



The Rhinebeck Crafts Festival is a celebration of all things handmade, which includes unique contemporary craft and art, gourmet specialty foods, tastings from Hudson Valley distilleries and wineries, craft demonstrations and family activities. *Courtesy photos*

Rhinebeck Crafts Festival set June 6-7 at Fairgrounds

Are you looking for a unique art and shopping experience in the Hudson Valley? Then don't miss one of the region's most anticipated event - The Rhinebeck Crafts Festival on June 6-7 at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.

Show hours are Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. General admission is \$12, seniors are \$10 (62+), children 6-16 are \$4 and children under 6 are free. Group rates are available and tour buses are welcome. Parking is free and the show is held indoors and outdoors, rain or shine. While we love our furry friends, no pets are allowed within the fairgrounds.

This experience is a celebration of all things handmade, which includes unique contemporary craft and art, gourmet specialty foods, tastings from Hudson Valley distilleries and wineries, craft demonstrations and family activities.

This is your opportunity to find thousands of unique handmade items from

165 makers you can't find anywhere else upstate.

America's best modern makers will be traveling from all over the country to exhibit and sell their one-of-a-kind creations. Shoppers can find items they can't find anywhere else upstate like original fashions, accessories, jewelry, home decor, furniture, photography and fine art; as well as functional and sculptural works in ceramics, glass, metal, wood, mixed media and more - all handmade and all uncommon!

continued on page 4

5th Clinton Community Day to honor 'Hometown Heroes'



Children ride in the float for the Clinton Alliance Church in last year's Clinton Community Day parade. This year's event begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 6, at the Creek Meeting House on Salt Point Turnpike. The parade, with Raymon Oberly as Grand Marshal, begins at 5 p.m. *Courtesy photo*

By Craig Marshall

The fifth annual Clinton Community Day since its revival in 2022 will be held at the Creek Meeting House site by host "Friends of Clinton" on Saturday, June 6, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The theme of this year's event is "Hometown Heroes" as Clinton will honor military veterans with a special "Wall of Remembrance."

The event will open with a blessing by

a local pastor, and a welcome by Rev. Luanne Panarotti of the Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church. Several special events for military veterans will include a medallion presentation by the Daughters of the American Revolution & Sons of the American Revolution at Elias Doty's grave (patriot of the American Revolution), an information booth by the Dutchess County Department of Veterans Affairs, and an invitation for all veterans

continued on page 2

Oberly to be honored as parade Grand Marshal

Former Town of Clinton Supervisor Raymon Oberly will be honored as Grand Marshal of this year's Clinton Community Day parade on Saturday, June 6.

The parade will be held near the Creek Meeting House on Salt Point Turnpike and will begin at 5 p.m.

Oberly served for 22 years as Clinton Town Supervisor, the second longest tenure in the town's history. During that time, he helped guide Clinton into the digital age by modernizing office systems, establishing financial record-keeping processes, enabling the construction of a new salt storage facility and con-

tributing to numerous zoning updates and property assessment projects.

He also served as the Zoning Enforcement Officer and continues to support the community as a member of the Town Recreation Committee.

He has been an active member of the West Clinton Fire Department for 51 years, serving as both a firefighter and EMT, further demonstrating his unwavering dedication to public safety. During his professional career, Oberly worked for 27 years as a Senior Engineer at IBM, bringing technical expertise and innovation to his field.



Raymon Oberly. *Courtesy photo*

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	8
Creative Living	9-18
Get Growing!	10
Hudson Valley Naturalist	11
Decoding Dutchess' Past	14
Love to Cook	15
Suguru	16
Crossword Puzzle	16
Sudoku	16
Obituaries	20
Public Notices	21
Classifieds	22-23

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

Brookmeade Community p 24
 Center for Physical Therapy p 3
 Northern Dutchess Symphony p 2
 Northwell Health pp 12-13
 Pleasant Valley Department Store p 2

Roosevelt Cinemas p 17
 Two of Us Productions p 11
 Williams Lumber p 6
 WKZE 98.1 p 4

INSIDE:
 Adams Fairacre Farms





The Beatles, Elvis and Beyond



Elvis tribute artist Gene DiNapoli joins the orchestra for an evening of music from the 1950s-1970s.

This exciting concert brings Elvis's music to life through powerful orchestral arrangements inspired by his performances with the London Symphony Orchestra and the unforgettable "Aloha from Hawaii" concert, featuring beloved classics including "Burning Love," "Welcome to My World," "Suspicious Minds," and "Can't Help Falling in Love."

The program also includes music from The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, Brazilian jazz, and more.

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Our concert season is made possible, in part, through funding from the County of Dutchess and Destination Dutchess (formerly Dutchess Tourism, Inc.) and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

5th Clinton Community Day to honor 'Hometown Heroes'

continued from cover



Bee Bee the Clown will delight children again this year at Clinton Community Day, set Saturday, June 6. Additional attractions for children include a bouncy house, Hudson Valley Reptiles, face painting, as well as a kids' bike-decorating contest. *Courtesy photo*

to walk together in the parade with a horse-drawn carriage noting their honored military service. All veterans are invited to connect in the dedicated Veterans R&R tent, which will be open throughout the entire day.

The parade will begin at 5 p.m. to include fire departments, community organizations, and local businesses with floats being encouraged to compete for "Best of Parade" honors. This year's parade Grand Marshal is former Town Supervisor Raymon Oberly.

Many community organizations will have booths to promote their programs. Ann Marie Healey, Friends of Clinton Event Coordinator, noted "We will again have the always popular children's games with Bee Bee the Clown, a bouncy house, Hudson Valley Reptiles, face painting, as well as a kids' bike decorating contest."

Live music will be provided by the Rhythm & Brews Band and the Red Barn Band throughout the day. Food trucks will bring their special tasty items. New this year will include an appearance by

Uncle Sam in celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country's founding in 1776. Kids of all ages having their picture taken with Uncle Sam will receive a free 250th commemorative coin.

The Clinton Historical Society will be opening their new annual historical exhibit, "History of Local Firefighting," displaying many vintage firefighting artifacts from local fire museums and private collections. The exhibit is honoring all Clinton volunteer firefighters and rescue squad members.

Friends of Clinton is proud to sponsor two "Hometown Heroes" banners for local veterans and provide two camp sponsorships for the Town of Clinton Recreation Camp this summer. Plus, in an exciting first, the organization is wrapping up the school year by awarding college scholarships to four high school seniors. The final blessing will be given by Pastor Jeff Locust, Clinton Evangelical Free Church.

The event is fully supported by donations from the community.

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Pleasant Valley Fire Company members donate time and efforts to PV Cemetery

Members of the Pleasant Valley Fire Company #1 took part in a special project on Saturday, May 23, at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

The volunteer work included mowing/weed-whacking, picking up trash, tree removal and fence/stone wall repair and straightening headstones.

Steve Albrecht has been providing volunteer assistance for approximately 30 years and said the headstones are treated with gentle care. The basic tools include a pick axe, shovel and crowbar.

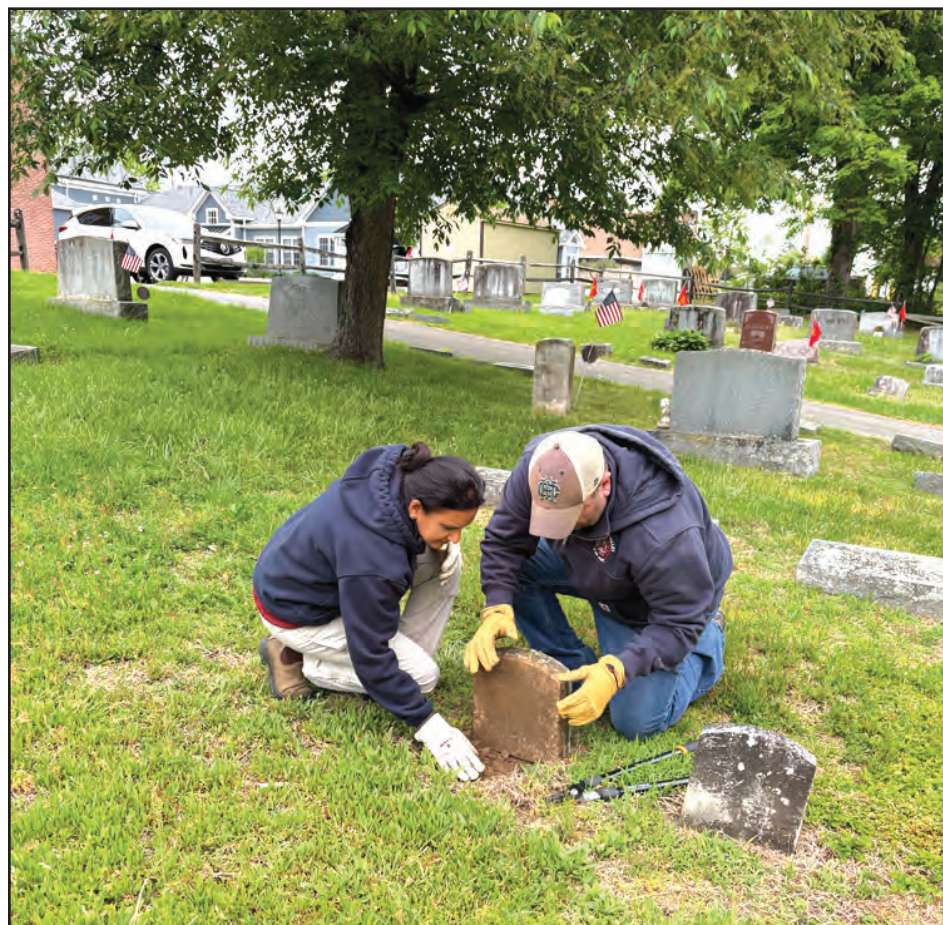
“These are priceless efforts by individuals in our community to help and keep our non-denominational cemetery looking beautiful,” said Pleasant Valley Cemetery Association member Caroline Dolfi. “With very limited funds, the trustees of the Association are always working toward the continuing

maintenance of our cemetery, one of the oldest in the area.”

A variety of organizations provide assistance throughout the year to assist the non-profit Pleasant Valley Cemetery Association. “We sincerely thank all the individuals and groups that have donated their time and effort to help,” said Dolfi. She added that individuals or groups could consider sending a tax-deductible contribution to PV Cemetery Association, 33 Pine Hill Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569. Any amount is appreciated.

The organization is working to schedule the next Cemetery Walks, which are conducted by local resident and historian Jim Donick.

Dolfi said the Cemetery Walks are “a great opportunity to get a taste of our local history and hear some great stories!”



Members of the Pleasant Valley Fire Company #1 took part in a volunteer project at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery on Saturday, May 23. *Courtesy photos*

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Hyde Park Farmers Market opens for season on June 6

The opening day of the Hyde Park Farmers Market is Saturday, June 6, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The Market is part of the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce and runs every Saturday from June through October and has become a beloved Hyde Park tradition rooted in community since 2003.

Each week, the market brings together the very best of the Hudson Valley — fresh local produce, meats, eggs, baked

goods, handmade goods, and so much more from the incredible farmers, makers, and small businesses that call this region home.

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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.

Vote for Didi Barrett- committed to our community priorities

To the editor:

Among the first people we met when we retired here from Colorado a dozen years ago was Didi Barrett, then completing her first term representing New York's 106th Assembly District.

From the start she has earned our admiration, respect, and affection. Perhaps the most dramatic demonstration of her effective leadership and passionate commitment came after the Pleasant Valley Library burned down on election day in 2018. Didi immediately dedicated herself to helping with the splendid restoration of this community treasure and supported the work with substantial state funding.

That was just one example of her vigorous commitment to community priorities – Libraries, Schools, Museums, The Arts, all key instruments of a civilized society.

We support Didi because she delivers real results for the Hudson Valley, protecting consumers, expanding green energy, and fighting utility rate hikes.

With so much uncertainty in our country right now, it's vitally important to elect a progressive with a strong record of real wins.

We need someone who can protect New Yorkers at the state level from federal overreach and keep our rights secure. Didi's work isn't about buzz-words and trendy talking points. She's always been focused on getting real things done. Her record proves it. As Chair of the Assembly's Energy Committee, she's passed some of our State's most consequential climate laws.

Didi knows how crucial it is to keep delivering for our communities...hence her recent hosting of inclusive public workshops on School Transportation and Homeowners' Utility Costs.

Didi delivers! Let's send her back to Albany!

Dorothy Denny and Gully Stanford
Pleasant Valley

Scenic Hudson: Some encouragement in a challenging NY State budget

To the editor:

In the new state budget, the Governor and Legislature have recognized that forward-thinking land use policy can advance both housing and conservation goals.

Scenic Hudson strongly believes that community and environmental sustainability must work hand in hand, and that the state environmental review process can support this.

The budget's refinements to the current process can guide new housing towards previously disturbed sites and facilitate connections with existing communities – limiting costly sprawl that threatens the state's irreplaceable farmland, habitat, and open space resources.

At the same time, the changes preserve critical local land use and environmental protection laws, reflecting the need to align development with the needs of individual communities.

We will continue to assess the impact of these changes moving forward and work to ensure that land use policies at all levels of government create a blueprint for both sustainability and livability.

While we are encouraged by those provisions of the budget – and the Governor and the Legislature worked to keep core programs and funding intact – there are also cracks in the armor that are distressing.

In an incredibly short period of time, Washington has threatened to single-handedly dismantle decades of dedicated investment in public health and the environment.

We have hoped that New York State would serve as a bulwark against these headwinds. Unfortunately, some of the decisions made in this year's state budget fall short of countering those federal actions.

We are disheartened to see the Governor and the Legislature's amendments to New York's trailblazing climate law, including a delayed timeline for emission reduction goals.

However, we are grateful for the strengthened commitment to historically disadvantaged communities that face disproportionate burdens from climate change, as well as a feasibility study for a cap-and-invest program to limit emissions.

We urge the Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, pending bills that would strengthen New York's commitment to renewable energy as the most affordable alternative to fossil fuels and their skyrocketing costs.

In New York, it is imperative that policymakers stand strong to ensure the state does not move backwards.

We will continue to work closely with New York's leaders and encourage them to prioritize ways to be environmentally and economically sustainable at the same time.

Ned Sullivan
Scenic Hudson President

Pete Lopez
Scenic Hudson Executive Director of Policy,
Advocacy & Science

Poughkeepsie Farm Project sponsors 24 families with fresh produce after ambitious campaign

What began as an ambitious campaign to feed 10 families through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) sponsored share program ended with 24 families in need receiving fresh produce from June through November. The Poughkeepsie Farm Project (PFP) announced the milestone following its participation in Hudson Valley Gives, a regional 24-hour day of giving.

By Wednesday afternoon, the farm's campaign had already surpassed \$4,000, a remarkable pace that rallied even more supporters. Within 24 hours, the commu-

nity had raised over \$9,000 which was enough to feed 14 families. The surge was capped by a generous anonymous donor who contacted the organization to bridge the remaining gap, covering the cost of every share for every family on the waitlist.

