

Residents voice concerns over Aerodrome's expansion plans

By Cynthia Baer

Local residents spoke out about the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome's proposed expansion at a public hearing on June 1, citing concerns over increased noise, traffic, insufficient impact studies, and potential loss of the neighborhood's quiet, historic character.

By the end of the Town of Red Hook Planning Board Public Hearing regarding the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome Expansion Master Plan, the Board decided to keep the public hearing open for another two weeks, continuing on June 15. The Planning Board had formally closed public hearings in February, but reopened them due to a public request following the addition of new materials to the plan after the hearing closed. Pressure from local residents ignited the new hearing on June 1 when they formally asked the Planning Board for more clarity on the project's evolving scope and impact.

The Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome is a living museum located on Norton Road along the border of Rhinebeck and Red Hook. It is currently seeking Town of Red Hook Planning Board approval for an approximately 60,000-square-foot master plan expansion. The plan seeks to consolidate the museum's vintage aircraft in a new two-story maintenance hangar, create an expanded auto shed for antique cars, upgrade ADA access, and replace 11 aging buildings with six larger ones. Additionally, the plan includes changing its current seasonal schedule to year-round and adding more events to its venue. The private Rhode Island-based Disosway Foundation is funding the expansion.

The proposed Aerodrome plan has neighboring residents wondering about the expansion's intentions. Many letters were submitted, and others came in person to state concerns about the plan. While most comments expressed appreciation for the Aerodrome's long history,

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Exceeding expectations!

Agriculture education hits new levels with Adopt A Calf program

By Curtis Schmidt

Ready or not – here comes success! And regardless of the time and work involved, surprise success is always a good problem to have.

Such is the case with the overwhelming response to the Adopt A Calf program – the newest component of the educational efforts of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society (DCAS).

The program had its birth soon after the birth of its' first "star performer" – a calf named "Sweet Treat" – at the Stormfield Swiss Dairy Farm in the Town of Wappinger.

The calf was born last December and the following January, DCAS Agricultural Educator Cassie Messina launched the Adopt A Calf endeavor. What began as an emailing and social media communication with about 20 classrooms has exploded to over 90 classrooms and 1,500-plus students in school districts all over Dutchess County. Messina and the DeForest/Lawrence family at Stormfield Swiss are working together on growing the program. The DeForest/Lawrence family was named the DCAS' first "Farm Family of the Year" in July of 2025.

"We launched the Adopt a Calf program as part of our ongoing effort to advance the mission of the Agricultural Society. Cassie and the DeForest/Lawrence family have done an exceptional job leading this pilot initiative, bringing energy, organization and dedication from the moment it began," said



Jim Lawrence holds "Sweet Treat" while children from South Avenue Elementary School in Beacon visit the Stormfield Swiss Farm on June 5 as part of the Adopt A Calf program of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society. *Photo by Curtis Schmidt*

Andy Imperati, President/CEO of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society/Dutchess County Fairgrounds. "Due to the program's strong popularity, we plan to regroup after the school year to discuss ways to expand the Adopt a Calf program to additional schools. We are very pleased with how the program has unfolded this year. It has far exceeded our expectations."

According to its' mission, the Adopt a Calf program invites classrooms throughout Dutchess County to "adopt" a dairy calf and follow its growth through the school year. Students receive an introductory video taken soon after the calf is born and can write back to the farmers with questions that will be answered in future video or photo updates. Each update

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ND Symphony Orchestra's Beckmann to retire following June 20 season finale

By Kate Goldsmith



Kathleen Beckmann. *Courtesy photo*

Twenty years ago, music educator Kathleen Beckmann and some colleagues were sitting around her kitchen table formulating an idea to bring professional orchestra performances to the northern Dutchess County community.

"We thought, 'Can we do this? Let's give it a shot,'" said Beckmann in a recent interview. That "shot" became the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra (NDSO), and since 2006 the ensemble has presented concerts and educational programs at "family-affordable" prices.

Beckmann recently announced her retirement, effective following NDSO's 20th season finale, "The Beatles, Elvis

and Beyond," on Saturday, June 20, at the Marriott Pavilion at The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park. (See our story on page 15 in Creative Living for concert details.) She now lives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and looks forward to spending more time with her five grandchildren.

Looking back to 2006, Beckmann noted that the orchestra's success was due to "a mix of different skill sets that are exactly what you need," she said. Among the orchestra's eight founders, some had strong business experience, others were very detail-oriented. All had a passion for music.

"It has worked quite well," she said.

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Hometown fun at Clinton Community Day



Clockwise from top: Bob Beckmann of Matt's Auto Body served as chauffeur for Town of Clinton Justices Barbara Seelbach and James V. Brands. Former Town Supervisor Raymon Oberly was honored as Grand Marshal of the parade. Town Historian Craig Marshall portrayed Uncle Sam. The Equine Explorers 4-H club had an educational booth. Jeanie and David Bean of Jeanie Bean's Delicatessen ride in an antique truck. Children enjoyed face painting and other activities. Members of the Millbrook Fire Department march in the parade, which also included a float from the Upton Lake Christian School and an antique horse and buggy. *Courtesy photos*

Exceeding expectations! Agriculture education hits new levels with Adopt A Calf program

continued from cover

provides age-appropriate educational materials that focus on animal care, nutrition and the role that agriculture plays in everyday life.

Messina noted that she had been working with the ongoing DCAS Agricultural Education effort since 2018, visiting school classrooms and with instructions in a variety of areas. However, the mushrooming growth of the Adopt A Calf program was quite unexpected.

She said, "When the phone started ringing and social media responses started coming in, my husband, Bobby, asked me 'Are you ready for this?'"

And the answer – although unsure at that moment – has become a resounding "Yes!"

The DeForest/Lawrence children immediately began to help Messina by producing the real-time videos to share with classrooms via YouTube.

"The videos track Sweet Treat's growth through monthly weighing and measurements of her height. We also discuss milk production, how the feed is made, what the cows eat and the regular care of cows and calves. Then we get feedback and from the students and provide answers to questions. It's a lot of work, given the many classrooms that we are working with."

Jenna Lawrence commented, "Making the videos was one of the best experiences ever, and it really made me feel like I was doing my part in educating the youth."

Classroom/farm visits

Next came the logistical process of setting up visits to each classroom and/or visits to the farm and then making those visits happen. Coordinating the visits has been somewhat overwhelming, however, Messina noted, "Jen and Jim and their kids are the best people on the planet. They stepped right up and made this work, even with all of their regular farm chores."

Jen DeForest noted that the family had

been helping Messina with the "Ag in the Classroom" project for a few years by bringing calves to the schools. "So, at first we were thinking this would be pretty much the same thing - until Cassie told me about all the emails she received once the press release went out," she said. "Then it became a whole different story of how are we going to manage all of this, it basically became a second job!"

She added, "With that being said, the school students have been great. The questions they ask and interest they show is so rewarding, knowing they have learned a lot by watching the videos. Seeing them ask their teachers to take pictures of them doing different things during the visits to show their parents, and telling us it's the best day of their lives. I have a feeling this project has been the topic of many dinner-table conversations. We have gone beyond just educating the students, we have families being able to watch videos on school platforms, answered questions from school administration, custodians and anyone else that might come by and see the calves when we are at the schools. This makes the long days totally worth it."

Regarding work on the farm, DeForest commented, "We get up very early on the days we have visits. It usually takes five hours of chores to get everything done before we have to leave or the schools arrive here. Thankfully, we get back for the most part in time for Jim to do field work, like chopping haylage. He mows the night before, so it's ready to chop when we get home. The kids are very helpful when they get home from school to get the afternoon chores done with me."

Additional classroom visits have been to Zoe's Ice Cream Barn in Lagrangeville where students have the opportunity to learn how to make milk into ice cream, following Katie Ferris' slogan of "from cow to cone in three days." Students also make their own whipped cream and sundaes.



Above: DCAS Agriculture Educator Cassie Messina explains different types of feed for dairy cows as children listen during a visit to the Stormfield Swiss Farm in the Town of Wappinger. Below: School children work at the portable milking area and show off chocolate milk, donated by Hudson Valley Fresh. Photos by Curtis Schmidt

Hudson Valley Fresh is also part of the program and provides chocolate milk for all students during visits to the farms and classrooms.

Jenna Lawrence commented, "This program has really been an empowering experience where I was happy that I had the opportunity to educate the younger generation on agriculture."

Justin Lawrence added, "I enjoy coming home from school and asking my parents how the school visits went and what kinds of questions the kids had about meeting Sweet Treat"

Looking forward, Messina said the Adopt A Calf effort has now "opened the

door for us (DCAS) to add more programs, not just dairy. We're considering integrating different species into to the Adopt a calf program –so that it becomes a new program each year."

