

BEACON FREE PRESS

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DA Grady honored for 40 years of service to county



William "Bill" Grady
-Courtesy photo

On Monday evening, Dec 11, family, friends and colleagues gathered at the Poughkeepsie Grandview to honor District Attorney William "Bill" Grady for his 40 years of public service to the people of Dutchess County.

In his remarks Grady said, "It has been an honor and privilege to serve the people of Dutchess County as their District Attorney. My entire career has been dedicated to holding offenders accountable, ensuring that the needs of crime victims were met, as well as being proactive in creating and supporting programs for offenders which deal with the underlying causes of crime such as alcohol, drug abuse and mental health issues."

In order to address these unique needs, Grady mentioned the creation of the Special Victims Bureau, Violent Crime Bureau, and DWI Bureau, organization of the Dutchess County Drug Task Force, and played a significant role in helping to organize the County's Domestic Response Team.

DA Grady's career began in 1970 when he was hired as the first full time assistant DA by then DA Albert M. Rosenblatt. Grady said, "At that time, it was a small office with seven part time ADAs (Assistant District Attorneys). Since I was elected as DA in 1983, the size of the office has grown to 36 full time ADAs, including 20 women. Seven Bureaus were also created to deal with the complexity and increased numbers of various crimes."

Most importantly, he stated, "Dutchess County is very fortunate in regard to the quality of the attorneys who chose to dedicate either part of or their entire career to public service by becoming prosecutors and helping to keep our community safe."

Grady said he is looking forward to retirement and spending more quality time with his family, including four grandchildren.

BHS to host annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Jan. 5

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon City School District (BCSD) Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, for the 2023 induction class, is set for January 5, from 5 - 9:30 p.m., at the St. Rocco's Society banquet hall, 26 South Chestnut Street, in Beacon.

So, who are this year's inductees? The inductees are:

- The 2012 Softball Team,
- Rodney Paulin - Basketball, Class of 1973
- Joe Simmons - Basketball, Class of 1973
- Jummie Akinwunmi - Track & Field, Class of 2018
- Dave Eraca - Baseball, Class of 1973
- Lenny Torres, Jr. - Baseball, Class of 2018
- Honorary - Randy Casale

"There is a Beacon High School Athletics Hall of Fame nomination/application form on the Beacon High School Athletics web page. Nominations for the Hall of Fame must be received by July 1st. Supporting documentation (newspaper clippings, documented records, etc.) must be submitted with all applications to be considered for nomination. Nominations will NOT be considered without an application

or proper documentation," explained Robert Lanier, a committee member and also a member of the Hall of Fame.

"The BCSD Athletic Department and the Eric J. Romanino Athletic Hall of Fame Committee are excited to host this year's 2023 Hall of Fame Induction ceremony! At the ceremony, a special presentation will be made for each inductee highlighting their athletic accomplishments along with the contributions they have made to Beacon Athletic Department during their careers," John Giametta- BCSD Director of Athletics told the Beacon Free Press recently.



Beacon High School 2023 Athletics Hall of Fame inductee Lenny Torres, Jr. played four years of varsity baseball for Beacon High School, concluding in 2018. He was selected, as the 41st overall pick, in the 2018 MLB draft by the Cleveland Guardians. He is currently pitching in the Guardians AA affiliate - Lake County Captains. The ceremony is scheduled for January 5, 2024.

-Courtesy photo

Lanier stated, "Once a nomination(s) and documentation(s) are received, the Hall of Fame Committee - led by John Giametta (BHS Athletic Director) - assess and selects inductees to the Hall of Fame." He noted, "Beacon High School Athletic Hall of Fame provides an opportunity for the school to recognize athletes, coaches, and others for their outstanding athletic accomplishments or contributions to athletics at the district, local, state, or national levels.

As for the event itself?

"The event is a formal recognition of the

inductee. A corresponding coach introduces the inductee and provides them with their plaque. The inductee provides a brief speech upon receipt. The event is attended by Beacon City School District and Beacon High School Athletic officials, the Hall of Fame committee members, the inductees and their family and friends, and community members," said Lanier. Reservations were due by Dec. 15.

The Beacon High School Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremonies began in 1998.

Fishkill Highway Superintendent Scofield to retire after 50-plus years

By Kristine Coulter

Town of Fishkill Highway Superintendent Glenn Scofield is looking ahead - not to the first big snowstorm of the winter but to retirement. The longtime highway superintendent did not seek reelection this time. He will be retired as of 2024 and is ushered in and Carmine Istvan, a local business owner and Fishkill board member, will take over for Scofield. Istvan was elected to the Highway Superintendent position in November. Scofield first took office in 1970 after running for the elected position in November 1969. In all, Scofield has served the town for 62 years (which includes his time before being superintendent) in the Highway Department.

It was in 1969 that Scofield first ran for election. Scofield was elected to the superintendent position after his father decided not to run for that post again.

"It was in my blood. My father had been superintendent since 1950 and he wanted to retire," explained Scofield, who said he began going out on the jobs with his father then. The younger Scofield noted his father was "happy" that he decided to run for superintendent.



Town of Fishkill Highway Superintendent Glenn Scofield is retiring after more than 50 years in the post.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

Continued on page 3

East Fishkill Acting Police Chief: DiDato 'was everything that encompassed a great police officer and friend'

First responders, fellow officers honor Sgt. Daniel DiDato

By Kristine Coulter

East Fishkill Police Officer Daniel P. DiDato began with the department in January 2005. It was while on duty, on December 18, that he was on the south-bound side of the Taconic State Parkway, in a one-car crash near mile marker 36.2. He later succumbed to his injuries. DiDato served for 22 years, nearly 19 of which he served in East Fishkill. DiDato was posthumously made sergeant.

