

NORTHERN
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**Renegades
 aplenty in
 Spring Baseball**

By Morgan E. Maier

As Hudson Valley Renegades alumni filled rosters and headlines on the international and big-league stage, it was a return of many familiar names for HV fans.

Ranked 46th among all minor league prospects, George Lombard Jr. highlighted a second Tampa spring training with a home run heard “round the country.”

Garrett Crochet would have slowed time to get that nationally-televised pitch back from Lombard. Unfortunately for the Red Sox ace, his 104 mph offering was sailing over the Green Monster at JetBlue Park, Boston’s Florida headquarters in Fort Myers. By the way, the “Mid-Monster” is nearly five feet higher than the actual Fenway wall.

Another pinstriped invitee was Carlos Lagrange, a right-hander soaking in some rays while his 6’7” frame provides cloud coverage for those below. The Yankees’ No. 2 prospect is turning heads and freezing bats with a fastball hotter than the Sunshine State in August.

Spring Breakout

The third annual prospect showcase featured the Spring Breakout debut of 29 Yankees prospects, including 2025 draft picks Core Jackson and Kaeden Kent. Twenty-two of the 40 rostered players have donned a Renegades jersey. Those promoted to AA-Somerset and beyond, like OF Jace Avina and RHP Elmer Rodriguez-Cruz, will likely stay put. Others who came to High-A late in 2025, like Tampa native RHP Jack Cebert, may return to Hudson Valley, while newcomers like Dax Kilby (drafted 39th by the Yankees in 2025) could soon debut in High-A.

Renegades alum Coby Morales especially glowed in the showcase,

continued on page 2

**Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited
 ‘hooks up’ fishing & conservation**

By Curtis Schmidt

With the traditional opening day of Trout Season in New York State only a week away, many area fishing enthusiasts are working with fly-tying tools and rods to prepare to hit the streams and rivers.

But to some, that’s just the beginning. For the members of Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited, trout fishing also involves stream cleanups, conservation and ecology, stocking local waterways and even getting involved in educational efforts aimed at passing the passion on to young people.

Mid-Hudson chapter of Trout Unlimited members take trout fishing to a whole different level.

“Conservation is about clean water. Trout need a healthy aquatic habitat and our goal is to keep the streams as beautiful, pristine and livable as possible,” said Mark Jones, president of the Mid Hudson chapter of Trout Unlimited. “That’s why we’re so passionate about conservation.”

He also points to the Trout Unlimited mission “to bring together diverse interests to care for and recover rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon.”



Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited President Mark Jones, left and Secretary Pat Crisci are pictured at the organization’s “Flybrary” near the Wappinger Creek in Pleasant Valley. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

To that end, the approximately 300 members of the Mid-Hudson chapter are involved in a variety of ecological activities on a year-round basis. They partner with organizations like the Federation of Dutchess County Fish & Game Clubs, Riverkeeper, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Dutchess Land Conservancy (DLC) and

most municipalities.

Their efforts are concentrated on the tributaries of the Wappinger Creek, Roeliff Jansen Kill and Ten-Mile River in Northern Dutchess and Fishkill Creek in Southern Dutchess. At this time – prior to the traditional start of Trout season – members take part in “River Sweeps” to

continued on page 3

**Germania honors 25-year members,
 special supporters at 176th Gala**



Bob Beckman and Matt Lawlor of Matt’s Auto Body in Salt Point were honored for their ongoing support and generosity at the Germania Gala on March 21. From left are, Carol Ann Fischer (past president & honorary president), Gina and Bob Beckmann (also accepting for Matt Lawlor), Gary Schonmann (vice-president), Sylvia Reuter (president) & husband Bill Reuter (past president & honorary president). Courtesy photo

Germania of Poughkeepsie commemorated its 176th anniversary with a festive Gala held on Saturday, March 21 at Germania Hall. The event honored four devoted Germania members for their 25 years of continuous membership, as well as two individuals recognized for their steadfast support spanning 37 years.

President Sylvia Reuter expressed her heartfelt congratulations to the honorees, acknowledging their loyalty, dedication and unwavering commitment to Germania and its mission.

Special recognition was given to Bob Beckmann and Matt Lawlor of Matt’s Auto Body in Salt Point for their ongoing support and generosity. In her remarks, Reuter emphasized the importance of sustained generosity, stating, “They say true generosity is not just about giving once. It’s about believing in a mission year after year, through the highs and lows. It is because of people like Bob and

continued on page 5

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	11
Creative Living	14-19
Decoding Dutchess’ Past	15
Get Growing!	17
Suguru	18
Crossword Puzzle	18
Sudoku	18
Obituaries	20
Public Notices	21
Classifieds	22-23

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

Bank of Millbrook	p 5	Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church	p 3	Stissing Center	p 13
Brookmeade Community	p 13	Pleasant Valley Department Store	p 12	Westminster Presbyterian Church	p 2
Center for Physical Therapy	p 7	Roosevelt Cinemas	p 10	WKZE 98.1	p 4
Impact PR	p 3	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church	p 2	INSIDE:	
Operation Mobile		St. Stanislaus Kostka		Adams Fairacre Farms	
Outreach supporters	p 9	Roman Catholic Church	p 12	AARP Envelopes	



Renegades aplenty in Spring Baseball

continued from cover

putting the Yankees Prospects on the board in the bottom of the first. Morales ripped a single to score Core Jackson, who had reached with a single. With former Renegades teammate Jace Avina hovering on third, Morales then stole second, scoring Avina on an errant throw by Atlanta's catcher. Morales made a defensive save with a heads-up throw on an inning-ending, bases-loaded fielder's choice, holding the Braves to a 6-2 advantage as Harrison Cohen completed his relief outing of Kyle Carr. Carr, the 2025 South Atlantic League pitcher of the year, went 3.1 innings, giving up 5 earned runs on 5 hits, with 3 strikeouts and 3 walks.

In the top of the 7th, an out-field assist from Morales again thwarted further Braves damage. Moved to left field, Morales pinpointed a lineout with a laser beam to beat the Atlanta runner attempting to tag up. As the Yankees Prospects made a run in the eighth inning, Morales capped a marvelous 3-for-4 batting line with a second RBI.

Cebert pitched 4 relief innings (2 runs, 2 hits, 2 walks, 5 strikeouts) to set up Sebastian

Sebastian Kean for the ninth inning. A lethal leg of Hudson Valley's bullpen last year, Kean offered a 10-pitch inning, throwing six for strikes.

World Baseball Classic

Featured in the aptly-nicknamed Spring Classic were over 15 Renegades alumni, from the Short-A days to the present Yankees era. Representing 10 of the 20 countries participating in the World Baseball Classic, former and recent Renegades represented Europe, Asia, Central, South, and all three North American countries.

The Dominican Republic again tabbed 2023 Renegade Austin Wells as its starting catcher. Wells had the Dominican Republic's final stamp to advance to the semifinal, a walk-off home run to earn the 10-0 mercy rule over Team Korea. Off a career high in homers last season, the Yankees star hit two in the Classic, earning his spot on the All-Tournament Team with an on-base plus slugging (OPS) of 1.086.

Leonardo Reginatto, a Mid-Season All-Star for the Renegades in 2012, anchored third base for Brazil. Reginatto captained Brazil in the World Baseball



Former Renegade George Lombard Jr. has had a strong spring training season for the Yankees. *Courtesy photo*

Classic, his first appearance for the club since 2013, a year removed from his Hudson Valley digs. After a six-year MLB stint, Reginatto's professional career continued in the Mexican League until he was released by Olmecas de Tabasco in 2025.

Joe Ryan made his pro debut in Hudson Valley in 2018, shortly after being drafted by the Tampa Bay Rays. One of Team USA's reserve pitchers, Ryan was a breakout starting arm and a 2025 All-Star in Minnesota. Though he didn't see any pitching time in the 2026 W.B.C., Ryan fared better than in his last international appearance. During the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Ryan was traded to the Twins while vying for the silver that USA would ultimately earn.

The elder George Lombard earned silver in his debut as a Team USA coach at the Spring Classic. He is no stranger to international play; in 2008, he became the first American baseballer to go yard in China, as the Dodgers swept the Padres in a two-game California rivalry gone east. A World Series champion with the Dodgers in 2020, Lombard backed up Mark DeRosa toward a second straight silver managerial medal for Team USA.

If this late winter highlight reel suggests a strong start to the season, the Hudson Valley is ready for thawed fields and dusted-off baseball gloves!

Unofficial Village Election results

Compiled By Kate Goldsmith

Village elections took place on Wednesday, March 18 – instead of the normal third Tuesday in March – due to a New York State law that says elections can't be held on St. Patrick's Day.

RED HOOK

Three candidates vied for two Trustee positions, both one-year terms (to fill vacated terms ending April 5, 2027). Perry Allen was elected with 129 votes. Craig Rothstein received 84 votes and incumbent (appointee) Anthony Maccarini received 66 votes. Due to the close vote count between Rothstein and Maccarini, the ballots must be recounted by the DC Board of Elections before the election results are deemed final.

There were also eight write-in ballots. Red Hook Mayor Karen Smythe

appointed Maccarini to the Village Board in August 2025 to replace Trustee Kym Bradley-Rickard, who resigned in May of that year. The appointment was effective through this year's election.

RHINEBECK

Eleanor Pupko was re-elected as a Trustee for a two-year term with 193 votes. Jennifer Neufeld was newly elected as a Trustee for a two-year term with 184 votes. Both are Democrats.

TIVOLI

Incumbents Sarah Imboden and Emily Mangieri ran unopposed. Imboden received 47 votes and Mangieri received 46 votes. There was one write-in ballot cast.

The Village of Millbrook, which is also in the Northern Dutchess News readership area, holds its elections at the same time as the General Election in November.

United Way's Diaper Drive under way

United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region (UWDOR) recently kicked off its 2026 Diaper Drive with a goal to collect 100,000 diapers.

With babies requiring up to 7,100 diapers before age 3, the financial strain on low-income households is immense. Following last year's record-breaking drive, UWDOR is calling on the community to help sustain this vital lifeline.

How to get involved

- Launch a Virtual Drive: Create a fundraising page and share it with your friends, family, and colleagues. By rallying your community, you can amplify our impact and help United Way to reach even more families in need! You can start your fundraising page at www.uwdor.org/diaperdrive.

- Donate Funds: Financial gifts allow UWDOR to purchase diapers at bulk discounts. Give online or mail a check to 75 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

- Drop Off Diapers: Physical donations of all sizes (newborn to toddler) are welcome at UWDOR's office, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

There are additional locations for dropping off diapers in Orange County:

- Orange County Chamber of Commerce Office, 68 N. Plank Road, Newburgh, NY 12550
- Ulster Savings Bank, 1208 Route

300, Newburgh, NY 12550

Additional locations in Dutchess County are:

- Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook
- Pleasant Valley Library, 1584 Main Street, Pleasant Valley
- TD Bank, 1850 South Road, Wappingers Falls
- Ulster Savings Bank, 1387 Route 9 Wappingers Falls
- Ulster Savings Bank, 2680 South Rd, Poughkeepsie
- Ulster Savings Bank, 39 Burnett Blvd, Poughkeepsie
- Ulster Savings Bank, 4240 Albany Post Rd, Hyde Park
- Ulster Savings Bank, 7296 South Broadway, Red Hook

Diaper Distribution Day is scheduled for July 15. On this day, local nonprofits serving families in need will collect truckloads of diapers in various sizes and childcare essentials—all made possible by community donors. This massive logistical undertaking is supported by dedicated volunteers from local companies working alongside United Way staff.

Information courtesy of United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. For more information, go to www.uwdor.org.

Holy Week St. Paul's Episcopal Church Pleasant Valley



Maundy Thursday, April 2nd
7:00pm Foot washing Eucharist & stripping the altar

Good Friday, Stations of the Cross April 3rd
5:30pm Gather at First Presbyterian & Process to St. Paul's
6:00pm Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at St. Paul's

Holy Saturday, April 4th
7:00pm The Great Vigil w/music and bonfire

Easter Sunday, April 5th
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Ecumenical Service at Mill Site Park
10:00 a.m. Sunday Easter Worship with egg hunt

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10:30am – At Church

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See story,
page 8

Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited 'hooks up' fishing & conservation

continued from cover

pick up litter along the stream banks and stocking streams with young trout with the help of the DEC.

Chapter Secretary Pat Crisci said popular spots for cleanup include Cady Park in Pleasant Valley, Red Oaks Mill, Jameson Hill Road in Stanfordville and Hibernia Road in Salt Point.

Jones said they also work with landowners and help them recognize the importance of vegetation to prevent erosion. This includes planting trees, shrubs and grasses to stabilize stream banks during spring flooding.

"The plantings also provide streamside habitat for fish and a tree canopy to keep water cool and attract insects, which are a key part of the food chain for a robust trout population," he said.

They are also interested in working with municipalities to assess, repair or replace failing culverts to reconnect waterways to allow fish to migrate, and to reduce flood risk.

During Earth Day activities, Trout Unlimited members team up with teachers and students from area schools for educational events.

"Trout in the Classroom" is popular in several Dutchess County school districts, including Arlington, Beacon, Wappingers and Pine Plains. It's a science- and environmentally-oriented education program for elementary, middle and high school students. They spend the fall and winter raising trout from eggs to fingerlings in their classrooms. To ensure the survival

of their trout, students closely monitor water temperature, water clarity, dissolved oxygen, ammonia levels and pH. As the program progresses, students learn to see connections between trout, water resources, the environment, and themselves. Come spring, teachers plan a field trip to release the trout into the wild.

To introduce even more individuals to trout fishing and conservation, Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited participates in the Town of LaGrange "Family Fishing Days" and "Veterans Fishing Days." These events will be held on April 25-26 this year at Overlook Park in the Town of LaGrange with the help of the Town Recreation Department, Federation of Dutchess County Fish & Game Clubs, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs.

"These are free events. No fishing licenses are required, and we provide fishing tackle if needed, plus food and refreshments," said Jones. "The goal is to introduce everyone to the sport, but also to emphasize conservation and ecology – they're all linked together."

The Mid-Hudson TU chapter is always looking for new members. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hartwood Hotel at Vassar College. Topics range from dam removal and conservation to presentations from Catskill fishing guides. For information, visit midhudsontroutunlimited.org.



Above: To introduce more individuals to trout fishing and conservation, Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited participates in the Town of LaGrange "Family Fishing Days" and "Veterans Fishing Days." These events will be held on April 25-26 this year at Overlook Park in the Town of LaGrange. Right: A Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited towel and box of fishing flies. Below left: A volunteer helps with tree planting to aid in stream bank stabilization. *Courtesy photos*



NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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Holy Week & Easter at Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church



4/2 Maundy Thursday @ 6 pm
Gather for a light meal and a service with foot washing & the Lord's Supper

4/3 Good Friday 12-3 pm
Sanctuary will be open for personal prayer time

4/5 Easter Sunday
7:30 am Greet-the-Morning Service in Pleasant Plains Cemetery
8:15 am Pancake & Potluck Breakfast
9:30 am Celebration of the Resurrection
All are welcome!

Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church

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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.

Great routine with the Northern Dutchess News & Historic Diner in Red Hook

To the editor:
So, on every Thursday I have a routine. I go for breakfast at the Historic Red Hook Diner.

As soon as I go into the Diner before I see if my favorite seat is vacant, I look for a copy of the Northern Dutchess News. They usually keep it at the register. If it's not there, I go looking for it. And my day is ruined if I cannot find it.

Your paper tells relative stories of the areas where I live. I especially like reading the Letters to the Editor and the stories that Luigi Coppola writes about. Being Italian, some of the stories really hit home.

Also, (I like) any political stories that you add to the paper. You tell it like it is.

Please keep up the great work.

Marc Savino
Tivoli

A lament for return to national sanity

To the editor:

Our granddaughter's 19th birthday was recently and my 96th is next month. I made her a birthday card on which a rainbow was placed. The rainbow represents a new beginning with hope and optimism and the rainbow a bridge between challenges and positive outcomes. I look at the world and think that no one is successful without personal effort and help. The world is a place of good and evil as the ancient Chinese said - Yin and Yang.

