

Hospitality zones public meetings set in Millbrook

by Rich Thomaselli

After a contentious debate in the village of Millbrook last year over a proposal to turn the long-vacant Migdale Castle and its 350-acre property into a hotel - glamping site and the potential for residential homes, the Town of Washington will seek input from the public on whether to create future hospitality zones in the village.

The meetings will take place on Friday, Feb. 25, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Millbrook Village Firehouse. The focus of the interactive session – open to all local residents, businesses and property owners – is to seek feedback that will be used to develop a town-wide survey about hospitality uses.

The open house activities will be led by an independent planning consulting team who have been selected to help determine if the 2015 Comprehensive Plan should be amended to include and permit expansion of new hospitality development within the town, including hotels, motels, bed & breakfast lodging, inns, glamping sites and short-term rentals such as Airbnb stays.

There doesn't appear to be any public feedback or discussion at this particular meeting, just a chance for attendees to walk through different stations to review materials, learn about the planning effort and provide their input on community vision topics. Consultant team members will also be on hand to answer questions and discuss ideas.

The creation of the team stemmed from last year's heated debates within the town that essentially became an issue between the haves and the have-nots. Wealthy part-time residents reluctant to give up their views or concerned about the town

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Olympic events come alive for students in Rhinebeck



by Rich Thomaselli

And here you thought the 2022 Winter Olympics were half a world away in Beijing, China.

Turns out, they are just up the road off Route 9 in the village of Rhinebeck.

At Chancellor Livingston School (CLS), elementary students are in the midst of one of the most unique – and fun – physical education classes they've ever taken.

Under the direction of PE teachers Kevin Yarnell, Erik Thomas and student-teacher Sara Miller, students are involved in gym classes based on the Winter Olympics and Paralympics. The kids participate in eight different Olympic sports and three Paralympic sports.

"The first reaction in seeing their eyes when they come in the gym is - 'what it's all about,'" Yarnell said. "We have the Olympic theme song blasting. Every kid is given a mini Olympic torch (unlit) that we made, and they take lap around the gym to the theme song. I would say out of the 400-something kids in our school, maybe a third knew all the sports we would be participating in before they started. But they all know them now."

Students are exposed to eight different Winter Olympic sports that are modified into a station format. These stations include cross country skiing, biathlon,

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Clockwise from top left, fourth grader Charlie Padgen competes in the biathlon. Fourth graders McKenna Bresnahan, left, and Silvana Walter hold Olympic torches. Fourth graders McKenna Bresnahan and Jianna Labbadia compete in cross-country skiing. Fifth graders Charlotte Paesano, left, and Catherine Allen compete in bobsled races. Photos by Curtis Schmidt

Hyde Park bids farewell to beloved food truck vendor

by Kate Goldsmith



HYDE PARK—Carole Crusco, who for more than two decades served food and friendly conversation at her Carole's Hot Dogs truck, passed on Feb. 10 at the age of 84.

Something of a local institution, you could find Carole set up most days at the end of St. Andrews Road, near Route 9 in Hyde Park. Her daughter, Lynne, told Northern Dutchess News that her mother would refer to customers as "her people" and shared how much they meant to her.

Carole Crusco of Hyde Park, owner and operator of Carole's Hot Dogs food truck, was beloved by many. *Courtesy photo*

"Even if she had a slow day or it might be a cold winter day, she still opened because of her enjoyment," Lynne said. "Her priority wasn't about making money first. Her priority was her enjoyment first."

Carole's Hot Dogs started operations in the Bronx in 1978, before the family moved to Hyde Park. Speaking to this writer in 2017, Carole said, "My husband was supposed to be doing the truck. He was disabled and thought he'd do it on weekends at Pelham Bay Park. He hated doing it. It didn't take in much money and said he wasn't going to do it any more. So I said, 'Cripes, now what are we gonna do?'"

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Olympic events come alive for students in Rhinebeck

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skeleton, ski jump, hockey, speed skating, bobsled, and curling, all modified to compete inside the gym.

To further the students' learning and diversity, three of the stations will be transformed into the Paralympic sports of para-biathlon, sledge hockey, and wheelchair curling in the second week.

As the students work together at each station, they practice critical learning skills to successfully complete each challenge. Even better – it's more than just a gym class. Every group of students that comes to PE for the Olympics is also unwittingly learning a little history and geography as well as they are randomly assigned a country.

"While marching with their torches, the national anthem of the country that specific class was representing plays and adds to the feeling of a global community," Thomas said. "This made the students feel like the actual athletes competing for the Winter Olympic/Paralympic Games."

And for further inclusiveness, the majority of these countries are ones that are based on the demographics of the CLS school population. This teaches the students about different countries and their cultures to welcome diversity.

And during the class, Yarnell, Thomas and Miller put a TV on a cart and live stream actual events from Beijing so the students can watch periodically as they are practicing their skills.

So far? A definite gold medal for the students, the teachers and the administration.

When the PE teachers went to CLS principal Brett King to pitch their idea, it didn't take long for King to sign off.

"Brett King is an amazing administrator," Yarnell said. "He's open to all new creative ways that we can keep making our classroom more cutting edge. He was like, 'Go full tilt with this.'"

"In addition to the unit being a current and relevant subject, as the 2022 Winter Olympics are currently underway, it also further cultivates a sense of understand-

ing among our students as they learn about different cultures through the curriculum they access in their respective classrooms," King said. "The curricular connections between what they learn in the classroom and what they learn with Mr. Yarnell and Mr. Thomas in PE class creates communal value and meaning for all of our students."

And everybody gets a medal, which was the brainchild – and handy work – for Miller, a Brockport University student.

"Although students have varying skill levels, I wanted to make sure that all CLS students felt the excitement of earning a gold medal," she said. "With this in mind, I decided to make gold medals for all 400 students to be able to take them home and remember their experience with the CLS Winter Olympics/Paralympics."

Though this special version of PE class ends when the actual Winter Olympics and Paralympics end, it has already created memories for the students and the staff at CLS. Yarnell said there is a buzz in the hallways every morning with the children talking about what they had seen on TV the night before.

"An educational experience connected to a monumental event promoting connection between sports and culture is an ideal opportunity for authentic learning," said Katie Andersen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the Rhinebeck Central School District. "CLS students will remember this time with Mr. Yarnell and Mr. Thomas for years to come."

She added, "Thinking strategically about an interdisciplinary Olympic/Paralympic unit that is coordinated with the arts, music, technology, library departments, and classroom teachers will increase access, interest and engagement by immersing students in connected and real-life contexts for learning. Students will be inspired to follow their own passions to communicate, collaborate, and be creative while fostering a spirit of internationalism and citizenship at CLS."



Clockwise from top left, fifth grader Morgan Donnelly takes part in the ski jump. Moses Bendiner competes in cross-country skiing. Fourth grader McKenna Bresnahan takes part in the skeleton competition. Photos by Curtis Schmidt



FDR LIBRARY TO HOST VIRTUAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE PRESENTATION

HYDE PARK – The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will present a Day of Remembrance program (virtual) — in observance of the 80th anniversary of President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 — with historian Greg Robinson, author of "By Order of the President," on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m., with an encore presentation on the Day of Remembrance, Saturday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m.

Library Acting Director William Harris will moderate the discussion. The program is free, with no registration required, and will be streamed to the Library's official YouTube, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

In the tense weeks after Japan's Dec. 7,

1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, many Americans — particularly those on the Pacific Coast — feared enemy attack and saw danger in every corner. Rumors and sensational media reports heightened the climate of fear. Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on Feb. 19, 1942, Executive Order 9066 led to the incarceration of 120,000 people of Japanese descent — including approximately 80,000 American citizens — during World War II. It is widely viewed today as a serious violation of civil liberties. The Day of Remembrance (February 19) is an annual observance of FDR's signing of EO 9066.

Contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 with questions or for more information.

Hospitality zones public meetings set in Millbrook

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water supply that could become issues with the transformation of the Migdale property — including an heir to the Chanel fortune as well as actress-singer Bette Midler — were pitted against younger, newer residents eager to see the possible increase in jobs and revenue.

This open house follows a series of listening sessions hosted by the town, as well as a pair of focus group meetings

which were held with a small group of local residents and business owners to identify issues and opportunities related to additional hospitality development.

The public input collected through those meetings and the open house will be used to design an opinion survey which will be distributed throughout the town later this spring.

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Hyde Park bids farewell to beloved food truck vendor

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Carole took the wheel, figuratively and literally. The interaction with customers energized her from the start.

"The first day out I said, 'This is for me,'" she said. The rest is history.

For the last four or five years, Lynne has taken over for Carole, who had retired due to health issues. But Carole never lost interest in "her people."

"I would come home, and we would sit for hours and talk about her customers who asked for her. She'd say, 'anything interesting at the truck today?' as I was still carrying in supplies," Lynne said with a laugh. "She couldn't wait to hear ALL the details."

Keeping in touch on Facebook

allowed Carole the interaction she still enjoyed.

"Each night until 2, 3 a.m., she would be on Facebook following her family, friends and everyone in between," Lynne said. "I would tell her, 'Mom, it's 2 a.m., people are sleeping at this time, and they might be woken up with a notification. But she still kept reading and writing."

Fans of Carole's Hot Dogs will be pleased to know that Carole's family will continue to keep the business going.

"This was, and is, her dream: to live on for 'her people,'" Lynne said. Then she referenced a variation on Mark Twain's famous quotation, which encapsulated her mother's philosophy.

"If you love what you do, you'll never have to work a day in your life."

Visitation was scheduled Tuesday, Feb. 15, at Sweet's Funeral Home on

Route 9 in Hyde Park. A Mass is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 10 a.m., at Regina Coeli Church, Route 9, Hyde Park.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATES FATAL CRASH IN UNION VALE

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office reports the investigation into a one-car fatal crash which occurred on Verbank Club Road in the Town of Union Vale at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 12.

Deputies responded to Verbank Club Road near North Clove Road for a report of a serious crash. Preliminary investigation has shown that a 2021 Audi Q5 operated by Avinash Harrindranauth, age 28 of Union Vale, was traveling south on Verbank Club Road when the operator failed to negotiate a hill crest and slight curve in the roadway, after which the vehicle exited the roadway and struck a tree. Harrindranauth, who was the sole occupant, was transported to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital with life-threatening injuries and was later pronounced dead at the hospital.

The cause(s) of the crash is still under investigation by the Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau and Crash Investigation Unit, however at this time unsafe speed is thought to be a primary factor.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the New York State Police, Union Vale Fire Department, LaGrange Fire Department, and EMStar.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS welcomes your letters. Letters must be submitted via e-mail to be considered for publication; e-mail to northerndutchess@sdutchessnews.com and include the phrase "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line. Include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. We look forward to hearing from you.

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.

Alzheimer's treatment needs full coverage from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

To the editor:

Thanks to our bipartisan champions in Congress, we've made great progress advancing research on Alzheimer's and dementia, providing hope to families in the midst of a terrible diagnosis and disease progression. And now the FDA has approved the first Alzheimer's treatment to address the underlying biology of the disease. It's lifted that hope higher, and there are other treatments close behind in the research pipeline showing even greater promise.

But with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service's (CMS) proposed decision limiting coverage to those in clinical trials, access is severely restricted to only those few who live near research institutions or can afford to pay the \$28,200 annual cost out-of-pocket. CMS has never before limited Medicare coverage like this for any other FDA-approved medication. This is unacceptable.

People with Alzheimer's and their doctors should be able to decide if an FDA-approved treatment is right for them and those eligible should have it covered by Medicare. All those living with Alzheimer's deserve better.

My grandmother and all of us around her lived through the emotional pains of Alzheimer's as do more than 6 million people who are affected. I appeal to CMS to think of the benefit to millions of reconsidering their decision

Richa Jagga
Wappingers Falls

Molinaro requests that Gov. Hochul reconsider effort to appoint new sheriff

To the editor:

I am sending a letter to Governor Hochul on behalf of the people of Dutchess County, requesting that she reconsider her effort to appoint a new County Sheriff.

After the passing of Sheriff 'Butch' Anderson, Undersheriff Kirk Imperati has stepped into the role and done admirably. He is well-liked and respected throughout the law enforcement community, as well as the community at-large. Replacing him is not only unnecessary, a disruption in leadership could be detrimental to public safety.

As evidence of the local support for Kirk Imperati, the letter is accompanied by nearly 4,000 signatures asking for him to remain in the position - an outpouring of support that was collected in just a few days.

There is no requirement for Governor Hochul to appoint a new Sheriff, and an election will be held for the position this November. Taking action now is unnecessary, unwarranted and unwanted.

Marc Molinaro
County Executive
Dutchess County

Whose data is correct in COVID 19 statistics?

To the editor:

Thomas Friedman, in Feb. 9, 2022 New York Times opinion piece, contends (without giving any specifics) that Dr. Robert Malone, in a podcast with Joe Rogan, made "discredited claims".

Further, that Dr. Malone did not address what Mr. Friedman regards as the most important statistical facts about COVID-19.

