

BEACON FREE PRESS

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COVID-19 update

County to monitor new variant and react as necessary

By Kate Goldsmith

On Sunday, Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan declared a state of emergency due to “rapidly rising” cases of COVID-19 and hospitalizations, in addition to the new threat of the Omicron variant.

“The state of emergency will be in effect for at least 30 days and will allow Ulster County to rapidly procure needed testing and vaccination supplies, bolster available public health staff resources, and redeploy County staff to support COVID operations if necessary,” Ryan said in a statement on Nov. 28.

Active cases of COVID-19 have tripled in Ulster County since Halloween, bringing the count to its highest level since April 2021, Ryan noted.

Ryan continues to urge residents to get vaccinated if they have not already, and to get their booster shot if they received their last dose longer than six months ago.

“With the emergence of the Omicron variant, it’s even more urgent to get vaccinated and get your booster,” Ryan said. “Vaccines remain our most effective tool to stop the virus and save lives.”

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said, “[Dutchess] has the resources and executive authority to take appropriate steps without exercising the broad authority that comes with a declared state of emergency under New York State Executive Law 2B.”

Molinaro added that the pandemic has taught officials that they must always be ready for “what’s next.”

“As we learn about the new Omicron variant and experience the expected seasonal rise in cases, Dutchess County is well-positioned to continue responding to this public health emergency,” he said. “Our health department has remained ever vigilant-working closely with hospitals, healthcare providers, school districts, colleges and more to monitor COVID-19 and adapt as necessary. Together with the Legislature who previously authorized funding, we have worked to ensure there is appropriate capacity and access to testing and vaccination.”

Molinaro said the county “will continue to monitor transmission and gauge any change in severity and hospital capacity. The advent of another variant doesn’t change our approach and prudence when using the powers given to the executive once a state of emergency is declared.”

Continue to follow prevention guidelines

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) continues strongly urges all community members to follow CDC Disease Prevention Guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses including:

- Get Vaccinated and get your booster. COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective, free and readily available. Anyone 5 years and older is eligible to be vaccinated. For information about where to get COVID-19 vaccine, visit www.DutchessNY.gov/covidvaccine.
- Wear a mask in indoor public spaces, even if fully vaccinated.
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water; or use hand sanitizer when necessary.
- Practice physical distancing – particularly in congregate settings
- Stay home when sick. Anyone experiencing cold or COVID-19 symptoms, including coughing, sneezing, loss of taste or smell; should stay home to rest, recover, and help prevent the spread of virus and disease.

Beacon dedicates new fire truck

By Kristine Coulter

The City of Beacon Fire Department held a dedication ceremony for its new 2021 Pierce Enforcer Engine on Tuesday, Nov. 23 outside of City Hall. A grant of \$125,000 was received for the pumper truck by Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson, who was in attendance during the ceremony. The total cost of the new truck is \$640,000.

“Our career and volunteer firefighters are dedicated to protecting life and property,” said Mayor Lee Kyriacou.

The 2021 engine replaces two pieces of equipment a 2006 rescue truck and a 1993 pumper, said Beacon Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis. The 2006 truck was auctioned off for \$150,00, he said. The pumper will also be auctioned.

The fire department has a fleet that includes a 2021 rescue pumper, a 2015 ladder truck and a 2018 engine, said the chief.

“This is a happy day for Beacon and the surrounding area,” said Jacobson, who was wearing a City of Beacon Fire Department baseball cap. He noted that the City of Beacon firefighters assist other area departments on mutual aid assistance calls.

The assemblyman remarked that “every compartment is engineered” for specifics before it is made. The engine comes from the manufacturer Pierce in Appleton, WI. It has seating for four, aluminum cab and body, independent front suspension, enclosed ground ladders, 1,200 feet of 5-inch hose, two 200 feet of 1.75 inch pre-connects, one 200 feet of



Above, Mayor Lee Kyriacou makes remarks during the fire truck dedication ceremony outside of City Hall in Beacon on Nov. 23. In attendance were, from left, Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson, Beacon Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis and Council member Amber Grant.

Right, The City of Beacon Fire Department’s new 2021 Pierce Enforcer Engine was dedicated outside City Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 23.

-Photos by Kristine Coulter



2.5 inch pre-connect and 65-gallon fuel tank. It also has the Hurst “Jaws of Life” battery operated rescue tools.

The engine is 34’ in length and has a travel height of 9’11.” It also has a vehicle data recorder.

Van Voorhis thanked members of the City Council, including council member

Amber Grant who attended the ceremony.

The engine will last more than 20 years, said the fire chief.

“It’s a big deal for me and the guys to get a new fire truck,” said Van Voorhis.

The new truck will be in the center of the city on Main St. at the Mase Hook & Ladder station, said Van Voorhis.

DCSPCA event will fund crucial mission

By Kate Goldsmith

The Dutchess County SPCA will host its holiday fundraiser on Wednesday, Dec. 8, starting at 6:30 p.m. Due to the ongoing pandemic, it will be held virtually again this year. The event, titled “A Home for the Holidays,” includes a silent auction that is already under way, recorded messages from celebrity animal rights advocates, adoption opportunities, a peer-to-peer fundraising contest (through Dec. 31) and more.

Annie and Ryan from Q92’s Annie in the Morning show will emcee the event live.

There is a \$25 suggested donation. Register via onecau.se/drQ. You can also view and bid on the Silent Auction items at this link.

“It’s going to be a combination live event with some pre-recorded video; we’re doing the best we can with a virtual event,” said Lynne Meloccaro, executive director of the Dutchess County SPCA (DCSPCA). “We can’t wait to do our next benefit live, but we felt that given the surge happening in New York, it would have been irresponsible of us to have a live event now.”

Actress Sally Struthers and musician Fred Schneider (from the B52s) are among the supporters who have provided heartfelt messages that will be played during “A Home for the Holidays.”

The event will come live from the DCSPCA shelter on Violet Avenue in Hyde Park. The decision, said Meloccaro, is “to help the community understand what we do for the community, and also how dependent we are on the community’s help to do what we do ... to give people a chance to participate, let



The Dutchess County SPCA will host its holiday fundraiser, “A Home for the Holidays,” virtually on Wednesday, Dec. 8. Pictured are Brealyynn with puppy, Louie.

-Courtesy photo by Erica Lynn Photography NY

Continued on page 3

Three BHS students perform in Area All State Music Festival



Three Beacon High School (BHS) students were selected to perform in the NYSSMA Zone 10 Area All State Music Festival. The students, Jonah Mensch, George Humphries and Jose Resendiz, took part in the festival, which was held at Brewster High School in Putnam County, on Nov. 19 and 20.

“It was definitely a bit of a challenge compared to last time, coming back from lockdown, but it was still a great experience nonetheless,” said Jose, a senior at BHS. Jose and Jonah sang in the Area All State Mixed Chorus. George played trumpet in the Area All State Concert Band.

-Courtesy photo

Tompkins Mahopac Bank raises funds for Make A Wish Foundation, Alzheimer’s Association



This fall, Tompkins Mahopac Bank participated in the Make a Wish Foundation’s Walk for Wishes and the Alzheimer’s Association’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s, raising more than \$27,000 in total donations for the charities. Tompkins raised a grand total of \$14,244 for the Walk for Wishes, surpassing its \$10,000 goal, and a total of \$13,348 for the Walk to End Alzheimer’s, more than doubling its \$5,000 goal.