"I cried, Maddie (the CSA manager) cried... I suspect most of the team cried. I officially joined the team in March, and I am constantly blown away by the kindness and generous spirit of our community," said Gina McCann, Co-Executive Director of Development & Communications, Poughkeepsie Farm Project.

The Poughkeepsie Farm Project is a 12-acre nonprofit farm founded in 1999 whose mission centers on growing fresh, healthy food and making it accessible to all members of the community. Its food

share program enables low-income families to receive a full CSA subscription including weekly markets and pick-your-own seasonal vegetables and herbs at discounted or no cost, funded through grants and community donations. In 2025, the farm grew over 150,000 lbs of fresh food and donated over 44,000 lbs directly to the community or with its 14 distribution partners in the Hudson Valley like Dutchess Outreach and Fareground.

Hudson Valley Gives, organized annually by The Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley, is a regional day of giving designed to inspire philanthropic support for local nonprofits. This year's campaign demonstrated the deep commitment Hudson Valley residents have to food justice and community well-being.

To learn more about Poughkeepsie Farm Project, visit farmproject.org.

Rhinebeck Crafts Festival set June 6-7 at Fairgrounds

continued from cover

It's a fun day for the whole family. Visitors can taste small batch gourmet specialties, enjoy Hudson Valley distillery and winery tastings and watch craft demonstrations and can experience fun family activities like face painting and balloon-animal-making stilt walkers. They can also choose from a multitude of lunch options like crepes, Greek, Mexican and more, plus favorites like hamburgers, sausages and ice cream.

After visitors shop-til-they-drop they can stay to dine on award winning farm-to-table foods in Rhinebeck's delicious restaurants; visit the historic Hyde Park and Vanderbilt estates; and take in some fresh air and spectacular views on the Walkway Over the Hudson or a nature hike. It's a destination event not to miss! Visit dutchesstourism.com for more information.

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Gov. Hochul underlines economic growth, innovation, jobs with FY27 Budget

From state reports

Last week, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced steps to build a new future for New York by fueling innovation and creating good-paying jobs as part of her FY27 Budget.

"I have been laser focused on expanding opportunities for all New Yorkers and with this Budget we are cementing New York as the center for innovation," Hochul said. "We are strengthening New York's vibrant economy by investing in emerging technologies, revitalizing our communities, modernizing our agricultural industry and creating new jobs that will fuel growth for future generations."

New York is a leader in semiconductor manufacturing — one of the most cutting-edge and critical industries for the 21st-century economy. Semiconductors power everything from smartphones to satellites, and the sector is poised to generate revenues of \$1 trillion globally by the end of the decade. As New York builds a thriving domestic semiconductor ecosystem, supporting world-class research and development (R&D) for larger established firms, there is room for expansion in early stage semiconductor chip R&D by tapping into aspiring startups who may lack access to early-stage chip design tools.

To both attract semiconductor manufacturers that are looking to invest in states with a robust chip innovation pipeline and support startups looking to be competitive in the space, Hochul is investing \$25 million to establish a downstate-based Semiconductor Chip Design Center. This initiative will focus on leveraging downstate's deep knowledge economy ecosystem to complement the already-robust chip manufacturing infrastructure upstate. The Center will be a world-class chip design facility, serving as an incubator to startup firms, training chip designers, and connecting startups to the larger semiconductor sector throughout New York State. By fostering the earliest stages of development, New York will establish itself as a leader in this essential technology and support further growth of downstream manufacturing.

Modernizing Manufacturing and Reshoring Jobs - New York's manufacturing sector is essential to the State's economic vitality, contributing more than \$100 billion to the State's gross domestic product and employing approximately 400,000 New Yorkers.

Hochul is directing Empire State Development to launch the \$10 million Governor's Manufacturing Modernization Program to support the State's small and mid-size manufacturers. The program will establish a network of centers across the state focused on assisting small and mid-size manufacturers in adopting new technologies. These centers will provide technical assistance to small manufacturers as they incorporate AI into their operations, supply chain consultations to help businesses adapt to geopolitical and tariff impacts, and capital grants to modernize equipment or pivot to priority sectors, such as clean energy.

Building the Quantum Edge - Quantum technology provides everyone with the ability to solve some of the world's most complex challenges faster than ever before. Establishing New York's leadership in this emerging field also opens the door to significant economic growth. Globally, quantum technologies are projected to generate \$97 billion in revenue by 2035.

Access to quantum infrastructure, however, remains highly restricted: systems are prohibitively expensive, testing environments are limited, and most companies lack the technical capacity to build

or deploy quantum capabilities independently. Building on the momentum of the State's Quantum Research & Innovation Hub at SUNY Stony Brook, Hochul is investing \$60 million to establish up to four additional quantum hubs across New York that will serve as incubators and foster the development and commercialization of quantum technologies. These hubs will be regional anchors for quantum innovation, prioritizing commercialization of new inventions and real-world use cases. Each hub will host an incubator for quantum-focused startups, providing early-stage companies with critical resources, including mentorship and access to local quantum networks and quantum computing.

Bolstering Biotechnology - New York's biotechnology and life sciences industry is an engine of economic growth. Research and development in biotech not only advances the public good, measured in groundbreaking advancements to cure disease, but also generates new high-paying jobs while opening pathways for entrepreneurs and startups.

The Governor's \$65 million Bolstering Biotech Initiative will support all phases of the life science sector pipeline, from discovery to commercialization, cementing New York's position at the forefront of biotech innovation.

These investments will accelerate the commercialization of life-changing therapeutics — with a focus on neurodegenerative disease — and catalyze private investment in biotechnology research and development through the following programs:

- **Venture Capital Investments:** Leveraging public and private venture investment to support promising startups with the potential to mature into the next generation of industry leaders.

- **Fellowships and Workforce Development:** Seeding new skills-training programs designed to equip New Yorkers with the necessary skills to fill high-demand roles from production to c-suite in the biotech field, opening pathways to high-paying jobs for New Yorkers.

- **Commercialization Grant Program:** Creating a new, performance-based grant program modeled on the State's successful Biodefense Commercialization Program to support companies in bringing biotech innovations to market in targeted areas such as neurodegenerative diseases.

- **Statewide Clinical Trial Consortium:** Establishing a statewide clinical trial consortium to leverage the combined strengths of New York's research institutions to expand access to cutting-edge therapies and position the state as a premier destination for medical innovation

Digital Innovation, Governance, Integrity & Trust (DIGIT) - Building on New York's role as a national leader in AI regulation and online safety, Hochul is now creating a first-of-its kind Office of Digital Innovation, Governance, Integrity, and Trust (DIGIT). DIGIT will serve as a central, authoritative body for digital safety and technological governance, devising new approaches and ensuring consistent enforcement to keep New Yorkers safe online; while protecting New York's position as a state that values and invests in cutting edge innovation. The DIGIT Office will first focus on regulating large frontier AI developers, enabling greater transparency into their safety measures and establishing a reporting mechanism for developers to report critical safety incidents.

Enhancing Local Economic Development Project Tracking - Industrial development agencies and authorities

(IDAs) are crucial vehicles for advancing economic development, housing and other priorities statewide, reporting over \$900 million in net tax exemption in 2024 alone. However, monitoring those investments can be challenging due to inefficiencies in the State's legacy tracking system. Local authorities are also leaving money on the table by not appropriately monitoring sales tax exemptions.

This Budget includes \$6 million for overhauling the current system and replacing it with a well-developed, better-equipped analysis tool will enhance transparency, integrity, and efficiency, while also providing oversight data and allowing local authorities to better communicate project outcomes.

Downtown Revitalization -The State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative provides funds to revitalize and enhance downtown neighborhoods across the state, supporting infrastructure development, public transportation, job creation, and economic activity. New York Forward similarly provides funds for downtown revitalization, but targets resources to smaller and rural communities such as villages and hamlets. The FY27 Budget includes a renewed \$200 million investment in these programs to continue to help communities develop downtown neighborhoods into vibrant centers that offer a high quality of life and are magnets for business, job creation, and economic and housing diversity.

Revitalizing Commercial and Residential Properties - The Restore New York Communities Initiative (Restore NY) supports efforts to reduce blight, spur new investments and encourage community revitalization. The FY27 Budget includes \$50 million to provide financial assistance for projects involving the demolition, deconstruction, rehabilitation and/or reconstruction of vacant, abandoned, condemned and surplus properties.

Redeveloping Underutilized Land into Housing - The FY27 Budget includes legislation to facilitate housing development at Conklin Street in the Town of Babylon on Long Island, Farmingdale State College's campus, Stony Brook University's Southampton campus and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry's campus in Syracuse.

Investing in Equity Across the Cannabis Supply Chain - Across the cannabis supply, the Governor is supporting programs to build business opportunities that move beyond issuing licenses and start up supports and instead focus on long term sustainability, continuing our success as the most equitable cannabis market in the country. The Governor is committing \$25 million for the

Community Grants Reinvestment Fund, which seeks to address the harms of past drug policies by reinvesting adult-use cannabis tax revenue into communities that faced disproportionate enforcement of prior drug laws. The State will be increasing staffing resources to shut down the illicit market and enforce against trade practice violations, and providing \$10 million to businesses across the State to cover costs of implementing the seed to sale tracking program, which ensures products sold in New York are grown and manufactured here and meet the highest possible public health standards.

Supporting Dairy Farmers To Modernize the Industry - Since taking office, Hochul has presided over an unprecedented expansion of the dairy manufacturing sector in New York. The State has celebrated investments across the state, including a \$650 million fairlife production plant in Webster, a nearly \$30 million expansion of the Agri-Mark cheese manufacturing facility in Chateaugay, a new \$1.2 billion Chobani yogurt manufacturing facility in Rome, Wells Enterprises' \$425 million ice cream manufacturing facility in Dunkirk, and more, reinforcing New York's status as the leading milk producer in the Northeast. There are currently nearly 300 globally recognized dairy processing plants statewide.

Linking dairy farming and production with manufacturing and processing entities will create a virtuous economic cycle, benefiting farmers, dairy sector workers, and consumers alike. However, dairy farmers are facing a complex constellation of challenges, including tariffs on feed, aging infrastructure, rising operating costs, and ongoing supply chain challenges that make it harder for farms to plan and invest for the future.

Establishing New York as the Nation's Hard Cider Capital - New York is the country's leading hard cider producer, boasting more active cideries than any other state. Our cider industry has grown substantially over the last ten years, generating more than a billion dollars in total economic impact for New York, yet there still remains untapped agri-tourism potential to explore.

To support the industry and tap into the robust agri-tourism opportunity that cider presents, Hochul is working with the New York Cider Association to establish New York as the State of Cider, marketing the orchards, tasting rooms, and food experiences that could become anchor destinations for visitors across the country. These actions will strengthen rural economies, uplift the exceptional work of local businesses, and establish New York as the foremost destination for American hard cider.

FARMERS MARKETS

Arlington: Vassar College Alumnae Lawn, Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., through Oct. 29. arlingtonhasit.org/farmers-market

Beacon: 223 Main St. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Year-round, rain or shine. beaconfarmersmarket.org

Eastdale Village: 10 Otto Way, Poughkeepsie. Every first & third Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., through October. www.eastdalevillage.com/farmers-market

East Fishkill: 2670 Rte. 52, Hopewell Junction. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hyde Park: 4390 Rte. 9. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., through October. theydeparkfarmersmarket@gmail.com or (845) 337-9349

Millbrook: 3263 Franklin Ave. Parking

Lot. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., through Oct. 10. www.millbrookfarmersandmakersmarket.com

Millerton: 6 Dutchess Ave. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., through Nov. 28. www.neccmillerton.org/farmers-market

Pawling: 5 Charles Colman Blvd. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., June 13-Sept. 26. www.pawlingfarmersmarket.org

Rhinebeck: Municipal Parking Lot, 61 E. Market St. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., through Dec. 26. www.rhinebeckfarmersmarket.com

Todd Hill Outdoor Market: 4640 Taconic State Parkway North, Poughkeepsie. Fridays-Sundays, noon-4 p.m., through Nov. 1. (845) 849-0247 or tastenytoddhill.com/pages/outdoor-market



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Women in sports – it’s a great journey on the road to recognition

By Morgan E. Maier

Some individuals see a Morgan writing about sports and assume that Morgan is a man.

This has happened to me a few times, but it’s events like the Hudson Valley Renegades’ Women in Sports Panel that remind me why I continue. I was on a sideline elsewhere in high school sports while the Renegades honored women across the sports industry on May 26. What better way to celebrate, right?

I’ve been warned ad nauseum about the boys’ club of sports: Women working twice as hard for half the recognition. Their struggles to even grip the doorknob of rooms women have been locked out of for years.

I have never (yet) felt that I don’t belong in sports. Encouragement envelops me. And at every turn,

women are continuing to elevate the sports world - setting record-highs in spectatorship in college and bringing new standards for front offices and brand partnerships.

It hasn’t always been. But those finding their way to a seat at the table are the ones to thank for the belief that myself and other young women in sports have in our abilities.

The Low-A Yankees affiliate, the Tampa Tarpons, had the first full-time female manager in professional baseball. Rachel Balkovec took the helm in the Sunshine State, years after Kim Ng made history in Miami as the first female general manager in North American pro sports.

Women taking more leadership roles in sports shows me the new ceiling. Flag football continues taking a country by storm, as women’s professional baseball and fast-pitch softball

snatch the summer headlines.

Representation stretches as far as California, where one-time Renegade umpire Jen Pawol was on duty for the Yankees’ series against the Athletics. Before debuting in summer of 2025, Pawol was moving up the ranks in the minors, where her path crossed prospects with the same goal.

Over a year ago I was at my very first credentialed event — the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference basketball tournaments in Atlantic City. I’m still here because of the encouragement, confidence built with each connection and word that cements my place in sport. Thanks for being a part of the journey.



