

‘Everyone’s Sheriff’ Kirk Imperati takes oath

by Curtis Schmidt

Even though he has worked with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office for 30 years, Kirk Imperati says he “never dreamed of becoming Sheriff.”

Imperati was elected Sheriff in November and took the Oath of Office in ceremonies on New Year’s Day at the Villa Borghese banquet hall in Wappingers Falls. After working as Under-Sheriff for 14 years, he served the last 15 months as Acting Sheriff after the passing of Sheriff Adrian “Butch” Anderson.

“It was an honor to be Sheriff Anderson’s Under-Sheriff and be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff’s Office,” said Imperati. “I am truly honored and humbled that the residents of Dutchess County have elected me as their Sheriff.”

All of that being said, the role of Sheriff was never in the plans for the 53-year-old native of Poughkeepsie.

“I was planning to retire at the age of 55 and pursue something in the private sector,” said Imperati. “God had other plans for me and here I am as ‘Everyone’s Sheriff.’”

He added that he is “planning on remaining Sheriff as long as the men and women I work with and the residents of Dutchess County elect me as their Sheriff. I hope it is for many years.”

He is in charge of the office that includes six divisions. His successor as

Under-Sheriff will be Chief Deputy Jason Mark.

“Jason is a 31-year veteran with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office. He was a road patrol deputy, detective, detective sergeant then Chief Deputy,” said Imperati. “He has the drive and desire to run the day-to-day operations of our office and the desire to always become better tomorrow than what we are today.”

Sheriff Imperati said the Patrol Division handles over 60,000 calls for service each year. Twelve School Resource Officers are assigned to eight different school districts in the county. The office has a Detective Division to conduct and follow through on investigations and the K-9 Division works with both Road Patrol and Corrections. The Community Outreach Program also works with both Road Patrol and Corrections. The Explorer Program is designed to encourage youth to pursue a career in law enforcement.

“The men and women assigned to these divisions work tirelessly each and every day to ensure our schools and our streets are safe. We ensure that Dutchess County is a safe place to live, do business and raise a family,” said Imperati.

Dutchess County’s new Sheriff lists the main challenges of his office as the opioid crisis, mental health related issues, homelessness, bail reform and the increase in gun violence.

Imperati said his overall goal is to follow



New Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati takes the Oath of Office in ceremonies on New Year’s Day at the Villa Borghese banquet hall in Wappingers Falls. At the left is Justice Paul O. Sullivan and at the right is Imperati’s wife, Becky. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

the exact words of his campaign slogan.

“I am ‘Everyone’s Sheriff.’ No matter who you are, what you do, where you come from - you can ask me for help. I help EVERYONE,” said Imperati. “As residents, never feel you are ‘bothering’ law enforcement when you call. Please

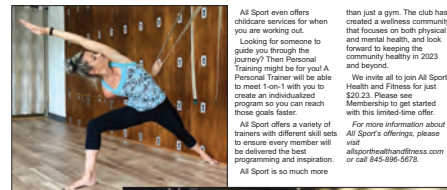
call when you see something that does not appear right to you. When you see something, say something. We are here for everyone 24/7/365. We will protect and serve every resident of this county and anyone who visits our county or is just passing through.”

INSIDE

Healthy Lifestyles

January 4, 2023

Group exercise classes at All Sport lead way to the ‘new you’ for 2023



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Cyber-Security Summit returns to Marist on Jan. 11

With cyber-security attacks continuing to impact communities across the nation and breaches costing upwards of \$9.4 million to recover from, according to a 2022 IBM report on the cost of data breaches in the U.S., the Dutchess County Office of Central and Information Services (OCIS) will host its second Hudson Valley Cyber Security Summit on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at Marist College in Poughkeepsie.

The event, which is sponsored by Marist College, will help municipal leaders, school districts and higher education administration, fire and police agencies, and IT professionals be better prepared against cyber threats.

OCIS Commissioner Glenn Marchi, PhD., said, “As technology continues to make things easier, faster, and more convenient, it becomes imperative to be prepared for and protect against possible

cyber threats. I encourage everyone involved in their organization’s information and technology services to attend our Cyber Security Summit to learn more about modern approaches to cybersecurity as well as the latest tools and resources available. Staying ahead of current cyber threats can make a significant difference when protecting sensitive data and maintaining constituents’ trust.”

At the summit, industry experts including representatives from Dutchess County, New York State, and Federal Government agencies will discuss topics such as:

- The current cyber threat landscape;
- Cybersecurity survival tactics for municipalities;
- Modernizing a cyber-security approach;
- Cyber-security issues to

prioritize;

- The latest tools and resources available to improve cyber readiness.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the Marist College Student Center and is free to attend. Registration and a complimentary networking breakfast will be at 8:30 a.m. Registration is required in advance and is available at DutchessNY.gov/CyberSummit. For more information, contact the Dutchess County Office of Central & Information Services at (845) 486-2450 or visit DutchessNY.gov.



Changes announced for 2023 in Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet

The Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet has announced that — upon becoming City of Poughkeepsie Mayor in January — Marc Nelson will also replace outgoing Mayor Rob Rolison as co-chair of the Cabinet with Poughkeepsie City School District Superintendent Dr. Eric Rosser. Rolison will stay on the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet in his new role as the New York State Senator representing the City of Poughkeepsie.

Dr. Rosser and Mayor Rolison formed the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet in February 2020 to create a citywide “cradle-to-career” agenda for children, youth and families. Children’s cabinets are used by localities around the country to bring together school districts, government agencies, child-serving community organizations and other local stakeholders to improve their ability to collaborate and coordinate youth supports and services.

“We are so grateful not only to Mayor Rolison, but members of the Cabinet’s Executive Committee and their respective organizations who have stood by this effort for almost 3 years now,” said Dr. Rosser. “Even as individuals have transitioned out of roles — like Mayor Rolison is doing — their organizations and their replacements have supported seamless transitions. We see this as a testament to all of the hard work that has gone into solidifying the Cabinet’s role as the essential leader and coordinator among city organizations and area institutions to harness our resources and work in lock step to improve the lives of children and families.”

Among its other accomplishments in 2022, the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet released two unprecedented reports that provide in-depth analysis of



Members of the Poughkeepsie Children's Cabinet are pictured at their meeting at The Academy during December, 2022. *Courtesy photo*

“Early Childhood Development and Out-of-School Enrichment and Learning” in the city and make a series of recommendations to improve opportunities for children and families.

To date, recommendations from the Working Group process have helped shape the creation of the City of Poughkeepsie’s new Division of Youth Opportunity & Development; informed the development of the school district’s community schools framework; and helped prompt a \$200,000 increase in philanthropic funding to local nonprofits for Summer 2022 programs.

Another impactful focus of the Cabinet in 2022 has been the development of a “Fiscal Map” for the City of Poughkeepsie. With funding support from the Poughkeepsie Alliance, the Cabinet partnered with the national nonprofit Children’s Funding Project (CFP). Together, the Cabinet and CFP have been working with a wide range of government/public partners and nonprofits to

comprehensively map the public and private funding streams that support youth programs and services.

The information learned will help stakeholders better align existing resources, identify coverage gaps, and make informed strategic financing decisions moving forward. The completed Fiscal Map will be published online as an interactive, public report in early 2023.

These early achievements have laid a strong foundation for the Cabinet’s ongoing partnership with the world-renowned Harlem Children’s Zone (HCZ). A team of consultants from HCZ’s William Julius Wilson Institute is working intensively with Cabinet staff and stakeholders to craft a strategic plan for the implementation of a comprehensive cradle-to-career system in Poughkeepsie and Dutchess County.

All of the Cabinet’s work has not gone unnoticed. Earlier this year, Mayor Rolison and Dr. Rosser were asked to make a presentation about the Cabinet to the New York State Board of Regents in Albany. “The level of engagement the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet has

achieved in its city is empowering and transformative in its scope,” State Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa said.

Other changes involving the Executive Committee are:

- Incoming County Executive Bill O’Neil filling the seat of Marcus Molinaro, who has been elected to Congress.

- Family Services Inc. Chief Executive Officer Leah Feldman filling the seat of Brian Doyle, who has retired.

- Natasha Brown, recently appointed Chairperson of City of Poughkeepsie Common Council, and also serving the Cabinet in her role as Community Schools Executive Director, Poughkeepsie City School District

- Thomas O’Neill, recently appointed Poughkeepsie City School District Board of Education President.

- In addition, Dr. Livia Santiago-Rosado, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health, is joining the Cabinet.

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Hochul signs legislative package to support pedestrians, bikers and transit riders

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently signed a legislative package supporting pedestrians, bikers and transit riders across New York State. These new laws will increase Department of Transportation support for municipal “complete streets” projects, and require regional transportation boards have voting seats for transit dependent individuals.

“Whether you’re on the sidewalk, in the bike lane or riding the bus, you deserve a high-quality trip that gets you safely to your destination,” Hochul said. “Transportation is all about connections: bringing people closer to their jobs, their homes, and the people they love. I’m proud to sign two new laws that will make our streets safer and our communities more connected.”

Legislation (S.3897/A.8936-A) provides increased funding for “Complete Streets” projects, which incorporate a holistic approach to street design. A Complete Street is a roadway planned and designed to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of roadway users of all ages and abilities. This includes pedestrians, bicyclists, public

transportation riders, and motorists; it includes children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Complete Street designs contribute to a cleaner, greener, transportation system.

This bill increases the state share of funding for municipalities incorporating Complete Street features. Under the new legislation, the state’s contribution to the non-federally funded portion of Complete Street projects will increase to 87.5 percent, which will help municipalities to implement these street designs.

Legislation (S.3959-B/A.7822-C) will require the non-voting transit dependent representative be moved into a voting position on various transportation authorities’ boards. Upstate and Western New York regional transit authorities provide critical services to tens of millions of riders every year. These services include bikeshares, buses, and paratransit, and annually cover hundreds of thousands of miles in service. This new legislation provides a critical voice to riders who permanently rely on these services, and will improve governance within these authorities.

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Dutchess County deploys DPW crew, dispatchers to assist storm-ravaged Buffalo

DPW crew joins statewide effort to plow streets

Last week, Dutchess County Public Works (DPW) highway crew members headed to Buffalo to help the region dig out from an historic series of storms that have buried Erie County. According to news reports, at least 28 people have died.

Blizzard conditions have dumped several feet of snow on the region, with snow and wind conditions causing power outages and impassable roadways. Emergency response, utilities and public works crews have been dealing with impossible conditions and weather conditions continue to make recovery challenging as a new storm hits the region.

The New York State Office of Emergency Management has been coordinating mutual aid deployments from various counties and municipalities across the state to assist with snow removal operations in the City of Buffalo, where many locations have been inaccessible and without power since the early

stages of the storm. Loaders and dump trucks with operators have been requested to assist local and Erie County crews to cut paths through unplowed streets to open access for utility restoration crews and emergency service providers.

DPW responded with eight crew members and multiple equipment including front end loader and dump trucks. The DPW team traveling to Buffalo included Matt Shaw, Rich Whispell, Paul Falso, Chris Eastwood, Chris Orlik, Jesse Cortes and Shawn Graybill. They departed Poughkeepsie on Dec. 27 and were scheduled to begin work on Dec. 28, gathering with other crews from around the state at SUNY's Buffalo State College. The team was there through the end of the week and was scheduled to travel back to Dutchess County on Saturday, Dec. 31.

Medical Examiner/coroner staff have also been overwhelmed in the City of Buffalo and Erie County, resulting in requests for assistance with morgue and medical examiner services. Dutchess County Medical Examiners' Office is currently coordinating assistance response.



Dutchess County Public Works (DPW) crew gathered next to the front-end loader after being deployed to Buffalo last week to assist with snow removal in the storm-ravaged region. Eight DPW crew members worked to assist Erie County and City of Buffalo crews dig out from several feet of snow. *Courtesy photo*

Dutchess helps provide relief coverage for Buffalo's emergency communications center



Dutchess County Director of 911 Timothy Darcy (far left) stands with the four Dutchess County Public Safety Dispatchers who deployed to the Buffalo area to provide relief coverage in the Erie County 911 Communications Center. From left are Nate Robbins, Megan Bajana, Erin Downing and Dan Trier. *Courtesy photo*

Following the deployment of Dutchess County Public Works (DPW) highway crew last week, four Dutchess County Public Safety Dispatchers (PSDs) headed to Buffalo on December 29 to provide relief coverage in the Erie County 911 Communication Center.

