit long home runs

When Dominick Nasi steps to the plate with a bat in his hand, he has one simple plan.

“I just try to hit the ball past everybody,” said Nasi, who plays first base for the Dutchess Hurricanes. “I like to hit home runs. I’m going to try and hit home runs at State Games.”

Nasi might very well crush a few home runs at the Special Olympics New York State Fall Games in Glens Falls on Oct. 17. And if he does, his teammate A.J. Mirtuono likely will be the first to congratulate him. Dominick and A.J. are not only two of the team’s top hitters. They are also best buddies who have a blast laughing and talking while also blasting softballs into the outfield.

“He’s a friend and he’s a great player,” A.J. said of Dominick. “It’s nice to have someone to socialize with, and he’s really playing much better this season.”

Dominick plays first base while A.J. often plays left field or third base. Both are tall and powerfully built, and even if they don’t look alike, they can be mistaken for brothers.

“They’re like twins,” said Dawn Nasi, Dominick’s mother. “They’re together all the time, talking with each other and hav-

ing fun. In fact, we call them ‘the book-ends’ because we have to keep separating them if we want to get anything done at practice.”

In the recent Super Regional Fall Softball Festival at Beacon Memorial Park, both Dominick and A.J. hit home runs against the Long Island Yankees.

Their enthusiasm kept the team’s spirit high, and their batting skills proved to be the winning difference in a close game on that day.

Dominick and A.J. will bring larger-than-life personalities and batting skills to Glens Falls. Though not related, these blast brothers are ready to have a good

time. “Winning a championship would be nice,” A.J. said.

In addition to softball, the Fall Games will include equestrian, cross-country running, soccer, bocce, golf and cycling. Opening Ceremonies are scheduled for Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Glens Falls City Park.

this week’s puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer
SUDOKU

CAN	ENS	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
CROSS	KILO	WARD	WARD	WARD	WARD	WARD	WARD	WARD	WARD
FANGS	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
PANE	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
BEAR	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
ABIT	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
HORSE	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
EDDO	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
RANES	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
THINK	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
SCOT	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
OMEN	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
WIP	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA
TR	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA	FLA

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

Sugrurs solution

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-115-26 Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Driving School Program

Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group’s Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., October 27, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting “Government”, then selecting “Bidding and RFP Opportunities”. For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

City of Beacon One Municipal Plaza - Suite One Beacon, New York 12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
October 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: Alexander Hochberg
Address: 28 Barrett Place
Tax Grid No.: 30-5955-75-829129-00
Zoning Classification: R1-7.5
Dear Neighboring Property Owner: Alexander Hochberg,

Legal Notices

28 Barrett 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 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 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-street parking spaces shall be permitted in residential districts as indicated in §223-17C.

The driveway, as proposed, would require a variance for parking in the front yard forward of the principal building.

The full application is available online at: <https://www.beaconny.gov/index.php/agendas-minutes/>

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for this

Legal Notices

application at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 20, 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 appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on October 20, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov

Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

City of Beacon One Municipal Plaza - Suite One Beacon, New York 12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
October 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: Raz Razzak
Address: 145 Sargent Avenue
Tax Grid No.: 30-5954-16-832490-00
Zoning Classification: R1-40
Dear Neighboring Property Owner: Raz Razzak, 145 Sargent Avenue, has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for area variance relief from Beacon Zoning Code Section 223-17 E., Attachment 3, to allow the installation of a 16 ft. x 20 ft. prefabricated shed, which requires relief from the following:

- Section 223-17 E., Attachment 3, to allow

Legal Notices

for a rear yard setback of 5 feet (25 ft. required)

- Section 223-17 E., Attachment 3, to allow for a side yard setback of 5 feet (25 ft. required)

The full application is available online at: <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, October 20, 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 appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on October 20, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov

Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

City of Beacon One Municipal Plaza - Suite One Beacon, New York 12508
Phone (845) 838-5002
October 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Variance Application
Applicant: 152-158 Fishkill Avenue LLC
Address: 152-158 Fishkill Avenue
Tax Grid No.: 30-6054-29-041801-00 and 30-6054-29-042814-00
Zoning Classification:

Legal Notices

T

Dear Neighboring Property Owner: 152-158 Fishkill Avenue LLC, 152-158 Fishkill Avenue, has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for reappraisal of an area variance relief, originally granted on July 18, 2023, from Beacon Zoning Code Section 223-13G.(1), to construct retaining walls proposed in connection with the mixed-use office and residential redevelopment proposal for the premises, which requires relief from the following:

1. Section 223-13.G(1) to allow for a maximum proposed retaining wall height ranging from 7.5 feet to 15.4 feet (6 feet permitted in side and rear yards)

The full application is available online at:

No Kiddin

Free Wooden Pallets

at Southern Dutchess News - 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls

