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APRIL IS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Autism Supportive Training: Here's how to help and 'make a difference'

By Morgan E. Maier

Noise is simply a nuisance for some people. To those on the Autism spectrum, over-stimulation can create discomfort in unfamiliar environments. Autism Acceptance Month in Dutchess County shows an increased commitment to our autistic neighbors, as more organizations are equipped with tools and education to support inclusion.

Autism-supportive employment and events promote safe spaces for everyone to spend time doing what they love, whether it's work, play, or community engagement. Anderson Center for Autism's Consulting and Training Team (ACCT) has for years provided community organizations with the education to best support autistic customers, employees and neighbors.

As of 2020, about 1 in 36 U.S. children are diagnosed with autism. From 2011 to 2022, autism incidence rates rose 175%, according to the American Medical Association's JAMA Network.

Director of Anderson's ACCT Program Services, Kathleen Marshall, says that inclusion takes a willingness to understand someone's challenges. Individuals may fear saying the wrong things to an individual on the Autism spectrum, but all they need to do is ask.



Members of the Coppola family business, Coppola's Restaurant and Bistro in Hyde Park, were the first in Dutchess County to take part in the training and receive the "Autism Supportive Environment" plaque from the Anderson Center for Autism. From left, brothers Vincent, Luigi and John are pictured with Dad Antonio. *Courtesy photos*

"Approach with humility," Marshall explained. "Say, 'I want to welcome you. Is there anything you want to share with me that would help to provide a better

experience?"
Employment is one way that anyone can contribute to their community. Many

continued on page 3

Community responds to Carole's HotDogs truck fire with donations

By Kate Goldsmith

In Hyde Park, a reliable sign of spring's arrival can be found most days at the corner of Route 9 and St. Andrews Road. Carole's HotDogs, famous throughout Dutchess County and beyond, is a veritable institution, long known for serving up Sabrett's hot dogs and friendly conversation.

Recently, however, the iconic food truck was severely damaged by a fire believed to be caused by a mechanical problem. Lynne Alessi, daughter of original owner Carole Alessi Crusco (who passed in 2022), had just reopened for the season with a freshly stocked truck. At this time, it's not known if the truck is repairable.

In addition, Alessi's pocketbook and cash from a previous day's sales were lost in the fire.

The community has rallied around Alessi, donating to a GoFundMe page with a goal to raise enough money to repair the truck or purchase a new one. Anyone who would like to contribute can access the page through www.gofundme.com and search for "Help Carole's Hot Dog Truck Legacy After Fire."

Jessica Awad-Miller, who is organizing this fundraiser, noted on the GoFundMe page: "Carole's Hot Dog Truck has been a staple in our community for over 30 years, and we are asking for your help to get the family what they need to help fix the truck as fast as possible or replace it to keep her family legacy going for us all! ... With the season just starting for them and all products bought, they will need as much support from us as possible to get her back out there! Thank you all."

Smoke turned into fire

Alessi recalled the moments leading up to the fire, which occurred on March 29 as she was heading out for the day.

continued on page 2

Baseball arrives! Renegades open 2025 season on Friday

By Morgan E. Maier

It's the Hudson Valley Renegades fun that we've all been missing for nearly 200 days. Get your pinstripes on and brush those raccoon hats. Baseball is once again upon the Hudson Valley.

With some familiar faces back in the ballpark plus a few newcomers, the stage



is set for another Renegades season. On Friday, April 4 at 7:05 p.m., the Renegades return to Heritage Financial Park ready to build off last season's South Atlantic League (SAL) Championship appearance.

Fireworks, anyone?

Opening Day would not be complete without nine innings of High-A baseball and a postgame show. Fans in attendance on April 4 will ooh and ahh at the season's first of 12 fireworks shows. By the way, it's General Manager Tom Denlinger's specialty.

Entertainment for the whole family comes free with every Renegades ticket, whether between innings or during the game. But the memories are made in the stands, as Heritage Financial Park has a whole slate of events for opening weekend. Following Friday's opener, the first

homestand includes Golf Night and Pet Appreciation Day. The first 1,000 fans on Saturday receive a Renegades golf ball courtesy of CSEA, and the furriest of Renegades fans get the spotlight on Sunday.

Will the Renegades complete the threepeat as SAL North champions? Hudson Valley alumni impacted Opening Day in the Bronx, as Austin Wells and Anthony Volpe mashed the Yankees' first home runs of 2025. We'll see how the current Renegades roll in on April 4th, as they open the season against the Jersey Shore BlueClaws.

The backyard Bombers farm team is ready to rock this season, with a slate of promotions from family day to free t-shirts. With 22 giveaways over 66 home games, this Renegades season will offer fun for everyone. And it all starts this Friday.

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	6
Creative Living	10-16
That's Italian!	10
Decoding Dutchess' Past	11
Hudson Valley Naturalist	12
Suguru	16
Crossword Puzzle	16
Sudoku	16
Obituaries	17
Public Notices	18-21
Classifieds	22-23

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

Brookmeade Community	p 12	Facial Plastic Surgery	p 8	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	p 13
Center for Physical Therapy	p 7	Harmony Chiropractic	p 2	Stormville Airport Flea Market	p 2
Coppola's of Hyde Park	p 6	Impact PR	p 3	Ulster Savings Bank	- 24
DC Soil & Water Seedling Sale	p 3	Pleasant Valley Department Store	p 13	WKZE 98.1	p 4
Dutchess County DA	p 5	The Ridge School	p 7		
Erehwon Ensemble	p 9	Roosevelt Cinemas	p 10	INSIDE: Adams Fairacre Farms	



Britos Martial Arts students gain 'Black Belt' honors



Students with Britos Martial Arts in Wingdale gain their "Black Belt" honors during an event in late March. *Courtesy photo*

Into the Dojo located in Wingdale filled with spectators to witness a four-hour test of four students for the rank of Black Belt, karate's highest honor in late March. The test was the culmination of as many as eight years of hard work and dedication for the candidates.

The four candidates were Damian Lyman, 30, Cordero Winch, 17, and twin siblings Kaitlyn and Matthew Enes, 13. The Enes twins were among the first lineup of students when Britos Martial Arts opened in 2017.

Also tested was Diego Brito, 18, who was seeking a second degree on his black belt. He had achieved this rank in 2021 after seven years of hard training.

The test exhibited the candidates' synchronization and memory of 18 bare-handed and armed katas, which are a sequence of movements simulating combat. Additionally each candidate had to spar for ten minutes straight, with a fresh opponent every minute, which tested each candidate's stamina to the utmost.

Between the katas and sparring, the candidates delivered short speeches expressing gratitude to those who had

supported them through the long years of training and recounting their experiences with the sport of karate.

A panel of judges consisting of Britos Martial Arts' founder Sensei Luis Brito, Sensei Mark Wellansky, and Sensei Cesar Sagastume, evaluated the candidates. Wellansky and Mejia had travelled from Fusion Martial Arts in Hawthorne, NY, to offer another layer of objectivity in the evaluation.

"Only about 4% of students starting karate will achieve black belt," said Wellansky in remarks directed to the gathering. "Black belts are just like any other student, except that they kept going when other comforts and distractions could have lured them away."

Britos Martial Arts offers karate classes for all ages, from toddlers to adults, up to four times per week. The candidates were amongst those students who took full advantage of the frequent classes, spending many evenings and weekends perfecting their skills in the family-owned and operated dojo.

For more information about Britos Martial Arts, visit www.britoskarate.com

County accepting applications for Veterans Microgrant Program

The Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs is now accepting applications for its 2025 Veterans Microgrant Program, a competitive initiative that provides one-time grants to local nonprofits and municipalities to support programs and activities that benefit veterans and honor their service. Applications can be submitted online through Dutchess County's grant portal and will be reviewed on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted.

Organizations and municipalities can receive grants of up to \$15,000 to cover expenses such as equipment, resources or other one-time costs aimed at improving program offerings and increasing accessibility for veterans. The 2025 Dutchess County Budget includes \$200,000 Veterans Microgrant Program.

Nonprofit organizations and municipalities that provide dedicated programs benefiting U.S. Armed Forces veterans in Dutchess County are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to those that do not have existing service contracts with the County. Organizations or municipalities that received funding through Dutchess County's 2023 or 2024 Veterans Microgrant programs are not eligible for this round of funding.

Examples of possible funding awards include:

- Enhancement/expansion of a program/service currently offered to veterans;
- New programming for veterans provided by an agency that already provides services to veterans;
- Purchase of plaques, banners, or

monuments to honor veterans;

- Expenses associated with an event (picnic or holiday party) to honor veterans. No alcohol will be reimbursed; and
- General capital infrastructure to facilities, including physical structures (roof, windows, doors, etc.), HVAC, plumbing, electrical, security, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The structure's primary purpose must be for veterans' services.

Office of Veterans Services Director Adam Roche said, "I thank County Executive Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Legislature for recognizing the importance of the Veterans Microgrant Program and continuing their support. This initiative benefits not only our veterans, but also the many organizations in Dutchess County dedicated to supporting them."

Only one application per organization will be accepted. Funding should be utilized within one year of award. The complete list of Veterans Microgrant instructions and guidance is available online.

An example of projects funded through the County's previous Veterans Microgrant programs: Marine Corps League Detachment 861 received a 2024 Dutchess County Veterans Microgrant to purchase a lift chair (seen attached photo) to assist veterans with difficulties walking and climbing stairs gain access to upstairs meeting room at Beacon Veterans Memorial Building.

For more information on veterans services throughout Dutchess County visit: dutchessny.gov/veterans.

Community responds to Carole's HotDogs truck fire with donations

continued from cover

"I check[ed] everything one more time before I [left] and I was ready to start a beautiful Saturday," she told this writer via Facebook messenger. "I put the key in the ignition and started the engine. About 2 minutes later I noticed smoke coming from the hood up the glass as if it were overheating."

Alessi said she tried to turn the key to shut off the truck, but it took a few attempts before the key came out. At the same time, a neighbor attempted to open the hood, but it was too hot.

"He then used the fire extinguisher," Alessi said. "Of course, I had called the fire department already."

The smoke turned into fire, but help was on the way.

"HPPD [Hyde Park Police Department] secured the scene," said Alessi, "and Roosevelt Fire [Department] got it under control."

Despite the huge loss, Alessi feels

fortunate.

"I guess it could have happened while I was driving to St. Andrew's, so I'm very lucky," she said.

She thanked Roosevelt FD and Hyde Park PD for their timely arrival.

"It could have been much worse, if [they] didn't get here so fast," she said.

The community responds

As of Monday morning, \$4,670 had been raised through the GoFundMe campaign, with a total goal of \$10,000.

"I'm so very grateful for all the support, from words of encouragement [to] donations, to continue Carole's legacy," Alessi said. "My mother lives on."

Alessi wants people to know that, no matter what, Carole's HotDogs will be back.

"I'm so overwhelmed with all kinds of emotions right now," Alessi said. "I definitely have to rest up and then get on everything after that."

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**See story,
page 8**



Autism Supportive Training: Here's how to help and 'make a difference'

continued from cover

individuals on the Autism spectrum find belonging in taking full- or part-time work, enrolling in college, or joining interest groups. Though autistic employees represent a small percentage of the workforce, said Marshall, simple training and accommodations can help businesses welcome more neurodivergent employees into the workforce.

The Village of Rhinebeck Autism Supportive Community Committee was created to designate an entire Autism Supportive community. This organization empowers businesses to welcome neurodivergent customers and to hire individuals on the Autism spectrum.

So, how can you join the many local businesses and organizations, including Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Metro-North Railroad and Coppola's Restaurant and Bistro, in supporting autistic employees and customers?

Dutchess County has a zero-cost opportunity to receive Autism Supportive training and consultation from ACCT. It simply requires a few hours. Staff are trained in autism education and accommodation, and ACCT identifies and suggests supportive practices to businesses, first responders, and healthcare settings. The program works with organizations through the implementation stage, developing modifications for supportive practices.

Coppola family leads way

Coppola's Restaurant and Bistro in Hyde Park was actually the first business in the county to take the training program and receive an Autism Supportive Environment plaque from Anderson.

Luigi Coppola commented, "The Coppola Family has been an advocate for Autism support from the very beginning. We sat in on many a meeting, sharing ideas and concepts in order to foster a very inclusive environment for families with children on the spectrum at our business and other businesses in the area."

He added, "My brothers John and Vincent and I are proud of the methods we use to make these remarkable families feel comfortable and wanted. From special tables, private dining areas and safe spaces to dimmable lighting and quick service, our family takes extra care in order to give them the at-home family experience they want."

"We are honored to serve our Anderson families and look forward to many years of continued service."

Recommended supportive practices vary by business needs. A few examples of ACCT training in practice include: communication boards; visual pain diagrams at doctors' offices; accessible quiet spaces; and visual depictions of using ATMs.

ACCT empowers all organizations to welcome neurodivergent individuals, so they may enjoy spaces that unite the community. Organizations can be designated as "Autism Supportive" if training is completed by 80% of their customer-facing employees, and they have a supportive practice in place. If a business changes hands, the new ownership will need to complete the training to keep the designation.

Marshall said Autism Acceptance Month tells us that differences don't have to divide us. Humans' level of comfort is directly tied to their environment. Ask questions. Find out how you may best support them in the future. Ask customers about their experience in your store. Should we dim the lights? Is the ambient music a notch too loud?

Marshall notes that new environments may cause anxiety. Not knowing what to expect from an experience wracks nerves. Autism supportive spaces offer kindness and respect to all who enter. There is room to make any business, home, and place of employment more accessible, especially for the estimated 2.78% of Dutchess County residents who



Staff members from the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, above, and Anthony Quatrochi's Martial Arts Institute, below, attend training sessions with Anderson Center for Autism's Consulting and Training Team. The Anderson Center program provides education to best support autistic customers, employees and neighbors. *Courtesy photos*



are on the Autism spectrum.

The grocery store's senior citizen shopping hours help older populations to avoid busy hours. Images of products, menus, and ambiance draw prospective diners to local restaurants. And carnival noise and sounds don't need to deflate a day at the Dutchess County Fair, because

sensory-sensitive hours on thinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday mean summer fun for everyone.

This is what community looks like. Dutchess County has everything to gain from taking steps toward inclusion, and the support is free of charge. Why not start today?

TOWN OF CLINTON TO HOLD ANNUAL COMMUNITY ROADSIDE CLEANUP ON APRIL 26

The Town of Clinton Scenic and Historic Roads Advisory Committee will hold its annual Community Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Celebrate Earth Day by walking Clinton's scenic Town roads and cleaning them up. It's a great way to get outside, get exercise and get involved. It's also an opportunity to involve children in their community.

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 26, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. only.

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

Let the Committee know if your road needs to be cleaned up.

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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.

Moral guidelines necessary to avoid return of 'Wild West'

To the editor:

The Ten Commandments have been mentioned lately on TV news reports. Bills are being passed to reinstate them in schools. Upon hearing this I was very pleased.

As a child growing up in Hollywood, Florida, I recall the Ten Commandments were posted in every classroom. I was in 2nd grade and recall pondering the meaning of them. My stepfather was a navigator in the Navy. We moved to different states every two years. They were displayed always along with The Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." These great truths were a part of my upbringing. I did my best to follow their guidance.

As an adult, I have read widely the basic teachings of other religions. They all espouse the same rules of right behavior. There should be no disagreements as to them being 'religious.' Rules for right behavior are for everyone. Too many hairs being split these days.

The waywardness, malaise, violence, drug deaths, sex trafficking gripping our nation today is due to the fact no higher concepts of moral behavior are viewed anywhere. The elimination of these commandments coincides to when the fabric of our society began to unravel. Why, we're almost back to the Wild West Days!

12 Step programs offer the same moral concepts. Humans have proven over and over again that left to their own devices, without a system of moral codes to live by, without admitting to a power greater than themselves, the tsunami-like blows in life will eventually awaken the need to embrace higher truths.

Regardless of your personal faith, these commandments are Universal and deeply needed to be reinstated.

Joyce Benedict
Hyde Park

A wish for our government to return to sanity

To the editor:

After nearly 95 years on this earth and in our country, born during the Great Depression, seeing the rise and fall of the Nazi dictatorship, serving in the Korean War and looking back - I still believe in Democracy and long for the return to a government of sanity serving the population.

We now have a president of the Hitler mentality who pardoned 1,500 insurrectionists who joined him in trying to overthrow our government - reminiscent of Hitler's "Brown Shirts." Trump craves for respect that history will never give him. He says the world now respects us, but Fear is not respect, whether by our population or other nations. What he has is distrust and will be remembered for his anger, revenge and retribution actions.

Are his followers insensible to what he is doing to this country? Words of German minister Martin Niemoller, a Nazi concentration camp survivor - "First they came for socialists, trade unionists, Jews and I did not speak out - because I was not them."

"Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me."

Authoritarian Trump uses fear, our insecurity and bullying to control. Trump wants to take the Panama Canal, Canada and Greenland through the lie of "National Security." The Panama Canal - one bomb could demolish and our war ships are too wide to pass through. Greenland - tried three times before (1867, 1910, 1946) and Trump 2019 and 2025. It started with "great mineral wealth and extensive and protected fishing grounds" and to "surround British Canada to force its annexation." In 1946, it was a desire to acquire the mineral "Cryolite" used in production of Aluminum and WWII airfields. These are three (3) cases of expansionist greed and divert our attention from his actions at home.