The goal for now and the future is to plant the seeds of agriculture into the minds of young people and their parents and to grow the programming.

Messina said she even foresees herself working with a special outfitted "mobile agri-classroom with different rotating displays." But for now, she is quite happy with the huge response to Adopt A Calf and plans to let that success set the tone for the future.



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Civilian Military Ball

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The Civilian Military Ball was a huge success thanks to all who participated & donated. Click QRC for photo gallery.

(Published weekly)

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Vote for Didi Barrett: Working hard for all residents

To the editor:

Democratic voters have a choice in the upcoming primary for NY Assembly District 106. Didi Barrett has been a leader on issues crucial to district residents, from affordable housing to climate-change protection.

A strong advocate for early childhood education, Didi sponsored major funding to expand onsite childcare at Dutchess Community College - a lifeline for parents furthering their education. She secured traffic equipment funds to help the Town of Poughkeepsie make our streets safer. And she helped the Town win a \$250,000 grant to re-envision the former landfill area around Dutchess Plaza (former K-Mart) on Route 44. With Didi's help, we will bring residents together, over the next year, to begin the long process of remediating and revitalizing that blighted space.

Didi is working hard on residents' behalf and the results have benefited us all. I'm proud to be working with her.

Rebecca Edwards
Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor

Look at the accomplishments -
Barrett delivers in NY Assembly

To the editor:

As we officially start the primary election season in June, I write to urge voters in New York's Assembly District 106 to vote for our good friend and Assemblymember, Didi Barrett, who faces a primary challenge before the general election this Fall. Early voting begins on June 13 through June 21 Election Day is June 23.

Didi continues to work hard to deliver for her Hudson Valley community every day.

As a skillful legislator and relationship builder, she is responsible for a number of "firsts" in legislative accomplishments. Her bill to restore benefits for veterans discharged under Don't Ask Don't Tell and for PTSD became the first in the country and a role model for other state legislatures.

As Chair of the Assembly's Energy Committee, she has

fought to lower utility costs and make energy bills more transparent. She recently passed legislation to create the first statewide moratorium on data centers in the country. Didi also wrote and advocated for the passage of legislation that creates a pilot project for regenerative agriculture that allows farmers to sequester carbon in the soil, reducing greenhouse gases while promoting resiliency and productivity. This is a mere sampling of Didi's many notable accomplishments over the years.

New Yorkers need experienced leaders now more than ever. Please remember to VOTE this month for a proven leader in this race, Didi Barrett.

Adelaide Camillo
Town of Washington

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The Northern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

Aunt Rosey is 100! Centenarian celebrates with family at Brookmeade

Roberta Andrews (aka Aunt Rosey) celebrated her 100th birthday with family, friends and staff at the Meadows at Brookmeade Community in Rhinebeck on May 25.

She was born 100 years ago on May 25, 1926, the daughter of Irene Ham Andrews and Gordon S. V. Andrews. She grew up and lived into her 90s in the farmhouse on her family's dairy farm in Clove Valley, Town of Union Vale, Dutchess County. She attended the one-room schoolhouse just over the hill from the family farm.

Roberta graduated from Pawling High School. After graduation from Morrisville College, Morrisville, NY with a degree in business, she worked for

DHIA (Dairy Herd Improvement Association).

She worked most of her career in the office at Blue Cross / Blue Shield Insurance, becoming administrative office manager. She was also a Sunday School Superintendent at Verbank Methodist Church. Later she joined Tabernacle Baptist Church in Poughkeepsie and served as Secretary of the Tabernacle Christian Academy.

Roberta has always loved traveling with friends. She attended the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany and visited China. She remembers hosting many parties in the Clove for family and friends.

She has been - and still is - a wonderful, devoted aunt to her seven nieces and nephews and their spouses and children. She is a "good sport" and is devoted to family fun.



From left at Roberta Andrews' birthday party are Ann Bendix, Betty Andrews, Ken Andrews, Roberta Andrews, Ray Andrews and Carolyn Andrews. Ken and Ray are Roberta's nephews. The photo on the screen behind the group shows Janet Cardinal, their sister, between Ken and Ray. Janet was Aunt Rosey's primary caregiver - visiting her almost weekly from the time Roberta came to Meadows until Janet died in September 2024. Many of the staff and guests knew Janet and her golden retriever, Bella, from their frequent visits. *Courtesy photo*

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Rising gas prices put financial strain on Regional Food Bank

The Regional Food Bank, already dealing with budget cuts, inflation and rising food insecurity, is now also feeling the pressure of high fuel prices. Fuel prices have increased costs of operating the Food Bank's fleet of trucks by more than 54% from 2021 to 2025.

The Food Bank's team of drivers delivers fruits, vegetables and other essential food from the Capital Region Distribution Center in Albany County and the Hudson Valley Distribution Center in Montgomery, Orange County every day to ensure more than 1,000 agency partners receive foods to feed and nourish their communities.

Each month, the Regional Food Bank travels 28,514 miles to distribute food throughout its vast 23 county region. The Regional Food Bank is the largest in New York State, serving 41 percent of the landmass from the lower Hudson Valley to the North County and Adirondack Region. In May alone, the Regional Food Bank anticipated spending \$10,000 more on fuel compared to this month last year. These dollars are maintaining operational funds that would have otherwise provided 30,000 meals to neighbors in need.

"Rising fuel costs are placing tremendous pressure on the Food Bank's operations and budget, but the greatest impact is being felt by the people who depend on us every day," said Tom Nardacci, CEO of the Regional Food Bank. "Families in rural communities without reliable transportation, parents skipping meals so their children can eat, and seniors forced to choose between food and medication are bearing the heaviest burden right now as they try to stretch their weekly budget. Every dollar diverted to fuel costs is a dollar we cannot invest in providing fresh, nutritious food to the 355,000 neighbors who rely on us each month."

According to Feeding America, 1 in 7 New York residents suffer from food insecurity and rely on charitable food programs like local pantries and soup kitchens. Due to rising gas prices and cuts to essential emergency food assistance benefits like SNAP, individuals have less money to spend on groceries. Without reliable delivery of food from Food Banks, approximately 1.8 million New Yorkers utilizing food pantries will see a decrease in the availability, variety, and quality of food.



Taj Plante, Vice President of Operations for the Regional Food Bank, fills a truck with gas. The Food Bank's team of drivers delivers fruits, vegetables and other essential food from the Capital Region Distribution Center in Albany County and the Hudson Valley Distribution Center in Montgomery, Orange County every day to ensure more than 1,000 agency partners receive foods to feed and nourish their communities. *Courtesy photo*

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Residents voice concerns over Aerodrome's expansion plans

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acceptance of its seasonal aircraft schedule overhead, and understanding of its need for repair, meeting attendees also voiced concerns over unforeseen environmental, infrastructure, and scenic impacts that may result if the plan is approved as is. Cited concerns included the potential for increased noise and traffic on rural roads; unknown impact on wetlands, water and wildlife; the visual impact of large, modern buildings along a quiet, rural neighborhood; and fears of private aviation expansion and commercial galas/events.

Kenneth Stenger of Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Luele represents Tomas Wise, a neighboring property owner. Stenger recently obtained a 2019 zoning document from the then-ZEO, Bob Fennell. In it, Fennell determined the Aerodrome property to be a museum. A museum use was not permitted in an RD3 Zoning District. Consequently, the Rhinebeck Aerodrome Museum was determined to be "a Nonconforming Use" under the definition of Section 143-4 of the Zoning Code. Fennell determined that any expansion of the Aerodrome is subject to the requirements of Section 143-125. Then in October 2020, Fennell determined the use of the Aerodrome Museum as an "Airport Facility Use by Special Permit and Site Plan Approval" in the RD3 Zoning District. The Airport Facility Use was a conforming use in the RD3 Zoning District. In his second determination of the same issue before him in 2019, Fennell did not explain his reason for changing his mind. The issue as to whether the 2019 or 2020 determination controls will be in front of the Town of Red Hook ZBA shortly.

Stenger said, "Whether the ZBA ultimately determines that the 2019 or 2020 determination control in this application, the larger issue is whether or not the Aerodrome is a conforming or non-conforming use. In 1993, the Town amended its zoning code to give the Aerodrome a path to becoming a conforming use by

adopting 143-86 to allow the Aerodrome to apply for a special use permit. For over 30 years, the Aerodrome did nothing. Now it has filed an application, which contains expansion well beyond that permitted to a non-conforming use. I believe that the failure to have received the special use permit, prior to this application, means that its current use is non-conforming and cannot support the expansion proposed by this application."

Stenger said this issue will shortly be brought to the Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO), Brandon Mullins, for a determination. If the ZEO determines that the current Aerodrome use is a conform-

ing use, an appeal will be taken to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Stenger said that until the issue is finally resolved, the Planning Board has the discretion to continue or adjourn its further consideration of the application.