Blizzard conditions dumped several feet of snow on the region, with snow and wind conditions causing power outages and impassable roadways. At least 39 deaths have been reported as a result of the impossible weather conditions that challenged emergency response, utilities and public works crews.

The request for coverage came from the Erie County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. Dutchess County PSDs will cover live calls in the Erie County 911 center in the Town of Cheektowaga from Friday until Monday to allow Erie County staff some time to rest and decompress. Public Safety Dispatchers, known as the "thin gold line", are an integral part of the emergency response and law enforcement system and often the unseen heroes who

work in the background of emergencies. Erie County Public Safety Dispatchers have handled tens of thousands of calls over the last week, attempting to help individuals and families through harrowing circumstances.

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said, "Erie County has experienced tremendous tragedy over this last week and that takes a huge toll on those working to help. We are grateful to our dedicated Public Safety Dispatchers willing to travel across the state to cover 911 calls, so Erie County dispatchers can get some well-deserved rest. The thin gold line of public safety professionals stands strong across New York."

Earlier this week, Dutchess County Public Works sent eight crew members and multiple equipment including front end loader and dump trucks in Buffalo, NY to assist with snow removal operations in the City of Buffalo to clear roads in locations that had been inaccessible and without power since the early stages of the storm.

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NYS DEPT. OF LABOR STREAMLINING THE PROCESS FOR UI CUSTOMERS TO GET TAX FORM

The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) recently announced that it is improving the process for Unemployment Insurance customers to get their 1099-G form this tax season. NYSDOL will be automatically mailing the form to New Yorkers who claimed benefits in 2022 and have not opted to receive the form electronically.

The 1099-G provides the total amount of money a customer received in benefits during the year, as well as any adjustments or tax withholding made to those benefits. In the past, customers would have to contact the Department by phone to receive the 1099-G by mail. Customers can expect the forms to arrive in mailboxes by the end of January 2023. This new process is part of NYSDOL's ongoing effort to improve customer experience.

NYSDOL began contacting customers in September to alert them of this process improvement, allowing those who preferred to access their forms online to opt-out of receiving the tax form in the mail. All customers, including those who receive their 1099-G forms in the mail, will still have the option to download their forms through their online accounts.

For more information visit <https://dol.ny.gov/unemployment/1099-g-tax-form>.

NYSDOL implemented this new process to directly address feedback from customers, advocates, and partners in government. The Department continuously reviews its systems in search of ways to increase efficiency, improve user experience, and maintain the highest security measures to safeguard this critical lifeline. Recent efforts include the ongoing the 4-Year Technology Modernization, Multi-Factor Authentication, the launch of the new Management System for Protecting Workers' Rights, and many other additional recent improvements.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOTE: Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News. Letters must be e-mailed to be considered for publication. We cannot accept handwritten or faxed letters.

Please help Alzheimer's caregivers
To the editor:

Alzheimer's disease is devastating — not only for the more than six million Americans living with the disease, but also for the 11 million family and friends serving as caregivers. The care-giving needs for someone living with Alzheimer's are extensive and increase over time — on average four to eight years following a diagnosis. Many family caregivers juggle competing priorities including work and other family responsibilities. New York State caregivers are often stretched thin. Many are overwhelmed. Most could use help.

I have worked for the Alzheimer's Association for almost 23 years and volunteered for the Association for five years before that. I have seen firsthand the devastating effects of not only Alzheimer's disease but several other forms of dementia as well. Care partners and caregivers are the saving grace for the person they care for, but lose themselves in the supporting role they play.

Take time to support a caregiver you know. Run errands, help with a household chore, give caregivers a break by spending time with the person with dementia, and educate yourself about the disease — the more you know, the easier it will be to help. Reach out to the Alzheimer's Association Chapter to learn more and get involved. These small gestures can make a big difference and offer well-deserved support to those who give so much.

Here is the Alzheimer's Association 24 Hour Helpline – 1-800-272-3900
Meg Boyce, LMSW, CDCP
Vice President
of Programs and Services
Alzheimer's Association
Hudson Valley Chapter

Serino thanks community
for years of service

To the editor:

This New Year, I want to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the residents of the 41st District for allowing me to serve our community. It has truly been the honor of a lifetime, and our district is a better place to live and work thanks in part to our shared efforts and commitment to moving our community forward.

Together, we have accomplished an incredible amount. When I took office, I immediately created various advisory boards to ensure that I could fulfill my promise to always govern by listening. One of the very first was a Veterans Advisory Board, and with their help, we were able to bring the Vet2Vet Program to Dutchess and preserve it in both counties every year that I have been in office. The program truly saves lives as it brings our veteran community together to ensure that those who have served our nation can thrive here at home.

In addition, I created an advisory

board on Lyme and tick-borne diseases and together, we secured a historic level of state funding and passed a number of bills to help promote research, education and prevention initiatives statewide. A bill I am most proud of required the state to create educational materials for elementary school children to help them learn how to spot a tick and alert a guardian so it could be properly removed and monitored.

Since I served as the Chair or Ranking Member of the Senate's Aging Committee, I also created an advisory board on aging. With their input, we worked to create unique events for area seniors including the famous Golden Gathering, which most years connected over 1,000 local seniors with critical health and human services. We also successfully advocated for new laws and services to prevent elder abuse and financial fraud, called attention to the lack of affordable transportation and housing options for seniors, and stood up for our most vulnerable neighbors living in nursing homes when the state made the dangerous decision to send COVID-positive patients into their facilities.

Further, with the help of my education advisory board, I was able to secure historic state funding for our local schools and libraries and develop unique initiatives to better serve students, including Skilled Trades Fairs, which exposed students to the many local opportunities available to them in the trades.

Having lost my brother to suicide, I am especially proud of the spotlight we have been able to put on the mental health challenges so many in our community are facing. In partnership with Dutchess County, I was able to secure state funding to help create the Stabilization Center, a safe place for neighbors in crisis to turn to access critical resources. The center has become a model for the rest of the state, and while we have made significant progress, much more needs to be done at all levels to empower our neighbors who may be struggling with a mental health challenge to secure the support they need.

Throughout my time in office, we have worked to ensure that our community gets its fair share and that our state tax dollars made their way back home. I am particularly proud of the progress we made on the Pudding Street Overpass—an infrastructure project that the community had been advocating for almost two decades. In 2021, the project was completed, and this year, we passed legislation to name it in honor of the many first responders who work tirelessly to serve and protect our communities.

While I have never been one to tout accomplishments, these are not my accomplishments, they are our accomplishments. By working to always do what's right, we have shown what progress looks like when you put people over politics and put government to work

for our local community.

While we have accomplished a tremendous amount together, with prices continuing to rise and too many residents still leaving the state, it is clear that there is more work to be done to get New York back on track. With out-of-touch lawmakers recently granting themselves a \$32,000 pay raise, holding them accountable for their tax and spend policies has never been more important. I want our neighbors to know that I will always have their back as I continue to do all that I can to make our community more affordable, serve the public and ensure that the voices of our neighbors are heard. Thank you, again, from the bottom of my heart for giving me the chance to represent you.

Sue Serino
Former NYS Senator
Sue Serino has represented the current 41st State Senate District, which includes parts of Dutchess and Putnam counties, since 2015.

Let's just put Trump behind us in 2023

To the editor:

Before we can wish people a happy 2023, before we forget the events of the past year, before the American people have to face another year of insulting and insane rantings of a certain, former "president," Donald Trump must be blocked from ever again having any public office.

Even many of his former Republican supporters, the GOP in itself, has been recently moving away from him. This includes even some Far Right so called, "media" like Newsmax, Fox News and such. It's time for his ouster completely from the national scene and our memories.

We cannot move forward, until he is at least charged with the charges suggested by the Jan. 6 commission.

We are tired of watching this, having him take up the news with his insanity. This does not leave out the many criminals, election deniers, at least in our government. Forget his insane QAnon followers and the demented, useless people. Forget the "Forward Party" and false premise of "coming together." For many, this is impossible. Forget them.

Let's also not forget his family, his sons and his daughter, Ivanka, and Don Jr.

Please, let's just get all this behind us in 2023.

Robert Dorn
Red Hook

LETTERS POLICY

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- The Northern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.

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United Way & Ulster Savings Bank to
present virtual financial literacy seminar

The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region and Ulster Savings Bank will present a virtual financial literacy seminar, "Navigating Household Finances," on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 10 a.m. Register at www.uwdor.org/financialliteracy.

This one-hour seminar presented by Matthew Agor, Branch Manager - Newburgh Branch of Ulster Savings

Bank, will share ways to feel more comfortable talking about money. He will discuss helpful tips including "Ten Rules for Personal Finance;" how to have conversations about money with partners and children; the importance of safeguarding data, passwords and signatures; and other important topics.

COVID-19-related banking tips will be provided.



Bill to activate 2-1-1 in emergencies signed by governor

New York State Senator Pete Harckham (D, SD-40) and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo (D, AD-143) recently announced that Gov. Kathy Hochul signed their bill that will activate the 2-1-1 New York State information and referral service during a state disaster emergency, and add the chief professional officer of 2-1-1 NYS to the governor’s disaster preparedness commission.

“Our residents need to know they can get all of the information they need in a timely manner during a state of emergency, as with the recent winter storm, and this legislation will ensure that the 2-1-1 helpline is a go-to resource in this regard,” said Harckham. “And by giving 2-1-1 a seat at the table with the governor and pertinent state agencies during a disaster, people will be helped more quickly and connected to the assistance and answers they are looking for. I thank Assemblywoman Lupardo for her strong support of 2-1-1 statewide and Governor Hochul for signing this legislation.”

“2-1-1’s around-the-clock information and referral services are an invaluable resource to communities across the state,” said Lupardo. “The signing of this legislation is well-deserved recognition for their vital disaster response efforts locally and statewide, and represents a critical step in strengthening the state’s emergency response plan. I’d like to thank Senator Harckham for his partner-

ship and Governor Hochul for her support of this important initiative.”

Under the new law, the public must be provided information on plans to coordinate the use of resources and personnel for service statewide during and after disasters. These plans include the services that will be delivered to aid residents and reduce human suffering from the emergency.

Harckham and Lupardo’s newly enacted bill (S.8553A / A.9526) requires that when information is being provided to the public in emergencies, it should be done in coordination with any state recognized information and referral services, like 2-1-1 NYS.

In addition, the Disaster Preparedness Commission is comprised currently of the commissioners, directors and / or chairpersons of 29 State agencies and one volunteer organization, the American Red Cross. This new law brings the 2-1-1 executive into the commission, which will facilitate efforts to coordinate 2-1-1 NYS and local emergency management offices to respond to non-emergency requests for assistance. The governor has the power to activate 2-1-1 NYS when there is a threat or occurrence of a disaster.

While initially developed to provide access to human services, the 2-1-1 helpline has proven to be an invaluable asset in disaster response and long-term recovery during snow and ice storms,

flood, and most recently, during the Covid-19 pandemic. 2-1-1 relieves 911 and other government agencies of calls for non-emergency assistance.

The FY 2023 State Budget included \$2.4 million for 2-1-1 services, a \$400,000 increase from the previous year. This investment will allow 2-1-1 to develop a statewide resource database of services, a centralized website to facilitate resource inquiries and provide reimbursements for activation in areas experiencing a disaster.

Nationally certified call specialists

who use a database of verified resources to assist callers staff the 2-1-1 NYS contact centers. 2-1-1 is a public / private partnership that includes United Way of New York State, local United Way organizations, county and local governments and private philanthropy. In New York State, there are ten 2-1-1 regions (including New York City, where 2-1-1 is folded into the 3-1-1 system), and eight contact centers.

2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Dial 2-1-1 or visit 211.org.

Interactive online learning and socialization available for older New Yorkers this winter

NYSOFA’s partnership with GetSetUp includes free access to thousands of peer-based online classes, making it easy for New Yorkers 60+ to stay active and social this holiday and winter

Free online classes are available to any older adult in New York through the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) – a simple way to connect with others right from home throughout the holiday season and winter.