Humans have conceived of many governments and religions to maintain order and provide security that some get turned into a force to destroy. Two quotes could apply; "The road to hell is paved with good intentions" and "Oh what evil is done in the name of good."

About 200 years ago, former president Thomas Jefferson warned against potential government corruption and tyranny

regarding the concentration of power and the dangers of political parties and a "wolf" to take control of the government. That day has arrived with the election of Donald J. Trump and the TRUMP-REPUBLICAN WAR.

The Bible has a group of "Psalms of Lament" that express sorrow, distress, or plea for divine intervention. My version of a Lament would be this: "How long, O Creator? Will you forget this nation forever?"

• O Creator, You have allowed a mentally ill man of narcissistic and sadistic temperament to rule (not govern) our nation of 338 million individuals. He seeks to destroy our democracy and became a president that bullies, threatens, invades our friends and neighbors. He ignores any national or international justice system to use our country to cause punishment or murder of his paranoia perceived opponents. Words from a Psalm "You have made us a reproach to our neighbors, a mockery and derision to those around us, a laughingstock among the peoples."

• O Creator, You have allowed ICE masked men on the streets to murder our citizens (Renee Good and Alex Pretti) and 31 others in 2025; to invade homes without judicial warrant day or night, to smash down a door and drag a naturalized citizen (Chongly Thao), out into the snow improperly dressed.

• O Creator, You have allowed uncontrolled firearm ownership that has resulted in death for tens of thousands in America each year (Pew research))

• O Creator, You have allowed a system of government that disproportionately rewards the upper 10% of owners two thirds (66%) of total wealth and lower 50% of earners own only 2.5% of total wealth. (Federal Reserve data). To take health care and food away from the poor to further enrich the wealthy. To take away rights of equality and what women have worked for almost 200 years.

David F. Queen
Red Hook

Scrivner appointed to role of Executive Director with DCSPCA

The Dutchess County SPCA (DCSPCA) Board has announced the appointment of its Acting Board President, Monica Scrivner, to the role of Executive Director, effective March 1. The role of Executive Director serves as chief executive and administrative officer of the no-kill shelter (which is not associated with the ASPCA).

Scrivner, a resident of Highland, joined the Board of the DCSPCA in January 2025 and became its Acting Board President in August 2025.

Scrivner has worked in the financial sector for more than 20 years. She specializes in team leadership, financial strategy, and change management.

The DCSPCA's current Board Secretary, Samantha Turk, will be step-

ping into the role of Board President, while Board Director, Kellie Mee, will step into the role of Secretary.

Turk said, "We're thrilled to share the news of Monica's appointment with our staff, volunteers, and the Hudson Valley community today. In the short time Monica has been with the organization, she has worked closely with the team to implement stronger financial controls and redevelop community relations.

"Anyone who has seen Monica in the company of an animal knows she's 100% dedicated to ensuring the very best outcome for them. Without doubt, she is uniquely qualified to manage the DCSPCA's continued growth."

Turk continued, "Together, we're looking forward to continuing our work with our community, local officials, and neighboring shelters to prioritize animal care and safety in the Hudson Valley."

Scrivner commented, "I am deeply grateful for the trust and confidence placed in me to become the Executive Director of the Dutchess County SPCA, an organization that has been close to my heart for many years. Having grown up in Dutchess County, adopting several beloved animals, and forming lifelong friendships through this mission makes it especially meaningful to continue serving our community and the animals we love in this new capacity."

From January to March 2026, Scrivner will transition into the Executive Director role in a volunteer capacity.



Monica Scrivner

The DSPCA offers vital animal care services to the community. In addition to shelter and adoption services, it offers a safety net program for residents experiencing an emergency temporarily preventing them from caring for their animals, a pet food pantry for those experiencing food insecurity, a low-cost community clinic, and a retention program that helps animals stay with their families, thus avoiding the need for animals' surrender.

Information provided by the Dutchess County SPCA

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Germania honors 25-year members, special supporters at 176th gala

continued from cover



From left are Mike Reichert (honorary financial secretary), Carol Ann Fischer (past president & honorary president), Roberta Gordon and her children Steven Gordon & Anne Michelle Gordon, Gary Schonmann (vice-president).



From left, Mike Reichert (honorary financial secretary), Sylvia Reuter (president), Jane Ulrich, Joe Ulrich, Christine Ulrich, Gary Schonmann (vice-president).



From left, Mike Reichert (honorary financial secretary), Bill Reuter (past president & honorary president), Brad Forrest, Debbie Forrest, Brad Forrest Jr., Alexis Izzo, Gary Schonmann (vice-president). Not pictured is honoree Debbie Sonnenschmidt, who now lives in Georgia. *Courtesy photos*

Matt that organizations like ours are able to continue in their important work for the community.”

Members who were honored for their 25 years of continuous membership in Germania included Joe Ulrich, Brad Forrest, Debbie Sonnenschmidt (accepted by Helga Baker), and Roberta Gordon.

Mission and Heritage

Founded in 1850, Germania of Poughkeepsie is a benevolent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit and 509(a)(2) charitable organization dedicated to preserving and educating the public about German and German-American heritage and culture. Through their annual festivals such as Maifest, Oktoberfest, and Christkindlmarkt, Germania celebrates music, food, dance, and sport, bringing this rich heritage to life for the community. The organization also values the tradition of fostering family, friendship, and Gemütlichkeit - a sense of warmth and friendliness - drawing people together and nurturing a strong sense of community. Germania remains committed to

ensuring that German heritage is relevant, accessible, and welcoming to all.

Throughout its 176-year history, Germania has offered a variety of educational programs in music, sport, dance, and German language. The organization sponsors several “sister clubs” that promote educational and authentic cultural events, including the Germania Singers, Germania Almrausch Schuhplattler Verein, Germania Blue and White Soccer Club, and the Dr. Charles Gilbert Spross Unit #167 Steuben Society of America. Germania offers free German language classes, ballroom dance classes, senior line dance classes, and more.

Since the pandemic, Germania has demonstrated its commitment to the wider community by donating over 700 take-out dinners to area first responders. It remains an all-volunteer organization whose membership is open to individuals of all faiths and backgrounds, welcoming everyone to participate in its ongoing mission.

BURN BAN IN EFFECT THROUGH MAY 14



The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation announced the annual Burn Ban is in effect through May 14.

What is prohibited

- Residential brush & debris: Burning leaves, branches, and trash is prohibited.
- Uncontained fires: Large, open fires are banned.
- Illegal burning: Burning trash is illegal year-round, regardless of a ban.

What is allowed (exceptions)

- Small, contained fires: Small campfires or cooking fires are allowed if they are less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length/width.
- Safety requirements: These small fires must be attended and fully extinguished.

For more information, see <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/air-quality/open-burning>

Rev250 Lecture set March 26 in Poughkeepsie

The Town of Poughkeepsie Historic Preservation Commission Rev250 Lecture Series will continue on Thursday, March 26, at 7 p.m. Town Historian John Pinna will present “Revolutionary

Women” at the town’s Senior Center, 14 Abe’s Way. The talk is free, and no registration is required.

Pinna will discuss Hudson Valley women and their critical roles during the

American Revolution, both on the home front and in the war.

For more information, call (845) 485-3646 or email townhistorian@townof-poughkeepsie-ny.gov.

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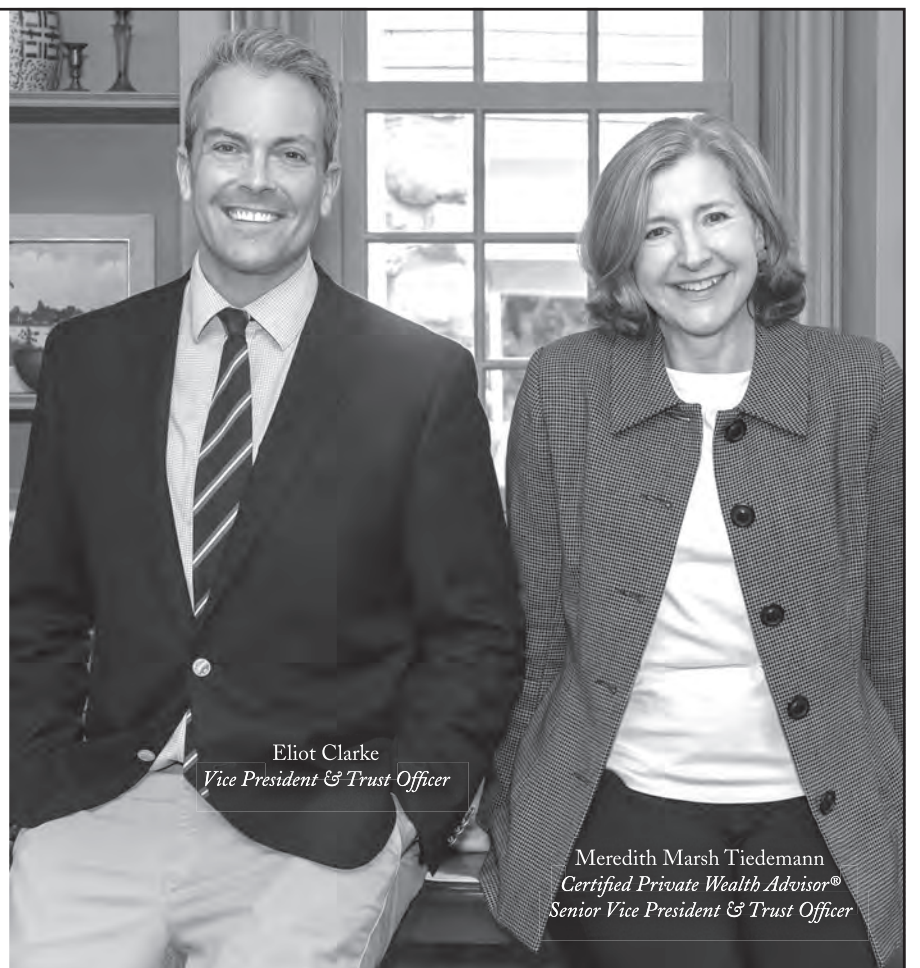
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County Public Works commissioner to retire

From County reports

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has announced the upcoming retirement of Robert Balkind, the County's Commissioner of Public Works, following 22 years of service with Dutchess County Government, including the last ten years serving as Commissioner.

Serino said, "From the start of my time as County Executive, it has been clear how deeply Bob Balkind cares about his Public Works team, as well as the people of Dutchess County. His vision has improved our infrastructure, strengthened our communities, and expanded opportunities for residents across the county. From transformative capital projects to his commitment to efficiency, collaboration, and a more diverse workforce, Bob has left an indelible mark on this government and the residents we serve. I am profoundly grateful for his steadfast leadership, innovation, and his unwavering commitment to making Dutchess County a better place for all."

Balkind joined Dutchess County Government in 2004 as the Assistant Director for the Department of Public Works (DPW) Engineering Division, following more than a decade of work at New York State Department of Transportation and the private sector, including Dewkett Engineering in Rhinebeck, where his engineering work of the Reservoir Fence Restoration in

Central Park was honored with the Renaissance Award by the Friends of the Upper East Side Historic District.

He was appointed by DPW Commissioner in 2016 by former County Executive Marcus Molinaro, overseeing the County's broadest department, which includes six divisions: Administration, Highway/Engineering, Parks, Building & Facilities, Airport, and Public Transit. Those six divisions encompass 395 miles of highways, 1.2 million square feet of county-owned and leased buildings, eight County parks, the county government-owned airport in the Town of Wappinger, and the Dutchess County Public Transportation (DCPT) bus system. As Commissioner, he has directed a staff of more than 274 employees and oversees an annual operating budget of nearly \$46 million.

As Commissioner, he has also been responsible for the oversight of the public works projects within the \$150 million, five-year Capital Improvement Plan, including the county's \$10 million annual highway and bridge improvement program.

During his tenure, Balkind has overseen the design and construction of multiple transformative County projects including, but not limited to:

Dutchess County Law Enforcement Center;
Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center;
Dutchess County Stabilization Center;

Dutchess Community College Aviation Education Center at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport;

Harlem Valley Rail Trail phases II, III and IV;

William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail – all phases;

Marcus J. Molinaro Northside Line urban trail phase I;

Major improvements at various Dutchess County Parks, including:

- Improvements to Heritage Financial Park (formerly Dutchess Stadium) meeting Major League Baseball (MLB) standards and expanding year-round usage opportunities.

- Accessible playgrounds, pavilions and upgraded water spray feature, and more at Bowdoin Park.

- Water "sprayground," revamped camping facilities, new disc golf course, and more at Wilcox Memorial Park.

- Waterfront decks, kayak launch, pickleball courts, Boat House renovations, and more at Quiet Cove Riverfront Park.

Prior to becoming Commissioner, Balkind was instrumental in the restructuring of DPW in 2012 and 2013, which included improved alignment of Highway and Engineering divisions and bringing the County's Auto Center into the Department. As Commissioner, one of his proudest accomplishments was making significant strides in diversifying the department and has engaged in various efforts to attract and recruit diverse talent, including his recent CDL trainee program that covered 100 percent of a candidate's CDL training costs, with the candidate getting paid while splitting their time between school and working with DPW. This program has attracted many new employees to DPW at a time when hiring and retaining CDL-trained employees has been challenging across the state.

Balkind has coordinated multiple energy efficiency projects throughout County facilities that have decreased energy consumption and helped to control costs. He has led multiple shared service initiatives with local municipalities such as coordi-



Robert Balkind

nating contract purchase opportunities for salt and sand roadway materials at more favorable pricing, establishing a shared Sign Shop program for municipalities, and oversaw the expansion of the Dutchess County Public Transit system when the City of Poughkeepsie sought to eliminate their bus service to reduce expenses for fiscal stability.

Balkind said, "I will miss the great people that I have worked with over the many years, both within the County and in the various municipalities that we work so closely with. I know the great work at DPW will continue with the dedicated leadership team left in place and I want to thank County Executive Serino for all her support and confidence in my leadership of DPW."

Balkind, who resides in the Town of Pleasant Valley, will officially retire on May 22. He plans to travel, garden, ride his Harley Davidson motorcycle, spend time with family, and enjoy time at the coast.

After Balkind's retirement, DPW Deputy Commissioner David Whalen will serve as acting commissioner.

Weekend archery classes return to Bowdoin Park

Registration opens
Wednesday, March 25,
at 9 a.m.

POUGHKEEPSIE – Registration for the next round of Dutchess County Parks' weekend archery classes at Bowdoin Park in Poughkeepsie will open March 25 at 9 a.m.. Sessions begin on April 11 and will take place at Bowdoin Park's outdoor archery range, located near Pavilion 4. The program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots to accommodate more students. The sessions, each an hour long, are designed for children ages 8 and up, and adults with any level of archery experience. Space is limited, so be sure to register early at www.DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation.

The first session will cover basic archery safety and skills for new

participants. Most of the sessions will be spent practicing with the bows, allowing participants to learn through experience. All equipment is provided. The total cost for the program is \$70 per person and includes all five classes and equipment. View the spring archery flyer.

Dates and times for the archery sessions are: Saturday, April 11; Saturday, April 25; Saturday, May 9; Saturday, June 6; Saturday, June 13.

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

Other naturalist programming, including group weekday Archery, Junior Survival, Scout Programs and School Field Trips are available by appointment and reservations can be made by calling the Parks office at (845) 298-4602.

For registration and programming information, visit DutchessNY.gov/Parks.

send us your news
cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Red Hook VFW Post 7765 to celebrate 80 years of service with Civilian Military Ball

RED HOOK – The Red Hook VFW Post 7765 will hold a Civilian Military Ball, commemorating 80 years of faithful service to veterans and the community. The event will take place on Saturday, April 25, from 6 to 10 p.m., at The Red Hook Community Center, 59 Fisk St., Red Hook.