This country is upset - where a wealthy 10 percent class con-

trols more wealth than the 90 percent rest of us (Pew research). Trump wants tariffs that make the upper class wealthier and us to pay a hidden tax. Where is Trump's help where some work 2 or 3 jobs to make ends meet and 37 million (11%) are in the poverty level (US Census Bureau)?

The Trump administration's vicious attack against the DEI (Diversity-Equity-Inclusion) program reflects fear of masculinity loss, female equality and white supremacy. They should remember our creator made us all, even the Hermaphrodite (having both male and female reproductive organs).

David F. Queen
Red Hook

NYS senators express concern about drug exposures in correctional facilities

To Chairman Allen Riley
New York State Commission of Correction
Dear Chairman Riley:

As you're aware, there have been numerous suspected drug exposures impacting staff in correctional facilities across New York State. According to reports, many of which have been in the media, DOCCS employees and now members of the National Guard, have been involved in exposure incidents, some of which resulted in the use of Narcan.

Obviously, these incidents pose a severe risk to the safety and well-being of DOCCS personnel, our National Guard members and the incarcerated population. Is the Commission of Correction currently investigating and compiling comprehensive data on the number of drug exposure incidents occurring within state correctional facilities? If not, we're asking the Commission to conduct an immediate view of these incidents and provide a report to legislators which include toxicology results of any substance tested post exposure.

We know the safety of DOCCS employees is of the utmost importance to you, as it is to us. We would appreciate any input on how we as elected officials could be helpful to combat these exposures, be it more resources, policy changes or security measures. We appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Senator Rob Rollison, 39th Senate District
Senator Dean Murray, 3rd Senate District
Senator Mario Mattera, 2nd Senate District

WCSD Superintendent Bonk: Support for proposed legislation (6597) authorizing the imposition of bail for certain offenses involving violent threats against a school district, school, school staff or a student

To Members of the New York State Senate and Assembly:

As Superintendent of Schools in the Wappingers Central School District, which is the 9th largest in New York State, and largest in Dutchess County with over 10,000 students and 15 school buildings, I am writing this letter of correspondence, along with other school leaders, staff, and families throughout New York State, in support of the proposed legislation S.6366 (Oberacker) A.6597 (Kay). This bill would allow judicial discretion in whether to require bail when a defendant is accused of making threats of violence against a school district, school, staff, or students and is necessary to raise the level of accountability for those who make such threats and face appropriate legal consequences.

Unfortunately, these threats of violence directed at schools, or individuals within, have occurred throughout our District and have resulted in a substantial disruption to teaching and learning in both our elementary and secondary schools. In some cases, these threats have resulted in school delays, early dismissals, or school closings. In addition, as a result of the threats of violence that we have experienced, our District continues to spend over 2 million dollars per year to provide the necessary support by

continued on page 5

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

continued from page 4

hiring additional mental health professionals and additional support from our local law enforcement to foster a safe school environment and work hand in hand with our families of students who suffer from anxiety.

In closing, I strongly urge you and your colleagues to advance this critical legislation and am pleased that it has bipartisan support in the state legislature. I believe that we can all agree that all of our students and staff deserve a safe school environment that allows for all to learn, grow, and reach their highest academic, social, and emotional potential. Thank you for considering this request and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further support on this important matter.

Dr. Dwight Bonk
Superintendent of Schools
Wappingers Central School District

Social Security is not a Ponzi scheme

To the editor:

People deposit or invest funds to safeguard them, and usually to see them grow through interest, dividends, or asset appreciation. They expect to be able to withdraw their original money, plus any gains. Depending on the investment, there can be loss as well as gain, but the full accounting is always available to the owner.

In a Ponzi scheme, the investors, unwittingly, are paid funds from new investors, with initial investors' original deposits having been lost through outright theft. Eventually, when no more new investors can be found, withdrawals cease, and those who did not withdraw their money earlier lose all or most of the investment.

That picture does not match Social Security, which is simply an income transfer from working people to aged, often

retired, people. There is no "unwittingly" – the income, outgo, and rules are clearly defined. Chris Martenson, hardly a liberal, stated that a social security system, given stable demographics, can remain solvent, even with currency inflation.

In its early days, funding Social Security was easy – lots of workers contributing, relatively few retired people receiving benefits.

Since 1983, whenever Social Security tax income exceeded benefit payments, the surplus was placed in a trust fund, invested in treasury securities. In 2021, then current Social Security payroll taxes were no longer sufficient to pay all benefits, with the balance paid from the trust fund, reducing the fund balance.

Demographics play a part in the shortfall. As does inflation. While incomes, particularly for the wealthy, soared due to inflation, income taxed for Social Security stayed low, capped at \$176,100. Those with high incomes, even in the tens of millions, pay no Social Security tax on the amounts above the cap. Eventually, decisions on taxation and benefits can be made to continue providing Social Security benefits into the future.

Might retirees have done better investing the tax instead? Possibly, if they did not need the money in, say, 2001 after the dot com crash. Insuring how our senior citizens can best age in dignity and participate in the economy is a fair subject for debate. But pulling the rug from those who in their working life supported generations of past retirees would be wrong.

Elon Musk, who called Social Security a Ponzi scheme, is a highly skilled corporate executive, and should stick to his expertise, leaving misleading political exaggeration to the pros.

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

Martial arts instructor arraigned on 42-count indictment

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announced on March 25 that Tyler LeClerc, 27, was charged by an indictment returned by a Dutchess County Grand Jury and arraigned in Dutchess County Court. The 42-count indictment charges LeClerc with 6 counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, Class E Felonies; 1 count of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, a Class D Felony; 17 counts of Forcible Touching, Class A Misdemeanors; and 18 counts of Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree, Class B Misdemeanors.

Parisi said, "Today, the defendant is arraigned on charges of abusing the trust placed in him by exploiting vulnerable students from LeClerc's Martial Arts school. The allegations are deeply disturbing, and we are committed to ensuring that justice is served for the victims involved. No child should ever feel

unsafe in a place meant to foster discipline and respect. We will not tolerate any actions that endanger the well-being of our children."

The incidents charged in the indictment occurred between March 2021 and February 2025 at various locations and involve four different victims.

The case was investigated by the New York State Police and is being prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Joseph Gruner. Judge Jessica Segal presided over the case. The defendant's bail was continued at \$200,000 cash, \$400,000 partially secured and \$2 million unsecured bond and his next court date is set for April 24.

As with any criminal case, the charges described above are merely accusations, and Mr. LeClerc is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Renegades, Heritage FCU to refurbish field in Pine Bush

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and Heritage Financial Credit Union, a local Credit Union serving communities in and around the Hudson Valley for over 85 years, have announced that Pine Bush Little League has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 Youth Field Betterment refurbishment.

The program began in 2023 with the mission to award one youth baseball organization with a refurbishment of a

field used within their community. Applicants are evaluated on several criteria, including increasing the access of youth participation and improving the quality of youth baseball, and developing life skills of all those who have access to the facility.

Representatives from the Renegades Front Office and Heritage Financial Credit Union will spend a day this spring refurbishing the field led by Renegades Manager, Field Operations Tanner Puff.



Dutchess County DA's Office Inaugural Candlelight Vigil Supporting Crime Victims

"Empowering Victims, Championing Justice:
Together for a Safer Tomorrow"



Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 5pm
Immediately following the Family Services' Center for Victim Safety an Support
Art Show and Award Ceremony



Family Services
29 North Hamilton St
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601



This project is supported by a National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness subgrant awarded by the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators through grant number 15POVC-24-GK01921-NONF awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fish Fry Fridays with Clinton VFD

Clinton Volunteer Fire Department is holding their annual Fish Fry Fridays during Lent (through April 18) at the East Clinton Fire House. Located at 9 Fire House Lane Clinton Corners, NY Cost of the dinner is \$15 and includes fish, fries, coleslaw and dessert. Macaroni and cheese is also available. Take out only. Call 845-266-5485 for more information.

Great Whale of a Rummage Sale April 3-5 at Grace Church

Grace Church will host the Great Whale of a Weekend Rummage Sale April 3-5. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 5. Thousands of quality items will be offered at prices to sell quickly. Items will include clean clothing, children's toys, books, puzzles, games, household items, glassware, sports gear, furniture, jewelry, linens, bedding, and collectibles. All items must go. Bag sale on Sunday. Handicap accessible.

Funds raised by the rummage sale will be used to further Grace Church community outreach programs. The Grace Church Parish Hall is located at 3328 Franklin Street, Millbrook (opposite the Millbrook Bandshell). For more information call the office at (845) 677-3064 or visit the website at www.gracemillbrook.org.

Repair Cafe set April 5 in Stanford

Repair Cafe Hudson Valley will present a Repair Cafe on Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Stanford Free Library, 6035 NY-82, Stanfordville. Bring your items to be fixed with the help of volunteers. Call the library at (845) 868-1341 for more information.

Blood Drive in Clinton April 5

The East Clinton Fire District will hold a Blood Drive on Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners. Schedule to donate at RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code ECFD.

Ice cream for breakfast

Holy Cow's 15th Annual Fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will be held Saturday, April 5 and Saturday April 26, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Donation of your choice. Special limited menu includes: Shakes and Sundaes with waffles, cider donuts, blueberry muffins, oatmeal cookies, hot apple topping, blueberry topping, cinnamon sugar topping and cereal! Thanks to YOU, we have raised \$87,000 with the hopes of continuing to raise more one scoop at a time!

Spring Easter Egg Needle Felting April 5

Come join us at Ruby Hill Farm for a fun-filled day of needle felting on Saturday, April 5, from noon to 3 p.m., at Madi's Way Schoolhouse at Ruby Hill Farm, 2325 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners. Let your creativity flow as you learn how to create adorable Easter eggs using colorful wool and a felting needle. No experience necessary. Meet new friends, enjoy the beautiful surroundings, and take home your own handmade Easter eggs. Each person will decorate two eggs. The class will be taught by Robin Capers. Registration is required. Cost \$35. Visit www.rubyhillfarm.com for more information.

Historic Tavern Trail

at Foster's Coach House April 9

The next Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail event will take place Wednesday, April 9, from 6 to 7 p.m., at Foster's Coach House, 6411 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck.

The Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail brings history and local cuisine together while introducing the community to iconic locales. This month's program features "Anna Sang For Red Hook: The Story of 19th-Century Opera Star Madam Anna Bishop," presented by author and

Historic Red Hook researcher Sarah K. Hermans. Hermans presents the story of how a world-famous opera singer came to be buried in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. This event is free and open to the public. RSVP is required. RSVP and details: <https://www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/tavern-trail-fosters-apr25>

Stanford Grange to offer take-out dinner on April 12

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Chicken/Rice/Broccoli/Cheese Casserole Dinner on Saturday, April 12, at 5 p.m. at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. The menu will consist of Chicken/Rice/Broccoli/Cheese Casserole, Carrot Raisin Salad, and Chocolate Cherry Dump Cake for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. The dinner will be take out only. Drive up to the Grange Hall back door, pay for your dinner, get your dinner through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

PV Rec's Egg Hunt set April 12

Pleasant Valley Recreation will hold the annual Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12, at Helen Aldrich Park, 27 Hibernia Road, Salt Point. Meet the Easter Bunny, fill your basket with colorful eggs, and enjoy a morning full of fun & surprises! Here's the schedule:

11 a.m. - 1-5 Year Olds
11:45 a.m. - 6-8 Year Olds
12:30 p.m. - 9-13 Year Olds.

The event is free, but registration is required at pvrec.com.

Hyde Park Repair Café set April 12

The Hyde Park Repair Cafe is set Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at The United Methodist Church, 1 Church St., Hyde Park. Bring us your beloved but broken items for free repairs and advice. For more information: www.ClimateSmartHydePark.org

Seders set April 12-13 at RJC

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center will host Community Seders on April 12-13 at the RJC, 102 Montgomery St, Rhinebeck.

Shabbat, April 12, begins at 7:15 p.m.; dinner 9:30 p.m.

Sunday April 13 8:30 p.m. Services at 8:15 p.m., with traditional Seder at 8:30 p.m.

Suggested Donation \$36 per person. Reservations required. Please email RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com or call (845) 876-7666 to secure a seat at the Seder table.

Documentary screening in Kingston April 13

Sunday, April 13 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston, NY. Film showing of "The Palestine Exception," a documentary about the crackdown on the free speech rights of students and professors when they discuss apartheid Israel and its war crimes in Gaza. All donations after expenses will go to aid Gaza. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis Response, Mid Hudson Valley DSA, Rally Middletown, JVP Hudson Valley, Peace Education Center, and Veterans For Peace. Contact: mecr@middleeastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Program on women innovators in farming set April 13

The Rhinebeck Garden Club and the Chancellor Livingston Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) will co-sponsor a program on Sunday, April 13, at 2 p.m., at Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market St., 2nd floor. The presenter will be award-winning journalist Amy Wu, discussing "From Farms to Incubators: Woman Innovators Revolutionizing How Our Food is Grown" (<https://www.farmstoincubators.com/about>). Signed copies of her books will be for sale.

The public is invited. The program also will be available on Zoom. Contact bklaproth@gmail.com for the invitation link and additional meeting information.

Hyde Park VEC to host 'Pollinator Paradise' April 14

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee (HPVEC) Education Series will sponsor "Pollinator Paradise" on Monday, April 14, at 5:30 p.m., at the Staatsburg Library, 70 Old Post Road, Staatsburg. Master Gardener Cathy Lane, Cornell Cooperative Extension will guide participants through the seasonal requirements to attract and support pollinators from early spring through the fall. Free pollinator transplants will be given to participants. Attendance is free. Registration is encouraged. Email hpvecboard@gmail.com to register.

Retired Sing Sing Superintendent to present at Hyde Park Library

Michael Capra, who was the superintendent at Sing Sing Correctional Facility for more than a decade before retiring, will discuss the groundbreaking program he co-produced while at the prison, called Voices from Within. Aimed at reducing recidivism, the program addressed gun violence head on and received nationwide recognition. Capra will also discuss the current challenges faced by correction officers.

This free event will take place at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, in the Hyde Park Library's annex. Registration is required - visit hydeparklibrary.org to sign up. For more information contact director@hydeparklibrary.org.

Arlington rowing club holding clothing drive April 19

Arlington High School's Rowing club will hold a clothing drive on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the LaGrange Town Center parking lot at 1110 Route 55, Lagrangeville. The club is collecting wearable and usable clothing, shoes, towels, bed sheets and the like. Bring items in tied garbage bags (place shoes in a separate bag from other items). The club will receive a monetary donation based on the weight of the items collected. That monetary donation helps fund the club.

Chili Fest set April 26 at Stanford Rec Pavilion

There will be a free Community Chili Fest on Saturday, April 26, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Stanfordville Rec Pavilion. Friends, neighbors and organizations are invited to enjoy a variety of chili recipes (made by Stanford's best home chili chefs) with all the fixings, followed by ice cream. The event is sponsored by Stanford: A Caring Community.

Clinton Historical Society sets annual Spring Tag Sale

The Clinton Historical Society will hold its annual Spring Tag Sale on Friday, April 25 and

Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Creek Meeting House, 2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners. The Society will have all kinds of great items, plus their famous homemade baked goods and coffee will be available for purchase.

Proceeds from the sale go to support their mission: to preserve, educate and encourage an appreciation for the history of the Town of Clinton (founded in 1788) and its historic sites and structures with a focus on preserving and restoring the 1777 Creek Meeting House. The purpose of this effort is to benefit town residents, visitors, and all future generations. Contact Cathy McMahon at (845) 266-0071 or cmcmahon137@optimum.net for more information.

Volunteer Orientation set April 26 at Beatrix Farrand Garden

There will be a Beatrix Farrand Garden Volunteer Orientation on Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m. Volunteer Coordinator, Sarah Peacock, a member of the Board of Directors, and staff, will welcome individuals considering being a volunteer at the Beatrix Farrand Garden. The Orientation will be held at the Garden, located on the FDR National Historic Site, 4097 Albany Post Rd., in Hyde Park.

Volunteers have been helping to maintain the historic garden designed by the famed Beatrix Farrand in 1912, and restored in 1990s by the first BFG volunteers. For several years, volunteer "Greeters" have welcomed the public on the first and third Sunday afternoons for informal, and informative, visits to the Garden. This year volunteers will also begin assisting with the many concerts, garden education classes, and youth programs. Volunteers might work a few times a season or regularly, whatever fits into their schedules, and will enjoy the friendship of other volunteers and the joy of helping keep this beautiful public garden thriving. More information is available at www.beatrixfarrandgarden.org, or by emailing Volunteers@bfgahydepark.org.

Millbrook Community Fridge celebrates 2 years of sharing & support

The Millbrook Library and Millbrook Rotary Club invite the community to a special Second Birthday Celebration for the Millbrook Community Refrigerator on Saturday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Millbrook Library (3 Friendly Lane) for an afternoon filled with games, pizza, cake, face painting, and fun.