NYSOFA and the Association on Aging in New York (AgingNY) have partnered with GetSetUp to offer interactive online programming for older New Yorkers specifically designed to increase activity and wellness, help individuals effectively use digital technology, and find other learning opportunities. To take a class, visit the New York partnership page at <https://www.getsetup.io/partner/nystate>.

According to one analysis, up to 43 percent of people 60 and older reported feeling lonely. This sense of isolation often gets worse during the winter when weather conditions make it harder for people to interact in-person. Through GetSetUp, New Yorkers can access thousands of engaging classes taught by older adults to their peers. Classes are available at the click of a button around the clock.

GetSetUp also helps active older adults become more fit, learn to manage their finances, develop new skills and supplement their income. Special “New Year, New Me” programming is running into the new year to help people accomplish their new year’s goals in one or all three learning tracks on Health and Wellness, Money and Business, and

Growth and Development. Plus, classes are available in multiple languages including English, Mandarin, Hindi, and a growing number of weekly classes in Spanish.

GetSetUp’s custom-built video learning interface has been tailored to older adults of all tech levels. The platform offers support via phone to assist learners with technology. It also includes a booking system complete with regular reminders and after-class notes. New York’s older adults can easily connect with a safe community of over 4.6 million peers globally.

NYSOFA Director Greg Olsen said: “With shorter days and even colder weather ahead, older adults may find it harder to socialize and stay active. In addition to in-person programs offered by local offices for the aging, our partnership with GetSetUp presents another solution, creating an online community where older New Yorkers can interact and learn from one another in powerful ways right from the comfort of home at any time of day. I encourage all older adults to explore the offerings that are available this winter to stay engaged.”

Lawrence Kosick, President and Co-Founder of GetSetUp, said: “We know that the holidays and winter season can be a festive time for many people but also a time where others feel particularly alone. We want to remind people that there are empowering learning and socialization opportunities on GetSetUp. We offer opportunities around the clock to learn and socialize with just a click of a button. We look forward to seeing more New Yorkers in our upcoming sessions.”

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Grief Support Group

On the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Pleasant Valley hosts a Grief Support Group facilitated by The Rev. Heather Sisk, Episcopal Priest and Spiritual Director with Liz Whitman, MSW. We offer a brief healing service beforehand at 6:45. Come to either or both. (You are not alone; Many of us are hurting; Everyone is welcome.) For more information, call (845) 635-2854, email stpaulspv@gmail.com or visit www.stpaulspv.org. Accessible facilities.

Lyall Church in Millbrook offers programs

The Anti-Racist Study Group has been meeting for several years. We currently meet on Mondays, at 12:30 p.m. by Zoom. We invite anyone to join us who wants to explore the issues of race and caste in our country, issues that will not go away or improve unless we face them together. Our study group is welcoming and hospitable. We have a great time as we continue to learn a lot. We also are happy to include new members. Contact Cat Greenstreet (catgreenstreet@gmail.com) or Pastor Thom if you’re interested.

Two other ongoing programs at Lyall are Meals on Wheels at Millbrook and Food For Folks Food Pantry (emergency support). The service area of both these programs is limited to the Town of Washington Village of Millbrook.

Clinton Christmas Tree Bonfire set Jan. 7

The Town of Clinton Recreation Department will hold the annual Christmas Tree Bonfire on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 5:30 p.m., at Fran Mark Park. The community is invited to bring chairs and sticks for S’mores and enjoy hot chocolate. Drop off ornament-free trees at the park by the basketball court, or at the Town Hall at the Highway Department fence by noon on Friday, Jan. 6.

Rolison to be sworn in Jan. 7

State Senator-Elect for the 39th District, Rob Rolison, will be sworn in on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 11 a.m., at Revel 32, located at 32 Cannon St. in Poughkeepsie. RSVP to <https://bit.ly/RolisonSwearingIn> or email RobertGRolison@gmail.com.

Grace Bible Institute course to begin Jan. 9

The Grace Bible Institute will offer a course on “The Apostles” starting Jan. 9. The course will run for 10 weeks on Mondays from 7 to 8:20 p.m. at the Grace Bible Fellowship Church, 6959 Route 9, Rhinebeck. Contact Pastor Frank L. Cirone at

(845) 876-2122 or fdcirone@aol.com for more information.

Pleasant Valley Community Garden group to meet Jan. 10

The next Pleasant Valley Community Garden meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the Pleasant Valley Library, 1584 Main St., from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Anyone who would like to join the gardening group is welcome. Registration with the library is required and you can call the library, (845) 635-8460, or register at <https://pleasantvalleylibrary.org/>.

Repair Cafe set Jan. 14 in Pleasant Valley

Pleasant Valley will hold its next Repair Cafe on Saturday, Jan. 14. Registration is at 10 a.m. at Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main St. (Route 44). The event is more than just repairs; there is a café with fresh coffee and tea, and homemade muffins, cookies, snacks, and friendly volunteers to help you find a fixer that will repair your broken item.

Future Pleasant Valley Repair Café dates are March 11, May 6, Aug. 12 and Oct. 7. All Repair Cafes are held on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Town Hall. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/PVRepairCafe> for more news, dates and locations of up-and-coming repair cafes.

ONGOING

The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association is looking for volunteers to perform all tasks required to plant and maintain the garden. No gardening expertise is needed, we will train as we work. You need to be 18 years old or older and be able to perform, at minimum, basic physical labor such as bending, kneeling and carrying buckets. Garden work is done during the spring, summer and fall months on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to noon. You are welcome to work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For more information, e-mail info@vanderbiltgarden.org, visit <http://www.vanderbiltgarden.org> or call (845) 229-6432.

Thrift shop in Red Hook: The “New to You” Thrift Shop at 30 Benner Road has opened. Sales will benefit St. Christopher and Good Shepherd Church. Four rooms to roam through; items include books, crafts, CDs, tapes, housewares, home décor, clothing and more. Hours: Thursdays, 11-4 and Saturdays, 10-2 (and Saturday donations).

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AT YOUR LIBRARY

JANUARY EVENTS AT CLINTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Get ready for the new year and see what's happening at Clinton Community Library in January! For more specific information about any library programs, or to register, please call (845) 266-5530 or email larnold@clinton-communitylibrary.org

Ongoing Programs:

Qi Gong with Vince (online)
(Optimistic Aging)
Mon. 01/02, Mon. 01/09, Mon. 01/16, Mon. 01/23, Mon. 01/30 at 9:30 AM
Wed. 01/04, Wed. 01/11, Wed. 01/18, Wed. 01/25 at 9:30 AM
Vince Sauter will teach you how to lower stress and keep calm with Tai Chi. Class will focus on breathing in the calm and breathing out the tension. Register to receive the Zoom meeting link.

Story time on the Dot (in-person)
Tue. 01/03, Tue. 01/10, Tue. 01/17, Tue. 01/24, Tue. 01/31 at 10:30 AM
Join us every Tuesday at 10:30 for Story time! Listen to fun stories, sing songs, and have fun, all centered around a different theme every week.

Mah Jongg (in-person)
(Optimistic Aging)
Tue. 01/03, Tue. 01/10, Tue. 01/17, Tue. 01/24, Tue. 01/31 at 2:00-4:00 PM
Fri. 01/06, Fri. 01/13, Fri. 01/20 Fri. 01/27 at 2:00-4:00 PM
If you're looking for a game to keep your mind sharp, or if you enjoy games that make you think strategically, you'll want to give Mah Jongg a try! All levels welcome

All Level Yoga (in person & online)
Wed. 01/04, Wed. 01/11, Wed. 01/18, Wed. 01/25 at 6:00 PM (ONLINE)
Sat. 01/07, Sat. 01/14 at 10:00 AM (ONLINE)
Sun. 01/22, Sun. 01/29, at 10:00 AM (IN-PERSON)
Join Mia Tomic and explore classical seated, standing and supine yoga poses linked with breath in a creative way to stretch, strengthen, and rejuvenate your body, breath, and mind. Contact CCL for registration information.

Chair Yoga, (in-person or online)
(Optimistic Aging)
Fri. 01/06, Fri. 01/13, Fri. 01/20 Fri. 01/27 at 11:00 AM
Join Samantha Free on zoom for Chair Yoga for ALL. Learn the basics of breath, meditation, and movement. This class will help you stretch and strengthen. Registration required so that you can get the link. Register online or call (845)-266-5530.

Zumba, (in-person)
Sat. 01/07, Sat. 01/14, Sat. 01/21, Sat. 01/28 at 9:00 AM
Join Ginny Morrow for a fun fitness routine every Saturday at 9 AM. Pre-registration is

not required. You may sign in at the door.

Free Tech Help (in-person)
No Saturday Tech Help until 1/21/2023
Sat. 01/21 and Sat 01/28 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Do you need help with your Kindle, tablet, smart phone or computer? Drop-in anytime on Saturdays between 9AM-1PM or call the library at (845)-266-5530 to book an appointment.

Monthly Meetings:

Monday 01/01 – Board of Trustees Meeting (in person)
The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Monday October 10th at 6:30 PM in the library. The public is always welcome to attend. You may view the current board packet on our website.

Book Club Meetings:

Tea Time Book Club (in-person) January Selection: The Candy House By Jennifer Egan, Thu. 01/12 at 2:00 PM
Join Tea Time Book Club the second Thursday of every month. Come talk about the monthly selection and enjoy tea and a snack with members of the club.

Global Literature Book Club (in-person)
January Selection: The Summer Book by Tove Jansson, Mon. 01/23 at 7:00 PM
The Global Literature Book Club discusses novels from around the world, often in translation, selected by members of the club. These works are challenging, but gratifying, and provide insights into a wide variety of nations, cultures, and styles of writing. We will meet via Zoom. Please register online to receive the meeting link.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Monday January 9 at 1:30 PM (in-person)
Crafts & Coffee
Join us for a lovely afternoon of coffee, crafts (and conversation!) For January we will meet the SECOND Monday of the month at 1:30, Diane will guide you as you create a project covering a wide range of techniques, from card making to book crafts to stitchery and more.
Space is limited. Register Online.

Saturday January 21 at 11:00 AM-12: 30 PM (in-person)
Beginner Yoga Workshop with Mia
Join Mia on for a great way to start the New Year if you are new to Yoga, resuming practice after a break or injury, or just as a refresher!
In this Workshop we will learn about the fundamental basic yoga postures, how to use yoga props, breath work & meditation. Please bring a yoga mat (& any other Yoga props you have)
Space is limited. See our online calendar for registration details

Wednesday January 25 at 6:00 PM (online)

The Why's and When's of Car Maintenance
The Why's and When's of Car Maintenance helps you get an overview of car maintenance from Chaya Milchtein of Mechanic Shop Femme. Learn when to perform specific maintenance tasks, and of course, why, including changing oil and filters, tire pressure, coolant, and much more. This class helps you be a more educated consumer so you can protect your investment. Questions are encouraged, so come prepared to learn maintenance in a way you never have before.
Space is limited. Register Online.
In collaboration with Millbrook, Catham, Stanford, Tivoli, Stone Ridge & Kingston Libraries

MORTON LIBRARY JANUARY EVENTS

Rockin' Rooks Youth Chess at Morton Mondays @ 5:30 pm
Join the award-winning Rockin' Rooks every Monday from 5:30-7:00 with D. Suris and Cathy Young!
Students in grades K - 12 are welcome to join for fun, learning, and tournament competition.
To sign your child up, for more information, or to volunteer contact:
D. Suris 845-416-3287 or email [racer-space\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:racer-space[at]hotmail.com)

Morton Craftwork and Conversation Club Tuesday, January 3 @ 3:00 pm
(First and third Tuesdays of each month)
Come to knit, crochet or just for the convo. We'll be deciding upon a new project, but feel free to bring a project you're working on. We'll meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, 3:00 to 5:00ish, in Morton Library's cozy reading room. All are welcome.

Yoga Series with Kristin Wednesdays in January @ 12:00 pm
All levels welcome in cozy Morton Hall. The classes are breath-based with an emphasis on thoughtful sequencing and alignment so that practitioners can move with stability, awareness, and grace. This is a drop-in class and all are welcome. Please bring your yoga mat, a blanket, and blocks if you like. \$12 suggested donation. You can purchase a prepaid card for 4 sessions via check or PayPal.