The Aerodrome was unavailable for comment; however Tara Grieb, director of the Aerodrome, maintains that "it has operated 'diligently and transparently' throughout the application process" and that their application relies on the town's later designation to execute necessary, modern facility upgrades.

In addition to the Public Hearing extension, the Board is asking for a full

traffic study as a result of the June 1 meeting.

The Public Hearing will remain open through June 15. Public hearings are held at the Red Hook Town Hall and via Zoom, Monday, June 15, at 6:30 p.m., at which time all interested persons shall be heard by the Planning Board. The applicant proposes modifications and improvements to existing use on parcels numbered 814020 and 820860, located at 16 and 98 Norton Rd in the RD3 zoning district. A copy of the application, related documents and all letters are available for viewing on the front page of the town website under "Public Notices."

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RENEGADES FEATURE

Kent proves prowess at bat and in the field for Renegades

By Morgan E. Maier

The New York Yankees are reminded every series why they drafted Kaeden Kent. From stunning defense to consistent offensive production, he has been the uncontested core of the Hudson Valley Renegades, from the leadoff spot to the five-point-five hole.

Kent is nearly a lock to reach base. In the June 6 loss to the Frederick Keys, Kent got four of Hudson Valley's hits while three teammates (Eric Genter; Roderick Arias; Kyle West) combined for the other five. With seven total bases on the night, Kent bested his previous season high (5), which he has achieved four times this season.

The reliable righty arm in the infield and a lefty bat in the box, Kent has shown significant improvement from last year's half-season in High-A. So far in 2026, he's split time at shortstop, second, and a spell at third base, spending most of his time at short.

Following the Frederick series,

Kent is batting .302. The next closest belongs to Core Jackson, trailing with .266. The power-hitting prowess that Kent showcased as a Texas A&M Aggie hasn't yet shown its face, but his crack against the Keys produced all of Hudson Valley's runs on June 6.

More than being the leadoff hitter, Kent is the team leader in various categories. Runs (39), hits (68), stolen bases (15), total bases, and extra bases. His initials aren't the only thing about Kent that has New York seeing double – his team-leading 15 doubles do, too. He added three more on the multihit masterpiece in Maryland, and the number is likely to skyrocket as Kent's bat heats up with summer.

His numbers don't just lead his team, but the South Atlantic League. Those 68 hits are the top figure in both the north and south divisions. The doubles are a four-way tie for first.

As Kaeden continues the legacy of his Hall of Fame father, infielder Jeff Kent, the Renegades look to see the 22-year-old develop his own style at the head of the lineup.



In addition for being a terrific fielder, Kaeden Kent is the Renegades team leader in various categories. Runs (39), hits (68), stolen bases (15), total bases, and extra bases. Photo by Dave Janosz

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Frederick BAL	35	19	.648	-	6-4	W2
	Greensboro PIT	35	22	.614	1.5	5-5	W2
	Wilmington WSH	27	29	.482	9.0	2-8	L2
	Hudson Valley NYY	25	31	.446	11.0	4-6	L2
	Brooklyn NYM	22	34	.393	14.0	8-2	W4
	Jersey Shore PHI	22	34	.393	14.0	3-7	L4
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Bowling Green TB	41	15	.732	-	7-3	W2
	Winston-Salem CWS	33	24	.579	8.5	5-5	L3
	Rome ATL	30	26	.536	11.0	5-5	L1
	Hub City TEX	28	28	.500	13.0	4-6	W3
	Greenville BOS	22	32	.407	18.0	5-5	W1
	Asheville HOU	15	41	.268	26.0	6-4	L2



June			
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
07/04/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	Independence Day: Happy 250th Birthday, USA! presented by Central Hudson Gas & Electric WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/05/26	vs. Wilmington	02:05 PM	Unicorn Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/07/26	vs. Rome	06:35 PM	90s Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets





Renegades Extra!



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**Tompkins Community Bank Announces Planned
Name Change to Tompkins Bank & Trust**



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RENEGADES ROUNDUP

High-scoring affairs dominate as Renegades tangle with Keys

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades went all week without a win during their previous visit to the Frederick Keys. The Renegades, now 25-31 on the season, solved enough of the Keys to salvage back-to-back wins, including a thrilling comeback to lock in the second victory of the South Atlantic League North leaders.

Three's company - The Renegades scored three runs in a trio of losses, including the series-ending 16-3 stomp. While scoring most runs allowed by the pitching staff all season, Frederick also launched six home runs. The Renegades were shut down the final four innings, as Frederick finished the rout by sitting down 12 straight Hudson Valley batters. Though a few outings were spoiled by the fiery Frederick offense, Hudson Valley pitchers fanned 12 Keys.

Enmanuel Tejada got the Renegades a lead with a solo home run, but Frederick erased it the following frame on an Ike Irish two-run blast. The Renegades mustered just five hits on June 2; Core Jackson hit three of them, including an RBI single to give the Renegades their only lead of the game, which they held for half an inning before falling 7-3. On June 3, the Renegades scored all 3 runs in one inning – a three-run cannon shot by Kaeden Kent – before the Keys came back to score 10 straight runs, capped by a 4-spot in the 8th inning.

Facundo dominates in Frederick - Right-hander Allen Facundo found the stuff Hudson Valley needed desperately



Josue Gonzalez, sliding into home above, had three hits and three RBI in a 10-1 Renegades victory over the Frederick Keys last week. Photo by Dave Janosz

when he took the mound on June 4. With no runs, no hits, and 12 strikeouts, Facundo forfeited four walks; none came around to score across his 6.0 innings as the Renegades ran away with the 10-1 victory. It helped that his offense struck first – and hard. Moylan had a 3-RBI night, while Josue Gonzalez had three hits and three RBI. Eric Genter got it started with a sacrifice fly in the first, while a rolling Kyle West grounder put the Renegades up two. In the second, the offense broke it open.

7's Wild - The back-and-forth battle on June 5 featured seven-run innings on both sides, but early on, Frederick seemed fixing for a slaughter. The Keys tagged Rory Fox for 10 runs; three were earned. Riding a one-game win streak and down as many as seven, the 'Gades gained back. Josh Moylan went 3-5, knocking in 5 runs with 2 home runs. Josh Moylan cut the deficit in the sixth with a 3-run blast. And it became a game in the eighth, turning naptime at Nymeo Field back to a ballgame with six outs to spare. A Core Jackson triple cleared the bases, a passed

ball and a pair of walks filled them ? of the way back for Roderick Arias. Arias' monster 3-run shot to put the Renegades up 13-12. Jackson and Kent launched back-to-back doubles for the ninth inning insurance, as Hudson Valley hung on to win 14-13.

The Renegades come home to host the Jersey Shore BlueClaws, who are riding a four-game losing streak after dropping 5 of 6 to the Brooklyn Cyclones. Soccer Night, Superhero Night and Sunday's Copa de Diversión highlight the present slate of promos.

To advertise on the
Renegades pages:

contact [cschmidt@
sutchessnews.com](mailto:cschmidt@sutchessnews.com)



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View the Mid-Hudson Libraries Tempestry Collection through 2027

The largest collection of “tempestries” in the world will be traveling to local libraries over the next 18 months. The Mid-Hudson Libraries Tempestry Collection is a unique, data-driven community art project that involved 130 area knitters, recruited by their local libraries.

On Earth Day in 2025 the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) announced something unique – a call for 130 knitters to volunteer through their local library to help with a data-driven community art project to depict 130 years of climate data through “tempestries” (temperature + tapestry). This project came together thanks to a collaboration between the Mid-Hudson Library System and The Tempestry Project and debuted on April 29 at a reception at Mohonk Mountain House.

One of the ongoing problems inherent in discussions about climate change is the vast scale of the conversation. The Tempestry Project’s goal is to scale this down into something that is accurate, tangible, relatable, and beautiful. Blending fiber art with temperature data creates a bridge between global climate and our own personal experiences through knitted temperature tapestries, or “Tempestries.”

A Tempestry is a knitted scarf-sized wall hanging that shows the daily high temperatures for a specific location and year. Collectively, a group of Tempestries for one location (such as the Mid-Hudson Libraries Collection which covers Hudson Valley data from 1895-2025) creates a powerful visual representation of changing temperatures over time.

“We are so proud of our libraries and their knitters for not only telling the story

of climate change in the Hudson Valley but telling the story of our knitters. Reading why each knitter chose the year they did and then watching them recognize their work in the context of the other Tempestries at the reception was a moving experience,” said Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, executive director of the Mid-Hudson Library System. “This is the largest collection of Tempestries in the world, a testament to what libraries and our communities can do when we work together.”

The Mid-Hudson Libraries Tempestry Collection is now set to travel throughout our service area in 2026 and 2027, covering Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, and Ulster counties. Please check each library’s exhibit dates and hours prior to visiting.