One is the claim that unvaccinated adults are 16 times more likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19 than those vaccinated, data provided by the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Israel, though, has a different view. An article in Science journal, Volume 373, indicates that in August 2021, 59 percent of severely ill patients were fully vaccinated. Another statistic

from the Israeli Ministry of Health, from early July 2021, shows COVID cases to be as likely for the vaccinated as the unvaccinated.

Whose data is right?

One problem is that the U. S. organization producing COVID-19 statistics is the same organization heavily promoting COVID-19 vaccines.

Something like the impartial Congressional Budget Office is needed to produce health statistics without the possibility of bias.

Mr. Friedman then contends that, by not endorsing the official view, and its claimed advantages, Dr. Malone is neglecting his responsibility to patients and health care workers.

Certainly our healthcare workers have been burdened during the pandemic. Sure would have been nice to keep many of those COVID-19 patients out of the hospitals. Oh, wait. Dr. Malone in the podcast pointed out success many actual frontline doctors had with repurposed anti-virals in keeping COVID-19 patients out of the hospital. The same repurposed medicines that CDC officials have fought to suppress. Didn't the CDC have a responsibility to try and promote whatever works to help patients?

So far, there are some 10,000 reports of U. S. COVID-19 vaccine-connected deaths, more than the sum total of all reported vaccine deaths in the last thirty years. So far, few if any autopsies, and few if any payments to those dead, or to the larger number of injured, through the very restrictive Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program. Any responsibility for officials there, Tom?

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

Years of marriage should be treasured

To the editor:

Marriage, I'm afraid, is an easy target for jokes even by those of us who are happily married. "Take my wife, please." Husbands are lampooned as useless idiots that sit around all day watching sports, drinking beer, and looking at porn while the poor wife must balance having a job, keeping a home and raising the kids all without the help of that lazy couch potato in sweatpants.

Add to this that many people come from broken homes where the parents are either divorced or never married at all. Most of their experience with marriage is an unhappy one. Dad cheated, mom henpecked, Children often don't see the love between Mom and Dad. With these images and experiences, who would ever want to get married? With uncommitted sex, abortion-on-demand, pornography, video games, social media, who needs the aggravation? Such is society's attack on marriage.

It's sad because marriage can be truly wonderful. Is it always easy? No. It's not easy to live with another person and some marriages can't last. What is easy is to forget the traits and qualities that we fell in love with in the first place. In today's quick fix world, it's easy to give up and break up.

But there's an intimacy that can only be reached after years and years of being together. The joys and sorrows, the good times and bad, the trials and triumphs weave together to make a unique, complex and often beautiful quilt. It was later in life that I understood that I had no idea why my parents loved each other.

And that is the point. The unique and tender bonds of Love are invisible and hidden from outsiders, even close ones, as well as they should be. After 25 plus years and counting, my wife and I have reached an increasingly rare mark. And it's the little things, coffee on the front porch, playing cards in the kitchen, and the like that become more important. There were times along the way we might have called it quits. Oh my - what we might have missed!

Jeffrey Mahoney
Hyde Park

March 1 deadline to upgrade to the Enhanced STAR Property Tax Exemption

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance reminds seniors that, for most localities, the deadline to apply for greater property tax savings through the Enhanced STAR property tax exemption is March 1.

To be eligible for the 2022 Enhanced STAR property tax exemption, seniors must:

- currently receive the Basic STAR property tax exemption;
- have one owner of the property who will be at least 65 years of age by Dec. 31, 2022; and
- have had 2020 income equal to or below \$92,000.

Eligible seniors should apply to their assessor's office by the application due date, which is March 1 in most towns and some cities, but there are exceptions. Seniors should verify their exact due date with their local assessor.

To apply, seniors must provide the following to the assessor:

- Form RP-425-E, Application for Enhanced STAR Exemption
- Form RP-425-IVP, Supplement to Form RP-425-E
- Proof of income: 2020 New York State or federal income tax forms. (If the senior wasn't required to file an income tax return, the assessor can guide them on

how to provide proof of income.)

Seniors who receive the STAR credit instead of the STAR exemption don't need to apply or take any other action. The Tax Department will automatically upgrade them to Enhanced STAR if they qualify.

For more information:

- STAR Resource Center (<https://www.tax.ny.gov/star/>)
- Seniors with questions about the STAR exemption can contact the Tax Department's STAR Hotline from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays at (518) 457-2036.

New York enters new phase with multi-pronged plan

by Kate Goldsmith

Gov. Kathy Hochul lifted the mask-or-vax mandate in many public settings last week, enabling businesses and county/local governments to enforce as needed. Hochul based the decision on the steady decline of COVID-19 cases and decreasing hospitalizations.

In Dutchess County, nearly all data points are moving in the right direction (see statistics at the end of this article). A significant amount of COVID-related deaths are still occurring, though: Over the last few weeks, 16-17 individuals have succumbed to the disease.

Hochul outlined the state's plan going forward, the so-called Winter Toolkit that focuses on five core areas: protecting the most vulnerable New Yorkers, increasing vaccinations and boosters, strengthening the state's health care system, empowering local leaders, and supporting individuals facing the long-term effects of COVID-19.

"As we begin a new phase in our response to this pandemic, my top priority is making sure we keep New York safe, open and moving forward," Hochul said. "I want to thank the health care workers, business owners and everyday New Yorkers who acted responsibly during the Omicron surge by masking up and getting vaccinated. But make no mistake: while we're moving in the right direction, this pandemic isn't over, and our new Winter Toolkit shows us the path forward."

As a critical tool to fight the spread of COVID-19, mask requirements will remain in place in certain high-density settings. All health care settings regulated by the Department of Health and other related state agencies will continue to require masks. Masks will also be required in nursing homes, adult care facilities, correctional facilities, detention centers, homeless shelters, and domestic violence shelters, public transit and transportation hubs, as well as trains, planes and airports in accordance with federal regulations.

Hochul also announced plans to assess the mask requirement in schools in early March, to ensure students can continue learning in-person and in the classroom. The assessment will be based on public health data, including key metrics like cases per 100,000 residents, hospital admission rates, vaccination rates, global trends and pediatric hospitalizations.

Plans are under way to distribute two tests for every K-12 student ahead of midwinter break, and continue distribution the following week when students return to school. In the meantime, Hochul

has directed the Department of Health to work on preliminary guidance, with input from educators and parents, to keep students and teachers safe.

Protecting the most vulnerable

New York State will continue to acquire and distribute masks and tests to New Yorkers to ensure those who need them can access them. The state's test stockpile contains 92 million tests. More than 14.2 million tests have been distributed to schools and tests will continue to be distributed as needed. 4.2 million tests have been distributed to nursing homes, 2.4 million tests to adult care/congregate facilities and 4 million tests to counties.

The state has distributed 1.28 million masks to nursing homes and 5.5 million to counties.

Visitation rules in nursing homes will remain in place. Visitors must show proof of a negative test within 24 hours of their visit and masks will remain required.

Tests will be made widely available for students so that K-12 students can go home for their Midwinter Break with two tests.

Increase Access to vaccines, boosters and testing

- New York State's mass vaccination and testing sites will remain open to ensure all eligible New Yorkers can access first, second, and third doses for themselves and their children.

- The State's #VaxForKids pop-up programming continues to expand with 193 sites established to date. This effort brings the vaccine directly to parents, guardians and their children at local schools, community centers and destinations like farmers markets to make getting vaccinated convenient and accessible for families.

- New York State is actively preparing for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to come online for children under 5 years old.

- The State's education efforts to reach New Yorkers with good, science-based information about the vaccine is ongoing including through traditional advertising, digital and multimedia campaigns, and direct messaging efforts through SMS text messaging, robo-calling and Excelsior Pass push notifications.

- All 61 state-operated and state-partnered testing sites will remain open to provide New Yorkers with access to COVID-19 testing.

- Testing also remains widely available at more than 1,800 sites statewide in every region.

- Strengthen the healthcare system To troubleshoot shortage issues, Executive Order 4 to increase staffing flexibility will remain in place. National

Guard will continue to be trained to be able to staff in places needed, as well.

As part of the Governor's Winter Surge Plan 2.0, the state has already deployed 20-member Medical Specialty Teams from the U.S. military hospital support team to Erie County Medical Center, a 35-member team to SUNY Upstate in Syracuse, 92 new ambulance teams to different regions in the state, including 50 to NYC, and two Medical Specialty Teams (MSTs) of 20 personnel from the Department of Defense to Strong Memorial Hospital.

Hochul also outlined investments to strengthen the health care system in her 2022 State of the State Address and FY 2023 Budget. \$10 billion will be invested to grow the health care workforce by twenty percent in five years. \$4 billion will be invested in wages and bonuses to stop the hemorrhaging of health care staff. \$1.6 billion will be invested via the Capital Plan.

Empower local leaders

Hochul's announcement comes after consultation with local leaders on steps the state is taking to fight COVID-19.

Support New Yorkers facing long-term COVID effects

- On Feb. 3, the State's Department of Health hosted an expert forum on Long COVID and more than 2,000 individuals registered to view the panels. Panelists included specialists, clinicians, social scientists, patients and advocates who shared their experience, expertise, and insights.

- This discussion, as well as continued focus and study by the Department, will inform the state's response which will span policy, regulatory, and program considerations to support New Yorkers

suffering from long COVID as well as the healthcare providers who care for them.

State Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett said, "At every stage of the pandemic, and since Omicron emerged, the Department of Health has monitored the science to inform the state's data-driven COVID-19 response. Today, we have reached a critical point in our fight in which the proof of vaccination or masking requirement for businesses, restaurants and other indoor public spaces will expire.

"As the winter surge recedes, getting vaccinated and boosted remains critical to continue the progress we've made, and masking remains key to keeping children in schools safely and keeping everyone safe in public transit and other crowded settings. As we continue to assess the data, the Department is also focused on ensuring the necessary support is there for those suffering from long COVID."

QUICK FACTS – DUTCHESS COUNTY (as of Feb. 13)

Active cases: 391 (down from 563 on Feb. 6)

Community transmission rate: 15.32 per 100,000 (down from 35.75 on Feb. 6)

Hospitalizations due to COVID-19: 18 (down from 50 on Feb. 6)

Hospitalizations of individuals with COVID-19: 32 (down from 39 on Feb. 6)

Total deaths: 637 (up from 620 on Feb. 6)

% population 18+ with at least one dose of vaccine: 84.7

% of total county population with at least one dose of vaccine: 76.12

% of total county population that has completed their vaccine series: 68.11

(No data on boosters is currently available)

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Red Hook CSD voters to decide on sweeping capital projects plan

by Kate Goldsmith

Residents in the Red Hook Central School District will vote Tuesday, Feb. 22, on two capital projects, totaling more than \$27 million, to update school buildings and facilities. Polls will be open from noon to 9 p.m. in the 3-5 Cafeteria of Mill Road Intermediate School, 9 Mill Road, Red Hook.

Proposition 1 (not to exceed \$21.9 million) would:

- upgrade HVAC systems, replace windows and interior doors at Red Hook High School;
- replace the gym roof, install fire-rated windows and upgrade HVAC systems at Linden Avenue Middle School; and
- replace windows at Mill Road Intermediate and Primary schools.

In an FAQ on its website, the district notes that the High School's HVAC system and the windows at Mill Road are original to the buildings, which were constructed, respectively, in 1961 and 1971. While the work under the project's scope is not considered an emergency, it is critical, because "The equipment ... has been in service for more than 50 to 60 years and is reaching the end of its functional lifespan."

Proposition 2 (not to exceed \$5.24 million) would reconstruct and improve district athletic fields, tracks, facilities and sites; and would allow purchase of furnishings and equipment related to district athletic programs.

The installation of an artificial turf field, central to the proposal, has received both positive and negative feedback from the public, according to the district. The district touts the "year-round access to a field surface that's not impacted by weather and temperature conditions like a sod field, is well lit to support more practicing/playing hours, is striped for multiple sports, and is the same surface

our athletes who participate in sectional competitions and/or go on to play collegiate sports will be expected to compete on."

Voters must pass Proposition 1 in order for Proposition 2 to move forward.

If approved, the district would finance the projects with a 15-year bond, 64.4 percent of which would be reimbursed through state aid and the remainder paid through the local tax levy, starting in 2024. Depending on assessed value, equalization rate and STAR exemptions, the district said annual costs will likely range from \$104 to \$135 a year based on a house assessed at \$300,000.

If voters reject the proposals do not receive voter approval, the district has no authority to proceed with any of the work included in either proposition. However, according to the FAQ on the district's website, modified versions of the projects would likely be on the ballot in May, during the regular budget vote.

In the event that the projects are ultimately voted down, year-to-year budgetary funds would be spent to maintain the aging HVAC systems, doors, windows and other components the district is seeking to upgrade. These funds would not qualify for reimbursement from the state, and would likely result in the district either having to exceed its tax-cap mandate, requiring 60-percent voter approval, or negatively impact educational programs and services.

Currently, the district has four bonds totaling \$13.8 million, at various stages of repayment. If the projects are approved and bonds issued for them, the total would be three bonds at \$10 million, with less than one third of that payable by local taxpayers.