East Fishkill Acting Chief of Police Derrick Cuccia said in a statement: "The Town of East Fishkill Police Department is saddened to announce the line of duty death of Police Officer Daniel P. DiDato."

Cuccia said, "Officer DiDato was everything that encompassed a great police officer and friend; he was genuine, smart, courageous, tough and witty."

East Fishkill Supervisor Nicholas D'Alessandro said about DiDato to Beacon Free Press, "He was an exceptional employee, police officer, at community relations and a person. He was a good man and a very decent person."

According to Cuccia, "On December 18, 2023, at approximately 6:30 p.m., Officer DiDato was involved in a serious one-car motor vehicle accident on the Taconic State Parkway while responding to Westchester Medical Center to continue an investigation with an accident victim. He was transported to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead."

Matthew Orsino is a former police chief for the police department in East Fishkill. Orsino told Beacon Free Press: "Officer DiDato was an excellent Police Officer who fearlessly protected the residents of the Town of East Fishkill and the greater Dutchess County community as a whole. He was a dedicated professional, with a wonderful family and sense of humor, who will be profoundly missed by everyone he interacted with."

Bill Green, the recreation director for East Fishkill, in an email, stated to Beacon Free Press: "Dan DiDato was a friendly, hard-working, conscientious, and truly dedicated police officer who was always available to assist all ages at all times. Dan was a loyal partner to the Recreation Department who could always count on him when needed. He will be missed by all."

D'Alessandro, who said DiDato's brother is a retired detective with the East Fishkill Police Department, was asked about what he has heard from the community about the tragic loss.

"There has been a tremendous outpouring from the community. Not only from law enforcement, but from residents he would be helping on certain cases, and people he was dealing with,



East Fishkill Police Officer Daniel P. DiDato was posthumously made a sergeant of the East Fishkill Police Department.

-Courtesy photo

are calling crying, and saying what a great person he was to deal with," D'Alessandro remarked.

Assemblyman Anil Biephan, Jr. commented in a statement, "As a former East Fishkill councilman and current assemblyman, I express my heartfelt condolences to the DiDato family and the East Fishkill Police Department. Officer Daniel P. DiDato was a dedicated law enforcement officer and a caring individual who served our community with pride and diligence. Let us honor his memory by embodying the commitment and character he demonstrated in his service to East Fishkill."

Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a statement, which partially read: "Officers across New York serve and protect their neighbors and communities, and we feel this loss deeply. I extend prayers and condolences from all New Yorkers to the loved ones of Officer DiDato." Hochul ordered flags to be lowered at half-staff on State buildings on December 20 in honor of DiDato.

NYS Senator Rob Rolison said in a statement, "Our Hudson Valley community feels the pain of East Fishkill Police Department's loss. As a former member of law enforcement and the father of a police officer, I understand that the job of keeping others safe always carries with it the potential for tragedy. Sadly, our worst fears were realized last night. Our hearts go out to

Officer Daniel DiDato's family, his colleagues, and the East Fishkill community as they mourn the loss of one of their own. I stand ready to assist in whatever way I can, and I will continue to pray for those whose lives have been suddenly and traumatically altered by this devastating event."

The supervisor thanked area law enforcement for assisting the police department at this time. He offered special thanks to the City and Town of Poughkeepsie police departments.

DiDato's empathy for people, said D'Alessandro, went above that of the average police officer and regular person.

DiDato began his law enforcement career with the NYC Department of Environmental Protection in December 2001, said Cuccia.

"The Town of East Fishkill Police Department expresses its deepest sympathies to Officer DiDato's family and friends, and mourns the loss of one of our own," remarked Cuccia.

DiDato's parents still live in East Fishkill, said D'Alessandro. A wake was held at John Jay High School, from which DiDato graduated in 1994, on December 22. The funeral mass took place at St. Columba on December 23 in Hopewell Junction.

DiDato leaves behind his parents, Robert and Edvige DiDato, and his brothers, Robert and Mark.

Compiled by Kristine Coulter

East Fishkill Police Officer Daniel P. DiDato died in the line-of-duty on December 18 after succumbing to injuries from a one-car accident on the Taconic State Parkway. He was on his way to talk to a victim of a separate accident. DiDato was posthumously made sergeant.

Members of law enforcement, other first responders and their departments took to social media to post condolences to the East Fishkill Police Department, East Fishkill community and to the family and friends of Officer DiDato. The following is just a small representation of condolences posted.

The East Fishkill Fire District posted on its Facebook page: "The men and women of the East Fishkill Fire District offer our deepest condolences to our brothers and sisters of the East Fishkill Police Department.

As first responders, our paths often cross in various capacities. A loss for one is a loss for all.

For all the countless times you have had our backs we offer, in this tragic circumstance, to have yours.

You are all in our thoughts and prayers."

Dutchess County District Attorney-Elect Anthony Parisi said in a statement on Facebook: "My deepest condolences go out to the family of our fallen hero, as well as his brothers and sisters from the East Fishkill Police Department. The Town of East Fishkill, and the entire county suffer this loss together."

The Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department in a statement on social media said: "Our thoughts are with the East Fishkill Police Department as they mourn the loss of one of their own."

"My thoughts and prayers are with the Town of East Fishkill Police Department, all who loved this Officer and the entire East Fishkill community during this difficult time," posted Sheriff Kirk Imperati on Facebook.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the East Fishkill Police Department and the Officers family," read a post by Town of Fishkill Cadets.

New Hamburg Fire Company Eng. 1 posted on its Facebook page: "The Officers and Members of New Hamburg offer our deepest Condolences to the Town of East Fishkill Police Department. Our prayers are with you and the family of the fallen Officer as well as the first responders on the scene!"

The Town of Fishkill Police posted on social media: "Town of Fishkill Police Department would like to extend our most sincere condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Family, Friends, Brothers and Sisters in Blue at the Town of East Fishkill Police Department.