Sportswriter Morgan E. Maier is a “true professional” covering the Hudson Valley Renegades. Photo by Dave Janosz

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Greensboro PIT	33	18	.647	-	8-2	W3
Frederick BAL	31	17	.646	0.5	6-4	W2
Wilmington WSH	26	24	.520	6.5	5-5	L3
Hudson Valley NYY	23	27	.460	9.5	4-6	W1
Jersey Shore PHI	21	29	.420	11.5	4-6	L2
Brooklyn NYM	17	33	.340	15.5	6-4	W3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB	36	14	.720	-	8-2	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	30	21	.588	6.5	5-5	W2
Rome ATL	27	24	.529	9.5	4-6	L2
Hub City TEX	25	25	.500	11.0	3-7	L3
Greenville BOS	20	29	.408	15.5	5-5	W1
Asheville HOU	11	39	.220	25.0	2-8	L1



June			
06/09/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Petting Zoo Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/10/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Pride Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/11/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Soccer Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/12/26	vs. Jersey Shore	07:05 PM	Superhero & Villains Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/13/26	vs. Jersey Shore	05:05 PM	Seinfeld Night: A Game About Nothing WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/14/26	vs. Jersey Shore	02:05 PM	Copa de la Diversión™ presented by Cafe Con Leche: Puerto Rican Day Celebration WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
06/30/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Celebration of Internet Culture WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
July			
07/01/26 vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Celebration of Baseball WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets	
07/02/26 vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets	
07/03/26 vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	America 250 Celebration WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets	
Independence Day: Happy 250th Birthday, USA! presented by Central Hudson Gas & Electric WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets			
07/04/26 vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	Electric WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets	
07/05/26 vs. Wilmington	02:05 PM	Unicorn Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets	



Wild games and great comebacks as Renegades battle Hot Rods

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades sent the Bowling Green Hot Rods' recent streak to a screeching halt, while offering some offensive awakening to close a tough month of May. Though Bowling Green took four of six in Hudson Valley, the Renegades offense went yard in the final five games of the series, as some pitchers especially took the reins over the homestand. The Renegades now stand at 23-27 on the season.

Comeback Kids - Down, but never out and facing five first-inning Hot Rod runs on May 28, the Renegades battled back for a 9-7 win, snapping a four-game slide while breaking the Hot Rods' seven-game win streak. Two home runs by Core Jackson – more on him later – highlighted a season-high 16 hits for the Renegades. Allen Facundo bounced back from a forgettable first frame with five scoreless innings, as 8 of 9 Renegades batters notched a hit. Brandon Decker improved to 3-0 with the win in his second successful outing against the Hot Rods.

Core Worlds - But the Force was strong with Bowling Green on Star Wars Night, as the Hudson Valley Galaxy's visitors championed their own comeback on May 29. This battle saw three ties, three lead changes, and a five-run top of the seventh, as the Renegades bullpen surrendered a seven-run Hot Rod swing.

Jackson pounced on the first pitch of his sixth-inning at bat on May 29, doubling the Renegades' lead with a two-run double, and later scoring on a wild pitch to extend the 'Gades' lead to five. Bowling Green came speeding back in the eighth and ninth, as Hudson Valley pitching dragged. They'd fall 13-10 in nine innings, the first of two tough finishes to start the weekend.

On May 30, Emmanuel Tejada added a three-run shot to a Roderick Arias RBI single for a Hudson Valley four-spot in the first inning. Bowling Green gained

momentum each inning, chipping away at the lead until the bases loaded for Caleb Bodine. An inside-the-park grand slam to center got four of Bodine's six runs batted in on the night, as the Hot Rods sped away for the win. Josh Moylan's ninth inning solo lap inched the home team closer, but they were left in the dust for a 10-6 loss.

May Days - This month was more frightening for the Renegades than the "Halloween in May" promotion at Heritage Financial Park. The team began the month on a four game losing streak, and ended it with a 7-20 record. Along the way, a swept series, two shutout losses, and one shutout win marked the ups and downs of the first full month of baseball. But Hudson Valley ended May on top, a walkoff win to leave another forgettable homestand on a positive note. Hudson Valley averaged 4.66 runs per game in May. The team scored more runs against Bowling Green (36) than in any other series this month, and twice as many as they mustered while being swept by the Frederick Keys (18).

Go Go Genter - Eric Genter's burning hot bat caught fire once more, charring Bowling Green with a 3-4, 4 RBI night on May 29. After reaching base three times over the first two games, Genter scorched Bowling Green for a three-hit, 4 RBI night on May 29. In the series finale, Genter paired his game-tying solo shot in the ninth with a two-out walkoff walk, exhibiting exceptional plate patience to end May on a high. Jackson and Kyle West also left the park in the 4-3 Renegades win. Franyer Herrera went 5.2 innings for the win.

Up next for the Renegades is a series vs. the ferocious Frederick Keys in Maryland. As Hudson Valley looks to build off its most recent offensive surge, the Keys come off a series tie against the Jersey Shore BlueClaws after dropping three straight games in ShoreTown.



Above: Josh Moylan had a solo homer in the Renegades' 10-6 loss to the Bowling Green Hot Rods on May 30. Below: Core Jackson had two homeruns and a double for the Renegades on May 29, but the Hot Rods came back for a crazy 13-10 victory. Photos by Dave Janosz



RENEGADES EXTRA



Pitcher Allen Facundo bounced back from a forgettable first frame by tossing five scoreless innings against the Hot Rods on May 28 as the Renegades rebounded from the tough start to gain a 9-7 win. Photo by Dave Janosz

Nominations open now for Renegades Outstanding Student Athlete Awards

The Hudson Valley Renegades have announced today that nominations for the 2026 Outstanding Student-Athlete Award presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union are now open.

The Outstanding Student-Athlete Award recognizes student-athlete success in our local middle and high schools, Grades 7 through 12. This free, incentive-based program celebrates the accomplishments of student-athletes and recognizes the achievement of each student.

Each participating school is asked to nominate at least one (1) male and one (1) female student-athlete. The following criteria should be taken into consideration: GPA, academic and athletic achieve-

ments, exemplary citizenship and other extracurricular activities

Outstanding Student-Athlete Award nominations will be accepted from through June 19.

Each Outstanding Student-Athlete receives four (4) complimentary tickets to the game on July 2, a personalized Outstanding Student-Athlete Award and special in-game recognition honoring their achievements

For more information or questions regarding the program, please contact the Hudson Valley Renegades at info@hvrenegades.com or by phone at (845) 838-0094.

Passion Play returns to Poughkeepsie church June 18-20



A scene from The Poughkeepsie Passion Play, "The Promised One," a staged musical production set June 18-20 at Living Water Church in Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy photo*

The Poughkeepsie Passion Play, titled "The Promised One," will take the stage June 18-20 at Living Water Church, 260 Mill St., Poughkeepsie. The play encompasses the life of Christ, His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension to Heaven. The staged musical production will include more than 150 cast, crew, pit choir, and live instrumentalists from all over the Hudson Valley, as well as guest performers from Memphis, Tenn. Four shows will be offered.

The Passion Play has a rich heritage. Dr. James D. Whitmire for nearly four

decades produced and directed the Memphis Passion Play, Jacksonville (Florida) Passion Play, Uruguay Passion Play (South America), Mid-America Passion Play, and now the Poughkeepsie Passion Play. Visit www.poughkeepsiepassionplay.org for more information.

Tickets must be purchased online before the performance. Tiered pricing options are offered. Large group discounts are available, for groups of 11 and up. Please send an email to info@poughkeepsiepassionplay.org for group requests.

Volunteer firefighters host annual Dutchess Day event in Hudson



Members of the Dutchess County Volunteer Firefighter's Association gathered at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson to share a meal with members residing at the facility in Hudson. *Photo by Vinny Galvin*

The Dutchess County Volunteer Firefighter's Association hosted their annual Dutchess Day at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson on Sunday, May 17. This special day is dedicated to bringing together all firefighters from Dutchess County for a barbecue, fostering camaraderie and offering an opportunity to share a meal with the members residing at the home.

In addition to the barbecue, the association organized a parade for the residents, adding excitement and celebration to the day. A monetary donation was also presented to the home, with a total of \$7,600 contributed to the members' small change fund. This fund enables the residents to

enjoy various activities and road trips, enhancing their quality of life.

The Dutchess County Volunteer Firefighters extend their gratitude to the staff at the Firefighter's Home for their excellent work in making the day memorable. Special thanks are also given to the participating fire departments, including East Fishkill Fire District, Hughsonville Fire Department, New Hamburg Fire Department, J. H. Ketcham Hose Company, New Hackensack Fire Department, Pleasant Valley Fire Department, Pawling Fire Department, Millbrook Fire Department and The Red Knights.

Stay up-to-date ~ follow us on Facebook!
@SouthernDutchessNewsGroup

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Rev250 Summer Open House set June 6 at Elmendorph Inn

Historic Red Hook will host a Rev250 Summer Open House on Saturday, June 6, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Elmendorph Inn, 7562 N. Broadway, Red Hook (rain date June 7). Mark America's 250th anniversary and explore an exhibit about the Revolutionary War's impact on Dutchess County, enjoy ice cream on the lawn, play lawn games, try family art activities, and explore the inside of the historic tavern building. Learn more at www.historicredhook.org/rev250

Stanford Lions Club Flea Market set June 6
The Stanford Lions Club is sponsoring a Flea Market on Saturday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Route 82 on the Town Hall Lawn. Rain date: Sunday, June 7. Free admission and parking. For more information, call (845) 868-1988 or (845) 868-1387.

Flea Market on June 6 in Rhinebeck
Saturday, June 6, 9am-4pm. Flea Market. Rain date Sunday, June 7. Rhinebeck Masonic Lodge, 6472 Montgomery Street (Route 9), Rhinebeck.

Celebrate Stanford Pride on June 6
Celebrate Stanford Pride with music, food and community on Saturday, June 6, from 1 to 4 p.m., at Bangallworks, 97 Hunns Lake Road, Bangall. Visit stanfordnypride.com for more information.

Help A Horse Day set June 6 in Clinton Corners
13 Hands Equine Rescue will hold Help A Horse Day fundraiser on Saturday, June 6, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Meet the animals and enjoy a fun-filled day for the whole family, including live music, food trucks, demos, local artisans and vendors, NYS Trooper demos, kids activities and more. Admission is a \$20 donation; free for age 10 and younger. 13 Hands Equine Rescue is at 50 Tuscan Way, Clinton Corners. Visit www.13handsequine.org or email events@13handsequine.org to purchase tickets and for more information.

Film screening in Kingston on June 7
On Sunday, June 7, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston, there will be a screening of "Samidoun," a film about the strength and resilience of Palestinian women living under military occupation and patriarchy. Free admission and community reflection/discussion after the film. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis

Response mideastcrisis.org, African Roots Community Center, Columbia County for Palestine, JVP Hudson Valley, Mid Hudson Valley DSA, Muslims4Muslims International, New Paltz Quaker Meeting, Peace Education Center, Rally Middletown, Veterans For Peace, and Women In Black - New Paltz. Contact: mecr@mideastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Hyde Park Chamber's Breakfast set June 11
The next Hyde Park Chamber Breakfast is set Thursday, June 11, from 7:30 to 9 a.m., at the Eveready Diner, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. The speaker will be the Hyde Park Police Chief Bob Benson. The cost is \$25 per member, \$30 per non-member. For tickets and more information, visit www.hydeparkchamber.org.

Stanford Fire Company golf touney set June 12
The Stanford Fire Company will hold its 7th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday June 12, at James Baird State Park. There will be a Shotgun Start at 9 a.m. (registration begins at 8 a.m.). The outing includes 18 holes golf with cart, hole in one prize, prizes for top three teams, long drive men and women, closest to the pin, lunch/beer on course, raffle prizes, silent auction, dinner following tournament.

Strawberry Festival set June 13 in Stanfordville
Stanford Grange #808 will host its Annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 13, 2026, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville, at 5 p.m. Dinners will be Take Out only. The menu will include traditional picnic fare of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs (let us know which one you would like!), potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, and homemade strawberry shortcake for dessert made with hand-picked local strawberries and homemade ice cream and biscuits. Donation is \$17 per dinner. Drive to the back of the Grange Hall, pay for your dinner, get your food through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations (which are a must as we will sell out), call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

PV church to hold Indoor Yard Sale
There will be an Indoor Yard Sale at the First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street (Route 44), Pleasant Valley, on Saturday, June 13, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Household items, tools, sports items, children's toys. Enter through the side door

or elevator on the parking lot side of the building and go downstairs.

Stanford Fire Company to host Blood Drive June 17
The Stanford Fire Company will hold a Blood Drive on Wednesday, June 17, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. The Fire House is at 6096 Route 82, Stanfordville. For an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Walk-ins welcome.

'Hyde Park in Bloom' Garden Tour set June 20

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee will hold its bi-annual "Hyde Park in Bloom" Garden Tour, taking place on Saturday, June 20, rain or shine. This event invites residents and visitors to explore a stunning array of local gardens, each showcasing the unique creativity and dedication of community neighbors. From vibrant pollinator-friendly native plantings and a scenic meadow on a former farm, to tranquil oases nestled within residential neighborhoods, every garden reflects the passion and hard work of its proud owners.

The event kicks off with check-in from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Regina Coeli Church, Albany Post Road, Hyde Park. Self-guided garden tours will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online or by mailing payment to Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee, P.O. Box 125, Hyde Park, NY. For more information and ticket purchase options, visit www.hydeparkvec.org or send email to hpvecboard@gmail.com.

United Way's 'Pull the Tank' returns June 20
United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region will hold its Pull the Tank on Saturday, June 20, at Thomas Bull Memorial Park in Orange County, NY. Teams will go head-to-head to see who can pull a massive 120,000 lb. WWII Sherman Tank (flatbed included) across the finish line in the fastest time. Beyond the competition, the day is a community-wide tribute to the 32,000+ veterans living in our region. All proceeds will benefit Mission United, supporting local veterans and military families. Advance registration is required. Register as an individual or as part of a team. Secure your spot at www.uwdor.org/ptt26.

Rev250 July 4th celebration set in Stanford
Stanford will celebrate the 250th anniversary of America's independence with an event

organized by the Stanford Fire Company, in coordination with the Town of Stanford and Stanford Grange #808. The celebration will take place at the Stanford Recreation Center (40 Creamery Road). The Festivity Tent opens at 5 p.m. with a reading of the Declaration of Independence by Stanford Grange #808 Secretary Ryan Orton. A Chicken BBQ Dinner (includes half chicken, salads, and dessert) begins at 6 p.m. There will be fireworks at dusk (approximately 8-8:30 p.m.)

Prices for the BBQ Dinner are \$12 for adults, \$8 kids (ages 6-16) and free for children under 5.

Tickets must be purchased by Monday, June 22. A limited number of tickets will be available the day of for \$15.

Tickets available by calling (845) 868-7320 (Kathie) or (914) 456-9846 (Doreen) or by asking a Fire Company member you may know.

Please note: As this event is held on Town property, alcohol will not be permitted.

ONGOING

Parkinson's Support Group - at Starr Library Community Room, third Monday of the month, noon-1:30 p.m. The monthly Parkinson's Support Group is a gathering place for those with Parkinson's and their loved ones to create community and share information. The group will meet each month to offer a space for everyone to discuss their challenges and successes, share stories, connect with others who are navigating similar issues, and sift through medical information and the latest news about available treatments. Refreshments and resources provided. Register via the online calendar at www.starrlibrary.org. The library is at 68 West Market St., Rhinebeck.

PV Garden Club meets first Thursday of the month. Want to learn more about gardening while helping your neighbors? Join Pleasant Valley Community Gardens for its monthly meetings at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at the Pleasant Valley Library. No experience necessary. Pleasant Valley Community Gardens are volunteers learning as they grow vegetables and flowers in Helen Aldrich Park on Route 115. Everything we grow is to benefit local food pantries. See our Facebook page and web site at www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com.