The outpouring of donations for the Alzheimer’s Walk surrounded two of Tompkins’s team captains, both of whom have close family members affected by the disease the walks were created for. In a show of true strength, teams were able to rally tremendous support and community awareness locally.

Pictured are representatives from Tompkins Mahopac Bank’s Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester branches and office staff.

-Courtesy photo

Presbyterian Church Thrift Shop open in WF

The Presbyterian Church Thrift Shop, 2578 South Ave. (Route 9), in Wappingers Falls will be open from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. the first three Friday and Saturdays of

December.
For additional information call 845-297-2800.

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DCSPCA event set

Continued from page 1

them know how they can help.”

The choice of emcees was a natural, as the Annie & Ryan show hosts the Pet of the Week on Thursdays.

“Lynne usually handles the dog while I do the yapping,” said Penny Schouten, DCSPCA marketing, communications and community relations director.

The silent auction items range in price from \$50 to about \$5,000, and include jewelry, furniture, sky-diving lessons, cruises, a lottery gift basket, a two-week vacation in St. Maarten, a glamping trip and more.

There will also be videos honoring DCSPCA volunteer of the year, Dave Stark, and special honoree John Storyk.

“[Storyk] is a legendary acoustic designer,” said Meloccaro. “Out of the goodness of his heart, he redesigned our dog wing acoustically so that it’s a quiet, serene space instead of a barking, anxious space.” She added that the dog wing is a nice facility, but previously the acoustics amplified the barking in the corridor.

“You can see the difference in the dogs,” she said. “When the dogs go back in their pods they’re like ten times more calm than they were before, because they had to run the gauntlet of barking dogs.”

Multi-pronged mission

The mission of the DCSPCA includes:

- Sheltering animals in need and secure permanent homes for adoptable pets.
- Providing practical and educational resources to the public to advance the highest standards of animal care and help keep pets in their homes.
- Enforcing humane law throughout Dutchess County.
- Striving for a community in which all animals are treated with compassion and respect.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization has had its challenges, but it has also provided opportunities.

“The biggest transformation [during

the pandemic] was reconnecting ourselves to the community,” said Meloccaro. “Partly in response to Covid but also [through] progressive trends in sheltering ... helping the community through community programs.”

These programs are designed to help people keep their animals during difficult times, “instead of seeing [the shelter] as a warehouse where people put their animals they don’t want anymore.”

The programs include a safety net boarding program; for those who might be moving or having to go into the hospital, DCSPCA will offer free boarding for 30 days. There is also a medical emergency repayment program for expensive veterinary bills, offering affordable weekly payments. For dogs with behavioral issues in the home, the organization will send someone to your home to help.

DCSPCA also partners with organizations such as Grace Smith House, to arrange boarding for animal companions whose owners have had to leave their domestic situation for fear of their safety. Meloccaro noted that some of those women come to the shelter every day to visit their animals.

“Most people want to keep their animals; we want to help people keep their animals,” Meloccaro said. “It’s good for the people, the animals and for us, so we don’t have to [put those animals into the shelter system].”

As a result, the DCSPCA has been able to help hundreds of animals and families.

“The results have been pretty spectacular,” Meloccaro said, adding that DCSPCA is one of the top-rated shelters in the nation for its release rates and standards.

“I’m pretty proud of that. It’s a place where good things are happening,” she said. “As always, our biggest challenge is to raise money.”

And it takes a lot of money to implement and run programs and maintain high standards, not to mention the everyday care of the many dogs and cats at the shelter (Meloccaro said they have about three



A gift card for Bannerman Castle is one of the auction items.

-Courtesy photo

times as many cats as dogs). For instance, hundreds of pounds of food per week are required to feed the animals. Meloccaro said DCPCSA buys food and accepts donations through food drives.

There is also medical care, with some animals needing much more than others. For example, earlier this year the shelter received a call about a “backyard breeder” who was breeding Shih Tzus on their property and keeping the animals in squalid, unsafe conditions.

“In the height of the summer the Shih Tzus were locked in a shed with no ventilation, no water, they were starving,” said Meloccaro. “Our vet said it was the worst flea infestation he’d ever seen. Some of the dogs died of the fleas.”

Eleven of the dogs were rescued but were in poor health; some had to have eyes removed due to the extent of infection.

“It was the worst case I’ve ever seen,”

Meloccaro said. As they all required medical treatment, it was a very expensive rescue mission, but worthwhile.

“The good news is that they recovered and were all adopted out; they found great owners,” she said. “It’s incredible what they went through, but they’re incredibly sweet dogs.”

Meloccaro tells this story not to depress people, but to underscore the mission of the DCSPCA.

“It’s not about the condition of the animals when they come in. The story is about what would happen to them if we weren’t here,” she said. “The work we do to turn them back into normal, happy dogs in normal homes, and cats too. That, for me, is the most important story of the DCSPCA. You can feel bad for the animals, but feel good for them, too. That’s what we’re here for.”

Visit www.dcpsca.org for more details about “A Home for the Holidays” and more.

Blood donors receive Amazon gift card, change for private screening of ‘The Matrix Resurrections’

As many look ahead at a busy holiday season, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors across the country to harness their humanity by giving blood or platelets in the coming weeks. As a result of low blood donor turnout in recent months, the Red Cross is heading into the holidays with its lowest blood supply in more than a decade at this time of year. The ongoing effects of COVID-19 and a summer spike in delta variant cases significantly challenged the nation’s blood supply heading into the fall. The pandemic

also resulted in fewer blood drives at schools and colleges, contributing to a 34 percent drop in new blood donors from last year - one of the largest year-to-year decreases and one that could threaten essential medical care for patients.

Locally, the Eastern New York Red Cross Region has experienced a 25 percent decrease in new blood donors this year. Don’t wait. Humanity needs you to help patients enjoy all the holiday season has to offer. Make an appointment to give blood or platelets as soon

as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800- 733-2767). As a thank-you, all those who come to give Nov. 29-Dec. 16 will be automatically entered for a chance to win a private screening for the winner and 50 of their guests of the epic new film “The Matrix Resurrections.”

Plus, those who come to give Nov. 29-Dec. 16 will also get a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email,

thanks to Amazon.*

Fishkill, Dec. 9, 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Hyatt House, 100 Westage Business Center Dr.

Poughkeepsie, Dec. 7: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Poughkeepsie Galleria, 2001 South Road

Wappingers Falls, Dec. 3, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Grace Bible Church, 158 Myers Corners Road.

*Terms apply. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/matrix.

Get a glimpse of the architecture world at DCC@Fishkill

Dutchess Community College and the American Institute of Architecture Hudson Valley Chapter will jointly sponsor an information session on Wednesday, Dec. 1 at DCC@ Fishkill, 461 Route 9, in Fishkill at 6:30 p.m. It will offer attendees

a glimpse of the world of architecture - from potential college pathways to working in the field.

For more information, visit <https://www.sunydutchess.edu/news/>.

MARY'S WEDDING
BY STEPHEN MASSICOTTE

"... Mary's Wedding reminds us of how much is lost when the charge to war begins – and how hard it can be for those left behind to make sense of it all and move on."
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

MOLLY SWEENEY
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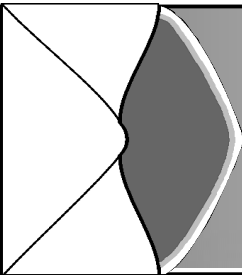
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Viewpoints



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff or management of the Southern Dutchess News Group. Letters should be less than 300 words. Southern Dutchess News Group reserves the right not to publish any letter.