Community members are encouraged to bring a donation of fresh food, non-perishable items, or toiletries to help keep the fridge stocked. Donations should follow the Community Fridge Guidelines; For more information, visit www.millbrooklibrary.org or follow on Instagram @millbrookcommunityfridge, @millbrooklibrary, and @millbrookrotaryclub

EASTER WEEK SERVICES

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1872 Salt Point Turnpike, Salt Point, will hold a Palm Sunday service on April 13 at 10:30 a.m. and an Easter Service on April 20 at 10:30 a.m. There will also be an Easter Sunrise Service on April 20 at 7 a.m. at 86 Allen Road, Salt Point (dress warmly). For more information, call Diana at (845) 656-9959.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pleasant Valley will hold the following Easter Week services:

- Maundy Thursday, April 17
7 p.m. Holy Eucharist with foot washing & music
- Good Friday, April 18
6:30 p.m. Ecumenical Service at First Presbyterian (Procession begins at St. Paul's at 6 p.m.)
- Holy Saturday, April 19
7 p.m. The Great Vigil with fire & music
- Easter Sunday, April 20
6 a.m. Sunrise Ecumenical Service at Mill Site Park
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music
Call (845) 635-2854 for more information.



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St. Stan's altar servers invited to St. Patrick's Cathedral



The 18 altar servers of St. Stanislaus Kostka parish in Pleasant Valley had the opportunity to serve a Mass for Cardinal Timothy Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral on March 16. *Courtesy photo*

By Jim Donick

New York's Cardinal Timothy Dolan visited St. Stanislaus Kostka parish in Pleasant Valley in November and was so impressed by the parish altar servers that he invited them to come to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City and serve a Mass for him there.

Early on March 16th, all of the parish servers and their families boarded a bus for what was to be a major memorable event in their young lives. The idea was so exciting for them that every server, without exception, made the trip.

The Saint Stan's kids all but filled the sanctuary at St. Patrick's Cathedral. As it was the day before St. Patrick's Day, the church was filled to capacity and there were a number of visiting dignitaries present. Along with Cardinal Dolan and his staff, there was a visiting cardinal from Africa and the Archbishop of Armagh in Ireland, which was the original diocese of St. Patrick, himself, in that land.

The Mass began with a procession to the altar led by Saint Stan's servers with

incense, cross and candles. For the Mass itself, they provided each of the services that were needed for this Solemn High Mass normally handled by the senior servers of the Cathedral.

At the end of the Mass, the Cardinal spent some time with the 18 youths and took a photo with them. He has noted, "It was a joy to be with them and to point out to the standing-room only crowd what a magnificent group of young men and women St. Stanislaus Kostka parish had produced."

Leaving the Cathedral, the group departed by bus to the Circle Line for a two-and-a-half-hour adventure circumnavigating the island of Manhattan.

The pastor, Father Karl Lindblad, expressed his pride when the group returned to Pleasant Valley.

"Our servers performed as if they had been serving at the Cathedral for their entire lives," he said. Father Lindblad also noted that the Mass was available on YouTube for anyone interested in seeing it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVQL0ZteX00>

Dine out and support animals at DCSPCA shelter

The Dutchess County SPCA will hold its 3rd Annual "Feed You, Feed Them" Restaurant Day on Thursday, April 10. Enjoy a meal at one of the participating eateries and help animals in need.

A portion of purchases at the following restaurants will support the animals at the DCSPCA's shelter in Hyde Park (percentages in parentheses):

Aba's Falafel (TBD), Beekman Square Diner (15%), Brasserie 292 (15%), Darby O'Gills (10%), Day & Nite Lounge (TBD), El Rey Mexican Eatery (10%), Jason Patrick's on 44 (10%), JB's Bar and Grill (10%), Kitchen and Coffee

(50% of dog treat sales in April), Little Loaf Bakery (10%), Mahoney's Irish Pub (10%), Matchbox Cafe (70% of sales of Matchbox Doggie Bags in April), Melzingah Tap House (TBD), Panacea (50% of sales of their polenta balls dish), Patsy's Roadhouse (10%), Paula's Runway Cafe (10%), Playa Bowls (TBD), Publick House 23 (TBD), Red Pepper Diner (TBD), Shirley's Soul Food (5%), The Farmhouse (TBD), The Tomato Cafe (15%), Tito Santana (10%), Twisted Soul (10%), Yum Yum Noodle Bar Red Hook (15%).

Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club to host annual Trout Derby on April 6

The Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun Club in Rhinebeck is gearing up for its annual Trout Derby on Sunday, April 6. This family-friendly event invites community members of all ages to participate in a fun and competitive day on the water.

Registration for the derby will begin at 6:30 a.m., with fishing officially starting at 7:30 a.m. The competition will be held at the club's picturesque 3-acre pond, which has been fully stocked with rainbow and golden trout to ensure a great experience for all anglers.

Located off Enterprise Drive in Rhinebeck, the Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun Club provides the perfect backdrop for this annual event, bringing together families, friends, and fishing

enthusiasts in celebration of the local outdoor community.

Beyond the fishing, the event will also offer a variety of activities and opportunities for all ages. Breakfast, lunch and drinks will be available for purchase during the event.

Children will have their own chance to win with a special children's raffles for prizes, while adults can participate in an adult raffle. For those looking for an extra incentive, there will be monetary prizes for adults, adding even more excitement to the competition.

Trophies will be awarded to the top anglers, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

The first nationwide three-digit mental health crisis hotline is up and running. It is designed to be as easy to remember as 911, but when you dial 988, a dispatcher will connect callers with trained mental health counselors.

Dialing 988:

- Is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress.
- Provides support: People may dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.
- Help for VETERANS: Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 and be connected directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline.

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The Ridge School is a New York State Board of Regents Accredited School, Not-for-profit organization located in Dutchess County, New York dedicated to the creation of a rich and positive setting for students who are not succeeding in their current educational placements. The Ridge School is a day school for students who are diagnosed with High Functioning Autism.

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Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley welcomes 3 new trustees



Carlos Alamo-Pastrana



Malia K. Du Mont



Frances Barney Knutsen

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has appointed Carlos Alamo-Pastrana, Malia K. Du Mont, and Frances Barney Knutsen, CFA to its Board of Trustees. These distinguished trustees bring a wealth of expertise in education, finance, strategy, and community engagement, which will enhance and strengthen CFHV's initiatives aimed at deepening engagement across the Hudson Valley and providing innovative solutions that benefit local nonprofits and community projects.

"Carlos, Malia, and Frances bring fresh perspectives to the Board at a pivotal time for CFHV," said Laura Washington, President & CEO. "I'm excited to collaborate with them as we reimagine philanthropy, build partnerships, and drive lasting impact in the Hudson Valley."

"We are entering an exciting period of growth at CFHV, and the insights and experience of our new trustees will be invaluable as we strengthen our role as a philanthropic leader in the Hudson Valley," said CFHV Board Chairman, Robert Cotter. "Their collective expertise will help guide our efforts to expand our reach, increase our impact and ensure that we continue to be a trusted resource for donors, nonprofits, and the communities we serve."

Carlos Alamo-Pastrana is a sociology professor at Vassar College specializing in Caribbean Studies. Since joining the faculty in 2007, he has developed courses on race, Latinx studies, and popular culture. Alamo-Pastrana previously served as Dean of the College, Associate Dean of Faculty and Academic Resources, and Administrative Director of the First-generation, Low-Income (FLI) Program. During his tenure,

Alamo-Pastrana led key initiatives on inclusion, crisis response, and student support; relaunched the House Fellow program; and refined first-year programming. An accomplished scholar, he is the author of "Seams of Empire: Race and Radicalism in Puerto Rico and the United States (2017)."

Malia K. Du Mont is chief of staff and vice president for strategy and policy at Bard College. A national security expert, she previously served as Co-President of Amur Equipment Finance and as Director of Strategy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where she led key initiatives, including the National Defense Strategy implementation. She has held roles at the Atlantic Council, CNA Corporation, and Harvard Kennedy School, specializing in Chinese military strategy and security analysis. An Army Reserve officer and Afghanistan veteran, she holds a BA in Chinese from Bard College and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School.

Frances Barney Knutsen, CFA, retired after 30 years in financial services, most recently as a Managing Director at BNY, where she led investment performance, risk analysis, and institutional accounting. She continues to be involved in the performance measurement industry as an active volunteer with CFA Institute and as Chair of the Women in Performance Measurement network. She is also a Principal with BWK Communication Consulting, providing training in communication skills. She holds a BA from Yale University and an MBA from Wharton School of University of Pennsylvania.

For more information on CFHV, visit www.CommunityFoundationsHV.org or connect with the group on LinkedIn, Facebook or Instagram.

Red Hook scouts attend seminar, overnight camp



Scouts attend the Merit Badge Seminar at the Training Center, Mirror Lake Retreat campground. Below: With flags in evidence, scouts of Red Hook BSA Troop 3042 prepared for their overnight campout in the mini cabins at Mirror Lake Retreat campground. Photos by Richard Wambach



Scouts from Red Hook BSA Troop 3042 spent Saturday, March 22 at the Mirror Lake Retreat Campground on in the Town of Milan. A group of scouts attended a Merit Badge Seminar with counselors from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The scouts and their leaders then proceeded to set up camp in Mini Cabins on

the campground where they played outdoor games and prepared their evening meal, set up for overnight camping and prepared breakfast Sunday morning.

Attending the event were the following scouts: Will Anagnos, Robert Paschal, Roger Loughran, Hunter Larson, Avery Marsh and Bradyn Balacic.

County's AA+ bond rating reaffirmed by S&P

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Rating Services has once again confirmed Dutchess County Government's solid AA+ bond rating, the highest S&P rating among county governments in New York State. S&P Global Ratings assigned its AA+ long-term rating to the County's \$12 million series 2025 public improvement serial general obligation bonds, which will be used to fund various capital projects, including highway and bridge improvements, as well as roof replacements at several County facilities and design of the Mental Health campus at 230 North Road.

In its report reaffirming the AA+ rating, S&P noted Dutchess County's multiple strengths, including:

- a strong track record of sound financial management, with cautious estimates for both revenue and expenses;
- expected economic output growth in upcoming years;
- conservative budgeting practices;
- robust reserve levels; and
- manageable debt profile.

The full S&P report is available online via www.dutchessny.gov. The County's 2025 budget includes a 10th consecutive tax rate decrease.

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All programs are free, unless noted. Please visit pleasantvalleylibrary.org to register and for more information on these and also on our monthly occurring programs.

Monday, April 7 6:00-8:00pm

Vegetable Gardening for Beginners Part 2 with Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners

Join us for the second part of our 3-part series on vegetable gardening with Master Gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension! Learn how to plant peas, carrots, radishes, beets, kale, lettuce, spinach and more - and take home seeds for peas, radishes, beets, and spinach. Attendance at our March program is not necessary to enjoy this informative program.

Wednesday, April 9 11:30am-1:30pm
Senior Movie: "Erin Brockovich"

Seniors (ages 50+) are invited to attend this special seniors-only movie matinee. Our April movie is the 2000 American biographical legal drama film 'Erin Brockovich', starring Julia Roberts and directed by Steven Soderbergh. Light refreshments will be provided.

Friday, April 11 6:00-7:00pm

FDR and the Post Office - with Anthony Musso

Author and historian Anthony Musso will discuss Franklin D. Roosevelt's lifelong passion for the Post Office and how it extended well beyond his boyhood stamp collecting hobby. As President, FDR implemented many stamp-related initiatives and approved more than 200 stamps released during his terms and actually designed several commemorative stamps. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration, part of the New Deal program that created work for the nation's unemployed due to the Great Depression, was responsible for the construction of 406 Post Offices throughout the nation. "FDR and the Post Office," published in 2005, was the first of Anthony Musso's many books.

Saturday, April 19 12:00-2:00pm

Earth Day with Pleasant Valley Climate Smart: "It's the Little Things"

Celebrate Earth Day with members of Pleasant Valley Climate Smart and learn the small things you can do at home to help protect our Earth. Some you may know about, such as donating unwanted clothing in a local donation box, but other ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle may surprise you! Enjoy light refreshments, share your ideas, and be ready to embrace the little things.

Friday, April 25 - Sunday, April 27
Friends' Huge Spring Book Sale!

Our Friends group is holding a special sale of donated books, DVDs, CDs, audio

books and puzzles in great condition this weekend.

Friday, April 25 - 12:00-6:00pm
NEW: \$10 Early Entry Dealers Hours! Friday ONLY from 9am to 12pm! Open not only to dealers but anyone who wants early access to the sale. \$10 cash entry fee.

Saturday, April 26 - 10:00am-3:00pm
Sunday, April 27 - 10:00am-3:00pm
Our prices for Friday and Saturday are as follows:

Adult books: \$1 each
Kids & Teen books: 4 for \$1
CDs & DVDs: 2 for \$1
Puzzles: \$1 each

On Sunday, you can NAME YOUR PRICE for any remaining items!

Wednesday, April 30 6:00-7:30pm

Sleeping Soundly with Joy Dyson
Join Joy Dyson, of Wellness With Joy, to explore the science of how our bodies sleep, and discover holistic ways to leverage that knowledge to improve rest and daytime energy.

STANFORD FREE LIBRARY

6035 NY-82, Stanfordville
(845) 868-1341
<https://stanfordlibrary.org/>

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

Repair Cafe

Saturday, April 5th 10am-2pm
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.

Earth Day Stories and Crafts

Learn about Earth Day and create cool earth inspired crafts
PreK-1st Grade, Friday, April 3rd, 330-430pm
2nd-5th Grade, Friday, April 4th, 330-5pm

April Book Club

Monday, April 14th 1:00 pm-2:00pm
This month's selection is Brooklyn by Colm Toibin

Read to Therapy Dog Jambo

Tuesday, April 8, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
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.

Supper Club with Lenny?

Wednesday, April 9th, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Enjoy a community tasting and sharing event with friends and family. This month's theme "Under 30 minutes". Cook anything that can be made in 30

minutes or less. No need to register - just come with your cuisine and enjoy food and conversation!

Chair Yoga

Friday, April 11th, 1:00pm-2:00pm
This is gentle yoga with a chair to support and aid seated and standing postures

Yom Hashoah: Holocaust Remembrance, A Book Read and Talk

Wednesday, April 23rd, 7pm

Leaving: Memories of Romania. A memoir by author, playwright and Vassar Professor Dr. Mihai Grunfeld. Dr. Grunfeld is a Professor Emeritus and Chair of the Vassar College Lifelong Learning Institute.

Defensive Driving Class

Tuesday, April 29th & Wednesday April 30th, 6:00pm-9:00pm

Save 10% on Auto Insurance. Reduce 4 points on your driving record. You must attend both sessions. Cost:\$38.

For questions and registration contact Bill Owens @ 8457562481

ONGOING EVENTS

Home School Stories and STEAM
Students in Grade K-3:Thursdays, 1245pm -145pm

Students Grade 4-6 (STEAM only)
Thursdays, 2pm-3pm

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday Mornings
Preschoolers (Age 3-4) 9:30 am - 10:15 am

Toddlers (Age 18 months-2 years)
10:30 am - 11:15 am

Babies (Birth-18 months) 11:30 am—12:15 pm

Stories, songs and free play every week!

Water Color Workshop

First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Using the Basic Watercolor Techniques:A Flat Wash, Graded Wash, Wet-In-Wet or Drybrush

We will be happy to provide guidance but this is a Watercolor Workshop not a Watercolor Class. Supplies are not provided, a list of needed materials is available at the library.

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners

Mondays 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
All levels welcome.

Knitting

First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Come for knitting, tea and conversation.

All levels welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games

Thursdays 10:30 - 12:00 pm

Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

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Aviation Open House set April 5 at Hudson Valley Regional Airport

Dutchess Community College (DCC) will host an Aviation Open House on Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its aviation education center at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport. Prospective students and aviation enthusiasts are invited to:

- Get an in-depth look at DCC's Pilot, Aviation Maintenance Technician and Aviation Management programs.

- Tour our new state-of-the-art aviation education center on the grounds of Hudson Valley Regional Airport - 31,800 sq. ft of classrooms, labs and hangar space designed for immersive hands-on

learning.

- Learn about the admissions process, financial aid and career opportunities in aviation.

- Have questions answered by meeting aviation faculty and the admissions team.

For more information and to register, visit sunydutchess.edu/aviationopenhouse.

Requests for accommodations, including accessible tours or sign language interpreters, should be submitted to the Admissions Office at admissions@sunydutchess.edu at least seven days before the event.



Winters in Florida

Luigi gets Mom to "make a deal."

The other day, a customer came into the restaurant and I started a conversation with him. "Joe" and his wife were retiring soon. They were looking forward to spending the winters in Florida then returning home to New York. I asked Joe, why not sell your house in New York and avoid the New York property taxes. He laughed and told me there is no way his wife would agree to that, because his children and grandchildren were all in New York. Hearing him say that reminded me when my parents would spend winters in Florida.

Pop: Luigi, leesten, I gotta a little problem.
 Me: Yeah, Pop? What's the matter?
 Pop: I wanna go to Florida, but mamma she no wanna go.
 Me: Why?
 Pop: Because of you people! She no wanna leave you people!
 Me: Huh?
 Pop: Maybe one of you want to mova down to Florida?
 Me: Huh? What?
 Pop: Thisa way thena, she wanna go down to visit you.
 Me: What? Me?
 Pop: Youa lika to taka the vacation ina Florida, no?
 Me: Yeah, but..
 Pop: Maybe youa justa stay a little longer?
 Me: Yeah, but..
 Pop: Youa cana opena the restaurant down there.
 Me: Yeah, but..
 Pop: Ia helpa you, okay?
 Me: Huh?
 Pop: Yea, wea call it Coppola's.
 Me: But, Po-

Pop: Ita be nice.
 Me: Wait! No, Pop. It's not OK.
 Pop: (sigh) Thatsa what I tought. Oh well. Maybe youa can talka to Mom?
 Me: Alright...