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**See story,
page 8**



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Public Defender Angell to retire

Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O’Neil has announced the upcoming retirement of Public Defender Thomas Angell, who will retire at the end of this year. Angell has served Dutchess County for 34 years, including more than 12 years leading the Public Defender’s Office (including service as Acting Public Defender).

O’Neil said, “Tom Angell has led the Dutchess County Office of the Public Defender with professionalism, integrity, and passionate advocacy on behalf of those within the criminal justice system of Dutchess County. Over his decades of service, he has upheld the right of every person to legal representation and in doing so, he has helped so many people who found themselves in the criminal justice systems suffering programs far bigger than their criminal offense - whether its untreated mental health issues, substance use disorders, or family challenges – and helped them to get their life back on track. We are grateful to Tom for his unwavering dedication and we wish him the very best in his well-earned retirement.”

A longtime Dutchess County resident, Tom Angell was appointed Public Defender in January 2013 by former County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro.

Angell’s law career spans over 42 years

and began as the Reginald Heber Smith Fellow for Mid-Hudson Legal Services, Inc. of Poughkeepsie following receiving his Juris Doctor degree, with honors, from Hofstra Law School. He joined Dutchess County Government in 1989 as Senior Assistant Public Defender before being named Chief Assistant Public Defender in 2004 and then appointed Acting Public Defender in 2011.

As Public Defender, Angell has led the office’s efforts to provide effective, quality representation to indigent clients within Dutchess County’s court system. The Dutchess County Public Defender’s Office is a legal service component of Dutchess County Government, providing legal representation to indigent clients who have been accused of a crime or have matters pending in Dutchess County Family Court. The Public Defender’s Office assists individuals who have been contacted regarding a criminal police matter, before they have been formally charged, and advocates for the protection of the constitutional rights of clients, working toward achieving results that have the greatest likelihood to help and/or rehabilitate clients in need.

Angell has served as a member of the Dutchess County Criminal Justice

Council, including as Co-Chair of the Jail/Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Committee and the ReEntry Committee. He was a recipient of the New York State Bar Association’s Dennison Ray Criminal Defendant Staff Award in 1995 and the National Association of Social Workers Hudson Valley Division’s Citizen of the Year Award in 1989. He also serves on the boards of the New York State Chief Defenders Association and the New York State Defender’s Association.

Angell said, “As Public Defender, it has been my distinct pleasure to oversee the operations of our office for the last decade, and to work for the County, serving four County Executives, for the last 34 years. I am proud to have continued this office’s tradition of ensuring high-quality, effective legal representation for some of the most vulnerable individuals within Dutchess County’s criminal justice system. We pride ourselves on walking together with our clients, treating them with respect and dignity, as we work through the legal process seeking the very best outcome possible. I am grateful

to County Executive O’Neil for his faith in my leadership ability and his support of the important work of the Public Defender’s office.”



Thomas Angell

-Courtesy photo

Fishkill Highway Superintendent Scofield to retire after 50-plus years

Continued from cover

Scofield said, “When I was working for him (his father), the Town did not have much equipment. As the time they had to hire a bulldozer to come in and plow Beacon Hills. The state police escorted the bulldozer. When it stopped snowing the moon was out bright. I rode with the bulldozer telling him (the driver) where things were. That was one time [during a storm].”

When Scofield first ran for office, it was for a two-year term. Since then, the voters voted to make the highway superintendent term four years.

During Scofield’s early years as highway superintendent, he said the Town

fleet consisted of only a loader, a couple of pick-up trucks and a couple of plow trucks. There were five employees in the department at that time.

“We’ve probably tripled our fleet over time,” noted Scofield. The department now has 13 employees.

During the spring and summer months the workers in the department take care of drainage and pave approximately 7 miles of road a year now, according to Scofield.

Scofield said he had an opponent in 1969 when he was running for office, and again four years ago.

“I have to say, ‘thank you’ to him,” said Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra

about Scofield and all his years working as highway superintendent. Albra and the town board presented Scofield with a proclamation. Dutchess County Legislator Doug McHoul also honored Scofield during the Fishkill Town Board meeting on Dec. 20 on behalf of the Dutchess County Legislature.

Istvan knows he has big shoes to fill as he gets ready to start as highway superintendent.

“I’m honored to take over for this gentleman. He’s like the (martial artist and actor) Chuck Norris of snow removal,” said Istvan. “I have a great team to work with trying to

build upon the legacy of Mr. Scofield.”

Scofield thanked the employees of the department for all their hard work throughout the years.

“I’ve had good guys. Some have retired – some have passed away,” said Scofield.

As for the future, Scofield remarked, “There’s enough for me to do around the house. That will keep me busy enough for a while.”

He said his family thinks it is time for him to retire, too.

“I’m fortunate to still be able to get up and move around. Although, it’s slower than it used to be,” said Scofield.

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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.

Focus on mental health in 2024

To the Editor:

As we enter a new year, I propose a resolution – let our focus for 2024 be on mental health. Let's make a collective commitment to prioritize not only our own mental well-being, but also that of our family, friends, and co-workers so we can create a community that actively changes the way mental health is perceived, reduces the stigma, and prevents suicide.

After a year of challenges that have highlighted the importance of mental health, it is time to take the small steps that can make a big difference.

Let us make 2024 the year we:

Prioritize Mental Health: Make a conscious effort to prioritize our mental well-being by incorporating self-care practices into our daily routines.

Check-In on Others: Extend our compassion to those around us by regularly checking in on friends, family, and colleagues. A simple conversation can make a world of difference.

Destigmatize Mental Health: Encourage open dialogue about mental health, dispelling myths and reducing the stigma that often surrounds it.