"5 x 5" Photography Exhibit
Opening: Saturday, January 7, 4:30 - 7 pm

Exhibition: January 7 - January 31
5 subjects as seen by 5 photographers: Alison Vaccarino, Naomi Maxwell, Jessica Bard, Tracy Potter, and Kim Cantine. Admission is free: purchases of art and donations for the library are welcome. Refreshments will be available. Library open hours for exhibition.

Yoga with Kristin
Sundays @ 10:00 am
All levels welcome in cozy Morton Hall. The classes are breath-based with an emphasis on thoughtful sequencing and alignment so that practitioners can move with stability, awareness, and grace. This is a drop-in class and all are welcome. Please bring your yoga mat, a blanket, and blocks if you like. \$12 suggested donation. You can purchase a prepaid card for 4 sessions via check or PayPal.

Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show
Friday, January 20 @ 8:00 pm
Featuring: Greg Douglas, Ann Teed and many other talented local musicians. Donations to benefit Morton are suggested.

March "Monologue" Madness
Call for original submissions by Tuesday, January 31
All genres welcome; original work only; 10 minutes (or less) in length (Please include the approximate time length of the piece). Scripts or video clips to be received by the Morton by Tuesday, January 31, and should NOT contain playwright's name. By email: sandy@mortonrhinecliff.org
In-person/snail-mail: 82 Kelly ST, PO Box 157, Rhinecliff NY 12574
Accepted play authors notified by March 1. An evening of monologues presented by the Morton Memorial Library & Community House on Saturday, March 25.

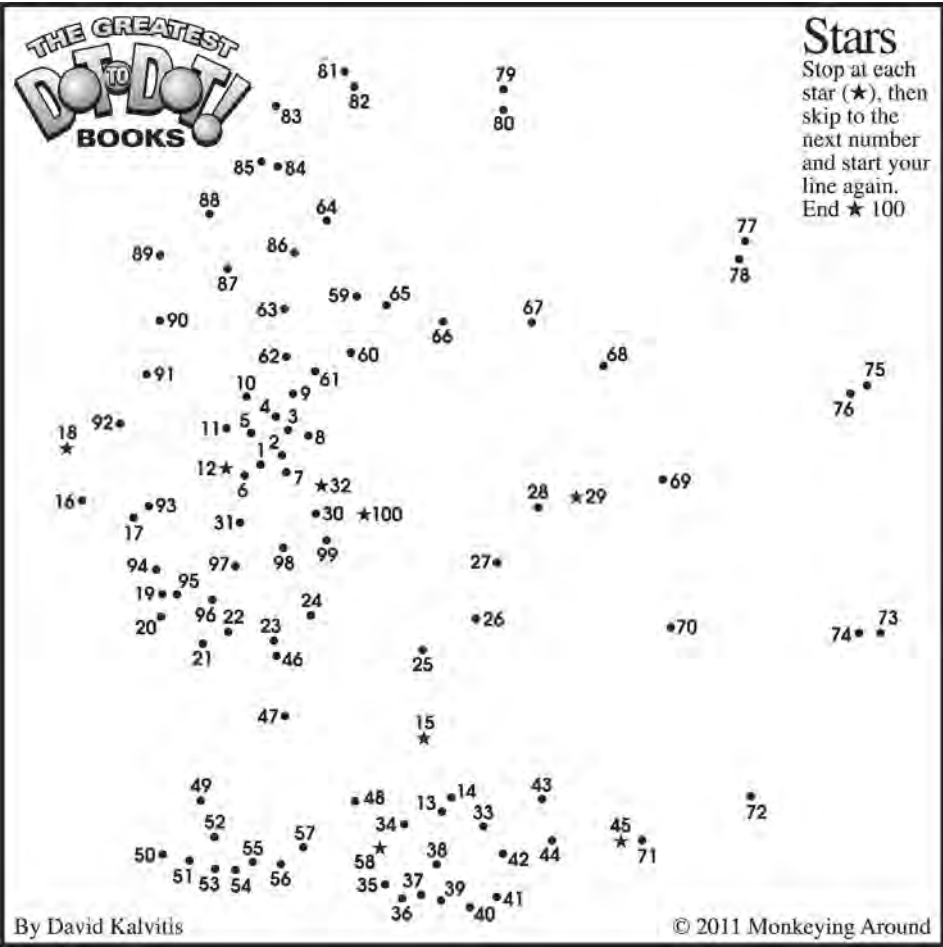
Another L² Production
Rhinecliff Train Station Art Exhibition
Call for submissions
Chad Kleitsch is organizing an art exhibition inspired by the beautiful (and not long for our hamlet) train station. Please contact Chad at [chadkleitsch\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:chadkleitsch[at]gmail.com) to submit a piece. The show will be exhibited at Morton sometime in 2023.

Morton Library is at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff. Call (845) 876-2903 for more information.

continued on page 7

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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**JANUARY PROGRAMS
AT PLEASANT VALLEY LIBRARY**

All programs are free of charge. Please visit pleasantvalleylibrary.org to register and for more information.

All-Level Gentle Flow Yoga with Samantha Free

Wednesday, January 4 5:00-6:00pm
A floor/mat yoga that coordinates breath with movement through different variations of postures for balance and strength - modifications will be implemented if necessary.

Face & Lymphatic Yoga with Rosalia Henry

Friday, January 6 1:30-2:30pm
Monday, January 9 6:30-7:30pm
Yoga to help engage the muscles in the face and neck to help firm and tone, and remove toxins from your face and body by activating your natural immune support system.

Flash Fiction
Monday, January 9 6:30-7:45pm

In a fun and supportive environment, teen and adult participants will be given a fiction writing prompt, time to write, and have an opportunity to share their work with the group. All levels of writing experience are welcome.

Pleasant Valley Climate Smart Community Garden Program

Tuesday, January 10 6:30-8:00pm
Pleasant Valley Climate Smart will discuss the benefits of a planned community garden in Pleasant Valley. Anyone who would like to participate is welcome!

Senior Movie Morning - "The Jazz Singer" (1980)

Wednesday, January 11 11:30am-1:30pm
This month's movie in our new series for seniors (ages 50+) is the musical drama, "The Jazz Singer," starring Neil Diamond as a young singer torn between his family's traditions and his dreams of becoming a pop singer. Light refreshments will be provided.

Chess Club
Thursday, January 12 6:00-8:00pm
Thursday, January 26 6:00-8:00pm
Take risks, make friends and learn sportsmanship with chess. All ages and levels of experience are welcome. No registration required.

Organizing for the New Year
Saturday, January 14 11:00am-12:00pm
Ellie Priestley, of Blissfully Organized by Ellie and a member of National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals will give tons of great tips and tools to get you organized this year.

Family Movie Matinee - "Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile" (2022) Rated PG
Saturday, January 21 2:00-4:00pm
In our new after library hours family program series, we're showing the live-action movie, "Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile," based on the beloved book series by Bernard Waber about the music-loving, scarf-wearing crocodile who lives with a human family in New York City. Light refreshments provided.

Communicating With Loved Ones Experiencing Memory Loss
Thursday, January 26 2:30-4:00pm
Eileen Hendricksen of Alzheimer's Association will explain how to communicate effectively with loved ones who are elderly or have memory issues. She will show how to use Reminiscence Memory Kits by MEternally (that our library now carries) to help open conversations about memories and life stories.

Crafterday - Painted Wood Goals Board
Saturday, January 28 11:00am - 1:00pm
Join us to make a painted wood goals board, to hang up and help you keep track of your goals and achievements this year! No experience is necessary and all materials will be provided. For adults and teens ages 15 and up.

Meditation with hypnotherapist Susan Olin-Dabrowski
Tuesday, January 31 6:30-7:30 pm

Help manage stress and cultivate balance with a variety of meditation techniques. Please note: Masks are required for ALL attendees, regardless of vaccination status.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Registration Opens for Children's Toddler Time and Pre-K Storytime with Miss Julie
Monday, January 9
Toddler Time
Monday, January 23 - Monday February 27 10:30-11:00am (No storytime on Mon. Feb. 20th)
OR
Tuesday, January 24 - Tuesday, February 21 10:30-11:00am
Children Ages 2 to 3 years and their caregivers will enjoy a story and themed craft together.

Pre-K Storytime
Tuesday, January 24 - Tuesday, February 28 1:00-1:45pm
Independent children ages 3 - 5 years will enjoy a story and themed craft.

**STANFORD FREE LIBRARY
JANUARY EVENTS**

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please email stanfordlibrary@optonline.net or call 845-868-1341.

Brain Games
Thursdays 10:30 - 12:00 pm
Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation, and laughter!

Homeschool Stories and STEAM Workshops
Thursdays 1:00 - 2:00 pm
For students in Grades K-2
These workshops will contain a storytime component along with crafts and STEAM related activities.

Knitting
First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Come for knitting, tea and conversation. All levels welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.
Mahjong for Intermediate Players
Fridays 10:00 - noon
Come and play Mahjong with this fun, friendly group.

Yoga with Mia
First Friday of the month is Free
Join us at 10:00 via Zoom. Link sent upon registration.
Bridge
Mondays 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
If you are a beginner or an experienced player looking for a partner or just curious about the games, this is for you.
Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners
Mondays 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
All levels welcome.
Water Color Workshop

First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Beginners Welcome!
Individuals can bring an image or work from a smart phone to paint in class or choose from ones provided. Learn how to use this medium to express your creativity with the technique that benefits you the best, wet on wet, layering, dry brush or very detailed.

Supplies are not provided; a list of needed materials is available at the library.
Fiber Arts
First and Third Tuesdays 6:00 pm
Bring your projects and work alongside others in our beautiful Community Room.

Story Time
Tuesdays
Preschoolers (Ages 3-4) 10 - 10:45 am
Toddlers (Age 18 months - 2 years) 11:00 - 11:45 am

Meditation Class
Third Wednesday 10:00 am
In-Person (Masks Required) or via Zoom
Susan Olin-Dabrowski will lead this one hour monthly meditation program. First timers and experienced meditators are welcome! Headset or earbuds recommended. Link sent upon registration.

Repair Café
Saturday, January 7 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
What do you do with a CD player or a toaster that no longer works? Repair Café offers an opportunity to repair broken items together and to get professional advice, encounters and inspiration. Bring clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, toys, bicycles, etc. that need some attention!

Music in the Library
Saturday, January 7 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Classical guitarist Andrew Baffi will sit and strum for us! No need to register, just drop in and enjoy the music. Andrew will be here on the first Saturday of every month.

January Hybrid Book Club
January 9 12:00 pm
January's selection is Miss Benson's Beetle by Rachel Joyce.
You may choose to attend in person or via Zoom.

Downsizing Dilemmas Solved
Saturday, January 14 11:00 am
Colleen Ashe from Ashe Organizing will discuss the steps to take today to make it less scary

COVID-19 Home Tests Available at the Library: Two tests per kit. If you are not feeling well, please do not come into the library to pick up the tests. Curbside pickup can be arranged by calling the library at 845-868-1341.

**POUGHKEEPSIE LIBRARY DISTRICT'S PUBLIC WIFI PROGRAM
RECEIVES \$50,000 FUNDING**



Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-Newburgh) recently announced \$50,000 in funding for the Poughkeepsie Library District's Public WiFi Program. Jacobson made the announcement at Adriance Memorial Library with Library Director Tom Lawrence.
Jacobson said, "Reliable and affordable internet access is no longer a luxury, it is a necessity of modern life. Internet access is essential for learning and accessing information we all rely upon to do our everyday chores. Students of all ages need internet service to be able to take classes and do required research. That is why I am pleased to have secured \$50,000 for the Poughkeepsie Library District to extend internet service into many of Poughkeepsie's public spaces." *Courtesy photo*



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Creative Living

celebrating all good things

Palaia to make presentation on ‘Murals of the Hudson Valley’ Jan. 16

The Town of Lloyd Historical Society will host a talk on the “Murals of the Hudson Valley” by artist and muralist Franc Palaia on Monday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. The program will be held in the theater at Vineyard Commons, at 6142 Merlot Drive, Highland. During the one hour talk, Palaia will take attendees on a visual journey of the many colorful and vibrant murals, both historic and contemporary, located in Poughkeepsie, Kingston, Newburgh, Rhinebeck, Hyde Park, Red Hook, Yonkers, Wappingers and Beacon.