(on the phone)
 Mom: Hello?
 Me: Hi, Mom.
 Mom: Whatsa matter?
 Me: Nothing.
 Mom: I know something is a wrong. You no feel good?
 Me: No, Mom, I'm...
 Mom: You want some Zucchini Marinara?
 Me: No, Ma...
 Mom: Ia make it for you. You wanta the cheese?
 Me: What, yeah. Wait...
 Mom: Ima gonna make it Parmagiana, OK?
 Me: What? OK...
 Mom: Thisa maka you feala better. Im going to drop it off. OK?
 Me: Wait...
 Mom: I'll bring it over to you later.
 Me: WAIT!
 Mom: Whatsa matter, why you so upset?
 Me: Pop told me to talk to you about Florida.
 Mom: Donta you say another word. Ima no going.
 Me: Pop is going to go. You trust him to be alone?
 Mom: I noa care. He coma back.
 Me: Yeah in March, before Easter.
 Mom: He want me to go down there and sit in the apartamento all day. Whos gonna take care of you people?
 Me: Here we go again. (sigh) Listen, Mom, let's make a deal.

Mom: Deal? How?
 Me: Pop wants you to go. He'll be miserable if you don't go. Not only that, you can keep him safe, especially when he's driving.
 Mom: Yeah?
 Me: You know if he goes down there alone, something will happen.
 Mom: Yeah?
 Me: So let's make a deal so that you will both be happy.
 Mom: How?
 Me: How about you go down and come back every three weeks, then you stay here for a week?
 Mom: Noa Deal! Howa that makea me happy?
 Me: OK ... what if you stay for two weeks and come home for two weeks?
 Mom: Hmmm.
 Me: Mom, come on. Pop wants me to make a deal.
 Mom: Ima gonna say yes, but only for you.
 Me: Ok, I'll tell Pop.
 Mom: You still wanta the Zucchini Parmagiana?
 Me: Yes, Mom, Thank you.

And with that the deal was struck. It felt like the scene from "The Godfather" when the five families negotiated the peace.

Anyway, enjoy the recipe of Zucchini Parmagiana.

ZUCCHINI PARMAGIANA

Ingredients

- 3 large zucchini, sliced into strips about 1/4-inch thickness
- 1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated and divided in half
- 1/4 cup Italian breadcrumbs
- 1 cup Coppola's marinara sauce
- 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese, grated

1/2 cup ricotta impastata
 salt & freshly ground pepper to taste
Directions

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. Coat a large baking sheet with non-stick cooking spray.

Place zucchini in a medium bowl and drizzle with olive oil, turning to coat each piece. In a separate bowl, combine half the Parmesan, bread crumbs, salt and pepper.

Dip each zucchini coin into the Parmesan mixture, turning to coat and pressing the breading slightly to ensure it sticks. Place breaded zucchini in one even layer on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 25 minutes or until browned and crisp.

Reduce the oven temperature to 400 degrees F. Coat the bottom of a small baking dish with marinara sauce. Layer one third of the crisp zucchini over marinara, overlapping if necessary. Add dollops of ricotta, leaving sizable gaps between each dollop. Sprinkle the layer with mozzarella and the remaining Parmesan. Repeat the layers until the zucchini is gone. Cover your top layer with sauce and mozzarella and cover with aluminum foil.

Bake for 10-15 minutes or until the cheese is melted and the sauce is bubbling. Cool for 5 minutes before serving.

Luigi Coppola is one of five brothers born to Francesca and Antonio Coppola. The Coppola family came to America from Naples, Italy in 1954. Antonio and his brothers opened their first restaurant in Poughkeepsie in 1961. Luigi and his brothers Nick, John, Antonio and Vincent have carried on the family tradition in the way their parents taught them, using classic recipes taught to them at their apron strings. Visit their website at www.coppolas.net.

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DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 17 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Sets

Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.

□ 1 thru 3

□ 4 thru 15

□ 16 thru 68

By David Kalvitis © 2004 Monkeying Around

Map reveals pivotal time for nation and local woman

by Bill Jeffway

As we leave Women's History Month and approach the 250th anniversary of the 1776 American Revolution, let's look at one Revolutionary War era woman in particular. And let's do so through the lens of a 1780 map that DCHS is in the process of acquiring with the support of the Rhinebeck Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and others.

As background, we recall that John Adams' wife famously wrote to him in 1776 as they crafted the new nation saying, "I long to hear that you have declared an independency -- and by the way in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would remember the ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice, or representation."

Of course women would not gain the right to vote nationally until 1920. They gained the right to vote in New York State in local school elections (only) in 1880. They gained the right to vote in New York State in 1917. But the fulfillment of national ambition took until 1920. But that doesn't mean that women at the time were without agency, especially landowners. One such local woman was Janet Livingston Montgomery, which provides us with one of the earliest local connections to the Revolutionary War. Rhinebeck's General Richard Montgomery was killed in the battle of Quebec on December 31, 1775 – the 250th anniversary will be at the end of this year.

DCHS does not often purchase items for its collections, mostly relying on donations, but in instances such as this, where a very rare item is up for auction, we have started a fundraising campaign to acquire it. We are two-thirds toward

the campaign goal. Information is at www.dchsn.org/secure-montgomery.

The Rhinebeck Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is located in the small house that General Montgomery and his new wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery, first settled in while planning on building a larger estate in Rhinebeck. But this modest initial foothold was simply a stepping stone to the larger Grasmere Estate they had commenced building and is reflected in the map.

The strategic importance, and therefore the great value of this property lies in the fact that it includes land around the Landsmankill that belonged to Montgomery which was the site of storage buildings and mills, a major engine of local economic growth. All along the east side of the large lot of 379 acres runs the Albany Post Road, connecting New York City and Albany. And near the mills we find a westbound road that leads to the Rhinecliff landing at the Hudson River. Between the mills on the smaller river, the global transportation reach of the Hudson River, and the Post Road, the land is set up well to become increasingly valuable.

We can learn a lot not just from the map itself, but by both zooming out to see it in larger context, and by zooming in to identify small indicators that have a larger message.

When Montgomery's lot is superimposed on the larger 1802 map of the area known as Wurtemberg, we can see that by that time land ownership had evolved beyond the Livingstons (although they owned a significant amount of the best land) and we see a mix of older Dutch names, and more recently arrived German Palatines who were making the transition from tenant farmer to farm owner.

When we zoom in for a close up, we can see things like the depiction of the Dutch style hay barrack which tells us that this was an area for agriculture, and



Above: DCHS, with the support of the Rhinebeck Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are organizing an effort to formally acquire this 1780 map of one our country's wealthiest women at its founding: Janet Livingston Montgomery. Image courtesy of DCHS



Whether we zoom out and look at the Livingston lot in the context of surrounding lots from another map, or we zoom in and look at details like the Dutch hay barrack, these maps provide an enormous amount of information to historians. Image courtesy of DCHS

that the Dutch tradition of using a "barrack" whose roof can be raised and lowered using pegs in the holes in the vertical poles was in use. General Montgomery had declared that he would prefer a farmer's life and that if he should be lucky enough to live through the war (which of course he did not) he would want to spend his time farming and innovating in agriculture.

It is telling that ultimately (by 1805) Janet Livingston Montgomery had abandoned Grasmere for the beautiful Montgomery Place, which is today owned by Bard College. It sits on the banks of the Hudson with a powerful view of the river. This 1780 map, prepared when the United States was just four years old, depicts the unfulfilled dream of General and Janet L.

Montgomery, reminding us that the price for the American Revolution included the loss of many lives, of both ordinary citizens, and its elite leadership. We are also reminded that the journeys toward equality that Jane Adams implored in 1776 when writing could involve many steps, and many generations of persistence.

Please help DCHS and the DAR secure the map to keep it local to Dutchess County. Information on how to do so is at www.dchsn.org/secure-montgomery.

Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at bill.jeffway@dchsn.org or (845) 293-7711.



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Scrat, Rocky and P'nut can't, but Nutkin can

For those of you who need a brush-up on bygone celebrity icons of the animated and zoological variety, Scrat is the saber-toothed rat-squirrel from the "Ice Age" franchise; Rocky the Flying Squirrel was Bullwinkle's buddy in several cartoon series; P'nut was the most famous northern grey squirrel on Instagram; and Nutkin was the cheeky red squirrel created by Beatrix Potter. Red squirrels, like Nutkin, have an undesirable quality: they are reservoirs for Hansen's Disease.

Hansen's Disease, as it is now called, was a name change in honor of the physician who discovered *Mycobacterium leprae*. For millennia, the zoonotic affliction had been more memorably known as leprosy. Dr. Hansen's contribution disproved the belief that the condition was hereditary. It is curable with antibiotic therapy.

Red Squirrels

Red squirrels can be reservoirs for the leprosy bacteria. This means that *M. Leprae* can live and multiply within the tiny mammals. Although there have been no reported cases of humans catching leprosy from red squirrels in modern times, humans and red squirrels shared a bacterial strain of leprosy in medieval England. This suggests that leprosy was transmitted between the two species, likely due to the fur trade and humans keeping the squirrels as pets.

Leprosy

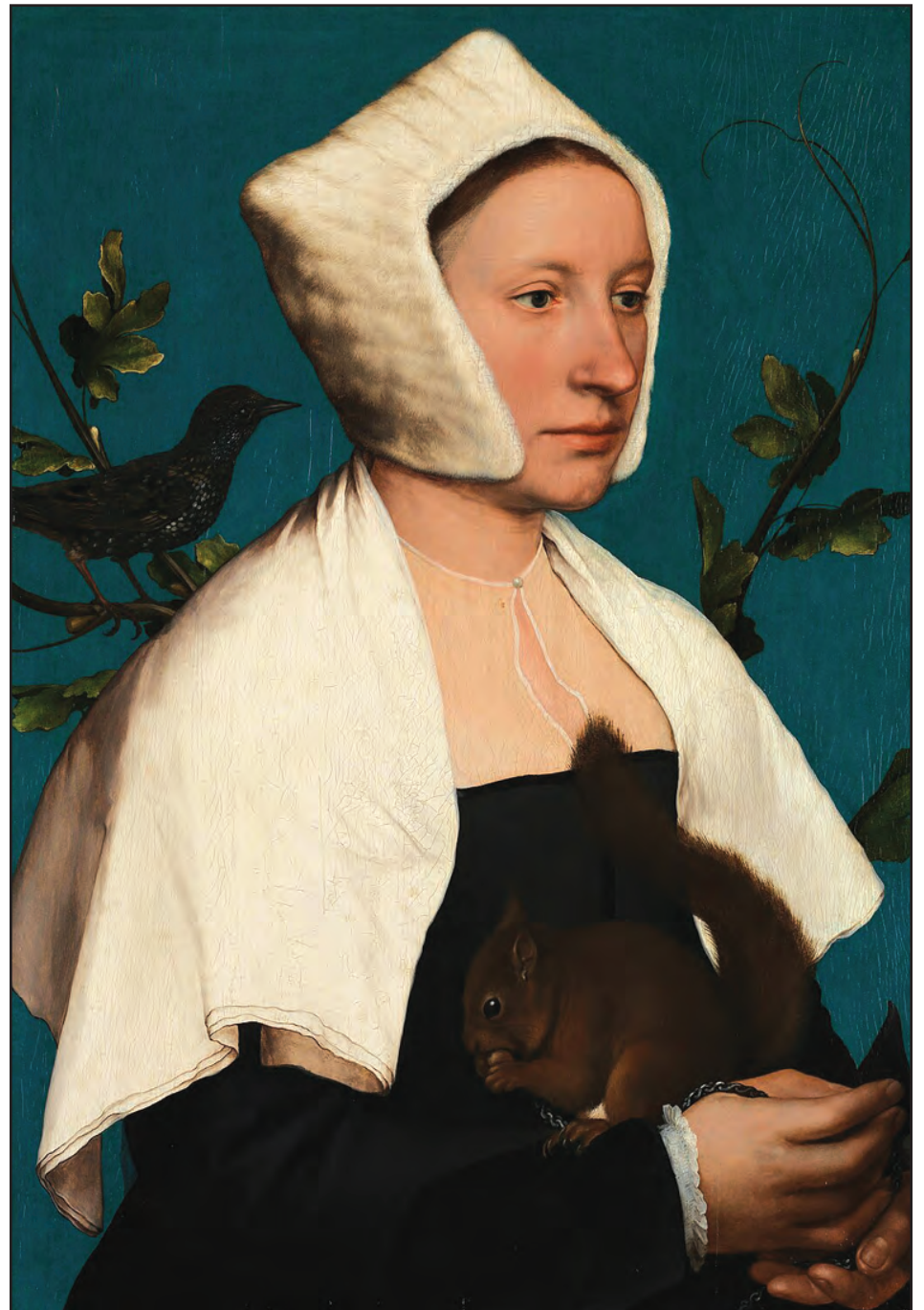
Leprosy is one of the oldest known infectious diseases, causing significant

physical disfigurement, and leading to severe social stigma and isolation for those affected, often being ostracized from their communities throughout history.

It is a disease that has been around a long time. Scientists believe that leprosy originated 100,000 years ago in East Africa. From there it seems to have migrated eastward and westward (through colonization and slave trade), developing one distinct subtype in Asia and another subtype in Europe and North Africa. In western Africa, yet another distinct subtype developed. Leprosy was brought to the Americas by European colonists and western African slaves.

Dreaded and misunderstood, for centuries the disease was treated ineffectively and sometimes barbarically. In ancient Europe, Egypt and China, blood was administered--either as a beverage or as a bath. Sometimes the blood of virgins was required for ritualistic purity. The "therapeutic" use of venom from snakes, bees, scorpions and frogs were other treatments. Some of the afflicted were scarred with irritants, including arsenic, or even endured castration!

Leprosy attacks peripheral nerves and results in acute pain. People with the disease were demonized and thought to be highly contagious. Civilizations around the world saw "lepers" as threats to the general welfare and, as a result, they were ostracized and confined to colonies to live out a lifetime of isolation. Like many other diseases, leprosy was believed to be



"Lady with a Squirrel" by Hans Holbein the Younger, ca 1526. People kept squirrels as pets in the Medieval period. Image courtesy of Creative Commons. Left: A red squirrel in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Photo by Robert Rightmyer of Valley Visions



divine punishment for worldly sins.

The disease thrived in areas with overcrowding, poor sanitation and malnutrition. Incidence was high in Europe from about 500-1500 CE. Leprosy saw a decline in incidence in the 16th century, after the Middle Ages, with improved socioeconomic conditions and hygiene.

Nine-Banded Armadillos

Nine-banded armadillos can be vectors for leprosy. This means that *M. Leprae* can be transmitted to humans through contact with their infected tissues. Nine-Banded Armadillos are found in the mid- and south-eastern United States, as well as more southern areas. Their range has expanded northward into Missouri, Illinois and Nebraska.

Very few people in the US are diagnosed with Hansen's Disease, according to the CDC website. An even smaller number of those folks may have come in contact with infected armadillos in this country. It is true that warming temperatures are a driving force behind the animals migrating northward, but the chances of them making it as far north as Dutchess County, NY are limited by our temperatures. Nine-banded armadillos can't hibernate and don't have much body fat, so they can't conserve heat well. They can't establish stable colonies where the average January temperature is below 28 degrees F.

Don't worry about Nutkin and other Red Squirrels

Even though Nutkin and other Reds can be carriers for Hansen's Disease, you are probably naturally immune! Only about 5 percent of people are genetically susceptible to getting leprosy, if exposed. And, unlike previously believed, the disease is not highly contagious and can't be spread through casual contact, like shaking hands. Transmission of leprosy requires prolonged close contact with an infected organism (including a person) who has not been treated. But, once antibiotic therapy is begun, the disease is not contagious.

Obviously, it is best to avoid contact with bodily fluids from-- and rashes on-- infected people. And, by all means, avoid contact with the official Texas Small Mammal and Beatrix Potter's Nutkin!

Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over 3 decades teaching in Ulster County. She creates science-themed instructional materials and books, as well as being a Citizen Scientist in the management of her current home in an enchanted woodland of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>

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Go 'Around the World' with Hudson Valley's new chamber orchestra on April 13



The Erehwon Ensemble will perform "Around the World: String Orchestra Music from Five Continents" at Rhinebeck Reformed Church on Sunday, April 13. *Courtesy photo*

Now in its second season, the Erehwon Ensemble will offer an intriguing and colorful concert of string orchestra music from around the globe on Sunday, April 13. The program, "Around the World: String Orchestra Music from Five Continents," will begin at 4 p.m. at Rhinebeck Reformed Church, 6368 Mill St., Rhinebeck.

"[The Erehwon Ensemble] is an ensemble of 21 very talented performers, and we are excited to make music together," says Music Director and Conductor David Rudge. "Many of our musicians can also improvise and will be featured in that capacity."

While most music groups specialize in music from a particular genre or era, this flexible ensemble is committed to pushing the boundaries of classical music with repertoire including rarely heard masterpieces, improvisation, and compositions inspired by folk music traditions from around the world, pop, and jazz, as well as familiar classical works.

"Our vision is to transcend labels and divisions and embrace music's profound ability to move and connect us as humans," says Rudge.