Raise Awareness: Educate ourselves and others about the signs of mental distress and the resources available for support.

Promote a Culture of Support: Create an environment where seeking help is not only accepted but encouraged.

It's time to teach our communities to talk about mental illness without shame or secrecy. Together, we can stop the stigmas associated with mental health and suicide and save lives.

Donna Thomas

Founder, James's Warriors, www.jameswarriors.org

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Manny

Cascades of rain fall from the atmosphere.

The sky is pumping water.

My body is pumping tears.

His body is pumping nothing.

For he did not wake up today.

His body is weighed down

By the scourge of disease.

Diabetes pummeled him down;

He never did put on his boxing gloves

To give himself a fighting chance.

Some say, "Manny loved his sweets."

Some say, "He ate himself to death."

In my heaving, sobbing hysteria, I say nothing.

When the last breath left his body,

His Earthly journey over,

A part of me left too.

Did I take you for granted, Manny?

But how could I?

Your cordiality was like a hat you never removed.

So sturdy on your brow,

It provided sweet security.

There were three of us in this fraternity:

Manny, I, and the merriment we made.

Merriment akin to rapture.

Manny was the tour guide of the Bronx.

He was the park maven,

A connoisseur of woodland trails

And coastal reefs and coffee spots.

I am an urban denizen,

Dominated by asphalt,

Confined in a not-too-gilded cage.

Manny had a forest in his backpack.

Because I am so buzzed by beauty,

I am easily seduced

By mossy groves and resplendent, fragrant flowers,

Painted lady butterflies fluttering wildly by,

Hiking into hinterlands,

A lush, resilient mansion's buoyant luxury,

And the roaring ocean.

He tipped his hat and bowed.

"Let me take you to the World of Mannyland," he coaxed.

He deftly worked his Mannyland enchantment.

Earth has lost him now.

He was called to explore the Pristine trails of another world far away from us.

And we are left to grieve the loss of him.

I didn't hold his hand before he died.

I didn't kiss his cheek before he died.

I didn't say good-bye.

So, I'll just say,

"Until we meet again, Dear Friend."

Carmel H. Forte
Astoria, NY

NYC man arrested in Beacon

The City of Beacon Police Department responded to Looper's Plaza, 1020 Wolcott Avenue, on December 13 for a past occurred burglary of a business. While on scene, according to a press release from the City of Beacon Police Department, it became evident that another business had damage to a glass door. Both locations were processed by the Detective Division and security footage was reviewed which revealed a suspect.

Later that same day, the release stated, the suspect was located and identified as 29-year-old Ronald L. Johnson. Johnson was charged with: 1 count of burglary 3rd, a class D felony, 1 count of criminal mischief 2nd, a class D felony, 1 count of

attempted burglary 3rd, a class E felony, and 1 count of petit larceny, a class A misdemeanor. He was processed and held pending arraignment. The release stated that while in a holding cell, Johnson allegedly repeatedly kicked the cell door in an attempt to damage it. He was additionally charged with 1 count of attempted criminal mischief 4th, a class B misdemeanor.

Johnson was arraigned in City Court by the Honorable Judge Johnston in which he was released on his own recognizance and turned over to NYPD officers to answer for an outstanding warrant of burglary 2nd, according to the release.

Correction: Vipers is a men's hockey team

The Hudson Valley Vipers are a professional minor league hockey team that will call the McCann Ice Arena home. The arena is part of the re-imagined MJN Center.

It was incorrectly reported in the Dec. 6 edition of the Beacon Free Press that the Vipers is a women's team. It is a men's team.

The Vipers will be part of the 16-team Union Hockey League, which stretches from Michigan to Vermont and down to the Hudson Valley.

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINE

Beacon Free Press will be on a holiday schedule for the January 3, 2024 issue.

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

Email cschmidt@sutchessnews.com for more information.

Beacon Elks host luncheon for veterans and guests



The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 held a luncheon for local Veterans at the lodge. Seventy local Veterans and their relatives and friends attended the luncheon. The luncheon was provided by the lodge with the use of an Elks National Foundation Freedom Grant.

Guest speakers attended from Hudson Valley VA Health Care and Hospice. Fourteen members of the lodge helped to cook, serve and took care of our Veterans.

-Courtesy photos

Knapp to Serve as Interim City Administrator in Poughkeepsie

Mayor-elect Yvonne Flowers has announced she will appoint veteran city employee Ron Knapp to serve as interim city administrator beginning in 2024 when she takes office.

Knapp, who has served as the city's Police Chief and has been working as both an assistant to the mayor's and city administrator's offices, was the acting city administrator twice before, most recently under former Mayor Rob Rolison in 2016.

Knapp is a longtime city resident and has been employed by the city for more than 49 years. Most recently, he has been instrumental in the city's anti-blight initiative that has tracked properties, bolstered code enforcement, secured state funding and has helped reduce the number of vacant properties in the city from more than 600 in 2016

to approximately 150 today.

"Ron has considerable experience to help with what has been a seamless transition from Mayor Marc Nelson's administration to my pending administration," said Flowers. "Ron has faithfully served the city for decades, and there is no one better to handle this task as my administration gets started."

Knapp said, "I am honored to be asked to serve in this capacity as Yvonne Flowers begins her role as mayor of our city. I have always been impressed with how she handled matters as a Common Council member, and the city will continue to be in good hands as a new year, and new era, dawns in 2024."

Flowers said when she assumes office next year, she will launch a national search to find a permanent city administrator.

City Council meeting set for January 8

The Beacon City Council hereby gives notice that the Beacon City Council will be meeting at 7 p.m. on January 8, 2024 in City Hall at 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon.

Members of the public who wish to

attend and/or participate during the City Council's meeting may do so in-person at City Hall or remotely on Zoom by visiting beaconny.gov/events.