Joint Letter on Democratic Caucus attendance & County Legislature productivity

To the Editor:

During a County Legislature Budget Meeting, Democrat Minority Leader Rebecca Edwards attempted to criticize her colleagues saying, “this Legislature is doing virtually nothing.”

The Legislature is in the midst of reviewing the 2022 Proposed County Executive Budget by holding public hearings and meeting with Departments to ensure staffing and services are being maintained as well as discussing new service proposals. The Budget review process is one of the most important aspects of being a County Legislator.

Throughout the Legislature’s Budget review and November meetings, the Democratic Caucus has maintained a 43 percent attendance rate average. At one meeting, 0 members of the Democratic Caucus were in attendance. Over that same span of eleven meetings, the Republican Caucus maintained a perfect, 100 percent attendance rate.

Our residents need a highly efficient and functioning County government. There are people out there that need help, want better roads & parks, and deserve to have their taxes lowered.

We are absolutely disappointed to hear Legislator Edward’s remarks and suggest the Democratic Caucus starts doing their jobs and showing up.

The County Executive and Legislature Chairman point to their 2021 accomplishments:

- Purchased and authorized up to \$25 million for the construction of the Youth Opportunity Union (YOU)
- Delivered \$3.1 in Learn, Play, Create youth grants
- Negotiated and ratified a 25-year lease with Keystone Professional Baseball Club to bring a New York Yankees affiliate team to Dutchess Stadium
- Authorized funding for upgrades at Wilcox Park, Bowdoin Park, Lake Walton Park, and Quiet Cove Park
- Established a reserve fund for the Parks Division
- Expanded use of Crisis Intervention Team Training to municipal law enforcement entities
- Authorized a \$350,000 highspeed internet/broadband project
- Adopted a local law to protect restaurants from nefarious third-party delivery services
- Authorized and approved the implementation of the County Sheriff’s Police Reform and Modernization Plan
- Negotiated and ratified a Government Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Climate Action Plan between the County and municipalities
- Authorized and conducted PFOA/PFOS study for homes surrounding the Hudson Valley Regional Airport
- Authorized purchase of a Mobile RV to deliver physical, mental, and communicable disease health services to Eastern Dutchess

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- Adopted a local law for Fair Housing
- And, we are delivering the 8th consecutive property tax cut, the largest tax reduction in County history, and eliminating sales tax on clothing & footwear under \$110.
County Executive Marc Molinaro
and Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver

Communities need education on marijuana options

To the Editor:

With the passing of the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA), New York became the 15th state in the nation to legalize adult-use cannabis. Local governments now have the choice to allow retail dispensaries and on-site consumption locations within their districts. Prior to deciding, it’s important to understand the “opt-in” and “opt-out” features.

A community might choose to “opt-in” to dispensaries, but “opt-out” of on-site consumption locations. If a community chooses to opt-in to any of the opportunities, the decision will be final as of December 31, 2021 and cannot be changed.

However, if a community chooses to opt-out of any of the options, they can later choose to opt-in after December 31, allowing more time for decision making.

We at the Northern Dutchess Community Coalition strongly encourage our communities to educate themselves about these options. For more information on the effects of legalization of recreational marijuana please visit learnaboutsam.org.

Crissy Groenewegen
Agency Director

Council on Addiction Prevention and Education of Dutchess County Inc.

Beacon Police Blotter

The following is from the City of Beacon Police Department

Oct. 17: Criminal Mischief- Wolcott Avenue-Caller reported damage to his lawn mower. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 18: Criminal Mischief-DeWindt Street- Caller reported that his tires were slashed. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 20: Warrant-Municipal Plaza-Bryan M. Washington, 27, of Beacon, was processed on an open bench warrant.

Oct. 10: Hit & Run Auto Accident-Tompkins Terrace- Caller reported damage to her car as a result of a hit-and-run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 20: Warrant-Municipal Plaza-Jason D. Fincher, 29, of Wappingers Falls, was processed on an open bench warrant.

Oct. 20: Fraud-E Main Street-Caller reported a fraudulent withdrawal from her bank account by an individual without her permission. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 21: Warrant-Municipal Plaza-Vincente N. Rosado, 35, of Beacon, was processed on an open arrest warrant.

Oct. 21: Harassment-Municipal Plaza-Caller reporting harassing behavior from her neighbor. Report taken

Oct. 22: Warrant-Main Street-Ronald Lombardi, 50, of Glenham, was processed on an open warrant of arrest.

Oct. 23: Auto Accident-Hit & Run-South Chestnut Street- Caller reported witnessing a hit-and-run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 25: Warrant-Route 52-Dennis A. O’Brien, 33, of Wallkill, was processed on an open Warrant of Arrest.

Oct. 26: Larceny-Sargent Avenue-Caller reported political signs stolen from his yard. Report taken. Suspect was advised.

Oct. 27: Traffic Stop- South Avenue-Jacob D. Searles, 41, of Beacon, was

charged with aggravated unlicensed operator third-degree & miscellaneous V & T.

Oct. 28: Auto Accident-Main Street-Caller reported damage to his vehicle as result of a hit-and-run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 28: Found Property-Main Street-Individual turned in found property. Report filed.

Oct. 30: Fraud- Rombout Avenue-Caller reported fraudulent activity in her bank account. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Oct. 30: Stolen Vehicle-North Avenue-Jaquan J. Mitchell, 28, of Poughkeepsie, was charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3rd, Grand Larceny 4th & Menacing 2nd.

Oct. 30: Criminal Mischief-South Avenue- Caller reported vandalized vehicles. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Nov. 1: Lost Property- Main Street-Caller reported lost jewelry. Report taken. Item located

Nov. 1: Criminal Mischief- South Davies Terrace-Caller reported damage to his car from a past incident. Report taken.

Nov. 2: Warrant-Municipal Plaza-Milton Reese Jr., 40, of Newburgh, was processed on an open bench warrant.

Nov. 3: Dispute-Tompkins Terrace-Bryana A. Desheers, 19, of New Windsor, was charged with Criminal Mischief.

Nov. 3: Lost Property-South Davies Terrace- Caller reported lost property. Report taken.

Nov. 5: Fire Response- Academy Street-Caller reported fire in a basement. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Nov. 5: Unattended Death-Beacon-Officers responded to a call for an Unattended Death. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Number of Calls: 472
Accidents: 13
Domestics: 10

A.G. Office to host gun buyback program with Poughkeepsie police Dec. 4

The Office of New York Attorney General Letitia James is hosting a gun buyback with the Poughkeepsie Police Department on Saturday, Dec. 4, at Beulah Baptist Church, 92 Catharine Street, Poughkeepsie, from 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. Please wear a mask and social distance for the event.

For more information, call 1-800-771-7755 or email NYAG.Pressoffice@ag.ny.gov



DECODING DUTCHESS PAST

www.DCHSNY.org/ddp



DCHS Dutchess County Historical Society

Van Kleeck touchstones across five centuries

By Bill Jeffway

Arguably no local family has had a greater historical presence, one that is pervasive, persistent, and woven into the community, than the Van Kleeck family.

The Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS) is fortunate to have been entrusted with many photographs, documents and objects from the family over generations. Van Kleeck family members remain active with DCHS today, supporting efforts like the broader sharing of the Van Kleeck photo collection that we expand on later.