Erehwon's name is the anadrome of "Now Here," reflecting the ensemble's new home in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

The April 13 concert celebrates the extraordinary diversity of string orchestra music from Baroque Italy to 19th century Russia, Postwar Japan, Victorian England, Post-Colonial Africa, and Erehwon's own 21st century improvisation on a Bach chorale. The program will conclude with the famous and highly energetic Libertango by Argentinian composer Astor Piazzolla.

"It's a varied program of works by well-known composers as well as gems by unfamiliar names," Rudge explains. "And all of it is wonderful!"

The scheduled program:
Arcangelo Corelli - Concerto Grosso No. 9

Alexander Glazunov - Theme and Variations, Op. 97

Toru Takemitsu - "Funeral Music" from Black Rain

Hawa Kassé Mady Diabaté - Tegere Tulon

Improvisation on a Bach Chorale

Edward Elgar - Serenade

Astor Piazzolla - Libertango

Tickets are \$30, available at the door or at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/around-the-world-string-orchestra-music-from-five-continents-tickets-1231931082029>. Visit www.erehwon-ensemble.com for more information.

County Players 'Pulls Back the Curtain' to offer annual free theater tour on April 5

County Players, a local all-volunteer community theater company will help commemorate their 68th Season of theatrical productions by offering visitors a rare glimpse behind the backstage theatre magic. The troupe is opening their doors to beloved community members on Saturday, April 5 from noon to 4 p.m. by hosting their Annual Theatre Tour at their County Players Falls Theatre, at 2681 W. Main St., in the Village of Wappingers Falls.



Open to all, the Board of Governors invite you to go behind-the-scenes to see how our productions come together. According to County Players Board President, Michael Boden, "County Players has been honored to be a part of the Wappingers community for over 65 years, and it is such a pleasure to share this opportunity for our neighbors to see 'behind the curtain' here at the theater. Thank you for your dedicated and continued support of County Players!"

Upon arrival, guests will receive a map highlighting stations of interest where they can learn more about the various production departments. During the self-guided tour attendees will have an opportunity to interact with several of our dedicated volunteer personnel, including cos-

tume, lighting and sound design, set and prop construction. Visitors can enter the raffle to win one of several prizes including: free tickets to an upcoming main stage show; one of two annual subscriptions to their recently announced Season 68; or gift certificates donated by local businesses. Every attendee will get a take home a goodie bag!

For complete information about tour, please visit: <https://countypayers.org/2024-2025-events/>, you may also call the theatre Box Office at 845-298-1491, or email info@countypayers.org

County Players Season 68 is sponsored by Hudson Valley Credit Union.

what's happening?

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EASTER

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The Rev. Heather K. Sisk



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 17

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with foot washing & music

Good Friday, April 18th

6:30 pm Ecumenical Service at First Presbyterian
(Procession begins at St. Paul's at 6:00 pm)

Holy Saturday, April 19th

7:00 pm The Great Vigil with fire & music

Easter Sunday, April 20th

6:00 am Sunrise Ecumenical Service at Mill Site Park
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music

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Beacon resident Ruth Danon appointed as Dutchess County 2025 Poet Laureate

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced she has appointed Beacon resident Ruth Danon as the County's 2025 Poet Laureate, bringing poetry to residents of all ages throughout the county. County Executive Serino said, "Poetry has a unique way of bringing people together – it encourages empathy, sparks meaningful conversations, and helps us see the world through each other's eyes. We are grateful to Arts Mid-Hudson for continuing to champion this important program and extend our congratulations to Ruth on being named this year's Poet Laureate!"

"It is a great honor to be named this year's Dutchess County Poet Laureate. As a Bard College graduate and a resident of Beacon, I have a deep love of this region," said Danon. "In all my work, whether writing, teaching, or curating, my desire has been and will continue to be the creation of community. During these difficult times, community is more important than ever. We cannot allow ourselves to feel alone or powerless. Writing and performing poetry helps us connect to one another and to the world; it also opens avenues to inner experience -- so important to reclaim in a world dominated by social media and its many falsehoods and distractions. Poetry asks us to pay attention, and when people pay attention, positive changes can occur. In my role as Poet Laureate, I plan to develop readings and workshops that will be situated within existing community organizations and that will be open to diverse and multigenerational audiences. Workshops will be playful, utilizing a variety of artistic modes as aids to generating writing. These will culminate in participant readings. I will also curate readings in larger venues that will connect

poets from within the region to writers beyond Dutchess County."

Danon's fourth book of poetry, *Turn Up the Heat*, was published by Nirala Series in 2023. Her prose and poetry have appeared in many publications in the United States and abroad, most recently in *On the Seawall*, *Noon: The Journal of the Short Poem*, *Sunday Salon Zine*, *The Nu Review*, and *The CAPS 25th Anniversary Anthology*. Her work is forthcoming in *Pratik*, *The Beltway Quarterly*, and the *Poetry is Bread Anthology*. She has performed her poetry across the United States and abroad and has appeared in many podcasts and Zoom readings. For 23 years, she taught in the Creative and Expository Writing Programs she designed and directed for NYU's School of Professional Studies. Founder of *Live Writing: A Project for the Reading, Writing, and Performance of Poetry*, she teaches for *Live Writing* and the *New York Writers Workshop*. A Bard College graduate, she now lives in Beacon, NY, where she curates literary events and works to create a community of poets. She was one of the founding curators of the *BeaconLitfest* at the *Howland Cultural Center*. More about her and her poetry and career can be found at <https://www.ruthdanon.com/>

The Dutchess County Poet Laureate program was instituted in 2016 by former County Executive Marc Molinaro. Poet Laureates serve a one-year term. Arts Mid-Hudson manages the public call for nominations, facilitates a panel composed of literary professionals and community members to select from the nominees, and provides support and promotion for the Dutchess County Poet Laureate's work during their year of service.



Ruth Danon. *Courtesy photo*

"Arts Mid-Hudson is thrilled to announce the appointment of Ruth Danon as the 2025 Dutchess County Poet Laureate. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to County Executive Sue Serino for her unwavering support of this initiative," said Melissa Dvozenja-Thomas, Executive Director for Arts Mid-Hudson. "Poetry has the power to make us feel

acknowledged, understood, and connected, even amidst diverse backgrounds and challenges. We are eager to collaborate with Ruth this year, as she inspires partnerships through this impactful art form."

Information about the Dutchess County Poet Laureate and the upcoming programs can be found at www.artsmid-hudson.org/dc-poetlaureate

A & E CALENDAR

April 3: Conversation & Book Signing, Wallace Center, FDR Presidential Library, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. "Remember the First Ladies" with Diana B. Carlin and Nancy Kegan Smith, 6 p.m. "Remember the First Ladies" explores the evolving role of the First Lady in American history. Through biographical and thematic chapters, it highlights their contributions to politics, society, and life in the White House from Martha Washington to Dr. Jill Biden. The event will also stream live on the official FDR Library YouTube & Facebook pages. Free; registration required to attend in-person. Register at www.fdrlibrary.org

April 3-9: Programs in the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. **Thurs., April 3:** Making Instruments with Marta Knapp, 6 p.m., Adriance Memorial Library (93 Market St.). Registration required. **Sat., April 5:** Fresh, Fab, Fly: All Things Hip Hop Fashion, 3:30 p.m., Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library (Family Partnership Center, 29 N. Hamilton St.) Registration required. **Tues., April 8:** Garden Enthusiasts Meet Up, 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library (141 Boardman Rd.). No registration required. **Wed., April 9:** Open Mic, 7 p.m., Adriance Memorial Library. No registration required. Visit www.poklib.org to sign up for programs requiring registration.

April 4-6: Rhinebeck Theatre Society

Presents "Emilia," Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. RTS presents Morgan Lloyd Malcolm's Olivier Award-winning play about Emilia Bassano Lanier, who in 1611 wrote a volume of radical, feminist and subversive poetry. It was one of the first published collections of poetry written by a woman in England. The little we know of Emilia Bassano Lanier is restricted to the possibility that she may have been the "Dark Lady" of Shakespeare's Sonnets – and the rest of HerStory has been erased by History. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. www.rhinebecktheatre-society.com

April 5: Cold Chocolate, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Recognized for their original music and high-energy shows, this genre-bending Americana band fuses folk, funk and bluegrass to create a unique sound all their own, 7-9 p.m. Tickets \$20 or pay what you can at the door. More info at copakegrange@gmail.com or www.copakegrange.org

April 5: Concert, VBI Theatre of Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. Two dynamic duos descend upon an unsuspecting Poughkeepsie when the improvised guitar duo of James Keepnews and Billy Stein is joined by drummer/percussionist Dean

Sharp and Nico Soffiato performing an opening set, 8 p.m. Tickets \$10-20 sliding scale admission.

April 5: Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra Concert, "An Organ in the House," Marriott Pavilion at The Culinary Institute of America, 1946 Campus Dr., Hyde Park. Classic 1920 silent film, "One Week," starring Buster Keaton, will be accompanied by a full orchestra and a theater organ played by guest artist Carl Hackert, 7:30 p.m. The performance will also feature "Once Upon a Castle," a powerful organ concerto by Grammy-winning composer Michael Daugherty. A pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m. will include Hackert demonstrating the inner workings of the organ and discussing the history of silent films and the improvisation used to accompany them. Tickets \$38 adults, \$30 seniors, and \$10 students. www.ndsorchestra.org or (845) 635-0877

April 5: Saturday Morning Family Series, The Center for Performing Arts at

Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Skyhunters in Flight, 11 a.m. Learn how birds of prey live and survive with an indoor falconry lecture and presentation, followed by an exciting outdoor flight demonstration (weather permitting). Featuring Brian Bradley. Tickets \$10. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

April 9: "A Trip Around the World in Folk Art Stitches," Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America (EGA) presents Catherine Redford, fiber artist, teacher, speaker, author, lecturer and TV personality beginning at 12:30 p.m. Catherine will explain how she embellishes her fabric quilts with creative expression of her handmade work using thread art. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning at 10 a.m. or come for this program only at 12:30 p.m. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEGA or email EGASkyllkill@gmail.com.

LOOK FOR LOVE TO COOK
IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.



Creative Living

is the arts and entertainment section of

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Help A Horse Day to showcase the power of equine-assisted programs

Family-friendly event set April 26 at Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue in Dover Plains will host a family-friendly event to celebrate Help A Horse Day on Saturday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Help a Horse Day is a national awareness event dedicated to equine welfare and advocacy. More than just a rescue, Lucky Orphans is committed to “People Helping Horses Heal People,” demonstrating how equine-assisted programs transform lives – both human and equine.

This event is open to the public, and attendees of all ages are welcome. Admission is \$5 per person in advance, \$10 per person at the door (Children under 12 are free).

“Help a Horse Day is not just about horses—it’s about recognizing the vital role horses play in human healing,” said Deanna Hearn, founder and executive director of Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue. “Our equine-assisted programs save human lives, proving that when we help horses, they help us in return.”

What to expect:

- Food trucks: Indulge in a variety of culinary delights from local food vendors;
- Take a guided tour: Walk around the farm and meet each of the horses personally. Lucky Orphans will also have scheduled driving tours for guests who cannot walk around the farm;
- Participate: in family-friendly interactive activities;

- “Find Your Horse”: Form a personal connection with one of Lucky Orphans’ horses;

- Learn about the opportunities on the farm, from volunteering and education to wellness and holistic healing;

- Raffle Opportunities: Variety of raffle basket from local shops and restaurants;

- Panel Discussion: At 12:30, learn how Lucky Orphans’ rescued horses are helping humans – from wellness workshops such as a relaxing meditation or the healing power of Sound Baths to more targeted programs such as equine-assisted psychotherapy for individuals who are healing from abuse and trauma with the help of these majestic animals. Learn about why Lucky Orphans is the gold star standard in Dutchess County for equine assisted programming.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.LuckyOrphans.org or call (845) 877-0685. Join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by using the hashtag #HelpAHorseDay.

Lucky Orphans is at 2699 Route 22 in Dover Plains.

For over a decade, Lucky Orphans has provided a forever home for rescued and retired horses while offering equine-assisted learning and therapy programs that help veterans, at-risk youth, and trauma survivors. The organization believes that every horse deserves a purpose, and through their Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP), Leadership & Team Building, and Wellness Programs, these horses find healing while helping people do the same.

Historic Tavern Trail at Foster’s Coach House

The next Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail event will take place Wednesday, April 9, from 6 to 7 p.m., at Foster’s Coach House, 6411 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck.

The Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail brings history and local cuisine together while introducing the community to iconic locales. This collaborative program, organized by the Dutchess County Department of History, local historical societies, and food and beverage partners, highlights the county’s rich past through engaging presentations at historic sites.

This month’s program features “Anna Sang For Red Hook: The Story of 19th-Century Opera Star Madam Anna Bishop,” presented by author and

Historic Red Hook researcher Sarah K. Hermans. Hermans presents the story of how a world-famous opera singer came to be buried in St. Paul’s Lutheran Cemetery.

Nineteenth-century soprano Madame Anna Bishop’s voice was never recorded, but you’ll hear some of the songs she was famous for as Hermans weaves the tale of her life. Born in England in 1810, Anna traveled the world and was as famous at the time as Jenny Lind. Anna lived large, sang beautifully, loved fiercely, and was buried without a tombstone in Red Hook in 1884.

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP is required. RSVP and details: <https://www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/tavern-trail-fosters-apr25>



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E-mail exhibition listings to:
creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

EXHIBITIONS

Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through April 22:** “Poets Respond to Art,” an exhibition celebrating the intersection of poetry and visual art. Featuring 18 poets and 18 visual artists, this showcase explores the profound dialogue between literary and visual expression. **Artist Talk & Closing Reception:** Tues., April 22, 5-7 p.m. This special event will offer insights from participating poets and artists about their creative processes and the inspirations behind their work. The discussion will provide a deeper understanding of the connections between poetry and visual art. This event is free and open to the public. RSVP required. www.artsmidhudson.org

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is artwork by Ulana Salewycz, Vitalia Deriabina, Marianna Szczawinsky Crans, and the late Catherine Zadorecka Gorham. At 12 Vassar St., Kate Hoekstra displays her works of art in the Reception Gallery. In the Hancock Gallery, Ian Hutton and Selva Ozelli will present their collaborative show “Paradise.” 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 Aug. 17:** “Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues,” exhibition that explores the art and myths of the Hudson Valley. The exhibition is part of a legacy that began 200 years ago as landscape painter Thomas Cole traveled up the Hudson River to paint the Catskill Mountains: a voyage that marked the mythical origin of the so-called Hudson River School of American landscape painting. Also on view: “Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Black Space-Making from Harlem to the Hudson Valley,” installation related to “Great Green Hope” by Vassar student Harrison Brisbon-McKinnon ’26; and the second, “Water/Bodies: Sa’ dia Rehman.” (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/thelob>

Millbrook Arts Project, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through April 26:** “BIO-BASED: Loren Eiferman & Henry Klimowicz.” Eiferman and Klimowicz create art with formerly living materials. Eiferman makes wall-mounted, hanging and standing sculptures from tree branches found on the ground during her daily walks. Klimowicz will display several of his large-scale hanging pieces that are a mixture of found, never purchased, cardboard, hot glue, wire and light. In addition to the sculptural works, a series of prints and cardboard plates will be presented. **Artists’ Talk:** Fri., April 18, 4 p.m. (845) 677-3611 or www.millbrooklibrary.org

Rhinebeck Bank, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through April 4:** Artwork exhibit by Michael Mandia of Wappingers Falls, whose primary artistic medium acrylic paint, but he also uses pen, ink, colored pencil and pastel. More info at <https://www.michaelmandiaart.com/>

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through April 26:** “Mother/Father,” a re-examining of a theme first addressed in a March 2020 exhibit. That exhibit explored the works of artists navigating parenthood and how it affected their overall bodies of work. The show only stayed open for two weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the gallery and the show altogether. Shutting down this show was a huge loss for the artists, whose works about parenthood were not seen by the public due to the pandemic. Now five years later, the gallery is re-examining this theme and how the circumstances of artists has evolved over that time, and how modern parenthood has evolved with it. **Artists’ Talk:** Sat., April 26, 1-3 p.m. (845) 293-3660 or info@womenswork.art

We’re on the web!
www.sdutchessnews.com

Legacy of America’s First Ladies topic of April 3 author event at Wallace Center

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will present a conversation and book signing, “Remember the First Ladies: The Legacies of America’s History-Making Women” with Diana B. Carlin and Nancy Kegan Smith, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 3. The event will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home and streamed live to the official FDR Library YouTube and Facebook accounts. This is a free public event, but registration is required to attend in-person. Visit fdrlibrary.org to register.

“Remember the First Ladies: The Legacies of America’s History-Making Women” explores the evolutionary role of first lady and its historic importance on the American presidency, and shines a light on the influential women who broke barriers and made a mark on our country and, at times, our world, during their tenures in the White House.

The book includes both biographical and thematic chapters. It examines the influence of first ladies on topics such as civil rights, political campaigns, major speeches, and the White House across the

span of the nation’s history. Profiles of first ladies bring their histories, achievements, and legacies to life. Readers learn about the development and expansion of the role of first lady, from Martha Washington to Dr. Jill Biden, and explores how first ladies have been uniquely positioned to influence American society, policy, diplomacy, and the life in the White House.

The authors write and lecture extensively on first ladies and are founding members of the First Ladies Association for Research and Education (FLARE).