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

Burlesque at Stissing Center promises a joyful 'adults night out' on June 6

By Kate Goldsmith

This Saturday at 7:30 p.m., The Stissing Center will present an adults-only evening of humor, glamour, comedy, striptease and unexpected theatrical delight with The RoundTop Burlesque Revue. The show, back for a second year, will feature burlesque stars including host The Great Wilfredo and performers Evil Hate Monkey, Gigi Bonbon, Gin Minsky, Kyla and Mr. Gorgeous.

"This event is a joyful celebration of performance, humor, and naughty surprise, and we can't wait to share a night that is as glamorous as it is delightfully offbeat," said Stissing Center Executive Director Patrick Trettenero.

The term "burlesque" is said to derive from the Italian *burlesco*, meaning "mockery" or "joke." Over the years it has transformed from parodies of upper-class entertainment to an everyman (or -woman) sort of variety show, closely related to vaudeville, but with emphasis on scantily clad performers.

Producer and performer Evil Hate Monkey said, "It is such an honor to be bringing 'lowbrow' entertainment back to such a 'highbrow' establishment! Some of New York City's finest are making the trek to grace the Stissing Center stage. Expect a blend of comedy, acrobatics, dance, sideshow and class, all served with a side of sass!"

At first blush, Evil Hate Monkey is not the sort of moniker one might associate with a burlesque act, but Monkey has a reasonable explanation.

"Early in my career, back in Baltimore, my former performance partner and I viewed our act as cartoon characters, a good vs. evil sort of thing," he said. "I think I've evolved a little bit since then."

He mused, "It's weird; you pick a name over 20 years ago, I felt like I had

to stick with it. I would call him more 'Mischievous Monkey' at this point. I definitely like being mischievous but lovable at the same time."

He added that at the end of some performances he's had "grandmas who are loving it and straight guys hugging me, too."

Monkey is an award-winning performer who has pioneered a niche in the international circus/cabaret scene. He attended circus school, headlined festivals all over the world, staged three full-length theater shows, produced national tours, and won several honors including the Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas Best Duo 2006, King of Boylesque 2010, Most Comedic 2010 and Most Innovative 2008.

Variety of performers lined up

Monkey noted that Saturday's show features some of his favorite performers and colleagues from New York City.

The Great Wilfredo – a "lovable goof," according to Monkey, will serve as master of ceremonies. "He's a British comedian," he said. "He's really funny and great with crowd work."

Gigi Bonbon – "the red head that knocks 'em dead," according to her website – "is doing a very comedic number which won her Miss Coney Island [in 2018]," said Monkey. "She's a beautiful dancer, she moves very elegantly, flow-y, mesmerizing to witness."

Gin Minsky, a.k.a. The Twenties Temptress, "encapsulates the era of flapper; it's her everyday look," said Monkey. "She also has been incorporating sideshow into her act, which I think is amazing. Sword-swallowing done in an elegant way."

Kyla, an aerialist, is "the woman gravity forgot," Monkey said. "Her body truly is her instrument, climbing and high-flying."

Mr. Gorgeous "is a towering, giant



RoundTop Burlesque returns to The Stissing Center in Pine Plains on Saturday, June 6. Performers in the Revue include, from left, Kyla, Gin Minsky and (below) Evil Hate Monkey. This is an adults-only show. Courtesy photos

man" who Monkey has known for years.

"We went to the same circus school in Vermont and we both came from Baltimore," he said. Like Monkey, Mr. Gorgeous is a former King of Boylesque (he won in 2014), which is a competition held in Las Vegas, comparable to what the Grammys, Oscars and Emmys are to their respective industries.

"He wears like six-inch heels and a giant costume; he's just a beautiful monstrosity," Monkey said. "He's tongue-in-cheek, a lot of 'wink wink.' The type who wins everybody over."

Burlesque or vaudeville: which came first?

Asked to define burlesque in 10 words or less, Monkey said it's "The art of taking one's clothes off in an artistic manner." That's 11 words; but anyway, there's more to it than that.

Was burlesque born out of vaudeville or vice versa? It's unclear, Monkey said, but burlesque would be in a vaudeville show.

"They evolved side by side. Modern burlesque shows are the descendants of both," he said. "In the early years, burlesque stripteasers were primarily women, but there were also some men and drag performers, as far back as 100 years ago. Now, burlesque welcomes a wide variety of people, from hobbyists to professionals. It's an interesting art form – you can make it whatever you want."

The RoundTop Burlesque Revue is a strictly adults-only show. Tickets are \$30-\$40 in advance, \$40-\$50 at the door, available at www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

The Stissing Center is at 2950 Church St. in Pine Plains.



2026 Old Songs Festival
 June 26, 27 & 28
 Altamont Fairgrounds, near Albany, NY
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The most boring place in the world

What Antarctica lacks in excitement it makes up for in penguins.

Penguins. Icebergs. Penguins. Penguins. Icebergs. A whale. Penguins.

One hundred twenty thousand tourists will visit Antarctica this year (October 2026 through March 2027, their summer).

Since Sue and I are rumored to be well traveled, friends ask if they should cross Antarctica off their bucket list. In my opinion, don't bother. If it's icebergs you want, take a cruise to Alaska's inside passage. For whales, Martha's Vineyard is much closer. Penguins? Puerto Madryn, Argentina – the Punta Tombo Natural Preserve is home to a million of them. Or the Bronx Zoo.

In the fall of 2007, a friend called to say the iconic cruise ship Marco Polo would be making its final voyage to Antarctica. She had taken the cruise the year before. It hadn't occurred to me to visit Antarctica, much less on a cruise (just about the only way to get there), but I figured "What the heck," and talked Sue into it.

The nine day voyage would leave from Ushuaia, on the southern tip of Argentina, on January 5, 2008. We decided to spend New Year's Eve in Buenos Aires, and then fly down. Since the Argentine Capital was experiencing a heat wave, it was hard to figure out what clothes we should pack. Sue said we needed some formal wear for the cruise, but of course I objected.

No sooner had we boarded the ship than we we found out we'd be joining the captain for dinner. Sue had to buy a dress in the ship's boutique, which luckily wasn't as much of a rip off as we'd expected. It was actually a nice gown which she's worn a few times since. As for me, all I had was a pair of jeans and a plaid shirt. I asked my "cabin boy" (I swear that's what they were called) Alvin for some help. He found me a navy blue blazer with a double row of brass buttons, and a string tie. When we greeted the captain,

he took one look at me and said, "I'm sorry. Did you lose your luggage?"

We set sail, churning through the Drake Passage, which was unusually calm on our first day. Quite a few of the 800 passengers got seasick, including Sue, but not too bad. There wasn't much to do on board, except attend lectures, play Scrabble, eat, and drink overpriced cocktails (the "Marco Polo"-- rum, curacao and pineapple juice).

Once we got in sight of Antarctica, which is just a big pile of ice, we were divided into groups of 20 people, and assigned a time slot to go ashore. An hour before the appointed time, our group assembled in a sort of locker room to change into red suits, boots, mittens and big wool hats. The red suits were to make you stand out so you couldn't get lost.

Then we clambered into a "zodiac," a big rubber motorboat that took us about a hundred yards from the ship to the rocky shore. Here we were guided on a well marked path to walk among the penguins. The ship's crew monitored our every move, to make sure we didn't touch anything, drop anything or pick anything up.

Penguins are strange birds. They didn't seem to notice us at all. Some were sitting on nests, others were waddling around, very penguin-like. After about an hour, we were herded back into the zodiacs, spent another hour getting out of our snowsuits, and then went back to eating, playing Scrabble, attending lectures and drinking cocktails. The weather wasn't bad for Antarctica, so once in a while we'd venture onto the deck to look for whales. If one was spotted, the ship would almost capsize as all 800 of us ran to that side.

Every day we'd get suited up and sent for a one hour penguin tour. There's supposed to be different breeds of penguin – "Chinstrap," "Adelie," "Gentoo" – but they all looked the same to me. I have to



A mother and baby penguin on Antarctica. Below: Sue enjoys the scenery. Photos by Mark Adams

admit that it got a little exciting when a giant skua bird robbed a baby penguin from a nest, chewed its head off and dropped it onto a group of tourists. We saw skua birds robbing nestlings, and the mother penguins seems to show no reaction. They certainly didn't act like the penguins in the movie "Happy Feet."

Sue had a tough time at the yoga class, holding the poses while the ship rocked from side to side. On the last night the waitstaff dressed up in grass skirts for the "Filipino Folkloric Show." Sue wrote in her journal: "Our waiter Noel, who is quite talented, was in the show. He was good, but the show [was not great]."

I'm being harsh. The cruise was well run by Orient Lines, everyone was friendly and helpful, the food was good,

the evening entertainment was professional, and the lectures were informative. We learned all there is to know about penguins. The trip was everything we expected. (we didn't expect much).

I can name hundreds of exotic places that are much more interesting to visit than Antarctica. For example, Istanbul, Easter Island, Tasmania, even New York City.

For that matter, how about Dutchess County? We might not have penguins, but we have turkeys, geese, robins, and crows. And it's right out the front door.

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



DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 18 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 99

By David Kalvitis

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Beneficial beverages aplenty; how about science-backed sap?

In the warmth of June, berries, stone fruit, zucchini, and corn are in the markets. They are a colorful contrast to root vegetables and citrus available in colder months. Seasons have flavors and hues.

In autumn, the taste and aroma of maple is paired with pumpkin, squash, or cinnamon in brews and yummys from the donut shop or deli. That's the same time of year that leaves change color so beautifully. But "leaf-peeping" season in the fall is opposite the equinox for maple sap harvesting. Maple "sugaring" occurs in late winter and early spring.

Timing the tap: Weather- and location-dependent

Late winter to early spring is the "sweet spot" for maple sap. Harvesting is dependent upon a specific freeze-thaw cycle. Without the pressure created by that series, you won't get much good-tasting sap. Once it gets too warm, chemical changes make the sap unpleasant and the diminished pressure limits the volume. Fall sap runs are possible, with the right temperature fluctuation, but the liquid is not as sweet, because the tree hasn't yet converted its stored starches into sugar. In the cold of winter, the xylem is frozen. The Goldilocks Zone for fresh maple sap is narrowed further by the variability of the latitude where sap may be collected and weather patterns during the year.

Syrup is processed from maple sap

The majority of collected sap is used to make 100% pure maple syrup for consumer sale or for industrial use as ingredients in other foods. A small amount is used to make maple sugar or other confections. All of those are made by concentrating sap through osmosis, boiling and evaporation, to varying degrees.

But, the unprocessed sap is the pure source material. It is naturally filtered by maple trees. It contains electrolytes and minerals like calcium and zinc. Maple sap water is a pure hydration alternative; it is a health-conscious, nutrient-rich "aquaceutical."

Functional water

Aquaceuticals are also called Functional Water. Enhancing ingredients such as vitamins, minerals, herbs, electrolytes or antioxidants are added to water and are promoted for providing health benefits beyond basic hydration. Marketing claims of such beverages include supporting immune health or providing stress relief or increased energy. Examples of functional water brands you may have seen in the store include Propel Electrolyte Water, LIFEWTR, and Glacéau smartwater.

Hudson Valley Maple Water

Unlike other enhanced beverages, sap from our area's maple trees is a direct expression of the valley's rare terroir. Like cheese from Roquefort-sur-Soulzon in France, tea from Darjeeling, India, or beef from Kobe, Japan, the sap from our maples is a complex, nutrient-dense fluid shaped by the region's specific chemistry.

While all plants pull water from their soil, ours, in particular, are rooted in juxtaposed eras. Here, maple trees absorb nutrients from deep billion-year-old Precambrian bedrock and limestone left by retreating glaciers. The rocks release minerals into the soil, which rise up and are absorbed by root systems and symbiotic fungal networks.

As the trees act as biological pumps, they filter the groundwater through their vascular systems, enriching it with potassium, magnesium, and manganese. The resultant sap is a complex, nutrient-dense fluid shaped by the region's specific chemistry. These provide all the bona fides it needs to be a "legacy liquid." And now, it's not just a seasonal treat.

Maple sap, conveniently, year-round

Reggie Akpata, co-founder of New England Fancy Food Co., is on a mission to encourage people to turn to maple sap for their drinking water and functional water. He notes that, "It is the only known functional beverage that comes from the trunk of a tree that's naturally sweet!" Mr. Akpata enumerates the benefits, including antioxidants, anti-inflammatories, and electrolytes. Those all provide protection against respiratory infections, muscle aches from exercise, and dehydration from summer sporting activities.

Says Akpata, "Look for our four new natural flavors: Oatmeal Spice, Vanilla, Concord Grape, and Mango. Our beverages, called SameDaySap, are so-named because they are frozen on the day of collection." You can find them at the TasteNY stores, including Todd Hill, close to home. They are also available at TasteNY Online, as well as from <https://nefancy.com/>.

Despite some challenging weather and pests, Mr. Akpata explains that there have been "bumper harvests these past five years." This season, they've partnered with another Hudson Valley farm to tap additional trees. Daily collections involved journeys along snow-covered carriage trails, with the air still crisp. I think it sounds reminiscent of long-ago traditions, with buckets clanging on a horse-drawn sled. Romantic, yes ... but also a lot of work ... which makes me thirsty! SameDaySap, anyone?

(Check this out for learning activities related to electrolytes and functional water: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Functional-Water-Electrolyte-Bundle-Human-Body-Systems-Science-Enrichment-16291782>)



Functional Waters found in a Dutchess County convenience store. Photo by Francine Wizner. Below: Same Day Sap label and nutrition information. Image courtesy of Reggie Akpata

Nutrition Facts	
12oz 1 serving per container	
Serving size 1 1/2 cup (350 ml)	
Amount per serving	
Calories	35
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	0%
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 15mg	1%
Total Carbohydrate 9g	9%
Total Sugars 9g	9%
Protein 0g	
Calcium 20mg	2%
Potassium 20mg	2%
Iron 1.25mg	7%
Copper 0.34mg	38%
Manganese 0.85mg	37%

*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Ingredients: 100% Maple Sap, 100% Natural Flavor

Use by 01202026 Batch = 01202601

Harvested and bottled by New England Fancy Food, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

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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June 14th 3pm
June 19th & 20th 7:30pm
June 21st 3pm

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Source: "Most awarded health system in the tristate." Claim based on U.S. News & World Report's 2025-26 Best Hospitals. Different hospitals within Northwell ranked for different specialties. USNWR HDI data and health system delineated by AHA Surveys 2018-2023. Tristate defined as NY, CT & NJ.

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**RAISE
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Claim based on U.S. News & World Report's 2025-26 Best Hospitals. Different hospitals within Northwell ranked for different specialties. USNWR HDI data and health system delineated by AHA Surveys 2018-2023. Tri-state defined as NY, CT & NJ.

