

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Legislature adopts 2024 County budget

The 2024 Dutchess County Budget was adopted by the County Legislature by a bipartisan vote of 15-9 Thursday evening (with Legislator

Giancarlo Llaverias absent for the vote), passing a \$601 million spending plan that provides sustained property tax relief for residents and maintains the County's high-caliber services and programs for children, families, veterans, seniors and vulnerable populations, among others.

The 2024 budget includes the 11th straight property tax rate decrease and the 10th consecutive property tax levy reduction and maintains the sales tax exemption on clothing and footwear items under \$110 each. As previously announced, the 2024 County Budget focuses on serving the needs of Dutchess County residents, including funding to address housing and homelessness, enhance public safety, support law enforcement, expand composting opportunities, and continue critical partnerships with community collaborators. Legislative amendments further increased funding for veterans, law enforcement, at-risk youth, and tourism among other initiatives.

County Executive William F.X. O'Neil said, "This is a reasonable budget that not only takes into consideration the needs of all our residents, but funds them in the most responsible manner possible. This budget upholds more than a decade of competent stewardship of residents' hard-earned dollars, which they entrust to their County Government, while ensuring they are spent in the most cost-effective way. I thank our partners in the County Legislature for their earnest scrutiny over the past month, culminating in this adoption."

The 2024 budget deals with the multi-million-dollar impact of ever-increasing mandated costs that New York State requires counties to pay. For 2024, additional costs from New York State added more than \$16 million of expenses to the County's budget and these cost increases are certain to continue as State officials warn of mounting budget deficits. To offset added costs from the State, counties must either identify additional revenue or reduce program and services expenses, which would have to come from non-mandated areas, such as mental health services, 911 emergency dispatch, road and bridge maintenance, parks and recreation or law enforcement, and for the 2024 Dutchess County Budget, such service reduction would equate to over 70 layoffs.

Continued on page 5

Wreaths Across America to honor deceased veterans



Wreaths from a previous year's Wreaths Across America event. Events will take place on December 16 and December 17 throughout Dutchess County.

-Courtesy photo

By Kristine Coulter

The annual nationwide Wreaths Across America event is taking place locally at different locations in the Dutchess County. The mission of Wreaths Across America, as stated on the website www.wreathscrossamerica.org, is: "Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom. Our volunteers are the beat-

ing heart of the program and work year-round to share this important mission and inspire others to join."

Libby Funeral Home to participate in Fishkill, Poughkeepsie wreath laying

Libby Funeral Home staff will participate in Wreaths Across America events at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, on December 16 at 2 p.m. in Fishkill, and Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery, 342 South

Ave. (Route 9), on December 17 at 2 p.m. in Poughkeepsie.

"It's another opportunity to give back to veterans, and for their families to know that they are remembered," said Joseph Schuka, a funeral home director with Libby Funeral Home in Beacon.

As far as the impact the event has on participants, Schuka said it is an unexplainable feeling.

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Vassar team: Confocal microscope to revolutionize scientific research

Faculty to share instrument with area colleges

By Rich Thomaselli

If they seem a little excited and giddy at Vassar College these days, there is good reason.

Researchers have finally received a state-of-the-art, million-dollar microscope that will be used by Vassar, SUNY New Paltz and Marist.

The arrival of the microscope represents year's long effort by Vassar Associate Professor of Psychological Science, Hadley Bergstrom, and his colleagues to receive a grant from the National Science Foundation to help purchase the instrument.

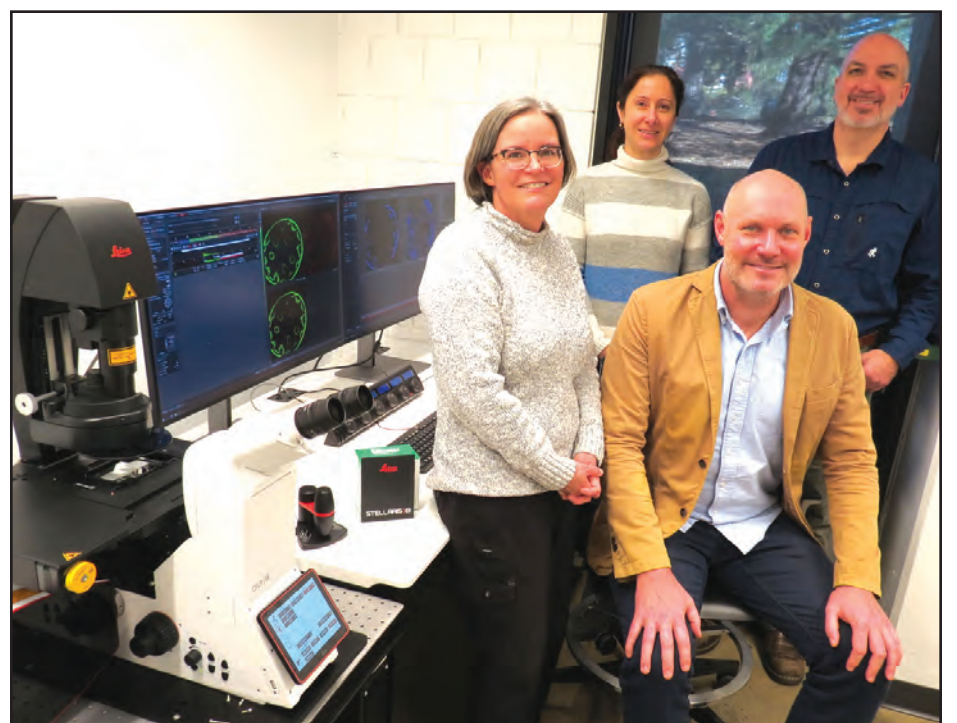
But it was worth the wait.

"The more publicity we can get out there about this means the more researchers and students can use it," said Bergstrom, who added that he hopes other schools like Bard, Mount St. Mary and Dutchess would like to become involved in using the microscope.

The new instrument is expected to help professors and students alike to enhance their research opportunities. A confocal microscope uses a laser to create a 3D image of very small biological structures.

Yes, the days of looking at a strand of hair or a drop of blood under a microscope are long over with.

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Vassar College associate professors, from left, Jennifer Kennell, Bojana Zupan, Hadley Bergstrom, seated, and microscope manager Dave Lewis are pictured with the school's new Leica Stellaris 8 confocal microscope.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

Wreaths Across America to honor deceased veterans

Continued from cover

“The last six years, every year we at Libby’s have always had some sort of holiday giveback for veterans and/or less fortunate neighbors because they’re the ones that more or less feel forgotten, especially around the holiday. We started with a stocking drive for our active troops, then for our all veterans at home and now we’ve added the Wreath Across America event at our local cemeteries,” stated Schuka. He added: “The wreath count jumps every couple months, weeks and days... it give us hope that we’ll be able to gift one extra veteran or person with some holiday cheer; and now with the Wreaths Across America event, it’s one extra veteran grave will be covered.”

Asked what he would tell veterans about what their service means to this country, Schuka replied, “I would tell veterans from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU! I have always held a special place for the veterans in my heart. A place that was carved by a family member, my grandma. She was always on the front-line advocating for the veterans and showing her patriotism. And I have those in my family and friends, that serve which makes it closer too.”

Schuka said community members and businesses should “continue to support the veterans, and express our, your appreciation for their service and sacrifice. God bless America!”

Wreaths to be placed during ceremony in East Fishkill

Major Sunshine Tartter, Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, is one of the organizers for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony in East Fishkill. The

ceremony and laying of wreaths will take place on December 16, (wreath placement immediately following ceremony), at 10 a.m. at St. Denis Church Cemetery, 602 Beekman Road, in East Fishkill.

“Wreaths Across America has a huge impact on the families who have a veteran buried at St. Denis. It also helps our young people realize the value of what the veterans that have served our country and because they are interacting with the families, they can see what this means to them. And as I mentioned previously, I have worked with some of the families since 2014 and I know how much this day means to them,” Maj. Tartter stated to Southern Dutchess News via email.

“As a veteran myself, I feel that it is so very important to value and to thank our veterans for their service. Whether they have served or three or four years or twenty plus years, whether they have served during war or during peace time. It is all so important to help keep our country safe,” noted the major.

It was remarked by Maj. Tartter, “Each wreath honors a veteran that is buried at St. Denis Cemetery. The wreaths and the ceremony mean so very much to the families that have veterans buried there. I have worked with some of the families since 2014 and this is such a special and meaningful day for them. Each wreath sponsored through our squadron also creates a \$5 donation to the Dutchess County Cadet Squadron. This is important since our young people/cadets (ages 12 to 20) have to raise the money to cover the utilities and the costs for our building at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport. Any excess funds that they raise allows the squadron to cover the costs for events that we do for the cadets and to help those cadets that may need



The annual Wreaths Across America event will take place on Dec. 16 and Dec. 17 in Dutchess County. The placing of wreaths on the graves of veterans takes place nationally during this annual event.

-Archive photo

financial assistance.”

Wreaths ceremony set in Wappingers Falls on Dec. 16

A wreath placement ceremony is set for noon on December 16 in Wappingers Falls. The ceremony will take place at the Wappingers Rural Cemetery. The cemetery is located at 174-208 W. Main St. in

Wappingers Falls. Dani Masterson is the contact person for this specific site.

On its information section located on the Wreaths Across America website, it states: “REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.”

To find other local ceremonies, visit <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org>.