Find the full FAQ and a Capital Project Community Presentation at <https://www.redhookcentralschools.org/P/age/5984>.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dutchess County-Poughkeepsie Land Bank to Hold meeting Feb. 16

The Dutchess County-Poughkeepsie Land Bank will hold a meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. If one would like to attend, please register. After registering, those who signed up will receive a link to the meeting.

Meeting materials are available on the website at: <http://www.dcpoklandbank.org/?p=724> To submit comments, for more information, including any requests for reasonable accommodation, including Sign Language Interpreters (requires five days notice), please call 845-293-3547 or email secretary@dcpoklandbank.org.

Board of Health meeting set for Feb. 17

The Dutchess County Board of Health will be holding its regularly scheduled meeting virtually on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 4 p.m. using Microsoft Teams. To listen to the meeting, call 1-516-268-4602 and enter the Conference ID number: 760 712 078#.

The Dutchess County Board of Health meets on the third Thursday of each month except for the month of July.

The public is welcome to attend. For more information, contact (845) 486-3432.

Historic Red Hook to host free virtual events

"Spaces of Enslavement," an author talk with Andrea C. Mosterman, will take place via Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. This virtual event is presented in collaboration with the Dutchess County Department of History.

Andrea Mosterman is associate professor in Atlantic History and Joseph Tregle Professor in Early American History at the University of New Orleans. In her work, she explores the multi-faceted dimensions of slavery, slave trade and cross-cultural contact in the Dutch Atlantic and Early America with special emphasis on Early New York.

On Wednesday, March 16, at 7 p.m., Sarah K. Herman will present an author talk via Zoom, titled "The 1903 Jackson Corners Signature Quilt." Hermans grew up in Millerton, and has resided in Poughkeepsie and Pine Plains. Her grandmother, Clara Weller Losee, was a dedicated local and family historian for the towns of Red Hook, Milan and Northeast.

In 2010 an old, stained muslin sheet made of 42 blocks sewn together, many covered in embroidered names, was passed down through five generations of Hermans' family. She spent a decade researching the quilt; the 260 names of local people from Milan, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Pine Plains, Livingston, Clermont and Ancram embroidered on it; and the world of Northern Dutchess and Southern Columbia counties in 1903 when the "simple" life was coming to an end.

Register for these free programs at <https://www.historicredhook.org/register>.

Chicken & Biscuits Dinner set

Stanford Grange #808 will serve a Chicken & Biscuits Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 19, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All dinners are take out only at 5 p.m. The menu will consist of chicken with gravy & mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, homemade biscuits, apple/walnut/cranberry salad, and cherry pie for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. Drive to the back door of the Grange Hall, pay for your dinner, get your food through your car window, and take it home to enjoy. All CDC & Gov. Hochul's Health Guidelines will be followed. Call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton for reservations at (845) 868-7869.

Innisfree sets lecture series

Innisfree Garden is hosting a lunchtime lecture series via Zoom, with the next one scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. In "Effective Solutions for Dealing with Deer," Innisfree trustee Brad Roeller shares his philosophy that by learning about the environmental and biological factors which influence deer and their food choices, homeowners and professionals can implement informed strategies for deer-proofing their landscapes. Lectures all start at 1 p.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$15 (free for Innisfree members); register at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/innisfreegarden>.

Upcoming events include:

"A New Way of Thinking about Gardens, Nature, and Ourselves" with James Golden, Wednesday, March 2;

"Painting the Romantic Landscape: Claude Lorrain to the Hudson River School" with John McGiff, Wednesday, March 23;

"Landscape, Poetry and Ecology: Romanticism at Innisfree" with Paul Kane, Wednesday, April 6;

"Romanticism at Innisfree" with Katherine H. Kerin, Wednesday, April 20.

Blood drive at Poughkeepsie Galleria Feb. 23

Dutchess County will host a blood drive on Feb. 23 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Poughkeepsie Galleria J.C. Penney store, (lower level outdoor entrance) 2001 South Road, in Poughkeepsie. The blood drive is in partnership with New York Blood Center.

One may sign up at nybc.org or call 1-800-933-2566.

Wilderstein sets lecture Feb. 24

"Wilderstein Digital Products & Experiences," a talk by Craig St. Clair, Wilderstein board member and curatorial committee chair, is set on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m., via Zoom. Visit www.wilderstein.org to register.

This lecture will introduce Wilderstein's digital catalog and archival collections, with particular emphasis on the making of the new interactive timeline and how the digital catalog will be used to create more virtual experiences in the future.

Rhinecliff Soup Sale set Feb. 24

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co. and Rhinebeck Grange #896 will hold their Soup Sale on Thursday, Feb. 24. From 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on those dates, a choice of soup or chili will be available for take-out at the cost of \$10 per quart. To order ahead, email Joe at baerhands@aol.com or call the firehouse at (845) 876-6149 beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Rhinecliff Firehouse, on the corner of Shatzell Avenue and Orchard Street in Rhinecliff. Pick up at side window on Orchard. Profits will alternate between the two community organizations.

Line Dancing set at

Poughkeepsie Senior Center

The Town of Poughkeepsie Recreation will hold a Country Line Dancing Night at the Senior Center, 14 Abe's Way, Poughkeepsie, on Friday, Feb. 25, from 7 to 10 p.m. There is free admission, and non-perishable donations to the Food Pantry will be accepted. Visit www.poughkeepsietownrec.com or call (845) 485-3628 for more information.

Stanford Grange Indoor Tag Sale

Stanford Grange #808 will host an Indoor Tag Sale on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All new items will be featured. Proceeds will benefit the Grange's continual community service projects and maintenance for the Grange Hall. All CDC & Governor Hochul's Health Guidelines will be followed. No donations of items for the sale, please - we don't have room to store them. Please call the Grange Hall at (845) 868-1700 to request more information.

Concerts set at Millbrook Library

The Millbrook Arts Group will present "Southland, Swing & Spain," a monthly concert series, at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane. The schedule:

Thomasina Winslow - Blues Singer and Guitarist - Feb. 26;

Teresa Broadwell - Swing Violinist and Singer - March 26;

Maria Zemantauski - Flamenco Guitar Master - April 30.

Concert run from 5 to 7 p.m.

Mental Hygiene Board meeting Feb. 28

The Dutchess County Mental Hygiene Board will be holding its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, Feb. 28, at noon. One may participate via Microsoft Teams Meeting by phone in by dialing 1-516-268-4602 and enter Conference ID number 261 140 008#.

The Dutchess County Mental Hygiene Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January and February (which due to holidays are held the 4th Monday of those months) and there is no meeting in August.

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 further information, e-mail info@vanderbiltgarden.org, visit <http://www.vanderbiltgarden.org> or call (845) 229-6432.

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Death on the Nile (PG13)

Blacklight (PG13)

Jackass Forever (R)

Spider-Man: No Way Home (PG13)

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Senior snow-clearing safety

The National Safety Council notes that shoveling is responsible for thousands of injuries and as many as 100 deaths every winter. The Dutchess County Office for the Aging offers these recommendations to heart before heading out to clear snow.

- Shoveling safety**
- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking;
 - Take it slow and stretch out before you begin;
 - Shovel only fresh, powdery snow;

have a younger person take care of the heavy stuff;

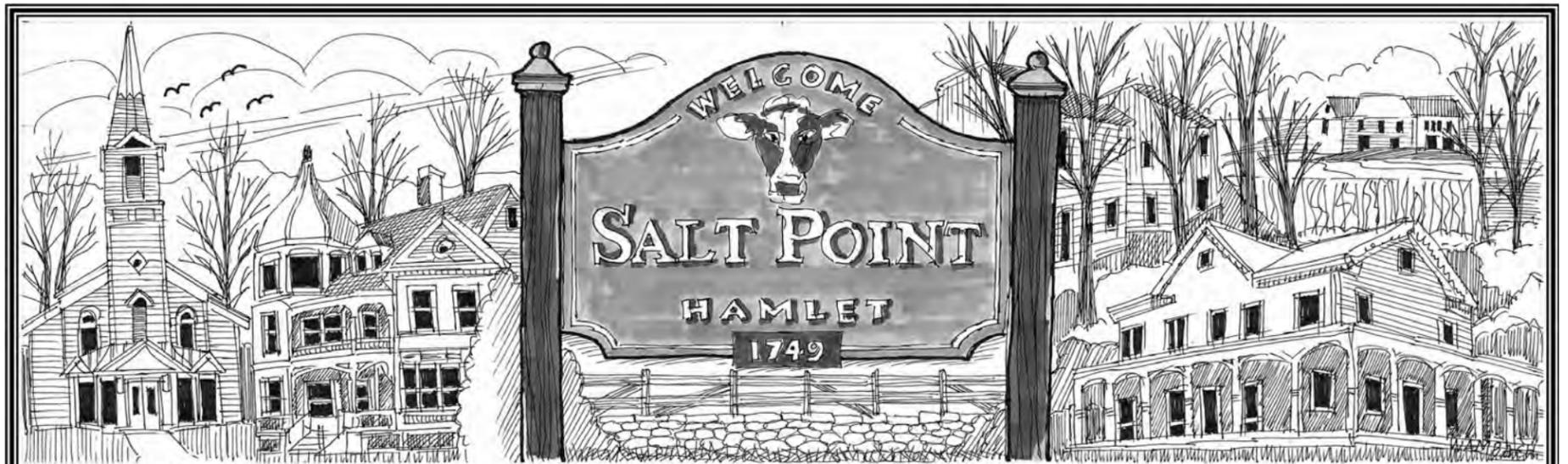
- Push the snow rather than lifting it;
- If you must lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel;
- Lift with your legs, not your back;
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion;
- Keep emergency contact information in a jacket pocket;
- If you experience shortness of breath, chest pain, nausea, a cold sweat or light-

headedness, STOP SHOVELING and call 911. Emergency medical service providers can begin treatment up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to a hospital by car.

Snow blower safety

A snow blower can reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of heart strain. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons has additional recommendations:

- If the blower jams, turn it off;
- Keep your hands away from the moving parts;
- Be aware of the carbon monoxide risk of running a snow blower in an enclosed space;
- Add fuel outdoors, before starting, and never add fuel when it is running;
- Never leave it unattended when it is running.



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Modest physical activity offers many benefits

With the weather turning a bit milder in recent days, I took the opportunity to slip on my walking shoes and head outside for some exercise in the fresh air. I quickly found myself out of breath! It's been a while for me, and I'm sure my excuses sound a lot like your excuses when it comes to getting regular exercise: It's too cold out. It's too icy. It's too ... much. I hear you!

We can be forgiven for staying indoors in wintertime, especially these days with COVID still a concern. But I think it will soon be time for us to finally emerge from our cocoons, get up from our easy chairs, and head out for some modest physical activity. You don't have to walk across the country to make a positive impact on your health, of course! No, the experts tell us small, gradual changes are often best. I agree with that, and I think slowly adding modest activity to our routines can add up to truly life-changing effects in the future.

Everyone knows the life-saving work of MHA Dutchess Veterans programs, which houses the life-saving Joseph P. Dwyer Vet 2 Vet program in Dutchess County, in supporting the mental health of our local veteran community. They realize mental health and physical health are closely related, and that's probably why they host social activities for local

veterans like bowling and indoor golf, for example. Simply getting out of the house and getting our legs moving can provide such wonderful benefits – not the least of which are, a change in our moods and a smile on our faces! The hardest part for many of us is taking that first step out the door. But once we take that step, we quickly already realize this is a good idea, and that keeps us going.

As I just mentioned, MHA Dutchess is hosting their annual indoor golf tourney in Poughkeepsie on March 26th. This might be the perfect opportunity to dust off your old clubs and join local veterans in some fun, modest physical activity! You can find out more by calling Maggie at MHA Dutchess Veterans programs at (845) 473-2500, ext. 3083, or email events@mhadutchess.org. I hope you check out this worthwhile event!

And I think many other veteran service organizations here in the Hudson Valley are realizing the benefits to overall health from modest exercise and social activity. A quick glance at social media these days will show all sorts of outdoor activities for veterans to get some fresh air and spend some quality time with other veterans, including equine therapy, kayaking, walking, and painting, just to name a few!

Or if you are like me, you might better enjoy the simple solitude of just walking



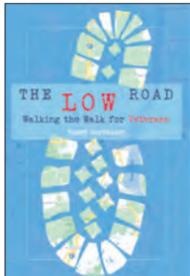
Tommy Zurhellen is accompanied by Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro (left), Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson (right) and others crossing the Walkway in August 2019 on the final day of the VetZero Walk Across America. *Courtesy photo*

in a quiet spot. Now that the ice and snow are starting to melt away, I know I should do more of it! Of course, we should always consult our medical professionals before engaging in any exercise program. If you see me chugging along on a pathway or sidewalk near you, please stop and say hey!

Thanks to MHA Dutchess Veterans Programs for their amazing work and for always hosting fun, social activities to support our veterans! And thank you, for

listening. See you next time!