This special evening will bring together community members, veterans and supporters to honor the legacy of service and sacrifice. Guests will enjoy a night of camaraderie, entertainment and recognition of those who have served our nation.

Sponsorship opportunities are available at various levels:

- General Sponsor (\$3,000): Includes 8 guest tickets, top billing on event program and social media, sponsor-board display, and verbal recognition.

- Commander Sponsor (\$2,000): Includes 6 guest tickets, name/logo featured on program and social media, sponsor-board display, and verbal recognition.

- Warrant Officer Sponsor (\$1,000): Includes 4 guest tickets, name featured on program and social media, and verbal

recognition.

- Master Sergeant Sponsor (\$400): Includes 2 guest tickets and verbal recognition.

Sponsors are encouraged to submit their company logo by April 6 to be featured in promotional materials.

Community members can also sponsor a veteran to attend the event by purchasing tickets for \$100 each or contribute cash and in-kind donations for event supplies, raffle, and auction items.

For sponsorship inquiries or more information, please contact Post Commander Jon Conroe at (619) 855-6099 or Jon@vfw7765.org.

Payment options payments can be made via check, credit card or online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/red-hook-vfw-post-7765-military-ball>.

Red Hook VFW Post 7765 is a 501(c)(19) organization, EIN #23-7304252. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Call (855) 758-7765 or email info@vfw7765.org for more information.

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APPROVED APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE THE WORK COMPLETED BY A QUALITY REPAIR CREW PROVIDED BY HOMEOWNER FUNDING. NOT AFFILIATED WITH STATE OR GOV PROGRAMS. LICENSE NY-RC-H-21274

Stanford Free Library upcoming events

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Register via the online calendar at www.stanfordlibrary.org or call 845-868-1341

Teen Trivia/Game Night
Friday, May 27, 6-8 p.m.

Just for teens ... It's trivia/game night at the library! Come join other teams for a night of trivia board games, board games, food, and fun!

Yo-yo club
Saturday, March 28, 1-2 p.m.

Open to students grades 4+
Join us at yo-yo club with Marc Smith. Have hands-on fun while learning about different types of yo-yo's including fixed axle, responsive, and unresponsive. Yo-yos will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Space is limited so register early.

Music in the Library
Saturday, March 28, noon-1 p.m.

Local Musician Walt Otto returns to play his much loved standards, early pop tunes and classic country songs for us. Just drop in and enjoy the music.

Free beginner Forro Dance Classes
Fridays, April 3, 10, 24 & May 1, 6-7 p.m.

A new Forro dancing series is back this spring! After a successful first series, we are ready to welcome the new season dancing together. Whether it's your first time or a returning student, all are welcome, no partner required. Register to

reserve your spot and do not worry if you can't commit to all dates. Join as many as you can.

Repair Cafe
Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Repair Cafe is open for business. Bring clothes, furniture, appliances, toys, bicycle, etc to our talented volunteers. Get professional advice, personal encounters and inspiration. Enjoy refreshments, handicap access, easy parking.

No Place For Saints: Mobs And Mormons In Jacksonian America: A Virtual Author Talk With Adam Jortner
Monday, April 6, 7 p.m.

The emergence of the Mormon Church now more properly referred to as the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints is arguably the most radical event in American religious history. How and why did so many Americans flock to this new religion and why did so many other Americans seek to silence or even destroy that movement. The author will speak to the history of events around the LDS movement; this is not a presentation on LDS theology

April Book Club
Monday, April 6, 1-2 p.m.

This month's selection is "The Amazing Adventures of Kavelier & Clay" by Michael Chabon

Stanford Supper Club
Wednesday, April 8, 6-7 p.m.

Explore new foods and share a meal

with friends bring a potluck dish based on the theme to share recipe sharing and families, welcome beverages, paper plates and bowls plasticware name tags and food signage will be provided. April's theme is all alliums which includes any dish featuring garlic, onions, leeks, chives, etc..

Visit With Therapy Dog Jambo
Tuesday, April 14, 4- 5 p.m.

He's a gentle giant who loves to make new friends. People of all ages are welcome to come and visit with him. Sign up for a 15 minute slot with Jambo.

Anthony Musso: Setting The Record Straight: The Music And Careers Of Recording Artists From The 1950s And 1960s

Friday, April 17, 7 p.m.

Sponsored by the Stanford Historical Society and the Stanford free library, this program is based on Mr. Musso's personal interviews with 100 solo artists and founding vocal group members. Mr. Musso will share with the audience some of the artist's true stories about their music and careers while dispelling distorted accounts and myths that have been passed down through the years.

Yom Hashoah/ Holocaust Remembrance: My Family's Story- The Impact on My Life

Wednesday, April 22, 7 p.m.

Presented by Eric Alexander, Dutchess County Legislator. Sponsored by Stanford: A Caring Community and Stanford Free Library

POUGHKEEPSIE CHURCH TO PRESENT LIVING 'LAST SUPPER'



Leonardo DaVinci's painting comes to life on Holy Thursday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m., at The Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue. Poughkeepsie. Come watch the Apostles wrestle with Christ's fate and their lingering questions of the Messiah's purpose. Free will offering. For more information, email info@poughkeepsiereformedchurch.com, visit www.poughkeepsiereformedchurch.com, or call The Reformed Church at (845) 452-8110. *Courtesy photo*

Vassar College to offer Pre-College Summer Program for HS Students

Vassar College will be offering high school students across the country and beyond the chance to experience what college life is like by enrolling in its Pre-College Summer Program this coming July. Students can enroll in one-week sessions July 5-11 or July 12-18, or they can opt for the full two-week program from July 5-18.

The program is open to all students 14 years of age and older who will be entering grades 9 through 12 in the fall.

"We see this as an opportunity to give high school students a real sense of what a liberal arts education feels like day to day," said Bill Blake, Vassar's Director of Campus Programs and Partnerships. "We're keeping classes small so students can work closely with Vassar faculty and instructors and they'll have the chance to live and learn on our campus alongside current students who will be sharing how they've shaped their own paths through college. Our hope is that they come away with a deeper understanding of what a

liberal arts college experience can be."

Each participant will be enrolled in a session taught by Vassar professors, instructors, and visiting scholars alongside Vassar student advisers. Topics include: College Foundations & Lead, Exploring AI: From Code to Robot, Art, Museums, and Social Impact, Designing Sustainable Futures, Law, Justice, and Civic Life, Hudson Valley Ecology, Health Access, Community Practice, and Care and Entrepreneurship for Changemakers

Many of the courses will involve guest speakers and visits to the local community, where participants will interact with members of nonprofit organizations. Participants will also learn about campus life by staying in supervised campus housing and engaging in social activities throughout the session.

Vassar is currently accepting applications for the program. To learn more and apply, visit <https://precollege.vassar.edu/>.

United Way to celebrate Volunteer Week with projects

DUTCHESS & ORANGE – United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region will join the celebration of National Volunteer Week 2026, running from April 19-25. Established in 1974, this week is a widely recognized tradition across the U.S. and Canada dedicated to honoring the individuals who donate their time and talent to community service. UWDOR joins this national movement to thank our local volunteers and offer new opportunities for neighbors to give back.

Here are the projects United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region is hosting for Volunteer Week:


Tuesday, April 21, 10 a.m.-noon, Locust Grove, 2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie. Help with gardening prep, clean-up, planting, trail maintenance.

Wednesday, April 22, 3-5 p.m., Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy, Earth Day at South Middle School, 33-63 Monument St., Newburgh. Help with planting, weeding, and park clean-up.

Thursday, April 23, 10 a.m.-noon, United Way Essential Supply Hub, 75 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Help unpack, inventory and organize essential goods donations.

Thursday, April 23, 3-5 p.m., Arbor Day Community Stewardship, 300 Gidney Avenue, Newburgh. Help with gardening, clean-up, weeding, bed preparation, and fence repair.

Interested members of the community can sign up to participate in these projects at: www.uwdor.org/volunteer.



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Tompkins Community Bank names Phil Quintana President-Elect

Tompkins Financial Corp. has announced that Phillip M. Quintana has been appointed President-Elect of Tompkins Community Bank, effective immediately. He will succeed John McKenna, who will retire as President of Tompkins Community Bank in July 2026 after seventeen years of service.

Quintana brings more than 27 years of banking leadership experience across the Mid Atlantic, North Texas, Southeast Florida, and Long Island. His background includes significant achievements in commercial & industrial (C&I) and commercial real estate (CRE) lending, retail banking, credit management, and market expansion. Most recently, he served as Regional President at Burke & Herbert Bank, where he oversaw a multi-state commercial banking region covering Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Delaware.

"We are excited to welcome Phil to Tompkins," said Steve Romaine, CEO of Tompkins Financial Corp. "His leadership experience, strong credit expertise, and track record of driving growth make him an excellent fit to lead Tompkins Community Bank."

At Burke & Herbert Bank, Quintana led cross functional teams, strengthened credit practices, launched a new C&I banking line, and supported multiple community bank acquisitions. His prior roles include leadership positions at M&T, HSBC as well as other community banks in the VA market, where he delivered consistent results in both growth and turnaround environments. He has also played key roles in organizational change, bringing deep experience in integration and strategy.

"I'm honored to join Tompkins and grateful for the opportunity to lead Tompkins Community Bank," said



Phillip M. Quintana

Quintana. "The company has a long and respected history, and I look forward to working with our teams to strengthen customer relationships and support the communities we serve."

Quintana holds a BA and an MBA from Dowling College in Finance and Total Quality Management and a Professional Certification in Accounting from The University of Virginia. He is active in community service organizations and looks forward to being involved in our community as well.

Romaine also recognized McKenna's long-standing contributions: "John's leadership and commitment to our customers and communities have been instrumental in our success. We look forward to celebrating his achievements in the months ahead."

Legislature Chair Valdés Smith warns of impersonation attempts & AI scams

The Dutchess County Legislature is alerting residents to three recent attempts to impersonate Chair Yvette Valdés Smith, as well as issuing a general reminder about AI scams.

The Legislature has been made aware of several scams involving Chair Valdés Smith: one involving an individual falsely claiming to be related to Valdés Smith for financial gain, another involving a smishing attack (a type of cybercrime that combines SMS text messages and phishing) sent in Valdés Smith's name, and the most recent one involved an email impersonating the Chair sent to a county official.

Chair Yvette Valdés Smith said, "Scammers are getting bolder and more creative every day, and AI technology is making it easy to impersonate me or any other elected official or public figure, so please be alert. Always verify before taking action, especially if it involves sharing sensitive information or sending money."

Recently, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) warned of scammers posing as DCSO detectives, and the Town of Carmel's Zoning Board of Appeals reported: "fake emails are being used to impersonate the town's ZBA."

Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati's office offers the following general tips to help people avoid these scams. Be alert:

- If someone contacts you asking for money, for any reason
 - If you receive correspondence instructing you to keep the exchange a secret
 - For emails or text messages that are sent at odd hours or contain misspelled words, grammatical errors, or information that doesn't make sense
 - If you receive an email or text about an order you didn't place, or asking you to call an unfamiliar phone number. (DO NOT follow the instructions in the email, click on any links in the email, or call the number provided in the email)
 - If you are asked to purchase merchandise, transfer money, provide bank information, provide remote computer access, enter a code, or click on a link
- If you are contacted by someone claiming to be Chair Valdés Smith or any other Dutchess County Legislator, please notify the Dutchess County Legislature at 845-486-2100. If you think you may have been the victim of a scam, contact the Sheriff's Office at 845-486-3800, 845-605-CLUE, or dcsotips@gmail.com.

NY State launches private well PFAS testing, mitigation rebate pilot program

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that residents in Dutchess and Putnam Counties who get their drinking water from private wells can apply for free per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) testing. If mitigation is necessary, they will be eligible for a rebate to install a PFAS water treatment system or connect to a public water supply.

The New York State Private Well PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Pilot Program, helping fulfill the Governor's 2025 State of the State commitment, will also be accepting applications in Orange, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester over the coming months.

The New York State Department of Health, in partnership with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), has budgeted \$1.5 million per county to support this pilot project. These funds will support a limited number of participants in six counties selected for the pilot because they have large numbers of private wells and a higher likelihood of PFAS contamination.

Eligible participants can have their private well tested for PFAS by NYS DOH at no cost. If PFAS test results indicate perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) levels at or above the current New York State public drinking water standards of 10 parts per trillion (or nanograms per liter), participants can apply for a rebate once the

water treatment project is complete. Participants may receive up to \$5,000 for a PFAS water treatment system or up to \$10,000 to connect to a public water supply.

Eligible participants include those who own or rent property with a private well. Additional eligibility requirements are found on the Department of Health website.

Dutchess County private well users can apply online through the New York State Department of Health's website. The application period will remain open while funding is available. Completed applications will be reviewed in the order they are received.

People who get drinking water from a public water system are not eligible for this program. The New York State Department of Health and the Dutchess County Department of Health have a separate public drinking water compliance program in place requiring local water systems to monitor and address PFAS and other contaminants, it was stated.

Private well owners should regularly test wells for bacteria at least once a year, and other contaminants every three to five years, to ensure water is suitable for household use, according to County officials.

To learn more about New York's Private Well PFAS Testing and Mitigation Pilot Program at health.ny.gov/PrivateWellPFAS.

DCC Foundation to host 'Bridge to the Future' Gala

Dutchess Community College Foundation (DCCF) will hold its annual gala on March 28, at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie. "Our Community's Bridge to the Future Gala" recognizes how the leadership and generosity of donors empower DCC and its students to work toward brighter futures for the Hudson Valley region and beyond.

"Our Community's Bridge to the Future Gala' will bring together some of our most influential donors and community leaders who have made a difference at our institution," said DCCF Interim Executive Director Anna Parra. "It promises to be a wonderful evening of distinction, celebration and shared purpose, and we can't wait to welcome everyone to join us in celebrating the vibrant community of DCC."

The evening will celebrate the Alumni

Hall of Fame induction of Filomena Fanelli ('96), the founder and CEO of Impact PR & Communications, and the late Ray Freda ('88), a career taxation expert who served in various committee and leadership roles in his field.

DCCF will also present the Bridge to the Future Award to Hudson Valley Fresh founders Gail and Samuel Simon, in recognition of their dedication to community wellness in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Additionally, G. Angela Henry will receive the Bernard Handel Community Leadership Award, for her many years of volunteer service to P-12 and higher education, the arts, social justice and the broader community.

Guests will enjoy a cocktail reception, silent auction, dinner, awards and dancing during an evening of celebration. Tickets are \$250.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 10—10:00AM-3:00PM—Veterans Memorial Building, Beacon, NY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8—3:00PM-5:00PM—Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY

MONDAY, APRIL 14—5:00PM-7:00PM—American Legion Post 1758, Hopewell Jct, NY



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Local cardiologist to lead 2026 Heart Walk and Hudson Valley push for CPR readiness

Dr. Hammoud joins the American Heart Association in engaging companies in Hudson Valley to create a community of lifesavers

HUDSON VALLEY – According to the American Heart Association, 9 in 10 people who suffer cardiac arrest outside of the hospital die and more than half don't receive bystander CPR. CPR – especially if performed immediately – can double or triple a person's chance of survival. To help improve cardiac arrest outcomes in Hudson Valley, Ali Hammoud, M.D., a cardiologist at Nuvance Health, part of Northwell Health, is chairing the 2026 Hudson Valley Heart Walk, leading a year-round effort to rally companies and community members to raise critical funds and expand CPR education. Dr. Hammoud also chaired the 2025 Hudson Valley Heart Walk.

The Heart Walk will take place on April 25, 2026, at Mount Saint Mary College, 330 Powell Avenue, in

Newburgh. Participants will walk in celebration of local survivors and the lifesaving progress made in Hudson Valley. Companies interested in participating can contact local Heart Walk Director Valerie Ubriaco at Valerie.Ubriaco@heart.org. Learn more and register at www.heart.org/hudsonvalleyheartwalk.