Murals have been around for about 40,000 to 50,000 years, if you consider cave paintings murals. Basically, a mural is applied pigments or markings on a wall surface, and so the act of making images on walls has been around since the dawn of humankind. And humans have not stopped marking walls ever since.

Fast forward 40,000 years, and now the world is experiencing a tsunami of mural painting from all corners of the globe. Public art in the form of murals and also the more recently coined, Street Art is now a common every day experience no matter where you live. This trend has also taken hold on hundreds of walls in the Hudson Valley in the last 20-25 years.

When Palaia arrived in Poughkeepsie in 2001 there were very few murals in the valley. The only ones he observed were the classic WPA murals that FDR commissioned during the Great Depression, and they were mostly all indoors in public buildings like Post Offices and the like.

Banking on his five-year mural painting experience in New Jersey, starting in 2001 Palaia proceeded on a personal mission to make Poughkeepsie “the Mural Capital of New York State.” Twenty years later, there are now hundreds of murals of all kinds covering public and private buildings, water tanks, bridges,



Two of Franc Palaia's murals can be seen in Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie (“Poughkeepsie Harbor 1888,” 2015-2022). Palaia will discuss “Murals of the Hudson Valley” at a Jan. 16 talk hosted by the Town of Lloyd Historical Society. *Courtesy of the artist*



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billboards, overpasses, trestles, tractor trailers and more.

Palaia is an award-winning multi disciplinary artist with an exhibition record that includes Vassar College, the Newark and Dorsky Museums, Whitney Museum Annex, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NY, the Saatchi Museum, London, Galerie Salvador, in France and the American Academy in Rome. He has lectured throughout the region on numerous cultural topics and has two dozen presti-

grants such as the Rome Prize, Tiffany Grant and others. He has painted over 22 indoor and outdoor murals in Poughkeepsie alone since 2001.

The talk will include a five minute “Drone Mural Video” of Palaia’s murals in Poughkeepsie.

For more information, contact: Fran Brooks, fableyd6@gmail.com, (845) 691-9316, (914) 523-3152; or Franc Palaia, francpalaia1@gmail.com, (845) 505-3123.

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Money troubles

Tips for avoiding financial disasters when vacationing in exotic places

“Run!”

I leapt over a coffee table, squeezed through the front door, and bolted down Al Azhar Street, glancing back to make sure Sue and Becky were following me.

I was in the lead, because I had all the money.

The three of us turned a corner and plunged into the Kahn-al-Khalili Bazaar, losing ourselves in a warren of alleyways and tiny cubbyholes. I remember one old lady sitting cross legged on the ground trying to sell me a used Brillo pad.

In our travels to 40-plus countries over the years, Sue and I, and sometimes daughter Becky, have experienced quite a few adventures involving money, some hilarious and some downright frightening. All the current talk about inflation, and our impending trip to yet another foreign country (Costa Rica this time) got me reminiscing about our past monetary adventures.

- **Madrid** – We usually divvy up our cash among various suitcases, wallets and pockets. I keep a wallet in my back pocket with a couple of dollars and some expired documents to hand over to random thieves. On the Plaza Mayor, in the heart of Madrid’s tourist district, bands of robbers stage intricate diversions – fights, fireworks, fake accidents – while they work the crowd. This happened to me. I lost everything – cash, passports, airline tickets. Sue and I were left with one big suitcase and a few dollars in the wallet in my back pocket. After a couple of days literally sleeping in the streets, Sue wanted to get our clothes washed at a laundromat. As I was handing over the clothes from the suitcase, Sue noticed a lump in the arm of one of our sweaters – \$1,000 in cash!
- **Cuzco, Peru** – Trying to do the right thing, I ordered a safety deposit box in the hotel lobby. I opened it to find somebody else’s passport inside, along with what looked like a million dollars’ worth of diamonds. I handed the box back and said, “never mind, I think I’ll hang onto my money.”
- **Santa Marta, Colombia** – We’re always trying to figure out ways to hide money from the maid when we leave our hotel room. When I suggested hollowing out a loaf of bread in the cupboard and hiding some money inside, Sue said,

“people are so poor here, the maid will probably steal the bread!”

- **Caracas Venezuela** – January 2003. Our hotel was charging the “official” rate to change our dollars into bolivars. The 500 bolivar per night rate would cost 500 dollars, even with a credit card. On the street, a dollar would buy 100 bolivars. This was going to be a tricky situation, so Sue stood about 20 yards away while I held up a hundred dollar bill and asked if anyone wanted to exchange it. I had to battle my way out of the crowd, but I came out with ten thousand bolivars, enough to stay in our hotel for a month. But we got out of Venezuela the next day.
- **Havana, Cuba** – Bring lots of dollar bills to Cuba. I only had a twenty. I bought something and got nineteen dollars worth of change – in Cuban money. When I went to buy something with the change, the guy said, “we don’t accept Cuban money.”
- **Singapore** – At a Burger King on Sentosa Island, the cashier sifted through my money looking for the perfect bank note. He kept rejecting any that had the slightest wear and tear. Finally I just threw one at him and grabbed the burger. Becky ate it and almost died from food poisoning.
- **Ethiopia** – The “travel agent” who booked our tour to Lalibela wouldn’t take a credit card. We had money wired to us. When we picked it up at the bank, they gave us a giant bag filled with dirty, smelly bills. The travel agent wanted dollars, but we told him to come get his Ethiopian money. We were stuck in our room until he got to the hotel, since the gigantic pile was too big to take with us, and we couldn’t hide it.
- **Cairo, Egypt** – I get a kick out of changing money on the street. In Cairo, a random guy invited me, Sue and Becky to his shop, where he proudly showed us a photo of himself with his arm around his “good friend” Mohammad Ali. I noticed that his face had been pasted in the picture. Just then, a couple of guys came down the stairs and set a coffee table in front of the door. That’s when I yelled “Run!”

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



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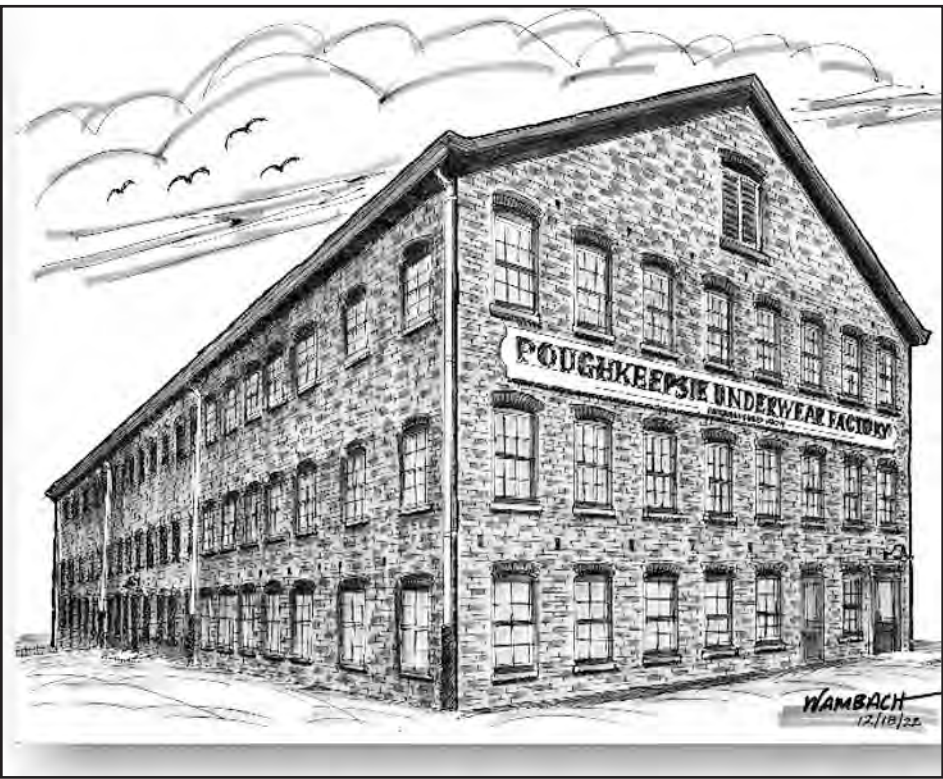
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Historical scenes on display at Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory



Richard Wambach's renderings of historical scenes are on display at Little Loaf Bakeshop in the Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory through January. Images of the Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge, Sloop Clearwater and Rhinebeck Aerodrome are just a few of the exhibition's highlights. There will be an Artist's Reception on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory is at 8 North Cherry St., Poughkeepsie. Visit <https://richard-wambach.pixels.com> to view the entire collection and order prints in various sizes and styles. *Image courtesy of the artist*

A&E Calendar

arts and entertainment happenings

Jan. 6: Black Magic – Celebrating the Music of Santana, Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Black Magic is a band led by guitarist Dan Garcia and comprised of a number of stellar veteran New York City musicians based now in the Hudson Valley. Together they re-create the authentic and inspiring music of the great Carlos Santana, 8 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Jan. 7: Sharkey & The Sparks, Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Sharkey & The Sparks full-band line up features Sharkey McEwen — well known to music lovers throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond as the lead guitarist of The Slambovian Circus of Dreams — Ben McEwen, Sharkey's teenage son, and a select group of talented musician friends. The band will perform beloved tunes from the '60s, '70s and beyond along with S&S originals, 8 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Jan. 8: Jon B. Woodin & Jude Roberts, The Colony Woodstock, 22 Rock City Rd., Woodstock. Alternative-folk singer-songwriters Jude Roberts & Jon B. Woodin evoke harmonies reminiscent of Simon & Garfunkel, 8 p.m. Their complementing

styles bring in elements of both old-school country, acoustic folk and classic rock. Tickets \$18 advance, \$20 day of show. (845) 679-7625 or ColonyWoodstock.com

Jan. 8: Open Mic Finals – Invitational Round, Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Since 1988, our open mic series has been referred to by many as the finest open mic in the Northeast. Come see & support some of the best our open mic community has to offer! Hosted by Chihoe Hahn, 5:30 p.m. All seats \$8. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Jan. 13: “The Sound of Murder,” Our Lady Of Hope Parish, 8074 Rte. 22, Copake Falls. The Two Of Us Productions presents murder mystery, dinner theater thriller. The CKGR Radio Playhouse Of The Air is broadcasting live from the tasty buffet room at Our Lady Of Hope Parish. If this show doesn't go well the station will go out of business. It certainly doesn't help that the station owner's daughter is trying to sabotage the show! The radio mystery becomes too real when someone actually kicks the bucket. Doors open at 5 pm for salad & fellowship, the show starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets: email Mary at olhfaithformationdre@yahoo.com or call (518) 755-9763.

EXHIBITIONS

Bannerman Island Gallery, 150 Main St., Beacon. **Through Feb. 5:** An exhibition of Hudson River Valley paintings and photographs by painter Virginia Donovan and photographer Mary Ann Glass can be viewed.. Many works feature the Hudson Highlands region and Bannerman's Island. (845) 416-8342.

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through February:** Featuring the works of Renee Samuels in the Victorian Gallery (formerly the Hallway Art Gallery) at 9 Vassar St., and Frank Rapant in the Hancock Gallery and Adrian Lee in the Reception Gallery at 12 Vassar St. **Free Public Art Opening Receptions:** Fri., Jan. 6, 5-7 p.m. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access to the galleries. cunneen-hackett.org

Locust Grove, 2683 South Rd. (Rte. 9), Poughkeepsie. **Through Jan. 22:** Exhibitions of paintings by celebrated Hudson Valley artist Carolyn H. Edlund in the Locust Grove Transverse Gallery, free every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (845) 454-4500, ext. 212, or www.lgny.org

Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. **Through March 26:** “Chasing Icebergs: Art and a Disappearing Landscape,” shown primarily in the Sharp Family Gallery at Olana, the exhibition highlights Frederic Church's iceberg sketches from his 1859 intrepid voyage to the Arctic. (518) 751-6879 or olana.org

Rhinebeck Bank, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through Feb. 9:** Exhibition of paintings by Stanfordville resident Joan A. Smith, on display during regular business hours.