A Navy veteran, Tom Zurhellen has been Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Poughkeepsie for the past three years. In the summer of 2019, he walked across America from Portland, Oregon, to Poughkeepsie to raise awareness on veteran suicide and veteran homelessness in our country. He continues to work with local veterans in need through the VetZero Project, in partnership with Hudson River Housing.



TAKE THE HIGH ROAD AND BUY 'THE LOW ROAD'!

Tom Zurhellen chronicles his 2019 VetZero Walk Across America in his new book, "The Low Road: Walking the Walk for Veterans." The Walk raised awareness of the plight of many veterans in our country, and called attention to the fact that, every day, 22 veterans take their own lives. Proceeds from "The Low Road" will go directly to help local veterans in need through the VetZero Project at Hudson River Housing. The book costs \$22 and can only be purchased at www.hudsonriverhousing.org.

Beekman soldier returns home following deployment to Kuwait, Syria



Staff Sergeant Robert J. Contini of Beekman supervises the destruction of unexploded mines and ammunition in Kuwait. *Courtesy photo*

Submitted by Alexander Contini

BEEKMAN – It was touch and go as Staff Sergeant Robert J. Contini of Beekman traveled home Christmas Eve after a 10-month military deployment to Kuwait and Syria.

Contini, a member of the 1108th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company (EOD), New York Army National Guard, arrived at Fort Bliss, Texas for out-processing on Dec. 17 after accompanying his unit's equipment home from Kuwait. The paperwork wasn't completed until the afternoon of Dec. 24. With the constant threat of flight cancellations, Robert flew three hops from El Paso to Dallas then to Chicago finally arriving in Albany at 9:30 p.m. Christmas Eve. He was met by his fiancé Adrienne.

The 1108th EOD was deployed in support of Operation Spartan Shield. SSG Contini lead a team of ordnance disposal technicians clearing unexploded mines and munitions. He worked closely with

units of the 29th Infantry Division as well as NATO and Kuwaiti units to make their operations area safe for nomads as well as the military.

Contini was a liaison with the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait. His team cleared all the helicopter landing zones in north Kuwait of unexploded items. He disposed of more than 150,000 pieces of ammunition and explosives.

To facilitate the withdraw from Afghanistan, he worked day and night to successfully assist a humanitarian group with evacuating 44 high-risk Afghans from Kabul through coordination with the area task force command. In Syria he led his team to support runway clearance at a U.S. Army forward operating base.

For his actions on this deployment, Staff Sergeant Contini was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal.

Robert is the son of Alexander and Deborah Contini of the Town of Beekman.

Marist lowers COVID-19 alert level on campus

by Rich Thomaselli

In a sign we might be inching back toward some sense of normalcy, Marist College announced last week it is lowering its COVID-19 campus alert level from orange to yellow.

The change took effect on Feb. 10.

The Town of Poughkeepsie college had been operating on something similar to a traffic light system – red being the worst, followed by orange, yellow and finally green meaning all things are normal.

“This improvement is a direct result of our work together: students, faculty, and staff committing to our three pillars of public health: masking, vaccination including boosters, and symptomatic testing,” Marist vice-presidents Geoff Brackett, Thom Wermuth and Deb DiCaprio wrote in an email to students and parents. “We are extremely grateful to each of you who have complied with

the guidance and appreciate your efforts.”

The yellow means just what you think it does – slow down and proceed with caution. Wearing masks on campus and to classes is still in effect, but dropping the alert means events on campus can proceed again.

- External visitors are permitted in residence halls with a completed Marist Guest Attestation.

- Events Comprised of ONLY Marist Community Members has increased to 70 percent capacity.

- Food and drink may be served at events; however, masks must be worn when not actively eating or drinking.

- Events Comprised of external and Marist Community Members are also increased to 70 percent capacity.

“Our goal is to continue managing our public health to reduce COVID-19 risk and allow the dashboard to get to green,” the VPs wrote.

New mobile command post proposal sent to County Legislature for approval

To ensure Dutchess County continues to effectively and efficiently respond to emergency events, County Executive Marc Molinaro has forwarded a resolution to the County Legislature for the purchase of three vehicles critical the Department of Emergency Response’s (DER) mission of preparing and responding to emergencies in the community, including a new state-of-the-art Mobile Communication Command Post vehicle.

Molinaro said, “Dutchess County remains committed to supporting the dedicated staff at our Department of Emergency Response, as well as Dutchess County’s first responders, all of whom work daily to keep our residents as safe as possible. Investing in these vehicles allows the County to better respond to emergencies with a larger, fully outfitted command center; continue to provide valuable fire investigation services to local fire departments; and realize long-term cost savings, compared to costly leases. I thank the members of the Legislature for their shared pledge to keep Dutchess County and its residents safe, and I look forward to legislators’ consideration and approval of this important investment.”

The new Mobile Communication Command Post will be a 45-foot vehicle equipped with state-of-the-art apparatuses to more effectively serve the community and will replace the current, 30-foot-long command post vehicle that has been deployed throughout the County for large-scale community events, including large events such as marathons, mass distribution of COVID-19 test kits and numerous local Community Day events, in addition to countless emergencies throughout its 17 years of service. The Mobile Communication Command Post serves as a shared resource for all emergency services in Dutchess County, including local municipal officials, law enforcement and emergency responders. Any agency can request DER to operate the Command Post at an emergency scene or pre-planned event as a central hub for incident command. The equipment in the current vehicle, however, has become outdated and no longer sufficiently meets various communication needs, due to limited internet, radio and network capability. Additionally, the size of the current vehicle is very restrictive, creating inefficiency for incident leaders.

Featuring a bus chassis, the new Command Post will have double the amount of usable workspace of the current vehicle, with “slide outs” to increase

space as needed, allowing both command and communications teams to operate simultaneously. The vehicle will be equipped with IP based radio and computer equipment that is easy to replace as technology changes. It will feature both satellite and advance bonded cellular networking and there will be connectivity to County and 9-1-1 computer networks allowing access to the 9-1-1 phone system and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software. Local emergency service agencies will be able to connect to their technology and networks as well. The vehicle is being purchased through New York State bid for \$1.5 million, and is available for quick delivery from the manufacturer, despite recent supply chain issues.

DER will also purchase a new Fire Investigation Division (FID) vehicle, replacing its outmoded, 25-year-old predecessor. The FID assists local fire chiefs at the scene of incidents to determine the cause and origin of fires or explosions. The members of the FID are highly trained volunteers who are on-call 24 hours a day and, in 2021, the team investigated 54 incidents. The new vehicle will house equipment and tools necessary for investigations and will feature a separate interview room to assist investigation on-scene and will be purchased for \$500,000.

The vehicle purchases are part of the County’s goal to have resources where they are needed. The County has also recently ordered a Mobile Community Health Clinic vehicle—which will be centered on serving outlying communities in northern and eastern Dutchess County, but available to every community. This mobile unit will expand the County’s health services and allow recovery coaches to offer more residents full-service physical and behavioral wellness services, including infectious disease services and testing; immunizations, such as COVID-19 vaccinations; and intake screenings, referrals and links to community partners. This customized vehicle has an extended delivery timeline due to ongoing supply chain issues.

The \$2.1 million emergency response vehicles purchase will be funded through an appropriation from the County’s General Fund balance. The Dutchess County Legislature’s Public Safety Committee reviewed the resolution its Legislative Committee meeting on Thursday, Feb 10 and the full Legislature was to vote on the purchase approval at its Board meeting on Monday, Feb. 14.

Full wedding giveaway tops Renegades’ promotional schedule

by Rich Thomaselli

The Hudson Valley Renegades, about to enter their second year as a long-season Class A minor league baseball franchise of the New York Yankees, have announced their 2022 promotional schedule at nearby Dutchess Stadium in Fishkill.

The Renegades, also in their first year under new ownership with Diamond Baseball Holdings after 27 seasons of being owned by The Goldklang Group, will have the usual array of promotions, entertainers and fireworks among their scheduled 66 home games.

But the big draw this year will come on August 13. That’s when the team will give away a full wedding at a game to a fan for the first time in team history. Planning the details of the ceremony and party will be handled completely by the Renegades for the couple and up to 100 guests.

Couples wishing to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity may email Zach Neubauer at zachn@vrenegades.com with why they should be selected.

“Between rescheduling, booked venues,

and financial pressures, the pandemic has created challenging times for many engaged couples,” Steve Gliner, President and General Manager of the Renegades, said in a statement. “We wanted to help out and throw a memorable wedding celebration here at The Dutch for a deserving couple courtesy of the Renegades.”

In addition to Free Wedding Night, the Renegades’ home schedule features the most jam-packed promotional schedule in team history, with a unique theme at every home game. The Renegades have 10 giveaways, five special appearances and four interactive fan competition games planned for the season.

“With Opening Day right around the corner, we are very excited to once again deliver a first-class fan experience to the Hudson Valley,” said Gliner. “Every game we have something that fans of all ages can enjoy and leave with lasting memories.”

For the full promotional schedule, head to the team website at hvrenegades.com

The Renegades open their schedule on April 8 with a nine-game road trip starting in Greenville, S.C. The home opener is April 19.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

THE GREATEST DOT-TO-DOT BOOKS

No Dots
Connect Numbers:
1 - 101
A - C
X - Z

Tip: Aim for the middle of each number.

By David Kalvitis

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13th annual Robbie Burns Supper Feb. 25

The 13th annual Robbie Burns Supper/Celebration has been rescheduled to Friday, Feb 25 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Hudson House Distillery in West Park.

David Archer of DAAssociates PR has announced that "In recognition of the maturity and growth of the Distilling Industry in the Hudson Valley the annual Robbie Burns Supper has created our annual Distillery Leadership award to recognize an individual leader in the Hudson Valley Distillery community. This year's honoree is Tuthilltown Founder Ralph Erenzo.

"Part of the net proceeds and contributions from the evening will also go towards establishing the Robert Burns Scholarship Fund. An annual scholarship supporting the study of distillery sciences, given in memory of Ralph's son Gable, in acknowledgement of Gable and Ralph Erenzo's contributions to the distilling industry in the Hudson Valley."

Archer continued that "with an increased capacity and an exciting new

location, we are further developing this much anticipated annual Hudson Valley Event. We are formalizing the Presenting entity into the Robert Burns Scottish Society of the Hudson Valley Inc, to be a non-profit 501(c-3) organization, creating this annual Distillery award and the Robert Burns Scholarship Fund. We will also continue to grow this annual event and plan to produce other events in the same vein throughout the year, storytelling, poetry readings, concerts etc."

"Ralph and Gable have been friends to and supporters of the Robbie Burns Supper since we started in 2009. With all that Burns wrote about whiskey and the fine traditions that Scotch and whiskey have inspired, and given the current circumstances, it only seems appropriate this year to create this Honorary Distillery Award and to honor Ralph and Gable."

For the last 12 years the celebration of the life and art of the legendary poet Robert Burns on his birthday month at The Rhinecliff Hotel, now that The Rhinecliff has closed, to continue the tra-

dition the event has moved to the Hudson House Distillery on the banks of the Hudson in West Park.

With your host, the renowned Hudson Valley Storyteller Jonathan Kruk, Master Piper Jeremy Freeman, plus the Honorable Haggis, Whiskey tastings and other Special Guests. A much-anticipated tradition in the Hudson Valley, The Traditional Robbie Burns Night Supper/Celebration features the recitation of Burns's poetry, a traditional Scottish 3 course pre-fixe dinner with the entrance of the haggis, storytelling, songs, and whisky toasts. "It's all about the party. It's about good food, entertainment and good company."

Presented by DAAssociatesPR in Association with The Hudson House Distillery. Seating for the Supper is Limited! Event Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available. Call 914-299-0837 or email DAAssociatesPR@gmail.com to discuss. Make Supper Reservations online @<https://thehudsonhousesny.square.site>

or call at 1-845-834-6007. \$75.00pp includes tax & gratuity or \$125.00 pp for a Donor Ticket which includes a pre-show Distillery tour & a meet & greet photo oppty with Jonathan Kruk. All current Covid protocols will be followed, only those fully vaccinated with proof of vaccination will be admitted."

This year's Robbie Burns Night ceremonies will include the requisite parade or "Piping-in" of the Haggis, along with the traditional Selkirk Grace, the Toast to the Lassies and the Lassies' Response (for a bit of good-natured battle-of-the-sexes humor). Throughout the celebration master piper Jeremy Freeman will play the bagpipes; storyteller Jonathan Kruk and other special guests will share stories from the life of Burns. Participants are encouraged to bring songs, poems and stories by, about, and in the spirit of the Bard of Ayrshire at the end, everybody joins in singing Auld Lang Syne, in a context that makes a lot more sense than on New Year's Eve. They will also announce our new initiatives.

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Wishbone Ash will play at Daryl's House Club in Pawling on Feb. 24. Photo by Michael Liebmann

CLASSIC ROCKERS WISHBONE ASH RETURN TO DARYL'S HOUSE CLUB FEB. 24

Wishbone Ash, one of the pioneers of an influential twin-lead guitar style, will perform at Daryl's House Club in Pawling on Thursday, Feb. 24. Due to the pandemic, this will be the first time in two years that the band has toured in the States.