Heart Walk is the largest community-facing initiative of the American Heart Association, a relentless force changing the future of health for everyone everywhere. Through fundraising, community education and corporate engagement, Heart Walk aims to make CPR education and training more accessible, fund vital research and drive equitable health for all. Under Hammoud's leadership, top executives in the Hudson Valley will work to recruit other organizations to join the local Heart Walk campaign and help build a community of lifesavers.

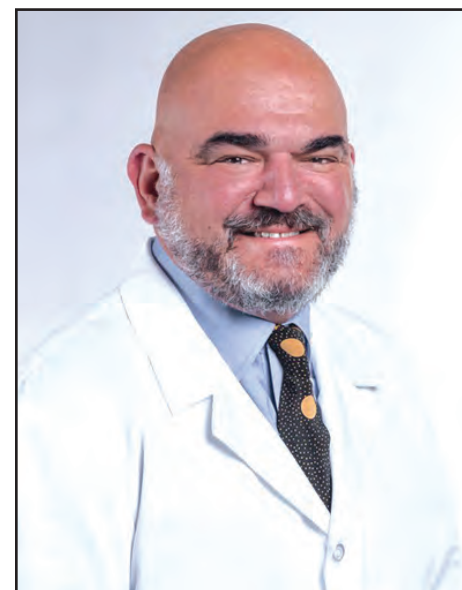
"Cardiac arrest can strike anyone at any time, and the outcome often comes down to whether someone nearby knows what to do," Hammoud said. "We envision at least one person in every household feeling confident to perform CPR. By joining the Heart Walk, Hudson Valley employers can help ensure that when it

matters most, their employees are prepared to act during a cardiac emergency."

According to the Heart Association's 2024 CPR Perceptions Survey, 39% of people – or approximately 103 million U.S. adults – now feel "extremely confident" or "very confident" they could correctly perform CPR, up from 33% in 2021. That's roughly 17.7 million more adults who are highly confident in their ability to conduct CPR, yet 61% still lack high confidence to act in a cardiac emergency.

"While we're extremely proud of the progress that's been made over the last several years, our work is far from over," said Amy Young, executive director for the American Heart Association – Hudson Valley. "Dr. Hammoud's commitment to making the Hudson Valley a safer, stronger community is proof he's the right person for the role. We're looking forward to seeing incredible results from this year's Heart Walk campaign and hope the community will join us in making it a success."

The Heart Association is a global leader in resuscitation science, education and training, and the official publisher of CPR guidelines. Through the Nation of



Dr. Ali Hammoud. Courtesy photo

Lifesavers™ movement, the Association is working to ensure that more people are ready to perform CPR and be a vital link in the chain of survival, supporting its goal of doubling the survival rate from out-of-hospital cardiac arrests by 2030. Connect on heart.org, Facebook, X or by calling 1-800-AHA-USA1.

Anderson Center sets career fair

Anderson Center for Autism has announced details of its second annual "Anderson Connects Career Fair Day," where candidates seeking employment or internship roles will get to meet with representatives from the Staatsburg-based nonprofit and learn more about available opportunities.

Free of charge and open to the public, the event will be held on Thursday, April 23rd, 2026 from 12:30-6:30 p.m. at Double Tree by Hilton, 40 Civic Center Plaza in Poughkeepsie.

Said Patrick Paul, CEO and Executive Director of Anderson Center for Autism, "As our agency grows, so too does our need for team members who share our desire to optimize the quality of life for individuals with autism. This event gives prospective employees and interns a chance to explore job openings, get to

know the people behind our cause, and learn what the day-to-day experience looks like within different departments. It's a great opportunity to network, engage with our team, and determine whether Anderson might be an ideal fit for an internship or long-term career."

Added Dr. Tina Marie Covington, Chief Operating Officer at Anderson Center for Autism, "At the event, we will have representatives from the operations side of our organization, such as corporate compliance, human resources, finance, IT, and other departments present; guests will also get to connect with those who work directly with our students and residents at Anderson Early Learning Academy, Anderson Education Center, case management, and other program-related areas. Additionally, there will be opportunities for people to learn

more about career paths in fields such as Behavior Analysis, Human Service Management, and Education. There really will be something for just about everyone. It's also important to note that Anderson offers very competitive pay, comprehensive benefits, generous paid time off, wellness programs, professional development experiences, advancement opportunities, and more. It's a wonderful place to work; we make meaningful

differences in the lives of others while enjoying a high quality of life ourselves as well."

For additional details, visit andersoncenterforautism.org/careerfair.

To learn more about Anderson Center for Autism and its educational, vocational, residential, clinical, and consulting/training offerings, visit andersoncenterforautism.org.

send us your news cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 16 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

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 □ ▲ 13 thru 33
 □ ■ 34 thru 54
 □ ♦ 55 thru 71

By David Kalvitis © 2005 Monkeying Around

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THEY WILL KILL YOU **R**

--HELD OVER--
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 The Pout-Pout Fish (PG) | The Pout-Pout Fish (PG)
 Hoppers (PG) | Hoppers (PG)
 Scream 7 (R) | Ready or Not 2:
 Ready or Not 2: | Here I Come (R)
 Here I Come (R) | Reminders of Him (PG13)
 Reminders of Him (PG13)

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

HP Chamber's Networking Bingo set March 26

The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce will hold a Networking Bingo event on Thursday, March 26, at La Catrina on Route 9 in Hyde Park. Admission is \$20 a person. Cash bar with heavy appetizers. Bring a non perishable item for the Hyde Park Food Pantry. Visit <https://www.hydeparkchamber.online/> for more information.

Pleasant Valley UMC hosts Lenten meal series

Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, 92 Martin Road, Pleasant Valley, hosts a Soup & Roll Lenten Meal Series on Fridays in Lent through March 27, from 4 p.m. until sold out. Enjoy homemade soup, fresh rolls and warm fellowship. There is a suggested donation (give what you can) for a hearty dinner. This week will be a Soup Buffet Night; selections TBA. Email pleasantvalleyunitedmethodist@gmail.com or call (845) 635-3022 for more information.

Friday Fish Fry at East Clinton Firehouse

The Clinton Volunteer Fire Department will be holding its Annual Fish Fry every Friday through April 3. It will be held at the East Clinton Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane Clinton Corners, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Eat in or take out for \$18 a dinner. The menu includes fish, French fries, coleslaw, dessert and beverages. For information call Lynn at (845) 266-5485.

Starr Library Book Sale set March 27-28

Friends of Starr Library will hold its Book Sale on Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, shop an expertly curated selection of adult fiction and nonfiction, children's books, art, vintage magazines, rare hardcovers, the NYT Best 100 of the Century, and more. The library is at 68 West Market St., Rhinebeck.

St. Paul's in PV to present 'Godspell' March 27-28

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pleasant Valley will present "Godspell" on March 20-21 and 27-28. All performances will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Parish Hall, 806 Traver Road, Pleasant Valley. This spiritual re-imagining of Godspell is directed by EMMY Award winner Rita Kogler Carve; conceived and originally directed by John-Michael Tebelak; and music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz.

Adult tickets are \$20 at door/\$15 in advance; 65+ or under 12 are \$17.50 at door/\$12.50 in advance. Purchase with cash, check or credit cards. Box Office hours are Sundays, noon-3 p.m. For credit cards sales only, call (845) 358-1624 on Sundays, noon-3 p.m.; Mondays, 6-8 p.m.; and Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

Tavern Night set March 27 at Elmendorph Inn

Historic Red Hook will present Tavern Night on Friday, March 27, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Elmendorph Inn, 7562 North Broadway, Red Hook. The event is an evening of tavern-style merriment with food, tavern games, local live music, and beer—good company and old-fashioned fun. Reservations are required; visit www.historicredhook.org for more information.

Certified Arborist Training set March 30 -April 2 at CCEDC

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist Training is scheduled March 30-April 2 at Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) Farm and Home Center, 2715 Route 44 in Millbrook. The training program is designed to assist green industry professionals in obtaining the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist designation. All sessions are in person.

Attendees of this program will gain an increased knowledge of practices pertaining to the care of trees including tree biology and identification, proper pruning, and safety, soils, tree health and diagnosis. DEC pesticide recertification credits have been approved for categories 2, 3a, 10, and 25 for all four sessions. ISA Continuing Education Units (CEUs) have been applied for but have not yet been granted for sessions. This training may be eligible for Landscape Architect CEUs. A Certificate of Attendance will be issued. Join speakers Barb Neal, Mark Chisholm, Steve Chisholm, Amy Mackenzie, Don Gabel, and Isabella Yannuzzi.

For more information, contact contact Yannuzzi at imy3@cornell.edu and 845-677-8223 Ext. 118.

'No Kings' rally set March 28 in Rhinebeck

Hudson Valley Strong—Indivisible is organizing a No Kings Rally and March on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Lions MiniPark located at South Parsonage Street and North Park Road in Rhinebeck. The event, one of more than 2,000 planned nationwide, will include a community rally, speakers, signs, and a peaceful march to a high-traffic area.

According to organizers, all No Kings events adhere to a shared commitment to nonviolent protest and community safety. Organizers are trained in de-escalation, every local event has a safety lead, and organizers are coordinating closely with local partners to ensure powerful, non-violent local actions.

For more information about the Rhinebeck event, visit <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/787686/>. For general information, visit www.NoKings.org.

County to host rabies vaccine clinic March 28

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH) will partner with the Hudson Valley Animal

Rescue & Sanctuary (HVARs) to offer a free rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the HVARs clinic at 9 Barnes Drive in Poughkeepsie. The event is open to dogs, cats and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Advance registration is required at hvars.org.

The clinic is free for Dutchess County residents and \$15 per pet for non-residents. All dogs must be on a leash, and cats and domestic ferrets must be in carriers. Vaccinations will be good for three years with proof of prior vaccination. For those without proof, the vaccination will be good for one year. Microchipping will also be available at a cost of \$45 per pet, and a one-year distemper vaccine for \$25 per pet.

Learn about volunteering at Vanderbilt Garden March 29

Those interested in finding out more information about volunteering at the F.W. Vanderbilt Garden in Hyde Park are welcome to attend a Garden Kick-off Meeting on Sunday, March 29, at 2 p.m., at the Wallace Center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Historic Site Visitor Center.

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, but there are other support tasks such as greeting the public that require no physical labor. Garden work is done during the spring, summer and fall months on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For more information, e-mail volunteers@vanderbiltgarden.org or visit www.vanderbiltgarden.org.

The Reformed Church presents the Living Last Supper

DaVinci's painting comes to life on Holy Thursday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m., at the Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Come and join us as the Apostles wrestle with Christ's fate and their lingering questions of the Messiah's purpose. Free will offering. For more information, please e-mail us at: info@poughkeepsiereformedchurch.com or visit www.poughkeepsiereformedchurch.com; or call The Reformed Church at (845) 452-8110.

Good Friday Observance set at Rhinebeck church

Rhinebeck Reformed Church invites all to a Good Friday Observance with violin, organ musical interludes and Bible readings. The observance will take place on Friday, April 3, at 4 p.m., with selections from Bach's St. Matthew Passion, Allegri's Miserere and Bach Sonatas and Partitas. The church is at 6368 Mill St., Rhinebeck (corner of Route 9 and South Street). Call (845) 876-3727 or email office@rhinebeckreformed.org for more information.

Live theater presentation set April 3 in Kingston

Friday, April 3 at 7 p.m., at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston, NY. Live theater presentation of "One Family in Gaza," a screenplay that follows the emails of a family caught in the Gaza Genocide. Written by Crystal Zevon. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis Response mideastcrisis.org, Veterans For Peace, and Women In Black - New Paltz. Contact: mecr@mideastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 at Stanford Rec

Stanford Recreation will hold an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, at Stanford Rec, SPARC Park, 40 Creamery Road, Stanfordville. The hunt will begin at 10 a.m. All ages welcome.

Blood Drive set April 4 in Clinton Corners

There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, April 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the East Clinton Fire District, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners. New donors are needed. Schedule to donate at RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: ECFD. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org.

Ale Launch at Mill House to benefit Anderson Center

On Thursday, April 9, from 5 to 7 p.m., Mill House Brewing Company (289 Mill St., Poughkeepsie) will host a Mr. Anderson Ale Launch Event to benefit Anderson Center for Autism. The cost is \$40 per person; includes pint glass. Reservations/Information: andersoncenterforautism.org/mranderson

Note: Event is open to the public, but NYS law requires that you must be 21 years of age or older to drink alcohol.

Hyde Park Chamber Breakfast sets April events

The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce will hold its next Breakfast Meeting on Thursday, April 9, from 7:30 to 9 a.m., at Coppola's in Hyde Park. The speaker will be Robert Pollard, director of Hyde Park Recreation. The cost is \$25- per member, \$30 non-member. Advance reservations are requested via www.hydeparkchamber.org; payment online or at the door.

The Chamber's Business Of the Year Dinner will take place on Thursday, April 30, from 6 to 9 p.m. Location TBD. For tickets and more information, visit www.hydeparkchamber.org.

Burying the Hatchet: The Tom Quick Story

The Copake Grange and the Town of Copake Conservation Advisory announces the screening of "Burying the Hatchet: The Tom Quick Story", followed by a panel discussion led by Bradley Pitts, Chair of the Mohican Allyship Committee, and including Producers of the film, Sean Strub, and Associate Producer, Daniel Strongwalker Thomas, as well as a member of the Stockbridge Munsee Community. The event will take place at the Copake Grange, 628 Empire Rd., Copake on Saturday, April 11, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Hyde Park Repair Cafe

Get ready for spring at Hyde Park's Repair Café and Recycling Event set Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 1 Church Street, Hyde Park. Bring in your beloved but broken items for free repairs and advice. Recycle old batteries, Air Conditioners, and mini refrigerators. For more information: ClimateSmartHydePark.org

Pancake Breakfast in Rhinecliff set April 12

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 12, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Enjoy a pile-high of "Rhinecliff's Best" pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. It's all-you-can-eat, so bring your appetite and your friends! Breakfast is \$10 for adults, \$4 for children (children under age 6 eat for free).

Breakfast is held at the Rhinecliff Firehouse (corner of Shatzell & Orchard, Rhinecliff). Proceeds Support the Rhinecliff Vol. Fire Co. Call Cynthia at (845) 876-5738 or e-mail csaniewski1@gmail.com for more information.

Blood Drive set for April 13

American Legion Post 1466 will host a blood drive at the Post, 50 Legion Road, in Poughkeepsie on Monday, April 13, from 1-5 p.m. To schedule an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code Legion1466.

Historic Tavern Trail at Lasting Joy set April 17

Join Dutchess County Historian Will Tatum on Friday, April 17, for the next installment of his "Revolution in Real Time" series, exploring events in New York as they unfolded 250 years ago. The event will take place from 6 to 7 p.m., in person at Lasting Joy Brewery in Tivoli and on Zoom.

The Historic Tavern Trail brings history and local beverage culture together at distinctive community gathering places across the county. RSVP required, more details to come.

Clinton Community Roadside Cleanup set April 18

The annual Town of Clinton Community Roadside Cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day by walking Clinton's scenic Town roads and cleaning them up. Start at Clinton Town Hall where you will receive road assignments and bags. When you're done, bring the roadside garbage you've collected back to Town Hall. Water and chips will be provided to participants. So will sunflower seeds for planting at home.

Free disposal of roadside garbage available on April 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. only.

Register to volunteer and/or nominate a road for cleanup by contacting Rick McGlaufflin at (845) 266-3003 or ncouse330@gmail.com.

Chancellor Livingston Chapter NSDAR meeting set April 19

The next meeting of the Chancellor Livingston Chapter NSDAR will take place on Sunday, April 19, at the Chapter House, 77 Livingston St., Rhinebeck. The business meeting (members only) is at 2 p.m., followed at 2:30 by a program, "A Revolutionary Kitchen Garden" with Barbara Hobens, that is open to the public.

Hobens has been an invited speaker at the Philadelphia Flower show and featured on two episodes of HYTV's Gardening By The Yard; has designed and installed backyard and roof gardens for residences, not-for-profits, public parks, and historic sites in NYC and the Hudson Valley. She served as Hyde Park Historian and president of the F.W. Vanderbilt Garden Association. Hobens was named a Harrison Fellow of the Historic Landscape Institute (Monticello/University of Virginia).