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- Girly Wolfpack Project
- Grace Smith House
- Greystone Programs
- Hope For Youth Foundation
- Hudson Valley Hospice
- Locust Grove
- Maria Fareri Children's Hospital
- Miles of Hope
- NYS Troopers
- Philipstown Depot Theater
- Poughkeepsie Farm Project
- Poughkeepsie Senior Center
- Professional Nurses Association
- Pugsquad, Inc.
- Randolph School
- Ronald McDonald House
- Sparrow's Nest
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- ... And Many More ...

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TOWN OF FISHKILL PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WALMART FISHKILL MFC (MARKET FULFILLMENT CENTER) PICKUP EXPANSION AMENDED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Chapter 150-97.B. of the Code of the Town of Fishkill, the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall in the Francois R. Cross meeting room located in the lobby of the Town of Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY on Thursday, January 11, 2024 commencing at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in the matter of an Applicant's request for a Site Development Plan Amendment to construct a 7,234 square foot building expansion that will be used for the online pickup and delivery operations. The project will consist of the building expansion, associated parking and proposed stormwater connections from the expansion roof. The building expansion shall be constructed on the east side of the existing building; 45 parking spaces on the east side of the existing facility are proposed to be utilized, with a reduction of 10 parking spaces due to the expansion and revised striping. There is no proposed increase in impervious coverage of the site. The parcel for this proposal is identified as Tax Map Parcel No: 6155-00-950798, consists of 17.88 +/- acres, and is located at 26 West Merritt Boulevard in the PSC (Planned Shopping Center) Z o n i n g District.

All interested persons will be heard by the Planning Board of the Town of Fishkill at the public hearing to be held as aforesaid. For any persons unable to attend the public hearing, email comments may be submitted in advance to d c o l o n n a @ fishkill-ny.gov. By Order of the Planning Board Of the Town of Fishkill, New York Debbie Colonna, Planning Board Secretary

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid

Legal Notices

#RFP-DCP-04-24 On-Call Professional Auditing Services for Federal and State Funded Projects Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 17th day of January 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal 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.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on December 7, 2023, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice. Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, December 20, 2023.

Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2023208 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF ROOFTOP AIR HANDLING UNITS AT THE CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY FOR THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$3,309,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,654,500 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Specific object or purpose: Replacement of rooftop air-handling units at Center for Business & Industry at DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$3,309,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,654,500 bonds
Other monies: \$1,654,500 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

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Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2023212 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HUDSON HALL INTERIOR RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS (PHASE I) FOR THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$3,666,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,833,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Specific object or purpose: Hudson Hall interior reconstruction/improvements (Phase I)
Period of probable usefulness: 25 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$3,666,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,833,000 bonds
Other monies: \$1,833,000 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

HOW DO YOU SPELL GREAT LOCAL NEWS?



Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

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Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2023209 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COST OF SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS SITES AT THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,200,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,100,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Class of objects or purposes: Site improvements at sites at the DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,200,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,100,000 bonds
Other monies: \$1,100,000 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

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Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2023210 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADA UPGRADES AT THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$1,465,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$732,500 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Class of objects or purposes: ADA upgrades at DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 25 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$1,465,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$732,500 bonds
Other monies: \$732,500 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

Legal Notices

enue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal 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.

Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, December 20, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023209 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COST OF SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS SITES AT THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,200,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,100,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Class of objects or purposes: Site improvements at sites at the DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,200,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,100,000 bonds
Other monies: \$1,100,000 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

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Class of objects or purposes: ADA upgrades at DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 25 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$1,465,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$732,500 bonds
Other monies: \$732,500 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

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Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2023211 BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 7, 2023. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COST OF SPORTS FIELD IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,000,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,000,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF.

Specific object or purpose: Construction of sports field improvements at DCCC
Period of probable usefulness: 15 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,000,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,000,000 bonds
Other monies: \$1,000,000 State grants-in-aid
SEQRA status: Type II Action

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid

Obituaries

Daniel Paul DiDato



EAST FISHKILL - Daniel Paul DiDato, 47, died on December 18, 2023 from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident while serving and protecting the people of the Town of East Fishkill.

Daniel was born on February 29, 1976 in the Bronx. In 1985, he and his family moved to Hopewell Junction. He graduated from John Jay Senior High School in 1994 and from Dutchess Community College in 2001 with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts.

Daniel worked as a patrol officer for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from 2001-2005. He has served as a police officer for the Town of East Fishkill for the last 19 years. He

was the recipient of two lifesaving awards and was a field training officer.

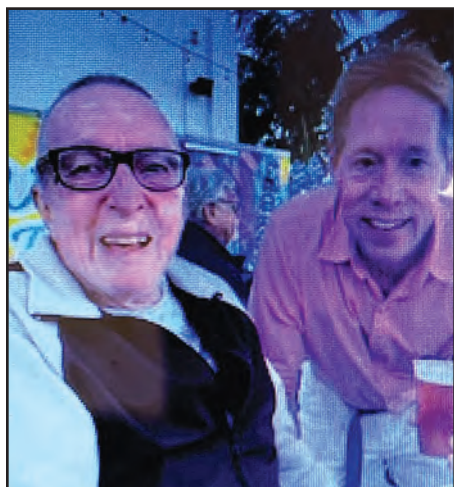
He was an avid fan of the New York Rangers and the New York Yankees. He was a self-proclaimed food and pizza connoisseur. Throughout his life, Daniel was an integral member of the community and will be greatly missed.

Daniel is survived by his parents, Robert and Edvige (Miniaci) DiDato of Hopewell Junction; his brothers, Robert J. DiDato of East Fishkill and Mark J. DiDato of Fishkill; many cousins; countless friends; and brothers and sisters in law enforcement.