"Thankfully, before Covid-19 shut live music down around the world, we did manage to celebrate our 50th anniversary by touring Europe and other territories in support of our new album, 'Coat of Arms,'" says founding member Andy Powell (guitar, lead vocals). "The USA was not quite so lucky, missing out on the party. So we'll be resuming the celebration for our friends and fans who missed out due to the pandemic."

Formed in the U.K., in October 1969,

Wishbone Ash developed a melodic style of twin-lead guitar that inspired such groups as Thin Lizzy and Iron Maiden. Influenced equally by British folk traditions, American jazz and R&B, the band played to public and critical acclaim.

The quintessential road band, Wishbone Ash has gained worldwide recognition, based firmly on a regime of relentless touring and recording.

Powell trades licks with Yorkshire's Mark Abrahams, who has been playing Wishbone Ash tunes since his youth. Bob Skeat keeps the low-end rocking, working the grooves with newest band member Mike Truscott on drums.

For tour dates and more information, visit www.wishboneash.com.



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

Suguru

	5				
	2				
			3		
	5				
			2	1	

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

ACROSS

1. Family members, for short
5. La __, Bolivia
8. Arthur with a racket
12. Mine entrance
13. Nasal detection
16. Ferris wheel rider's cry
17. Sheep shelter
18. Turner and others
19. Of an age
20. Impulse to steal
23. Common contraction
24. Houston, familiarly
25. Heavy
27. Performance
30. Middle chapter in a book with 27 chapters
32. Tennis shoe
35. Ecclesiastical title
38. Gaze
39. Money exchanger's fee
40. Names for five Scandinavian kings
43. Actor Richard
44. Fictional Uncle
46. Least adorned
48. Watch
51. Common contraction
52. Spot
53. Place to fish
55. Little bee, backwards
57. Despicable one
59. Runs
64. Baseball's Hershiser
66. Lamp resident
67. Weather forecast
68. Dough for pasta, before 2002
69. Gray and Moran
70. This: Sp.
71. Final
72. __ up; arrange
73. Musical instrument

DOWN

1. Bag
2. False deity
3. Nip
4. Small progressions
5. Light-colored animal
6. Syria, once
7. Of a region
8. Wonder
9. Contractions in size
10. Summer complaint
11. Sea dwellers
14. Steeds' features
15. Thai, for one
21. Means of transportation
22. Beverages
26. __ up; consumed
27. Without __; unworried
28. Tricky
29. School-year divisions
31. Mr. Kilmer
33. Eliminate
34. French pension
36. Uncertainty
37. Drink like Fido
41. State whose flower is the orange blossom: abbr.
42. Most full of gritty particles
45. __ Teasdale
47. Fatal day in 44 B.C.
49. Shelf
50. More handicapped
54. Skimpy garments
56. Old anesthetic
57. Baked product
58. Opera solo
60. Reasonable bedtime
61. At __; military command
62. Ceremony
63. Winter sight
65. Permit

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

The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 15



This takes the (cup)cake

Sweeten the winter days with these luscious treats.

What a wild ride this winter has been so far! Certainly not the snowiest on record, but with temperatures dipping way below freezing and then in the upper 40s the next day, sleet, ice storms and just enough of the cold white stuff to mess up the occasional morning commute, it hasn't been without its challenges. At least where I live. Still, I can't say I've found it all unpleasant. Curling up and cozy on the couch with my dog and a warm blanket to watch a movie on a cold day does tend to make one grateful. And days like these are just made for baking: the smell of something in the oven just before it's done, the dusting of cocoa powder on the cheeks, the spoon to lick, that first bite you reward yourself with – that makes for a good day in my book!

Now before you think I've lost my mind – I've haven't. Quite – I do know that you will be reading this sometime after February 14, even as I'm writing this before Valentine's Day. Why is that important? Because the recipe I'm about to share is one I came up with for Cupid's favorite holiday. Sure, I could just as easily have left that part out or saved all this for a more timely article, but then I thought about it and decided I needed to share it now because, well, love. Who says you can't just surprise those you love with a little something, just because? I don't need no stinking holiday to tell me when it's the right time to show affection! So here we are, about to extend the love!

Before we get to the recipe, though, a few more thoughts. One of the challenges of baking this time of year is the whole "room temperature" thing. My kitchen is none too toasty in winter, it being an old house with a high ceiling and drafty windows. So leaving something out of the fridge to warm up doesn't happen so much. When it comes to things like butter, which needs to be of a certain softness to whip into spreadable smoothness, there are ways to soften it up without overdoing it as you (and by 'you' I mean 'I') might in the microwave. It's important to get it to the right temperature: too cold and it won't aerate (which is what recipe directions call creaming) and will give you dense cake or clumpy frosting; too warm and the air bubbles collapse and will again be dense or just collapse the end result.

And just what is considered room temperature? Most agree about 60 degrees, but you don't need a thermometer to test it. Just poke your butter. If it leaves an indent without completely losing its shape, consider it ready. So, if your house is typically as chilly as mine, or if you didn't have time to naturally bring your butter to room temp, pour some boiling water into a heatproof bowl, let sit for 15

seconds or so, empty and place it upside down over your butter for several minutes. I check it after 5 and flip it over. If it still isn't soft enough, try cutting it into pieces first. Trust me, it's important! I was too pressed for time when I last made this recipe and my too-cold butter gave me lumpy unattractive frosting. (insert frowny face) Now back to the love...

CUPID'S CHOCOLATE CHERRY CUPCAKES

Oh, I'm sorry: Did I fail to mention these rich, delicious babies are gluten free?! Never mind that now – you really can't tell. Besides, this way EVERYONE gets some love! And, yes, you can make these gluten-ful if you prefer. Heck, you can even use boxed cake mix. I won't judge. It's really more about the combination of flavors and the presentation. You can also play with different fillings. I think I might try cream cheese whipped cream next time or even whipped marshmallow!

Also worth noting is that I use really good Maraschino cherries; that is natural ones, not the freakishly neon pink variety. My brand of choice is Bada Bing and I can't recommend them enough! You're likely to find them near ice cream or cocktail fixin's in stores. I use them a lot and with good reason. They look and taste like cherries. Go figure!

Gluten-Free CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 6 tablespoons butter, cut into pieces
 - 1/2 cup Dutch-processed unsweetened cocoa powder
 - 1/3 cup strong brewed coffee
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1 cup all-purpose gluten-free flour (Bob's Red Mill 1-to-1 is a good one)
 - OR 3/4 cup rice flour and 1/4 cup tapioca flour
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1/3 cup sour cream
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 6 maraschino cherries, patted dry, stems removed, cut in half
 - 12 whole maraschino cherries, patted dry (optional)

CUPCAKES METHOD:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place cupcake liners in a standard 12-cup muffin tin.

Melt butter over a double boiler. Sift in cocoa powder, then stir in coffee until smooth and well combined.

In a large bowl whisk together sugar, flour(s), baking powder, salt and baking soda. Mix in sour cream, eggs and vanilla, just to combine. Stir in chocolate mixture.

Divide evenly among prepared muffin

tin cups, filling each about 3/4 full. You may have enough to make a few more – lucky you!

Bake about 25 minutes until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Set on a rack to cool. You can do up to this step a day ahead.

Cut a small cone in the top of each cupcake and cut the cone so just the top remains (you get to eat the other part!). You'll be putting your filling in the hole and replacing the top before topping with ganache.

CHOCOLATE GANACHE

You can make this while the cupcakes bake so it has time to chill. Better yet, make it a few hours ahead so it really sets up.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 8oz bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped

METHOD:

Heat cream in a small saucepan until hot and steamy – DO NOT boil or the chocolate may separate and your ganache won't be smooth.

Place chocolate in a heatproof bowl and pour the hot cream over top, give a stir and let sit 10 minutes to melt the chocolate. Mix until glossy and smooth. Chill until it sets up enough to spread, about 1 hour.

CHERRY FROSTING & FILLING

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 tablespoons butter, softened
- 2 cups confectioner's sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 4 tablespoons Maraschino cherry juice

METHOD:

Combine butter, 1 cup of the sugar and the vanilla. Beat well until smooth and creamy. Add remaining cup of sugar and cherry juice and blend until very smooth. It should be a beautiful shade of dark pink.

Chill to set a little. Place a small zip-top bag into a glass and fold it over the sides



Cupid's Chocolate Cherry Cupcakes.
Photo by Vicki Frank Day

to hold it open. Spoon filling into the bag, zip it up and cut a small triangle off one tip of the bag. Squeeze some filling into each cupcake hole, top with half a cherry, replace the cupcake cap and press slightly to make it level with the top.

Spread ganache on top of each cupcake and top with a whole cherry. Makes 12.

With weeks of chilly weather yet to come, why not bake up some love? It's worth celebrating so much more than once a year, after all! Enjoy!

Vicki Frank Day is a graphic artist with more than two decades of experience in different aspects of the food service industry. She is the Content Marketing Specialist for Adams Fairacre Farms where she has worked for 25 years, with in-depth food research being an integral part of her marketing position. She believes that cooking is for everyone and should be a pleasurable journey, that food should be experienced, not merely eaten, and that special occasions can be an everyday celebration. E-mail her at vfrankday@adamsfarms.com.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION SATURDAY AT POUGHKEEPSIE GALLERIA
A Chinese New Year Celebration in the Poughkeepsie Galleria Center Court will be held on Saturday, Feb. 19, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. An annual tradition in the Mud-Hudson area, this is the first year the event will be held at the Galleria in partnership with the Mud-Hudson Chinese Community Association. Crafts, music, and demonstrations will be brought by the Mid-Hudson Chinese Language Center, Mid-Hudson Huaxia Chinese School, and the Mid-Hudson Chinese Christian Church.
"We're incredibly proud to be hosting the Chinese New Year Celebration for the first time," said Alannah Gallagher, Director of Marketing at the Poughkeepsie Galleria. "Join us as we celebrate cultural diversity and the Year of the Tiger with our community partners."
The celebration will showcase the Asian heritage while highlighting our local community partners. Enjoy performances by the Mid-Hudson Chinese Community Youth Orchestra, the Lion Dance Team of the Mid-Hudson Chinese Language Center, as well as interactive arts and crafts about the tradition of Chinese New Year.
The health and safety of its guests is the Galleria's top priority. For more information, visit <https://www.poughkeepsiegalleriamall.com/event/year-of-the-tiger-2022-chinese-new-year-celebration/>

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James Brown, Gardener

Mount Gulian's head gardener left a diary filled with interesting historical tidbits and snippets of everyday life in the 19th century.

James Francis Brown was born into slavery in 1793, but escaped from a Maryland plantation at age 25. Making his way to New York City, Brown found employment as a coachman for the Verplanck family at their Wall Street townhouse. The Verplancks owned an estate on the Hudson River just north of the present-day city of Beacon (then known as Fishkill Landing), which they called Mount Gulian, after the family patriarch, Gulian Verplanck.

James Brown transferred to Mount Gulian in 1829 to become head gardener. He was intensely interested in politics, religion, temperance and, above all, gardening. The 4,000 page diary he kept is a treasure trove of anecdotes and observations about everyday life in Dutchess County 180 years ago.

• May 3, 1829 (first entry) – “Took a walk in the woods this day and found a very pretty bunch of water flowers; brought them home and gave them a place in the flower garden among the wild plants in the collection.”

• May 28, 1829 – “Today the weather has been quite pleasant although the morning was cloudy, early in the morning. The carpenters began the fence round the new garden.”

• March 5, 1810 – “Early this morning the weather was clear and afterwards it clouded over very like rain. Sloop passed down the river today but was stopped by the ice. The seeds in the hot beds well up. Mrs. DeWindt dined with Mrs. Verplanck.”

• May 14, 1838 – “One part of this day has been cloudy and then it has been very warm. This day sowed tomatoes (in hot

beds), cauliflower, broccoli and early york cabbage. Trimmed bean poles and stakes for raspberries and shot a wild cat. The ice on the river is breaking up very fast. The ferry boat Enterprise came cross the river for the first time this season but there has been no steam boat up from New York.”

• August 16, 1842 – “Earthed up the celery the 3rd time.”

• September 16, 1842 – “Preparing for the State Fair.”

• September 18, 1842 – “We went to the state fair in Poughkeepsie and returned in the afternoon.”

• February 3, 1845 – “Very cold. Thermometer 1 above zero. Finished filling ice house and in the night it began to snow and continued until morning. Mr. Adriance lost a horse through the ice in the River between the Long Dock and Low Point on the flats.”

• July 4 1845 – “Worked all day in the garden. The weather cool and pleasant. In the evening went to see the fireworks at Newburgh.”

• August 19, 1845 – “No rain yet. Ripe muskmelons for the first time this season. The weather is very dry. But yet we have a good supply of vegetables. There is at the time exhibiting in Orange County a mammoth skeleton of great size. First discovered and taken from a mine pit six miles west of the village of Newburgh, it is certainly a great ancient curiosity. It is visited by a great many people.”