The program is free and open to the public. For information about this meeting or how to become a member, email Doris at darrhinebeck@gmail.com.

Garden volunteer information meeting set April 22

Learn about the many ways to be involved in the gardens at The Homes of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield and the Vanderbilt formal gardens. A volunteer information meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22, at 10 a.m., at the Wallace Visitor Center, Roosevelt Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, Hyde Park. No experience is needed, the schedule is flexible and there are many fun options for getting involved.

Rhinebeck Garden Club off-site meeting April 22

Rhinebeck Garden Club's off site meeting is set Wednesday, April 22, 10 a.m., at Northern Dutchess Botanical Gardens, 389 Salisbury Turnpike Rhinebeck. The program, "The Growing Experience,"

will be presented by Marcella Santini. The meeting is open to the public but guests are asked to join after attending two meetings. For more information about this program, or the RBGC or upcoming programs, please contact Sue, 845-797-3226 or Hannah, 914-263-5298

Anderson Connects Career Fair Day

Anderson Connects Career Fair Day will be held Thursday, April 23, 12:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton, 40 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. For more information, visit andersoncenterforautism.org/careerfair. This event is supported by the Barry and Holly Feirstein Endowment Fund and hosted in part by Dutchess County Works.

Rhinebeck Historical Society program set April 24

Friday, April 24, 7 p.m., Starr Library, Local History Room (entrance in the rear), 68 West Market St., Rhinebeck. Dr. Mary Mistral will present "Ladies of the Valley." With names like Astor, Roosevelt and Livingston, the women featured in Ladies of the Valley were born to great privilege, and raised to be hostesses who would grace the drawing room. But they would often be called upon to take charge of the operation of their family estates. They also oversaw the welfare of the estate workers, the upbringing and education of their children, and created a tradition of women involved in the social issues of their times. As matriarchs of their families, these women played an important role in establishing the culture and society of the Hudson Valley for generations.

Anyone doing local history research can make an appointment to visit the Local History Room at Starr Library, which is available on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. throughout the year. Email michaelfrazier@earthlink.net or call 845-464-2015 to make an appointment or to ask questions about Rhinebeck history. For more information about the historical society, visit www.rhinebeckhistoricalsociety.org.

Red Hook VFW Civilian Military Ball

The Red Hook VFW Post 7765 will hold its Civilian Military Ball, commemorating 80 years of faithful service to veterans and the community. The event will take place on Saturday, April 25, from 6 – 10 p.m. at The Red Hook Community Center, 59 Fisk Street, Red Hook. This special evening will bring together community members, veterans, and supporters to honor the legacy of service and sacrifice. Guests will enjoy a night of camaraderie, entertainment, and recognition of those who have served our nation. Information or sponsorship inquiries or more information, contact: Jon Conroe, Post Commander: (619) 855-6099 | Jon@vfw7765.org or Red Hook VFW Post 7765: (855) 758-7765 | info@vfw7765.org

LaGrange Rotary club to hold meet-and-greet April 28

The Rotary Club of LaGrange Sunrise will hold a meet-and-greet event on Tuesday, April 28, at 5:30 p.m., at Simply Gourmet, 399 Manchester Road, Poughkeepsie. The purpose of the event is in appreciation to the Rotary's golf tournament sponsors (the tournament is its major fundraiser) as well as to share information regarding all that the organization does in the community. In addition, the group will present a check to the Tunnels to Towers Foundation. RSVP to Rose by April 21 at SALMONROSE41@GMAIL.COM.

Miles of Hope Spring Brunch set May 3

Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation will hold its 22nd Annual Spring Brunch on May 3, at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie. Guests will learn about the importance of exercise for a happy and healthy life from Dr. Jessica Scott, Director of the Exercise Oncology Program and Associate Attending at Memorial Sloan Kettering. Dr. Scott will discuss how exercise plays a vital role in living a happy and healthy life. The event will also feature raffle and auction items. Purchase tickets at www.milesofhope.org

Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals 2026, "The Year of the Humane Child" will be held on Saturday, May 30 from Noon- 4 p.m. (rain date, Sunday, May 31, 1-5 p.m.) at the Third Evangelical Lutheran Church, 31 Livingston St., Rhinebeck. This is a free, outdoors, family fun event. Bring your pet for a hands-on blessing and stay to visit with the dozen plus charity exhibitors. Each is represented by their Ambassador Animal. This is an afternoon meant to delight and build compassion for all living things. No pet ... no problem, come to enjoy nature and mingle with friends. For more information, visit lutheranparish-northerndutchess.org/blessing-of-the-animals.html

Brookmeade Golf Classic set June 1

The Brookmeade Community Foundation is hosting The 9th Annual Brookmeade Golf Classic. Golf Classic will be held on June 1 at the Red Hook Golf Club starting at 8 a.m. Breakfast, lunch and golf shirts provided. Raffles throughout the day, and top team awards. Hole-in-one contest and more. Player cost: \$175 per person. Proceeds to benefits the programs for senior citizens living in the Brookmeade Community. To sign up, contact us at info@brookmeadecommunity.org. Sponsorship opportunities also available.

County honors 100-year-old Ralph Osterhoudt for service to country and community



This past weekend, County Executive Sue Serino and Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche joined Dutchess County in celebrating the 100th birthday of Hyde Park resident and World War II veteran Ralph Osterhoudt, honoring his lifelong service to both his country and community. In recognition of his remarkable legacy, Serino officially declared Saturday, March 14, as "Ralph Osterhoudt Day" in Dutchess County. Thanks to Ralph and all his fellow veterans for their selfless service in defense of our nation. *Photo courtesy of the Dutchess County Government Facebook page*

Children's Book Festival to feature authors, illustrators, costumed characters



This year's characters for the Poughkeepsie Children's Book Festival include Biscuit (Biscuit series), Paddington Bear, Red Crayon (The Day the Crayons Quit), Bad Kitty (Bad Kitty series), and the Poughkeepsie Library District's own Rover. *Courtesy photo*



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Pleasant Valley

Invites you to join us as we commemorate the events of Holy Week and rejoice in the Resurrection of the Lord!

PALM SUNDAY	(Sat) MAR 28	(Sun) MAR 29
Sunday Mass	5:30 PM	8:15 & 11 AM
HOLY THURSDAY	APR 02	
Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:30 PM	
GOOD FRIDAY	APR 03	
Passion of the Lord	3:00 PM	
Stations of the Cross	7:30 PM	
HOLY SATURDAY	APR 04	
Blessing of the Bread	10:00 AM	
Easter Vigil	7:30 PM	
EASTER SUNDAY	APR 05	
The Resurrection of the Lord	8:15 & 11 AM	

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Before Easter
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The Poughkeepsie Children's Book Festival is set Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Falcon Hall at Dutchess Community College, Falcon Hall. It's free to attend and no registration is required.

This is an opportunity to meet and greet authors and illustrators (covering reading ages from preschool to Young Adult), take your picture with your favorite costumed book characters, and have fun with hands-on activities. Books will be available to purchase, and to have signed by the authors and illustrators who made them.

Free parking is available in Lot A (30 Mascot Dr.) or Lot D (95 Cottage Rd.)

This year, over 100 children's book authors and illustrators will be on hand for you to meet, purchase books, and

have them signed.

Take some photos with one or more costumed book characters. This year's characters include Biscuit (Biscuit series), Paddington Bear, Red Crayon (The Day the Crayons Quit), Bad Kitty* (Bad Kitty series), and the library's own Rover.

Each child, 17 and under, will receive one free book voucher (valued at \$15) upon entry into the Book Festival. Book Vouchers are made possible by the generosity of the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

The Poughkeepsie Children's Book Festival is made possible with support from: Poughkeepsie Public Library Friends, Dutchess Community College and Merritt Bookstore in Millbrook.

what's happening? ——— creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com



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Wappingers CSD celebrates Pi Day

By Irvin Miller

On Friday, March 13, students from seven of the elementary schools in the Wappingers Central School District – Brinckerhoff, Kinry Road, Fishkill Plains, Myers Corners, Oak Grove, Sheafe Road, and Vassar Road – gathered to be recognized for their math skills by County Executive Sue Serino; Legislator Dr. Lisa Kaul representing the Legislature; State Senator Rob Rolison; Assemblyman Anil Beephan; and Town Supervisors Ozzy Albra, Joseph Cavaccini, Nicholas D'Alessandro and Rebecca Edwards.

Speeches recognizing these outstanding students were given by WCSD Superintendent Dr. Dwight Bonk; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michelle Cardwell; Principals Domonique Cooper and Amy Fazio; and teacher Kimberly Sokol. Also included in the recognition were principals Carolyn Fields, Adam Gerson, Sydnie Goldstein, Angelina Alvarez-Rooney and William Rund.

Several Parents and students gave speeches talking about the confidence and math skills that they learned in the math program.

The students, ranging from first grade to sixth grade, were all being taught at a college level, with topics like multiplying 20x20, 40x40, and 80x80 digits, multiplying infinite power series, solving large magic squares, and critical thinking. What seemed amazing was that the first



On Friday, March 13, students from seven of the elementary schools in the Wappingers Central School District gathered to be recognized for their math skills during a Pi Day celebration. Pi Day is officially March 14 (3.14 – the first three digits of the mathematical constant Pi). *Courtesy photo*

graders could learn alongside their older schoolmates. Three of the first graders are working on beating the record for 40x40 multiplication of 35 minutes in about 20 minutes. The students in the upper grades have achieved the goal by doing it under 10 minutes, and one has done 80x80 in 20 minutes.

At least a dozen of these students will compete for the world's record on June 6.

These students will continue on more topics such as raising any number to a decimal power and other advanced math techniques that are not covered in high school. Some have already learned how to program.

The students who were recognized for their accomplishments were:

Myers Corners: Annabelle, Lukas, Ryder, Tanner, Felix, Abaz, Anderson, Riley, Luke

Brinckerhoff: Lilah, Elijah, Kesav, Kishan, Lucas, Theofanis, Artemis, Mason, Omatara, Abby, John, Grace, James, Colin

Oak Grove: Ava, Isabella, Avery, Alex, Cara, Chloe, Gavin, Hunter, Natalie, Edward, Emily, Kolton, Jamila

Sheafe Road: Alana, Hunter, Sophia, Jhadil, Cheyenne, Sophia, Xavier, Maxen, Maverick, Aston

Fishkill Plains: Keith, Leo, Rithik, Anthony, Zachary, Gianna, Valentina, Stephano, Jaiyir, Atharv, Brooke, Gabrielle, Clara, Liliana, Vihaan, Nora, Mae, Jed, Zinachimdi, Isabella, Aarush,

Jaliya, Isabela, Allen, Michael, Adeline, Scarlett, Aizen, Ivahn, Andy

Kinry Road: Alex
Vassar Road: Elias

A number of the students have been in the enriched math program for two years and some have been instructed by Dr. Miller for 4 years.

Tops Friendly Markets, Adams Fair Acre Farms, and Daily Planet have sponsored the Pi Day event for many years.

Irvin M. Miller, Ph.D. has taught these program for over 5 years in the Wappingers district, and has taught in the Arlington, Hyde Park, Poughkeepsie, and Beacon districts and students from Highland, Carmel, and recently from Kentucky by Zoom.

Red Hook District announces Board of Ed meeting date changes

The Red Hook Central School District Board of Education announced the following changes in meeting dates and times:

- April
- April 9 (Committee Meetings) – CANCELED
- April 21 – Regular Board Meeting
 - 4:30 p.m. Proposed Executive Session
 - 5 p.m. public meeting
- April 28 – BOCES Vote 8 a.m. Mill Road Elementary PK-2 Cafeteria
- May
- May 7 – Public Hearing and Meeting –

- 7 p.m. in Mill Road Elementary PK-2 Cafeteria following the Budget Expo
- May 19 – After Budget Vote approximately 9:15 p.m. in Mill Road Elementary School 3-5 Cafeteria
- May 21 – CANCELED

- June
- June 12 – (Committee Meetings) – 7 p.m.

All meetings will be held in the Mill Road Elementary School PK-2 Cafeteria, unless otherwise stated.

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communityatbrookmeade.org

STISSING CENTER

Saturday, April 4 at 7:30PM in Banning Hall

PASQUALE GRASSO TRIO

JAZZ MUSIC 7:30PM \$30-40

Friday, April 10 in The Grace Note

LESLIE MENDELSON

SINGER-SONGWRITER 7:30PM \$25

Sunday, April 12 in Banning Hall

SELECTED SHORTS

THEATER 3:00PM \$30-40

Friday, April 17 in The Grace Note

THE TOM DUFFY BAND

LOCAL ROCK 7:30PM \$10

Saturday, April 18 in Banning Hall

BEES IN THE BARN

ROOTS 7:30PM \$30-40

Friday, April 24 in The Grace Note

THE GRACE NOTE OPEN MIC NIGHT

COMMUNITY EVENTS 7:30PM \$10

Saturday, April 25 in Banning Hall

HUDSON VALLEY PUPPET SLAM

THEATER 7:30PM \$30-40

STISSING CENTER, PINE PLAINS NY
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Last chance to see ‘Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B’ in Copake

“Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B” will run one more weekend at the Copake Grange Hall, 628 Empire Road, Copake. Performances are set Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 29, at 3 p.m.

“Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B” is an irreverent, darkly comic, modern take on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s famous sleuth and sidekick. This fast-paced romp re-examines the world’s most famous detective story with a bold new feminist lens. In this highly theatrical, small-cast escapade, oddball female

roommates Sherlock Holmes and Joan Watson join forces to emerge from pandemic fog as a deeply codependent, quasi-dysfunctional Odd Couple adventure duo – solving mysteries and kicking butts, until they come face to face with a villain who seems to have all of the answers.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors (call for group rates). For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 329-6293.



This is the final weekend to see The Two of Us Productions’ “Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B” at the Copake Grange. Photos from last weekend’s performances include (above, from left) Mason Lowe as Elliot Monk, Leigh Fisher-Troche as Joan Watson, Connie Lopez as Sherlock Holmes. At left are (l-r) Leigh Fisher-Troche as Joan Watson, Connie Lopez as Sherlock Holmes, Ben Kirk as Inspector Lestrade, Diane Boice-Yorck as Mrs. Dreber. *Courtesy photos*



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Southern Dutchess
News Group**



Auditions for ‘Company’ set April 11-12 in Rhinebeck

Rhinebeck Theatre Society will hold auditions for “Company” (book by George Furth, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim) at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck. Audition dates are Saturday, April 11, at 1 p.m.; and Sunday, April 12, at 7 p.m. Callbacks (by invitation only) will be held on Tuesday, April 14, at 7 p.m.

No appointments necessary. Will audition in order of arrival.

From musical theatre’s most renowned composer, “Company” is largely regarded as a trailblazer of the dark-comedy, modern-musical genre and the winner of six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score, Best Lyrics and Best Book.

On the night of his 35th birthday, confirmed bachelor Robert contemplates his unmarried state. Over the course of a series of dinners, drinks and even a wedding, his friends explain the pros and cons of taking on a spouse. The habitually single Robert is forced to question his adamant retention of bachelorhood during a hilarious array of interactions.

“Company” features a brilliantly brisk and energetic score containing many of Sondheim’s best known songs. The strength of the piece lies in its vivid yet real characters and every audience member will see reflections of themselves in at least one of the characters onstage.

The casting for this production of

“Company” will be approached with no regard to an actor’s gender expression, race, or ethnicity. Anyone has the opportunity to be considered for any role. Women, persons of color, and LGBTQ+ individuals are strongly encouraged to audition.

Rehearsals begin April 19 and performance dates are July 10-26, 2026, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m., for a total of nine performances.

Be prepared to list your conflicts. Those with multiple conflicts, or conflicts during tech week through performance dates, cannot be cast.