Vassar receives confocal microscope

Continued from cover

“Well,” Bergstrom said with a laugh, “maybe not over, but it sure is a lot more powerful.”

The Leica Stellaris 8, as the confocal microscope is known, is a next-generation piece of equipment that is expected to revolutionize research. Or as one professor told Vassar College magazine, what now takes an hour-and-a-half to do could be done in eight minutes with the new microscope.

Moreover, the microscope is not something you can just carry around. The entire apparatus, including monitors, takes up about half a room.

Bergstrom said that 12 faculty members just from Vassar alone across five departments contributed to writing the proposal. Jennifer Kennell, Associate Professor, in the department of Biology

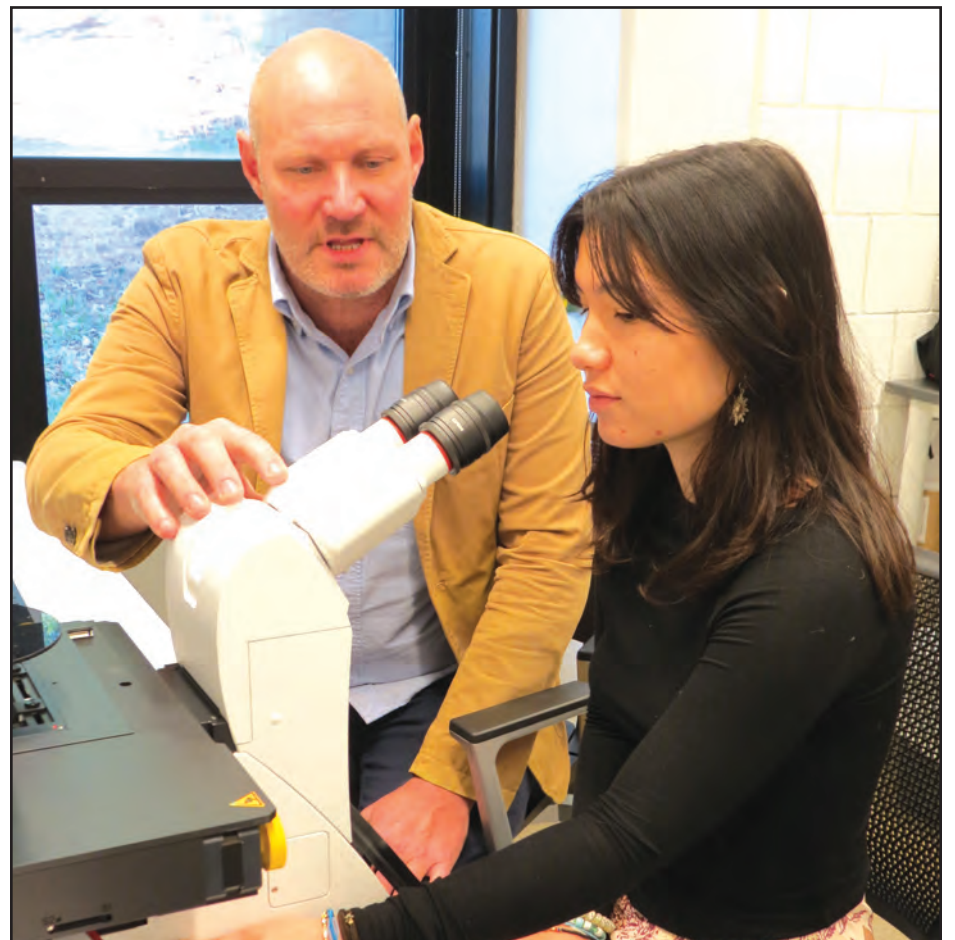
and Bojana Zupan, Associate Professor, in the department of Psychological Science were co-Principal Investigators on the grant.

“One of the things we talked about was using the piece of equipment across several disciplines and how we could get funding that way,” said Zupan. “We looked at what the possibilities were for our type of institutions.”

The collaborative effort is consistent with what other Vassar faculty have done in trying to further scientific research in the region among faculty and students as well. The grant proposal took three years to write. In fact, it was rejected two years in a row before finally being accepted by the National Science Foundation.

Zupan said that once the language in the proposal was mastered, it simply became a matter of the funds opening up.

“This was a piece of equipment that



Vassar College Associate Professor of Psychological Science Hadley Bergstrom instructs student Abi Tramell, a sophomore majoring in Biochemistry.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

was going to be used by other faculty in our area in their research,” she said. “The other institutions understood what their research needs were and incorporated that.”

“We call it a regional resource,” Bergstrom said. “It’s the most advanced microscope of its kind in the region.”

Lydia Bright, Professor of Biology at SUNY New Paltz, told Vassar magazine

that the new microscope is ideal for looking at live cells and will further enhance her own research.

Confocal Microscopy. Who knew it could be so sexy?

Now a whole region of college students – and more – is about to find out.

“Now, undergraduate students can train on this kind of advanced microscope,” Bergstrom said. “We’re very excited.”

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Route changes to County Public Transit set for March 2024

Informational meeting set for Dec. 14 in Rhinebeck

In 2024, Dutchess County Public Transit (DCPT) will be making route changes to make it easier for riders to navigate the system, expand service on the busiest routes, and streamline service in underutilized areas to improve efficiency. The changes, which will go into effect March 30, 2024, are part of the 2024 County Budget adopted last night by the Dutchess County Legislature and will provide more than \$265,000 in annual savings to the County.

DCPT will host public information meetings next week to begin information outreach, which will continue over the next several months, to inform riders and the community about the changes.

One more meeting is set for:

December 14, 6 p.m.: Rhinebeck Town Hall, 80 East Market Street, Rhinebeck

DCPT will provide free rides for passengers attending the meetings; passengers should inform the bus driver of their destination upon boarding.

DCPT is projected to serve over 780,000 riders in 2023, an increase of nearly 16 percent over 2022. Unlike many of the similar sized public transit systems across the state and the nation, DCPT's ridership has rebounded strongly since the COVID-19 pandemic. The route changes will enable the system to continue to expand its ridership and are the first significant changes since 2017 when the County expanded service to include City of Poughkeepsie routes.

The route modifications were developed as part of an extensive study of the DCPT system by industry expert Nelson/Nygaard and DCPT management. The in-depth analysis included review of rider requests and feedback, passenger counts per trip, and discussion of transit needs with area employers.

The resulting service enhancements include new hourly service on the system's most popular routes, A and B; new or expanded service to employers including the Amazon facility and iPark in East Fishkill as well as the new Dutchess Community College southern campus in Fishkill.

Additionally, all routes have been simplified to travel the same path for every run, to eliminate the passenger confusion and frustration about the different paths certain routes currently run. The changes also improve rider experience, especially for seniors and those needing transportation to grocery stores and other

shopping, by streamlining routes to shorten trip duration.

The analysis also identified areas where service is under-utilized, often with four or fewer riders per trip, creating costly inefficiencies. Fixed route service in underutilized areas will be eliminated, enabling driver and vehicle resources to be re-deployed to add service where ridership is growing.

The route modifications will also allow for the expansion of the County's curbside, on-demand Flex Service. Flex service hours will be expanded from 9am to 1:15 p.m. to 7:20 a.m. until 5:15pm Monday through Friday. Saturday availability will also be introduced and will be available from 9:15am until 4:15pm. The expansion of flex service will be an important alternative for riders in areas impacted by service reduction.

An overview of the route modifications is as follows:

Routes A & B (Poughkeepsie to Fishkill/Poughkeepsie to Beacon): Trip frequency will increase to offer hourly service with eight additional trips on each of these two most traveled routes in the transit system.

Route C (Poughkeepsie to Tivoli) This route's northern-most stop will now be at the Topps Supermarket in Rhinebeck, which encompasses tourist attractions such as the Dutchess County Fairgrounds, area shopping, and Northern Dutchess Hospital. Under-used sections of the route, including service in Red Hook and Tivoli and the Route 9G corridor in Hyde Park, which averaged four or fewer riders per trip, will be eliminated.

Route D (Poughkeepsie to Dover) This route's eastern-most stop will now be the Village of Millbrook. Stops in Dover and Wassaic, which saw an average of three or fewer riders per trip, will be eliminated.

Route E (Poughkeepsie to Pawling) The eastern-most section of this route has been modified to service the Pawling area morning, mid-day and evening, which were found to be the busiest trips of the day, eliminating two under-used roundtrips. The rest of the route, which services the Lagrange area along Route 55, remains unchanged.

Route F (Beacon to Hopewell Junction): Service hours will be expanded to end at 10pm to better serve southern Dutchess County destinations such as the new Amazon facility and iPark in East Fishkill, the Dutchess Community



Dutchess County buses.

-Courtesy photo

College (DCC) Fishkill Campus, and the Beacon Train Station.

Route G (Poughkeepsie to Beacon): Following input from and in continued partnership with the City of Beacon, Route G, also known as The Beacon Free Loop, will become a Main Street Shuttle Monday through Saturday, and Sunday service from 10am to 5:50pm will be added, increasing trip frequency along the popular Main Street business corridor in the City. Routes B and F will continue to serve the surrounding City of Beacon area, including housing developments such as Forrester Heights.

Route H (DCC to Poughkeepsie Train Station) Routes J & K (Poughkeepsie North and South) These routes will be eliminated as the changes to stops along Routes B, C, and D and the new Routes N and O replace them, ending overlapping service and creating less confusion for riders.

Route L (Poughkeepsie – Main Street Shuttle) Service will now end at 8pm as later trips along this route have seen three or fewer riders.