Calling hours were held on Friday, December 22, 2023 in the auditorium of John Jay Senior High School, 2012 Route 52, Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday, December 23, 2023 at St. Columba Church, 835 Route 82, Hopewell Junction followed by entombment at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

Donations may be made in memory of Daniel to the East Fishkill PBA. Arrangements are under the direction of the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc. Please visit his Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

George A. Kolb Sr.



George passed into heaven on December 14, 2023 to be with his wife Francis of 45 years and son Lamerance. George was born in 1932 and raised in New Jersey. He enlisted in the United States Army during the Korean War and subsequently earned his college degree in Electrical Engineering from N.I.T.

He was employed by both Bell Laboratories in N.J and IBM in N.Y., involved with many aspects of research. He was instrumental in obtaining several patents with his colleagues, for initial prototypes of solar panels and Lasers which we all use in our current daily lives.

He ultimately retired to the warmth with his wife in Boca Raton, Fla and was an avid tennis player well into his 80's always enjoying the hot weather and all of our vis-

its down south.

George leaves behind his daughter Denise and husband Angel Hernandez of Charlottesville, V.A. and in which our family is forever grateful for the care they oversaw and have given Dad over the past several years. His oldest son Mark and wife Grace of Conn. His namesake George Jr. and wife Victoria of N.Y.

And especially his Grandchildren: George 3rd and partner Kaitlin, Brian and wife Courtney and granddaughter Amber, His Great grandchildren Olive, Carson, Jack, Leon and Jett.

Dad thank you for your unconditional love and teaching all of us integrity, respect for others and most of all to be happy. He always supported all of us in our different endeavors. Your grandkids will always carry on that wisdom.

Pops have a "Jameson" in heaven for all of us and until we meet again "You Bet n Amen!"

Please make any memorial donations to Hospice of Charlottesville VA or St. Nicholas on the Hudson Episcopal Church, New Hamburg N.Y.

Long-sleeved T-shirt for blood donors through Jan. 5

When blood products are fully stocked on hospital shelves, patients don't have to wait for critical care. Giving blood or platelets with the American Red Cross in December can help those in need make more holiday memories with loved ones.

Those who come to give blood, platelets or AB Elite plasma through Jan. 5, 2024, will receive an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last. To extend a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood, platelets and plasma during the critical post-holiday time, those who

come to give Jan. 1-31, 2024, National Blood Donor Month, will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LVIII in Las Vegas. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Making and keeping appointments throughout the month can help safeguard the national blood supply into the new year. Schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Dennis John Skora



Dennis John Skora, 81, a resident of Wappingers Falls, NY, died on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 in Livingston, NJ.

Born on December 2, 1942 in Binghamton, NY, he was the son of the late Sophie and John Skora. Dennis was a graduate of Binghamton High School, attained his Bachelor's Degree from SUNY Cortland, and earned his Master's Degree from SUNY New Paltz.

In 1968, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served two years active duty aboard the USS Lexington, where he served as the captain's phone talker during damage control drills and also worked in the Personnel Office. He was honorably discharged from service in 1973.

Dennis was a beloved educator and mentor to others. He taught Social

Studies at Wappingers Falls Junior High School where he was a perennial choice as favorite male teacher and won several "Who's Who in Teaching" awards. As stated by a parent, "Mr. Skora was a dynamic and creative teacher and it was a pleasure having my daughter in his class." Dennis finished his career as Coordinator for Social Studies, Foreign Language, and ESL.

He was an avid sports fan and coached Boys and Girls Basketball and Track. Dennis was the life of the party and often served as emcee at retirement parties.

Dennis was a volunteer for Scenic Hudson, Stony Kill Farm (where he also served on the Board), Meals on Wheels, Special Olympics, Town of Wappinger Little League, and was also the Trout Stocking Coordinator for Sprout and Fishkill Creek. He loved fishing and spread this passion to his grandchildren and many area children as he ran summer fishing camps in Wappingers, East Fishkill, and at Stony Kill. Dennis was also a volunteer for the Thomas Macrini Sports Hall of Fame and received the Macrini Award for Special Service.

Dennis was an avid gardener and outdoorsman. He loved reading, trips with friends to the Ausable River, an annual trip to Cooperstown Induction Weekend with his son Kevin and later with his grandson Nicholas, traveling, and NYC theatre trips with Maureen and friends. "Ba" was a loving grandfather who will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife, Maureen Skora. Also surviving are his son, Kevin Skora and his partner Beatriz Beckford of Brooklyn, NY; his daughter, Karen Woros and her husband Martin of Short Hills, NJ; his grandchildren, Nicholas, Colin, and Emma Woros; as well as many other loving relatives & friends.

Calling hours will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 28 at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. on Friday, December 29 at St. John the Evangelist Church, 31 Willow Street, Beacon, NY. Interment will follow at St. Joachim Cemetery, 325 Washington Avenue, Beacon, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org), Scenic Hudson (www.scenichudson.org), or Meals on Wheels America (www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org).

For online tributes, you can visit Dennis' Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Sandra DeBonis



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Sandra DeBonis, a Wappingers Falls resident, passed away peacefully at home on December 15, 2023. She was 89.

Daughter of the late Herman and Anne (Rothenberg) Zutkoff, she was born in New York, NY on August 20, 1934.

Sandra was a beloved teacher for 35 years. She worked in the NYC Department of Education in the Bronx and retired in 1991.

Sandra enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She did extensive traveling and loved her New York Yankees. Sandra had many hobbies which included playing mahjong, knitting/needlepoint, reading, and going for a walk.

On June 19, 1955 she married Donald DeBonis. Donald, the love of her life, prede-

ceased her on November 17, 2022.