• July 28, 1851 – “The Steamer Henry Clay burned and many lives were lost among them was Mrs. J.P. DwWindt, A.J. Downing, Mrs. Wadsworth. Planted peas and beans for a late crop.”



In the 19th century, Mount Gulian employed James Francis Brown, a free person of color, as the estate's head gardener. Brown kept a diary that contains a treasure trove of anecdotes and observations about everyday life in Dutchess County 180 years ago. *Photo courtesy of Mark Adams*

• March 4, 1853 – “President Pierce was this day inaugurated into office as President of the United States of America. Planted early peas. The weather warm and clear until evening, it clouded over and began to snow.”

• March 1866 (last entry) – “The lowest tide that has been for years in the Hudson River..Persons could walk right down to git eels and fish with the hand.”

Mount Gulian Historic Site will be open for tours this spring. On the website, click on “virtual tours” to see a video

about James Brown, which explores his professional relationship with Mary Anna Verplanck, who designed the original garden in the English Formal style. As a free person of color, and as a free-spirited woman, James and Mary Ann were both way ahead of their time.

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

Lyceum Cinemas to present free films for Black History Month

With the support of the Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, it is Lyceum Cinemas' privilege to present two motion pictures during the month that highlight important events and accomplishments of Black Americans.

On Saturday, Feb. 19, Lyceum will feature “Red Tails,” the story of the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II, a squadron of Black military pilots who shot down more than 100 German planes and repeatedly won Distinguished Unit Citations and other medals for performance in their missions over Europe.

On Saturday, Feb. 26, the featured film will be “42,” the story of Major League Baseball's first Black player and super

star, Jackie Robinson.

“Red Tails” will be shown at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 19; “42” will be shown at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 26. Doors open at 10 a.m. Admission is free and is first come, first served.

President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

Lyceum Cinemas is at 7270 South Broadway in Red Hook. Call (845) 758-3322 for more information.

In honor of Black History Month, Lyceum Cinemas in Red Hook will feature two free films: “Red Tails” on Feb. 19, and “42” on Feb. 26. *Courtesy images*



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FUNDRAISER TOPS UPCOMING SCHEDULE AT CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS AT RHINEBECK

The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck will present “Family within These Walls: A Fundraiser for The Center,” hosted by Paul & JoAnne Schubert, Feb. 18-20. Performances will be on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

All tickets are \$35.

The production is directed by Tamara Cacchione and Louisa Vilardi, with musical performances from past Center productions like “A Chorus Line,” “Sweeney Todd,” “Matilda,” “Company” and many more. It features performances by Jovan Bradley, Andy Crispell, Joe Eriole, Alexandra Haines, Kandy Harris, Maria B. Hickey, Victoria Howland, James Klosty, Harriet Luongo, Frank McGinnis, Marlene Merritt, Olivia Michaels Bogert, Pilar Morgan, Thomas Netter, Joshua Patriarco, Wendell Scherer, Cheyenne See, Jordan Stroly, Elizabeth Thomas, AnnChris Warren, Emily Woolever and Matthew Woolever.

Other upcoming events at The Center

“Master Class” Feb. 25 - March 6

CENTERstage Productions presents “Master Class” directed by Lou Trapani.

Terrence McNally's brilliant two-act play presented as an opera class for aspiring performers as conducted by the legendary Maria Callas in her sunset years. At times bitter, at times assaultive, McNally has created a masterpiece of a character study. Starring Elaine Young as Maria Callas with Sabina Balsamo, Sara Pearson, and Thomas Netter. Also starring Paul Schubert and David Kent.

“The Heiress” March 11 - 20

Directed by Emily DePew

CENTERstage Productions presents the drama, “The Heiress,” written by Ruth and Augustus Goetz, adapted from the 1880 Henry James novel, Washington Square.

Set in New York City in the 1850s, “The Heiress” follows Catherine, a plain-looking but exceedingly wealthy woman who lives with her father, Dr. Austin Sloper, in Washington Square.

Despite having a staff of maids and chefs and the best clothing money can buy, Catherine is awkward, shy and “unmarriageable.” When she falls in love with Morris Townsend, a charming but penniless suitor, Dr. Sloper is immediately suspicious the man is after Catherine's inheritance.

“Henry V” Mar. 25-27 & Apr 1 & 3

CENTERstage Productions presents William Shakespeare's classic, “Henry ,” directed by Joe Eriole.

“Henry V” begins at the English court, where the young king is persuaded that he has a claim to the throne of France. When the French dauphin, or heir apparent, insults him by and Henry launches his military expedition to France.

“Into The Breeches!”

Mar. 31 & Apr. 2, 8, 9, & 10

CENTERstage Productions presents the modern and moving comedy, “Into the Breeches!” written by George Brant and directed by Christine Crawfis.

It's 1942 in Rhinebeck, New York and all of the men are off at war, including all of the leading players of the local community theater. But with an ambitious season of Shakespeare's “Henry IV,” Parts 1 and 2, and “Henry V” on the horizon, how could the show possibly go on? Enter a group of wildly determined and passionate — albeit inexperienced — women who are determined to keep the theatre's doors open.

For ticket information, visit www.centerforperformingarts.org or call (845) 876-3080.

Central Hudson: Customers to see higher winter energy costs

Central Hudson is advising customers of increases in supply prices for both electricity and natural gas as the region navigates a colder than average winter and as global energy factors come into play, prompting an increase in the demand and price for energy. Supply prices are market-based and not marked-up by Central Hudson.

Contributing to higher commodity prices for electricity and natural gas include:

- Increased domestic demand due to colder weather this year as compared to last year.
- Constrained domestic pipeline capacity which curtails gas supplies.
- Lower electric production by renewable generators in the winter, which shifts power production to generators using natural gas.
- Regionally, an increased reliance on natural gas for power generation following the closure of Indian Point.
- Increased global demand for natural gas, as the United States is now a primary exporter of liquefied natural gas to Europe due to shortages there.
- Increase domestic demand for electricity and natural gas as the economy recovers from closures prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Locally, this January featured sustained temperatures that were 11 percent

colder than average and 16 percent colder than January 2021. This contributed to driving gas usage up more than 13 percent and electric usage up nearly 6 percent over January 2021," said Anthony Campagiorni, Senior Vice President of Customer Services and Gas Operations at Central Hudson. "The increased usage, coupled with international and domestic factors, has caused the market price of natural gas and electricity to rise here in our region and around the world. Natural gas has become a global commodity that not only heats our homes but is also heavily relied upon to produce electricity on demand and whenever needed."

Energy bills

Projected Central Hudson bill impacts for natural gas will be an average increase of about 19 percent; about 46 percent for electric bills; and about 29 percent for combination electric and natural gas bills. These bill increases are temporary and may vary for individual customers depending on energy usage and their billing cycle. For example, customers receiving bills now may see the effect of these increases spread out over their current bill and next month's bill.

The increased bills are a result of higher energy prices, which vary and are determined by national and global markets. The February supply charge for

natural gas rose 33 percent as compared to January, while electric supply charges have more than doubled. Utility bills reflect the prevailing market prices for natural gas and electric supply and are passed through, without markup, to pay power plant operators and natural gas providers. As such, customers pay the same price for natural gas and electricity supply that Central Hudson does. Higher prices for energy supply may also impact bills for customers who receive electricity and natural gas from third-party suppliers.

Electric and natural gas bills are divided into two main components: Delivery and Supply. Delivery charges are set by state regulators and pay for the energy infrastructure and utility operations, while supply charges are for the electricity and natural gas itself provided by independent generators and suppliers.

Central Hudson employs hedging measures to help stabilize natural gas and electric supply costs against fluctuating market prices. These measures include contracting for a portion of energy at fixed prices and purchasing gas at pre-season prices and placing it into storage. For this billing period, these hedging measures are saving customers millions of dollars by reducing the impact of market prices for electricity by approximately 28 percent and natural gas by 30 percent.

Energy Efficiency and Billing Programs

Customers can help manage energy costs in various ways, such as implementing energy efficiency measures and exploring their billing options.

Low-cost and no-cost efficiency measures homeowners can take to help manage energy costs include:

- Insulating ducts and hot water pipes where they run through uninsulated areas, such as crawl spaces, and repairing leaks in the duct system;
- Adding insulation, particularly in the attic;
- Turning down thermostats (each degree saves up to three percent on energy use);
- Keeping radiators and heating ducts clear of furniture to allow heat to circulate freely; and/or
- Sealing air leaks with weather stripping and caulk, which can save up to 10 percent on the use of heating fuels.

Central Hudson offers energy efficiency incentives for homes and businesses, including rebates of up to \$1,000 on new, high-efficiency natural gas home heating systems, up to \$1,600 on electric heat pump systems, \$250 on indirect natural gas water heaters and up to \$1,000 on high efficiency heat pump water heaters. A complete description of Central Hudson's rebates and programs is available at www.CentralHudson.com and clicking on "Save."

Discounted energy efficiency products with instant savings for Central Hudson customers are available at local partici-

pating retailers. Available items include LED bulbs, smart thermostats, advanced power strips, water-saving products and more. For a list of participating retailers visit www.CentralHudson.com, click on the "Save" link at the top of the page, then click on "Residential Incentives."

To avoid seasonal variations in energy bills, Central Hudson customers may enroll in the Budget Billing program. Budget Billing divides a household's average annual energy bill into 11 even monthly payments, with the 12th month's payment adjusted up or down to reflect actual usage and market prices. This program makes energy bills more predictable and can help in managing household budgets.

Payment assistance options are also available to qualifying customers like the Bill Discount program for income-qualified customers. The federally funded Home Energy Assistant Program (HEAP) grants are now available and the new Regular Arrears Supplement program that provides up to \$10,000 in utility arrears assistance to eligible households who are unable to pay their unpaid electric and/or gas utility arrears.

Central Hudson's Clean Energy Marketplace allows customers to save up to 10 percent on their utility bill while also investing in local clean energy projects. Residents and businesses may subscribe by visiting <http://CleanEnergyMarket.cenhud.com> to purchase a portion of the electricity produced by the project of their choice.

Other programs include Deferred Payment Agreements that help customers catch up by paying a past-due account balance in monthly installments, the Extra Security Plan which offers an extended billing due-date for qualified customers on a fixed income and the Good Neighbor Fund which provides last resort grants for families who have exhausted all other means of assistance. Learn more about Central Hudson's assistance programs by visiting www.cenhud.com/account-resources/assistance-programs/.

Customers can contact Central Hudson in a variety of ways, including logging on to <http://www.cenhud.com/customer-service/contact-us/> and selecting their preferred form of communication, or by clicking on the green "Chat" tab on the right hand side of the page.

Visit www.CentralHudson.com for more information on winter safety, efficiency incentives, energy saving tips and billing options.

MHA OF DUTCHESS COUNTY VET2VET SUPPORT GROUP SET

MHA of Dutchess County Vet2Vet Support Group will hold its next meeting on Feb. 23, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 515 Haight Avenue in Poughkeepsie. Masks and social distancing are required.

These groups serve as an outlet for veterans to discuss with peers their opinions, challenges, successes and anything else in order to regain balance in their lives. The groups are free, confidential and judgement free. They are open to all veterans despite discharge type, time in services or period of service. Active & Inactive and National Guard members are welcome as well. RSVP is required.

For more information, call (845) 473-2500, ext. 1306 or 1307 or 1365.