Routes M & P (Poughkeepsie East and West) These routes have been streamlined to better service students attending Poughkeepsie Middle and High School with trips coinciding with the schools' start and end times. Evening and mid-day runs that were not being utilized will be eliminated.

NEW Route N This new route will pro-

vide hourly service within the city and town of Poughkeepsie for DCC students as well as connecting residents of local housing developments along Smith Street, Delafield Street and surrounding areas, to local shopping such as the new Hudson Heritage shopping center on Route 9.

NEW Route O Another new route will create direct, hourly service within the City of Poughkeepsie to and from Hudson Plaza and Poughkeepsie Plaza shopping centers, eliminating the doubling back and excessively long routes riders experienced on existing routes. This route will also provide hourly service to the nearby Poughkeepsie Middle and High schools outside of school start and end times, with connections to other routes.

RailLink Service (New Hamburg and Poughkeepsie Train Stations) Due to significant under-use (two or fewer riders per trip), service to New Hamburg train station will be discontinued. The Poughkeepsie RailLink will be discontinued due to low ridership as well as overlapping service on other routes.

To learn more about Dutchess County Public Transit fixed route and on-demand services, as well as view the changes to the fixed route timetables, visit Dutchess County Public Transit's website at dutchessny.gov/publictransit. Riders can also call 845-473-8424 for questions regarding the route modifications and alternate route options.

Hochul signs legislation to commemorate 3 Fishkill veterans' service to the country

Three veterans are and their service to the country are being remembered in Fishkill. Recently, Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation to commemorate their service, as well as other veterans throughout New York, by renaming portions of roads in their honor. Hochul signed two pieces of legislation that establish commemorative medals; one for the Iraq War and the other for the Afghanistan War.

The three veterans whom the roads are named for are Chief Daniel Nimham, who was the sachem of the Wappinger during the American Revolution, US Army Sergeant Elijah Briggs, and Marine Corporal Derick Brinckerhoff

"Our veterans served honorably, and these dedications and new commemorations will serve to solidify their legacies and ensure we always remember the sac-

rifices they made to protect our freedoms," Hochul stated in a release. "My hope is that New Yorkers ponder those sacrifices every time they cross one of these roadways so that these heroes may live on for years to come."

A section of Route 9 has been dedicated to Briggs. Briggs was a Civil War veteran. He earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. According to reports, Briggs is buried in Fishkill in the Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

Brinckerhoff has a section of Route 82 named in honor of him. During the Korean War, Brinckerhoff was killed in action.

According to the Governor's Office, "S.4899A/A.5314A designates a portion of Route 52 in the Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, the Chief Daniel Nimham Memorial Highway. Chief

Nimham was the chief of the Wappinger People and joined the American cause during the American Revolution. Chief Nimham was killed in action."

State Senator Rob Rolison said in a statement that he is grateful to Hochul for signing this legislation into law.

Rolison said, "This is a proud day for the people of Fishkill and our Hudson Valley community as a whole.

A native son, Purple Heart recipient, and war hero will be enshrined for the appreciation, respect, and emulation of future generations. Corporal Brinckerhoff served his country with the utmost honor and bravery. Though we can never fully repay his sacrifice, nor indeed the sacrifices of all our courageous veterans, we can continue to acknowledge their legacy."

MOUNT GULIAN HISTORIC SITE

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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
- 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 Southern Dutchess News 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 Southern Dutchess News.

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES

Beacon Free Press will be on a holiday schedule for the December 27, 2023 and January 3, 2024 issues.

Editorial and Advertising deadlines for the December 27 issue are Thursday, December 21, at 5 p.m.

Editorial and Advertising deadlines for the January 3 issue are Thursday, Dec. 28, at 5 p.m.

Email cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com for more information.

Board of Ethics to meet on financial disclosure statements, any complaints on December 14

There will be a meeting of the Dutchess County Board of Ethics on Thursday, December 14, from 4-5 p.m. The public has the right to attend the meeting at the Dutchess County Department of Law, 22 Market Street, 5th floor, Poughkeepsie.

Public Comments will also be accepted verbally, up to three minutes

per person, for a total of up to thirty minutes in the aggregate at the end of the meeting. Each person may only speak once up to three minutes.

This meeting of the Board of Ethics shall be for the purpose of reviewing 2022 Financial Disclosure Statements and reviewing any complaints received by the Ethics Board.

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Baxter Building sets charitable events

To the editor:

Baxter Building Corp, leading contractor and developer, and advocate for community engagement and charitable activities, is thrilled to announce its annual giveaway event. This year, Baxter is focusing on supporting local non-profits every Friday throughout December, leading up to the Christmas holiday. This initiative is not only a celebration of the holiday spirit but also a call to action for community members to contribute to meaningful causes.

Understanding the importance of community support, Baxter has pledged to match donations in a unique way. For every new follower Baxter gains on its social media platforms during December, the company will match this with a monetary donation to the featured nonprofit of the week, up to \$1,500. This year, we are proud to partner with four outstanding organizations: Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, and Access Supports for Living

"Our mission at Baxter extends beyond our day-to-day operations. We are committed to building stronger communities, not just through our projects but also through our support for vital local organizations. This annual giveaway is a testament to our dedication to making a real difference," says Patrick Moore, Director of Construction at Baxter. "We're harnessing the power of social media to foster a community of support and generosity. Your follows, likes, and shares have the power to make a tangible difference."

Baxter encourages everyone to participate in this season of giving. Follow us, share our content, and help us support these essential organizations that are the backbone of our community.

Weekly Nonprofit Spotlights

- December 1st: Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, known for their incredible work in building and repairing homes for families in need.
- December 8th: Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, which has been enlightening young minds through interactive and educational exhibits.
- December 15th: Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, a lifeline for families facing food insecurity in our region.
- December 22nd: Access Supports for Living, an organization dedicated to assisting individuals with disabilities and mental health issues.

Baxter Building Corporation
Poughkeepsie

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess receives \$18,700 grant from Lowe's



Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County recently received a \$18,700 grant from Lowe's. A portion of the grant money was used to assist a local veteran with getting heat and hot water by installing a new boiler in his house.

-Courtesy photo

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County received a \$18,700 grant from Lowe's to help support repairs for 8 homes and complete our revitalization project in Fairview Park.

With the support of this grant, Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County performed repairs for a local veteran, local seniors, and revitalized Fairview Veterans Memorial Park. Included in this grant, the team completed a critical home repair for a local veteran and his family. The family was without heat and hot water. The team worked diligently to repair the heating system and ensured this winter season the family will be warm and safe in their home.

In this veteran's words "Thank you

folks for the help in getting the boiler installed! It's working great, and we are enjoying the warmth on cold nights. No more washing my hands in ice-cold water! Wow, it's so great."

The funding from Lowe's is part of a two-year, \$6 million donation to Habitat for Humanity International to support home repair and preservation efforts in owner-occupied homes. Through this partnership, more than 75 local Habitat affiliates will complete more than 480 projects this year to address critical health and safety issues in homes across the U.S. Since 2003, Lowe's and Habitat have worked together to help more than 18,000 people build or improve a place to call home.

Legislature adopts 2024 County budget

Continued from cover

To fund the added State mandated costs and avoid layoffs and service reductions, the 2024 budget will adjust Dutchess County sales tax from 3.75 percent to 4 percent, slated to be effective June 2024, pending approval by the State Legislature. This change will generate an additional \$8.3 million in sales tax revenue for 2024 and provide annual revenue of \$14.2 million to offset state cost shifts. The sales tax rate change will also result in additional County revenue to local municipalities – as Dutchess County shares its sales tax revenue with its 30 towns, cities and villages – providing an additional \$1.7 million to offset local budgets in 2024, and approximately \$3 million annually thereafter.

The budget also increases the County’s hotel tax, paid primarily from visitors to Dutchess County, from 4 to 5 percent, estimated to result in \$4.8 million in total revenue in 2024.

County Executive O’Neil submitted his Executive Budget proposal to the County Legislature on November 1st, and over the past five weeks, the Legislature’s Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee has held budget review meetings and made several changes to the budget proposal. The final legislative changes were made through a series of amendments to the Executive’s proposal.

Legislator Michael Polasek said, “As Chair of the Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee, I am proud of the work that was done to help craft the 2024 Budget and to have cast my vote in support. Our committee spent countless time meeting with departments to ensure that each dollar allocated was spent responsibly and best serves the taxpayers. Not only does this budget continue to fund essential services, but it continues to offer property tax reductions and expand resources for our community.”

Legislative Amendments to the 2024 County Budget include:

- \$500,00 delineated in contingency funding specifically for Board of Elections expenses;
- \$417,587 to adjust the salaries of County elected officials;
- \$350,000 for the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office for road patrol overtime;
- \$200,000 in reclaimed funds from Agency Partner Grant program for the Department of Planning and Development for a competitive grant program;

Mayor forming new Fishkill Ave. committee to develop ideas for northeast portion of City

There is a new ad hoc committee that is being formed by Mayor Lee Kyriacou. Kyriacou recently created the Fishkill Avenue Corridor Ad Hoc Committee. According to the mayor, this committee will “develop conceptual ideas for the northeast section” of the city. This includes Fishkill Ave., also known as Route 52. He noted he is calling it the “Fishkill Avenue Concepts Committee.”