Murder-mystery dinner theater set Jan. 13 in Copake

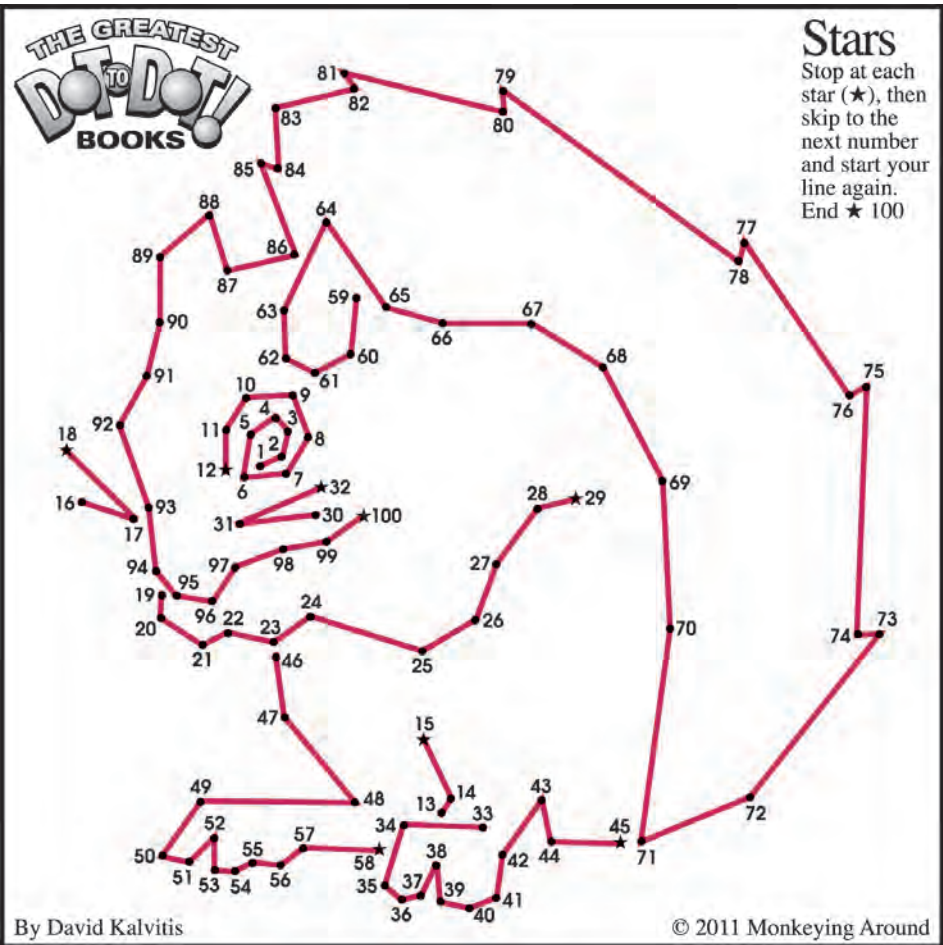
The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Columbia County, will present “The Sound of Murder,” a murder mystery thriller, on Friday, Jan. 13. This murder mystery dinner theater is being held in collaboration with Our Lady Of Hope Parish in Copake Falls.

The CKGR Radio Playhouse Of The Air is coming to Copake Falls, broadcasting live from the tasty buffet room at Our Lady Of Hope Parish. If this show doesn't go well, the station will go out of business. It certainly doesn't help that the station owner's daughter is trying to sabotage the show. The radio mystery becomes too real when someone actually kicks the bucket.

This murder mystery is sure to please, with suspense, love, strange noises, and a cast of wacky characters including producer Frederika Farnsworth, dramatic radio actors Gilbert De Bernaise & Vivian Fredricksberg, novice actor Shelly Stalling, the station owner's daughter Roberta, and Foley artist “Foley” Roberts.

Our Lady Of Hope Parish is at 8074 State Route 22 in Copake Falls. Order tickets by emailing Mary at olhfaithformationdre@yahoo.com or calling (518) 755-9763. Tickets for adults 14 and older are \$25. A buffet dinner is included with the show. The doors open at 5 p.m. for salad and fellowship. The show begins at 5:30 p.m.

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 6)



SEND US YOUR EVENTS

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Excelsior Scholarship application process opens

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently announced that the application for the Excelsior Scholarship for new applicants for the Spring 2023 term is now open. The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid, allows eligible full-time students to attend a SUNY or CUNY two-year or four-year college tuition-free.

Students from households with federal adjusted gross incomes up to \$125,000 are eligible for a Spring Excelsior Scholarship award. Applications will be accepted through Feb. 9.

Students must:

- Plan to attend a SUNY or CUNY two or four-year college;
- Complete 30 credits per year toward their program of study (including Summer and Winter terms); and

- Be on track to graduate with an Associate's Degree in two years or a Bachelor's Degree in four years.

The Excelsior Scholarship is just one of the many ways New York State makes college affordable and accessible. Check out the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation website, <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/>, to explore other options available to help pay for college.

The Spring 2023 Excelsior Scholarship application is open to first-time students entering college in the Spring 2023 term and current college students who have never received the Excelsior Scholarship. Students currently receiving an Excelsior Scholarship do not need to complete this application to receive continued award payments.

Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.

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

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

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

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

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

Suguru

					4
4	2		1		
			4		
2					
	1	5			

The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

ACROSS

- In a bad mood
- Gymnast Korbut
- Shindig
- Co-winner of a '78 Nobel
- Group of players
- Voice range
- Rapidly growing tree
- TV series that began in '74
- Thing: Lat.
- Vexed
- Acquiesce
- Copier
- Wax's opposite
- Sent a message, in the past
- Milieu for Henie and Hamill
- Close-fitting garment
- __ vera
- British change
- Get __ of; shed
- Become irrational
- English letters
- Crucifixes
- __ majesty
- USMC rank
- Curry and Cusack
- Planted grains
- Pintail duck
- Scarlett's home
- White adhesive
- Forum garb
- Family member, for short
- One also guilty
- Plastic wrap
- Raise
- Tribe member
- Opposite of depress
- This: Sp.
- Building material
- Disneyland attractions
- Chances
- So: Scot.
- 1 of 13 on Old Glory
- Every __; 1st, 3rd, etc.
- Conduct
- Space
- Elec. current unit
- Sheriff's star
- Winglike
- Eyelid swelling
- Socks
- Northerner
- Blushing
- Hebrew letter
- Gales
- Convey & accept suffix
- Animal enclosures
- Word with sing or tag
- Lift
- Musical instruments
- Siamese or Samoyed
- Wash off soapsuds
- Stated further
- Means of communication
- Optician's display
- Manner of speaking that reveals one's attitude
- Tearful request
- Upward-moving gas?
- Pencil's other end
- Metric unit
- Trifled
- Apple pie recipe direction
- Suit toppers
- "Get lost!"
- Peter, Paul & Mary, for one
- Paper fastener
- Assign a value to
- Change for a five
- Do a tailor's job
- Spanish gold
- Frazier's nemesis

DOWN

- Former ruler's title
- Unhealthy sound

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				

The solutions to both the Sudoko & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 13

OBITUARIES

Thomas John Cerulli, Sr.

Thomas John Cerulli, Sr., 84, passed away Sunday, December 18, 2022 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, NY with his loving family at his side. Thomas (or Tom, as he was known) was born January 15, 1938 in Poughkeepsie, NY to Gino and Rose (Clausi) Cerulli. He is survived by his wife of sixty-four years, Alice (Long) Cerulli of Pleasant Valley, NY. They were married October 26, 1958 at Mount Carmel Church in Poughkeepsie, NY. In addition to Alice, he is survived by his children Thomas J. Cerulli Jr. of Poughkeepsie, NY; Diane Cerulli of Rhinebeck, NY; and Charles Cerulli and husband James Conrad of Woodstock, NY; granddaughters Jenna Cerulli of New Port Richey, FL, and Sophie Cerulli of Lewiston, NY; daughter-in-law Julie Cerulli of Red Hook, NY; sister Elissa Capano and brother-in-law Robert Capano of Poughkeepsie, NY; sister-in-law Ethel Whitney of Hyde Park, NY; cousins, nieces, nephews and many dear friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Salvatore Cerulli, sister Theresa Giangrasso, and brother-in-law and beloved friend Richard Whitney. A graduate of Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School and Dutchess Community College, Tom excelled in football, baseball and basketball. He was a member of the 1955 DCSL Champion Boys Basketball Team and the 1956 DCSL Champion Boys Baseball Team, and later coached senior league baseball and CYO basketball. Employed at IBM for thirty-seven years Tom was a senior project programmer and held managerial positions in Poughkeepsie, Kingston, Somers and White Plains. While at work there he played fast pitch softball for IBM and served on the IBM Club Board of Directors. In his retirement years Tom worked at Carvel, College Hill and McCann golf courses. An avid golfer he got his first hole in one at age seventy-eight. He also enjoyed horse racing with his best friend and horse partner Tom Furey and spending winters on the Gulf of Mexico in Florida. Tom was a long time Jets and Yankees fan and one of his greatest joys was his granddog Delta. Tom was the rock of his family, he could always be depended upon, and his exuberant humor and big heart will be cherished by those whose lives he touched. Visitation was held Thursday December 22nd at Sweets Funeral Home in Hyde Park. A funeral mass was held on Friday December 23rd at Regina Coeli Church in Hyde Park where Tom was a long time parishioner and served as usher. Graveside services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Tom's memory to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105; Dutchess County SPCA, 636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538; or Thoroughbred Retirement Farm, Old Friends at Cabin Creek, 483 Sand Hill Road, Greenfield Center NY 12833. To send a online condolence or for directions please visit, www.sweetsfuneralhome.com

Carol Ann Van Eron

Carol Ann Van Eron, 75, of Pleasant Valley NY passed away on December 19, 2022 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. She was born on December 25, 1946. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Thomas J. Van Eron Sr., her sons, Thomas Jr. and Raymond, daughters-in-law Trishia and Darla her siblings Sharon and Michael, grandchildren, Heather, Tyler and Joseph and great grandchildren, Logan and Callahan. She has touched so many lives and will be greatly missed. Visitation was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2022 at Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley, NY. Services took place during the visitation. To leave an online condolence and for directions please visit www.HudsonValleyFuneralHomes.com

Mildred Hinsch

Mildred Hinsch, 92 of Pleasant Valley, NY died peacefully at home on Friday, December 23. "Millie" was born at home in Gallatin, NY on August 3, 1930 to Lester and Mary (Coons) Funk. She had one brother Lester Funk II, who predeceased her. Millie attended Pine Plains High School, where at the age of 15 she met the love of her life Kenneth Hinsch, whom she married in 1948. He predeceased her in 2008. Together they shared 60 years of marriage and raised three children: Dora Hage (Peter) of Pine Plains, NY; Cindy Young (Bob) of Pleasant Valley, NY; and Kenneth, Jr. (Cathy Kocsak) of Pleasant Valley, NY. In addition to serving as Town Clerk for the Town of Pleasant Valley for 26 years, Millie and Ken ran Ken's TV Sales and Service from 1965-1980. Millie was always active in her children's lives as a room mother, parent volunteer on field trips and a PTA member and president at Traver Road Elementary School. She served as Girl Scout Cookie Chairman and assisted with Brownies and Girl Scouts. She worked nights as a waitress for six years at the Country Tavern Restaurant (now Fireside Barbecue and Grill) in Salt Point. Millie was well known for her role as scorekeeper at husband Ken's softball games in leagues in Poughkeepsie and in the Lakeland, FL area where they wintered. If Ken was playing, Millie was there. She was also an active cheerleader for all her children and grandchildren. Over the years, she (and Ken) attended a myriad of their baseball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, field hockey and football games. Another of her passions was watching and rooting for her New York Yankees and following several teams in the NBA. Millie loved word games and looked forward to doing the daily JUMBLE, board games and playing cards. In addition to her children, Millie is survived by her grandchildren: Sarah Young (Derrick Cussano) of Pleasant Valley, NY; Rob Young (Randy Harrison) of Lincoln Park, NJ; Melissa Johnson (Matthew) of Wappinger Falls, NY, Loren Hage Fisher (Wayne) of Garner, NC; Michael Hage (Kristin

Woods) of Rhinebeck, NY; Kenneth Hinsch (Alisa) of Poughkeepsie, NY; David Hinsch (Brianna) of Pleasant Valley, NY and nine great-grandchildren. The family wishes to express their thanks and gratitude to Hudson Valley Hospice, especially Lauren and Maria and to My Angels Home Care, especially Alicia, Barbara, Julie, Claudine and Sherina. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Allen Funeral Home and will be private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be made in Millie's name to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, or Pleasant Valley Fire Co., Station 1, 1619 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569.