Diana B. Carlin is Professor Emerita of Communication at Saint Louis University and a retired professor of communication studies at the University of Kansas. She has taught courses on first ladies at three universities.

Nancy Kegan Smith retired in 2012 as Director of the Presidential Materials Division of the National Archives and Records Administration. She is co-editor of “Modern First Ladies: Their Documentary Legacy” and lectures on first ladies and presidential records.

Contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 with questions about the event.

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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

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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: VACATION DESTINATIONS

ACROSS

- Aladdin's find
- Reggae precursor
- "Lights out" signal
- Not good
- Flock's echo
- ___ diet, a.k.a. caveman diet
- Kind of jerk
- *Southern and Southwestern U.S. region: Sun ___
- Financial backer
- *Switzerland's skiing destination (2 words)
- Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
- Clint Eastwood's "Play ___ for Me"
- One in a pod
- Wear out
- Masculine
- *Princess' turf
- Makes a sum (2 words)
- "He's Just Not That ___ You"
- Dionysus' pipe-playing companion
- Choose
- Provide food
- Answer from a tunnel
- Virtual you
- ___ Scare
- Prickly plant
- *Second "National Lampoon's Vacation" destination
- Biblical Adam's partner
- Cause and effect cycle?
- Goals
- *Jamaica and Cayman Islands location
- Bert's sidekick
- Poet Pound
- Hay bundle
- "The Great Gatsby" author
- Billiards relative
- Theories
- ___-deaf
- Boar's mate
- Reason to cram

DOWN

- Not more
- Swear, not curse
- Between mini and maxi
- Bodily fluid
- Small silvery fish
- ___ G. of "SpongeBob SquarePants"
- Aardvark's repast
- *Serengeti National Park location
- Aquatic plant
- Pressure inducer
- *Costa del ___, Spain
- Humiliated
- Eucharistic plate
- Fretted instrument
- OB-GYN test
- Balance sheet item
- *Coastal destination
- Policeman's club in India
- Cockapoo or Puggle, e.g.
- Foreword
- Make tea
- Vast multitude
- Peace symbol
- *Rest and relaxation destination
- *El Capitan and Half Dome location
- Pigeon food?
- Brewery order
- Acrobatic move
- Living room centerpiece?
- Velveteen creature
- Type of membranophone
- Cupid's ammo
- Gas station brand
- Aware of a secret (2 words)
- Porcinos
- "At ___, soldier"
- Charitable contribution
- Hawk's aerie, e.g.
- Time in NYC

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 21

OBITUARIES

Thomas S. Athanas Jr.



Thomas S. Athanas, Jr., 63, of Hollywood, SC and former longtime local resident, passed away on March 15, 2025, at Roper of St. Frances Hospital in Charleston, SC.

Born on July 25, 1961, in Rhinebeck, he was the son of the late Thomas S. Athanas Sr., and Patricia Taylor Athanas. Tom's mother survives at home.

Tom loved watching NASCAR and old Western movies and was a fan of country music.

He was a loving, happy man who lived life to the fullest, and could always make you laugh, and put a smile on anyone's face even on their darkest days. Affectionately known as "Pork" he embraced using his nickname, as well as providing nicknames to those who he was close with.

He was a self-employed Stone Mason, working for various contractors over the years.

In addition to his mother, Tom is survived by his children; Sarah Athanas (fiancé - James 'Mel' Haddad), of Hyde Park, Lindsay Athanas of Red Hook, and Zachary Remsburger (Kristina), of Hyde Park; brothers, Theodore (Theresa) and Todd (Karen) Athanas, both of Hyde Park, and nephews; David and Theodore Athanas.

Tom is also survived by his former wife, Denise M. Athanas; several aunts, uncles, and cousins; and longtime companion; Kim Coluccio-Teed, of South Carolina.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial calling hours were held on Monday, March 31st, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park.

Tom's ashes will be buried privately in Union Cemetery of Hyde Park.

In lieu of flowers, the Athanas family respectfully requests memorial donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place., Memphis, TN 38105. (www.stjude.com)

To send an online condolence, please visit www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Judith E. (Judy) Kowalski

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Judith E. ("Judy") Kowalski, beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, who unexpectedly left us on March 26, 2025. Born on July 30, 1947, in Poughkeepsie, New York, to the late Chester and Ruth (Wentworth) Podeszedlik, Judy was known for her warmth and kindness. She devoted her life to her family, doting on her husband Peter ("Pete") Kowalski and raising her four children by instilling in them the strength of family, kindness, and unconditional love.

Judy graduated from Poughkeepsie High School with the Class of 1965. After graduation, she went to work for IBM in Poughkeepsie. On January 9, 1971, Judy married Pete, her life-long partner of 54 years.

As a stay-at-home mom, Judy dedicated her days to nurturing her four children. Her unwavering support, deep love, and wise guidance shaped the lives of her children. She cherished her family deeply, and her legacy will live on in the values she passed down to her children and grandchildren.

Judy was known for her gentle spirit, warmth, and her unwavering love for friends and family, for whom she always made time. Whether leading a Girl Scout troop, helping with science fair projects, or cheering from the sidelines, Judy was always there. Her home had a welcoming open door for both her friends and for all the friends of her children while they were growing up. As her children became adults, she treasured spending quality time with her six grandchildren, whom she proudly cared for and spoiled at every opportunity. Judy also had a special love for animals, making sure that each of her pets was treated like family. She also found great peace and joy in the simple things, like trips with Pete and her sister Patricia to the beach. Whether walking along the shore to look for shells or watching the waves, the beach was a place that filled her soul.

Her generosity and selflessness will be remembered by all who knew her. Judy leaves behind a family who is grateful for the years they shared and who will forever cherish the lessons she taught them through her example of love, compassion, and loyalty. She is survived by her husband Pete; her children Karin Peeling and her husband Brett, Peter Kowalski, Jr. and Ana Rodriguez, and Heather Amaral; her grandchildren, Katelyn, Stephanie, Benjamin, Nathaniel, Kylie, and Sophia; her sister Patricia Scott and her brother James Podeszedlik. Also mourning are brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law as well as many nieces and nephews. Judy was predeceased by her parents and son Steven Kowalski.

Relatives and friends called on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park; a memorial service followed. The family encourages donations be made to the Dutchess County SPCA in Judy's memory.

She will be greatly missed and forever loved. For directions or to leave condolences visit us at: www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

John C. Krauer ('Jack')

April 10, 1940 – March 25, 2025
John C. "Jack" Krauer, 84, of Port Henry, NY, formerly of Hyde Park, passed away on March 25, 2025. He loved the outdoors, motorcycles, and hot rods and worked for Texaco and the NY State Highway Department.

He is survived by his children, Tammy Munson (Eric) and Michael Krauer (Debra); grandchildren, Katrina Vlamis and Leah Krauer; brother, Kenny (Joan); and nieces, Debbie (Craig) and Jean (Alex).

A celebration of life will be planned.

Joseph Parditka Jr.

Joseph Parditka Jr., 74, passed away on March 20, 2025 at Livingston Hills Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. He was born in Budapest, Hungary on October 16, 1950. He was the son of Joseph and Anna (Margetti) Parditka.

A hard worker, Joe began his work career at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel as a busboy before moving upstate. Where he went to work for the City of Poughkeepsie in the Parking Enforcement department as a meter repairman and meter man. He also worked part time as a mail carrier at the Stanfordville Post Office, while at the same time working for Wassaic Developmental Center. He then became a full-time mail carrier in Hyde Park for 22 years prior to his retirement. It is believed that he never missed a day of work.

Joe was a jokester who enjoyed stumping people just as much as he enjoyed making them laugh. He had a love for cats & dogs and was always willing to help those in need. A devout Catholic, he and Linda would drive elderly couples to church and would often volunteer their time at Our Lady of Hope Parish. From pancake breakfasts to helping with the food distribution, Joe was there to lend a helping hand. He was famous at local diners, known as the "YooHoo" man. If the waitresses knew to say "YooHoo", he would give them a dollar. This extended even to the kitchen staff! Oftentimes he would take his "Dollar Run" to go and see the grandkids. This is where he would hide dollar coins for them to go and find. He had a great love for his family and friends.

Joseph is survived by his wife, Linda and their children, Anna Juchem and her boyfriend Josh, Tammy Parditka and her boyfriend Dustin and son, Joseph Parditka III. His two adoring grandchildren, Parker & Mason, and his sister Gizella Rieners.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated on April 4, 2025 at 11:00am from Our Lady of Hope Parish, 8074 Route 22, Copake Falls, NY. Father George Brennan will officiate. There will be reception to follow in Dywer Hall immediately after the funeral, all are welcome to join the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alight Center, 199 Fairview Avenue, Hudson, NY 12534. For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family please visit www.peckandpeck.net

Robert Schraff

Robert Lawrence Schraff, 80, of Lagrange, passed away peacefully on March 25, 2025, after a long illness.

Born on December 21, 1944, in Jamaica, Queens, Robert—known to many as Bob, Bobby, and to some, El Jefe—was the youngest of nine children. Growing up, this meant wearing hand-me-downs, fighting for his share of dinner, and lamenting that not

only was his birthday close to Christmas, but it also fell on the shortest day of the year!

Bob graduated from Aviation High School in Queens, where his academic brilliance earned him a college scholarship. But, true to his character, he turned it down and instead enlisted in the United States Air Force, proudly serving as an Airframe Repairman during the Vietnam War. After his honorable discharge, Bob worked as an aircraft sheet metal repairman with TWA, where he famously lost his big toenail in a work-related accident (he dropped a piece of sheet metal on his toe).

In 1971, Bob joined the New York State Police, where he spent 25 years solving crimes, catching bad guys, and perfecting his "I know you're lying" stare. He retired as a Senior Investigator at SP Wappinger in 1995 but quickly realized retirement wasn't for him. So, he took on another job as a Fraud Investigator at Rhinebeck Savings Bank, ensuring no funny business went unnoticed on his watch.

Bob had a wide range of interests, from Jeopardy and Doo-Wop music to Yankees baseball, "mousing" around the mall, and flying planes in video games. But most importantly, he loved spending time with his children and grandchildren, ensuring they understood the "Two Rules of Life" (Rule 1: Everyone lies. Rule 2: When you think someone is telling the truth, remember Rule 1). He also made sure they knew to drive extra slow in the rain because, as he put it, "Heavy rain—hydroplane."

On April 19, 1975, Bob made the best decision of his life—marrying Jean, the love of his life, in a small ceremony in Somers, NY. Bob knew marrying a nurse was a genius move, and sure enough, Jean lovingly cared for him until his last breath—proving once again that Bob always had good instincts.

Bob leaves behind his two daughters, Kimberly and Jacqueline, his adored sons-in-law, Roy Van Voorhis and Dominic Monopoli, and his six beloved grandchildren: Jordan, Samantha, Mackenzie, "The" Dean (yes, he insisted on "The"), Andrew, and Dominic Jr. He also leaves behind his best friend and "Junior Man", Jack McCabe, whom he loved immensely, along with his brother Edward and a ridiculously large number of nieces, nephews, and great-nieces/nephews, who will all deeply miss his wisecracks, his unmatched sense of humor, and of course, his signature move—sneaking his half-eaten food onto the plate of the poor sucker sitting next to him at family dinners and waiting for them to notice.

Bob is now reunited with his parents, Josef and Helen Schraff, as well as his siblings: Rudolph, Albert, Rose, "The Twins" Patricia and Gertrude, Paul, and Marlene. We can only imagine they're already deep in a heated argument over something trivial—or perhaps he is finally drinking a cold German beer with his dad.

Bob and his family would like to extend their deep gratitude to the amazing team at Hospice for their meticulous care and unwavering support over the last year.

Friends and family said their goodbyes at McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., Hopewell Junction. Burial with full Military Honors followed at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association—two causes close to his heart. But if you really want to honor Bob, tell a joke, share a great story, or pull a harmless prank in his memory. He would love that.

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

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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Legal Notices

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY PROPOSED LOCAL LAW OF 2025 A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 75 OF THE TOWN CODE TITLED "SHORT-TERM RENTALS" AND AMENDING CHAPTER 98, "ZONING"

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

Section 1 Title
This Local Law shall be known as "A Local Law creating a new Chapter 75 of the Town Code titled 'Short-Term Rentals' and Amending Chapter 98, 'Zoning'."

Section 2 Authority

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority of the Municipal Home Rule Section 10.

Section 3 Findings; Purpose

The Town Board finds that residential homes are being rented out for short terms, that short-term rentals have the potential to be incompatible with surrounding residential uses, and that special regulation is necessary to ensure that short-term rentals will be safe and compatible with surrounding uses and will not harm the neighborhoods in which they are located.

The Town Board finds that in the Town of Pleasant Valley, short-term rentals hosted by an on-site property owner provide valuable tourist accommodations and tend not to cause conflicts if properly managed. The Town Board finds that, in contrast, when a house is rented to transient visitors with no owner present, there is less oversight and more potential for conflict with neighbors. This type of use also removes housing from the market for long-term tenancy.

The purpose of this law is to establish a set of regulations for hosted short-term rentals of residential property. Transient accommodations where a host is not present shall be deemed lodging facilities and regulated accordingly. These regulations are in addition to all other provisions of the Town Code.

Section 4 Enactment of Chapter 75

A new Chapter 75 of the Town Code shall be enacted as follows:

CHAPTER 75 SHORT-TERM RENTALS

§ 75-1. Definitions.
As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the mean-

Legal Notices

ing indicated:
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER — Includes the Building Inspector, the Zoning Administrator, the Code Enforcement Officer and any other person charged with enforcing the Code or local laws of the Town and any applicable Building, Fire and Residential Codes of New York State.

OWNER or OWNERS — Includes the person or people actually owning real property, a person or people holding membership interests in a limited-liability company, a person or people holding a partnership interest in a partnership or limited liability partnership, the trustee or trustees of a trust, or a person or people owning shares in a corporation, when any such an entity owns the real property.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL — Any portion of a dwelling unit or housing unit (as defined in any applicable NYS Fire, Building or Residential Code) rented for compensation in exchange for lodging for a period of fewer than 30 consecutive days, while the Owner is present on the property. Short-Term Rentals accommodations may be located in a primary structure or a permanent accessory structure but may not be located in campsites, tent platforms, or other temporary structures on the parcel. For the purpose of this chapter, the term "Short-Term Rental" shall not include a bed-and-breakfast, boardinghouse/lodging house, hotel, motel, or ongoing month-to-month tenancies.

§ 75-2. Required permit; limitations on Short-Term Rental permits.

A. Short-Term Rentals are allowed anywhere in the Town, regardless of the zoning district, if they meet all the requirements of this section and obtain a permit.

B. Short-Term Rentals require the Owner of the property to be on site overnight throughout the Short-Term Rental period. Any rental for fewer than 30 days in which the Owner is not on site shall not be deemed a Short-Term Rental but may seek approval as a lodging facility or other appropriate use in accordance with the Zoning Code.

C. Owners shall not advertise or use their property as a Short-Term Rental without obtaining a revocable Short-Term Rental permit in advance. Short-Term Rental permits shall be lim-

Legal Notices

ited to one permit for any Owner(s) for each one-year cycle. Only an Owner or Owners of the property can obtain a Short-Term Rental permit.

D. A Short-Term Rental permit shall be valid for one year and must be renewed 60 days prior to expiration of current permit if the premises are to continue to operate as a Short-Term Rental.

E. The Short-Term Rental permit is not transferable to a new owner. The new owner of the premises subject to a Short-Term Rental permit must file a new permit application.

F. The Town Board may establish by resolution the number of short-term rental permits that may be issued at any time. The initial number of such permits shall be 50. As permits expire they will become available to others if the maximum has been reached.

G. Permits for Short-Term Rentals are a privilege that can be revoked pursuant to these regulations.

H. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those properties with short-term rental commitments existing on the date this chapter takes effect shall be permitted to honor such existing commitments and continue to make commitments for short-term rentals, but owners must submit a complete permit application within 90 days of this chapter's effective date if they wish to make future short-term rental commitments. In the event such application is denied, all commitments shall be cancelled.

§ 75-3. Short-Term Rental permit application requirements.

A. Applications and application forms for a Short-Term Rental permit may be obtained at the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall or Town website, and fully completed applications shall be submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer, accompanied by payment of a nonrefundable application fee to be determined from time to time by resolution of the Town Board. The application shall include the following:

(1) The signatures of all property owners or their designated agents.
(2) A statement authorizing the Code Enforcement Officer or his designee to inspect the property to ensure compliance with all requirements and standards contained within this chapter.
(3) An acknowledgment

Legal Notices

ment of present and ongoing compliance with the Short-Term Rental standards as defined in this chapter.
(4) A list of each property owner and the name of any manager, management agency managing the property, or other party responsible for maintaining the property in the owner's absence, including names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of each individual.
(5) The name, address, telephone number and email address of a local contact person, who shall be responsible for and authorized to act on the owner's behalf to promptly remedy any violation of the standards outlined in this chapter. The contact person may be an owner, or an agent designated by the owner(s) to serve as a contact person, and shall respond to any correspondence or concern from the Town Code Enforcement Officer within 24 hours.

(6) An accurate, suitable floor plan for each level of the dwelling that can be occupied measuring at least 8.5 inches by 11 inches, and a plot plan, both drawn to scale and certified by the applicant. The floor plan and plot plan do not need to be prepared by a professional, but must include the following:

(a) The location of buildings, septic systems, wells, required parking spaces, any swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.
(b) For each floor (including basement and/or attic): all rooms, including bedrooms, windows, exits and any heating/cooling units, as well as location of house utilities.