According to a memorandum from the Mayor, which can be found on the City’s website, the objective of the this committee is: “To work with the City Planner to develop concepts, drawings, and proposals for the Fishkill Avenue corridor, including a rail trail next to State Route 52, a Matteawan Road connector, and linkage to Beacon Lofts, Fishkill Creek and Greenway trail.”

Also include would be other portions of the Northeast section of the City, such as:

- State Route 52 from Blackburn to City line;
- Future rail trail, from East Main Street crossing to the City line;
- = Potential access road from Route 52 to Matteawan Road;
- = The private road (Mill Street) to the

- \$100,000 for the Division of Veterans Services for a competitive grant program for nonprofit organizations or municipalities to make general capital infrastructure investments to facilities that serve veterans or for therapeutic animal programming for veterans;

- \$50,000 for the Department of Planning and Development for the creation of a “Stay Local” promotional campaign through Dutchess Tourism, Inc.;

- \$45,000 for the Department of Community and Family Services to provide grant funding for after-school programming for at-risk youth;

- \$25,000 for the Department of Community and Family Services in additional Path to Promise mini grants;

- \$20,000 for additional Human Rights Commission activities;

- \$26,560 for the Department of Behavioral & Community Health to hire a part-time Recovery Coach to work with young adults ages 18-25;

- \$3,000 for enhanced communication for domestic violence victims;

- \$2,000 for the Department of Behavioral and Community Health to expand existing compliance checks of under-age sales of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis; and

- \$2,000 for the Division of Veterans Services for the development of a Veteran Challenge Coin program.

The above amendments were funded with appropriations from the County’s general fund balance, the County’s debt reserve, Department of Motor Vehicle fees and State reimbursement for under-age compliance checks.

Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver said, “I am proud to have voted in favor of the 2024 County Budget - and my last one as the Legislature Chairman. After an extensive review process, I believe this budget best prepares Dutchess County for not only the next fiscal year but sets us in a position for success in future years. By making meaningful decisions, the Dutchess County Legislature reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing the life of all our Dutchess County residents.”

The budget, with amendments, will now be forwarded to County Executive O’Neil for review and signature. The final step in the 2024 Dutchess County Budget process, override consideration of any amendment vetoes by the County Executive and the adoption of the tax levy, will take place on Monday, Dec. 18 at the Dutchess County Legislature’s Board Meeting.

Beacon Lofts on Mason Drive;

- The Greenway Trail from East Main crossing bridge to the City line;
- The Bridge Street Bridge.

Considerations: while not a comprehensive list, stated Kyriacou, some items to consider:

- Fishkill Ave./Route 52: What future streetscape are residents looking for along this road, recognizing this is a main thoroughfare into and out of Beacon?

- Design Standards: What are appropriate building design standards, e.g. proximity of buildings to the street, sidewalks, other aspects of look and feel?

- Commercial & Residential Components: Do residents want mixed use commercial/residential, including affordable housing (noting that encouraging affordable housing is likely to be considered citywide)? Are there considerations for commercial or residential space, e.g., where parking goes, can there be a drive-thru?

For further information and to fill out an application, visit <https://beaconny.gov/index.php/2023/11/29/mayor-kyriacou-creates-fishkill-avenue-corridor-ad-hoc-committee/>.



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- Greystone Programs
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- Hudson Valley Hospice
- Locust Grove
- Maria Fareri Children's Hospital
- Miles of Hope
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- Philipstown Depot Theater
- Poughkeepsie Farm Project
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Above right is the 1846 headstone of Andrew Frazier, which notes his Revolutionary War service. Immediately to the left and back is the newer memorial recently erected to recognize the grave of Susan Elizabeth Frazier, Andrew Frazier's great-granddaughter who became a national voice and advocate for women and persons of color at the turn of the last century.

By Bill Jeffway

The story of two persons living locally during the colonial and the early American period in northern Dutchess County (the area that by 1824 became the town of Pine Plains) reveals the positive and destructive power of the 1776 American Revolution.

Both men were born at the Manor of Morrisania, today known as the Bronx. Morris Graham (1747-1804) was born into a wealthy, well connected family. His father was one of the nine partners granted thousands of acres of land in both the Upper Nine Partners of northern Dutchess, and the Great Nine Partners, which is a large chunk of central Dutchess County.

Andrew Frazier (ca. 1742-1846) was a person of color tied closely to the Graham family. His name and birth were noted in the family Bible, as enslaved persons sometimes were. A 1755 survey of enslaved persons at Morrisania did not include children under 16 years old, so we cannot be certain that he was enslaved. But it is most likely. Andrew Frazier moved from Morrisania to northern Dutchess County at the same time as Morris Graham.

Both served in the Revolutionary War. Morris Graham was made Colonel. And Andrew Frazier served as a wagon driver, and at times, body servant to Col. Graham. He also patrolled to capture and jail persons thought to be loyal to the King of England.

Morris Graham never married. He had no children. By 1903 Graham's headstone was reported as not found in the small family plot in Deerfield, Oneida County, upstate New York where he moved in 1798 when his farm was sold to pay debts. Today the whole plot is overgrown, lost in a suburban development.

Andrew Frazier had so many descendants, some of whom remain living locally, he was known as "the ancestor." His great-granddaughter, Susan Elizabeth Frazier, was a national voice and advocate for the equal opportunity of women, and persons of color based in New York City.

Andrew Frazier's headstone stands proudly at the family plot in Rhinebeck, visited and cared for today by veterans groups. Several years ago, a group raised money to raise a headstone at the grave of

Susan Elizabeth Frazier.

Graham family

From both the earliest Dutch, and subsequent English period of the Hudson Valley, the wealthy elite were granted huge tracts of land. The highest form was the grant of a Manor. The Morris family (as in Morristown, New Jersey) and the Graham family, had intermarried in two successive generations and came to share the Manor at Morrisania.

James Graham, one of the nine Partners mentioned earlier, died at Morrisania in 1767. Upon his death, three of his children (one of whom was Morris Graham), along with Andrew Frazier, quickly moved to what is today Pine Plains to claim thousands of acres granted to their father.

Rectangular lots of roughly 900 acres were randomly allocated to partners. The Graham family was fortunate that two such parcels were adjacent to each other at what would become the center of Pine Plains. Two sons in particular were involved in building houses there: Lewis Graham built in the northern lot and Morris Graham in the southern lot. Both are still standing with the former restored, and the latter not habitable but stabilized.

Morris Graham

The Revolutionary War became a test of patriotism and many in the Graham

Reversal of fortune in the wake of the Revolutionary War



The above map shows two adjacent lots of about 900 acres each that were owned by the Graham family at the time of the American Revolution. Lewis Graham built a house that still stands at the center of Pine Plains, while the house of his brother, Morris Graham, is shown in a 1942 photograph, and is located about one mile south of the village center.

-Courtesy of DCHS

family stepped forward as officers or in one instance, an aide to Gen. George Washington.

Morris Graham became a colonel in the war but quickly had a setback. Perhaps driven by political motives, in October of 1776 at the famous Battle of White Plains, Graham was court-martialed when he was accused by a Colonel Reed of cowardice, of retreating without firing. Washington called for the court martial to happen quickly. It happened within a few days. Graham was quickly and fully acquitted. And he served in visible and active roles through to the very end of the Revolutionary War. But the incident must have haunted him.

The end of the war was not kind to Morris Graham. Like many wealthy individuals, Graham spent his own money in support of the war effort that was greatly under funded. By 1798, Morris Graham's stone house and 377-acre farm were being sold off.

He moved north to Deerfield New York where he lived with his sister Arabella and died shortly after, in 1804 at the age of 58.

Andrew Frazier

Frazier may have earned his freedom by serving in the Revolutionary War. Although it took ten years of petitioning, Andrew Frazier was successful in getting a significant pension for his war service, after Congress created the opportunity in 1833.

He became patriarch to a large family that included soldiers in the Civil War, WWI and WWII.

Andrew Frazier had an extraordinary life after the war. He had 11 children.

He was able to buy farmland in Milan,

a strip of land that runs between what is now Willow Glen Road and Woody Row Road, building a house there in 1809. His son Robert was able to greatly expand the farm in size and acreage in subsequent years.

Susan Elizabeth Frazier, mentioned earlier, became the first person of color allowed to teach White students in New York City in 1896. She founded and led the Women's Auxiliary of the Harlem Hellfighters in WWII.

As was the tradition, he was buried on his Milan homestead in 1846 with other family members until around 1920, in an effort led by Susan Elizabeth Frazier, the family plot was purchased and set not quite within Section E, the section for persons of color, but adjacent to it, and overlooking it.

With the recent addition of a headstone for Susan Elizabeth Frazier, the family plot has grown to 19 headstones. Andrew Frazier's headstone reads "In the Revolutionary war 1776, In memory of Andrew Frazier who died June 2, 1846 aged 102 years 11 months and 18 days." The words "her voice endures" are engraved on the headstone of Susan Elizabeth Frazier.

These stories remind us that what the historical record maintains, and publishes, and what remains in the collective consciousness and memory of society, is affected by many factors.



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.

this week's puzzle solutions

10x10 grid with numbers for a Sudoku puzzle solution.

SUDOKU This week's answer

10x10 grid with letters for a crossword puzzle solution.

10x10 grid with numbers for a second Sudoku puzzle solution.

Suguru solution

105th Air Wing celebrates 75th anniversary at Stewart

The Hudson Valley's 105th Airlift Wing has had its operations at New York Air National Guard for 75 years. The marking of the more than seven decades in Orange County was officially on Dec. 8.