The Mid-Hudson Libraries Tempestry Collection exhibit schedule:

Through June 2026: Hyde Park Library District

July-September 2026: Mahopac Library

November 14-December 2026: Olive Free Library

January-March 2027: Elting Memorial Library

April-June 2027: Hudson Area Association Library

July-September 2027: Claverack Free Library

October-December 2027: Putnam Valley Free Library

This traveling exhibit was made possible thanks to a special legislative grant from Senator Michele Hinchey.



The Mid-Hudson Libraries Tempestry Collection display at an April 29 reception at Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz. *Courtesy photo*

Tompkins Community Bank announces planned name change to Tompkins Bank & Trust



Tompkins Financial Corporation has announced that it has requested regulatory approval to rebrand Tompkins Community Bank as Tompkins Bank & Trust, a name that reflects the organization’s longstanding reputation as a trusted financial partner, its capabilities, and its continued commitment to relationship-based banking and personalized service.

With more than 50 banking offices serving customers across Western, Central and Hudson Valley New York, as well as Southeastern Pennsylvania, Tompkins’ new name builds on the organization’s nearly 190-year legacy while positioning it for the future.

“The new name better reflects who we are today and the strength of the relationships we have built over generations,” said Stephen Romaine, president and CEO of Tompkins Financial Corporation. “While our name is evolving, our purpose remains the same: to serve as a trusted financial partner and to help our customers, businesses and communities thrive. We are proud of our history, excited about this next chapter, and deeply

committed to continuing to meet the needs of the communities we serve.”

The transition to Tompkins Bank & Trust will not change the products, services or local teams customers know and trust. Customers will continue to receive the same personalized service and local decision-making that have long defined the Tompkins experience.

Subject to regulatory approval, customers will begin to see the Tompkins Bank & Trust name and brand introduced across the organization’s footprint over the coming year. This transition represents an exciting step forward—one that reinforces the bank’s capabilities today while honoring the values that have guided it for nearly two centuries.

As Tompkins Bank & Trust, the organization will continue investing in local communities, supporting regional economies, and providing trusted financial solutions tailored to the needs of individuals, families, and businesses throughout its markets.

For more information, visit tompkinsbank.com.

Hyde Park Farm Market opens



Members of the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce joined Town Supervisor Al Torreggiani to cut the ribbon to officially open the Hyde Park Farm Market for the 2026 season on Saturday, June 6. The market is located in the lot across Route 9 from the Hyde Park Town Hall. It is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. through the beginning of October. *Photo by Curtis Schmidt*

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Central Hudson honors Library System with Community Engagement award

Central Hudson recently presented the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) with its “Excellence in Community Engagement” recognition award at the Energy Efficiency & Electrification Summit, an annual event connecting Central Hudson experts and community partners.

In 2025, MHLS played a vital role in extending the reach of Central Hudson’s weatherization efforts – collaborating with Central Hudson to launch the first in the nation DIY Home Energy Assessment Program via their non-traditional lending library – also known as the “Library of Things.” The organizations partnered to provide libraries with “HomeBoost Kits,” thermal imaging cameras that help patrons conduct their own energy assessment at home and obtain a free home energy assessment report.

“We are grateful to the staff of Central Hudson for their hard work and true devotion to helping the residents of the Hudson Valley find ways to lower their costs,” said Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Executive Director of the Mid-Hudson Library System, “When they pitched the idea of libraries helping them create access to this free resource for residents we jumped at the chance to partner with them, it is a win-win-win.”

Annual Clinton Historical exhibit to feature History of Local Firefighting

The annual historical exhibit by the Clinton Historical Society for 2026 is the "History of Local Firefighting" and is being held to honor all Clinton firefighters and rescue squad members, past and present, from the East Clinton and the West Clinton Fire Districts.

The free exhibit will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on each weekend during June at the Clinton Historical Society's Creek Meeting House headquarters at 2433 Salt Point Turnpike.

Curator Craig Marshall said, "They (firefighters) are often overlooked as unsung heroes helping with frequent and difficult emergency tasks. West Clinton FD responded to 424 fire and rescue calls last year, and East Clinton FD responded to 300 calls."

Cynthia Koch, President, Clinton Historical Society, further noted "Their volunteer time commitments are significant, with a minimum of 100 hours annual training to keep up with new equipment and improved procedures. We appreciate their on-going dedication to

our town."

The exhibit will feature many selected vintage firefighting artifacts from area fire museums and personal collections. Highlights include two restored fire hose wagons and one rare un-restored chemical tank wagon. All three are circa late 1800s and are hand drawn.

The exhibit will be educational for both adults and children, with descriptions of each artifact name, era, and how it was used. The history of both fire districts will be on display with vintage photos of their fire and emergency vehicles. A collection of images of early horse drawn fire wagons in Poughkeepsie c. 1890 will also be exhibited.

With a focus on actively engaging youth (primarily) with the exhibit, a new augmented reality (AR) technology using smart phones will be featured. Disney's Goofy, dressed in firefighting attire, and four full-sized mannequins also in vintage service bunker garb, will welcome visitors entering the extensive display.



Two restored hand-drawn fire hose wagons and one rare un-restored chemical tank wagon circa late 1800s will be on display at the Clinton Historical Society's "History of Local Firefighting" exhibit. The History of Local Firefighting exhibit will be educational for both adults and children, with descriptions of each artifact name, era, and how it was used. *Courtesy photos*



HEALTHY LIFESTYLES SECTION

LOOK FOR IT IN OUR JUNE 17 PAPER!

GOLDEN LIVING

Note: the Office for the Aging and OFA Friendship Centers will be closed in observance of the national Juneteenth holiday on Friday, June 19th.

Where will you live in 2031?

If you've ever interviewed for a job, or been the one conducting the interview, this question almost always comes up: Where do you see yourself in 5 or 10 years?

Readers who are retired may have thought they'd never encounter that question again. On the contrary: It's the kind of question that becomes increasingly important as we age. We each need to make decisions on what to do with our time, including where we'll live, before something makes that decision for us.

New York State single family homes are the nation's oldest as measured by median age: 65 years, according to Census data. Homes of this age are common in Dutchess County, where we experienced continuous double-digit population growth from 1930 to 1980, along with a commensurate housing boom. Many readers of this column are still living in the homes built when they moved here decades ago.

The homes from that era that are still standing are showing their age, even when well-maintained. Census data indicates that homes built before 1940 are nearly 30 times more likely to be in inadequate condition, and cost nearly 10 times more in routine maintenance than

homes built after 2022. The annual cost just to maintain a home built before 1940 is \$1,615; but deferring maintenance means even larger bills later.

Whether you're in a house or an apartment, will it still be right for you in the years to come?

'But I like where I live'

That's what most older adults want as they age: to live in the place that feels most familiar to them. Still, staying in one place requires just as much preparedness as moving to a new home - maybe more, if you're in one of the older homes we mentioned.

We can only control some of the future. Where we'll live over the years is a question that requires ongoing consideration, whether we live in an apartment where we're content, or a single-family house that may be worth selling as you downsize.

Having both short- and long-term plans for housing options is key, and OFA can help you reach decisions you'll feel comfortable with.

Even with hundreds of units of new senior housing being built, the demand for senior-friendly housing in Dutchess County will continue to outstrip the supply. With wait lists for senior housing as long as five years at some complexes, you may have less time to plan than you assume. Contact OFA to explore your options, at (845) 486-2555 during business hours, or ofa@dutchessny.gov if you

want to reach out while the issue is fresh in your mind.

Getting your home up to code (and keeping it that way)

Maybe you own your home outright and your plan is to stay there, no matter what. As we mentioned earlier, keeping your home in a safe and livable condition is going to require regular upkeep and sometimes modifications.

We're aware of expiration dates on necessities like food and medication, but what about the expiration on, for example, your home's wiring? That can be expected to last 40-50 years, according to Electrical Contractor magazine.

A home electrical panel with circuit breakers has a lifespan of 25-40 years. Switches, outlets and ceiling fans may require more frequent replacement, especially when heavily used.

The list of potential concerns goes on. An asphalt shingle roof's lifespan is in the 15-30 year range, less if the roof takes a beating in the weather. Home windows can last 15-50 years, depending on installation material - less for wood, more for vinyl or fiberglass.

Home maintenance is a challenge as we age, especially on fixed incomes - and we haven't even gotten to our bathrooms and bedrooms. That's why OFA has a Fall Prevention Checklist available at dutchessny.gov/ofaprintable that lists the absolute home safety basics we can take care of with little or no budget, along with

many tasks that can be handled with minimal handyman skills, and others that may require a pro's help.

Allow us to nag about one thing before we wrap up, because we've seen too many people of all ages seriously injured, or worse, because of just one ill-advised shortcut: A kitchen chair is NOT a stepladder.