297-3723 - Ask for Andy

Legal Notices

<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, October 20, 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 appeal. Comments can also be provided via email no later than 4:00 PM on October 20, 2026, to Mercedes Perez, Zoning Board Secretary, at mperez@beaconny.gov

Mercedes Perez
Zoning Board Secretary

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing

Legal Notices

Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFP-DCP-118-26 Rental and Cleaning Service for Safety Clothing, Work Apparel, and Indoor Weather Mats

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 5th day of November 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting “Government”, then selecting “Bidding and RFP Opportunities”. For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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9			8					
				1	3	9		
					2			5
	3		5			1	8	

© 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

A 6x6 grid with a 2x2 block of 4x4 subgrids. The top-left 4x4 subgrid contains numbers 2, 4, 3, and 4. The top-right 4x4 subgrid contains numbers 2, 4, 3, and 4. The bottom-left 4x4 subgrid contains numbers 2, 4, 3, and 4. The bottom-right 4x4 subgrid contains numbers 2, 4, 3, and 4.

© 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: MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

ACROSS

1. Trampled
5. Dashboard unit, acr.
8. "Be quiet," onomatopoeically speaking
11. Clean the whiteboard, e.g.
12. Morally wicked
13. Former anesthetic
15. Bad luck precursor
16. Banned apple spray
17. *Ringo Starr's instrument, pl.
18. *Home of the bagpipes
20. Big one, at 7-Eleven
21. Contemplate
22. Jewelry stone
23. Hindu queens
26. Something earned
30. Tokyo, formerly
31. *Riddim pair music genre
34. Spock's famous body parts
35. *Animal, source of violin bow strings
37. Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf"
"
38. Away from port (2 words)
39. Not much (2 words)
40. Post-graduate journey?
42. Always, to a poet
43. Baby bear (2 words)
45. Beach-comber's collection
47. Cholera
48. Popular pie nut
50. Glazier's unit
52. *Flute player
55. Pointy teeth
56. 36 inches
57. Sticky stuff
59. Hot _____ buns
60. Code word for K
61. Mauritania's Eastern neighbor
62. Soda pop container
63. Ems follower
64. Highest point

DOWN

1. *Piano has at least ____ pedals
2. Part of a glass, pl.
3. Leading oil-producers' grp.
4. Indicate
5. Home to Teatro alla Scala
6. Popular core exercise
7. Deer social group
8. Synagogue
9. Cannabis plant
10. Store posting, abbr.
12. Old-fashioned carry-on bag
13. Straight ones in drafter's toolbox
14. *Louis Armstrong's instrument
19. "And Then ____ Were None"
22. "Wow!"
23. User's "getaway"
24. Sun-dried brick
25. Water wheel
26. Intense anger
27. Painter's prop
28. Angler's basket
29. Former Russian leaders
32. Snatch
33. Toothy fish
36. *Lute family instruments
38. "Perfect" Buddhist
40. Theatrical prompt
41. Former Portuguese money
44. Edible herb
46. Brain teaser
48. Like average Jane
49. British peers
50. Prefix for "beyond"
51. Any minute, arch.
52. Type of fish net
53. Daytime TV program
54. Enameled metalware
55. Federal Communications Commission
58. *Standard number of strings on guitar

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10
11					12					13	14		
15					16					17			
	18				19					20			
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	50	51				52					53	54	
55						56					57		58
59						60					61		
62						63					64		



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

hudson valley naturalist

by francine wizner



The copy might be better than the original:
Borrowing, remixing, and fair use

You can see natural recycling on the trails at Tymor Park in Lagrangeville, the shoreline along 9D in Beacon, and in your backyard. Fallen leaves nourish mushrooms, squirrels occupy abandoned woodpecker cavities, and lichens dissolve stones to extract minerals. Everything builds upon what came before.

It's not just tangible items. If you listen closely to the hedgerows and thickets, you can hear an avian version of musical sampling. The Northern Mockingbird borrows "audio snippets" from its neighbors, stitching the calls of blue jays, robins, and cardinals into new tracks to defend territory. Similarly, the actions of beavers are mirrored by muskrats, who copy travel routes through dense vegetation to find shelter in their lodges.

Humans remix, as well. We are authors, artists, or composers of works built upon the efforts of others. Even if complete originality were possible, modifying what already exists often yields something spectacular.

The copy may be preferred

In 2015, singer-songwriter Mike Posner wrote an acoustic ballad about the dark side of fame. It was largely ignored. Realizing it lacked the energy for mainstream radio, his record label sent it to SeeB, an electronic duo. They added a bright synth melody, transforming "I Took a Pill in Ibiza" into a global dance

hit that has racked up over 2.4 billion streams. While a tiny niche prefers the acoustic original, the tune only gained traction after the remix exploded, benefiting both artists.