Josefa Jibaja

Josefa Jibaja, known as MAMACITA OR PEPA, 97, a 30 year resident of Stanfordville and formerly of Peru, died on Sunday December 18th at the Fishkill Nursing Home in Beacon. A former housewife, she was predeceased by her husband Jorge Campos. A loving mother, she leaves behind a daughter, Cecilia, 4 sons, 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. There will be no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, December 31st at St. Joseph's Church in Millbrook, NY. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook. For condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com

Jean Traver

Jean Traver, 84 long-time resident of Hyde Park, died on Friday, December 23, 2022. Born September 15, 1938, in Paonia, Colorado, she was the daughter of Laura Schmidt. Jean was a graduate of Colorado State University. She worked for the Department of Social Services, Poughkeepsie for many years until her retirement. After retirement she became a regular at the local gym, where she loved to work out and socialize with all her friends. People would seek her out for her seasoned advice and guidance, she never met a stranger. Jean volunteered with the Hyde Park chapter of Meals on Wheels for many years where she was paired with Mr. Alan Scott who she made her weekly deliveries with. Jean is survived by her husband and soul mate Vernon Traver. Daughters Laurie Riley and husband Rocky, of Virginia Beach and Kelly Traver of Hyde Park. Step father Robert Kempf of Phoenix, AZ , cousin Sandra Hall of Salt Lake City, UT, and loving niece Kathy Tabor, Berthoud, CO. Grandchildren include Connor and Jessie Riley of Virginia Beach. Garret Pendleton of Virginia Beach and Michael Walden of Hyde Park. She was an avid reader who always had a book in her hand with a glass of wine in the afternoon, always available for conversation. Her, Vernon and life long friends Robert and Sara Jane Inglis traveled Europe visiting Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Greece. Trips were made to Hawaii, Alaska, California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Maine, Canada and Spain along her journey. Thank you to the dedicated staff of the Thompson House, Rhinebeck who helped Jean achieve her wish of coming home. Appreciation and thanks to the Hyde Park Police and Paramedics who went above and beyond when they were called upon. Thank you to all the friends and family who called and visited her while she could enjoy your many conversations, Cindy and Laura she loved you all. You left us too soon, but there never would have been a good time for you to go. You will live forever in our hearts with a lifetime of memories to comfort us. The world will have a little less laughter, compassion and kindness in it with you gone. You earned your wings..... now fly.... Till we can all be together again. In keeping with her wishes cremation has already taken place and a small gathering of friends and family will take place at a later date. To send an online condolence, please visit www.sweetsfuneralhome.com

Eileen M. Oakley

Eileen M. Oakley, 100, passed away on Sunday, December 11, 2022 at Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck. She was born in Yonkers on May 15, 1922 and was the daughter of Clarence and Theresa (Wall) Miller. Eileen would come to Hunn's Lake as a child where her grandparents owned a farm. This would also be the same place she would raise a family and live until her passing. On September 16, 1944 in Yonkers she married the late Chester Clarence Oakley. Together they raised two daughters Nancy Oakley and Barbara Brown. Eileen was a natural caregiver and homemaker. She enjoyed flowers and worked for florists in the area over the years. She was very active in the home bureau and also the Poughkeepsie Yacht Club. Where many dear friendships were formed. Eileen and Chester would host memorable New Year's Eve parties for their friends and family.

Eileen is survived by her two daughters, Nancy Oakley of Stanfordville, and Barbara Brown of South Carolina. Her grandchildren Tyler and his wife Patty Santmire, and Elizabeth and her husband Kent Gocgnauer. Two great grandchildren, Bobby and Ellie. A time for sharing of memories and offering condolences to the family was held Sunday, January 1, 2023 at the United Church of Christ, Stanfordville, NY. In lieu of flowers, donations in Eileen's memory may be made to the Stanfordville Rescue Squad, Route 82, Stanfordville, NY 12581 or to a charity of one's choice. For directions or to leave a message of condolence, please visit www.peckandpeck.net

Marilyn VanZant O'Connor

On December 27th, 2022, we lost our amazing Mom and Mema, Marilyn VanZant O'Connor of LaGrange. She passed away unexpectedly at the age of 81, far short of the 101 everyone expected her to live to. Marilyn was born on February 7th, 1941 to William and Evelyn (McKenna) VanZant. She attended Wappingers Central School, graduating in 1959. On June 26th, 1965, Marilyn married Leonard O'Connor, a life together that lasted for 47 years until Len's passing on May 29th, 2012. Marilyn personified the phrase 'Living life to the fullest'. She was the vibrant and positive center for her family and friends, with whom she enjoyed traveling, card games, book club and weekly lunch dates. Her close circle of friends filled her days with so much fun and laughter. She was a tireless volunteer for several local charities, as well as her church. Always on the go, she made time in her calendar for everyone and everything. She always said that there are no strangers, just friends she hadn't met yet. She shared her love of life and laughter with each and every one of us. All of the lives that Marilyn touched are feeling a profound loss. May her love and light shine through in the memories we all hold. Marilyn is survived by her three daughters, Kelly of Wappinger Falls, Karin Milkins, her husband Matt of Poughkeepsie, and Kris of Nashville, TN. Also missing her are her grandchildren and their partners, Ryne Milkins and Brianna Giglio, Summer Milkins and Millie Duncan, Kyrie Milkins and Tyler Havas. She treasured her grandchildren, and they absolutely adored their Mema. She is also survived by her brother, Peter VanZant and sister in law Mary Dewitt of Nevada City, CA, sister in law Mary Madeline O'Connor of Cary, NC, her niece and nephews. She had countless cousins with whom she shared a special bond, and a cherished circle of friends who were here extended family. Calling hours were held Monday, January 2, 2023 at the William G. Miller & Son Funeral Home, Inc., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at St. Martin de Porres Church, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Burial is private. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Miles of Hope BCF P.O. Box 405, Lagrangeville, NY 12540 or a charity that is special to you. To send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wgmmillerfuneralhome.com

Arthur 'Art' Winship

Arthur "Art" Winship, 92, a lifelong resident of Wingdale, NY, passed away on Friday, December 23, 2022 at his home in Wingdale. Mr. Winship was a motor equipment maintenance supervisor at Greenhaven Correctional Facility in Stormville, NY. Mr. Winship also worked at the Dutchess County Highway Department, Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center and was a Deputy Sheriff with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office. Born on September 20, 1930 at the family farm, "Grassy Hill", in Dover Plains he was the youngest child of Harry and Blanche (Hufcut) Winship. Mr. Winship loved the outdoors and his beloved Preston Mountain where he worked on several estates and patrolled the mountain during hunting season. Mr. Winship was also a life member of the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company. Mr. Winship is survived by a his longtime companion, Patricia Wilson; two daughters, Sheryl Ann Dominguez and Robin Winship and her companion, Tony and a son, Kevin Winship and his wife, Ria. He is also survived by a sister, Ruth Watts and her husband, John; a grandson, Zach Dominguez and two great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, Mr. Winship was predeceased by first wife, Carol Ann Yetman, his second wife, Lorraine Kaiser; a son-in-law, Paul Dominguez; three brothers, Sonny, Warren and Harry Winship; a sister, Lina Drake and a cousin, Charlotte Whaley. Graveside services and burial took place on Friday, December 30, 2022 at Valley View Cemetery, S. Nellie Hill Road, Dover Plains, NY. Memorial contributions may be made to the J.H. Ketcham Hose Co., P.O. Box 706, Dover Plains, NY 12522. To send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION 2023 TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that I, Mary Beth Muir, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Pleasant Valley, County of Dutchess and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Pleasant Valley for the year 2023, and that I will attend at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, in the said Town of Pleasant Valley from today to March 1, 2023 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon on TUESDAY and THURSDAY and FRIDAY collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon. MONDAY

Legal Notices

and WEDNESDAY 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon. MARCH, APRIL and MAY collection hours will be 9 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon with the exception of FRIDAY collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, except SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS and LEGAL HOLIDAYS for the purpose of collecting the taxes listed on the said roll. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that taxes may be paid on or before March 1, 2023 without charge or interest. On all taxes received after such date, there shall be a 2 percent added interest if paid on or before March 31, 2023 and an additional 1 percent for

Legal Notices

each additional month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that pursuant to the provisions of law the tax roll of the Town of Pleasant Valley will be returned to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance on the 1st day of June, 2023. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, a reminder of unpaid taxes will be sent on or before May 01, 2023. A fee of \$2.00 will be added to your tax bill during the full month of May. DATED: January 4, 2023

Mary Beth Muir
Tax Collector
Town of Pleasant Valley

Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 2019-54435 COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

Plaintiff designates DUTCHESS as the place of trial situs of the real property **SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Mortgaged**

Legal Notices

Premises: 3 IDLEWILD DRIVE, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601 **Section:** 6164, **Block:** 02, **Lot:** 778714 PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff, vs. MICHAEL D. SHEEDY; HEIDI S E E L B A C K , D U T C H E S S

Legal Notices

COUNTY COMMIS- SIONER OF FINANCE, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JENNIFER L. SHEEDY; KYLE SHEEDY, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF JENNIFERSHEEDY; GAYLE SHEEDY, AS HEIR AND DISTRIB- UTEE OF THE ES- TATE OF JENNIFER

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SHEEDY; UN- KNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF JENNIFER SHEEDY, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an inter- est in, or general or specific lien upon the real property de- scribed in this action; such unknown per- sons being herein

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generally described and intended to be included in the follow- ing designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, wid- ower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, adminis- trators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and as- signees of such de- ceased, any and all

Legal Notices

persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, hus- bands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, execu- tors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plain- tiff, the persons or par- ties intended being the tenants, occu- pants, persons or cor- porations, if any, hav- ing or claiming an in- terest in or lien upon the premises, de- scribed in the com- plaint,

Defendants.

To the above named Defendants YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attor- ney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclu- sive of the day of serv- ice, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal de- livery within the State. The United States of America, if desig- nated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judg- ment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of

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\$117,550.00 and interest, recorded on February 28, 2000, in Document Number 01 2000 1967, of the Public Records of DUTCHESS County, New York., covering premises known as 3 IDLEWILD DRIVE, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judg- ment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mort- gage described above.