Ideally, your frequently needed items are in a place where you can reach them with both feet firmly on the floor, no climbing required.

'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 and July. Seating is limited, and advance registration is required by calling the OFA at (845) 486-2555 during business hours, unless noted otherwise below.

Monday, June 15 at 3 p.m.

Dutchess County Office for the Aging
114 Delafield Street, Poughkeepsie
Tuesday, June 16 at 12:30 p.m.

continued on page 11

Scouting America Dutchess County Awards Dinner



Several individuals were honored at the Scouting America Dutchess County Awards Dinner held at Christos Catering in Poughkeepsie on May 21. Dan Conniff, Chief Operating Officer for the Greater Hudson Valley Council of Scouting America and Dinner Chair Mike Englishby led the event. Among the honorees were (clockwise, from top) Eric Kiszkiel Senior Vice President, Engineering & Operations for Central Hudson, Joshua Rehrig, Life Sponsor, who has helped to raise over \$60,000 for local scouting, and speakers Dave Stewart of DS Home Services, Dutchess County Clerk Brad Kendall and Bill Beale, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response. *Courtesy photos*



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

Dialing 988:

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

SEND US YOUR NEWS:

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Kall, Aboueid named Webutuck Class of 2026's top students

Giana Kall and Zaina Aboueid shined in the classroom and in the school community, earning the titles of valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, for the Class of 2026, the high school announced.

"Both girls have worked extremely hard for this achievement; they've earned this," said Matt Pascale, high school principal. "Both are wonderful young ladies, who are hard working and dedicated to trying to improve in all areas of life."

"They come from wonderful families. They're positive influences on their classmates. They both have bright futures. I wish them all the best on their road ahead. They'll be missed here."

Kall is one of three student representatives on Webutuck's Board of Education and is a member of the culture and climate, environmental, debate and yearbook clubs. She is the president of the

National Honor Society and student council.

In her junior year, Kall founded the Webutuck service club, writing a grant proposal and recently receiving a grant through the Webutuck Quest for Excellence Fund. The service club has made wellness and birthday kits for the district and school community.

"It's nice to see everyone come together and help out people in our community," she said of the service club.

Kall will attend Fordham University where she'll major in psychology and minor in business law.

"I'm just really thankful for all the opportunities I've been given here in this amazing environment," said Kall of Webutuck.

Aboueid, a member of the high school band who has played the flute for nine years, is the president of the culture and

climate club, vice president of the environmental club and National Honor Society, and a member of the student council.

"With all the clubs and opportunities, I've grown out of my shell to try new things," said Aboueid.

The culture and climate club's mission is to make the school environment better, which the club did by starting student of the month recognition and an annual wellness day.

"We put a lot of work into that, and people really like it," said Aboueid of wellness day. "It's nice to have a mental health day because I feel a lot of us need that, and it's super fun."

Aboueid will study to be a social worker at Marist University.

Content submitted by Webutuck Central School District



The Webutuck Central School District announced that Zaina Aboueid (left) has been named salutatorian and Giana Kall has been named valedictorian for the Class of 2026. *Courtesy photo*

Historic landmark lost in fire at former Hudson River Psychiatric Center property

Air quality around site is 'normal,' officials say

By Kate Goldsmith

A fire on June 3 at the former Hudson River Psychiatric Center (HRPC) property in the Town of Poughkeepsie destroyed a historic building at 120 Hudson View Drive.

In a June 7 email to residents, Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards stated, "At first it appeared that the Administration Building, a National Historic Landmark from 1874, designed by Vaux, Withers & Co. after the ideas of reformer Thomas Kirkbride, could be saved. But with wind and dry conditions the fire spread rapidly and in the late afternoon the building succumbed."

Fairview Fire District Chief Justin Bohlmann issued a press release on June 4 sharing details of the incident, noting that first responders were on the scene within 90 seconds of getting the call of a reported smoke investigation. As they put the initial fire under control, "units discovered a second, separate fire rapidly developing in the northeast wing of the massive HRPC main administration building," Bohlmann stated, at which point extensive mutual aid was requested.

Four firefighters required medical evaluation at the scene, two who were transported to local hospitals for treatment related to heat exhaustion and dehydration. Both were expected to recover.

No civilian injuries were reported.

The initial on-scene phase of the fire investigation was completed on June 4, Bohlmann said, and the cause and origin of the fire remain under active investigation jointly by the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response Fire Investigation Bureau and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department. They were assisted on-scene by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, which deployed an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) for aerial damage assessment and an Accelerant Detection Canine unit.

Bohlmann stated, "Over the next several days, residents WILL continue to see smoke coming from the HRPC site in the area ... [but] at this time, the fire is 100% contained."

Supervisor Edwards thanked the "Fairview Fire Department and all the supporting crews and agencies who helped fight the blaze."

She reminded residents that the site is private property and asserted that air quality registered normal on June 4, the day after the fire. Air-quality reports or alerts are available at <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/air-quality/monitoring> and <https://www.airnow.gov/>.

"Understanding the fire's cause will take a long time, and speculation in the meantime isn't helpful," Edwards stated. "But the Town will ensure that the investigation is thorough and careful and will share any information that becomes available with residents."



The initial on-scene phase of the fire investigation was completed on June 4. Fairview Fire District Chief Justin Bohlmann said the cause and origin of the fire remain under active investigation jointly by the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response Fire Investigation Bureau and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department. Photos by Curtis Schmidt



GOLDEN LIVING

continued from page 9

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, or visit www.beaconlibrary.org/calendar

(NEW) Monday, July 13th, 2 p.m.
Fishkill Recreation Center
793 NY 52, Fishkill
OFA Ambassador Hours for June-August

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.

Here's the Bad Joke!

Why did the chicken cross the playground? To get to the other slide.

ND Symphony Orchestra's Beckmann to retire following June 20 season finale

continued from cover

An evolving mission

Beckmann was the orchestra director at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School and taught music in the Hyde Park Central School District for 20 years starting in 1990. Her career teaching orchestral instruments began in 1975 in Monticello (Sullivan County) after graduating from the Crane School of Music. In addition to teaching, Beckmann pursued a career in orchestral conducting and has been on the podium internationally while leading NDSO.

The orchestra's early concerts were held at FDR High and featured opera and classical orchestral works. The scope of the concerts has expanded – and now they are held at The Culinary Institute of America's Marriott Pavilion. In addition, the orchestra offers an educational component for youth. Over the last three years, 2,500 students have visited the Culinary Institute of America during school day to attend a unique student-centered concert.

"The concert runs about 40 minutes, during which we perform pieces that would be student-friendly," said Beckmann. The program is geared to fourth-graders, "which is about the time they start thinking about taking up an instrument." The program includes video

demonstrations as well as live demos by orchestra members.

To prepare for the concert, "[The students] listen to a well known classical piece of music in their classrooms and illustrate it. The illustrations are submitted to the orchestra and projected on a screen during the live performance," Beckmann said.

Pride in growth

Looking back on her career with NDSO, Beckmann is proud of the orchestra's evolution.

"One of the highlights was the first time we performed at the Marriott Pavilion," she said. "Before then, it was churches and school auditoriums. To have grown as an organization to that point in that type of hall, that was really exciting. We did a Rodgers and Hammerstein concert with vocalists for that first one."

Another highlight has been working with the various soloists who have performed as guests with the orchestra.

"I've worked with a koto player, performed with a harmonica player, worked with a violinist who was the younger brother of Midori [a world-renowned, Japanese-American violin virtuoso and former child prodigy]," Beckmann said. "You get to meet people who are soloists,

like [Broadway star] Craig Schulman."

Asked what has made NDSO a resilient organization, Beckmann noted three points.

"We have to give a lot of credit to the board president, Dave Baxter, for his long-term budget planning and strategic thinking. [The orchestra is] run as a business; that makes a big difference," she said. "It's always important to think about the artistic side – that's me – but if you don't have someone taking the business approach, there's problems."

Beckmann also credited "a team approach that's worked very well," and being mindful of the audience.

"What do people want to hear? And then mixing it with something unfamiliar, that makes for a good combination," she said. "We've [selected] a lot of pop music, too, with vocalists."

Which brings the discussion to the June 20 concert, "The Beatles, Elvis and Beyond."

"It was really fun to put this together, because this was the music I listened to as a teenager. We have our Elvis soloist [Gene DiNapoli]; he's been a lot of fun to plan with and for me to learn from. That's the first half," Beckmann said. "The second half, thinking what came after Elvis, or alongside Elvis. Of course, you have to

have the Beatles. But there's also Brazilian jazz. We have a medley from Antonio Carlos Jobim, and we've got a Herb Alpert tune."