The family name reminds us that Henry Hudson sailed on behalf of the Dutch in 1609, and it was the Dutch who were the first Europeans to settle along today's Hudson River, doing so under the colonial name of New Netherlands. Unlike Virginia, or the appropriately named New England, the first European settlers were not English. Even though Dutchess County did not start to see significant settlement until the mid 1700s, well into English rule, the Dutch imprint remains tangible.

The Van Kleeck House

One of the oldest items (and probably the heaviest item) in DCHS Collections is a stone lintel dated 1702 (see photo). Inscribed with the initials of husband and wife Baltus and Tryntie Van Kleeck, it is from the first significant stone house built in Poughkeepsie on what is today Mill Street near Vassar Street. The house is memorialized by the iconic 1834 sketch done by the local historian with a national reputation, Benson Lossing, just prior to its demolition.

It was on June 9, 1687 that Baltus Barents Van Kleeck signed a lease from the land patent owners Robert Sanders and Myndert Harmense. It is that date that is celebrated as the mark of the beginning of European settlement of Poughkeepsie. By 1702 he owned property and was building a substantial house.

Under that lintel passed the notable and notorious of that period. Given its scale, and security, it was the meeting place of important councils planning the

Revolutionary War. But sometimes it was used as a holding cell, as is reportedly the case of the radical Shaker, Mother Ann Lee (1736 to 1784). Lee was spreading what was seen as dangerous pacifism, urging young men not to take up arms in the Revolutionary War and cause of independence from Great Britain. She was imprisoned in the home in 1780. But during her six months of captivity, she created such a public sensation that it was determined that it would be better to let her go, than to allow her to gain the public attention she did by being a prisoner.

Johannes Van Kleeck helps confirm origin of 'Poughkeepsie'

The 1692 scene of a six-year-old Johannes Van Kleeck and his friend of the same age can be seen depicted in the 1940 mural by Norman Foster in the Poughkeepsie Post Office. If you look up and to the right as you enter, you will see the depiction of two children approaching Native People at a spring near today's Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. The story the mural depicts is based on sworn testimony by a much older Johannes Van Kleeck later in life, when he testified in court about boundary disputes. In her 1924 landmark book, "Poughkeepsie, the Origin and Meaning of the Word," Helen Wilkinson Reynolds recounts the sworn testimony and uses it among a set of other original source material to convincingly make the case that this was the origin of Poughkeepsie as a name. Prior to that, it was commonly felt that it meant or referred to "safe harbor."

Van Kleeck presence on Main Street

The 1799 to 1960 family hat business on Main Street would in and of itself be of historic importance. But in addition to operating the store over generations, we are very fortunate that during that period, the Van Kleeck family, in particular Frank and Baltus B. Van Kleeck in the past, and Peter Van Kleeck today, were careful stewards of images of the transformation of Main Street from ox carts and horses, to horse-drawn trolleys, to the automobile.




Local historian Benson Lossing created this sketch of the 1702 Van Kleeck House on Mill Street (near Vassar Street), Poughkeepsie, in the years just prior to its demolition in 1834. The inset shows a recent photograph of the stone lintel that was over the door of what was the first stone house built locally. In addition to the date of construction, you can see the initials of the husband and wife builder/owners: Baltus Van Kleeck and Tryntie Van Kleeck. The "V" is artfully entwined with the "K" and "T." The lintel was a gift, among many photographs and documents over the years, entrusted to the Dutchess County Historical Society by the Van Kleeck family.

DCHS has published a set of notecards with images from this collection, among which is the earliest known photograph of Poughkeepsie, dated 1850. Likely originally a daguerreotype by the renowned S.L. Walker, then copied to the more traditional style of a paper print mounted on cardboard, the photograph shows a group of men, some in the classic tall hats of the time, standing on the south side of Main Street, east of Liberty Street. We have to remind ourselves that when the photo was taken there had been no Civil War, and John Adams and Thomas Jefferson had died just two and a half decades earlier. The new invention, the first railroad, had only just come as far as Poughkeepsie from New York City in the prior 12 months.


The Van Kleeck family business own-

ers and operators were always conscious of, and protective of, local history. Whether it is events like the 1909 Hudson/Fulton Celebration, or regular holiday sales promotions, the store window often told the story of local and family history through the photographs that now make up the DCHS Van Kleeck Collection.


DCHS is making a sample of these note cards available with paid membership or donation at dchsn.org/short.




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



Attendees must show ID and proof of vaccination and wear a mask during the performance. Details on website.





Complete version with orchestra

Friday, December 3, 2021
St. Andrew and St. Luke Episcopal Church
15 South Avenue, Beacon 7:30pm

Sunday, December 5, 2021
First United Methodist Church
83 Main Street, Brewster 2:30pm

Adults \$20 Seniors/Students \$18 Children 12 & under free

Tickets available on our website, by phone or at the door.

All tickets at the door \$20 www.PutnamChorale.org 845-520-7574


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-Photos submitted by Harold G. Delamater

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Empire State Development grant awarded to Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

Following Governor Kathy Hochul’s announcement that more than \$81 million has been awarded to priority projects across New York State through the Regional Economic Development Initiative, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival (HVSF) has announced that it is one of the 97 projects that will receive reimbursable funds from Empire State Development (ESD). The ESD grant, worth \$2 million, will allow HVSF to be reimbursed for project-related costs after receiving approval from the Philipstown Planning Board to progress with its anticipated permanent move to The Garrison.

“We’re thrilled to have this extraordinary support from Governor Hochul and the State,” said Kate Liberman, Managing Director at HVSF. “We’re also honored to be among the other prestigious cultural organizations that are also recipients of this award.”

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival was among one of 18 grant recipients in

the Mid-Hudson region, including Storm King Art Center. The Roundabout Theatre Company (Roundabout), in New York City was awarded funds to renovate its theater venue.

“Support for the arts like this contributes to a more interconnected and resilient Hudson Valley, a community we’re very proud to be a part of and to serve,” said Davis McCallum, Artistic Director at HVSF.

The ESD awards are granted through a rolling process, bolstering projects with the potential to inspire economic growth across the state following the hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic. The HVSF project aims to build a resilient economy and create local jobs by adding nearly 50 seasonal staff positions, plus five more year-round administrative posts as the season could extend up to six weeks into October in its permanent home. HVSF estimates that with this growth it could double its annual local economic impact

up to \$7.6 million by 2024 according to the Americans for the Arts impact calculator. The organization also has environmental aspirations, with hopes of transforming the former fairways of The Garrison Golf Course into ecologically-maintained native meadows and wild-flower gardens.

According to New York State Lieutenant Governor Brian Benjamin, the projects receiving grant funding were chosen for their innovation, impact on their communities, and potential for positive change coming out of the pandemic. He noted that, “whether it is workforce development, tourism, green investments or domestic manufacturing, we are moving forward to foster a strong and prosperous economy in New York State.”



Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival (HVSF) is one of the 97 projects to receive reimbursable funds from Empire State Development (ESD). The ESD grant is worth \$2 million. Pictured, from left, are Davis McCallum, HVSF Artistic Director, Kate Liberman, HVSF Managing Director and Gov. Kathy Hochul.

-Courtesy photo

Group talk for men whose partners, spouses are going through cancer

Support Connection, Inc. announces a free program: For Men Only, Let’s Talk: An Open Discussion For Men With A Spouse Or Partner Going Through Cancer. It will be held via ZOOM video conference on Tues., Dec. 7, from 7 - 8 p.m.

Open to men nationwide who have a spouse or partner living with breast, ovarian or gynecological cancer. To learn more or to register, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290 by 5 p.m. on Mon., Dec. 6.