The Underground Railroad we can 'see and touch'

By Bill Jeffway

The Underground Railroad (UGRR) refers to the support network that helped enslaved men, women, and children escape from the U.S. South to freedom before slavery was abolished nationally at the end of the Civil War in 1865. Some freedom seekers ultimately settled permanently in New York State after slavery was abolished there in 1827.

Poughkeepsie was, and remains, a strategically important location halfway between New York City and Albany along the 300-mile transportation corridor that is the Hudson River. The river saw the first successful steamboats in 1807. The Erie Canal's opening in 1825 transformed transportation through the Mohawk River corridor connecting Albany to the U.S. West. The railroad reached Poughkeepsie in 1850. Dutchess County also had one of the largest Quaker populations outside Philadelphia at a time when Quakers were among the nation's most outspoken abolitionists.

To avoid detection, the Underground Railroad was necessarily flexible and decentralized. Mixed-race "conductors" provided covert shelter, food, clothing, money, transportation, and guidance depending on local conditions. Routes included roads, forests, rivers, boats, and eventually railroads.

Two recent guided walking tours in Poughkeepsie helped bring this largely hidden history to life. Historian Lewis Mumford once described local history at its best as involving "the things that we can see and touch [which] awaken the imagination in a way rarely found if taken only from history books." Yet the Underground Railroad was intentionally concealed. How can we see and touch something designed to leave few traces? These tours offer an answer.

One tour examined the role of Poughkeepsie churches in the Underground Railroad. The second

explored activity along the riverfront, beginning at Waryas Park, moving through Upper Landing, across the Walkway Over the Hudson, and ending at the Sojourner Truth statue on the west side of the river.

The tours were sponsored by more than 26 organizations, including the Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS), Celebrating the African Spirit (CAS), and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie. They coincided with a visit by historian Anthony Michael Cohen, who is retracing a typical route that could have been taken by Harriet Tubman from Maryland to Canada. Traveling with Cohen is a 2,000-pound statue depicting Tubman helping her young niece escape enslavement. Tubman herself is credited with freeing at least 70 enslaved people through thirteen missions.

The church tour highlighted the important role Black churches played in anti-slavery efforts. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church, founded in New York City in 1796, became known as much for abolitionism as for religion. Poughkeepsie's AME Zion congregation formed in 1837, while a similar church established in Beacon in 1844. Both are active today.

Tour participants visited the former site of Poughkeepsie's AME Zion Church on Catherine Street, where the congregation worshiped from 1840 to 1910. Although the building no longer exists, visitors stood on a hot day at the shaded and cooling banks of the Fall Kill stream, creating a tangible connection to those who gathered there nearly two centuries ago.

In a 1950 publication preserved in DCHS collections, church historian Clarence T. Anderson described the Catherine Street church as a center of community life that hosted "important public meetings, revivals, festivals, fairs, concerts, baptisms, marriages, funerals,



Above left to right: An enormous statue of extraordinary Underground Railroad "conductor" Harriet Tubman is being transported along the 750-mile route of historian Anthony Cohen as he retraces a route from Maryland to Canada she might have taken. Celebrating the African Spirit founder Carmen McGill explains the stories of the local enslaved persons depicted on the "CAS" marker. Close up of a woman harvesting wheat, and a bricklayer. Soyal Smalls brings Sojourner Truth to life at the statue of Truth on the west side of the Walkway. *Photos by Bill Jeffway*

receptions to noted men and women of the race and all the events of human life." He added that the church "was freely used by the city's colored population."

The church also served as the assembly point for the welcoming parade that greeted Frederick Douglass when he arrived in Poughkeepsie in August 1858 to address 4,000 people at College Hill.

The tour also visited the current AME Zion Church on Smith Street, completed in 1910. The congregation's 20th-century history included advocacy for women's suffrage and navigating segregated military service during World Wars I and II. During the 1980s, local historian Walter Patrice secured the church's listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Another stop explored the role of the First Congregational Church in abolitionism. When Frederick Douglass spoke in Poughkeepsie in 1858, he criticized the reluctance of many American churches to take visible anti-slavery positions. Evidence of this hesitancy appears a generation earlier in the records of the Dutchess County Anti-Slavery Society from 1840, preserved at the New York Public Library. The Society requested that local churches conduct monthly prayers for enslaved people. The Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed, Baptist, and Methodist Churches declined. The exception was the Congregational Church.

The First Congregational Church was organized on September 10, 1837, specifically because members wanted a more outspoken abolitionist church. That same year, the congregation purchased the church building that still stands at the corner of Mill and Vassar Streets. In 1859 they moved to the larger brick church that still stands on Mill Street today. Samuel Ringgold Ward – the Black abolitionist, newspaper editor, labor leader, and Congregational minister – served the congregation.

The second tour focused on the Hudson River waterfront and Poughkeepsie's role as a transportation gateway. Participants began at CAS's memorial marker recognizing the lives and contributions of enslaved people in the region, then traveled through Upper Landing, across the Walkway, and concluded at the Sojourner Truth statue.

Along the way, the group learned of individuals likely connected to the Underground Railroad. Uriah Boston was a local barber whose financial success enabled him to meet the property requirements that were required of Black men only. In 1835, Poughkeepsie had 1,035

voters; only one was Black (Uriah Boston). Boston frequently wrote open letters in national newspapers.

Both Jeremiah Hamilton, known as the first Black millionaire, and the well-known Black abolitionist Benjamin Lattimore owned land at the Hudson River landing at Union Street. Lattimore's father operated a ferry between Poughkeepsie and Ulster County. Abraham Williams was a respected Hudson River boatman whose son, Clint Williams, later became a highly regarded boat captain.

David Arnold was a Quaker leader who, according to testimony at the time, used his home at 71 North Water Street to conceal freedom seekers. Samuel Thompson was an outspoken abolitionist whose testimony describing a freedom seeker sent to him by someone he did not know reflects the fragile and flexible nature of the Underground Railroad.

Further evidence of the unpredictable dimensions of those seeking freedom appeared in the Liberator newspaper in 1840. Thirty girls playing outside encountered a young Black boy traveling through Poughkeepsie. They provided him with provisions.

At the Harriet Tubman statue, performer Nicole "Su the Producer" McArthur vividly brought Tubman's words and experiences to life. Participants walked with "Tubman" in a way that communicated the uncertainty, danger, and physical hardship of traveling hundreds of miles toward freedom.

At the Sojourner Truth statue created by Hudson Valley artist Vinnie Bagwell, performer Soyal Smalls brought Truth's words and spirit alive for the audience. Smalls first explained the difference between the words attributed to Truth, and her actual words. The portrayal captured both Truth's gentleness and extraordinary strength.

These walks demonstrate how local history can transform abstract historical concepts into lived human experience by literally walking in the shoes of the named people we want to come to know. By pausing to listen and reflect, participants gained not only historical knowledge, but also inspiration relevant to anyone on their own journey to a destination not easily reached.

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.



Above top left to right: The AME Zion Church that stands on Smith Street at Cottage Street was built in 1910. The group stopped to reflect at the earlier Church (1840 to 1910) site at the back of an empty lot on the banks for the rushing Fall Kill. Bottom left to right: An image of the Orthodox Quaker meeting House built in 1827 in the back of a lot at Mill Street. Pending further research and confirmation, the likely former meeting house today used as a residence. *Photos by Bill Jeffway*

what's happening?
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A quiche for all seasons

Whatever the weather, this recipe can meet the moment.

Back to the kitchen and back to the dilemma presented by the between-seasons weather. Days can be hot and humid or cool, rainy or breezy. One day the air conditioner is on, yet you still can't bear turning on the oven; and the next you're craving a warm pasta dish as you don a sweatshirt. Whenever this happens, and it seems to quite often in our beloved Hudson Valley, my appetite gets confused. Do I want a light, fresh salad or should I make a chicken pot pie?

Luckily, I have quite a few recipes for just such occasions. One I often go to is a savory pie. What makes it a perfect bridge between seasons is its lightness, thanks to the lack of a crust and the main ingredient: zucchini. I first came up with this in the early 2000s but all these years later it's worth revisiting, especially because I've altered my original recipe, making it even better.

If I remember rightly, what inspired its creation was an excess of zucchini from my neighbors' garden at summer's end, a common dilemma for anyone who grows their own. I had been gifted with so much that I was running out of ideas, and so this pie was born. The original was essentially a light, airy crustless quiche loaded with shredded zucchini, fresh herbs and cheese. As it turned out, it became a favorite and one that I make once a month or so. I always double it to make two, because it goes fast. It's light enough to have a few large slices and hearty enough to satisfy a big appetite, especially with the addition of a few more substantial ingredients (welcome to the party, bacon and mushrooms), which is the version you're getting this go-round.

While it's pretty simple to make, prepping the squash might be viewed by some as a deterrent. You have to shred it on a box grater, which isn't so bad, but because of zucchini's high water content, you need to squeeze the living daylight out of it to avoid a soggy pie. So, here's what I recommend: either adjust your attitude and take it on with gusto or make this when you need to let off a little steam. Believe me, it helps and can be very therapeutic. You can squeeze it by the handful over a bowl or the sink, but this takes a while, and you'll likely waste some. The preferred method is to wrap a few cups of the shredded squash in a tea towel then twist it to wring out extra moisture. It works really well. Just know it may stain your towel green, but it should come out in the wash. If not, you now have a special towel just for that purpose.

NO-CRUST ZUCCHINI PIE

Being a summer squash, zucchini has a thin skin, which means no peeling, just a gentle wash. As stated, you will need to shred it for this recipe, either in a food processor or with a grater (I used a large-holed cheese grater) and then squeeze out any additional moisture, which is a little messy but necessary. Squeeze by small handfuls over a bowl or wring in cheesecloth or a tea towel to remove excess water over the sink before adding to your batter. This is essential for a more flavorful, lighter, non-soggy pie. Add any fresh herbs you like: thyme, oregano, chives, parsley all work well. Want to keep it meatless?

Don't like mushrooms? No problem! Omit the meat and add more vegetables, like roasted red peppers, steamed

broccoli or sauteed arugula. As for the 'no-crust' part, the eggs and cheese firm up enough when baked to hold it together while keeping it lighter in both texture and flavor – no dough needed!

INGREDIENTS:

About 2 cups shredded zucchini (about 2 medium-sized), most moisture squeezed out

1 tablespoon fresh snipped chives, chopped (if you have them)

1-2 tablespoons fresh oregano, chopped (or 1 teaspoon dried)

1 cup shredded mozzarella (whole milk or part skim)

1 cup shredded Swiss or Gruyere cheese

1 cup chopped cooked bacon or diced ham

2 shallots or 1 small onion, chopped

2-3 cups sliced mushrooms (reserve a few slices for the top)

2 cloves garlic, minced

½ cup flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

2/3 cup milk (whole or low fat)

1 tablespoon olive oil (plus some for the skillet)

3 eggs

salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

freshly grated Parmesan cheese for the top (about 2 tablespoons)

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly grease a pie dish and set aside. In a large bowl combine zucchini, herbs, shredded mozzarella and Swiss and meat, stirring to mix well.

Heat some olive oil in a large skillet. Add shallots or onion and sauté over medium heat until translucent, about 5 minutes. Add mushrooms and garlic, stir and cook 6-10 minutes more. Remove from heat and set aside to cool. (If added to the egg mixture while hot it will curdle the eggs and result in a grainy texture).

In a separate large bowl, sift or whisk together flour and baking powder. Add milk, oil, eggs, salt and pepper and whisk well to combine. Pour into bowl with zucchini mixture and mix well. Stir in the onion-mushroom mixture. Pour into prepared pie dish. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese evenly over the top. When using mushrooms, I like to reserve a few pretty slices to arrange on top.

Bake until knife inserted in center comes out clean, 30-45 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Serve it on its own or with a side salad, for brunch, lunch or dinner. It's even good cold. You know, in case the day after you make it the weather is sweltering again.

This pie is perfect as the garden season ramps up, but since zucchini is available year-round, hang on to this recipe for whenever the weather has you wondering what to make for dinner. It's easy to make it lighter or heartier for whatever your appetite – or the Hudson Valley climate – dictates. Enjoy!

Vicki Frank Day's background includes over two decades in various aspects of the food service industry. In addition, she has over 27 years' experience in marketing, graphic design, copy writing, food styling and research. She believes cooking should be a fun adventure, that food should be an experience and that every day can be a special occasion. Email her at vickiloves2cook@gmail.com.



No-Crust Zucchini Pie. Photo by Vicki Frank Day

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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: MYTHOLOGICAL CREATURES

ACROSS

- Throat-clearing sound
- Like a fiddle?
- Chicago baseballer
- Cyberattack target
- Opposite of pizzicato, in music
- Bullying, e.g.
- Pharmacy ware
- Wedding cake layer
- *Mythological part woman, part bird
- *Part man, part bull
- Means justifiers
- Seize the throne
- Found at the pump
- *Part man, part fish
- Julianne Moore or Lucille Ball, e.g.
- Schiller's address to joy
- Popular pet rodent
- Bono's bandmate, with The
- Chunk of iceberg
- *Pointy-eared humanoid
- Knight's breastplate
- Independent chieftan
- Pay, in casino (2 words)
- Bugling ungulate
- Like sun
- Mother-of-pearl, pl.
- Public health org.
- Manila hemp
- Vegan's protein choice
- *Three-headed dog
- African antelope, pl.
- Not written
- Arch above eye
- Actor's rep
- Sommelier's domain
- *Large and hideous humanoid
- *Giant bird of prey
- Bulb type
- *Abominable humanoid

DOWN

- Tally
- Stay out of its way!
- Small ladies' handbag
- Extra large wine bottle
- Robin Hood's companion Tuck
- Frost over (2 words)
- Millimeter of mercury
- Little Miss Muffet's morsel
- Mail carrier, acr.
- Beyonc , a.k.a. Queen _____
- Adjust
- Beforehand
- *Wailing spirit
- "Killers of the Flower Moon" Oklahoma location
- Hair-raising product
- Lawn trimmer
- Organ swelling
- Made over
- Abundant
- Landscaper's tool
- Like an athlete
- Office stations
- Landlord's due
- Acronym-named sandwich
- *Part lion, part eagle
- Lickety-split
- Nurses' org.
- Incapable
- Sunbaked, archaically speaking
- Demijohn
- Eagle's home
- Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop
- Not for here (2 words)
- Barrel-counting org.
- Type of hood
- Restless desire
- Database command
- Roofing sealant
- Yellow river tributary

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 20

Cocoon Theatre offers new dance works at June 7 Soiree

Cocoon Theatre launches its 2026 Soiree Series on Sunday, June 7, from 4 to 6 p.m., at the Church-Hill Barn Theater, 283 Lapla Road, Kingston. "Whose in the Barn" features three new dance works by choreographers Jean Churchill and Marguerite San Millan intermixed with live original poetry readings by local artists. The performance will be followed by open discussion and potluck; artists and audience are invited to bring a dish/dessert ready to serve and share.