Beckmann notes that she has worn two hats in NDSO: artistic director, the one who gets to select the programs; and musical director or conductor.

"When I'm on the podium, I'm the music director. When I'm off the podium, I'm shaping the season artistically," she said. "I'm not sure which I liked better."

Waiting in the wings to don those two hats is William Stevens, who is well known to NDSO audiences as guest conductor.

"[He's] been officially appointed. He's been kind of helping for years," said Beckmann. "I was sort of mentoring him years ago, and he's come into his own. ... Under his leadership NDSO will certainly continue to flourish."

As Beckmann prepares to raise the baton for her final performance, she thanked "the orchestra, the audience and everyone who has made NDSO such a successful and joyful part of the Hudson Valley music community."

A new season starts in October and will be announced late August; visit www.ndsorchestra.org and watch these pages for updates.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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 tourney 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.

Flag Retirement Ceremony set June 14 at Red Hook VFW Post

Red Hook VFW Post 7765 will host a U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day, Sunday, June 14, at 6 p.m., at the Post, located at 30 Elizabeth St., Red Hook. The public, Post and Auxiliary members and Scouts are invited to participate in the ceremony. Call (845) 758-6212 or visit VFW7765.COM for more information.

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.

Passion Play returns to Poughkeepsie church June 18-20

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.

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.

'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 nes-

ted 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 hvvecboard@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.

Golf Tournament to benefit Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation

K-104 (WSPK Radio) and the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation will hold the K-104 Woodman's Women's Hope Classic Golf Tournament on June 22, at the Osiris Golf Club, 110 Country Club Road, Walden. This event brings together women golfers of all skill levels to support Miles of Hope's vital mission.

Participants will enjoy a full day of golf as well as raffles, 50/50 Drawing, on course games and surprises, 4x \$200 Travel Gift Certificates as prizes from Golf Breaks, and opportunities to connect with other passionate supporters of this important cause.

For more information: <https://www.k104online.com/woodmans-womens-hope-classic/>

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.

Copake Falls Day set July 18

The community is invited to celebrate the annual Copake Falls Day on Saturday, July 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This family-friendly event features a wide range of activities designed to bring residents and visitors together while supporting vital local organizations.

Event highlights include:

5K Run: A morning race to kick off the day's festivities. Registration: cf5krun@gmail.com

Family Entertainment: Live music, kids' activities, and rides on the Pomeroy Family Railroad.

Shopping & Auctions: A community tag sale, local market vendors, raffles, and a silent auction.

History & Food: Tours of the Copake Iron Works, historical exhibits, and a community BBQ.

A portion of the proceeds from the day will directly support Dollars for Scholars and the Roe Jan Food Pantry. For more details, visit copakefallsny.com or email copakefallsdayny@gmail.com.

FeedHV reaches milestone, seeks volunteers for summer

In April of 2026, FeedHV celebrated its greatest milestone in the program's history, surpassing one million pounds of food rescued. FeedHV is the Hudson Valley's community food rescue and harvesting network dedicated to meeting the needs of neighbors while mitigating the impacts of food waste. The program is administered by Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corporation (HVADC) and operates across Dutchess, Columbia, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

This summer, FeedHV is anticipating an increasing amount of donations and needs additional volunteer help. FeedHV volunteers are essential to reducing food waste and insecurity in the region. The volunteer crew transports food donations to recipient agencies on their own schedule, enabled through the ChowMatch app. Volunteers select their own geographic coverage, types of donations they transport (size and weight), and time spent. All individuals aged 18 and over with reliable transportation and auto

insurance can volunteer with FeedHV. To learn more about FeedHV, visit www.feedhv.org. To sign up as a volunteer, visit tinyurl.com/feedhvvolunteer

Since 2017, FeedHV has used the ChowMatch app to match food donors with food assistance programs and direct food to those who need it most. Thanks to FeedHV's network of donors, feeding agencies and volunteers, the program has grown exponentially and has moved more food each year since its inception. The program is looking to build upon its

onemillion-pound success this summer by recruiting twenty-five new volunteers.

From January through April of this year, FeedHV has saved over 90,000 pounds of food that would have otherwise gone to waste. The FeedHV network currently includes 490 volunteers, 260 donor organizations and more than 185 receiving agencies with food assistance programs. Donors range from restaurants, farms, markets and food makers to caterers, event venues and educational institutions.

Dutchess County accepting applications for free summer camp at Camp Nooteeing

Scholarships available for income-eligible families

Dutchess County is once again partnering with the Town of Pleasant Valley offer local children, ages 3½ to 15, a fun, outdoor summer camp experience at Camp Nooteeing in Pleasant Valley. As part of the Town's "Camp Sunny Days," campers will enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities including swimming, hiking, boating, arts and crafts, games and more on the various trails, fields and sport courts. Programming will run in three two-week sessions, from June 29 through Aug. 7, operating Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dutchess County's Division of Youth Services will provide scholarships to income-eligible families covering the full cost of the camp (not including extended care). Families earning up to 250% of the federal poverty level qualify for scholarships (income chart available on applica-

tion). Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications can be completed through the County's online portal via www.dutchessny.gov.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "Summer is just around the corner, and we have the perfect adventure waiting for our youth right here in Dutchess County! I am thrilled to again partner with Supervisor Mary Albrecht and the Town of Pleasant Valley to bring 'Camp Sunny Days' to Camp Nooteeing, offering high-energy, age-specific programs packed with summer fun. Every child should be able to experience the magic of summer camp, which is why Dutchess County is making full scholarships available for income-eligible families - so don't wait, dive into an unforgettable summer and apply today!"

Three camp options available, based on age:

Camp Sunny Sprouts: Designed for preschool-aged children (ages 3½ to 4½), this program offers a warm and age-

appropriate day of fun where young campers can explore, play and build confidence while feeling safe, supported, and cared for. Campers must be fully potty trained.

Camp Sunny Days, for children entering 1st through 6th grade in the fall, offers an active, social and thoughtfully paced program where campers grow and learn. Activities include swimming, sports, games, nature, survival skills, boating and arts and crafts. Free play is built into the day, allowing children to slow down, make choices, and follow their curiosity - moments that often spark friendships and imaginative play.

Teen Trailblazers, for teens entering 7th grade through 9th grade in the fall - and are ready for flexibility, independence, and adventure while still benefitting from the structure and support that make camp a positive, rewarding experience - is designed for older campers who will have access to a wide range of activities while developing their individual interests, skills and confidence.

Families should submit scholarship applications as soon as possible. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Once approved, families will be notified by the Division of Youth Services and provided a code and special registration link for Pleasant Valley Recreation programs, where they can register children for the specific camp sessions. Children can attend multiple sessions. Registration will include setting up a Pleasant Valley Recreation account and providing medical and immunization paperwork required for camp attendance. Transportation is not provided and children should bring snacks and packed lunch.

Since 2022, thousands of children from across Dutchess County have enjoyed outdoor summer programming on Camp Nooteeing's 272-acre campus.

Additional information about "Camp Sunny Days" is available at Pleasant Valley Recreation's website, pleasantvalleyny.myrec.com.



I know it when I see it: My circuitous route to weed identification

Once upon a time, in an Ivory Tower, I read and wrote articles for academic journals no one reads for fun. There, I was expected to use certain highfalutin words. I had forgotten those terms, since I am no longer required to describe obvious events as though they are profound. But in writing this column, I recalled my once-lofty vocabulary.

Rules of Thumb and exceptions

The strategy our brain uses to simplify a task is a heuristic—a rule of thumb. We all employ them. Some phrases I mentally review during monotonous chores are “Righty, Tightly, Lefty, Loosy” while tightening a screw; “‘I’ before ‘E’, except after ‘C’” when spelling; and “Eat the rainbow” during dinner prep. It is usually true that most screws fully seat clockwise, that words like receive follow the rule, and that a colorful meal is a nutritious one.

BUT—all have exceptions. The left pedal on a bicycle is reverse-threaded, or it would unscrew while pedaling. Eight ancient species seize protein, breaking the spelling rule. And a palette for your palate may lead you to prioritize imported produce over sustainable, local options. These heuristics are like a hand-drawn map. They get you to the right city, but you need more information to find a specific house. That’s where sagacity—wisdom and discernment—comes in.

When the elephant is hidden in plain sight

“If it looks, walks, and quacks like a duck, it’s a duck.” This maxim, credited to 19th-century poet James Whitcomb

Riley, is a common-sense threshold. It is similar to Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart’s 1964 declaration that he “knew it when he saw it” when defining obscene material. Both refer to conclusions that are irrefutable to a reasonable community member.

Yet, some domains are ambiguous. Many waterfowl are easily mistaken for ducks, requiring DNA sequencing to regroup them. Local towns can flag explicit content, but free speech protections ensure public sensitivities can’t outlaw biology textbooks or Michelangelo’s “David.” Sagacity is vital for evaluating nuance. Critical variables, fine shifts, and interdependence create a complex field, nullifying a simplified heuristic in favor of a practitioner who can discern subtlety.