Open to all men who have a spouse or partner dealing with breast, ovarian or gynecological cancer, at any stage from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. Share concerns, experiences and information with others who’ve been there too.

A trained facilitator will lead the discussion, to include the following topics:

- What it’s like to see your spouse or partner go through cancer, and how it affects you.
- How cancer can impact you and your spouse or partner, your relationship and your family.
- Coping strategies for you, your spouse or partner, and your family.
- Giving yourself permission to take care of your own needs at the same time as you support your loved one.

Discussion leaders are Alan Bandes and David Tartaglia are volunteer facilitators who have personally experienced coping with their own wives’ breast cancer journeys.



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To help fight food insecurity in the Hudson Valley we are collecting donations for local charity Fareground. Please drop off non-perishable food items at our office during business hours (Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat-Sun 9-4) or donate online via the QR code.



Christopher’s Dance Studio opens, hosts ‘West Coast Swing’ contest



Christopher Bledsoe, pictured above with a group of students, is excited to bring “health, fitness and a celebration of our community and each other” to Dutchess County. Christopher’s Dance Studio, located at 29 Overocker Road in Poughkeepsie, is holding its grand opening and specializes in West Coast Swing Dance lessons. Christopher has created the “Christopher Bledsoe’s West Coast Swing Dance Award” and will be formulating West Coast Swing Dance Competitions for his students. There will be cash prizes and a trophy ceremony for the winner of the competition.

The community loves Christopher’s style of teaching and how he highlights the importance of having fun while engaging in the art of dance. One of Christopher’s students is 84 years old and loves taking lessons with Christopher. Christopher hosts a “Vaccination Only West Coast Swing Dance Social” and one of his attendees wins “The Best Dressed Award.” Individuals of all ages and from all walks of life are welcome at Christopher’s Dance Studio. For more information, call 484-393-5955 or visit the website at westie-night-out.com.

-Courtesy photo

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‘A West Point Holiday’ band performance

The West Point Band is shown in their ceremonial uniforms, playing brass instruments. They are standing in front of a decorated Christmas tree, creating a festive holiday atmosphere.

The West Point Band presents “A West Point Holiday” on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. at Eisenhower Hall Theatre. Celebrate the most wonderful time of the year with a Hudson Valley favorite featuring treasured holiday songs and stories. These performances are free and open to the public. Tickets are required; reserve free tickets in advance by visiting www.westpointband.com, or at www.westpointband.eventbrite.com. Proof of vaccination is required for all patrons aged 12 and over; masks must be worn covering the nose and mouth at all times while indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

Please note: proof of vaccination is required for all patrons aged 12 and over; masks must be worn covering the nose and mouth at all times while indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Visit westpointband.com/holiday-show.html for more information and to reserve tickets.

Established in 1817, the West Point Band is the Army’s oldest musical organization and continues to provide world-class music to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets and to serve as ambassadors of the United States Military Academy and the Army to local, national, and international communities.

For concert information, cancellations, and updates, call 845-938-2617 or visit www.westpointband.com. West Point Band news can also be found by following us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter.

The photo is from a previous concert.

-Courtesy photo

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Putnam Chorale to perform Handel’s Messiah Dec. 3

The Putnam Chorale will be performing Handel’s Messiah oratorio in a concert at the St. Andrew and St. Luke Episcopal Church, 15 South Avenue, Beacon on Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. The performance will feature the 45-person chorale, a professional orchestra, and leading soloists from our area.

Handel’s Messiah is one of the best-known and most frequently performed choral works in Western music. The libretto of this masterwork was compiled by Charles Jenner in July 1741, drawing from texts in the King James Bible. Handel’s early success writing English-language oratorios (or sacred works) spurred him to create the music for The Messiah. This oratorio spans the Nativity, Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ.

“We are fortunate to be able to sing in this historic church,” said Nick Simonelli, president of the Putnam Chorale. “It is an

acoustical jewel as well as an architectural delight, featuring 18 ornamental windows created by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The beautiful music of The Messiah will fill the space perfectly.”

The Putnam Chorale been entertaining and educating Putnam and Dutchess county audiences since 1984, providing high quality choral and orchestral music together with academic commentary. St. Andrew’s Church on South Ave. opened for its first worship service on January 6, 1901, more than 120 years ago.

Tickets for this holiday classic are available at <https://www.putnamchorale.org/handels-messiah/> and advanced sale tickets are priced at \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors and students. Covid-19 protocols require proof of COVID-19 vaccination at the door and all attendees (including the singers and musicians) will be masked during the performance.



A performance of Handel’s Messiah will be presented by the Putnam Chorale on Dec. 3 in Beacon

-Courtesy photo

Dance set Dec. 10 at Elks Lodge in Beacon

Get On Down at the Elks Lounge Dance Night on Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m., 900 Wolcott Avenue (Rt. 9D), Beacon. Enjoy a vibrant mix of musical styles and song requests welcome. These dances are informal and even if you come alone, you can always find a friendly partner on the dance floor. \$10 admission, \$5 for Elks

members, includes a variety of complimentary snacks, and a full cash bar is available. All are welcome – singles, couples, friends, newcomers. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required.

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

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Obituaries

Stephen A. Farfaro



EAST FISHKILL - Stephen A. Farfaro, 79, died peacefully at his home on November 18, 2021. Born in Tenafly, NJ on March 1, 1942, he was the son of Alfred and Lillian (Armistead) Farfaro. He was a 1960 graduate from Wappinger

Central Schools. An entrepreneur, Steve owned and operated Steve's Garage for 35 years and the Charlotte Grove Mobile Home Court in Hopewell Junction. He was a life member of the Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club and the NRA, and a member of the Shandaken Hunting Club, as well as numerous other sporting organizations. He enjoyed hunting, deep-sea fishing, and trap shooting. On March 23, 1968 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Fishkill, Steve married Irma Kahara who survives at home. He is also survived by his sons, Richard Farfaro and his wife Vera, and Ronald Farfaro; his grandchildren, Stephen, Sean, Sabrina and Anthony, Adam, Alexis and Richard; and his sister-in-law, Judy Farfaro. He was predeceased by his brother, Scott Farfaro. Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. The Funeral Service was held at the funeral home with Rev. John Young. Interment followed in Fishkill Rural Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, American Heart Association or the NRA.

Luz 'Lucy' D. Tsikitas

FISHKILL - Luz "Lucy" Delia Tsikitas, a resident of Fishkill, died on November 17, 2021 at Putnam Hospital Center. She was 73. Born in Manati, Puerto Rico on September 19, 1948, Lucy was the daughter of the late Nicolas and Francisca (Vega) Rivera. Lucy was an avid fan of the NY Mets, and was loved by everyone who met her. Lucy is survived by her husband, Emanuel "Manny" Tsikitas; her children, Nicole Seholm and Susan Fitzgerald; her grandchildren, Julia Fitzgerald, Jacqueline Fitzgerald, Charles Seholm, and Jake Seholm; her siblings, Gladys Reilly, Elba Vega, and Victor Rivera; and many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill. A funeral service was held at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church, 140 South Grand Avenue, Poughkeepsie followed by interment at St. Michael's Cemetery in Queens. The family requested that anyone who did not have a COVID vaccination view the service on Monday via Livestream on Lucy's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Marisa Agosta

WAPPINGERS FALLS - Marisa Agosta, 72, an area resident since 1978 and formerly of Sleepy Hollow, died on November 17, 2021 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Born in Italy, Marisa was the daughter of Agostino and Rosa (Monteleone) Mordocco. Marisa married Frank Agosta at Immaculate Conception Church in Sleepy Hollow, who survives at home. She is also survived by her son Orazio "Horatio" Agosta; her sister-in-law, Rita Peralta and her husband Juan; her sister Carmella Agosta; three sisters and a brother in Genoa, Italy; and many nieces and nephews. Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. There was a Funeral Service during the calling hours. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society. Please visit Marisa's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Theodore Stephen Petrocine, Jr.