DUTCHESS County is desig- nated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DAN- GER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attor- ney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure pro- ceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a de- fault judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the sum- mons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RE- SPOND BY SERV- ING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COM- PANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: December 7, 2022 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Plaintiff Oluwatobi Adedokun, Esq. 900 Merchants Con- course, Suite 310 Westbury, NY 11590 516-280-7675

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INDEX NO.: 2019- 51306 Date Filed: April 14, 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS WITH NOTICE

M O R T G A G E D PREMISES: 5108 Al- bany Post Road, Staatsburg, New York 12580 SBL #: 6167 – 03 - 014105 Plaintiff designates DUTCHESS County as the place of trial; venue is based upon the county in which the mortgaged premises is situate. STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF DUTCHESS U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for MASTR Seasoned Securitiza- tion Trust 2005-1 Mortgage Pass- Through Certificates, Series 2005-1, Plaintiff, vs. Mary Richardson Mal- lardi a/k/a Mary Helen Richardson, as Ad- ministrator of the Es- tate of Anthony Mal- lardi; Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Dar- lene Mallardi Miller, as Heir to the Estate of Anthony Mallardi; Darlene Mallardi Miller, as Heir of the Estate of Anthony Mallardi; Victoria Mal- lardi, as Heir of the Es- tate of Anthony Mal- lardi; Wachovia Bank, National Association; New York State De- partment of Taxation and Finance; United States of America o/b/o Internal Re- venue Service; Ameri- can Express Centu- rion Bank; Citibank (South Dakota), N.A.; The People of the State of New York; John Doe #1 through #6, and Jane Doe #1 through #6, the last twelve names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all

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occupants, tenants, persons or corpora- tions, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the prem- ises being foreclosed herein, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFEN- DANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to an- swer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Com- plaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of ap- pearance on the attor- neys for the Plaintiff within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to ap- pear or answer, judg- ment will be taken against you by default for the relief de- manded in the Com- plaint.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DAN- GER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RE- SPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORT- GAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE P R O C E E D I N G AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE AN- SWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN AT- TORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER IN- FORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS

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AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING PAY- MENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COM- PANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORE- CLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RE- SPOND BY SERV- ING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COM- PANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. THE OBJECT of the above captioned ac- tion is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$74,550.00 and inter- est, recorded in the Of- fice of the Clerk of Dutchess on June 4, 1996, in Liber 2270, Page 31 as Document No. 01 1996 3932, covering premises known as 5108 Al- bany Post Road, Staatsburg, New York 12580, SBL #: 6167 – 03 - 014105 The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the prem- ises described above to satisfy the debt se- cured by the Mortgage described above. The Plaintiff also seeks a deficiency judgment against the Defen- dants and for any debt secured by said Mort- gage which is not sat- isfied by the proceeds of the sale of said premises. TO the Defendants Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Darlene Mal- lardi Miller, as Heir to the Estate of Anthony Mallardi, and all the heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, de- visees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, assignees and successors in in- terest of any of the aforesaid defen- dants, next of kin, dis- tributees, devisees, grantees, trustees, lienors, creditors, as- signees and succes- sors in interest of any

Legal Notices

of the aforesaid classes of person, if they or any of them be dead, and their re- spective husbands, wives or widows, if any, and all of whom and whose names and places of resi- dence are unknown to plaintiff, except as herein stated, the foregoing Supple- mental Summons with Notice is served upon you by publica- tion pursuant to an Or- der of the Hon. Maria Rosa of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Dutchess, dated and filed November 16, 2022.

Dated: December 28, 2022 /s/ Kyle Jacobs, Esq. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC 420 Lexington Av- enue, Suite 840 New York, New York 10170 Phone: 347.286.7409 Fax: 347-286-7414 Attorneys for Plaintiff, U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for MASTR Seasoned Securitiza- tion Trust 2005-1 Mortgage Pass- Through Certificates, Series 2005-1 **HELP FOR HOME- OWNERS IN FORE- CLOSURE** NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORE- C L O S U R E PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CARE- FULLY.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT YOU ARE IN DAN- GER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. IF YOU FAIL TO RE- SPOND TO THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION, YOU MAY LOSE YOUR HOME. PLEASE READ THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT CARE-

Suguru solution					
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This week's answer														
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Answers to

this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 11)

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20 words \$12.50; each additional word 20¢

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& 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

201 Home Improvement
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203 Lawn Services
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901 Vans/SUV's
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903 Motorcycles
904 Auto Parts & Tires
905 Autos Wanted

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Senior Systems Architecture Administrator

Stock Clerk Helper
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Assistant Teacher-(Substitute/Float)- Louis Greenspan Day
Care Center

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Care Center

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For call 1-800-969-4751 or respond for similar offer Certificate C250A (01-12502) Insurance Policy PR01 (GA, PR01GA, NY, PR01NY, OK, PR01OK, TN, PR01TN, RI, PR01RI, WA, PR01WA, WI, PR01WI, IL, PR01IL, IN, PR01IN, OH, PR01OH, MI, PR01MI, MN, PR01MN, IA, PR01IA, MO, PR01MO, KS, PR01KS, NE, PR01NE, SD, PR01SD, ND, PR01ND, MT, PR01MT, WY, PR01WY, UT, PR01UT, AZ, PR01AZ, NV, PR01NV, ID, PR01ID, WY, PR01WY, NM, PR01NM, OK, PR01OK, TN, PR01TN, RI, PR01RI, WA, PR01WA, WI, PR01WI, IL, PR01IL, IN, PR01IN, OH, PR01OH, MI, PR01MI, MN, PR01MN, IA, PR01IA, MO, PR01MO, KS, PR01KS, NE, PR01NE, SD, PR01SD, ND, PR01ND, MT, PR01MT, WY, PR01WY, UT, PR01UT, AZ, PR01AZ, NV, PR01NV, ID, PR01ID, WY, PR01WY, NM, PR01NM, OK, PR01OK, TN, PR01TN, RI, PR01RI, WA, PR01WA, WI, PR01WI, IL, PR01IL, IN, PR01IN, OH, PR01OH, MI, PR01MI, MN, PR01MN, IA, PR01IA, MO, PR01MO, KS, PR01KS, NE, PR01NE, SD, PR01SD, ND, PR01ND, MT, PR01MT, WY, PR01WY, UT, PR01UT, AZ, PR01AZ, NV, PR01NV, ID, PR01ID, WY, PR01WY, NM, PR01NM, OK, 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Celebrate safely.
Please don't drink and drive.

Registration for County Parks' winter programming now open

Residents of all ages looking for fun and educational things to do this winter can look forward to the full lineup of programming at Dutchess County Parks. Popular sessions will return this year, including indoor archery, virtual Base Camp, and Youth Park Palette as well as new offerings such as Senior Park Prints, Walk Around Wednesdays, and Rail Trail cross country ski outings. The complete parks schedule and registration info can be found at Dutchessny.gov/parks.

Winter Naturalist Program Schedule

Weekend Public Archery sessions will begin Saturday, January 14 at Bowdoin Park. The program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots offered. The sessions, each an hour long, are designed for individuals ages 9 and up with any level of archery experience. Basic hands-on archery skills are taught, as well as bow and arrow safety. Cost is \$60 per person and includes all five classes and equipment. Limited to 20 participants per time slot. Register at www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation.

Dates: Saturday, Jan. 14; Saturday, Jan. 28; Saturday, Feb. 11; Saturday, Feb. 25; and Saturday, March 11.

Time Slots: 8:30-9:30 a.m.; 10-11 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; and 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Virtual Base Camp returns on Wednesday, January 11. This free, virtual nature discovery program will run six weeks, sharing new content each Wednesday for visitors to explore and

discover nature online. The program is open to all to participate at dutchessny.gov/basecamp. Registration is not required.

Youth Park Palette for ages 10-18 will be held at Bowdoin Park from 3:30-5pm in Pavilion 5. These classes take students through a step-by-step learning opportunity to create nature themed paintings. Students can choose one workshop or take all three. Cost is \$12 (includes all supplies) per session. Limited to 12 participants per session. Register at www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation.

Dates & Themes:

Tuesday, Jan. 24 -Winter Scene

Tuesday, Jan. 31-White Tailed Deer

Tuesday, Feb. 14-Beach Sunset

Senior Park Prints Art Series will be held in collaboration with Dutchess County Office for the Aging. This free series is for older adults and will be offered at various locations throughout Dutchess County. All supplies will be provided, and participants will be able to take their nature masterpieces home. Limited to 12 participants per class and registration is required by calling 845-486-2555.

Schedule:

Thursday, January 19th 2:30-3:45pm - Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie

Thursday, February 2nd 2:30-3:45pm - Millerton Northeast Millerton Library Annex, 28 Century Blvd., Millerton

Thursday, February 16th 2:30-3:45pm

- East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 82, Hopewell Jct.

Walk Around Wednesdays will offer short distance walks of approximately 1-1.5 miles, led by Assistant Park Director Serge Nalywayko. This 5-week program will be held from noon-1pm on Wednesdays at various Dutchess County Park locations. Walks are free, but registration is required and are weather dependent. To register, call 845-298-4600.

Schedule:

Jan. 18 - Bowdoin Park, 85 Sheafe Road

Jan. 25 - Dutchess Rail Trail Hopewell Depot Trailhead, 36 Railroad Avenue

Feb. 1 - Wilcox Park, State Route 199, Milton

Feb. 8 - Dutchess Rail Trail Morgan Lake Trailhead, Creek Road, Poughkeepsie

February 15 - Bowdoin Park, 85 Sheafe Road

Rail Trail Nordic Ski Weekend will be offered on Saturday, February 11 and Sunday, February 12 from 9-11am. Gatherings are free, but registration is required. The program, designed for novice and intermediate cross-country

skiers, will include skiing along moderately groomed paths and distances will depend on skiers' level of experience. This program is held in partnership with Hudson Valley Ski Club, North East Community Center and Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association. To register, call 845-298-4600. Participants should bring their own equipment and dress appropriately for weather conditions. The event may be cancelled due to weather or trail conditions; call the Parks Hotline at 845-298-4602 for event status.

Schedule:

Saturday, Feb. 11 - Dutchess Rail Trail Lagrange Trailhead, 15 Old Manchester Road, Poughkeepsie

Sunday, Feb. 12 - Harlem Valley Rail Trail, Millerton Trailhead, 35 South Center St., Millerton

Additionally, group weekday Archery and Junior Survival sessions are available by appointment and reservations can be made by calling 845-298-4602. Updates on winter sledding and ice skating at Bowdoin Park will be shared on the Dutchess County Parks hotline 845-298-2607 and Facebook page.

To learn more about Dutchess County Parks, visit www.DutchessNY.gov/Parks.

GOLDEN LIVING

Note: The Office for the Aging and OFA Friendship Centers will be closed on Monday, January 16th – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Clients of OFA's Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program will receive meals as needed in advance of each holiday. HDM clients also receive shelf-stable meals in advance of predicted inclement winter weather that could disrupt HDM deliveries. For more information about the HDM program, contact OFA at 845-486-2555 or ofa@dutchessny.gov.

50 YEARS OF OFA SERVICES

The Dutchess County Office for the Aging celebrates 50 years of operation in 2023. We have lots to celebrate, and just as much work to do. Most notably, we expect continued significant growth in demand for services as the baby boom generation continues to age. Even the youngest "boomers" will turn 60 in 2024.

The Older Americans Act took effect in 1965 but its original version did not address many issues of concern to older adults like nutrition, congregate meal services, legal services, volunteer programs, transportation, and many other programs for older adults. The goal from the beginning was the same then as now: to help older Americans stay as independent and engaged as possible, for as long as possible.

In 1973 states were required to establish area agencies on aging - including the Dutchess County OFA, under the direction of Wanda (Lou) Glasse (1927-2017), who later became director of the New York State Office for the Aging. In 1990, in observance of the 25th anniversary of the Older Americans Act, she wrote:

"As we enter the 21st Century, we foresee the continuing impoverishment of older women, (now 3 out of 4 of the elderly poor), an increasing number of older minorities with unique problems, and the rapid growth of those over the age of 85 whose health needs are often inadequately met. All require new approaches."

Familiar concerns, both then and now. While Dutchess County's poverty rate

remains lower than the New York State and national average, the predicted rapid growth of those over 85 has certainly come to pass here in Dutchess. Census figures from the past decade show our 85+ population growing faster here than anywhere else in the state, in the 80% range compared to 2010. It looks like that trend will continue; the Cornell Program on Applied Demographics predicts our 85+ population will continue to rise until at least 2040. We're counting on the county's 85+ population doubling by then, to around 10,000.

The COVID-19 pandemic may not be in the headlines every day, but its effects continue to disrupt older adults' financial security. Compared to families with children, older adults were not as eligible for federal pandemic relief payments.

While the emergency aid did drive down the overall poverty level to its lowest level in 2021, the poverty rate among older people rose during the pandemic.

It's with this knowledge that OFA aims to intensify its efforts to reach isolated and homebound older adults throughout Dutchess County, along with other older adults residing in Dutchess who haven't yet familiarized themselves with OFA services. They're the ones with the most to gain from OFA services while often being unaware of what's available to them.

We did mention there's also plenty to celebrate as we move into our second 50 years of operations. It may be early January, but we're already scheduling a 31st summer of OFA Picnics. Before that, we're planning to join Dutchess County Parks for a Maple Weekend older adults' breakfast in late March; we're joining several county departments for another County Health Fair in the spring.

Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone 845-486-2555, email: ofa@dutchessny.gov website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging

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