Prepare a 30- to 60-second contemporary musical theatre song (or 16-32 measures) that best showcases your voice. If not from the show, bring sheet music in the correct key for the accompanist. You may also perform to a track, but be advised that phone service may be limited, so you’re advised to download your track ahead of time.

There will also be a brief general movement audition on the day of auditions.

Virtual Submissions: Email a YouTube or Google Drive link of your singing audition to rhinebecktheatersociety@gmail.com by Sunday, April 12, at 9 p.m.

Visit www.centerforperformingarts.org for character breakdowns and more information.

Oakwood Friends partners with Guilford College in ‘Forever Friends’ program



Oakwood Director of College Counseling Haniya Mee, center, with other Friends school college counselors at Guilford College in North Carolina. *Courtesy photo Oakwood Friends*

Twelve college counselors from independent Quaker-affiliated high schools stretching from Rhode Island to North Carolina recently visited Guilford College for two days of tours, discussions and meetings with students, faculty and administrators. Oakwood’s Director of College Counseling and New York State Association for College Admission Counseling (NYSACAC) President-elect Haniya Mee joined administrators from other Friends schools including Wilmington Friends School in Delaware, Sandy Springs Friends School in Maryland and New Garden Friends School in North Carolina for the tour.

The visit included the announcement of “Forever Friends,” a new partnership offering direct admission to Guilford College for graduates from participating Friends schools that sign formal agreements with the College. The program strengthens ties between Guilford — the only Quaker-founded college in the Southeast — and Friends schools across the country.

Reflecting on the partnership, Mee shared, “Attending a Quaker college is a

natural next step for students who have been educated in a Quaker environment. At Guilford, our students will be welcomed and supported just as they have been throughout their middle and high school years at Oakwood. Guilford is deeply committed to educating the whole student, fostering a community where young people grow not only academically, but also discover their place in the world and how to contribute meaningfully to it.”

Oakwood has a long history with Guilford College with close to fifty alumni attending since 1925.

Chad Cianfrani, Oakwood’s Head of School, expressed enthusiasm about the “Forever Friends” program, “Oakwood’s partnership with Guilford College reflects the enduring strength of Quaker education — a shared commitment to nurturing the light within each student and preparing young people to lead lives of purpose, integrity, and service. We are proud that our graduates have the opportunity to continue their educational journeys in a community where the values of equality, reflection, and meaningful engagement remain at the center of learning.”

Getting ready for the annual Plant Sale

Submitted By Nancy Bendiner

Thinking of thinning out your perennial garden? And maybe add some new plants and flowers that fit well into your garden spaces? Your chance is coming as Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC) gets ready for its popular annual plant sale, scheduled for May 16. Every year, local gardeners line up at the sale waiting for the yellow ribbon to be lowered as buyers rush to buy their favorite plants at bargain prices. Plants offered for sale come from local gardens and are adapted to our local climate.

So that this year's sale can continue with its usual success, ODVGC encourages local gardeners to donate by May 3 plants they wish to thin out from their gardens. We will come to your house to dig plants if you are unable to do so. If you have any gently used garden tools, ornamentation, pots and related items, we accept these as donations too. Please call the chief sale organizer, Linda Lawson, (845) 399-9532, with any questions or to arrange for donations.

Our plant sale aims to help beautify the gardens in our community, and to use the proceeds for worthy causes such as

Hardscrabble Day and holiday decorations, maintaining the memorial garden in Veterans' Park, and offering a scholarship for a graduating senior at Red Hook High School.

ODVGC has been preparing for spring at our monthly meetings as well. On February 12, Michelle Decker demonstrated to members how to properly prune shrubs. We learned what tools to use, how to use them and when to prune. No doubt, after this excellent lesson, we will have beautifully shaped and healthy shrubs in our yards!

On March 12, Serena Starzyk spoke about how to increase native plants in our gardens and "get rid of invasives". She showed how invasive plants- described as "thugs" in her slide show- not generally from our area can take over our garden spaces. Native plants though- many of which she discussed- can replace invasive species and help pollinators such as useful insects, butterflies and birds. We learned that the NYSDEC web site can provide a native plant list. Also, Ms. Starzyk recommended the "Dutchess Dirt" newsletter from Cornell Cooperative Extension, and told us about the extension's program, "Seed to



The Old Dutch Village Garden Club's annual Plant Sale raises funds to help beautify the gardens in the community, and to use the proceeds for other worthy causes. Right: Michelle Decker discusses how to properly prune shrubs at the club's February meeting. Left: Serena Starzyk discusses native plants and invasives at the March 12 meeting. Photos by Nancy Bendiner



Supper", a free program of classes for "food poor" beginning gardeners. She can be reached through Cornell Cooperative Extension.

In addition to the plant sale, upcoming plans for ODVGC members include an anniversary luncheon in April and a trip to Innisfree Garden in Millbrook in May. During spring and summer, we will also be keeping up our Memorial Garden in the Veterans Park across from CVS- have a seat there and enjoy the flowers!

You can follow ODVGC information on our Facebook page, and better yet, join us at our meetings, usually the second Thursday of each month (except July- annual picnic month- and August) at 12:30 p.m., St. John's Reformed Church, Upper Red Hook. See you at the Plant Sale!



Wilderstein to host annual Spring Tea April 18

Wilderstein Historic Site will hold its Spring Tea on Saturday, April 18, at 1 p.m. The event offers an elegant afternoon with fine tea and an assortment of sweet and savory delectables. Attendees can also add a tour of the Wilderstein mansion and/or stroll on the grounds to appreciate the splendor of springtime flowers in bloom.

Tickets for the Tea are \$75 per person; Tea and Tour Tickets are \$85 per person.

For more information and to register online, visit www.wilderstein.org or call the Wilderstein Office at (845) 876-4818.

Wilderstein Historic Site is a not-for-profit house museum located at 330 Morton Road in Rhinebeck. Featuring a Queen Anne mansion and Calvert Vaux designed landscape, Wilderstein is widely regarded as the Hudson Valley's most important example of Victorian architecture.

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Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 10)

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS!

Sets
 Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.
 □ • 1 thru 12
 □ ▲ 13 thru 33
 □ ■ 34 thru 54
 □ ♦ 55 thru 71

By David Kalvitis © 2005 Monkeying Around



How to grow marijuana

Now that I have your attention....
 When I started writing a gardening column in 1977, for Northern/Southern Dutchess News and its predecessor The Millbrook Round Table, I never imagined this day would come. Now here we are.
 On June 26, 2024, the New York Office of Cannabis Management finalized the rules for adults (age 21 and over) to cultivate marijuana at home, finally making it legal to do what every person I've ever met has been doing for the last 50 years. Don't tell anyone, but back in the day, we'd trample down a few cornstalks in the middle of the corn field and plant our loco weed where the deer, police, and the neighbors wouldn't find it. I dare say I have some experience growing the stuff. The law states that an adult can cultivate up to three mature plants and three immature plants (so you have a nice crop rotation), or six and six per household. Of course, you're not allowed to sell it, or give it away, or trade it for dollar bills.
 Cannabis (marijuana) is easy to grow – that's why it's called "weed."
 • **Choose the seed** – Cannabis genetics have come a long way since the days when you had to smoke a whole pillowcase full of leaves to catch a buzz. Seeds are only available from licensed online dealers. ILGM.com is a good choice. Most seeds are hybrid crosses of the species cannabis sativa and c. indica. They should be "feminized," meaning that only flowering females will be produced. (Marijuana, like holly and date palms, are dioecious). You only have to buy the seed once, then you can take cuttings to root in sand or potting mix, to make clones of your favorite plant.
 • **Sow the seeds indoors** in March, using a seed starter mix and grow lights, the same way you would start tomatoes. Good air circulation is critical, as marijuana is very prone to powdery mildew. Set the trays of young seedlings outdoors on sunny April days, bringing them back in at night.
 • **Planting the garden** – Choose the sunniest possible location. Set plants in big pots or into the garden after the last

frost, usually May 20. Since you're saving a ton of money by growing your own, you might want to invest in a fence to keep out the deer. I have not known woodchucks to eat marijuana plants, but then I didn't know they climbed trees either. Your pot plants will want well drained, fertile soil. For years, I grew mine in my compost pile. Since fresh air is so important, don't crowd your three plants. Space them at least six feet apart.
 • **Fertilizer** – These plants can grow eight feet tall, so they need lots of food. An entire industry has evolved to recommend fertilizer for cannabis plants, from Fox Farm to Neptune's Harvest. Generally speaking, cut down on the nitrogen as plants begin to form buds. You might want to stake your plants, so a thunderstorm doesn't blow them over.
 • **Powdery Mildew** – I can't stress this enough. Keep an eye out for mildew, on the undersides of leaves as the young plants grow. At this immature state, you can spray an organic fungicide like Cease or Milstop. As the buds mature, you won't want to spray them with anything, so keep an eye out for mold. Inspect the buds daily, and at the first sign of mold, harvest the crop and hang it to dry, discarding any infected buds.
 • **When to harvest** – In late September, or even early October, watch the weather forecast. If a frost is predicted, harvest the crop. Years ago, when we would grow weed in obscure locations, it always seemed somebody would steal it the day before we planned to harvest. Nowadays, since everybody is growing their own, and since the introduction of trail cameras, thievery is rare.
 • **Expanding the garden** – Marijuana is a gateway garden plant. Most of my former marijuana growing buddies have graduated to more exciting crops – figs, raspberries, giant pumpkins, amaranth, ghost peppers. Now that it's legal, I don't bother growing marijuana. I don't even smoke it. Give me a cold beer any day.

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



The New York Office of Cannabis Management allows adults (age 21 or older) to grow up to three immature marijuana plants and three mature plants. Photos by Mark Adams



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Decoding Dutchess' Past

continued from page 15

The letter reflects FDR's strategic embrace of Latin America, fruits of the good neighbor policy launched in 1933. The fact that the letter was quickly reprinted in newspapers like the Orange County Post simply reflects FDR and Hoyt's understanding of the importance of the printed word in newspapers.
 Fish prevailed in a Republican primary. And he prevailed in the general election in 1942, which he saw as a vindication relative to his accusers. Fish lost his seat in 1944, the year FDR won an unprecedented fourth term as US

President. Ferdinand Hoyt died in Beacon in December of 1944. FDR died in Warm Springs, Georgia, in April of 1945. War with Germany and Japan ended in May and August of 1945 respectively.
Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at bill.jeffway@dchsny.org or (845) 293-7711.



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

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

Suguru

	4	3			
					1
		5			
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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: SUPERHEROES

ACROSS

- Abbreviation, abbr.
- Corvine bird's sound
- Aquarium dweller
- Sandwich shop
- Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
- Blatant
- Don't go
- *Tony Stark, a.k.a. ____ Man
- High-quality black tea
- *Leader of Guardians of the Galaxy
- Research facil.
- Words to live by
- Leo month
- ____ Tree National Park
- Period between linked activities (2 words)
- Not safe in baseball
- Drunk's speech?
- Sitar music
- Doughy snack of Jewish origin
- Rage
- Seize a throne
- Common hosiery shade
- Nom de guerre
- "Wow!"
- What emergency workers do
- Choice word
- Young newt
- Passport stamps
- Vomit
- *Doctor Doom's frequent ally (2 words)
- Deserved consequence
- One of Great Lakes
- Iranian money
- Like Vitruvian Man, e.g.
- Prima donnas' problems
- Author Murdoch
- Like Regina George
- "____ My People Go"
- *Sandman can transform his body into this

DOWN

- Pop-ups, e.g.
- Risky business, pl.
- Cry plaintively
- Capital of Saudi Arabia
- Billiards bounce
- Ancient Greek marketplace
- Diagon Alley purchase
- *Captain America's team
- Albanian monetary units
- Small cave
- What Pac-Man did to strawberry
- Largest Asian antelope
- Poppy seed derivative
- Just outside a fairway
- Inflation matter
- *Batman's arch-nemesis
- 1/16th of a pound
- Not shakes, as in bartender
- *____ Titans, cyborgs' team
- L in LOL
- Acquiesce
- Rubbernecker
- Tough spot
- *Leonardo to Michelangelo
- *One from Krypton
- Inuit skin boat
- *Size-changing ____-Man
- Yeses, alt. sp.
- Butcher's refuse
- Trouble, in Yiddish
- Threshold
- "Complete ____'s Guides"
- Bid, past tense
- Particular region
- Comes on a rod
- Turkish currency
- Been in bed
- *____ Possible
- Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 21

March 26: "Bat Out Of Hell – The Musical," Ulster Performing Arts Center, 601 Broadway, Kingston. The thrilling spectacle where the timeless music of Jim Steinman and Meat Loaf reigns supreme, 7:30 p.m. Featuring some of the most iconic rock songs ever recorded, "Bat Out Of Hell – The Musical" boasts an epic world-class cast of singers, dancers, actors, accompanied by a dynamic eight-piece rock band. Tickets & more info at www.bardavon.org

March 26: Free Film Screening, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. Bardavon Presents, in collaboration with My Kingston Kids, will screen "IXCANUL" (2015, not rated), 7:30 p.m. A gripping story set in Guatemala, the film follows 17-year-old Maria as she challenges her arranged marriage and navigates the trials of love, family, and destiny amid the coffee plantations of her hometown. Presented in Kaqchikel and Spanish with English subtitles. Free; tickets available at the door. Doors open 30 minutes prior to showtime. (845) 339-6088

March 26-28: Music & Dance at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. March 26: Latin Dance with Beacon Dance Beat, 7 p.m. All seats \$15. March 27: Vance Gilbert; special guest Nini Camps, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. March 28: Stella Blue's Band, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

March 27: "In the Deep Heart's Core: A Mystic Cabaret - from the Works of W. B. Yeats," The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. "In the Deep Heart's Core" is at once a poet's autobiography and a deeply moving journey through the romantic imagination and the national soul of Ireland. It follows the life of the Celtic visionary poet and activist William Butler Yeats, moving through dreams and heartbreaks toward ultimate spiritual triumph, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10. www.thestissingcenter.org

March 27-28: "Godspell," St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 806 Traver Rd., Pleasant Valley. A spiritual re-imagining of the joyful, inventive "Godspell" by Stephen Schwartz and John Michael Tebelak. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$15 adults, \$12.50 for seniors/children. Tickets at the door are \$20 adults, \$15 for seniors/children. The Box Office is open Sundays, noon-3 p.m. at the Parish Hall, and phone orders can be taken Sundays 1-3 p.m., and Monday & Wednesday evenings 6-8 p.m.

by phoning (484) 358-1624.

March 27-29: "Kurtág Festival, Signs, Games & Messages," Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Festival honors Hungarian composer György Kurtág's 100th birthday, highlighting the clarity, precision, and expressive depth of Kurtág's music, and places his work in dialogue with composers and traditions important to him, including both predecessors and contemporaries. The festival presents solo, vocal, and chamber works by Kurtág alongside music by Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Bartók, Benjamin, Abrahamsen, Adès, and others, including U.S. premieres of selections from the later volumes of Játékok. The programming brings together Bard faculty, students, and artists closely connected to Kurtág, reflecting the collaborative spirit that defines the festival. Program Two: March 27, 7 p.m., "Abrahamsen's Schnee," Conservatory Performance Space, Annandale-on-Hudson. Program Three: March 28, 1 p.m., "Bach Inventions and Sinfonias," Conservatory Performance Space, Annandale-on-Hudson. Program Four: March 28, 7 p.m., "Songs, Laments, Dances, Games," Chapel of the Holy Innocents, Annandale-on-Hudson. Program Five: March 29, 3 p.m., "Kurtág, Mozart, and the Bach Family," Conservatory Performance Space. <http://bard.edu/conservatory>

March 27-29: "Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B," Copake Grange Hall, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. The Two Of Us Productions presents a thoroughly modern take on the classic Holmes & Watson sleuthing partnership. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 students & seniors (call for group rates). For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 329-6293.