Sandra is survived by her daughters: Rhonni Vazquez and her husband Jim of Orleans, MA, Lisa DeBonis and her husband Benny Palomba of Wappingers Falls, and Nanci Iovino and her husband Joe of Glen Ridge, NJ; grandchildren: Laura Vazquez of NY, NY, Rachel Vazquez of Washington D.C., Daniel DeBonis of Brooklyn, NY, Andrea DeBonis and her husband Dan Passalacqua of Danbury, CT, and Malorie Iovino of Glen Ridge, NJ.

In addition to her husband she is predeceased by her father Herman in 1971, her mother Anne in 2003 and her brother Harvey Zutkoff in 2002

Calling hours were held from Thursday December 21, 2023, with a service at McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. Inurnment took place on December 22, 2023 at at Rose Hill Memorial Park, 101 Mill Street, Putnam Valley, NY 10579.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Sandra's name to Hudson Valley Hospice, www.hvhospice.org

For online tributes, please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.



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O'Neil reflects on career of service

Following nearly two decades of service in Dutchess County Government, including the past 12 months as County Executive, William F.X. O'Neil will retire as Sue Serino begins her new administration in the beginning of 2024. O'Neil completes a legacy of success that will be felt for years to come – from programs and services that continue to benefit County residents, to improved offices for Dutchess' workforce of 1,700-plus employees and new and enhanced facilities for residents and visitors alike to enjoy.

County Executive O'Neil was sworn in as Dutchess' eighth County Executive on Jan. 3, 2023, to serve out the remainder of the term of his predecessor, Marcus J. Molinaro, who resigned the position to assume his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing New York State's 19th District. County Executive O'Neil announced in 2023 he planned to retire following his year as County Executive; and since mid-November, he has worked with County Executive-Elect Serino to assure a seamless transition when she takes office on Jan. 1, 2024.

O'Neil said, "I've been bestowed many blessings in my life, and a career in public service has been among the most satisfying of those graces. This past year, while sometimes challenging, has been among the most rewarding of my life, and I thank the dedicated men and women of Dutchess County Government for their daily efforts to ensure this community thrives. Under Sue Serino's leadership, I know the success we've had will continue for the foreseeable future, and I'm proud to call her not only my successor – but my close friend."

The Dutchess County Legislature honored County Executive O'Neil at Monday evening's final board meeting of the year, recognizing his years of service to the County, including this past 12 months as County Executive.

A person holding a certificate next to another person Description automatically generated with low confidence. Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver said, "Bill and I have had a great relationship for many years, dating back to my years as Town of Pine Plains Supervisor. Bill's heart and mind have always been focused on what's best for Dutchess County, and he has proven that these past 12 months as our County Executive. For nearly two decades, this

Legislature benefited from its collaborations with Bill, and the experience he brought, and Dutchess County is a better place for his service to his community. I wish him well in the next chapter."

During his time in Dutchess County Government, O'Neil has been involved in countless projects and initiatives, and has led response efforts for emergencies including FEMA weather disasters such as Hurricane Irene, plane crashes and health emergencies, including the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the projects and initiatives he spearheaded include Dutchess' innovative school bus safety program, which tackles the issue of motorists illegally passing stopped school buses. The County Executive also guided the County in its journey toward a permanent location for its Emergency Housing Facility; continued development of the countywide youth center, the Youth Opportunity Union (YOU), in the City of Poughkeepsie as part of the County's ongoing "Path to Promise" initiative, which he created with the Department of Community & Family Services' Commissioner Sabrina Marzouka to expand the developmental assets available to youth; acquisition of Camp Nootemeing in Pleasant Valley; and oversaw expansion of the County's award-winning parks system, most recently dedicating the Marcus J. Molinaro Northside Line (MJM NSL) this past weekend.

In addition, since taking office in January, O'Neil has been responsible for countless accomplishments, including:

- His 2024 Executive Budget proposal, which included the 11th straight County property tax rate decrease and the 10th consecutive County property tax levy reduction and was passed with few amendments from legislators;
- Prepared for opening the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center, which will replace the former Dutchess County Jail with a modern facility serving as the cornerstone of the County's innovative restorative justice efforts;
- Launching the LEAD program, an evidence-based street outreach program designed to reach individuals with unmet behavioral health needs who have not connected with traditional health and human services;
- Addressing housing stability and home-



County Executive William F.X. O'Neil (left) received a commendation from the Dutchess County Legislature, which was presented by Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver (right).

-Courtesy photo

lessness with the award of \$8.9 Million from Housing Trust Fund to create or preserve more than 600 affordable rental units throughout Dutchess County;

- Rolling out the Department of Behavioral and Community Health's Mobile Health & Wellness Unit, which brings a wide range of services to areas where access to healthcare resources are limited; and
- Improvements to Quiet Cove Riverfront Park in Poughkeepsie, which he has been involved with since its initial inception, including updated parking, entranceway, and the installation of four pickleball courts,

which have been enormously popular. "Making informed and pragmatic decisions has long been my approach, preserving the rights and dignity of every Dutchess County resident while working tirelessly to enhance the lives of all," O'Neil said. "Be they on the local, state or national level, I'm proud to have faced all challenges head-on and looked for collaborators at every level to provide the best possible quality of life for the men, women, boys and girls fortunate enough to call Dutchess County 'home.' I hope I have made you proud."

HV Vipers set free preseason game at McCann Ice Arena on Dec. 30

The Hudson Valley Vipers, the Minor League men's hockey team, starting its inaugural season at the McCann Ice Arena at the MJN Center in the heart of downtown Poughkeepsie, has announced that their preseason home opener game on December 30 at 8 p.m. will be free to all, thanks to the sponsorship of Nationwide Mortgage Bankers in Dutchess County.