According to the New York Air Guard, the 105th Airlift Wing traces its history back to the 137th Fighter Squadron which flew F-47 propeller driven fighters in 1948. The 105th Airlift currently flies nine C-17 Globemaster III transports out of Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, Orange County.

"We're proud to have served this community and country for 75 years and look forward to continue doing so for 75 more," said Brig. General Gary R. Charlton II, the wing's commander said in a statement.

Brig. Gen. Charlton was selected recently as the next Director of Air National Guard Operations. He will begin his new role in January 2024.

According to the Air Guard, the wing has more than 1,000 Airmen assigned who conduct federal missions and respond to emergencies in the state. The emergencies can range from snowstorms to the COVID-19 pandemic to the current mission to support New York City as it deals with thousands of migrants, it was stated by the Air Guard.

According to the Air Guard the history of the Airlift Wing follows:

The 137th Fighter Squadron of the N.Y. Air National Guard received federal recognition and began operations at the Westchester County Airport in White Plains, Westchester County

The unit was initially equipped with F-47 Thunderbolt aircraft, a World War II fighter bomber originally known as the P-47.

In September 1952, the unit was redesignated to the 137th Fighter Interceptor Squadron and received the F-51 Mustang fighter along with a new air defense mission.

In 1953 the unit entered the jet age when it received the F-94 Starfighter all-weather interceptor.

It retained its air defense mission until 1958 when it converted to the F-86 Saber Jet and was reorganized as the 105th Tactical Fighter Group.

In February 1961, the unit was redesignated again as the 105th Aeromedical Transport Group and received its first C-119 Flying Boxcar aircraft to transport wounded personnel.

The unit later converted to the four-engine strategic transport C-97 Stratocruiser, which allowed the 105th to participate in missions in Southeast Asia operations during the Vietnam War, according to the Air Guard.

In 1970, the Air Guard switched the mission of the 105th back as the 1970s began. The mission was now a tactical one. The unit was redesignated as the 105th Tactical Air Support Group, it was noted.

"The Airmen flew the propeller driven 0-21 Skymaster, which provided a platform for forward air controllers whose



A U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 105th Airlift Wing, New York National Guard, is loaded with cargo during exercise Air Defender 2023 at Caslav Air Base, Czech Republic, in June. The exercise AD23 is the largest deployment exercise of air forces in NATO's history and demonstrates transatlantic solidarity. Exercise AD23 integrates both U.S. and allied air-power to defend shared values, while leveraging and strengthening vital partnerships to deter aggression around the world.

-Courtesy photo by U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Anthony Galioto

mission was to call in airstrikes on enemy positions," said a statement from the Air Guard.

During the early 1980s, the unit relocated to Stewart International Airport and was redesignated the 105th Military Airlift Group.

The 105th was the first Air National Guard unit to fly a C-5 Galaxy in the summer of 1985. The C-5 Galaxy is the largest plane in the Air Force inventory. It was in 1987 that the 105th relocated to Stewart Air National Guard Base. The name was changed to the 105th Airlift Group in 1992 and in October of 1995, the unit was redesignated as the 105th Airlift Wing.

Twenty-two year ago, the C-17 Globemaster III became what the unit now flies.

"C-17's from Stewart perform a range of missions including tactical airlift and aeromedical evacuation. They have been involved in operations all over the world," it was stated by the Air Guard. "In 2021, 105th Airlift Wing Airmen helped evacuate Afghans from Kabul as the Taliban took over the Afghan capital. One 105th aircrew was recognized with awards for heroism for their actions dur-

ing those missions."

One can view online at: <http://readme.readmedia.com/New-York-8/19727397>.

Air-Guards-105th-Airlift-Wing-marks-75-years-of-service-on-Friday-Dec-8/19727397.

Towne Crier Dance Jam set for Dec. 28

Get On Down at the Towne Crier Dance Jam on December 28 at 7 p.m., at 379 Main Street, in Beacon. Dance to a vibrant mix of musical styles; song requests welcome. These dances are informal and even if one comes alone, one

can always find a friendly partner on the dance floor. All are welcome – singles, couples, friends, newcomers. \$10 Admission.

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

Learn how to use Narcan and potentially save a life

Join the Council for Addiction Prevention and Education of Dutchess County for a free Narcan training session at the Howland Public Library on December 19, at 12:30 p.m. in Beacon. Learn how to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and how to administer Naloxone, a medication that can reverse

opioid overdoses.

A free Naloxone kit will be provided for all attendees 18 and older at the conclusion of the training. Registration is recommended to ensure there are enough Narcan kits available.

Register at BeaconLibrary.org.



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Holiday Time in NYC offers many new & traditional sights



The Marble lions in front of the New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue, with their holiday wreaths have been one of the iconic images of New York City at holiday time for many years.

-Photos by Jim Donick

*"Silver Bells, Silver Bells,
It's Christmas time in the City. . ."*
Old Holiday Carol
By Jim Donick

This is the time of year when Dutchess County families often think that it might be a good time to travel into New York City to admire the lights and that most famous of trees, the Christmas Tree in Rockefeller Center.

For those who seldom travel to the city and may even find the prospect daunting, we can offer the thought that the trip is anything but difficult.

The only good way to go down is via MetroNorth train. Weekends offer free parking at all of the local MetroNorth stations. Parking for the day downtown NYC is likely well over \$50. There's also the traffic to consider. The trains run pretty much on time and are a lot less expensive than driving and parking. One can also relax on the way home after a day of walking around Manhattan.

NYC is even more full of life at the holiday period.

The Christmas Tree in Rockefeller Center is a short walk uptown from Grand Central Terminal. It's at least as magical today as when the first one was put up in 1931 by Irish-American construction workers building the Center. They decorated a smaller 20-foot balsam fir with "strings of cranberries, garlands of paper, and even a few tin cans" on Christmas Eve. The tree became official two years

later with the lighting of a 50-foot-tall tree that was the first of now a 90-year tradition of trees that have been a holiday beacon for New Yorkers and much of the rest of the world.

If one is feeling adventurous, it's possible to rent skates and enjoy the experience of ice skating on the rink below the tree. A reservation is generally required for skating at this time of year. Renting equipment is an additional \$11 over the cost of the ticket to skate.

Across Fifth Avenue is St. Patrick's Cathedral. Admission is free and the inside is particularly beautiful at this time of year. Their Crèche is large and worth a visit.

From Rockefeller Center, it's easy to walk north toward Central Park, admiring the window displays at Saks and Bergdorf's as well as a few others. Fifth Avenue is closed to traffic on Sunday afternoons at this time of year. There are food vendors, pop up shops, and just the joy of soaking in the sights and sounds.

Some may find the walk all the way up to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to be longer than they would prefer. Grab a cab or an Uber. The Met is not to be missed during the holidays. The centerpiece of the museum at this time of year is its Christmas Tree in the Medieval court.

The magnificently lit 20-foot blue spruce looms over a vivid 18th-century Neapolitan Nativity scene, surrounded by an abundant array of lifelike figures with



The traditional Christmas Tree in Rockefeller Center is a short walk uptown from the Grand Central Terminal in New York City.

silk-robed angels hovering above. Many of those figures are fascinating scenes all by themselves.

A walk across Central Park, especially in the early evening, offers its own magic. The various buildings are lit as well as the pathways. In a light snow the experience can provide a visual memory to last through the season.

Further down Fifth Avenue and only a couple of blocks from one's return to Grand Central is the New York Public Library. Standing guard out front are its two lions. During the Great Depression, New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia dubbed them "Patience" and "Fortitude" after the qualities he felt New Yorkers needed to get through it. The names have stuck ever since. They are decorated with appropriate holiday wreaths and have provided a welcome backdrop for souvenir photos for countless tourists and other visitors.

Behind the library in Bryant Park one can find the Bank of America Winter Village, containing a seasonal Christmas Market full of boutique gifts, crafts, clothing, and various offerings of food and

drink. There is another ice skating rink here as well.

The Bank of America Winter Village at Bryant Park has been named the best Christmas market in the world for 2023 in a study from "Planet Cruise," unveiling the top must-visit Christmas Markets from across the world. It's the second year Bryant Park has been the top market. The other winners are all in Europe. One can visit this one without an airline ticket.

Aside from all of the possibilities outlined above there are countless shopping opportunities, places to eat, and entertainment. The Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall never disappoints.

The whole city is full of Christmas Trees and holiday music. Whatever planning goes into the adventure, it should prove time well spent.

Stay late enough to enjoy the magic of the lights. It gets dark early these days, so one can see holiday lights all over midtown and still catch a fairly early post rush hour train north again.

Resting one's eyes on the train home may be the perfect ending to the New York Christmas experience.

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Reservations now open for Children's Holiday Tea at Mount Gulian Historic Site



The annual Children's Holiday Tea will be held at Mount Gulian Historic Site on Dec. 27. Reservations are now open.

-Courtesy photo

The popular Children's Holiday Tea will be held at the Mount Gulian Historic Site on December 27 from noon to 2 p.m. Always sold-out in advance, the Holiday Tea welcomes children and adults to an event that combines fun, good manners, and education about a bygone era, in an authentic location where social teas were once standard fare.

Admission is \$18 for children and \$25 for adults. Prepaid reservations are required by December 19.

Offered during the holiday break and intended to bring families together, the Children's Holiday Tea will be held in Mount Gulian's two main museum rooms, decorated for the holidays with fresh greens and tables set with fine linens and china.