March 28: Film, "Hundreds of Beavers," Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Jean Kayak finds himself stranded in a surreal winter landscape with nothing but his dim wits to guide him. Against a backdrop of ruthless elements and sinister creatures - all played by actors in full-sized mascot costumes - Kayak develops increasingly complex traps in order to win the hand of a mischievous lover. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. www.thestissingcenter.org

March 28: Film, "Yo, indocumentada" ("I, Undocumented"), Hudson Valley LGBTQ+ Community Center, 300 Wall St.

in Kingston. Three Venezuelan women carry government IDs with names that aren't theirs. They are transgender, living as legal strangers in their own country. Their battle for recognition unfolds in the film. Screening at 6 p.m., followed by a live Zoom Q&A with director Andrea Baranenko. The event, marking Transgender Day of Visibility, observed March 31, is free and open to the public. The 2013 film, in Spanish with English subtitles, runs 60 minutes and is unrated. Registration at <https://tinyurl.com/YoIndocumentada-Registration>. For more information, contact Charlie Solidum at (845) 317-6195 or charlie@lgbtqcenter.org.

March 28: Fourth Annual "March Monologue Madness," Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Hear the best of Hudson Valley writers perform their original work, 7 p.m. Features Joe Baer, Katherine Burger, Gary Falk, Valerie Kavanaugh, Phillip X Levine, Ellen O'Donnell, Yvonne Perry, Brian Petti, Donald Rothschild, David Simpatico, and Betsy Woodman. Benefit for Morton Library. Admission by donation. (845) 876-2903

March 28: Millbrook Arts Group Winter Concert Series, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. Hudson Valley Hot Club, vintage jazz from the '20s and '30s played in the raucous swing style developed by Django Reinhardt and other great gypsy jazz musicians. Featuring Luke Johnson and Eric Marshall on guitar and David Chernack on Fiddle/Mandolin. Pre-show reception, 4:30 p.m. Concert, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. www.millbrooklibrary.org

March 28: "Out of The Mist ... A Dragon," Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Using elegant reproductions of the classic Bunraku puppets of Japan, a romantic poignant drama unfolds that reaches into the world of myth and legend to portray a young man's journey of self-discovery, 5 p.m. His encounters with traditional folk puppets from North America, England and Indonesia give exotic glimpses of different puppetry styles. Tickets \$25. www.thestissingcenter.org

March 28: Poughkeepsie Children's Book Festival, Falcon Hall, Dutchess Community College, 53 Pendell Rd., Poughkeepsie. Meet and greet authors and illustrators (covering reading ages from preschool to 8th grade) and take your picture with your favorite costumed book charac-

ters, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Books will be available to purchase (cash or credit card) and to have signed by the authors and illustrators who made them. Free admission. No registration required. Free parking in Lot A (30 Mascot Dr.) or Lot D (95 Cottage Rd.). <https://poklib.org/bookfestival/>

March 28-29: "Weekend of Wonders: Magic for the Entire Family," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. The Society of American Magicians, Al Baker Assembly #35 present an afternoon of laughter, astonishment, and magical wonder. This fun family-friendly show is packed with hilarious comedy, mind-blowing magic, and plenty of audience participation that will have kids and adults alike cheering from their seats. Performances: Sat. & Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$20. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

March 29: Galvin Cello Quartet, Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon. The Howland Chamber Music Circle continues its 2025-2026 Chamber Series with the Quartet, 4 p.m. Following the concert, audience members can meet the musicians and enjoy complimentary refreshments. All ticket holders are invited to the reception. www.howlandmusic.org

March 30: Special Puppet Show, "The Doubtful Sprout," Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, 75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie. Explore the world under your feet in this underground puppet adventure from award-winning puppeteer Liz Joyce, 10 a.m. Tunnel down with Worm and Sprout as they discover the mysterious life found inside soil. Along the way, kids help figure out the secrets that help Sprout grow. Joyce brings this ecological wonderland to life with multiple puppetry styles, projections, and song. For ages 3-8. Registration required. <https://mhd.com/>

April 1: Skyllkill's Quilt Show, Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, presents a quilt show by chapter members who are also quilters as well as embroiderers. Each member will share their personally-made quilts and give a short talk on their piece. The program starts at 12:30 p.m. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning at 10 a.m. or, come for this program only beginning at 12:30. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEIGA or email to EGASkyllkill@gmail.com

EXHIBITIONS

Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through April 12:** "Artists Respond to Poetry," Arts Mid-Hudson's ninth annual celebration of National Poetry Month, bringing together 20 poets and 20 visual artists in a collaborative exhibition exploring the dialogue between word and image. Closing Reception Artist Talk: Sun., April 12, 1-3 p.m. RSVPs required to attend reception. www.artsmidhudson.org or (845) 454-3222

Boardman Road Branch Library, 141 Boardman Rd., Poughkeepsie. **Through April 7:** "Look Close", photographs by Jen Radicone. poklib.org/events/art-in-the-library

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is Ivars Sprogis, whose works encompass oils and watercolors. At 12 Vassar St., mixed media painter Kevin Sterne is featured in the Reception Gallery and Shirley Tuttle brings her acrylic works of art to the Hancock Gallery. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: cunneen-hackett.org

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through June 7:** "Bunmei Kaika: Political Landscape in Early Modern and Modern Japan," the exhibition examines the drastic shift in Japan's national identity during the 19th and early 20th centuries. While this was a time of major political and social upheaval for the nation, it was also a time of expansion and modernization. Many artists responded to the shifting political and physical landscape by depicting it in woodblock prints and works on paper. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through July 7:** Special exhibition, "Signature Moments: Letters from the Famous, the Infamous, and Everyday Americans," During their extraordinary public careers, the Roosevelts interacted with a "who's who" of the 20th century. "Signature Moments" opens the FDR Library's archives and museum for an insider's view of the remarkable - and sometimes surprising - variety of personal exchanges with an amazing array of famous (and a few infamous) people, including golden age movie stars, queens and kings, scientists, and legendary military heroes. Visitors will see signatures of literary giants, celebrated artists, world leaders, and, of course, prominent politicians and political activists - including seven American presidents. Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit. www.fdrlibrary.org

Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon. **Through April 12:** "Bannerman Island and the Mighty Hudson River Exhibition," the Second Annual Collaborative Hudson Valley Landscape Fine Art Show, featuring unique fine art paintings, watercolors, prints, photography and mixed media works in a variety of genres - from traditional and representational works to abstract masterpiece. (845) 831-4988 or www.howlandculturalcenter.org

LAND Gallery, 30 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling. **March 28-May 24:** "A Love Letter to

New York State," photographs by Jane Haslam. **Opening reception:** Fri., April 3, 5-7 p.m. (845) 490-2281 or www.landgalleryonline.com

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through March 28:** Art Blast, presented by the Millbrook School District, Dutchess Day School, and Millbrook Early Childhood Education Center. www.millbrooklibrary.org

Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through March 28:** Talent Show Art Exhibit, the visual component of Morton's Talent Show. Purchases benefit local artists and Morton. Free admission. (845) 876-2903

Starr Library, 68 W. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through April:** "Remnants of Impermanence," photographs by Chad Kleitsch. The images featured in this photographic essay between 1991-2001, taking 4x5" large format color photographs in the Hudson Valley region's abandoned industrial and other local sites. He has returned to these places many times to photograph, and they are always different from the times before. Everything changes but nothing is lost, nothing dies - it is just transformed. (845) 876-4030 or www.starrlibrary.org

Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St., Catskill. **Through December:** "Emily Cole & Valerie Hegarty: LIFE CYCLES" presents a visual dialogue of two craft-based women artists across three centuries: 19th-century artist Emily Cole, daughter of Thomas Cole, and 21st-century artist Valerie Hegarty. The spotlight exhibition juxtaposes more than 30 works of painted porcelain and works on paper by Emily Cole (1843-1913) with a mixed-media installation by Hegarty. The work by Valerie Hegarty was made specifically for the Thomas Cole Site in 2025 and explores the connection between Thomas Cole and Emily Cole and their fascination with cycles of life, while considering Hegarty's own relationship with her mother. www.thomascole.org

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through April 19:** "Landscapes and Life: Three Artistic Visions," featuring works by Elisabeth Barnett, Janine Privratsky and Dan Shornstein. These 3 local Hudson Valley artists frequently paint together and their works include landscapes and other subjects from life including wildlife, people, local buildings, and still life composition. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through March 28:** "Echoes of Esther: Women Who Changed Their Corner of the World." **Artist talk:** Sat., March 28, 1-3 p.m. info@womenswork.art

Email exhibition listings to
creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

NYS to taxpayers: Know your rights to protect against dishonest tax preparers

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance encourages taxpayers to know their rights when hiring a tax preparer. New York State's Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Tax Preparers establishes standards to help protect the public from dishonest tax preparers.

In New York State, registered tax return preparers must:

- post their New York State Tax Preparer Registration Certificate and price list;
- tell you up front whether they will represent you if your return is audited later;
- ask you about your income, expenses, family, and any other information or documents needed to accurately complete your return;
- allow you to review your completed

return – including your bank account information – and ask questions before you sign it;

- give you a written statement of any interest and fees you will be charged if you choose a refund anticipation loan (refund advance) or a refund anticipation check (refund transfer) instead of having your refund deposited directly into your bank account;
- sign your tax return and enter the preparer tax identification number (PTIN) and New York tax preparer identification number (NYTPRIN), if applicable;
- e-file your tax return;
- give you a year-round address and phone number you can use if you have questions or concerns about your return;
- provide you with a copy of your filed return.

If your tax preparer does not comply with the requirements in the Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Tax Preparers, you can file a complaint online with the Tax Department's Office of Professional Responsibility.

Tax return preparers must also:

- post Publication 135.1, Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Tax Preparers;
- provide you with a free copy of Publication 135, Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Tax Preparers, or the New York City Consumer Bill of Rights, prior to any discussions.

Tax Department investigators conduct compliance checks during the personal income tax filing season to ensure that tax preparers are following the requirements. Tax preparers who fail to do so will be subject to fines and potential suspension of their tax preparer registration.

Verify your tax return preparer's credentials

Certain tax return preparers must register annually with the Tax Department and post copies of their current Registration Certificate. To confirm your tax return preparer's credentials, see www.tax.ny.gov.

Free filing options save on tax preparation costs

Before hiring a tax preparer, the Tax Department encourages taxpayers to check their eligibility to file for free. Many New Yorkers are eligible to file their federal and NYS returns at no cost through the Tax Department website using Free File. Taxpayers who may not qualify for Free File still have other options. See other e-file options to learn more: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/>

OBITUARIES

Mary Ann Datres

PLEASANT VALLEY – Mary Ann Datres passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her children on March 16, 2026. She was a loving wife to Joseph (deceased) and mother to Wayne (Sue), Glen (Theresa), Karen (Paul) and Julie. She is also survived by her brother David Stockbridge (Barb) and sister Carolyn Lindeman (Claude, deceased); as well as her loving grandchildren, Taylor Hansen (Elwood), Tessa Brown (Carol Kalnins), Stefan Datres (Caity Nee), Ben Datres (Alyssa), Liam Datres de la Blotier, Nathan Datres, Melissa Datres and great grandchild, Gianna Datres.

Mary Ann grew up in Clinton, NY and moved several times with Joseph before settling in Wappingers Falls where she lived for over 5 decades. Mary Ann enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling with her husband Joe, tending to her vegetable and flower gardens, feeding and watching the birds, walking by lakes and oceans, and being cozy while watching Hallmark movies.

Her final days were spent at home comforted by Hudson Valley Hospice, loved ones, and her beloved cat, Dewey. Mary Ann was loved and held dear by all who knew her.

The family will honor her at a later day with a private memorial. Donations to Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 80 Washington Street, Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 can be made in her name.

Arrangements are under the direction of Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. To send the family a personal condolence, please visit our website at www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

Valerie Anne Euvrard

AMENIA – Valerie Anne Euvrard, 75, a lifelong area resident, died peacefully surrounded by her loving family at her home in Amenia, NY, on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. Valerie worked at the Waldorf Restaurant in Sharon, CT, as a dishwasher for many years before embarking on a long career in the Food Service Department at the Wassaic Developmental Center in Wassaic, NY. Valerie retired from New York State in 2000.

Born July 6, 1950 in Sharon, CT, she was the daughter of the late Walter E. and Leah (Martyn) Euvrard. Valerie attended Webutuck High School in Amenia, NY, and was a longtime member of the Stone Church Grange in Dover Plains, NY. Valerie was also a longtime member of the Sharon United Methodist Church in Sharon, CT, and the North East Baptist Church in Millerton, NY. For many years Valerie enjoyed bowling at the Early Bird League at Cove Lanes in Great Barrington, MA. Valerie was an avid greeting card designer and her family members always looked forward to receiving one of her custom designed cards. She also enjoyed playing games on her tablet and spending time with her loving family. Truly a kind soul, she will be dearly missed by all.

Valerie is survived by her siblings, Wayne

Euvrard and his wife Cami of McCormick, SC, Jeffrey Euvrard and his wife Patty of Derby, CT, Dara Simmons and her husband Bob of Amenia, NY, and David Euvrard and his wife Nora of Sharon, CT; her nephew, Sean Russell and his fiancé Amanda Bezio of Palenville, NY; two nieces, Kayla Renee Kuniegel and her husband Justin of Bath, PA, and Ashley Dautrich and her husband Mark of Torrington, CT; her great-niece, Parker Wright and her great-nephew, Dawkins Wright and several cousins. In addition to her parents, Valerie was predeceased by her brother, Glen A. Euvrard in 2019.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 10am to 12pm at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. A funeral service will take place at 12pm at the funeral home. Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse will officiate. Burial will take place privately at Hillside Cemetery in Sharon, CT, at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 172, Sharon, CT, 06069 or North East Baptist Church, P.O. Box 531, Millerton, NY 12546 or Wassaic Fire Company, P.O. Box 287, Wassaic, NY 12592. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Valerie's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Regina Marie Parisen Hoffman

HYDE PARK – Regina (Ginny) was born on September 3, 1939, to William J. and Virginia B Parisen (nee Smith), on the lower east side of Manhattan.

Regina attended Immaculata High School and later, Fordham University, graduating summa cum laude with a teaching degree in 1961. Following graduation, she relocated with her parents to Clinton Corners, where she met the love of her life, Clinton Hoffman. They were married in Arlington, VA in 1963. Regina taught in the Hyde Park School district and at St. Joseph's School in Millbrook. She later took a job with the Dutchess County Department of Mental Hygiene, from which she retired.

Ginny and Buddy enjoyed traveling between Cape Cod, New York and Florida during their retirement years. She was an avid shopper, reader and movie buff.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband, and her son, Clinton.

She is survived by her two daughters, Regina Fillinger (David), and May Gadonniex (Michael), and loving grandchildren; Jonathan and Michael Fillinger, and Makayla, Lily, and Jonathan Gadonniex, and many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends may call from 4pm to 7pm on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Rte 9., Hyde Park. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 am, Friday, April 10, 2026, at Regina Coeli Catholic Church, Hyde Park, NY. Interment will be at 11 am on Saturday, April 11, in the family plot at Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy, NJ.

George Ernest Phillips

AMENIA – George Ernest Phillips, 100, a lifelong area resident died peacefully on Monday, March 16, 2026 at Sharon Center for Health and Rehabilitation in Sharon, CT. From 1955 to 1972, Mr. Phillips owned and operated the Edgewood Restaurant in Amenia, NY, with his wife Anne, he was also a real estate broker for many years as well.

Born September 13, 1925 in Poughkeepsie, NY, he was the son of the late Royal and Elizabeth (Piltz) Phillips. He was a graduate of Amenia High School and attended Cornell University. Mr. Phillips served his country in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946 in the Golden Acorn Infantry Division as well as in the 3rd Army of General George S. Patton. He also assumed a variety of roles during his time in the 87th Infantry Division, including platoon messenger and platoon sergeant. On Veterans Day in 2019 he was one of 108 veterans nationally that received a pin and certificate in recognition of 75-years of continuous service to his local legion post, the Millerton American Legion Post 178. Mr. Phillips also documented his experiences in a book, "Stories of My Life", which he presented to the Amenia Historical Society. On February 3, 1953 in Cornwall Bridge, CT, he married Frances Anna "Anne" Sprossel who passed away on May 21, 2024. He will be dearly missed by his loving family and many caregivers.