(c) All rooms that are not included in the Short-Term Rental must also be shown.

(7) A statement that none of the owners of the subject property have had a Short-Term Rental permit revoked within the previous year for any rental properties owned individually or together with others.

(8) If access to the property is by way of a private road or shared driveway, proof that the owner has the legal right to use the road or driveway for access to a Short-Term Rental.

(9) Current Dutchess County Hotel Occupancy Tax Certificate.
B. All completed applications are subject to a floor plan review and plot plan review and approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

§ 75-4. Short-Term

Legal Notices

Rental standards.
A. Property requirements.

(1) Property must comply and meet all applicable NYS Uniform Building Codes and the Code of the Town of Pleasant Valley, including all Zoning requirements.

(2) A Short-Term Rental must be located within a legal dwelling unit, and there may be no more than one Short-Term Rental per property.

(3) There shall be one working smoke detector in each sleeping room and one additional smoke detector on each floor. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed as required by the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

(4) Evacuation procedures must be posted in each sleeping room to be followed in the event of a fire or smoke condition or upon activation of a fire or smoke-detecting or other alarm device.

(5) There shall be an ABC fire extinguisher on each floor and in the kitchen. Fire extinguishers shall be inspected prior to a renter occupying the property and no less than monthly by the permit holder(s) to ensure each contains a full charge. A record of the date inspected initiated by the permit holder shall be maintained and made available to the Code Enforcement Officer upon request.

(6) The house number shall be located both at the road and on the dwelling unit so that the house number is clearly visible from both the road and the driveway.

(7) Exterior doors shall be operational and all passageways to exterior doors shall be clear and unobstructed.

(8) Electrical systems shall be in good operating condition, labeled, unobstructed and shall be visible for the Code Enforcement Officer during the permitting process. Any defects found shall be corrected prior to permit issuance.

(9) All fireplaces, woodstoves, pellet stoves and similar heating devices shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

(10) The property must have a minimum of one off-road parking space for every bedroom shown on the floor plan.

(11) Vehicle access to the Short-Term Rental must meet current New York State Fire Code requirements.

(12) Maximum occupancy for each Short-Term Rental unit shall

Legal Notices

not exceed two people per bedroom shown on the floor plan. The maximum occupancy of a short-term rental unit shall not exceed sixteen people.

(13) In the event that the property has a septic system, the maximum occupancy shall be limited by the maximum and verified capabilities of the septic system, but in no event shall overnight occupancy for any short-term rental unit exceed sixteen people total.

(14) A septic system at the property must meet all state and county requirements with supporting documentation.

(15) The septic system must have a satisfactory inspection by a qualified septic disposal firm within 90 days prior to the initial application. Once a Short-Term Rental permit is issued, the septic system must be pumped and inspected every two years.

(16) The water supply to the property must meet all state and county requirements.

(17) For properties which include a swimming pool, there must be water safety equipment on the property including a long-handled hook or a buoy or flotation device with an attached line, in plain view and within 10 feet of the edges of the swimming pool, and must meet all relevant codes.

B. An informational posting within the rental area shall be required, including:

(1) Maximum occupancy limit
(2) Location of parking spaces
(3) Any conditions imposed by the Zoning Board of Appeals and/or Code Enforcement Officer
(4) The phone numbers for local emergency services (e.g., fire, police, EMT)
(5) Quiet hours

C. Insurance standards. All applicants and permit holders must provide evidence of property insurance and a certificate of liability insurance indicating the premises are rated as a Short-Term Rental and maintain such insurance throughout the term of the Short-Term Rental permit.

D. Waste removal provisions shall be made for weekly garbage removal during rental periods. Garbage containers shall be secured with tight fitting covers at all times to prevent leakage, spilling, or odors, and placed where they are not clearly visible from the road except at approximate pickup time.

E. It shall be unlawful

Legal Notices

for a Short-Term Rental to be used for any gathering involving more people than the maximum occupancy of the rental.

F. Short-Term Rental applicants and permit holders must have a rental contract, which includes the following:

(1) Maximum property occupancy;
(2) Maximum on-site parking provided; and
(3) Good neighbor statement, stating:

(a) The Short-Term Rental renters should be considerate of the residents in neighboring homes;

(b) Guests are requested to observe quiet hours from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.;

(c) All renters will be subject to New York Penal Law § 240.20 or any successor statute regarding disorderly conduct;

(d) Littering is illegal;

(e) Recreational campfires must be attended at all times, and the property Owner must advise renters when burn bans are active;

(f) Hunting, the discharge of firearms, pyrotechnics, motorcycles, motorcross and off-road vehicles shall not be permitted or operated on the property which is subject to a Short-Term Rental.

§ 75-5. Procedure upon filing application.

A. Short-Term Rental permit applications shall be filed with the Town of Pleasant Valley Planning, Building and Zoning Office with all supporting documentation and the nonrefundable permit fee. Only completed applications will be accepted by the Town's Code Enforcement Officer. The Code Enforcement Officer may decline to accept an application for consideration for any of the following reasons:

(1) The application documentation required by this chapter was not included or the full permit fee was not paid.
(2) A previously issued Short-Term Rental permit was revoked within the past year and defects and/or violations have not been corrected and inspected by the Code Enforcement Officer.

B. Upon the Code Enforcement Officer's acceptance of the completed permit application, including all documents and information required by this chapter and the permit fee, the Code Enforcement Officer shall have 30 days to conduct a property inspection to certify and approve that all Short-Term Rental require-

Legal continued on next page

Legal Notices

* Legal cont. from previous page

ments have been met. C. Upon approval of the Short-Term Rental application by the Code Enforcement Officer, a Short-Term Rental permit will be issued for a period of one year.

§ 75-6. Permit compliance required.

Short-Term Rental permits are subject to continued compliance with the requirements of this chapter. A. If the Code Enforcement Officer has probable cause to believe that the homeowner is not in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, the Code Enforcement Officer may request permission from the Short-Term Rental permit holder to enter the premises and to conduct an inspection of the Short-Term Rental property for purposes of ensuring compliance with this section. If the permit holder refuses to permit the Code Enforcement Officer to inspect the property, the permit will be revoked. If an inspection authorized herein is conducted, the Code Enforcement Officer shall use the results of such inspection in determining whether to revoke the permit.

B. The Short-Term Rental permit holder shall ensure that current and accurate information is provided to the Code Enforcement Officer and that the Code Enforcement Officer is notified immediately of any change in the information displayed on the permit. If, based on such changes, the Code Enforcement Officer issues an amended Short-Term Rental permit, the owner(s) must immediately post the amended permit inside and near the front entrance of the Short-Term Rental.

§ 75-7. Application for renewal of permit.

Renewal permits will be granted for an additional one-year term if the following conditions are met:

A. Application for renewal of the Short-Term Rental permit shall be made 60 days prior to expiration of current permit and requires payment of renewal fee.

B. At the time of application for renewal, the owner or designated agent must present the previous permit for Short-Term Rental.

C. The property must undergo re-inspection performed by the Code Enforcement Officer.

D. Any violations, whether previously issued or observed during the reinspection, must be remedied prior to renewal of a

Legal Notices

permit for Short-Term Rental.

§ 75-8. Grounds for suspension or revocation of permit.

The Code Enforcement Officer may immediately suspend a Short-Term Rental permit based on any of the following grounds:

A. Applicant has falsified or failed to provide information in the application for a permit or the application for permit renewal.

B. Applicant failed to meet or comply with any of the requirements of this chapter.

C. Owner is in violation of any provision of the Code of the Town of Pleasant Valley or the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

D. Any violation of the Penal Code of the State of New York has occurred at, or related to the occupancy of, the Short-Term Rental.

E. Any conduct on the premises, which disturbs the health, safety, peace or comfort of the neighborhood or which otherwise creates a public nuisance.

F. Removal or disrepair of any safety devices, such as, but not limited to, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and egresses.

§ 75-9. Penalties for offenses.

A. If the Code Enforcement Officer either witnesses or receives a written complaint (unless the suspected violation is of life, health or safety matters, in which case the Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to act on an oral complaint) of an alleged violation of this chapter or of any Short-Term Rental permit issued pursuant to this chapter, the Code Enforcement Officer shall properly record such complaint and immediately investigate the report thereon. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines there is a violation of this Code or this chapter, the owners shall be notified in writing by certified or registered mail, or personal service, of said violations, and the Code Enforcement Officer may take any or all of the following actions:

(1) Attach conditions to the existing Short-Term Rental permit.

(2) Suspend the Short-Term Rental permit. The notice of suspension shall be provided to a property owner and a copy filed with the Town Clerk.

(3) Require corrective action that remedies the violation(s). The corrective action must be completed and approved within 30 days of notice from the Code Enforcement Officer or the owner

Legal Notices

(or permit holder) risks revocation of the Short-Term Rental permit.

(4) Issue a court appearance ticket for violation of law.

(5) Revoke the Short-Term Rental permit. Should a permit be revoked, all owners of the Short-Term Rental are prohibited from obtaining a Short-Term Rental permit on the property for three years after the date of revocation. The Code Enforcement Officer shall send a notice of revocation to property owner(s) and shall file a copy with the Town Clerk.

B. The Town may initiate an action in Supreme Court for injunctive relief whenever such injunctive relief may be necessary to prevent any further violation of this chapter or any threatened and imminent violation of this chapter.

C. The Town may initiate an action in Justice Court for violation of this chapter. Conviction of such violation shall be deemed a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000. Each week's continued violation shall constitute a separate additional violation. For subsequent violations, the fines shall be doubled.

§ 75-10. Presumption of use as Short-Term Rental property.

A. The presence of the following shall create a presumption that all or a part of the property is being used as a Short-Term Rental:

(1) All or a part of the property is offered for rent on a short-term rental website, including but not limited to Airbnb, HomeAway and VRBO™, for a rental period of less than 30 days; and/or

(2) All or a part of the property is offered for rent for a period of less than 30 days through any form of advertising.

B. The foregoing presumptions may be rebutted by evidence presented to the Code Enforcement Officer that the premises are not operated as a Short-Term Rental.

C. Permitted Short-Term Rentals shall make clear in their advertising that the Owner will be present on the property during the rental period. Advertising indicating that an entire dwelling unit is for rent without an owner on the property shall create a presumption that the accommodation is not functioning as a Short-Term Rental in conformance with this chapter.

§ 75-11. Appeals and hearings.

The property owner is entitled to appeal the Code Enforcement

Legal Notices

Officer's determination to the Zoning Board of Appeals when a property owner's application for a Short-Term Rental permit or a Short-Term Rental permit renewal is denied or a Short-Term Rental permit is revoked. A notice of appeal shall be filed with the Town Clerk and the Zoning Board of Appeals within 60 days of the Code Enforcement Officer's filing of the denial or revocation with the Town Clerk. A hearing shall be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals not more than 45 days after the filing of the notice of appeal.

Section 5 Changes to Chapter 98, Zoning

Chapter 98 of the Town Code, titled "Zoning," shall be amended as follows:

In Section 98-103, the definition of the following terms shall be replaced as follows:

DWELLING: A building designed or used exclusively as living quarters for one or more families on a long-term basis. A dwelling shall not include a motel, hotel, boardinghouse, or tourist accommodation. A residential unit rented for transient occupancy of less than 30 days shall not be considered a dwelling unless the rental activity is permitted as a Short-Term Rental pursuant to Chapter 75.

LODGING FACILITY: Any hotel, motel, inn, or other establishment providing sleeping accommodations for transient guests staying for periods of less than 30 days, other than a Bed-and-Breakfast as defined herein or a Short-Term Rental permitted pursuant to Chapter 75. A Lodging Facility may or may not include a dining room or restaurant. Rental of a residential unit for less than 30 days, if not permitted as a Short-Term Rental pursuant to Chapter 75 or other permitted use, shall be deemed a Lodging Facility.

Section 5 S u - persession

To the extent that any provision of this Chapter is inconsistent with Town Law or any other provision of New York State law, the provisions of this Chapter are expressly intended to and do hereby supersede any such inconsistent provision under the Town's municipal home rule powers.

Section 6 Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, article or part of this Local Law shall be adjudicated in any court of competent ju-

Legal Notices

isdiction to be invalid, such judgement shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the Clause, sentence, paragraph, section, article or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered, and such invalidity shall not be deemed to affect the remaining portions thereof.

Section 7 Effective Date

This Local Law shall be effective as provided by law, immediately upon filing and acceptance by the New York Secretary of State.

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 75 OF THE TOWN CODE TITLED "SHORT-TERM RENTALS"

P L E A S E TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Pleasant Valley will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York on April 7, 2025 at 7 o'clock, p.m., on Local Law G of the Year 2025, to create a new Chapter 75 of the town code entitled "Short-Term Rentals".

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.

Dated: Pleasant Valley, New York
March 5, 2025

Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. F OF THE YEAR 2025 TITLED: "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 86, TAXATION

TO PROVIDE A NEW ARTICLE VII ENTITLED 'EXEMPTION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOME'

Legal Notices

TO PROVIDE A NEW ARTICLE VII ENTITLED 'EXEMPTION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOME'

P L E A S E TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Pleasant Valley will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York on April 7, 2025 at 7:05 o'clock, p.m., on Local Law F of the Year 2025, to Amend Chapter 86, Taxation to provide a New Article VII entitled "Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income".

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.

Dated: Pleasant Valley, New York
March 5, 2025

Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

The Stanford Cemetery annual Plowholders and Trustee Meeting is scheduled for April 8 2025 at 6pm. Meeting location 158 Shelley Hill Road, Stanfordville NY

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. H OF THE YEAR 2025 TITLED: "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF PLEASANT VALLEY BY ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 72 ENTITLED 'RESIDENTIAL RENTALS'"

P L E A S E TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Pleasant Valley will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York on April 21, 2025 at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., on Local Law H of the Year 2025, to amend the Town Code of the

Legal Notices

Town of Pleasant Valley by Enacting a New Chapter 72 Entitled 'Residential Rentals'".

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.

Dated: Pleasant Valley, New York
March 17, 2025

Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

NOTICE TO BIDDERS- RFB-DCH-2025-05

NAME OF PROJECT: Pavement Striping & Special Markings (Epoxy & Waterborne) On Various County Highways in Various Municipalities, Dutchess County Project Description: This project involves installation of pavement markings, including edge lines, centerlines and special symbols on County Highways, shared use paths and County owned parking lots. Pavement markings include both waterborne and epoxy paint. 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 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 d p w c o n t r a c t s @ d u t c h e s s n y . g o v, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon re-

Legal continued on next page

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

**TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION NO.: 303/2025
RESOLUTION COMMENCING THE LOCAL LAW ADOPTION
PROCESS FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW G OF 2025, "A
LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 75 OF THE TOWN
CODE TITLED 'SHORT-TERM RENTALS' AND AMENDING
CHAPTER 98, 'ZONING'"**

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is necessary to establish a system of licensure and regulation for short-term rentals; and **WHEREAS**, after considering multiple approaches to such regulation, the Town Board has determined that it is appropriate to allow and regulate hosted short-term rentals throughout the community and to classify transient rentals that are not hosted as lodging facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby withdraws Proposed Local Law D of the Year 2024, "A Local Law creating a new Chapter 75 of the Town Code titled 'Short-Term Rentals'" and cancels the public hearing scheduled for March 17, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts Proposed Local Law G of the Year 2025, "A Local Law creating a new Chapter 75 of the Town Code titled 'Short-Term Rentals' and Amending Chapter 98, 'Zoning'" for the purposes of commencing the local law adoption process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the provisions of SEQRA the Town Board hereby determines that the adoption of Proposed Local Law G is a Type I action (see, 6 NYCRR 617.4[b][2]), and the Town Board accepts the attached SEQRA EAF Part 1 for the proposed action; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board determines that it will be the only agency with approval authority over the proposed action and therefore declares itself to be the Lead Agency for conduct of the environmental review under SEQRA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board directs the Town Clerk to forward Proposed Local Law G to the Dutchess County Planning Board for its review and advisory opinion pursuant to Section 239-m of the New York State General Municipal Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board directs the Town Clerk to forward Proposed Local Law D to the Town of Pleasant Valley Planning Board for its review and advisory opinion pursuant to Section 98-101 of the Pleasant Valley Town Code; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing on said Local Law will be held on April 7, 2025 at the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall, located at 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to give, publish and post notice of said public hearing, as required by law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to give notice to the New York State Department of Transportation Region 8 and all towns adjacent Pleasant Valley pursuant to Section 98-101 of the Pleasant Valley Town Code.

Dated: March 3, 2025

MOTION BY: Councilman Rifenburg

SECONDED BY: Councilwoman Chapman

ROLL CALL:

AYE

NAY

Councilwoman Chapman
Councilman Cookinham
Councilman Degan
Councilman Rifenburg
Supervisor Albrecht
Carried.

X
X
X
X
X

**TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY
LOCAL LAW NO. F OF THE YEAR 2025
A LOCAL LAW OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, DUTCHESS
COUNTY, NEW YORK, AMENDING CHAPTER 86, TAXATION TO
PROVIDE A NEW ARTICLE VII THEREOF ENTITLED: "EXEMPTION
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOME"**

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This Local Law shall be known, and may be cited as, "A Local Law of the Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York, Amending Chapter 86, Taxation to Provide a New Article VII Thereof Entitled: 'Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income'"

SECTION 2. Chapter 86, Taxation, of the Town of Pleasant Valley Code is hereby amended to provide a new Article VII, which shall read as follows:

§86-19. Purpose, Statutory Authority.