The Staple Singers' 1954 gospel recording of "This May Be the Last Time" sold only a few thousand copies. A decade later, The Rolling Stones injected rock energy into the chorus, driving sales of 1965's "The Last Time" past 2 million copies. The ultimate commercial peak arrived in 1997 when The Verve sampled an orchestral loop of the Stones' track for "Bitter Sweet Symphony," which accumulated over 1.6 billion Spotify streams.

Some cinematic adaptations succeed by editing out unnecessary storylines. The source material for "The Godfather" indulged in lengthy subplots that would have distracted from the film's operatic tragedy. Meanwhile, the satirical novel on which "Forrest Gump" was based featured a foul-mouthed giant who blasted into outer space and was held hostage by cannibals. By removing these cartoonish capers, the silver screen grounded the story into an endearing, historically based tale.

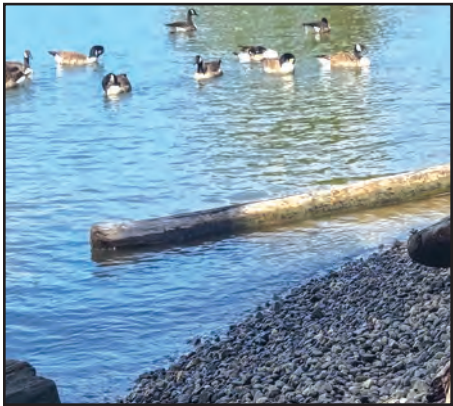
Inventors know they're not original

As Apple founder Steve Jobs once observed, "Creativity is just connecting ... experiences [to] ... synthesize new things." Surrealist artist Salvador Dalí noted, "Those who do not want to imitate anything, produce nothing." Mark Twain



Everything builds upon what came before. Some examples of natural recycling are pictured here, clockwise from top: fallen leaves nourish mushrooms, lichens dissolve stones to extract minerals, and wooden debris at Long Dock Park in Beacon will provide a food source for insects, crabs, and shorebirds, acts as a natural fertilizer, and protects against erosion.

-Photos by Francine Wizner



COTTON

The Dream and Hope of the Enslaved
in Spirituals & Slave Narratives

Friday, October 23, 7 pm,
Beulah Baptist Church
(92 Catharine Street, Poughkeepsie)

Tanisha Mitchell
presents *Cotton*,
which honors the
African-American
experience during
slavery through spirituals, art,
and slave narratives. Ms. Mitchell,
the soprano and librarian behind
the popular Opera Talks, will
present her research and
perform two live spirituals.

Presented in partnership with
Beulah Baptist Church.

Registration required.

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even claimed that human utterance is largely built on a foundation of unavoidable plagiarism.

Unlike mockingbirds, whose vocal piracy is governed by natural selection, human creators operate under a legal framework known as the doctrine of Fair Use. By law, brief, copyrighted excerpts may be used without permission or payment for purposes like criticism, news reporting, teaching, or research. There is greater leeway if the source material is factual rather than fictionalized, provided it does not hurt the original creator's ability to profit.

It's national. It's local.

Famous legal battles highlight these boundaries. One clash, settled out of court, involved the Associated Press and the iconic Barack Obama "Hope" poster, which was based on an AP photograph. Another occurred when luxury fashion house Louis Vuitton sued the makers of "My Other Bag" totes. Because the totes were deemed a parody, they can still be legally sold.

Fair Use shapes our interactions right here where we live. Every day, copyright law is navigated inside classrooms—from neighborhood schools to institutions like Marist and Vassar—where educators exercise their legal right to stream a documentary for face-to-face instruction without paying licensing fees.

Makers at marketplaces and fairs must also cope with the interplay of ownership versus shared expression. For example, artisans at Rhinebeck's Sheep and Wool Festival share the universal building blocks of the craft—such as stitches and heritage techniques—yet a designer's pat-

tern is protected.

Meanwhile, on the related landscape of trademark law, pop icon Daryl Hall, owner of Pawling's Daryl's House, and former musical partner John Oates used their legal weight to stop a small-batch food maker from using the pun-based moniker "Haulin' Oats" for their granola blend. The product is now marketed as "Kiss My Oats," demonstrating that businesses must remain mindful of intellectual property.

Whether it is an educator utilizing a video stream, an artisan spinning communal traditions, or a business owner branding a product, Fair Use boundaries limit and protect. True originality might be a myth, but authenticity is attainable. Like the mockingbirds filling the Hudson Valley air with remixed melodies, our culture thrives when we connect, adapt, and responsibly transform the old into something beautifully new.

This activity is great for anyone looking to enrich knowledge of rights and responsibilities in creating new work: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/FAIR-USE-ENRICHMENT-CROSS-CURRICULAR-ACTIVITY-7542394>

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