Mr. Phillips is survived by two daughters, Diane Phillips of Wakefield, RI and Debra Phillips of Pine Plains, NY; four grandchildren, David Fletcher and his wife Amber, Peter Faggella and his wife Megan, Daniel Faggella and Shannon Fierro and her husband Frank; five great grandchildren, Dominic and Leah Fletcher, Charlotte and Joseph Fierro and Hannah Faggella and several niece and nephews. In addition to his parents and his wife, Mr. Phillips was also predeceased by three brothers, Royal Phillips, Webster Phillips and Chester Phillips.

Calling hours will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday March 27, 2026 at Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. The Millerton Legion Post 178 will conduct a service at 1:00 p.m. The United States Army will render Standard Military Honors at 1:15 p.m. A funeral service will take place at 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Mr. Phillips' honor, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Anna Marie Pitcher

MILLBROOK – Anna Marie Pitcher, 89, a lifelong area resident, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2026, at the Fountains at Millbrook. Before moving to Millbrook, she was a longtime resident of Salt Point.

Born on June 16, 1936, in Poughkeepsie,

she was the daughter of the late Sven Berg and Magdalena VanRuowendaal.

A graduate of SUNY New Paltz, Mrs. Pitcher received her bachelors degree in teaching in 1958 and masters degree in 1990. She devoted thirty-eight years to teaching elementary school in the Hyde Park Central School District, retiring in 1997. Early in her career, she also taught in Seattle, Washington, while her husband served in the U.S. Army. Her dedication to education and her encouraging presence shaped the lives of countless students.

Anna Marie was an active and faithful member of St. James' Episcopal Church in Hyde Park. She was also a proud member of the Hyde Park Swim and Tennis Club for more than forty years. Deeply committed to her community, she volunteered with the after school reading program at St. James', AARP, the American Cancer Society, and the Hyde Park Historical Society.

Known for her gracious hospitality, Anna Marie loved entertaining and hosting social gatherings. In retirement, she embraced the opportunity to travel and explore new places.

On September 26, 1958, at St. James' Episcopal Church, she married Clifford Pitcher Jr. Her beloved husband predeceased her in 1995.

Survivors include her daughter, Karen Pitcher, and her fiancé, Ted Daley, of Millerton; her son, Scott Pitcher, and his wife, Kara, of Red Hook; and her three cherished grandchildren, Tristan Pitcher of Niagara Falls, NY, Amelia Pitcher of Troy, NY, and Brooke Pitcher of Connecticut. She is also survived by her loving caregiver, Noxie, whose kindness and companionship meant so much to her.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was predeceased by her son, Clifford Pitcher III, in 1987.

Cremation has taken place.

A period of visitation will take place from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Thursday March 26th at St. James' Episcopal Church, 4526 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. A funeral service will follow at 12 noon with Rev. Meredith Kadet Sanderson officiating.

Burial of her ashes in the family plot at St. James' Churchyard in Hyde Park will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the Pitcher family respectfully requests memorial donations to the Hyde Park Education Foundation, P.O. Box 320, Hyde Park, NY 12538 (www.hydeparkeducationfoundation.org), or the Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 80 Washington St., Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (www.hvhospice.org).

Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Inc., Rte. 9, Hyde Park. To send an online condolence, or for directions, please visit Anna Marie's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON MARCH 16, 2026 THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION, WHICH IS SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

**TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION: 221/2026**

RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR NEW TOWN HALL RENOVATIONS

WHEREAS, the Town has nearly completed work at the new Town Hall and will be moving to long-term financing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that it is in the best interest of the Town to utilize funds set aside in the Capital Project Reserve Account to reduce the amount to be borrowed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes expenditure of up to \$1,000,000 from the Capital Project Reserve Account, account number A.0452.501 for expenses related to the new Town Hall; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided by law.

DATED: March 16, 2026

MOTION: Councilman Rifenburg
SECOND: Councilwoman Chapman

ROLL CALL:

Supervisor Albrecht	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Councilwoman Borland	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Councilwoman Chapman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Councilman Degan	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Councilman Rifenburg	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Carried.		

NOTICE TO BIDDERS- RFB-DCH-2026-02

NAME OF PROJECT: Sidewalk Improvements on Maple Avenue (CR-62), Village of Millerton, NY

Project Description: INSTALLATION OF ADA COMPLIANT SIDEWALKS, PEDESTRIAN CURB RAMPS, PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS, SINAGE AND CROSSWALK STRIPING ALONG MAPLE AVENUE (CR62). NO UTILITY POLE RELOCATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED.

The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the

link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above-mentioned address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site.** Bids for the above project will be received by: Lorraine Grant, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before **11:00AM Tuesday, April 7, 2026**, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will

not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All calls will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 337 194 504# Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed en-

Legal Notices

velope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Friday March 27, 2026 and emailed to Lorraine Grant at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date.

The anticipated start of construction is May 15, 2026; the anticipated substantial completion date is October 9, 2026. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC# 2026000257. Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding Apprenticeship Program, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS- RFB-DCB-2026-06

****NOTE** CORRECTION FOR BID: BONDS NOT REQUIRED FOR BID SUBMISSION AS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED. NAME OF PROJECT: Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Concrete In-Place Project Description: This project involves the furnishing and installing of hot mix asphalt (HMA) concrete overlays, shoulder back-up material, providing pavement milling services, traffic control services and providing other incidental services associated with installation of asphalt concrete overlays. These services will typically be used for highway and parking lot construction, reconstruction and/or repair. However, other similar projects could also be undertaken using these services. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid**

Legal Notices

Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the **Empire State Regional Bid Notification System** at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site.** Bids due on or before **11:00 AM, Wednesday, April 15, 2026**, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. **Bids for the above project will be received by:** Caroline A. Miller, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike, 1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are con-

Legal Notices

nected properly. All calls will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) **Conference ID: 395 648 899#** Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy. Each bid shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. **Questions will be accepted by the close of business Wednesday, April 8, 2026** and emailed to Caroline Miller at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The **"Anticipated Start of Construction" is May 1, 2026, and the "Anticipated Completion Date", is December 31, 2026. This RFB may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #2026007025. IMPORTANT: Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Sub-Contractor Registry Requirements.** View Bid Specifications regarding the **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable.** The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-47-26

Rental of Tents, Tables, Chairs and Other Items for County Events

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 7th day of April 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

Legal Notices

dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-11-26

Water Laboratory Services

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 8th day of April 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-03-26

Service of Vehicle Fire Suppression Systems for Dutchess County Public Transit

Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 6th day of April 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

The deadline for Legals is every Friday @ 12 noon for a Wednesday Publication* *When a public holiday falls on a Monday the deadline becomes Thursday at noon.

SEND US YOUR NEWS:

cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Suguru solution

5	4	3	1	2	3
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SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 18)

Classified

Place your ad today! Call 297-3723

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Fax your ad today! 297-6810

Classified Rates

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

Classified Display Ads
\$14.50 per column inch

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

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

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

201 Home Improvement
202 Cleaning Services
203 Lawn Services
221 Professional Services
222 Tax Experts
223 Beauty Services
225 Business Services
226 Travel & Services
227 Bridal Services
295 Financial
296 Mortgages
300 Real Estate
301 Townhouses & Condos
302 Commercial Property
304 Mobile Homes
305 Lots & Acreage
400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

Classified Index

401 Apartments for Rent
402 Rooms for Rent
403 Furnished Rooms
404 Furnished Apartments
405 Wanted to Rent
406 Garages for Rent
407 Vacation Rentals
408 Houses for Rent
420 Commercial Rentals
500 Musical Merchandise
501 Kid Stuff
502 Clothing
503 Furniture
504 Appliances
505 Free Items
506 Computers
507 Sports Equipment
508 Exercise Equipment

509 Office Equipment
510 Firewood
511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
512 Winter Merchandise
516 Misc. Merchandise
700 Pets & Supplies
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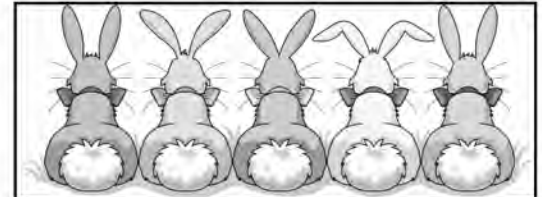
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GOLDEN LIVING

Many people find friendships and even love online, but they can also go looking for companionship and find themselves being scammed instead. That's why it's essential to stay on the lookout for warning signs that a new online "friend" may not be what they claim to be.

Here's a couple of sample phrases from a scammer "working" their victim, from the Australian National Anti-Scam Centre:

"You brighten my day, and even though we just met I feel like you're really the one."

"Are you here babe? I miss talking to you."

We can tell ourselves we're savvy enough not to be fooled like that; but when it comes to relationships, it's all too human to believe what we want to believe and ignore the red flags.

Romance scammers bide their time

In a romance scam, the criminal won't go for the victim's money right away. They'll claim to be lonely, and claim to be employed in a field that keeps them "on the road" and starved for companionship.

The prospect of an in-person meetup is dangled in front of the victim, but it never happens. The scammer continues pretending to be affectionate and caring, then asks the victim if conversations can be moved to a private messaging service. It's harder to detect scammers on those platforms.

Then comes the 'sales pitch'

Requests for money often start small and escalate over time. The scammer typically asks for money for emergencies, investments, travel, gifts, cryptocurrency, or gift cards. The requests grow in size. Maybe the initial "investment" seems to work out, and now the victim wants more. The scammer is all too willing to oblige.

If requests for money don't work, the scammer escalates to threats and extortion. By this point, the scammer has isolated their victim from friends and family who might point out the scam.

Some romance scam victims have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in life savings before their online friend disappears into the wind.

Take a 'tactical pause' before it gets bad

Scammers of all kinds will create a false sense of urgency to pressure you into acting quickly. Don't rush to make decisions about money or sharing personal details. Instead:

Say no, hang up, or delete suspicious messages;

Don't let anyone pressure you into immediate action; and

Trust your instincts if something feels wrong.

OFA can help stop romance scams

A person who's connected to the wider community is less likely to be successfully targeted by romance scammers. OFA's "Friendly Calls" program connects screened volunteer callers and older adults in Dutchess County, especially those at risk of loneliness or social isolation, for a series of eight once-a-week phone calls. It's 20 to 30 minutes, just "shooting the breeze."

Some people may think of it as idle small talk, but there's nothing idle about keeping people connected and safe.

Visit dutchessny.gov/friendlycalls for more information, or call "Friendly Calls" coordinator Linda Edgar at (845) 486-2548.

OFA Volunteer and NYSOFA Honoree Michael Manning, 1952-2026

Michael Manning, an eight-year volunteer with OFA's Home Delivered Meals program, died at his home this

week. He was 73.

Mike was honored last year for his service to Dutchess County's homebound older adults, at the 2025 Older New Yorkers Day observances in Albany. Mike's obituary is available in the New Pine Plains Herald, where he served as a volunteer writer.

New day/time for 'Navigating Medicare' classes in Rhinebeck

OFA's monthly "Navigating Medicare" classes at Rhinebeck's Starr Library have been rescheduled to the second Wednesday of every month at 4 p.m.

The monthly "Navigating Medicare" classes held at the Poughkeepsie Galleria community room remain on the third Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m., which means the next Rhinebeck class is taking place on Wednesday, April 8.

To sign up for these regular "Navigating Medicare" classes, call OFA during business hours at (845) 486-2555.

We also have a "Navigating Medicare" class scheduled for Friday, April 10, at 9:30 a.m., at Adriance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie (93 Market St., parking on Noxon St.). To sign up for this class specifically, call (845) 485-3445, ext. 3380.

'Pancakes in the Park' returns (One picnic at capacity)

The "Pancakes in the Park" event scheduled for March 26 is now at full capacity, but there are still seats available, as of 9 a.m. on Friday morning, March 20, for the second "Pancakes" event at the Pavilion at Brookmeade in Rhinebeck (34 Brookmeade Rd., just off Route 308), scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7. To reserve a seat, contact OFA during business hours at (845) 486-2555. We cannot accept reservation requests made by voicemail, email or text message.

'CarFit' for mature drivers, at Marist (Saturday 4/11)

The Marist University Doctor of Physical Therapy program and Helen Hayes Rehabilitation Hospital present the CarFit Program. It's a free, interactive educational program designed to improve older driver safety.

Trained volunteers provide information ensuring the safest "fit" for older drivers and their vehicles.

The event takes place on Saturday, April 11, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the

Marist University Allied Health Building, Parking Lot 18, Beck Place, Poughkeepsie.

Appointments are required. To make an appointment, contact Lynn Matthes at (845) 786-4155 or lynn.matthes@helenhayeshosp.org.

OFA Nutrition volunteers wanted (Poughkeepsie, East Fishkill)

OFA's Nutrition Services division is looking for dedicated volunteers who can assist our Home Delivered Meals program:

- At our central kitchen at OFA headquarters in Poughkeepsie; and

- As drivers for our Home Delivered Meals program's East Fishkill hub, which operates out of the East Fishkill Community Center in Hopewell Junction.

See www.dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer for more information including a printable volunteering form. Mileage reimbursement is available for Home Delivered Meals volunteers who make deliveries using their own vehicle.

OFA March/April Mobile Office hours

OFA Ambassador Mary Reedy is hosting by-appointment OFA Mobile Office Hours around Dutchess County. It's a chance to get your age-related questions answered in person, with considerably less travel on your part.

Here's the schedule:

Tuesday, March 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Beekman Town Hall 4 Main St., Poughquag

Tuesday, April 21, 1-4 p.m., Wappingers Town Recreation Center Schlathaus Park, 126 All Angels Hill Rd., Wappinger

Appointments are 30 minutes long at each Mobile Office Hours event. Appointments can be made by calling 845-486-2555 during business hours. We cannot accept reservation requests made by voice mail, email or text.

If your Dutchess County civic organization wants to host a Mobile Office Hours event, email ofa@dutchessny.gov or call (845) 486-2555 during business hours.

At OFA, we're also available for presentations to groups on OFA Services, successful aging, scam prevention, home safety, caregiving, and much more. Contact us to find out more.

County offers \$950K competitive grant program to prevent homelessness

Dutchess County currently has two new grant opportunities totaling \$950,000, available through its Municipal Investment Grant (MIG) competitive grant program, to support local communities and eligible non-profit organizations in making important improvements, as well as municipalities working to prevent homelessness.

The County's Department of Planning & Development is currently accepting applications for MIG funding through two initiatives: \$750,000 for infrastructure, safety and security upgrades at community gathering spaces, and \$200,000 to help communities address the needs of residents experiencing homelessness.

The first initiative will support infrastructure projects and safety enhancements at facilities, including municipal buildings, fire stations, libraries, parks and other community gathering spaces across Dutchess County. Cities, towns, villages, fire departments and fire districts can apply, as can 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that regularly host free public programs or events in partnership with a municipality or the County; non-profits that apply must generally operate a community gathering space that is open to the public and regularly offers free programs or events for residents on behalf of a municipality or the County. Applications from 501(c)(3) non-profit

organizations will only be considered if municipal projects have not exhausted all available grant funding.

The second initiative will fund communities addressing the needs of residents experiencing homelessness. Cities, towns, and villages throughout the County can apply for funding to support local solutions, which may include housing or shelter costs or partnering with service providers to offer support locally. Funding can support housing or shelter expenses, or contracts with organizations that provide services locally. Any shelter-related services must follow the requirements set by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.

The Dutchess County Legislature dedicated specific funding in the 2026 County Budget for both initiatives, each requiring a 100-percent match as part of the grant application requirements.

The County's Community Development Advisory Committee and the Department of Planning & Development review all MIG applications and forward recommendations to the County Executive for final approval.

More information and application instructions are available online via www.dutchessny.gov. Applications must be submitted through the County's online portal by May 13 at 3 p.m.; awards will be announced in summer 2026.

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