Hockey enthusiasts and local sports fans of all ages are invited to the Hudson Valley Vipers preseason game against the

Holyoke (MA) Papermen. The event promises to be an exhilarating experience with non-stop action on the ice while enjoying the entertainment that the Vipers will be known for.

"Nationwide Mortgage Bankers is committed to strengthening community ties so we proudly support the Vipers and wanted to gift these tickets to our local families," said Doug Hill. Adam Simpson of Nationwide Mortgage Bankers added, "We are dedicated to supporting local

first by ensuring as many residents as possible experience the Hudson Valley Vipers debut."

"The amazing generosity of Adam & Doug and the Nationwide Mortgage Bankers' family will allow countless numbers of families to start making memories with their beloved Vipers," said Pat Manning, President of the Hudson Valley Vipers. "I can't say enough about their commitment to our community and to our team. I sincerely thank Nationwide

Mortgage Bankers and look forward for the team and fans to meet and thank them on the 30th.

The McCann Ice Arena at the MJN Center is located at 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. To reserve your tickets, please visit HudsonValleyVipers.com for the December 30th game. This will be on a first come, first serve basis, so registration is a must.

Tompkins Community Bank promotes Grandstaff to Senior Vice President

In a celebration of professional growth, Tompkins Community Bank has announced the promotion of Gary Grandstaff to senior vice president, commercial banking regional manager. Grandstaff will oversee a team of community lenders as well as manage and develop commercial loan relationships alongside teams in Westchester and Bronx Counties.

"For the last five years, Gary has been an indispensable member of our commercial banking team," said William Dunkel, commercial lending division manager. "His commitment to fostering growth within the communities we serve is inspiring, and we are eager to see his continued impact in this new role."

A 30-year veteran of the banking and financial services industry, Grandstaff

served KeyBank's Poughkeepsie branches prior to joining Tompkins. Grandstaff was previously the Chair and board member of Vassar-Warner Home's Property Board, a board member of the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce, a committee member of New York City Autism Speaks, and regularly volunteered with United Way of Putnam/Westchester. He resides in Putnam Valley with his family.



Gary Grandstaff

-Courtesy photo

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

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Classified Rates

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

Classified Display Ads
\$14.50 per column inch

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

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

- 100 Help Wanted
- 105 Employment Opportunity
- 106 Business Opportunity
- 107 Situations Wanted
- 120 Schools
- 121 Special Instruction
- 122 Musical Instruction
- 140 Nursery Schools
- 141 Child Care
- 142 Day Care
- 143 Baby-sitting
- 145 Adult Care
- 150 Announcements
- 151 Adoption
- 152 Novenas
- 154 Lost & Found
- 155 Personal Services
- 200 Services

- 201 Home Improvement
- 202 Cleaning Services
- 203 Lawn Services
- 221 Professional Services
- 222 Tax Experts
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Local motorcycle club makes 8th annual donation to VA Women's Veterans program



Members of the Dutchess County Chapter of the International Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club, from left, Mark Thomas, Tim Pagonos, Gary Simmonds, Mike DeRosa and Bob Simmonds with Nikki Embry from Voluntary Service on behalf of the Women's Veterans Program for VA Hudson Valley Health Care System, at the Castle Point campus. They, along with the Lewis Tompkins Hose Fire Dept. donated thirty \$25 gift cards to be used at a local department store. The VA Women's Veterans Program serves women of all ages, ranks and levels of authority in every branch of service who have served in the military. Women have served in the military since the Revolutionary War and served have made significant contributions. For more about how to claim benefits or learn more about the program, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/PERSONA/veteran-women.asp>.

-Courtesy image

2024 Call for Papers: WWII Emerging Scholars Symposium

The Eisenhower, Roosevelt, and Truman Presidential Libraries invite emerging scholars to submit a presentation abstract to be a featured speaker during the annual D-Day Commemorative Symposium. The 2024 symposium will be held the first week of June and the theme is "Waging Peace." The symposium is virtual only and will be streamed via YouTube. Topics should explore the various global and domestic peace seeking efforts from 1932 until 1949. This can range from the American attempts at negotiating a ceasefire in Manchuria to Truman's push for ending conflict and the implementation of the Marshall plan under General Eisenhower. Each program is scheduled for one hour. The guest speaker will present their topic for approximately 40 minutes allowing time for audience participation and questions at the end. Each program wraps up with a Scholar Spotlight where we get to know a little bit more about each of these up and coming scholars. Submission packets should include the presentation abstract, applicant contact information, education status and academic goals summary. Email sub-

mission packets to andrea.murphy@nara.gov with the subject line D-Day Symposium no later than April 21, 2024. Selected participants will be notified May 15 and will receive a modest honorarium. About the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation's first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Administered by the National Archives and Records Administration since 1941, the Library preserves and makes accessible to the American people the records of FDR's presidency. The Roosevelt Library's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library's archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.org.

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Mount Saint Mary College helps Santa with 1,000 toy donations to Catholic Charities



This year, Santa Claus received a little help from his friends in the Hudson Valley. The Mount Saint Mary College community and generous friends of the college teamed up to make this holiday season a little brighter for families in need, to the tune of more than 1,000 toys.

The college's annual toy drive has been spearheaded by Interim President Fr. Gregoire Fluet for almost a decade. It's become one of his most cherished traditions at the Mount.

"It's indicative of the incredible generosity of the Mount Saint Mary College family," said Fr. Fluet. "It's almost overwhelming how much the college community and our friends pitched in to help. That's one of the things that's always been a hallmark of the Mount – our dedication to service and willingness to work."

After students and staff loaded them up, the toys collected at the college were donated in-person and to Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

The toy drive received support from the Mount's athletic teams, the Student Government Association, Bishop Dunn Memorial School, and more.

The program was sponsored by Campus Ministry with aid from the entire campus.

Photos by Lee Ferris

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