This article is enacted pursuant to the provisions of §459-c of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York to grant a partial exemption from Town taxation to certain resident property owners of the Town of Pleasant Valley with disabilities who have limited incomes.

§86-20 Definitions.

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

INCOME TAX YEAR

The twelve-month period for which the owner or owners filed a federal personal income tax return, or if no such return is filed, the calendar year.

PERSON WITH A DISABILITY

A. One who has a physical or mental impairment, not due to current use of alcohol or illegal drugs, which substantially limits such person's ability to engage in one or more major life activities, such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working, and who:

- (1) Is certified to receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits under the Federal Social Security Act; or
- (2) Is certified to receive Railroad Retirement Disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Retirement Act; or
- (3) Has received a certificate from the State Commission for the Blind stating that such person is legally blind; or
- (4) Is certified to receive a United States Postal Service disability pension; or
- (5) Is certified to receive a United States Department of Veterans Affairs disability pension pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §1521.

B. An award letter from the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board or a certificate from the State Commission or an award letter from the United States Postal Service, or an award letter from United

States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be submitted as proof of disability.

SIBLING

A brother or a sister, whether related through blood, whole blood or adoption.

§86-21 Exemption Granted; Amount; Limitations.

A. Real property situate within the Town of Pleasant Valley, owned by husband, wife or both, or by siblings, at least one of whom has a disability, or real property owned by one or more persons, some of whom qualify under Real Property Tax Law §459-c and the others of whom qualify under Real Property Tax Law §467, or real property owned by a cooperative apartment corporation in which a tenant-stockholder of such corporation resides, and which is represented by his share or shares of stock in such corporation as determined by its or their proportional relationship to the total outstanding stock of the corporation, including that owned by the corporation, which for purposes of this article shall be deemed vested in the tenant-stockholder, and whose income, as hereinafter defined, is limited by reason of such disability, shall be exempt from taxation for real estate taxes to be levied by the Town for the year 2025 and thereafter by the percentage of exemptions hereinafter specified for the annual income ranges listed below to the extent of 50% of the assessed valuation thereof. Such exemption shall be based upon and be computed after all other partial exemptions allowed by law have been subtracted from the total amount assessed:

Annual Income Ranges	Exemption Percentage
\$35,000 or less	50%
\$45,000-35,999	45%
\$36,000-36,999	40%
\$37,000-37,999	35%
\$38,000-38,899	30%
\$38,900-39,799	25%
\$39,800-40,699	20%
\$40,700-41,599	15%
\$41,600-42,499	10%
\$42,500-43,399	5%
\$43,400 or more	0%

B. No exemption shall be granted:

(1) If the income of the owner or the combined income of the owners of the property for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making application for exemption exceeds \$43,400. Where title is vested in either the husband or the wife, their combined income may not exceed such sum, except where the husband or wife, or ex-husband or ex-wife, is absent from the property due to divorce, legal separation or abandonment, then only the income of the spouse or ex-spouse residing on the property shall be considered and may not exceed such sum. Such income shall include social security and retirement benefits, interest, dividends, total gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset, which may be offset by a loss from the sale or exchange of a capital asset in the same income tax year, net rental income, salary or earnings, and net income from self-employment, but shall not include a return of capital, gifts or inheritances or monies earned through employment in the federal foster grandparent program. In computing net rental income and net income from self-employment, no depreciation deduction shall be allowed for the exhaustion, wear and tear of real or personal property held for the production of income.

(2) Unless the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided, however, that in the event that any portion of such property is not so used exclusively for residential purposes but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this article.

(3) Unless the real property is the legal residence of and is occupied in whole or in part by the disabled person, except where the disabled person is absent from the residence while receiving health-related care as an inpatient or a residential health care facility, as defined in §2801 of the Public Health Law, and provided that any income accruing to that person shall be considered income for the purposes of this article only to the extent that it exceeds the amount paid by such person or spouse, or sibling or such person for care in the facility.

A. No parcel may receive an exemption for the same municipal tax purpose pursuant to both this article and Article I of this chapter, Senior Citizens Partial Exemption, as amended, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §467.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the provisions of this article shall apply to real property held in trust solely for the benefit of a person or persons who would otherwise be eligible for a real property tax exemption, pursuant to this article, were such person or persons the owner or owners of such real property.

§86-22 Application for Exemption.

A. Application for such exemption must be made annually by the owner or all of the owners of the property on forms to be provided by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Tax Services through the Assessor's office. Such applications shall furnish the information and the forms are to be executed in the manner required or prescribed in such forms and shall be filed in the Assessor's office on or before taxable status date; provided, however, that proof of a permanent disability need be submitted only in the year exemption pursuant to this article is first sought or the disability is first determined to be permanent.

B. At least 60 days prior to the appropriate taxable status date, the Assessor shall mail to each person who was granted exemption pursuant to this article on the latest completed assessment roll an application form and a notice that such application must be filed on or before the taxable status date and be approved in order for the exemption to be granted. Failure to mail any such application form or notices or the failure of such person to receive any of the same shall not prevent the levy, collection and enforcement of the payment of the taxes on property owned by such person.


§86-23 When Effective; Applicability.

This article shall take effect upon filing in the Secretary of State's office and shall apply to assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after March 1, 2024.

Legal continued from previous page

quest, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by:** Caroline A. Miller, Contract Specialist Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Bids due on or before **11:00AM, Wednesday, April 23, 2025**, 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 Micro-soft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 869 888 626#** Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the 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 16, 2025 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 June 1, 2025; the Anticipated Substantial Completion Date is September 30, 2025. Final Completion Date is December 31, 2025.** Failure to meet these dates may result in **Liquidated Damages.** This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor **Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #2025003627. IMPORTANT: Starting December 30, 2024: NYS DOL Contractor and Sub-Contractor Registry Requirements. THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM DOES NOT APPLY TO THIS PROJECT.** The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

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TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY PROPOSED LOCAL LAW H OF THE YEAR 2025 A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY BY ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 72 ENTITLED "RESIDENTIAL RENTALS"

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Local Law is to promote the public health, safety and welfare by opting in to the New York State Good Cause Eviction Law (RPL Article 6-a), as permitted by Real Property Law § 213,

Legal Notices

and amending the Town Code of the Town of Pleasant Valley to enact a new Chapter 72 entitled "Residential Rentals," with Article I entitled "Prohibition on Eviction Without Good Cause," to implement the provisions of the New York State Good Cause Eviction Law in the Town of Pleasant Valley.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY AND SUPERSESSION

This law is adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law 10(1)(ii)(a)(12) which grants local governments the authority to enact local laws regarding the public health, safety and welfare, and pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Law Article 6-a. To the extent the provisions of this Lo-

Legal Notices

cal Law conflict State law, the Town Board hereby asserts its intention to supersede same pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT OF TOWN CODE

The Town Code of the Town of Pleasant Valley is hereby amended to add a new Chapter 72 entitled "Residential Rentals," which shall read as follows:

CHAPTER 72 Residential Rentals Article I: Prohibition on Eviction Without Good Cause § 162-1 Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to make the provisions of Article 6-a of the New York State Real Property Law regarding rental property and prohibiting certain evictions without good cause

Legal Notices

effective and binding law in the Town of Pleasant Valley.

§ 162-2 Opt-into New York State Real Property Law Article 6-a. As authorized by New York State Real Property Law Section 213, the Town of Pleasant Valley does hereby opt-in to the provisions of New York State Real Property Law Article 6-a.

§ 162-3 Prohibition of evictions without good cause.

A. All applicable provisions set forth in Article 6-a of the New York State Real Property Law, and any amendments thereto, are hereby adopted by the Town of Pleasant Valley and incorporated herein by reference.

B. Pursuant to § 213(2)(a) of Article 6-a of the New York State Real Property Law, for

Legal Notices

the purposes of this chapter, any unit within a housing accommodation shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter if such unit has a monthly rent above three hundred forty-five percent (345%) of fair market rent, as published by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and as shall be published for the County of Dutchess by the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal.

C. Pursuant to § 213(2)(b) of Article 6-a of the New York State Real Property Law, for the purposes of this chapter, a "small landlord" is defined as a landlord of no more than one (1) housing accommodation anywhere in the State of New York, provided

Legal Notices

that owner-occupied housing accommodations or otherwise exempt housing accommodations shall not be considered in calculating the number of housing accommodations owned by a landlord.

§ 162-4 Automatic Sunset of this Chapter.

Pursuant to § 7(b) of Chapter 56, Part HH, of the Laws of the State of New York of 2024, this chapter shall automatically expire and be repealed on June 15, 2034, unless Article 6-a of the New York State Real Property Law is extended or otherwise amended to remain in force and effect by the State of New York prior to such automatic repeal date.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sen-

Legal Notices

tence, paragraph, word, section or part of this local law shall be judged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, word, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which judgment shall have been rendered.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law will take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the Secretary of State in Albany.

Legal Notices

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TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION NO.: 301/2025 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. F OF THE YEAR 2025 TITLED: "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 86, TAXATION TO PROVIDE A NEW ARTICLE VII ENTITLED 'EXEMPTION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOME'"

WHEREAS, §459-c of the Real Property Tax Law provides authority to the Town to grant a partial exemption from Town taxation to certain property owners of the Town of Pleasant Valley with disabilities who have limited incomes; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney to the Town has drafted a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 86 to provide a new Article VII titled: "Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income"; and

WHEREAS, the said Local Law has been reviewed and approved by the Town Board and has been found to be acceptable in form and content; and

WHEREAS, the said action is a Type II action under SEQRA which does not require environmental review.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby schedules a public hearing on proposed Local Law No. F of the Year 2025 titled: "A Local Law Amending Chapter 86, Taxation to Provide a New Article VII entitled 'Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income'" for April 7, 2025 at 7:05 p.m. at the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish such notice of said public hearing as required by law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call on March 3, 2025 which resulted as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Rifenburgh

SECOND: Councilwoman Chapman

ROLL CALL:

	AYE	NAY
Supervisor Albrecht	X	
Councilman Rifenburgh	X	
Councilman Degan	X	
Councilwoman Chapman	X	
Councilman Cookinham	X	
Carried.		

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION NO.: 323/2025 RESOLUTION COMMENCING THE LOCAL LAW ADOPTION PROCESS FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW H OF 2025, "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY BY ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 72 ENTITLED 'RESIDENTIAL RENTALS'"

WHEREAS, the New York State Good Cause Eviction Law (RPL Article 6-a) authorized municipalities to opt in to certain regulations regarding eviction from residential rentals; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that it is in the best interest of the community to adopt such provisions prohibiting certain evictions without good cause in the Town of Pleasant Valley;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts Proposed Local Law H of the Year 2025, "A Local Law Amending the Town Code of the Town of Pleasant Valley by Enacting a New Chapter 72 Entitled 'Residential Rentals'" for the purposes of commencing the local law adoption process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the provisions of SEQRA the Town Board hereby determines that the adoption of Proposed Local Law H is an unlisted action, and the Town Board accepts the attached SEQRA EAF Part 1 for the proposed action; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board determines that it will be the only agency with approval authority over the proposed action and the refore declares itself to be the Lead Agency for conduct of the environmental review under SEQRA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing on said Local Law will be held on April 21, 2025 at the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall, located at 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to give, publish and post notice of said public hearing, as required by law.

Dated: March 17, 2025

MOTION BY: Councilman Rifenburgh
SECONDED BY: Councilman Degan

ROLL CALL:	AYE	*ABSENT	NAY
Councilwoman Chapman			
Councilman Cookinham	X		
Councilman Degan	X		
Councilman Rifenburgh	X		
Supervisor Albrecht	X		
Carried.			

Suguru solution

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

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

Answers to this week's diversions
(puzzles on page 16)

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107 Situations Wanted
120 Schools
121 Special Instruction
122 Musical Instruction
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141 Child Care
142 Day Care
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145 Adult Care
150 Announcements
151 Adoption
152 Novenas
154 Lost & Found
155 Personal 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
701 Free Pets
702 Lost & Found Pets
703 Pets for Adoption
710 Garage & Yard Sale
711 Tag Sale
712 Moving sale
713 Rummage Sale
714 Flea Market
715 Craft Corner
716 Barn Sale
717 Estate Sale
718 Auctions
719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted
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723 Consignments
724 Farmers Market
725 Collectibles
750 Events
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GOLDEN LIVING

April Fool's Day is this week, so we're taking a quick break from standard newsletter protocol to share with you a selection of the very best (or worst) "bad jokes" we've used in OFA's emailed newsletters over the years.

Staying healthy isn't just about diet and exercise, but also about finding moments of humor, joy and connectedness, often in unexpected places like...an Office for the Aging newsletter.

We delivered our first bad joke in February 2018; and we promise you, the quality of our jokes has remained consistently corny. Feel free to share these family-friendly jokes with friends and family and be ready for eye-rolling. Here goes!

A ship carrying brown paint collided with a ship carrying red paint. The crews are believed to be marooned.

Q: What do you call cheese by itself?
A: Provolone.

Q: What's a dentist's favorite musical instrument?
A: A tuba toothpaste.

I bought the world's worst thesaurus yesterday. It's terrible. Also, it's terrible.

I spilled spot remover on my dog and now he's gone.

A lady came up to me today and said she recognized me from her vegetarian club. I was confused, because I'd never met herbivore.

Koala bears aren't really bears, because they don't have the koalifications.

A weasel walks into a bar and surprises the bartender. "Wow," says the bartender, "I've never served a weasel before. So what'll it be?" "Pop," goes the weasel.

A tractor salesman was heartbroken over the way his girlfriend broke up with

him. She sent him a John Deere letter.

Q: How many apples grow on an apple tree?
A: All of them.

Accordion to a recent survey, inserting musical instruments into sentences tends to go unnoticed.

I went to a new Mary Poppins-themed restaurant the other night. Here's my review: Super cauliflower cheese, the lobster was atrocious.

I went to a general store. They wouldn't let me buy anything specific.

"I stand corrected," said the man in the orthopedic shoes.

Q: What breed of dog can do magic tricks?
A: A Labracadabrador.

The rotation of the earth really makes my day.

I can't believe somebody broke into my garage and stole the limbo stick. Seriously, how low can you go?

It takes a big man to admit when he's wrong. It takes an even bigger man to give a giraffe a haircut.

I wanna hang a map of the world in my house. Then I'm gonna put pins into all the locations that I've traveled to. But first, I'm gonna have to travel to the top two corners of the map so it won't fall down.

Start your day with something to laugh about

We can all find plenty of things to be grumpy about, but finding things to laugh about requires a different way of thinking. The payoff is tremendous, though. Human interactions are the best opportunity for laughter, but when you're by yourself, there are still plenty of options for laughter in books, movies, and simply by observing what's going on around you.

While each week's emailed issue of

our Aging News comes with a bad joke, what can we do to find chuckles the other six days of the week? We recommend trying out "joke of the day" websites, books and calendars.

Humor can be a powerful mental health support strategy. You can take us seriously on that.

YOUR Health Fair - Saturday, April 12th

The Dutchess County Department of Health will host its third annual free Y.O.U.R. (Young, Old, Urban, Rural) Health Dutchess County Health Fair on Saturday, April 12th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Falcon Hall at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie (50 Mascot Dr.).

The Office for the Aging will join dozens of other agencies and service providers at the health fair for resources and fun activities for all ages; fire and police safety; mental health and substance use services; a sensory friendly area; and indoor/outdoor exhibitors, raffles, giveaways and more.

Visit www.dutchessny.gov/healthfair for more information.

'EMPOWERED CAREGIVER SERIES' AT OFA THIS SPRING

Are you the caregiver of a Dutchess County resident living with dementia? The Dutchess County Office for the Aging is partnering with the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter to host the "Empowered Caregiver Series" in May and June at OFA headquarters, 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie.

Each session takes place on a Tuesday at 3:00pm. Seating is limited, so reservations are required. Call the Office for the Aging to save your seat at any session(s) you can attend, at 845-486-2555 during

business hours. We cannot accept reservation requests made via voice mail or email. Topics in the program include:

- May 6 - Building foundations of caregiving
- May 13 - Supporting independence
- May 20 - Communicating effectively
- May 27 - Responding to dementia-related behaviors
- June 3 - Exploring care and support services

This free program is open to caregivers of all ages and is supported in part by a grant from the New York State Department of Health.

AARP SHREDDER TRUCK / POUGHKEEPSIE (May 2)

Help protect yourself and your family from identity theft, deed theft, and other scams by joining AARP New York for a free paper shredding event!

On Friday, May 2, 2025, AARP New York will host its annual free paper shredding event with an on-site mobile shred truck in Poughkeepsie, NY from 10:00AM ET to 12:30PM ET. The event will be held at St John's Evangelical Lutheran, 55 Wilbur Blvd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Click here to register. Registration closes March 25th.

Paper only. Please remove paper clips and metal binder clips in advance. There is a three bag or three box limit per participant. Boxes will be emptied and returned to participants. Event ends at scheduled time or when the truck is full, whichever comes first.

Can't get to this event? Check with your local authorities and financial institutions to locate shredder truck events in your area. Many communities schedule shredder truck events in the spring.



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