"Not having held this event since the pandemic, we are greatly looking forward to welcoming young visitors and their

families to the homestead. Many of our young guests dress for the occasion, boys and girls alike. Everyone learns about the tradition of afternoon tea, when Victorian ladies and their gentlemen met for tea, refreshments, and light conversation" said Elaine Hayes, Executive Director. "Afternoon teas were popular at many Hudson Valley homes, including Mount Gulian, home of the Verplanck family. This event replicates a once common tradition, when days were far less hectic."

The menu will include assorted Harney & Sons teas, dainty finger sandwiches prepared by The Bagel Shoppe, Fishkill and a selection of homemade desserts. A Victorian inspired craft project for the children will also be offered.

For reservations and further information call 845-831-8172 or email at info@mountgulian.org.

'The Polar Express,' 'Frozen' and Santa Dec. 23 at Lyceum Cinemas

Lyceum Cinemas and Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union along with local merchants of Red Hook are once again sponsoring free Christmas movies for children and their families on Saturday December 23rd in conjunction with our food drive to aid needy families in the area.

Now in the 32nd year of hosting this annual event, the Lyceum, 7270 S. Broadway Red Hook, has again decided to offer two films for attendees to choose from.

"The Polar Express", rated G, starring Tom Hanks has become a Christmas classic based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg.

"Frozen", rated PG. It is an animated tale about two sisters, Anna and Elsa, and how they save their kingdom.

Both films will be shown at 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 23 and upon entry everyone may choose which film they prefer to see.

Admission is free, but tickets must be

obtained in advance from any of the following local merchants: MHVFCU, Red Hook branch, Minuteman Press, Subway, Red Hook T's, Village Pizza III, Savona's Restaurant, Red Hook, Historic Village Diner, Ben & Gracies, Charlie O's Restaurant and The Red Hook Diner.

Santa will be on hand at the Lyceum when the doors open at 9:30 a.m. to talk to the children.

Everyone who attends the movie is asked to please bring a non-perishable food item for collection by the Dutchess County Community Action Agency office in Red Hook for distribution to needy families in the area. Now more than ever many families are struggling this holiday season due to the high cost of everything. If one can, please help.

Those who do not plan to attend a movie, but might wish to donate food items, may do so any day between now and December 23rd.

Roosevelt Cinemas to show 'Polar Express,' 'Elf' Dec. 16 in Hyde Park

Hyde Park Roosevelt Cinemas, I Heart Media and the Mid Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union are joining forces to host free Christmas movies and a food drive on December 16th for children and families.

"The Polar Express" is Rated-G and stars Tom Hanks in a Christmas classic based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg.

"Elf," Rated-PG stars Will Ferrell, Bob Newhart and James Caan. This is the story of Buddy, who was raised in the North Pole as a full-sized elf. He embarks on a journey to NYC to find his dad and to teach him the true meaning of the

Christmas spirit.

The doors will open at 9 a.m. when Santa will be on hand to visit with the children. Both films will begin at 10:15 a.m.

Admission is free, but tickets must be obtained in advance from the Mid Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union on Barnegat Rd. in Poughkeepsie or at the theatre.

Everyone who attends the movies is asked to please bring non-perishable food items for distribution through a local food pantry. Food donations may also be dropped off at the theatre at any time after 3:30 p.m. any day before Dec. 16th.

Knights place wreaths to honor Beacon veterans in St. Joachim's Cemetery



Members of Trinity Council, Knights of Columbus, placed two large wreaths to honor, remember, and pay tribute to the many veterans interred at St. Joachim's Cemetery on December 9 in Beacon. Participating in the ceremony were representatives of the various Veterans' groups from the City of Beacon. Deacon Martin Mayeski conducted a prayer service at the laying of the wreaths. Grand Knight Kevin Allison, along with several members of the Knights of Columbus, participated in the ceremony.

-Courtesy photo

Sign up for 21-Day Equity Challenge by United Way of Dutchess-Orange

United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region is challenging the community to a 21-Day Equity Challenge that will share resources about specific equity topics in our community for each day of the challenge. One can choose to read an article, watch a video or listen to a podcast - or delve more deeply into the topic by engaging with all three. Depending on

one's choice, each challenge will take a few minutes, up to an hour daily.

The 21-Day Equity Challenge begins on January 15th, Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This is an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of how inequality affects our lives and our community. To sign up, to www.uwdor.org/mlk24.

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Obituaries

Mildred M. 'Millie' Bocchino



FORMERLY OF BEACON - Mildred M. 'Millie' Bocchino, age 99, of Franklin Park, formerly of Beacon, N.Y. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023; daughter of the late Andrew and Mildred Mason; beloved wife of the late Patrick A. Bocchino and the late Ralph L. Fleming; mother of Bob Bocchino (Debra Gazi) and Sandra (Fleming) Falloon (Jack); grandmother of Sandra Lee (Falloon) Kanuk (Stephen), Ralph Falloon (Melissa), Aleksandr Bocchino, Dmitri Bocchino and Erika Bocchino; great grandmother of Kyle Kanuk, Kaitlyn Kanuk, Kylie Falloon and Dylan Falloon; sister of Phyllis Mason and the late Andrew Mason. Millie was born in

Peekskill NY and grew up in Cold Spring NY. She graduated from Haldane High School in 1941. She married Ralph L. Fleming in 1942. Ralph was killed in action during World War II in Anzio, Italy.

She married Patrick Bocchino in 1952 and moved to Beacon NY where she resided for 69 years and was a member of St. John the Evangelist Church during that time. Millie was part of the war effort working for Aero Leather Company in Beacon making bomber jackets for WWII flyers. She moved on to Kartiganer Hat Factory after the war becoming a floor lady supervising the decoration of women's hats. She waitressed at the Ferry Diner and the original Yankee Clipper Diner, both located in Beacon and eventually joined her husband Pat at Texaco Research Lab in Beacon. She "retired" in 1955 to become a full-time mother and homemaker but that didn't stop her activity in the community. In 1962 she began volunteering at St. John the Evangelist School and worked as the office secretary until 1980. Millie always referred to any of the St. John graduates as "her kids" and loved the chance to see them around Beacon as they grew up. She enjoyed singing in the choir for many years and built a special friendship with the School Sisters of St. Francis who taught at St. Johns. She spent countless hours supporting the youth of Beacon by working in the refreshment stands of the Beacon Junior Baseball League at the minor league, little league and Babe Ruth league levels as well as the Pop Warner league, at Wilkes Field, now Beacon Memorial Park. In their retirement, they traveled extensively up and down the east coast to Florida, making new friends and visiting old ones. When they stopped traveling in their later years, they were blessed to be supported by a team that Millie called "My ladies and my guy" who made it possible for her and Pat to remain in their home until 2021, a group of true angels that she loved dearly.

In April 2021, Millie and Pat moved to Pittsburgh and resided at Concordia of Franklin Park assisted living facility. Millie adapted to the change and quickly became a favorite of the staff and residents, often referred to as "Miss Millie." She always remarked how much she appreciated the care and support. Concordia was home and she was so happy to be able to be there when she passed. Throughout their 70 years together, Millie was devoted to her husband Pat and their family and was a friend to anyone who she met. Millie's special gift was to make everyone feel comfortable and positive and to know that she was there for them.

A mass of Christian Burial and a celebration of Mildred's life will be held on Tuesday, December 26, 2023 at 11 am in St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, Sts. John and Paul Catholic Church, Franklin Park. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (www.cff.org) Arrangements with the George A. Thoma Funeral Home, Inc. Wexford, Pa.

Joan Serino



BEACON - Joan Marie (Baltich) Serino, a lifelong Beacon resident, passed away peacefully on December 3rd, 2023 surrounded by her loving family. Joan was 84 years old; she was born on October 22, 1939 in Cold Spring NY, daughter of the late Nora and Michael Baltich. Joan married Michael A. Serino on October 22, 1959 in Beacon, NY where they resided with their 3 children.

Joan graduated from the Haldane School District in Cold Spring NY, where she was active in Girls Basketball and Cheerleading. She went on to working as a waitress after graduating, before starting a career at United Reproduction as a secretary; then onto housekeeping at the Holiday Inn in Fishkill for 16 years.

Joan is survived by her 3 loving children: JeanMarie Serino of Fishkill; Carmine

(Patricia) Serino of Beacon; Michele Serino-Rios of Beacon. Her grandchildren Alexandra and Emma Rios, Michael and Jenna Serino. Many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and many close family friends.

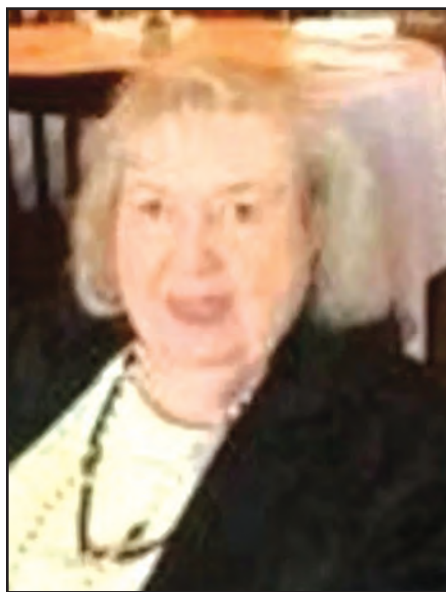
Joan was predeceased by sister and best friend Helen Killmer, and 3 brothers Danny, Alex "Baldy" and George.