The barn is neither heated nor cooled, so all are asked to dress for the weather, with a \$20 suggested donation, by cash only (no WiFi available). Parking is limited; carpooling encouraged.

Cocoon is known for presenting an eclectic mix of performers at its Soirees, which run the first Sunday of each month from June through October. Visit www.cocoontheatre.org or call (845) 758-0695 for more information.

Poetry in words, poetry in motion

Two dances will appear as premieres at "Whose in the Barn."

"Is That All There Is," a solo dance choreographed and performed by Cocoon's Artistic Director Marguerite San Millan, is set to Leiber and Stoller's

haunting song by the same name, performed by Peggy Lee in a live performance recording. "The dance is clown-like yet still rather haunting in nature, dealing with themes of loss," says San Millan.

"Toy Boat," set to music of the same name composed and sung by Yoko Ono, is also a solo choreographed and performed by San Millan. She says, "It is sad and strange and deals with themes of struggle."

Body Plans, is a duet choreographed by Jean Churchill, Bard College Professor of Dance Emerita. It is performed by San Millan and Bard graduating senior Keary Hetherington. "It is a stunning dance which focuses on concepts and models used in evolutionary biology as two life forms rise and fall," according to San Millan. The dance is set to the Giuseppe Verdi's renowned work "Va Pensiero" from "Nabucco."

Intermixed between the dances, live poetry will be read by Jean Churchill and Penelope Hyde Levine. Both are published poets, and artists themselves in many fields.

Upcoming Soirees

July 5: The Vermont-based clown duo known as PePe (Peter Smyth and Peggy Florin) will perform their unique blend of



As part of Cocoon Theatre's June 7 Soiree in Kingston, Cocoon's Artistic Director Marguerite San Millan and Bard graduating senior Keary Hetherington will perform "Body Plans," a duet choreographed by Jean Churchill, Bard College Professor of Dance Emerita. Photos by Chris Kayden

dance/clown performance. PePe returns as popular Soiree artists.

Aug. 2: Cocoon will present "Title and Deed," a critically acclaimed one-man play written by Will Eno and performed by Cocoon veteran Doug Woolley, exploring themes of exile, identity, and the absurdity of life.

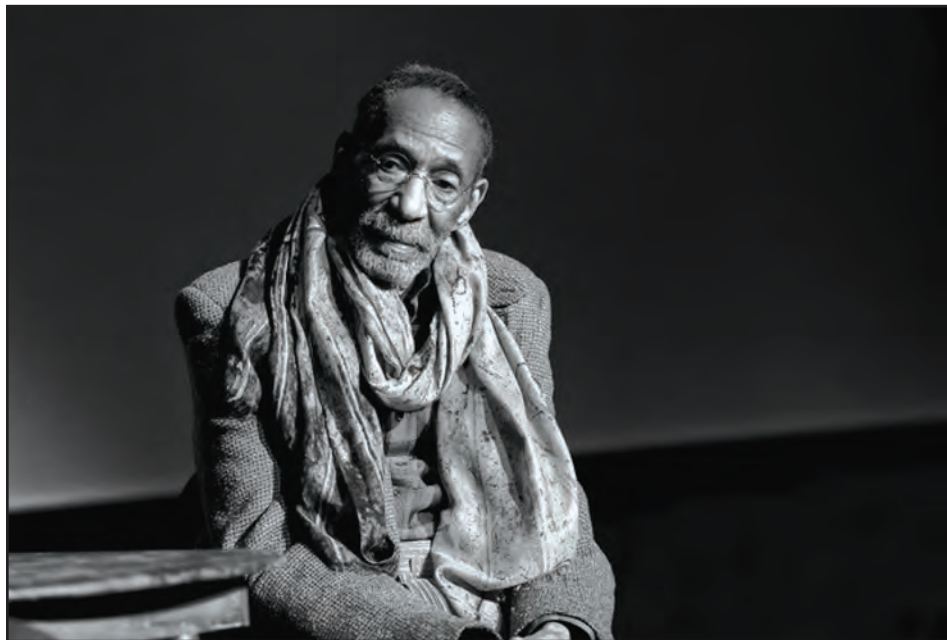
Sept. 6: Local musician SetField will present an afternoon of original sound and visual textures, as well as readings by Nathan Aronson from his new work.

Oct. 4: Local author, teacher, musician, Miranda Haydn, will perform a staged reading of selections from her original play entitled "Celeste's Journey."

EXHIBITIONS

Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through June 12.** Dutchess Handmade Spring Pop-Up Shop, seasonal marketplace showcases the work of more than 60 talented artists and makers from across the Hudson Valley, including glass, jewelry, greeting cards, textiles, ceramics, woodwork, prints, paintings, home décor, and more. www.artsmidhudson.org or (845) 454-3222

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through June:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be photographer Joel Mason. At 12 Vassar St., Julian Allen will present his paintings in the Reception Gallery and Monika Kalra will display her multi-media work in the Hancock Gallery. The Victorian Gallery is open Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Hancock Gallery and Reception Gallery are open Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. but visitors should stop by 9 Vassar St. first or call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. The 12 Vassar Street Galleries are also open during events at the VBI Theatre. More info about the artists at cunneen-hackett.org. Pictured: Photo by Onaje Benjamin



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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through July 7:** Special exhibition, "Signature Moments: Letters from the Famous, the Infamous, and Everyday Americans," Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit. www.fdrlibrary.org

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through June 28:** "UN-REAL," works by Fern Apfel, Monica Link, Kevin Mosca, Laura Von Rosk & Daniel Walworth. Upstate Arts Weekend Reception: Sat., June 27, 5-7 p.m. www.millbrooklibrary.org

Millbrook Vineyards & Winery, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook. **Through Nov. 15:** Arts Mid-Hudson and Millbrook Vineyards & Winery Present 2026 Art in the Loft, a juried exhibition and sale of fine art featuring 16 AMH member artists. Wine Label Competition:

Visitors are invited to vote for their favorite piece to be featured on an exclusive wine label. www.artsmidhudson.org/art-in-the-loft

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

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through June 28:** "A Moment in Time: Inflection Points," exhibition centered on the idea of something that happened at a particular and specific time. The artists in the exhibit were encouraged to consider before and after periods in time when important change occurred, and to clarify them in visual terms. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through June 28:** "Version/Vision," a national group exhibition celebrating LGBTQ artists. **Artists' Talk:** Sun., June 14, 1-3 p.m. www.womenswork.art

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A & E CALENDAR

June 4: Premiere Screening, "Language in Landscape: The Art of Frederic Church," Hudson Hall, 327 Warren St., Hudson. NY Celebrate the 200th birthday of artist Frederic Church with the premiere screening of WMHT Public Media's new documentary, 6-7:30 p.m. Film begins at 6:30 p.m. www.olana.org

June 5: First Friday Poughkeepsie. Downtown Poughkeepsie comes alive with food, drink, music, art, and culture on the first Friday of each month from June to October, 6-9 p.m.. Sponsored by The Downtown Poughkeepsie Business Improvement District. For complete details, visit dtpk.org/firstfriday.

June 5: Willy Porter, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. For more than 30 years, singer, songwriter and master guitarist Willy Porter's songs have traced the fragile, funny, luminous edges of being human, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20. www.thestissingcenter.org

June 5-28: "Legally Blonde The Musical," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents the musical comedy with book by Heather Hach, and music & lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin, based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture. This fun, award-winning musical follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Directed by Emily Woolever with musical direction by Matthew Woolever and choreography by Jordan Stroy. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

June 6: Bird Walk with the Alan Devoe Bird Club, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave., Germantown. Bring your binoculars and field guides for a spring stroll around the historic site, 8 a.m. Meet in the parking lot. Comfortable shoes are suggested. For all ages. Free program, but registration required at www.friendsofclermont.org

June 6: Child & Family Program, "Raiders of the Lost Greenhouse Complex," Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Following maps, written descriptions, and photographic documents, children and their families will discover the remnants of Staatsburgh's once-thriving nursery complex on a 40-minute guided walk, 2:30 p.m. Following the walk, child participants will make a miniature garden in a Gilded Age glass to take home. Appropriate for ages 5 & up. Dress appropriately for an outdoor walk. In the event of heavy rain, this program will be held on June 7 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets required: <https://FOMAS.eventbrite.com>. Cost: \$8 materials plus Eventbrite fee/general admission. Accompanying adults are free.

June 6: "Gardens and Grounds: The Evolving Landscape of Clermont" Walking Tour & Talk, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave., Germantown. Guided gardens walking tour and talk that brings centuries of history to life, 1-3 p.m. The walking tour will start & finish at the Visitor Center. Slide show presentation to follow. Wear comfortable footwear, as the walking tour will take place outdoors on grassy and uneven surfaces. Free, but registration required at www.friendsofclermont.org

June 6: No Joke Improv, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Come watch the comics perform classic improv games, 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$10 entry. Free and paid parking. (845) 876-2903

June 6: RoundTop Burlesque Revue, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Enjoy a playfully entertaining evening of comedy, striptease, and theatrical flair from a bold cast of performers, 7:30 p.m. Adults only. Tickets \$30-\$40 advance, \$40-\$50 door. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

June 6-7: Hudson Valley APA Vegas Playoffs, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. American Poolplayers Association's championship tournament where winning teams advance to Las Vegas for the Nation Championship. (845) 454-5800, ext 1201, or MJNCenter.org

June 6 & 13: "What You See and What You Don't See," Staatsburgh State

Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Guided walk through the estate's grounds that explores how the landscape was designed to reflect the luxurious lifestyle of Staatsburgh's owners, while deliberately hiding the turn-of-the-century technology and labor that made the estate run, 10 a.m. Free, but reservations required at <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

June 6 & 14: "The REAL Gilded Age: America's Elite in the Downton Abbey Era," Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Tour highlights the real-life characters and themes at Staatsburgh that parallel "Downton Abbey" and HBO's "The Gilded Age," 11 a.m. Led by a costumed interpreter, the tour shows how the Mills family and their servants conducted a busy weekend of high society entertaining, comparing Staatsburgh to what viewers saw on TV. Reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>. Cost: \$12/adults, \$10/seniors & students, children 12 & under are free.

June 7: "A Life in Service," Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. It took a small army to run a Gilded Age estate. See the Mills family residence through the eyes of the domestic servants, providing exemplary service in the mansion, as they rose before dawn and toiled until after midnight. The tour—led by a costumed guide—will include visiting the servants' wing, a striking artifact of servant life and work that features the newly retiled and partially restored kitchen, and other rooms for servant use, 2 p.m. Cost: \$12/adults, \$10/seniors & students, children 12 & under are free. Reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

June 7: Cocoon Theatre's Soiree Series, Church-Hill Barn Theater, 283 Lapla Rd., Kingston. "Whose in the Barn," three new dance works by choreographers Jean Churchill and Marguerite San Millan intermixed with live original poetry readings by local artists, 4-6 p.m. Performance followed by open discussion & potluck inviting artists and audience to bring a dish/dessert ready to serve and share. The barn is neither heated nor cooled so all are asked to dress for the weather, with a \$20 suggested donation, by cash only (no WiFi available). Parking is limited, carpooling encouraged. www.cocoontheatre.org or (845) 758-0695

June 7: "Gilded Age Scandals!" Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Ruth and Ogden Mills were paragons of respectability, but some of their Gilded Age peers were not! Learn about the scandalous behavior and intrigues of the very rich at the turn-of-the-century while touring the mansion with a costumed guide, 11 a.m. Tour not recommended for children. Cost: \$12/adults, \$10/seniors & students. Reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

June 7: "The Livingston's Landscape" Walking Tour & Talk, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave., Germantown. Presentation & landscape tour looks back through generations of the Livingston family and explores how their role as landowners shaped the land and local communities, 2-3:30 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center. Free! Have you ever wondered about the impact we have on the landscape? On Sunday, June 7th, join us for a Note: Meet at the Visitor Center. There will be a slide show presentation, followed by the landscape walk. Wear sturdy shoes. In the event of severe weather, the landscape walk portion of this event will be rescheduled. Free, but registration required at www.friendsofclermont.org

June 7: Soledad Barrio & Noche Flamenca present "Agua Fresca," The Local, 16 John St., Saugerties. Internationally acclaimed flamenco company brings their award-winning performance to the Hudson Valley, 6 p.m. Tickets: <https://link.dice.fm/n6989eaea272>. A flamenco dance workshop will be included with the ticket.

June 9: Centennial Celebration with Free Community Open House, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. Ulster Performing Arts Center will celebrate the launch of its 100th season with a free Open House for community members and visitors, 4-7 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., City of Kingston Mayor Steve Noble will join Bardavon Presents Executive Director Bryan Zellmer for a short presentation. Throughout the

evening, guests are invited to explore the theater, step onto the historic stage, and visit the backstage areas such as the dressing rooms, while staff and volunteers share behind-the-scenes stories about the many performing artists and dignitaries who have visited. Beverages and light refreshments will be available. More info at www.bardavon.org.

June 10: "Framing Needlework," Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Ann Marie and Rick Jackson will provide a presentation on framing needlework. They previously owned the Hyde Park Gallery where they did their framing. Many members of our Chapter have utilized their skills and can attest to their beautiful work. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, presents the program beginning at 12:30 p.m. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10 a.m. or come for this program only beginning at 12:30. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillIGA or email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com

June 10: Music in the Parks, Staatsburgh State Historic Site (Mills Mansion), Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Outdoor concert series featuring The Band Everything Else, 7 p.m. Rain location: Taconic Reginal OFC-NY Parks, 9 Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. For any cancellations or changes, check the Hyde Park Recreation Facebook page.

June 10: Twilight Music in the Park, Walkway Over the Hudson State Park, Ulster Welcome Plaza, Highland. Every Wednesday in June, July and August, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation welcomes an eclectic mix of talented local musicians for live music, 6-7 p.m. This week: Carrie Zazz Duo, rock/pop covers. Concerts are free and suitable for all ages. www.walkway.org

June 10 & 13: Murder Cafe, "The Last Laugh." New interactive dinner-theater show set in the Chuckle Shack, a comedy club that is hosting the Tournament of Champions. Four comics will be competing for the gold water bottle, but the night will take a deadly turn when the club favorite collapses mid-performance. What was meant to be a night of laughter turns into a chilling whodunit, with the host, comics, and audience members all suspects. Mike Magoon is the stressed-out house manager and The Chuckle Shack's emcee. He plays favorites, knows everyone's secrets and is no stranger to blackmail. He's got a motive for murder and an attachment to the gold water bottle. What about you? You have comedy chops? Mike will invite you to take the microphone between acts. If you have five minutes of hilarity, the spotlight will be yours. And maybe the gold bottle! Performances: June 10: The Venue Uptown at the Best Western, Kingston. June 13: Hudson House Distillery, West Park. www.murdercafe.net

Locust Grove to host bracelet workshop, guided hike June 7

Locust Grove Historic Site in Poughkeepsie will host two events on Sunday, June 7.