Becoming sagacious

Growing up in Greene County, I had no experience with poison ivy; before winters became milder, I never saw it at that elevation. After moving to Ulster County, however, I suffered the ill-effects of urushiol exposure multiple times. Despite knowing the heuristic “leaves of three, let it be,” I repeatedly fell victim, often unaware I had touched the dreaded irritant.

Since leaves surround me in this enchanted woodland, survival dictates that I learn about them. It is difficult not to notice that numerous leaves are trifoliate. This three-leaflet structure is an example of convergent evolution—highly efficient for capturing sunlight, managing water loss, and defending against herbivores. To complicate matters, poison



Poison Ivy’s hairy vine allows it to attach to the tree. Below: Other plants with “leaves of three” include Sarsaparilla (left) and Bramble. Bottom: Poison Ivy likes to hide among other plants, such as this hosta. *Photos by Francine Wizner*

ivy is a shape-shifter. It morphs from a ground crawler into a shrub or a climbing vine. In spring, new leaves have a shiny, reddish-bronze tint before turning deep emerald green. Its edges can be smooth, jagged, or deeply lobed. Hairy aerial roots and clusters of dull white berries can help identify it, but they are not always visible.

Botanical doppelgängers

To further muddle the field, there are look-alikes. One deceptive doppelgänger is the immature Wild Sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*). It emerges with three shiny, reddish-bronze leaves. Early homesteaders used this native forest plant to brew spicy-sweet beverages akin to root beer. While not related to true sarsaparilla, this ginseng-family plant possesses anti-inflammatory properties. With improving sagacity, you will notice that Wild Sarsaparilla grows as a single stalk that splits into three distinct branches, featuring leaflets with fine “teeth” along their entire margin.

Brambles present another challenge. Wild blackberry and raspberry share the three-leaf structure, often sporting a red-

dish tint before maturing to green. They thrive as low-lying ground cover or messy thickets along forest edges and trail corners. To a novice observer, these similarities are confusing. But the sagacious will look closer and notice that what seem like hairs along the stem are actually fine prickles. Bramble leaf-edges are sharply serrated, and the surfaces are heavily textured rather than flat.

Many other doppelgängers exist. One develops sagacity not by taking shortcuts, but by following a meandering, careful path. Join me next time. Class dismissed for today.

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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Busy year ahead for Dutchess Rev250

By Will Tatum

As of the time of this printing, Dutchess County and the nation are roughly three weeks away from July 4th, the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The military struggle that surrounded that document, which began in 1775 as a tax revolt, would last until 1783, when the final British troops evacuated New York City. While many aficionados are looking forward to commemorating 250th anniversary events through 2033, this year will be the focus for celebrations nationwide of the birth of the United States. Dutchess County residents will soon benefit from a variety of opportunities to explore local connections to the broader conflict.

Dutchess County Government is supporting local programming and events through Destination Dutchess and in partnership with local historical societies to engage residents and visitors alike with stories of how the Revolution impacted Dutchess County – during the war and in the ensuing 250 years.

Fifteen local municipal historical societies have been awarded a total of \$87,000 in mini-grant funding allocated by the Dutchess County Legislature in the 2026 Dutchess County Budget. In addition, the Dutchess County Historian's Office and Destination Dutchess are offering two major signature events: RevCon: The Revolution in Dutchess County on June 13 at the FDR Library in Hyde Park, and Revolutionary Cider Celebration on June 27 at Fishkill Farms in East Fishkill.

Each of the County's 20 municipal historical societies were eligible for the grant, honoring their longstanding efforts to preserve local history and educate the public. A total of nine projects, reviewed and recommended by a review committee comprised of representatives from the County Executive's Office, County Legislature, County Clerk's Office, Destination Dutchess and Dutchess BOCES, were awarded funding. Projects range from dramatic productions and augmented reality experiences to historical trades demonstrations and open houses at historic sites.

"Dutchess County played a key role in the founding of our nation, and we are so blessed and proud to have the opportunity to spotlight our important, shared history," said Legislature Chair Yvette Valdés Smith, who represents and lives in Fishkill, one of the nine original towns in Dutchess. "These amazing events will allow residents of all ages to get a glimpse of what our region was like in 1776. I hope to see neighbors and visitors alike exploring Dutchess County and observing the 250th anniversary of the great American experiment."

Other events include the County's popular Tavern Trail which returns this summer with a focus on the American Revolution. The Tavern Trail is a unique collaboration that pairs local food and drink with engaging stories spotlighting Dutchess County's role in the 1776 Real Time Revolution. Information about the upcoming Tavern Trail events as well as other Rev250 events is available on Destination Dutchess's website, www.destinationdutchess.com/rev250.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "The 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, Rev250, is more than a historic milestone. It's a powerful reminder of how everyday people with a shared hope, conviction and courage worked together to build something extraordinary: our collective American dream. It is a reminder that the values of justice, freedom and unity continue to shape who we are today – both in Dutchess County and in America – and our County is proud to support the recognition of this monumental milestone in our nation's journey."

2026 Dutchess County Rev250 Programming Grant-funded programs:

Sergeant Chirp Dispatch, Pawling Historical Society, Sites Throughout Dutchess County: As you visit the events and historic sites of Dutchess County this year, keep an eye out for a colorfully clad animated cricket with a QR code that will take your smart phone to the Pawling Historical Society's latest augmented reality product: the Sergeant Chirp Dispatch. This animated figure is designed to engage school-age children with the exhibits and programming that trend towards an adult audience. The good sergeant, through his animated antics, will introduce key ideas to this younger audience and is designed to encourage a love of history for years to come. The Pawling Historical Society received \$8,976 to underwrite the development of Sergeant Chirp. For more information, including where you can go to meet Sergeant Chirp, visit www.sergeantchirp.com.

Continental Army Livestock Demonstration, RevCon: Dutchess County in the Revolution, FDR Library, Hyde Park, June 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Dutchess County's signature Rev250 event returns to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park on June 13, featuring re-enactors, scholarly speakers, interactive hands-on displays by local historical societies, and a unique livestock demonstration. How did George Washington's Continental Army move supplies through the Thirteen Colonies, especially with the British Navy controlling many waterways? Join the team from Rock Hill Farm in Pawling, and the Dover Historical Society to witness a



Join George Washington and the Young Colonials Fife and Drum Corps at Freedom Day on July 5th at Freedom Park in LaGrange. Photo courtesy of Dutchess County Historian's Office

demonstration of oxen and draft horses in action. Jim and Jake, a team of Percheron horses, weigh 2,500 pounds each, while Chip and Dale, the two oxen, come in at 1800 and 1900 pounds. Their weight speaks to the massive muscle required to pull wagons, cannon, and sleds across the primitive roads of New York. The Dover Historical Society received \$3,400 to bring the challenges of period transportation to life.

Quaker Meeting House Tour, Pawling and LaGrange, June 14, 1-4 p.m. The wildly successful multi-town Quaker Meeting House Tour returns to Dutchess County again in 2026, kicking off in June and continuing through November. Sites in Clinton, Hyde Park, Stanford, LaGrange, Millbrook, and Pawling will feature tour programs, fresh exhibits exploring Quaker life, and a variety of hands-on activities including augmented reality experiences. The Little Red Schoolhouse at 2 Dr. Fink Road in Freedom Plains and the Oblong Meeting House at 3 Meeting House Road on



Quaker Hill in Pawling will kick off the tour season. For information on the individual sites and open dates, visit www.meetinghousetour.com. The Clinton Historical Society received \$13,835 to underwrite this program, which links sites together across six towns. Free and open to the public.

Freedom Day, Freedom Park, LaGrange, July 5, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The LaGrange Historical Society received \$6,430 to host an extravaganza event celebrating the 250th Anniversary of American Independence. Attendees will meet George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Baron von Steuben while enjoying a period music performance by the Young Colonials Fife and Drum Corps. Period artisans will be on hand practicing trades including cooking, spinning wool, and blacksmithing. The event will also feature a colonial crafts table for the kids. Free and open to the public.

Colonial Crafts Day, East Fishkill Historical Society, Hopewell Junction, August 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Join the East Fishkill Historical Society at 68 Kensington Drive in Hopewell Junction for a day of colonial-era craft demonstrations. See skilled artisans demonstrate the skills that made life possible in eighteenth-century Dutchess County: blacksmithing, woodcarving, gunsmithing, cooking in the beehive bake oven and more. The centerpiece to this day will be a special demonstration of colonial iron smelting in a bloom furnace, the first public presentation of its kind in Dutchess County. Free and open to the public. The East Fishkill Society received a grant of \$4,800 to support this programming.

continued on page 20

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Compassion, Community, and Critters: A Day of Blessings and Barnyard Friends

Dutchess County 4-H was proud to participate in the annual Blessing of the Animals event held on May 30 in Rhinebeck. The community event brought together local organizations, families, and animal lovers for an afternoon celebrating the connection between people and animals.