Joan was the most selfless and kind person to everyone she met. To know her was to love her. Joan had a soft spot in her heart for all animals. She enjoyed her love of feeding "her" birds and squirrels daily. Joan's greatest joy was her 4 grandchildren who she has made memories that will last a lifetime. She will be missed by all that knew her.

Her Family received Friends on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at the LIBBY FUNERAL HOME, 55 Teller Avenue, Beacon, where a Service was offered. A Private Cremation followed, and interment took place on Saturday, December 9 at St. Joachim Cemetery, 325 Washington Avenue, Beacon.

To offer a message of condolence or share a fond memory, please visit www.LibbyFuneralHome.com. Any donations in Joan's honor can be made to the Purple Hearts organization for the Veterans at purpleheartfoundation.org or the World Wildlife Fund at protect.worldwildlife.org; and remember to feed the squirrels, Joan will be watching...

Irene Miller



POUGHKEEPSIE - Irene Miller passed away on December 5th, 2023 at home with her family. She was 94 years old. She will be deeply missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was born in Poughkeepsie on October 21, 1929 to David Butler, of Poughkeepsie and Helen Lynch Butler of Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland.

She was educated at St. Mary's Elementary School in Poughkeepsie and the Poughkeepsie High School. After graduation, she worked alongside her father at DeLaval. After her children were grown, she was employed as an Executive Assistant at Dutchess Community College.

She married Louis Miller on October 22, 1950, He predeceased her in 2004.

She was also predeceased by her brothers Francis Butler and David Butler Jr., and her beloved daughter, Melanie McGlaufflin.

She is survived by her sisters Rhoda Gruner and Judy DuBois, her daughters Kathleen Connolly and her husband Michael, Melinda Miller and her husband Gregory and Allison Miller, and her sons Robert Miller and Louis Miller III and his wife Jacqueline.

Her surviving grandchildren are Daniel Connolly, Liam McGlaufflin, Erin Staebell, Eileen Kammerer and Sean Miller.

She is also survived by her great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Landon Connolly, Ronan, Rory and Duncan McGlaufflin and Elias and Layne Kammerer and many nieces and nephews.

Though she suffered many losses in her life, Irene was an eternal optimist, which would explain her love of the New York Jets. She also loved to spoil her family, so she was a committed shopper. She was an avid traveller which resulted in finding her extended family in Ireland and exchanging many visits in the ensuing years. She kept her sense of humor until the end.

There are no calling hours. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

The family would like to thank the team at Hudson Valley Hospice including Chynna, Kathleen and Anthony, and especially Donna and Sydney for providing such loving care and support to Irene.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc. If you wish to send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

Donations may be made in Irene's memory to Hudson Valley Hospice <https://www.hvhospice.org/donate-now/>.

Marie D. Walsh



POUGHKEEPSIE - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marie Dahoney Walsh on December 4, 2023 at the Pines in Poughkeepsie surrounded by family. A lifelong resident of Poughkeepsie, Marie was born on May 30, 1926 to William L. Dahoney and Rose Keck Dahoney. She attended local schools, graduating from Poughkeepsie High School in 1944 and going on to attend State University of New Paltz. She graduated New Paltz in 1948 and went on to teach kindergarten in Nanuet and Spackenkill.

On April 9, 1950, she married the love of her life Thomas Sheridan Walsh, and together they shared 42 happy years together, until his death in 1992. She left teaching to raise her five sons, but eventually returned to education as a librarian

assistant at Arlington High School for many years. Once retired, she spent her time traveling and enjoying her family. But her greatest joy was spending time at the New Jersey shore at her second home in Sea Isle City.

Marie is survived by her sons Thomas and his wife Candace, Kevin and his wife Barbara, William, James, and his wife Amy. In addition, she is survived by grandchildren Ryan, Brett, Cory, Michael, Brian, Christopher, Matthew, Megan, Carolyn, Shannon, and 18 great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas, her son Joseph, her granddaughter Kaitlyn and sister Eleanor Tompkins.

Calling hours were Sunday, December 10, at Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, 371 hooker Avenue. There was a Mass of Christian Burial the following day, Monday, December 11, 2023 at Holy Trinity Church. Interment followed at Saint Peter's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 371 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601

If you would like to send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.doylefuneralhome.com

- Southern Dutchess News
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- 106 Business Opportunity
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- 122 Musical Instruction
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- 802 Motor Homes
- 803 Recreational Vehicles
- 900 Autos for Sale
- 901 Vans/SUV's
- 902 Trucks
- 903 Motorcycles
- 904 Auto Parts & Tires
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DUE TO A HOLIDAY PRESS SCHEDULE FOR Dec. 27th & Jan. 3rd issues

The Southern/Northern Dutchess News will have an early deadline.

The Dec. 27th Issue. will be on Dec. 20th before noon.

The Jan. 3rd Issue will be on Dec. 27th before noon.

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219 Attorney Legal

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FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT HEADQUARTERS



Mount Sait Mary continues annual Vespers tradition

For the Mount Saint Mary College community, the annual Christmas Vespers service of lessons and carols – held this year on December 3 – signals the beginning of the holiday season.

This year marks the first time that the college has been able to resume the tradition with public attendance since 2020. The first Vespers at the Mount took place in 1974.

The annual service features lessons and carols like "Angels We Have Heard on High." Towards the end of the service, the audience joined in singing "Silent Night," during which the lights are dimmed and the chapel is illuminated with candles.

The event was livestreamed, and the performance can be viewed in full here: <https://livestream.com/knightproductions/vespers23>.

Mount Saint Mary College held a Vespers service earlier this month.
 -Photo by Rosemarie Budhwa

- Southern Dutchess News
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Sofa with reclining ends, \$75. Recliner Rocker, \$50. All good cond., Blue in color. 845-297-0131

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500 Musical Merchandise

LP Record's, around 50 albums. from 1960's, good cond. Asking, \$45. Call 845-297-1317

Olds Recording Trombone, F.E. Olds & Son, \$225. 845-337-3778

501 Kid Stuff

Bicycle 26 inch Girls Exc. Cond., \$10. Some assembly required. Call: 845-896-5197



504 Appliances

Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink. 25"W x 22"D x 8"H. Faucet was never used. \$110.00. 845-337-7143

JVM 1790 BK 1.7 cubic foot convection over range or free standing microwave oven used two months, \$200 OBO. 845-546-9800

516 Misc. Merchandise

Nodic Ski Track Exercisor, \$60. Pair AR2 Acoustic Speakers, \$300. Pair 15" Tri-Axe Speakers in cabinets, \$300 OBO. 845-297-6369

Set/4 white folding snack tables w/stand by Casual Home. New in box. Purchase price was \$71, asking \$35. Text or call: 646-734-3823.

Summer Reading-KENT FAMILY Chronicles (American Bicentennial Series) by John Jakes. All 8 vols., (paperback), \$10. Call 845-264-0240

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Professional Pastry Tips (Metal) of varying sizes and design. Reusable pastry bags also available. Call: 845-264-0240

516 Misc. Merchandise

Assorted electric Motors. Call: 845-401-7654

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Antique Wooden cigarette table ash tray combo, circa 1950's, \$50 OBO. 845-546-9800

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Southern & Northern Dutchess News and the Beacon Free Press have the following Early Deadline for **Classified Ads:**

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Movies with Spirit to screen 'Conversations with God' Dec. 16

The dramatic true story, "Conversations With God," about a penniless man living on the streets who inadvertently becomes a spiritual messenger and best-selling author, is this month's Movies With Spirit screening at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, at Woodstock Jewish Congregation, 1682 Glasco Turnpike in Woodstock.

The film dramatizes the true story of Neale Donald Walsch (Henry Czerny), a former radio DJ who finds himself at the lowest point in his life. He is unemployed and homeless, and his head is immobilized by a large neck brace due to a serious car crash, which compounds Neale's difficulty in getting another job.

Living on nickels he gets from cashing in returnable cans and bottles, and feeling like a total failure, Neale writes an angry letter to God. (He had often written to CEOs after feeling wronged.)

Why isn't his life working? he writes. What will it take to get it to work? Why

can't he find happiness in relationships? Is the experience of enough money always going to elude him?

Finally — and most emphatically — he asks: "What have I done to deserve a life of such continuing struggle?"

A moment later, he hears a voice over his shoulder: "Do you really want an answer to all these questions, or are you just venting?"

Startled and quickly looking around, Neale sees no one. Thinking his mind must have played a trick on him, he goes back to his legal pad and writes a response: "Both. I'm venting, sure, but if these questions have answers, I'd sure as hell like to hear them!"

Thus begins an initially skeptical conversation and ultimately a dramatic journey of this down-and-out 50-year-old who inadvertently becomes a bestselling author and speaker who shares the messages he receives.

The 2006 independent film runs 109 minutes and is rated PG.

The screening will be followed by a facilitated discussion. Refreshments will be served. Attendees over age 12 are asked to contribute \$10 a person.

The monthly Movies With Spirit series, organized by Gerry Harrington of Kingston, seeks to stimulate people's sense of joy and wonder, inspire love and compassion, evoke a deepened understanding of people's integral connection with others and with life itself, and support individual cultures, faith paths and beliefs while simultaneously transcending them.

The films are screened in diverse places of worship and reverence across Ulster and Dutchess counties at 7 p.m., generally on the third Saturday of every month. Movies With Spirit has no religious affiliation.

For more information about the "Conversations With God" screening and the rest of the series, call Harrington at (845) 389-9201 or write to him at gerryharrington@mindspring.com. Details are also available at

facebook.com/MoviesWithSpirit.