Start the day with a **Guided Hike** from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Join the Mid-Hudson Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club for a guided 3 mile hike along one of our beautiful trails. Meet in front of the gift shop. Bring water and snacks; hiking boots and poles are recommended, and dress for the weather. The pace will be slow to moderate, based on the group. Rain cancels.

For questions or to sign up in advance, visit www.lgny.org

A **Morse Code Bracelet Workshop** is set from noon to 2 p.m. Make a bracelet with a word (or words) of your choice using Morse code. No one will know

your word(s) unless you decide to tell them. Learn how to make a "one size fits most" stretch bracelet using beautiful glass seed beads on stretch elastic. You will learn how to properly knot and glue the bracelet for a secure fit. No experience needed. The class will be hosted by local artist Mary Ellen Siegel, whose jewelry is featured in Locust Grove's Museum Shop.

Registration is required by June 5. Ticket price, which includes kit, is \$28.52 to the general public

In addition, a new show featuring **paintings by artist Mary Ahern** will be on display in the Transverse Art Gallery.

Locust Grove is at 2683 South Road in Poughkeepsie. Visit www.lgny.org for more information.

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

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 99

By David Kalvitis © 2007 Monkeying Around

AT YOUR LIBRARY

JUNE EVENTS AT MILLBROOK LIBRARY

Library Jam & Community Sing-a-Long, Wednesday, June 3 & July 1
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Fiction Room or on the porch, depending on the weather

Bring an instrument, or just your voice for singing, hands for clapping, or ears for listening. Eric Marshall will lead you through a myriad of memorable tunes. This group is perfect for beginner and advanced musicians. All ages and abilities are welcome.

“Queer in Hollywood: LGBTQ+ Depictions in Classic Film” (on Zoom)

Thursday, June 4, 6:30pm
Celebrate Pride Month with Film Historian Dr. Annette Bochenek as she presents groundbreaking portrayals of queer individuals and the impact of the Production Code on their depictions in classic cinema. The program will include a multimedia presentation consisting of photos, video clips, and captivating stories. Please register to receive the Zoom link for this online program.

Plein Aire Workshop at Wethersfield Estate and Gardens, Thursday, June 11 (Rain Date: June 18), 10-11:30 a.m.

Join artist June Glasson for this hands-on workshop to learn the basics of plein aire painting - the practice of painting outdoors in the natural landscape. Beginners welcome. The first workshop in this four part series will take place at Wethersfield Estate and Gardens. All art supplies will be provided but please feel free to bring your own art supplies if you have them. Registration is required for directions and more details.

Millbrook Film Club: “The Birdcage” (1996), Thursday, June 11, 6-8 p.m.

Bennett Room
Film Club celebrates Pride Month with this 30th anniversary screening of Mike Nichols’ campy comedy classic - starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane as a gay couple who agree to put on a false front so their son can introduce them to his fiancée’s conservative parents. (Rated R)

The Importance of Strength and Conditioning with Kyle Gillis

Saturday, June 13, 11 a.m.-noon
Join Kyle Gillis, certified personal trainer through NCSF and owner of Kyle’s Functional Fitness, LLC, to learn about how functional fitness and weight training can improve your quality of life, resilience to disease and injury, and give you more control over your health.

Garden Matters: Nurturing Nature

with Jessica Williams, Odd Duck Farm
Saturday, June 20, 11 a.m.-noon

Are you ready to embrace the concept of inviting nature back to your garden? Even a tiny backyard can make a difference! Discover practical ideas for how to integrate your aesthetic desires with earth-friendly gardening. Learn which plants contribute the most to our local ecosystem and ways to create a more enriched environment by incorporating shelters and simple water features to attract frogs, birds and insects. This program will take place in the library’s pollinator garden and front porch, weather permitting.

Busy Hands Crafting Circle and BYO Book Club, Saturday, June 20, 2-4 p.m.

Craft and book lovers unite! Bring your latest crafting project (knitting, crochet, embroidery, you name it!) to work on while we talk about what we’ve been reading and share our favorite recommendations. Light refreshments provided.

Community Supper Club

Wednesday, June 24, 6-7 p.m.

Bennett Room

Join Chef Lenny for a potluck supper at the Millbrook Library. Everyone is welcome! Bring something to share, or just bring yourself and enjoy a meal in the company of friends and neighbors. May’s theme is I Was Drinking That. Bring any dish made with a beverage as an ingredient (cola, coffee, tea, juice, etc.) or a complimentary side or beverage.

Millbrook Film Club: “Carol” (2016)

Thursday, June 25, 6-8 p.m.

Film Club celebrates Pride Month with a screening of director Todd Haynes’ film. Carol stars Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara as two women who find themselves in an unexpected love affair in 1950s New York. (Rated R)

Summer Reading Kick Off Party: Dinosaurs Rock!

Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m.-noon

Summer reading season is here and the Millbrook Library is starting it with a pre-historic bang! Join us for an unforgettable morning as Dinosaurs Rock transforms the library into a hands-on dinosaur museum experience perfect for curious kids and families.

Dig up real fossils, including dinosaur bones, shark teeth, and ammonites. Touch and explore genuine prehistoric specimens and life-size replicas. Get up close with the creatures that ruled the Earth millions of years ago through dynamic storytelling, amazing facts, and interactive exhibits that bring the Jurassic era to life.

Dinosaurs Rock will start at 10 a.m.

From 11 a.m. to noon, join us for some dinosaur-themed activities, ice cream, and a steel drum performance by Jahlan Roberts sponsored by the Millbrook Arts Group. Pick up your summer reading logs and learn about the upcoming exciting events we have planned in the months ahead!

The Illustrious Family of Philip Hart (and His Home)

Saturday, June 27, noon-1 p.m.

Scholar Kathy Moyer will discuss the life of one of Millbrook’s founding fathers, Philip Hart, at the Millbrook Library. That presentation will be followed by a tour of Hart’s 1800 home in Harts Village. Presented by the Millbrook Historical Society.

Un Real Exhibition Upstate Art Weekend Reception & Closing Weekend

Saturday, June 27, 5-6:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 28, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The current Millbrook Arts Project exhibition Un Real features artwork by Fern Apfel, Betsy Brandt, Monica Link, Kevin Mosca, Laura Von Rosk, and Daniel Walworth. These artists share a commitment to looking closely at the world—yet what emerges in their work is something far more complex than simple representation. Drawing from diverse source material, archival ephemera, woodland observation, cinematic landscapes, and invented narratives, viewers are invited to reconsider how images mediate what we believe to be real. Representation becomes a tool not for certainty but for questioning. These works begin in the real world, but they do not remain there.

STANFORD FREE LIBRARY

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Diaper Drive

Stanford Free Library is partnering with the United Way of Dutchess-Orange County to collect diapers for families in need. Drop off diapers through June 20.

Maintaining the Summer Garden

Wednesday, June 10th, 10am

Friendship Garden Club presents a talk by Victoria Rolfe

Stanford Supper Club

Wednesday, June 10th, 6-7pm

Cheese Tasting/Share: Bring a wedge of your favorite cheese to share. Beverages, paper plates, paper bowls, plastic ware, nametags and food signage signs will be provided.

Trails on Open Spaces in Stanford: Whitlock Preserve

Saturday, June 13th, 9am

We will be hiking trails, bird watching and learning about bird nesting behavior. Binoculars are encouraged. Meet at the preserve. Please dress accordingly for weather, ticks and mosquitos. Space is limited.

Life in the Wappinger Creek: A Watershed Exploration

Saturday, June 20th, 10am

Come join us as we explore the wild inhabitants of the Wappinger Creek as it flows through our town. Learn what macro invertebrates are and how they are important indicators of water and environmental quality. Sampling equipment will be provided for participants who would like to enter the stream knee-deep to collect stream organisms. Bring cap with visor, close-toed shoes or boots that can get wet.

Repair Cafe

Saturday, July 18th, 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.

July Book Club

Monday, Monday July 6th, 1-2 p.m.

This month’s selection is *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon

Visit With Therapy Dog Jambo

Tuesday, June 9th, 4-5 p.m.

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

Introduction to Babysitting

Wednesday, July 22nd, 5-8pm

Instructor Kathleen Berwick will lead this program for ages 10+. Participants will learn interviewing tips, communication skills, ages and stages of young babies and toddlers, safety and first aid tips, and feeding and caring for children, including diaper changing. Please bring a pen and paper. Pizza will be provided.

Music in the Library

Saturday, June 27th, 12-1pm

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

Poughkeepsie Pride sets events

POUGHKEEPSIE – Dutchess County Pride Center (DCPC) recently announced the 2026 return of the Poughkeepsie Pride March & Festival, the Mid-Hudson Valley’s Largest Pride Celebration on Saturday, June 13.

Centered around this year’s theme of “Reclaiming Joy, Reclaiming Power,” Poughkeepsie Pride 2026 will once again bring thousands of LGBTQ+ community members, allies, families, organizations, artists, and local businesses together for a day of celebration, visibility, advocacy, and connection throughout the City of Poughkeepsie.

The 8th Annual March & Festival kicks off on historic Market Street where the March of unity and community will

head down Main Street to Victor C. Waryas Park. The Pride Festival will be in full swing in Waryas Park from noon to 4 p.m. The Festival will feature dozens of queer-owned businesses, local artists, creators, and food vendors, LGBTQ+ organizations, community resources, and family-friendly programming celebrating the diversity and resilience of the Hudson Valley LGBTQ+ community.

Poughkeepsie Pride is part of the broader Dutchess Pride Month celebration, featuring events and activities across Dutchess County throughout June. Dutchess Pride Month 2026 events include:

June 10 – Pride Night with the Hudson Valley Renegades. The defining baseball

team of the Hudson Valley will be highlighting Dutchess County Pride Center and celebrating our community.

June 26 – Free Film Screening of the 1995 cult classic film “The Incredibly True Story of Two Girls in Love,” hosted by the Bardavon Theatre.

June 28 – Pride Fun Run 5K with Fleet Feet Poughkeepsie, an untimed fun run fundraiser for DCPC. All proceeds to benefit the Center and further Fleet Feet Poughkeepsie’s mission of running for all.

A full event schedule including Rainbow Crosswalk Painting, a film series with the Beacon Theater, as well as information, details, and ticket links is available online at www.poughkeepsiepride.org or www.dutchesspride.org/poughkeepsie-pride.

Volunteer Sign-Ups, Vendor Registration, Sponsorship opportunities, and additional festival announcements are available now through the official Poughkeepsie Pride website at: www.poughkeepsiepride.org.

send us your news

cschmidt@sutchessnews.com

OBITUARIES

William J. Clarke Jr.

RHINEBECK – William “Bill” J. Clarke Jr. passed away peacefully on May 19, 2026. He was born January 18, 1951 in Port Chester, NY to the late William J. Clarke Sr. and Marion K. Clarke. On April 10, 1983, Bill married his wife, Jean Ward at Good Shepherd Church in Rhinebeck. They were married for 43 years.

As the founder of Clarke Construction, he was a true jack-of-all trades, mastering everything from excavation and roofing to carpentry. While he initially built his career working on outside properties, his ultimate passion realized itself when he began purchasing and managing his own real estate portfolio. Bill was a dedicated and fair landlord who poured his extensive skills into providing quality housing for his community and took immense pride in genuinely taking care of his tenants. Guided by a fierce work ethic, he worked hard every day to maintain his business and properties, but always in the pursuit of the care and support of his family and friends.

In addition to his career, he was an avid outdoorsman, traveling to Africa, Australia, Wyoming, and Alaska for both hunting and photographic purposes. In Alaska, he enjoyed several hunts and went on to earn his assistant guide license. Even later in life, Bill would speak fondly about his travels.

He also had a great appreciation of classic British and American cars that he passed on to his children particularly his sons with whom he rebuilt several cars and trucks. He also mentored young gearheads and provided space in his own shop for them to work as well as his own wisdom, believing that the interest in cars would die out if the older generations did not encourage their interest.

Bill is survived by his beloved wife Jean Clarke, his children, Elizabeth, William and his spouse, Deanna Lavender, and James Clarke and his fiancée, Shelby Denu; his grandchildren, Lucy, Sloane, and Case; and brother, Martin and his spouse, Maria, and sister, Alice, and her spouse Jerry Bean. He is also survived by his nieces, Annabel Clarke, Catherine Clarke, Eliza Clarke, Laura Clarke, Alex Benson, and Noelle Benson; and his nephew, Martin Clarke.

Friends and family wdfd received Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Rhinebeck.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes at 91 East Market St. Rhinebeck, NY.

Floyd Irving Isham, Jr.



SHARON, CT – Floyd Irving Isham, Jr., 87, a longtime area resident, died Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at Sharon Health Care Center in Sharon, CT. Mr. Isham worked for the Tri-Wall Container Corp. in Wassauc, NY, for fifteen years and also worked as a self-employed private caretaker for over twenty-five years, caring for local estates in Shekomeko, Pine Plains and Ancramdale, NY, prior to his retirement.

Born August 25, 1938 in St. George, VT, he was the son of the late Floyd Irving and Hazel (Thompson) Isham, Sr. Following his high school years, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served from 1958 until his honorable discharge in 1961. Mr. Isham also served in the Vermont National Guard. On August 11, 1990 in Dover Plains, NY, he married Nancy L. Cross. Mrs. Isham died on July 8, 2005.

Mr. Isham was a life member of the Millerton American Legion Post # 178 in Millerton, NY, and was a former member of the Amenia Fish & Game Club in Amenia, NY. He served for eight years as president of the Dutchess County Federation of Fish & Game Clubs and also served on their legislative committee for a number of years. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed gardening, watching the New York Mets and

the Boston Red Sox on television and spent a great deal of time following the horses at OTB. Floyd will be deeply missed by his loving family and his many dear friends. Floyd’s family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the nurses, nursing assistants and staff at Sharon Health Care Center for the kind and respectful attention provided to Floyd while in their care.

Mr. Isham is survived by two children, Mary Kunda and Theodore Isham; three stepchildren, Candy Strong and her husband Bill, Brian Marshall and his wife Kathy and Tanya Mayhew; two grandchildren, Samantha Harrison and her husband Raymond and Cody Mayhew; one great grandchild, Harper Lee Harrison; several siblings and many nieces and nephews and friends. In addition to his wife and parents, he was also predeceased by three sisters, Lucille, Leonna and Roselyn.

Graveside services and burial will take place on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 11am at Ellsworth Cemetery, 25 Cemetery Road, Sharon, CT, with Standard Naval Honors. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton American Legion Post # 178, 155 Route 44, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Floyd’s honor, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Albert Juliano

VERBANK – Albert T. Juliano Sr, of Verbank, New York, passed away at his home on May 26, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family. He was 80 years old.