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 9)



Answers to this week's diversions (puzzles on page 12)

Suguru solution

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

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

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

OBITUARIES

Irene Louise Brown

HYDE PARK – It is with profound sadness that we tell you of the peaceful passing of our beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Great-Grandmother, Irene Louise Brown of Hyde Park, New York on Saturday, February 5, 2022. Mom was at her home and surrounded by her family. Mom was born on January 19, 1928 to Catherine Kniffen Castle VanNosdall and William VanNosdall in Poughkeepsie, New York. She was the last of nine children to be born to her parents' combined families. Mom graduated from Poughkeepsie High School in 1946 and soon married Keith L. Brown on July 26, 1947. They were married for 59 years, just 3 months short of 60 years, when Dad passed away on April 30, 2007. They had previously lived in Poughkeepsie (town), Wappingers Falls, Vermont, and Hopewell Junction before finally settling in Hyde Park. Mom was employed at the Town Shop and Tilo in Poughkeepsie, but what she enjoyed most was being a wife, homemaker, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was very proud of her Irish heritage. Mom was a perennial optimist. She loved taking care of her two granddaughters while they were young. She immensely loved dogs, decorating her home for every holiday, cooking meals, and doing Jumbo. She had a sharp mind, and among other things, she knew from memory all of her family's birthdays, anniversaries, and other important dates. Always the lady, she loved to dress nicely every day and was disappointed when she had to give up wearing high heels after breaking her hip in 2012. Mom is survived by her loving daughter, Karen Hallock (Brent) of Hopewell Junction, New York and devoted son, Lawrence Brown, of Hyde Park. Also surviving are her adored grandchildren, Sara Futia (John) of Slingerlands, New York, Nicholas Brown (Amanda) of York, South Carolina, and Amanda Greco (Daniel) of Poughquag, New York. She was affectionately known as "Nanny Brown" by the loves of her life, her great-grandchildren, Paul Futia, Anna Futia, Genevieve Greco, Sebastian Brown, and Gianna Brown. Numerous nieces and nephews survive as well. Mom will be forever missed by us all. Mom was predeceased by her parents, husband, and sisters and brothers: Millward Van Nosdall, Margaret (Van Nosdall) Tinkleman, William Castle, Vernon Castle, Lillian (Castle) Jessen, Marie (Castle) Barnum, Harold (Van Nosdall), and Ruth (Van Nosdall) Minneto. Visitation was held on Feb. 10 at the Joseph J. Darrow, Sr. Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie, NY. Burial will be private. Donations in Mom's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105 or Hudson Valley Hospice 374 Violet Ave Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 To send an online condolence please visit www.darrowfuneralhome.org

Carol Blauth

LAGRANGEVILLE – Carol Wissmann Blauth, a caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, left this world peacefully in the afternoon of February 5, 2022. Carol, well known for her loving hugs, her famous German Potato Salad, and her endless variety of homemade Christmas cookies, grew up in a lovingly warm and close-knit household of 8 children in Huntington, NY. She was born to Anna and Ludwig Wissmann on September 26, 1940. Carol was adventurous and loved cruise ships and travelled the world by plane notwithstanding her fear of heights. In her single days, Carol would ride dirt bikes and had a knack for finding mischief at the local dive bars of Long Island with her family and friends. This all ended when she met the love of her life, Paul Blauth, at a dude ranch in upstate New York. They fell in love and were married in 1976. Together they made a loving home in Lagrangeville, NY and raised their family. Carol delighted in her role as a stay-at-home mom so that she could keep careful watch over her flock. She was crafty, skilled and enjoyed painting ceramics, baking, and knitting. She knitted elaborate baby blankets and Christmas stockings for her extended family that they will cherish forever. Carol was a champion of cheesecakes, and no one every left her house hungry. Her deep love and loyalty to her family was apparent and appreciated by all. Carol started her career at All State Insurance and worked there for over 20 years. After leaving All State to raise her family, she volunteered with a variety of groups including meals on wheels, community theater, Arlington PTA, Girl Scouts, Arlington Marching Band Boosters, March of Dimes, Election Poll Registrar, Germania German Club, AARP Tax facilitator, and Davis Studio. Carol is preceded in death by her parents, Ludwig and Anna Wissmann; and her siblings, Robert Wissmann, Marilyn Spiegel, Joanie Wissmann, Richard Wissmann, Thomas Wissmann, and David Wissmann. Carol is survived by her husband Paul and their children; Cheryl and her husband Matthew Moore; Kathie and her husband Brian O'Shea; Christopher and his wife Beth Blauth & children; David Blauth; and Peter Blauth & children; her sister Barbara and her husband Richard Kraese; and a host of beloved

nieces, nephews, godchildren, and close friends. The family wishes to thank the staff at Hudson Valley Extended Care and Rehab in Highland NY as well as Hudson Valley Hospice for the care they gave Carol during her final days. Visitation was held on Feb. 9, 2022 at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., Hopewell Junction. Visitation was also held on Feb. 11, 2022 at A.L. Jacobsen Funeral Home, Inc., Huntington Station. Burial will be private at Melville Cemetery. Donations in her name can be made to Hudson Valley Hospice or American Cancer Society. Please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com or www.jacobsenfuneral.com.

Carol Cronk

STAATSBURG – Carol M Cronk, 79, a longtime Staatsburg resident, passed away on Saturday, February 5th, 2022 at her home. Born on July 4th, 1942, in Poughkeepsie, NY, she was the daughter of the late George and Mae (Malkemus) Wagner. Carol married Jacob "Jake" Cronk on August 10th, 1962 in Salem, MA. Jake predeceased her on July 26, 2001. For 30 years, Carol worked and managed the Rhinebeck Department Store located at the center of Rhinebeck. She was a faithful member of Third Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rhinebeck, NY. Carol is survived by her loving sons, Todd D. Cronk of Poughkeepsie, NY, Mark A. Cronk of Frederick, MD, Bryan (Deanna) A. Cronk of Hyde Park, NY, and David (Michelle) C. Cronk, PhD, of Knoxville, TN; a sister, Barbara Kaiser of Pleasant Valley, NY; her grandchildren, Chrystal, Courtney, Joseph, Christopher, Daniel, and Gavin; her great-grandchildren, Logan & Samantha; along with extended family and friends. Friends called at the Burnett & White Funeral Homes in Rhinebeck on Feb. 10. Funeral services were held on Feb. 11, 2022 at Third Evangelical Lutheran Church, Livingston St., Rhinebeck, with Pastor James Miller. Inurnment will be private at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. Memorial may be made in Carol's memory to a charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Rhinebeck, NY. To sign the online guest book, please visit www.Burnett-White.com.

Gino A. Diamanti

RHINEBECK – Gino A. Diamanti, 91, a longtime resident of Poughkeepsie and recently of Rhinebeck, passed away on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at the Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, NY. Born on November 27, 1930, in Katonah, NY, he was the son of the late Augustine and Madeline Diamanti. Gino married Dolores Tario in Poughkeepsie, NY on February 24, 1952. He earned an Associates degree in Mechanical Engineering before serving his country proudly in the US Navy from 1951-1954. After his discharge he worked for IBM as an operations manager in the Poughkeepsie and Kingston offices, with occasional forays to various parts of Europe until his retirement in 1986. Upon retirement Gino and Dolores traveled the countryside via their motor home, meeting up with children and grandchildren along the way. Fishing, hunting and boating were always part of these adventures. In his free time, Gino enjoyed music and was an accomplished accordionist. He was an avid gardener, earning his reputation as the tomato guru of his neighborhood. Gino was a longtime parishioner, and active member at St. Martin de Porres of Poughkeepsie, NY and most recently at Good Shepherd in Rhinebeck. In addition to his loving wife of 70 years, Dolores, Gino is survived by his children: Gina Diamanti Palmer (John Calogero) of Clinton Corners, NY, Paul Diamanti of Houston, TX, and Gary (Angela) Diamanti of Wake Forest, NC; his grandchildren, Daniela Diamanti (Chris) Jensen of Barrington, RI, and Angelo (Stephanie) Diamanti of Bay Ridge, NY; Branden Diamanti (Kate Carter) of Youngsville, NC, Kayla Diamanti (Michael) White of Wake Forest, NC, great grandchildren; Cameron, Lila, Angelo and Sofia; in addition to extended family and friends. Memorial donations may be made in Gino's memory to the www.vhospice.org or www.garysinesefoundation.org. Friends called at the Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Rhinebeck on Feb. 14, 2022. Funeral services were held on Feb. 15, 2022 at Church of the Good Shepherd, Rhinebeck, NY. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery, Poughkeepsie. Arrangements are under the direction of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Rhinebeck, NY. To sign the online guest book, please visit www.Burnett-White.com.

James Kennedy

MILLBROOK – James M. Kennedy, 87, passed away peacefully at home on February 7th, 2022 with family by his side. Jim was born on June 27, 1934, in New York City. He moved with his family to Millbrook in 1947. Jim married his Marni ("Machree") on October 12, 1957, at St. Peter's of Alcantra, Port Washington, NY. Jim graduated from Fordham University School of Business in 1956 and later attended Fordham University as a graduate student. Jim was a sales manager for AT & T for 25 years. Following his retirement, he joined forces with his son Joseph to establish Kennedy Tree Care from which he retired after 25 years. Jim was a proud member of

the United States Marine Corps, serving in the Presidential Honor Guard and the illustrious SILENT DRILL TEAM performing around the world. Jim was very civic minded. He served as president of the Millbrook Lions Club. He enthusiastically participated in the Millbrook Community Center. Jim loved golf and was a longstanding member of the Millbrook Golf and Tennis Club. He was a devout Catholic and Founded the Eucharistic Ministers with Rev. John Patrick Moore. Jim is survived by his wife, Marni, of 64 years, son Joseph, and daughter Marielle. Jim is also survived by his four grandchildren; Jamie (Rachel) of Saratoga Springs, Meghan of Cobleskill, NY, Matthew (Kim Foshay – fiancé) Parry, Jeffrey Parry, both of Bridgeport, CT. Jim was blessed to have four great grandchildren; Riley, Brody, Londyn, and Connor. Jim was predeceased by his brother, Joseph, his sister, Margaret, and Joseph's fiancé, Kathleen. He was predeceased by his father, Joseph Kennedy, his mother Elizabeth (Jennings) and his infant son, Timothy. The family gratefully thanks Hudson Valley Hospice for their devoted care of Jim. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 11, 2022 at St. Joseph's Church in Millbrook, NY with Rev. Hartley Bancroft. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's hospital and St. Joseph's Church. Millbrook NY. Arrangements entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook. For condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com.

Anne Marie Lake

RED HOOK – Anne Marie (Rogers) Lake of Red Hook, NY, the 67 years young foundation of her family, was unexpectedly called home on February 3, 2022, at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Born on May 27, 1954, in Scotch Plains, NJ, Anne was the youngest daughter of the late Arthur Rogers and Ruth (Jones) Rogers. Anne's love of scrapbooking and sewing allowed her to express her affection through meaningful gifts during holidays, birthdays, or just because she thought about you. Thanksgiving was her absolute favorite holiday because it brought her children and grandchildren together in one place. Anne also welcomed anyone who would like to celebrate the day to come for food and be a part of her famous Thanksgiving BINGO game. She also was an avid card player and enjoyed sitting at the card table with her family and friends, playing any number of card games, pinocle being her favorite. Anne's idea of a perfect vacation included a beach or a pool nearby, hot weather, and room service. If there was sand, there was Anne. Anne met her soulmate Danny A. Lake in 1968, and they were married on June 26th, 1971, in Poughkeepsie. The two renewed their wedding vows in celebration of their recent 50th anniversary. Danny survives at home in Red Hook. Anne was the cherished mother to three children: Danny A. Lake, Jr. (deceased) and wife, Kelly, of Salt Point; Michael J. Lake of Hyde Park; Janel Winters and husband, William, of Hyde Park. Anne extended her love of family to the "Outlaws": Michele Rose, Kelly Miller, and Michael Kelly. Anne was a special grandmother to nine grandchildren: Kayla Donovan and husband, Patrick, Ashlee Thaqi and husband, Krist, Danielle Lake, Preston Lake, Stephanie Lake, Tori Lake, Wyatt Kelly, Cole Kelly, and Emily Winters. Anne was also a terrific "Gigi" to five great-grandchildren: Liam Donovan, Cameron Donovan, Leona Thaqi, Marcus Dandridge, and Allison Dandridge. Anne is survived by her brother, Buddy Rogers, and partner, Patti Doxsey, of Red Hook; her sister, Candy Fowler, of Stedman, NC; and a large extended family of nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to her parents and her son Danny, Anne was predeceased by her brother, Arthur "Sonny" Rogers, Jr. In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place. Memorial calling hours will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2022, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Route 9, Hyde Park, NY. A celebration of Anne's life will be held during the visitation. Burial will occur at the family's convenience at Crum Elbow Cemetery in Hyde Park. Remembrances may be made in the form desired by family and friends. To send an online condolence, please visit www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Joan E. McEleney

RHINEBECK – Joan E. McEleney, 88, of Rhinebeck, passed away peacefully at home on February 5 surrounded by her loving family. Born in the Bronx on February 5, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Helen (Weiss) Breen. On February 11, 1956 at St. Ann's Church in the Bronx, she married Patrick F. McEleney. Mr. McEleney predeceased her in 2006. Joan was full of energy and always on the go. While living in the Bronx, raising five young children and working full time, she attended and graduated from Bronx Community College with a nursing degree. She subsequently worked as an RN at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx. In 1976 she moved to Red Hook, NY where she worked many years in the office of Dr. Richard Bierstock in Rhinebeck. Joan was a faithful parishioner of St. Christopher's Church in Red Hook and Good

Shepherd Church in Rhinebeck. In 2007, she moved to Hopewell Junction, NY, and became a eucharistic minister at the Church of St. Denis. Joan returned to Rhinebeck in 2017. Joan loved to travel and spend time with her family and friends. In addition to her husband, Joan was predeceased by her daughter Eileen McEleney and brother Thomas Breen. She is survived by her sons, Patrick (Judith) of Glenville, NY, Brian of Barbados, Dennis (Luca) of London, UK and Neil (Missie) of Patterson, NY; grandchildren Sean, Ryan, Brendan, Conor, Rebecca, Christopher, and Robert; and great-grandchildren Peyton, Annabelle, and Finnley, as well as many friends and extended family. Calling hours were held at the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, on Feb. 10 and 11. A Mass was celebrated at Good Shepherd Church, 3 Mulberry St., Rhinebeck, on Feb. 11. Burial will be at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Rhinecliff, at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations in honor of Joan can be made to the Good Shepherd Church, 3 Mulberry St., Rhinebeck, NY 12572; Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Av., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, or a charity of your choice. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapson-chestney.com.