BEACON - Theodore Stephen Petrocine, Jr., a current resident of New Windsor and formerly of Peekskill and Beacon, passed away on November 15, 2021 at Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital, Newburgh. He was 64 years old. Ted was born on June 18, 1957 in Peekskill the son of the late Theodore S. Petrocine, Sr. and Marguerite Gordineer Petrocine. On May 24, 1986 he married the former Marcia Lepore. Marcia survives at home. Ted worked as a security guard at several local businesses. Ted was a member of the Centennial Hose Fire Department in Peekskill. He loved bowling and bowled for Cortlandt Lanes League, Southern Dutchess and Fishkill Bowling League. In addition to his wife, Ted is survived by his daughters, Sarah Petrocine, Maryrose

Petrocine, Elizabeth Petrocine-Esposito and her husband, Richard and Kaitlyn Petrocine; his sons, Theodore S. Petrocine, III and his wife, Patricia and Jason Petrocine and his wife, Dawn; his grandchildren, Eric, Maddie, Elijah, Ezekiel, Isabella, Riley, Preston, Wyatt, Caleb, Xylon, Xelena and Xolten; his sisters, Rose Galarza and her husband, Benny and Debbie Petrocine; his brothers, Richard Petrocine and his wife, Amy, Michael Petrocine and his wife, Toni, Jimmy Petrocine and Timothy Peckron; his many nieces and nephews and extended family. A private cremation and family service is planned. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Diane A. MacAvery

BEACON - Diane A. MacAvery, a long-time area resident, passed away on November 8, 2021 at Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital, Newburgh. She was 82 years old. Diane was born on January 19, 1939 in Brooklyn, the daughter of the late Angelo and Angela Passalacqua Ianuale. Diane grew up in Brooklyn and then moved to the Hudson Valley to begin working for Central Hudson. She met her husband, Harold MacAvery, Jr., while working at Central Hudson. They settled in Chelsea and began their family. Mr. MacAvery predeceased her in 2005. Diane was a parishioner of St. Joachim - St. John the Evangelist Church in Beacon. Diane is survived by her beloved son, Harold MacAvery, III. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, November 29 at St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Willow Street, Beacon. Entombment followed at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, Fishkill. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Joseph S. Wassi

BEACON - Joseph S. Wassi, a 41-year resident of Beacon and formerly of Newburgh, entered into rest on November 22, 2021 at home. He was 71 years old. Joe was born on August 12, 1950 in Newburgh the son of the late Joseph P. and Ruth Tangal Wassi. He graduated from Newburgh Free Academy in 1968 and then attended St. Francis College in Biddeford, Maine. On February 16, 1975 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Beacon he married the former Mary Cramer. Mrs. Wassi survives at home. Joe was a wonderful husband and his wife Mary's best friend. Joe worked in the family business as a butcher at Wassi Brothers in Newburgh until 1993. He also worked at Slamin Salmon in Millbrook, Sunset Sporting Goods in New Paltz, Joe's Italian Market Place in Wappingers and Toscani's in New Paltz until he retired in 2004. He then continued to work part-time at Orvis Sandanona Shooting Grounds in Millbrook where he was currently the Senior Shooting Instructor. Joe was a parishioner of St. Joachim - St. John the Evangelist Church, a member of the Walden Sportsmen's Club where he served as President, Wallkill Rod & Gun Club, Excelsior Sportsman's Club in Eldred, NY, the NRA, and the NYS Rifle and Pistol Association. Joe had a quick wit, sharp mind and wonderful sense of humor. He was a generous man - always happy to share his love of the outdoors. Joe was an avid hunter, fisherman and shooter and taught many along the way. Coming from a family in the food business, Joe was a wonderful cook and loved to cook for others. His many delicious soups became a favorite on Orvis' menus. In addition to his wife and best friend, Mary, Joe is survived by his nephews, Geoffrey Cramer and wife, Donna of Ballston Lake, NY and Christopher Cramer and wife, Stephanie of McKinney, TX; his cousins, Joyce Crossley, Nancy LaColla, Frank Wassi, Marion Pushman, Jean Caulfield, Betty and Bill DuBois and Mary Debelack. In addition to his parents, Joe was predeceased by his sister, Ruthann; his mother-in-law, Margaret Cramer; his aunt-in-law, Catherine Hayden; his brother-in-law, John (Jaye) Cramer; his aunt, Anna Yuhas; his uncles, Edward Tangal, John Wassi and Andrew Wassi; his grandparents, Ruth and Steven Tangal and Frank and Julia Wassi. Family and friends gathered on Tuesday, November 30 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, December 1 at 10 a.m. at St. John

the Evangelist Church, 35 Willow Street, Beacon. Cremation will follow and Joe's cremated remains will be buried at St. Joachim Cemetery in the Spring. Memorial donations in memory of Joe may be made to either the American Heart Association or a charity of one's choice. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

David J. Ruf

FORMERLY OF BEACON - David J. Ruf, 63, passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones on Monday, November 22, 2021 at Flagler Hospital in Saint Augustine, Florida. He grew up in Beacon and graduated from Beacon High School in the class of 1976. After high school, he began his career as a correctional officer and retired from Downstate Correctional Facility after 26 years. One of his greatest pleasures was being a part of his daughters' lives and being a part of their swim team that he officiated for and helped coach for over 15 years. David was heavily involved in local activities and sports teams including men's softball, volleyball and the Correctional Olympics team. He was friendly, sociable and known by many. In his life, David enjoyed the simple things like listening to music, watching movies and sports, telling humorous stories and being in the company of friends and family. He will never be forgotten but forever remembered and missed by all. David was predeceased by his parents, David and Margaret "Peggy" Ruf. David is survived by his wife, Barbara Devlin Ruf; two daughters, Kelly and Katy; his granddaughter, Kehlan; his siblings, Kathy Anderson, Patricia Ruf, Peter Ruf, Christopher Ruf, Kelly Igoe and their families; many nieces and nephews. Friends and family gathered on Saturday, November 27 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. Remembrances and stories from friends and family were held. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Lydia (Garcia) Acevedo

Lydia (Garcia) Acevedo peacefully entered eternal life on November 21, 2021 surrounded by her loving family. She was born on April 13, 1931 in Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico to Alida Binet Garcia and Alfonso Garcia and had been the last remaining child of eleven. Having moved from Puerto Rico to New York City at the age of fourteen, she met the love of her life James Acevedo, a United States Army veteran, and they were married on July 1, 1950. The couple moved to New Rochelle, New York for a brief period and then to Mamaroneck, New York. They were married for 49 years until James' death in 1999. Lydia worked for many years as a waitress at WT Grants in New Rochelle and her easy and friendly manner earned her many friends. Lydia was a devoted mother to her only child and daughter Esther (Acevedo) Siena. They had a bond like no other. Esther was Lydia's greatest accomplishment and best friend. Lydia is survived by her daughter Esther and son-in-law, Laurence Siena of Wappingers Falls, her grandson, Michael Siena and his wife Catherine, and her granddaughter, Elise (Siena) Raffaele and her husband John. She also has two great grand daughters Giulia and Isabella Siena (ages 2 years and 1 month old) and two great grandsons, Jake and Justin Raffaele (ages 8 and 6). The simplest pleasures in life brought her great joy. She enjoyed nothing more than being with her family while laughing and caring for them. She cherished the time spent together and her guidance, love, and support were appreciated by all. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were her source of happiness. Through all of life's ups and downs, Lydia maintained a positive outlook on life, was always smiling, and never complained about anyone or anything. She was a loving, warm hearted, compassionate and genuine woman in every sense. If you were blessed enough to have known Lydia, you would have known she was a beautiful woman inside and out with a heart of gold. She will be missed by many. A visitation was held at Delehanty Funeral Home, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY on Monday November 29. A Mass of Christian Burial took place on Tuesday, November 30 at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 11 Clinton Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. Interment followed at the church cemetery. Delehanty Funeral Home is honored to assist the family with funeral arrangement.