Born in Yonkers, NY, on April 1, 1946, he was the son of the late Albert M Juliano and Marianne Juliano (Giannico). He is survived by his brother, Thomas A. Juliano. Albert lived a life defined by dedication to family, service to others, craftsmanship, and enduring friendship. He was the beloved husband of Judene Juliano, the love of his life, with whom he recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. He was also predeceased by his beloved Uncle Jim (Vincent) Giannico who Al had guardianship of and lived with his family in Stormville, NY.

He was the proud father of his surviving children Dawn A Juliano (Erik Allgauer),

Christi M Juliano (David Keane), Albert T Juliano Jr (Angel Deenihan). As many know, his joy for his seven grandchildren was unmeasured, Jacklyn, Jessica, Joseph, Vincent, Violet, Ella, AJ and six great grandchildren Derek, Chase, Jade, Elena, Wyatt (little man), and Isaac.

Albert is a proud veteran of the Mount Kisco Police Department where he served for 20 years and was a former president of the PBA. He earned the respect of colleagues and fellow officers through his leadership, integrity, and commitment to those he served beside.

Outside of his public service, Albert was a master carpenter and contractor who approached every project with pride and precision. His talent and work ethic were admired by all who knew him. Albert started his contracting skills with his Father and Uncles growing up in Yonkers, NY at the age of 13.

An avid outdoorsman throughout his life, Albert found great joy in hunting, fishing, and spending time with friends and family at his property in Sprakers, New York. He had a lifelong love for bird dogs and became nationally recognized for training and breeding English Setters at his home and passion project, Mountain View Kennels. His fervor for the outdoors created countless memories and traditions that he shared with his beloved family and lifelong friends.

Albert was a generous soul with an extraordinary network of friends. He was a mentor to many and remained deeply involved in the lives of his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and extended family. He is loved for his loyalty, wisdom, humor, and kindness which leaves a lasting impact on everyone fortunate enough to have known him. Albert’s life was one of hard work, deep love, friendship, and unwavering dedication to family. He will be profoundly missed and lovingly remembered, always. To make a long story short...

Calling hours were held on Friday, May 29, at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday, May 30, at St. Kateri Church, LaGrangeville, NY. Please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Is your municipality, community or nonprofit organization hosting an event to celebrate the 250th anniversary of America’s independence? Let us know about it! Email listings to creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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Answers to this week’s diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

Suguru solution

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

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SUDOKU
This week’s answer

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

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on May 11, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York,
May 12, 2026

/s/Julie Shiroishi
Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2026064

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$10,460,765 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST OF BRIDGE, CULVERT AND HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.

Class of objects or purposes: Highway, culvert and bridge improvements, including incidental improvements and expenses

Period of probable usefulness: 15 years

Maximum estimated cost: \$16,978,572

Maximum amount of bonds to be issued: \$10,460,765 bonds

Other monies: \$6,517,807 CHIPS, PaveNY, Extreme Winter Recovery and Pave our Potholes monies from State Will be on a project-by-project basis. SEQRA compliance materials on file in the office of the Clerk of the County Legislature where same may be inspected during regular office hours.

SEQRA status:

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed

bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-64-26 Hardware Supplies Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 18th day of June 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website

378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website

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

LEGAL NOTICE

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on May 11, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York,
May 12, 2026.

/s/Julie Shiroishi
Clerk, County Legislature

RESOLUTION NO. 2026054

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,016,060 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF THE PURCHASE OF SHERIFF VEHICLES, FOR SAID COUNTY.

Class of objects or purposes: Purchase of Sheriff vehicles

Period of probable usefulness: 5 years

Maximum estimated cost: \$1,016,060

Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,016,060 bonds

SEQRA status: Type II Action

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

held on May 11, 2026, adopted a local law entitled:

LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026 AMENDING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2024 REGULATING HAZARDOUS POLLUTION SOURCES IN PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SOURCES, AQUIFERS AND WETLANDS

The intent of this Local Law is to amend Local Law No. 2 of 2024 to clarify the lawful disposal of commercial car wash waste waters.

A copy of the local law is available at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature where it may be inspected during regular office hours.
JULIE SHIROISHI
Clerk
Dutchess County Legislature
Dated: May 29, 2026

Clerk
Dutchess County
Legislature
Dated: May 29, 2026

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess at a meeting held on May 11, 2026, adopted a local law entitled:

LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2026, A LOCAL LAW REQUIRING FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO PROVIDE SINGLE-USE FOODWARE AND CONDIMENT PACKETS ONLY UPON REQUEST.

The intent of this Local Law is to reduce unnecessary waste and to help local businesses reduce costs associated with providing single-use items.

A copy of the local law is available at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature where it may be inspected during regular office hours.

JULIE SHIROISHI
Clerk
Dutchess County
Legislature
Dated: May 29, 2026

Passage of ASAP Act in budget will address energy affordability crisis, says Barrett

ALBANY – Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Columbia/Dutchess), Senator Pete Harkham (D-SD 40), environmental advocates and union leaders recently announced the passage of the Accelerate Solar for Affordable Power (ASAP) Act in the 2026-27 New York State Budget. The ASAP Act will incentivize the build-out of small-scale, distributed solar across New York State and streamline the complex interconnection process to get these

projects online faster. The budget also includes \$200 million in funding for the NY-Sun Program – a state program previously funded with ratepayer money that supports distributed solar projects.

“The passage of the ASAP Act in this budget sends a clear message: In the face of funding cuts and headwinds from a hostile federal administration, New York is meeting the moment and doubling down on what works,” said Barrett, chair of the

Assembly’s Energy Committee. “The ASAP Act will address the energy affordability crisis head on by streamlining the interconnection process to get projects online more quickly, creating new clean energy jobs, and saving New Yorker’s \$1 billion a year. Let’s get building!”

“We are addressing energy affordability head on in the FY2026-2027 budget by securing \$200 million for the successful NY-Sun Program,” said Harkham, chair

of the Senate’s Environmental Conservation Committee. “This public funding will catalyze billions in private investment, expand local rooftop and community solar and create billion-dollar annual utility savings for consumers. At a time when other forms of new electric generation face years of delay, our investment in solar means new energy that can quickly scale, meet demand and provide long-term savings.”

Downtown Business Improvement District sets Return of First Friday in Poughkeepsie

Beginning with a soft launch on June 5, Downtown Poughkeepsie will once again come alive with food, drink, music, art, and culture on the first Friday of each month. For complete details, visit dtpk.org/firstfriday.

The Downtown Poughkeepsie Business Improvement District (BID) has announced the return of First Friday Poughkeepsie, a monthly, downtown-wide event that transforms the city’s core into a vibrant, walkable destination. Filled with local flavor, live entertainment, and fun activations, First Friday reflects the daily energy found in the resurgent downtown corridor of the Queen City. By bringing businesses and programming together on one impactful night, First Friday is designed to drive foot traffic, support local businesses, and create a consistent, high-energy experience that draws people back time after time.

Held on the first Friday of every month (June-November) from 6-9 p.m., First

Friday is free to attend and invites residents and visitors alike to experience everything downtown has to offer. The return event on June 5 will serve as a “welcome back” soft launch with live music and activities in Mural Square drawing people to walk the streets and discover specials and activations popping up at businesses throughout the district. The traditional First Friday community fair with vendors, performances, and more kicks off in earnest on July 3.

Designed as a coordinated “night out,” First Friday brings together local restaurants, bars, shops, galleries, and cultural organizations to stay open late and offer special programming, promotions, and entertainment. Live music, street performers, and interactive experiences will animate the streets, creating a lively atmosphere that encourages exploration and connection.

“First Friday is about showcasing the best of downtown Poughkeepsie in a way

that feels exciting, welcoming, and easy to experience,” said Jim Sullivan, President of the Downtown Poughkeepsie BID. “Bringing back this beloved tradition is the perfect way to create a consistent reason for people to come downtown, support local businesses, and discover all the new things to see and do.”

Beginning July 3, Main Street will be closed to vehicular traffic between Market and Academy Streets during the event, allowing for expanded outdoor dining, performances, and a pedestrian-friendly environment. With four major municipal parking areas located just steps away - including the Financial Plaza Deck, Garden Street Lot, Liberty Street Lot, and Academy Street Lot - visitors will have convenient access to First Friday while enjoying a car-free experience in the heart of downtown.

Adding to the traditional street fair, First Friday simultaneously focuses on highlighting existing businesses and cul-

tural assets, with curated entertainment and select outside vendors enhancing - not overshadowing - the local experience.

“First Friday is about bringing people into the heart of the city and reminding them what makes downtown Poughkeepsie so special,” said Laura Belfiore, Chair of the BID’s First Friday Committee and owner of Curio Cabinet of the Hudson Valley. “When we fill the streets with music and conversations, businesses are naturally going to see more activity, plus there’s the added benefits of building community pride and providing a venue for people to have real-life connections. These events inspire an energy that will promote the continued growth of our downtown, and they bring the community together to enjoy a shared experience.”

Connect with First Friday on social media at facebook.com/FirstFridayPoughkeepsie or Instagram at [@FirstFridayPK](https://instagram.com/FirstFridayPK).

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122 Musical Instruction
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142 Day Care
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145 Adult Care
150 Announcements
151 Adoption
152 Novenas
154 Lost & Found
155 Personal
200 Services

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

Classified Index

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

509 Office Equipment
510 Firewood
511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
512 Winter Merchandise
516 Misc. Merchandise
700 Pets & Supplies
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
721 Wanted to Buy
722 Bazaar
723 Consignments
724 Farmers Market
725 Collectibles
750 Events
800 Boats
801 Campers & Trailers
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803 Recreational Vehicles
900 Autos for Sale
901 Vans/SUV's
902 Trucks
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GOLDEN LIVING

June 15th is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The National Center on Elder Abuse at the University of Southern California defines elder abuse as “intentional act or failure to act that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult.” Elder abuse can take many forms including physical abuse; verbal, emotional or psychological abuse; financial abuse, scams, and exploitation; sexual abuse; or caregiver neglect.

Compared to other forms of domestic violence like child abuse and intimate partner abuse, elder abuse can be frequently overlooked. When people do notice elder abuse, they often find themselves surprised that such a thing could happen; but abuse can happen to any older person, regardless of race, age, culture, or socioeconomic background. We need only point to the example of Brooke Astor (1902-2007), the multimillionaire philanthropist and socialite whose fortune included extensive property holdings in the Rhinebeck area. Her only son, Anthony Marshall, was convicted in 2009 of swindling her of millions after she developed dementia.

Reporting and preventing abuse

If you suspect an older person is a victim of abuse, call the New York State Adult Protective Services Helpline at 1-844-697-3505 (8:30 am to 8 pm, Monday through Friday). For emergencies that require immediate attention, call 9-1-1.

Strategies to prevent abuse include:

- Preparing legal documents like your will and healthcare power of attorney with someone you trust. Visit dutchessny.gov/ofalegal for information on legal assistance for Dutchess County adults age 60 and older;
- Frequently visiting or checking in

with family members and friends who are vulnerable;

- Banking with direct deposit instead of checks;
- Keeping a record of financial transactions and reporting any suspicious activity; and
- Never giving away personal information over the phone, especially to an unsolicited caller.

Elder abuse and ageism are intertwined

Ageism, another subset of elder abuse, can take different forms. It can be self-inflicted, as when we reach a milestone age and start fretting over the lines on our face. It can be cultural, as when our favorite shows and movies feature romantic relationships exclusively between young, charismatic people in the 20s.

There’s also “benevolent” ageism. We sometimes think we’re being compassionate to an older person, but we’re being patronizing and infantilizing. Think about the “elderspeak” often used in healthcare settings. It’s that simplified speech register that can sound like baby talk and is used with older adults in such settings. The intention is to convey comfort, but often results in pushback from the older person being cared for.

‘SilverShield’ Scam Prevention events with OFA in June

To help older adults stay safe, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the County’s Office for the Aging (OFA) invite seniors and caregivers to any one of several free, in person workshops introducing SilverShield (www.silvershield.ai), an innovative new tool designed to help protect users from scams in real time.

OFA will host several “Introduction to SilverShield” sessions in June: Monday, June 15 at 3 p.m.

Dutchess County Office for the Aging
114 Delafield Street, Poughkeepsie
Seating is limited, and advance registration is required by calling the OFA at 845 486 2555 during business hours.

Tuesday, June 16 at 12:30 p.m.

Town of LaGrange Senior Center
Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church
1168 Route 55, Lagrangeville
Open to Town of LaGrange residents only; call 845-452-1972 to register.

Thursday, June 18 at 1 p.m.

Howland Public Library
313 Main Street, Beacon
Call 845-831-1134 to register.

OFA Ambassador hours for June-August (Check back for updates)

Here’s the June-July-August list of OFA Ambassador Mary Reedy’s mobile office hours...thus far. There’ll be more such office hours scheduled, where you can get your aging services questions answered from a location closer to home.

To book your half-hour spot, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555:

Tuesday, June 23rd, noon-1:30pm – Clinton Library, 1215 Centre Rd., Rhinebeck

Thursday, June 25th, noon-3pm – Amenia Library, 3309 NY 343, Amenia

Tuesday, June 30th, 10am-noon – Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Ln., Millbrook

Tuesday, July 28th, 1-3pm – Millbrook Library

Thursday, August 27th, noon-3pm – Amenia Library

Your local civic organizations or governments can arrange Mobile Office Hours for your home town by contacting OFA at 845-486-2555 during business hours or emailing ofa@dutchessny.gov.

OFA Picnics filling up fast

As of Friday, May 29th, there were fewer than 15 reserved seats remaining for the June 3rd OFA Summer Picnic for

Fishkill older adults. Also filling up rapidly are the following picnics:

June 10th – Milan, Red Hook/Tivoli, Rhinebeck

June 17th – Clinton, Hyde Park

June 24th – Town of Poughkeepsie

Because seating at picnics is limited, we cannot accept walk-in guests. Please call 845-486-2555 during business hours to save your seat for the free picnic serving your home community. We mail out reminder cards to older-adult households throughout the County, approximately a month before each picnic. A reminder card is not required to make a reservation.

The complete picnic schedule is available at www.dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics, and includes links to pictures from past picnics at the OFA Facebook page.

You haven’t liked and followed our Facebook page? Go to www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA and you’ll find out even more about OFA events and activities.

Many thanks to AccentCare, Central Hudson, The Pines at Poughkeepsie, and Westchester Medical Center Health Network for their support.

Congratulations to OFA Volunteers Grace, Michael and George

The New York State Office for the Aging honored county OFA volunteers from around the state, including our own from Dutchess: Grace and Michael Martin, and George Popp.

Read more about them at the Dutchess OFA Facebook page. More details on the honorees are coming soon in the Summer 2026 issue of the quarterly THRIVE60+ newsletter, due out in early June. You’ll receive it in your email, and we’ll distribute hard copies at public libraries county-wide.

Of course, a Bad Joke:
Irony is the opposite of wrinkly.

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988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

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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24 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - June 3-9, 2026