Neale Donald Walsch (Henry Czerny) is an unemployed former radio DJ now homeless and with a broken neck who inadvertently becomes a spiritual messenger and best-selling author in "Conversations With God." The dramatic true story is to be screened as part of the Movies With Spirit film series on Dec. 16 at Woodstock Jewish Congregation.

-Courtesy photo by Samuel Goldwyn Films

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2023-29
NAME OF PROJECT: Lake Walton Preserve Loop Trail, Town of East Fishkill, Dutchess County. Project Description: This project involves the construction of approximately 1.1 miles of a stabilized stone dust path, precast concrete boardwalks in helical piles, and cast-in-place concrete structures with decorative custom form liner. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Christopher Sterbenz, Contract Specialist Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603, on or before 11:00AM Tuesday, January 9, 2024, and at that time publicly

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opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 186 013 662#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Wednesday December 27, 2023 and emailed to Christopher Sterbenz at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is March 11, 2024; the anticipated substantial completion date is September 5, 2025. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2023014072. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-

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RFB-DCH-2023-28 Replacement of Bridge W-21 (BIN 3344060) Stanford Road Over Wappingers Creek East Branch, Village of Millbrook. Project Description: Removal of existing bridge superstructure and replacement with conspan B type unit with span founded on spread footings. Replacement of wingwall and connecting walls to dam. Partial and full depth asphalt approach construction. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist Dutchess County Department of Public Works 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Due on or before **11:00am January 3, 2024**, and at that time publicly opened and

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read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 387 752 165#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business December 27, 2023 and emailed to Diane McKenna at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is March 1, 2024; the anticipated substantial completion date is September 6, 2024. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2023013930. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

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The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-70-23
Uniforms and Accessories for Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Personnel
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 22nd day of December 2023 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2023-30

NAME OF PROJECT: Replacement of Bridge S-39 (Bin 3343870) CR 17 over Willow Brook, and Bridge S-40 (Bin 3343880) CR 17 over Wappinger Creek, Town of Stanford, Dutchess County. Project Description: This project consists of the Replacement of the existing bridge superstructure and abutments for two bridges. The existing piers for one bridge will also be removed and replaced. Minor approach roadway work and replacement of guiderail in the vicinity of the bridge are also included in this project. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding

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and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Christopher Sterbenz, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before 11:00AM Friday, January 5, 2024, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 146 253 180#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the

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name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Thursday December 28, 2023 and emailed to Christopher Sterbenz at DPWcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is April 1, 2024; the anticipated substantial completion date is November 29, 2024. Failure to meet these dates will result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2023014276. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

EXTENDING LOCAL ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 5/2023

EXTENSION TO DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDERS DECLARED BY DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Please take notice that on December 9, 2023 at 12:00 am., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting Dutchess County Executive William F. X. O'Neil extended Local Emergency Order #1, Local Emergency Order #2, and Local Emergency Order #3 in furtherance of Executive Order No. 5 of 2023, dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency orders is available at www.dutchessny.gov.

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

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

Suguru

2							4
			2	1			
	4						
			4				3

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: MATH 101

ACROSS

1. Loaded up
6. Tube in old TV
9. Pouches
13. Tequila source
14. Stick in water
15. Jig's French cousin
16. TV's "____ Secretary"
17. Money in Myanmar
18. Photoshop maker
19. *Result of multiplication
21. *Whole number
23. *Say 2+2 is 5, e.g.
24. Arctic floater
25. Dashboard acronym
28. Fountain serving
30. Spanky or Alfalfa
35. Short for "hurry up"
37. Live bait
39. Turn upside down
40. Cassette contents
41. Retire from military, for short
43. Jason's vessel
44. Sicker
46. "Sight for ____ eyes"
47. Puppy cry
48. Denver option, at a diner
50. Apartment
52. Green turtle's domain
53. Final
55. Personal trainer's place of employment
57. *Venn ____
61. *Point in 2.5
65. Barrel racing meet
66. Gobbled up
68. On the rocks (2 words)
69. *Fields Medal to a mathematician, e.g.
70. Sports official, for short
71. 8 of something
72. Like Gulf Stream
73. Big bang maker
74. Required things

DOWN

1. "I lift my ____ beside the golden door"
2. Petri dish gel
3. Carpenter's groove
4. Dodge, as in tax bill
5. Takes exception to
6. Native Egyptian, in Roman times
7. *Line with one endpoint
8. Path in the woods
9. Left or right, e.g.
10. Awestruck
11. *Three-dimensional figure with 6 square faces
12. Palm reader, e.g.
15. Cake with filling
20. Three people?
22. Neither here ____ there
24. Subcontract (2 words)
25. *1:2, e.g.
26. Sacred song
27. Canada's favorite tree?
29. "Nobody ____ It Better"
31. Fix a cat
32. First discovered asteroid
33. *Measured in degrees
34. Parkinson's disease drug
36. Banana remnant
38. Between dawn and noon
42. Brown shade
45. Retread, past tense
49. Non-alcoholic brew
51. Rockefeller or Bezos
54. Like today's phone
56. Kind of pie
57. No-win situation
58. Wisconsin neighbor
59. Jewish month of Purim
60. Disease-causing organism
61. Clever
62. Indoor allergy cause
63. Crushed it, as in a test
64. "____ Make a Deal"
67. *X

CROSSWORD

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



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Have a 'Holiday Hoot' Dec. 17 at the Howland Cultural Center

By Kristine Coulter

The annual Holiday Hoot will take place at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon on December 17th at 6 p.m.

So, how did the idea for the annual Holiday Hoot come about?

"I took over this unique yuletide concert from longtime Beaconite musician and bandleader Chris Ruhe, who moved to Arizona in 2016. He'd been running the Holiday Hoot annually as part of his monthly Coffeehouse series, at the Howland Cultural Center. Chris always booked Pete Seeger as headliner, who wove a festive tapestry with traditional and new holiday songs. This included a hauntingly beautiful Hannukah number, sung in the round by the audience. A number of other fine musicians, mostly folkies, were also on the roster," explained Goldee Greene.

At this time the Hoot aims to better reflect the diversity of the Beacon community, keeping alive the multiculturalism vision of the late folk singer, activist and local resident Pete Seeger and his wife Toshi, Greene remarked. "So jazz, blues, opera, Broadway, Kwanzaa poetry, and gospel, along with folk, is welcoming to one and all. We always feature emerging artists, so get ready to enjoy the musical gifts of young people," she said.

Performers will include hipster groove/party combo GG & The Shades, X-Tremes, Luvbugs, and surprises are in store.

"How lucky we are to welcome back world-renowned piano maestro Tom McCoy, and the awesome Justice McCray as stage manager. Last but not least, ebullient MC Willa Bugnon will run the show," noted Greene.

What has the feedback in previous years



Holiday Hoot performers include GG & The Shades. The Holiday Hoot will take place on December 17 at the Howland Cultural Center on Main St. in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo

been? According to Greene, "The Holiday Hoot is a popular family event for locals, with visitors showing great enthusiasm as well. Everyone leaves with a smile on the face, especially the lucky duck who goes home with a fabulous gift basket from

Viscount Wines and Liquor."

For those who attend, Greene said, "First of all, get ready to sing, y'all! There will be ample opportunities to chime in, especially during the Holiday Hoot Singalong Finale! Also, hanging out with friends, family and neighbors is wonderful."

What songs will be sung? "Favorites like 'Jingle Bells,' 'The Christmas Song,'



World-renowned piano maestro Tom McCoy will perform at the annual Holiday Hoot, Sunday, December 17.

-Courtesy photo

"What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?" "Feliz Navidad," "The Dreidel Song," "Silent Night," "Happy Xmas/War is Over," and much more, according to Greene.

"Come on down to the Holiday Hoot. It only happens once a year, so don't miss out on the fun and merriment! In other words, buy your tickets today at howlandcultural-center.org," she said.

Dutchess Ambulatory Surgical Center holds ribbon-cutting at Eastdale Village



Members of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce join the staff of Dutchess Ambulatory Surgical Center in ribbon-cutting ceremonies at their new location in Eastdale Village.

-Photo by Lauren DeWitt

Dutchess Ambulatory Surgical Center, a Poughkeepsie based outpatient surgical center, has recently relocated to Eastdale Village. A ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce was held on Friday, Dec. 8 at the new location.

The center, originally established in 1998, is multi-specialty, offering a variety of surgical services including but not limited to urology, pain management, orthopedics, gastroenterology, gynecology, ophthalmology including retina and oculoplastics. Dutchess Ambulatory expanded from a two (2) operating room center to five (5) operating rooms and plans to offer additional specialties. The center offers quality care, state-of-the art equipment and advanced technology in a safe friendly environment. The Medical Staff consists of Board-Certified physicians and highly qualified clinical and support staff.

Kathleen Hickman, RN, MS, CASC, is a Certified Surgical Center Administrator and has been managing the center for 22 years. She was recently contacted by Newsweek Magazine who announced that Dutchess Ambulatory Surgical Center has achieved the rank of 10th Best Surgical Center in the State of New York, rising 3 ranks from 2023. The ranking is based on U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services data.

"We are extremely proud of this distinction. This achievement is only possible with a team like ours who truly cares for our patients and strives to provide the best care possible," said Hickman. "In the ever-changing healthcare environment, we have consistently been able to offer high quality care and will continue to offer the same quality care in our new location. It is an honor to be recognized by Newsweek Magazine."