Jerome Wilson

Jerome R. Wilson, 84, died on November 19, 2021 at the Lutheran Care Center. A long-time resident of Dutchess County, he also had spent several years in Florida and South Dakota before returning to New York in 2018. Born in Grand Rapids, MI on October 13, 1937, Jerry was the son of the late George and Sophia (Yadach) Wilson. He proudly served in the US Navy on the USS Lowry and then served in the US Naval Reserves out of Poughkeepsie. Jerry retired as Sergeant from the New York State Police in Stormville in 1985 after 20 years of service. He was a past member of the New York State Police PBA, C.S.E.A., the American Motorcycle Association, and the John Birch Society. Jerry is survived by his children, Linda Balkanli and her husband Alphan of Wappingers Falls, Lisa Wilson of Somers, Christopher Wilson and his wife Lorri of Danbury, CT, and Jeannine Harris of Cold Spring; his grandchildren, Jaclyn, Gabriela, Alessandra, Luciana, Augustine, Jacob, Joshua, Isabella, Zachary, and Zoe; his brother, Arnold Wilson; and many nieces and nephews. Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Denis Church, 602 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction followed by burial at St. Denis Cemetery. Donations may be made in Jerry's memory to DAV Chapter at Castle Point VAMC. Please visit Jerry's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

John M. Lovelett

RYE AND FORMERLY OF BEACON - John Michael Lovelett, a resident of Rye since 2019, originally of Beacon, NY, passed away suddenly at home on Wednesday, November 24, 2021. He was 49. He was born in Peekskill on January 27, 1972. John attended St. Mary School in Fishkill, Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie, and Fairfield University in Connecticut. He had a successful career in Financial Product Development and was the owner of Bar'Lees in Mamaroneck, NY. Survivors include his parents, Marie and Jon Lovelett of Beacon; his sister, Angela Lovelett-Deldin of New Milford, CT; his sister, Janet Quatrochi & her husband Frank of Fishkill; his sister, Domenica Haines & her husband Michael of Poughkeepsie; his sister, Mary Alice Lovelett of Newtown, CT; his nieces and nephews, Brandon Deldin, Lindsey Deldin, Francesca Quatrochi, Gabriella Quatrochi, Christopher Haines, Jacob Haines, Toby Haines, Zoe Haines, Joseph Stoerzinger, Matthew Stoerzinger, and Autumn Stoezinger; as well as many other loving relatives & friends. Calling hours were held on Sunday, November 28 at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Monday, November 29 at St. Mary, Mother of the Church, 106 Jackson Street, Fishkill. Interment followed at Fishkill Rural Cemetery. For those who cannot attend, the Funeral Mass can be watched via livestream on the funeral home website. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 (www.stjude.org). For online tributes and livestream access, you can visit John's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Rosemarie O'Brien

WAPPINGERS FALLS - Rosemarie O'Brien, a 47 year resident of Wappingers Falls and formerly of Hyde Park, entered into rest on November 27, 2021 at her home after a two year long battle with cancer. She was 67 years old. Rosemarie was born on November 9, 1954 in Poughkeepsie, the daughter of Barbara Creighton Paganelli and the late Benson E. Yeomans. On June 22, 1974 at St. Mary's Church in Poughkeepsie she married the love of her life, William G. O'Brien. Bill survives at home. She met her husband, Bill in 1969 when she joined the Poughkeepsie Vagabonds Drum & Bugle Corp. She marched from 1969 to 1973. They went on to march with the Long Island Sunrises Drum & Bugle Corp from 1975 to 1977. Rosemarie loved spending time with her granddaughter, Kiersten. She loved the Yankees. She also loved her chihuahuas, Lola and Lexi. In addition to her beloved husband, Rosemarie is survived by her daughter, Stephanie Barber and her husband, Robert of Beacon; her son, Matthew O'Brien of Poughkeepsie; her mother, Barbara Paganelli of Poughkeepsie; her granddaughter, Kiersten RoseAnn Barber of Beacon; her brother, Rance Yeomans and wife, Patty of Lake Lure, NC and Benson E. Yeomans, Jr. of Portland, OR; several nieces and nephews. Family and friends will gather for a memorial visitation on Friday, December 3 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Hudson Valley Hospice and their nurses for their compassion and care. To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

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152 Novenas

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155 Personal

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hang limply. Notice that you are still. Next, turn your head to the
side and stare at the solid color red. After a few seconds most
people will feel a force pushing them one yar or another.

When I do it, red pushes me away from the color as does yellow,
but with less force. Green pulls me towards the color as does blue,
but with less speed. Others have felt themselves going forwards or
backwards. Still other people experienced nothing.

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Police training trends in the current environment

The Dutchess County Association of Chiefs of Police conducted a training course focused on police trends in the current environment on Nov. 18.

This eight-hour course covered the following topics:

- Use of Force in the current environment
- The First Amendment - current trends
- Qualified Immunity
- The Police, the Press, & Social Media

Attended by 89 Law Enforcement Officers from 26 local, county, city, state, and federal agencies, and was held at Poughkeepsie Elks Lodge #275 in Poughkeepsie.

The Instructor, Eric Daigle, is from Daigle Law Group which is a leading law firm specializing in management consulting services in support and development of effective and constitutional policing practices. It also provides law enforcement training, policies and procedures, or ders, manuals and training bulletins to the community.

President of the Dutchess County Chiefs of Police Association, Special Agent (Ret) Nicholas J. Valhos stated, "In these uncertain times there is nothing more valuable at critical moments than policing. Our profession of policing seems to be undergoing an unusual number of challenges, with no end in sight. Agencies across this country are struggling to identify and apply best practices to new or revised approaches for police officer training. Police leaders are

focusing their attention and efforts to achieve both short and long-term goals for their departments in these demanding times. Some of these areas are use of force and de-escalation of force, training law enforcement on disinformation, social media, modern technology, and most importantly building the community's trust and community-based policing."

Valhos further stated, "It is important for the public to be aware that we are moving forward in all aspects of the current police

environment of policing, and we are continuing to face the challenges of policing today, keeping Dutchess County communities and our police officers safe throughout this great nation."

With police departments across the nation under stress they have been challenged to maintain appropriate training programs to ensure officers are ready for split-second decisions while on duty.

"We, the Police are here to Protect and Serve you."



Eric Daigle, with the Daigle Law Group, instructs a training course focused on police trends in the current environment for the Dutchess County Association of Chiefs of Police on Nov. 18.