Robert I. Ruit

POUGHQUAG – Robert I. Ruit, 101, of Poughquag, NY passed away on February 3, 2022, at the Grand at Pawling. He was born on January 12, 1921, in Patterson, New Jersey to the late Issac and the late Minerva (Sterkenburger) Ruit. Robert "Pop" was born and raised in Patterson, NJ. He enlisted and served in the NAVY from September 22, 1942, and Honorable Discharged on April 29, 1946. He was an Electricians Mate First Class on the USS Tarrad Vessel. He was married to Gladys C. Laux and they lived in Yonkers, NY. He worked for New York Life Insurance in Manhattan. He later moved to Wappingers Falls, NY where he was a self-employed maintenance worker and worked for the Town of Wappingers. Pop loved to Saltwater Fish and spend time with his family. Robert also enjoyed attending Seniors at Wappingers and the Town of Beekman and developed new friendships. Survivors include son and daughter in-law George and MaryAnne Ruit Pembroke Massachusetts, son Thomas Ruit Millerton New York, daughter-in-law Gail Ruit Poughkeepsie New York, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Robert was predeceased by his two sons Robert and Ronald Ruit. Funeral Services are private and at the convenience of the family. Arrangements were handled by the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie, NY. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.doylefuneralhome.com.

Joseph L. Walsh

PINE PLAINS – Joseph L. Walsh was born at home in Poughkeepsie, NY on Oct 11, 1931. He died February 4, 2022, Pine Plains, NY. He graduated high school in 1951 and served in the Air force 1952 to 1956. Went to bootcamp at Sampson Air Force base, trained and worked at Nellis AFB as an Electrical Power Production Repairman. Stationed at Satozaki AFB on Kyushu Japan where he developed his love for Japanese culture. He married Catherine Mary Surico Jan 1, 1957 in Kingston, NY. Divorced 1974 remaining good friends and great parents. Joined the Telephone company after the service. He retired the day his first grandchild was born in 1991 after 37 years with the telephone company. He is survived his brother Vincent and wife Theresa Walsh of Hyde Park, his two children Debora J. Peet of Hyde Park NY, Kevin Walsh and wife Vivian of Pine Plains NY, grandson Kyle Walsh (Tyler Mikels) of Utica NY, granddaughter Paige Walsh of Pine Plains, NY and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents Robert and Dorothy Walsh, and siblings: Robert, John, Dorothy Ann, Frank, and Tom. He enjoyed traveling the country in his motorhome and taking European trips, camping and music festivals with his family were a favorite pastime. His greatest love of all was for his grandchildren. He enjoyed clock repair to keep them ticking and spent countless hours working on them with his daughter Debora. Most of all, he loved large family gatherings where he could celebrate past memories. He never missed an opportunity to share libations with friends, he loved his sake and made a tradition of sharing with his family. He had a great love of the road, especially day trips without a destination. He was known to say "let's see where this road leads." He was a storyteller, he loved people and was always glad to see someone he hadn't seen in a while to catch up with them. For Joe, life was too short, there was never enough time to do all the things he wanted to do. Even in his last days he had a wish list, he was known to say too bad we couldn't have done this or that. He said he had a good life. Calling hours were held Feb. 10. A service was held on Feb. 11 at Joseph J. Darrow Sr. Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie, NY. A graveside prayer with Military Honors followed at St. Peter's cemetery. To send an online condolence, please visit www.darrowfuneralhome.org.

Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE
Index
No. 2021-50761
Date Filed: 1/4/2022
BankUnited N.A.,
Plaintiff,

-against-
Constance Talbert; Jerome L. Frazier, if he be living or dead, his spouse, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; WF HIL 2017-2 Grantor Trust; GL Mortgage; Sharon Burt; New York State Department of Taxation and Finance;

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, NY

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition:

1431 Route 44, Pleasant Valley
Appeal# 1051
Grid# 6363-15-570286

Area Variance Request: The applicant is seeking an area variance to raise the ceiling/roof height 3 feet of a nonconforming building to create habitable space for proposed renovation within the required 15' side yard setback. SAID Meeting will take place on February 23, 2022 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y., and begins at 7:00 p.m.

Legal Notices

Dutchess County Commissioner of the Department of Social Services; Dutchess County Department of Community & Family Services, State of New York, and "JOHN DOE", said name being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein, and any parties, corporations or entities, if any, having or claiming an interest or lien upon the mortgaged premises, Defendants.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 126 Curry Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or a notice of appearance on the attorneys for the Plaintiff within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof.

Legal Notices

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition: 2127 Route 44, Pleasant Valley Appeal# 1049
Grid# 6564-03-010309. Area Variance Request: Applicant would like to build a porch 44'4" from the front property when the required front setback is 70'. They are looking for a variance of 25'8". Said meeting will take place on 2/23/22 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y., and begins at 7:00 p.m.

Legal Notices

In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Hal B. Greenwald, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Dutchess County, entered Jan. 4, 2022 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$260,200.00 and interest, recorded in the Dutchess

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, NY

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition:

14 Brown Road, Pleasant Valley
Appeal# 1052
Grid# 6464-04-954081

Area Variance Request: The applicant is seeking an area variance to erect a three car garage five feet from the property line. A variance of ten feet is being requested. SAID Meeting will take place on February 23, 2022 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y., and begins at 7:00 p.m.

Legal Notices

County Clerk's Office on September 30, 2016, in Document Number 01-2016-6205 covering premises known as 126 Curry Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 a/k/a Section 6157, Block 2, Lot 506649. Further, to secure the cancellation and discharge of a certain mortgage recorded in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

Plaintiff designates Dutchess County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises is situated.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF

LOSING YOUR HOME

IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY

SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT 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 SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY.

SENDING A PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: September 8, 2021
Frank M. Cassara, Esq.
Senior Associate Attorney
LOGS LEGAL GROUP
LLP F/K/A

Legal Notices

SHAPIRO, DICARO & BARAK, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
175 Mile Crossing
Boulevard
Rochester, New York
14624
(585) 247-9000
Fax: (585) 247-7380
Our File
No. 20-087491
#99101

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLANNING BOARD TOWN OF WAPPINGER DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

Project Name: Myers Corners Road Self-Storage (Amended Site Plan)

Location: 1 6 9 Myers Corners Road

Application: Nos.: 21-3452 (Site Plan) and 21-4097 (Special Use Permit)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Town of Wappinger Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing on the 7th day of March, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger Falls, NY pursuant to Article IX, Section 240-87 of the Town Law, on the application of 21-3452 (Site Plan) and 21-4097 (Special Use Permit) Myers Corners Road Self-Storage - Amended Site Plan: To discuss an Amended Site Plan application and Special Use Permit. The applicant is proposing to convert to a modern self-storage facility within the existing building on 30.81 acres in a COP Zoning District.

The property is located at 169 Myers Corners Road and is identified as Tax Grid No.: 6258-03-278358 in the Town of Wappinger.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the Planning Board has not made a determination of significance pursuant to State Environmental Quality Review Act and hereby reserves its right to make such determination after the conclusion of the public hearing.

All interested persons will be heard by the Planning Board of the Town of Wappinger at the public

Legal Notices

hearing as stated above.
Signed:
Bruce Flower,
Chairman
Town of Wappinger
Planning Board
Date:
January 27, 2022

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF WAPPINGER DUTCHESS COUNTY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Town of Wappinger Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the 22nd day of February, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall of Wappinger, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger Falls, NY pursuant to Section 240-37 of the Zoning Law of the Town of Wappinger to consider the following area variance:

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, the Zoning Board of Appeals has not made a determination of significance pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and hereby reserves its right to make such determination after the conclusion of the public hearing.

Appeal No: 22-7745 (Area Variance)

George Schmitt: Seeking an area variance Section 240-37 of District Regulations in an R-20 Zoning District.

-Where 40 feet is required to the rear yard property line, the applicant can provide 30.8 feet for the installation of an in-ground pool, thus requesting a variance of 9.2 feet.

-Where 20 feet is required to the side yard property line, the applicant can provide 15.1 feet for the installation of an in-ground pool, thus requesting a variance of 4.9 feet.

The property is located at 27 Hilltop Drive and is identified as Tax Grid No.: 6258-04-930064 in the Town of Wappinger.

All interested persons will be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Wappinger at the public hearing as stated above.

Signed: Peter Galotti,

Legal Notices

Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
Town of Wappinger
February 9, 2022

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-11-22

OEM Automotive Replacement Parts

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 10th day of March 2022 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our web site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call (845) 486-3613.

Notice is hereby given that Public Hearings will be held by the Town of East Fishkill Zoning Board of Appeals, Dutchess County, on Tuesday the 22nd day of February, 2022 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may come on to be heard at the Town of East Fishkill, 330 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, the Town of East Fishkill Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct Public Hearings on the following applications.

1. Mohammad Rahman, 81 Broadway, Hopewell Junction, is requesting a 9' sideline variance to allow an existing 12'X20' (240 sf) rear deck, pursuant to the Schedule of Bulk Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance.

2. Cindy & Ahmed Elghuer, 122 Broadway, Hopewell Junction, is requesting a 32' rear line variance to allow a proposed 20'X30' (600 sf) addition, pursuant to the Schedule of Bulk Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance.

Norma Drummond
Chairperson
East Fishkill Zoning Board of Appeals

BUSINESS

Miller named 2021 NY Trustee of the Year by LeadingAge NY



Robert Irving Miller Jr., managing attorney of Sholes & Miller, PLLC, has been awarded the 2021 NY Trustee of the Year Award from LeadingAge NY. Miller received this honor for his dedication and service as treasurer and member of the board of trustees of the Community at Brookmeade in Rhinebeck.

The Community at Brookmeade offers independent living, assisted living, long-term care, sub-acute rehabilitation, palliative care and out-patient rehabilitation services. The community will also open a medical model adult daycare

center this spring.

The Trustee of the Year Award is bestowed on those who have served selflessly and with distinction on the board of trustees of a LeadingAge NY member organization. The selection committee looks for significant contributions of time and effort toward the betterment of his or her organization and the people it serves or service to the elderly and infirm.

Miller has contributed his time and resources to the betterment of the Community at Brookmeade, serving for seven years on the board of trustees and for three years as treasurer. Mr. Miller holds the distinction of being a Nurse-Attorney, as he is both a registered nurse and a practicing attorney. He is also a former hospital and nursing home administrator. His extensive experience in the fields of law and medicine, along with his leadership and commitment, make him a valuable asset to the Community at Brookmeade.

Sholes & Miller, PLLC is celebrating 21 years in the Hudson Valley during 2022. The law firm serves the New York metro area, the Hudson Valley, and the capital region.

To learn more about the diverse legal services offered by Sholes and Miller, PLLC Attorneys and Counselors at Law, visit www.SholesMiller.com.

Ulster Savings Bank announces promotions

Ulster Savings Bank has announced the promotions of four long-standing branch managers: Samantha Awand-Gortel, Valerie Belton, Debra A. Benn, and Briana Purdy. Each employee has worked at Ulster Savings Bank for more than a decade.

Samantha Awand-Gortel has been promoted to Branch Manager/Bank Officer at the bank's Phoenicia location. Awand-Gortel's expanded role will include oversight of all day-to-day branch operations, providing support, guidance, and training to branch staff, as well as achieving the branch's business development goals throughout the surrounding areas.

Valerie L. Belton, an employee of Ulster Savings Bank since 2012, has been promoted to Branch Manager/Bank Officer at the bank's Wappingers Falls location. Belton, a Fishkill resident, will manage the operations of her branch, oversee and provide guidance, support, and training to her staff, achieve the branch's business goals, and further develop community relations.

Belton is a board member of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, a financial literacy facilitator for young women at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, and is a Meals on Wheels volunteer. She was a past co-chair for the

DCRCOC Women's Leadership Alliance, vice president of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, and has volunteered her time to other community organizations.

Debra A. Benn, who joined Ulster Savings Bank in 2004, has been promoted to Branch Manager/Bank Officer at the bank's Woodstock location. In her expanded role, Benn will oversee branch profitability, develop team members by providing support and training needs, as well as provide excellent customer service.

Briana Purdy has been promoted to Branch Manager/Bank Officer at the bank's Kingston headquarters. Purdy's expanded role will oversee the operations of the Schwenk Drive, Kingston branch location, build rapport with the community, assist with customer relations, and ensure that the branch meets its goals and objectives.

"We're so pleased to announce the promotions of Samantha, Valerie, Debra, and Briana," said MaryRose Warcholak, SVP/Retail Banking Officer of Ulster Savings. "Each team member has been with us for more than a decade and, in their years with the bank, has demonstrated a passion for leading their branches' growth and making their communities better – both values of utmost importance to us here at the bank. We are glad to announce these much-deserved promotions."

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151 Adoption
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155 Personal
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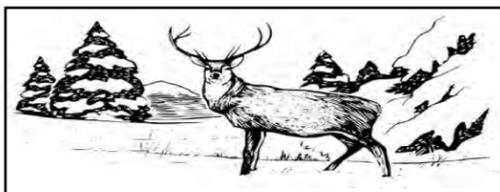
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