-Courtesy photo by Nicholas J. Valhos

this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer

SUDOKU

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

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

Sudoku solution

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE FOR ANNUAL ELECTION 2021:
Please take notice that the 50th annual election of Dutchess Junction Fire District will take place on December 14, 2021, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, at the Dutchess Junction Fire house located at 75 Slocum Rd Beacon, NY 12508 for the purpose of electing a commissioner for the term of Jan. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2026. All residents of the Dutchess Junction Fire Dist. Duly registered with the Dutchess County Board of Elections as of Nov. 23, 2021 shall be eligible to vote. Candidates for office filed their names with the fire district Secretary in person or at PO Box 107, Beacon, NY

Legal Notices

12508 no later than Nov. 24, 2021.

LEGAL NOTICE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Special Year End Meeting will be held by the Hughsonville Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners on Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting of the Hughsonville Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to the public and will be held at the Hughsonville Fire House located at 88 Old Hopewell Road, Wappingers Falls, New York 12590 and/or in accordance with new

Legal Notices

legislation (S.50001/A.40001) issued by Governor Kathy Hochul in response to Covid 19 Delta variant, the meetings will also be opened to the public by means of remote access by placing a telephone call to (845)297-4194 and requesting Zoom access. This notification is being given to the news media pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York. By Order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hughsonville Fire District. Respectfully submitted,

Kim Flower
Fire District Secretary

Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DUTCHESS Index No: 2021-54028 Plaintiffs designates Dutchess County as the place of trial. SUMMONS The basis of the venue is the location of the subject real property. -----x NEMESIO SANTOS AND AUTUMN THARPE, Plaintiffs, -against- JOHN DOES 1-100 and JANE DOES 1-100, being all the heirs at law of FREDERICK C. THOMANN and W.O.K. THOMANN, the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION, JUAN O R D O N E Z, MICHELLE CENTENO, DANIEL GUNN, 40 EVERGREEN AVE LLC, THE PRIVATE EQUITY EXCHANGE GROUP INC. and ET QUIETE LLC, Defendants. -----x TO THE HEIRS AT LAW OF FREDERICK C. THOMANN and W.O.K. THOMANN: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action. Plaintiffs Nemesio Santos and Autumn Tharpe have commenced an action in the Supreme Court of Dutchess County (Index No. 2021-54028) to determine claims

Legal Notices

under RPAPL Article 15 to a .12-acre service road adjacent to 36 Evergreen Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York (SBL: 6160-01-167836). Plaintiffs seek to establish that they are the sole owners of the title to the stated real property in fee simple absolute, and to forever bar the Defendants, their heirs, successors and/or assigns or any persons claiming any interest in the stated real property by, through or under such Defendants to the stated real property more fully described in the complaint of this action, and that full possession of the stated real property be exclusively granted to the Plaintiff, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper. Any such heirs or other interested parties are required to file responsive pleadings on or before 1/21/2022. Upon your failure to appear, judgment will be taken against you by default and bar any right, title or interest you may have or had in and to a portion of the property described in the complaint.

McCABE & MACK LLP
Attn: DANIEL C. STAFFORD
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
63 Washington Street
P.O. Box 509
Poughkeepsie, NY 12602-0509
Tel: (845) 486-6800

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-73-21
Auto Body Repair Service for County Owned Vehicles
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 8th day of December 2021 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 web site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call (845) 486-3613.

Legal Notices

PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF FISHKILL Local Law No. L-v1 [Introductory] of 2021
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Fishkill, New York, will conduct a Public Hearing at the Town of Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill New York 12524 on December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon after as the matter may be heard to consider Local Law No. L-v1 (Introductory) of 2021, Increasing the Salary of the Town Clerk for the 2022 Fis-

Legal Notices

cal Year. The Town of Fishkill will make every effort to assure that the public hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone requiring special assistance and/or accommodations should contact the Town Clerk.
By Order of the Town Board
Town of Fishkill
Becki Tompkins – Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF FISHKILL Local Law No. K-v1 (Introductory) of 2021
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York, on December 15, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at Fishkill Town Hall located at 807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY 12524. The Town Board of the Town of Fishkill is considering adoption of a Local Law Opting Out of Allowing On-site Cannabis Consumption Establishments in the Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, State of New York. The proposed Local Law will be available at the Town Clerk's Office, at 807 Route 52, Fishkill 12524, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF FISHKILL
BECKI TOMPKINS, TOWN CLERK

Clean/Blank Newsprint Sheets

20lb Box ~ \$12. Per Box
Approximately 400 sheets 23" x 34"

This is blank newsprint, folded like a newspaper just NO INK.

Great for:
1. Coloring, sketching, & all kinds of art projects.
2. Drop Cloth for all kinds of messy situations, very absorbent.
3. Gardeners love this for weed control & water retention.
4. Packing & moving. Clean and won't smudge.
5. You decide. Hey, it's a crazy mixed up world.

Pick up at: Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main Street • Wappingers Falls, 12590

Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.

The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.

Each row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

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

Suguru

	4		3		
3					
1	4			3	
2					
				5	

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.

- ACROSS
1. Chair or stool

5. Lanes

10. High point

14. Diamond and others

15. Hatred

16. "God Bless America, land ___."

17. Equipped to fight

20. "Oui"

21. British nobleman

22. "This little piggy ___ market..."

23. Lustrous fabric

25. Beasts of burden

26. Multicolored cats

29. Pole with a blade at one end

31. Remembered mission

32. Common conjunction

33. Rope fiber

37. Make an obligatory visit

41. NBA or NAACP

42. Highly valued person

43. Get ___ on yourself; calm down

44. In favor of

45. Callings

47. One of the five senses

51. Item cast

53. Shaw and others

55. Mantilla

56. Part of a military addr.

59. Experience rejuvenation

62. Taxi rider

63. Audacity

64. English river

65. North Sea feeder

66. Fence openings

67. Within reach
- DOWN
1. Kill

2. Ireland, to the Irish

3. Charity

4. Eliot's monogram

5. Word with couch or sweet

6. Reverences

7. Book spine info

8. "Pardon me?"

9. Diving duck

10. Solar disks

11. Huntley and Atkins

12. Dull finish

13. Group principles

18. Church leader

19. Rip

23. One of the 12 Apostles

24. Zero

26. Spanish cloak

27. Word of woe

28. Puts down

30. Commercials

32. Ulna's location

33. Father

34. Farmland unit

35. Word with fry or crazy

36. Recipe amts.

38. Self

39. Eastern European

40. Early release

44. Sense

45. Adhere

46. 1960s skirt styles

47. Sweet stuff

48. Vicinities

49. Cubic meter

50. Floor installer, often

52. Turn away

54. Croon

56. Foreign girlfriend

57. S. A. country

58. Unusual individual

60. Large parrot

61. Sickly looking

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

Community celebrates Christmas Tree Lighting at Polhill Park



The annual Christmas Tree Lighting took place in Polhill Park in Beacon on Nov. 27. Singers and dancers performed to bring holiday cheer to those in attendance.

-Courtesy photos



Nationally-recognized expertise.
Local address.

Premier medical experts close to home. Including top doctors from Columbia and award-winning Magnet® nurses. Offering you advanced medical technology and treatments. Affiliated with NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, ranked #1 in New York. Care that is nothing short of amazing, here in Westchester.

Learn more at [nyp.org/hudsonvalley](https://www.nyp.org/hudsonvalley)

 **NewYork-Presbyterian**
Hudson Valley Hospital

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital as ranked by U.S News & World Report 2021-2022.