Representing Dutchess County 4-H this year were members of the Little Paws Rabbit & Cavy Club, along with youth and animals from the Spitters 4-H Club. Throughout the day, 4-H members introduced visitors to their animals, answered questions, and shared information about the many opportunities available through Dutchess County 4-H animal science programs.

The event featured a variety of ambassador animals and educational exhibits from organizations throughout the community. Visitors had the opportunity to interact with animals, learn more about proper animal care and stewardship, and experience firsthand the positive impact animals can have on people of all ages.

For the participating 4-H members, the event was not only an opportunity to showcase their projects, but also to practice leadership, communication, and community engagement skills. Youth spoke with families about their experiences in 4-H, explained the responsibilities involved in caring for their animals, and highlighted the importance of compassion and respect for all living things.

Events like the Blessing of the Animals help strengthen the connection between 4-H and the wider community while giving youth meaningful opportunities to represent the program. Dutchess County 4-H extends its thanks to the organizers, volunteers, families, and youth members who helped make the event such a success.



Little Paws Rabbit & Cavy Club was one of the 4-H representatives at the Blessing of the Animals event on May 30. Courtesy photo



Mom, Giovanni, and the Patio Lunch

A tenacious guest (briefly) gets his way on a windy day.

It was lunchtime – bright sun, blue sky, birds chirping – the kind of day that looks warm but feels like sticking your head in the freezer at Costco. The patio umbrellas were rattling like they were trying to file a complaint.

Mom was at the hostess stand, cardigan wrapped tight, muttering in Italian every time the door opened and a blast of cold air slapped her.

Mom: “Che freddo ... this weather is-a lying to everybody.”

My brother John was out front with her, leaning on the podium like he was supervising the neighborhood, the weather, and anyone who dared breathe wrong.

John: “Ma, it’s fine. It’s not that cold.”

Mom shot him a look.

Mom: “Giovanni, I can see-a your breath. You look like a pot of pasta water starting to steam.”

Just then, the door swung open and in walked this guy – sunglasses on his head, big smile, chest puffed out like he was on a yacht in Positano. Behind him was his wife, wrapped in her coat like she was preparing for a polar expedition. He stepped up to the stand.

Customer: “Hi! We’d like to sit outside!”

Mom froze. John smirked. A gust of wind blew a patio napkin across the parking lot like it was trying to escape.

Mom: “Outside? Fuori? You wanna sit outside for lunch? You know it’s-a colder out there than my walk-in freezer?”

The guy laughed like she was joking.

Customer: “We love fresh air!”

Mom threw her hands up.

Mom: “Fresh? That air out there is violent. It’s-a gonna smack you in the face and steal your bread.”

John was leaning on the podium, watching the whole thing like it was a matinee performance.

John: “Ma, if they wanna sit outside, just sit ’em outside.”

Momma turned to him slowly.

Mom: “Giovanni ... don’t make-a me put YOU out there.”

But the customer was determined. He pointed at the patio like it was the Amalfi Coast.

Customer: “It looks beautiful out there!”

Momma squinted.

Mom: “Beautiful? The umbrella is-a sideways. The tablecloth is-a doing the tarantella. Even the ketchup bottle is-a shivering.”

The wife whispered:

Wife: “Maybe we should sit inside...”

But the guy waved her off.

Customer: “No, no – we’re sitting outside. We’re adventurous!”

Mom muttered:

Momma: “Yeah, adventurous ... like the people who go swimming with sharks.”

But she grabbed the menus and led them toward the patio. The moment she opened the door – WHOOSH – a gust of wind hit so hard it blew one of the menus out of her hand and sent it flying across the parking lot like it was trying to quit its job.

Mom watched it go.

Mom: “Eh ... there goes the specials.”

They sat. The wife was already shaking like she was in a meat locker. The napkins blew off the table. The guy’s hair was now pointing in three different directions.

John was barely back at the front desk when the couple burst inside like they were escaping Antarctica. The wife’s teeth were chattering like she was playing percussion in a salsa band.

Wife: “M-m-maybe ... maybe we should sit inside instead...”

Mom nodded like she was been waiting for this moment since the dawn of time.

Mom: “I TOLD YOU! Si, si. Come inside before I gotta call-a the ambulance.”

The husband tried to save face.

Customer: “Yeah, uh ... maybe it is a little chilly.”

Mom raised an eyebrow.

Mom: “A little chilly? Your wife is-a turning into a snowman.”

She marched them back inside, seated them at a warm table, and as she walked back to the stand she muttered – loud enough for Giovanni to hear:

Mom: “Next time you tell me ‘just sit ’em outside,’ I’m-a sitting YOU outside. With no soup!”

John shrugged.

John: “Ma, I told you they wouldn’t last.”

Mom: “Giovanni, bring me a cup of Stracciatella, eh? Before I put YOU outside with the ketchup bottle.”

And the staff pretended they didn’t hear her – because everyone knew Mom ran the front, the patio, and the weather. Oh, and the Stracciatella.

STRACCIATELLA SOUP

Ingredients

- 4 cups chicken broth
- 2 large eggs
- ½ cup grated Parmigiano Reggiano cheese

1 cup fresh spinach
salt and pepper to taste

Preparation Steps

Prepare the Broth: In a medium pot, bring the chicken broth to a gentle boil. If you’re using homemade broth, ensure it’s well-seasoned for the best flavor.

Whisk the eggs and cheese: In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, grated Parmigiano cheese, and a pinch of salt. If desired, add a pinch of nutmeg for extra flavor.

Combine Ingredients: Once the broth is boiling, reduce the heat to low. Slowly pour the egg and cheese mixture into the broth while continuously stirring with a whisk. This will create delicate strands of egg in the soup.

Allow the soup to cook for about 2 minutes until the eggs are fully cooked and have formed soft ribbons. If you’re adding spinach, stir it in at this point and let it wilt for a minute.

Taste the soup and adjust the seasoning with salt and pepper as needed. Serve with warm crusty Italian bread.

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

what’s happening?

creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 25 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 85

By David Kalvitis

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

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The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org

The Two of Us Productions presents 'The Minutes' over two weekends

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Copake, will present "The Minutes" by Tracy Letts over two weekends: June 12-14 and 19-21.

"The Minutes" is a dark satire and thriller that dissects American politics, local corruption, and the biased rewriting of history. The play is set during a town council meeting in the fictional American town of Big Cherry. The play follows a newly elected councilman, Mr. Peel, who uncovers a dark conspiracy behind the town's founding myth and a secret, unsettling ritual among the leadership, resulting in an allegory about the lengths taken to maintain power.

This engrossing production features Brian Wagner as Mayor Superba, Diane Boice-Yorck as Clerk Johnson, and as council members Benjamin Kirk as Mr. Peel, Mark Leinung as Mr. Carp, Judith Wyatt as Ms. Innes, Daniel Wyatt as Mr. Oldfield, Mason Lowe as Mr. Assalone, John Peterson as Mr. Breeding, Constance Lopez as Ms. Hanratty, Leigh

Fisher-Troche as Ms. Matz, and Brian Yorck as Mr. Blake.

Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. The comfortable and accessible Marilyn and Bob Laurie Gallery is located at the Claverack Library, 629 NY-23B, Claverack. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors (call for group rates). For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 771-1003.

The Two Of Us Productions is well known throughout the Hudson Valley for presenting quality theater, both musicals and dramas. Their recent productions of "Ms. Holmes and Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B," "CLUE On Stage," "Pippin The Musical," "Cabaret," "Blithe Spirit," "The Lady And The Clarinet," "Sweeney Todd," "A Shayna Maidel," "Chicago," "Nonsense," "Les Miserables," "next to normal," "Deathtrap," and "Jesus Christ Superstar" were all recognized by the Theatre Association of NYS with multiple theatrical quality awards.

NDSO season finale celebrates The Beatles, Elvis as Beckmann retires



Elvis tribute artist Gene DiNapoli will perform with the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, June 20, in a program titled "The Beatles, Elvis and Beyond." *Courtesy photo*

Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra (NDSO) will conclude its 20th season with "The Beatles, Elvis and Beyond" on Saturday, June 20, at 7:30 p.m., at the Marriott Pavilion at The Culinary Institute of America, 1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park. This special season finale will mark the final concert conducted by Music Director Kathleen Beckmann, who has led the orchestra since its founding. (See our cover story for more information.)

The program highlights the dynamic American music scene from the 1950s through the 1970s, with music from The Beatles, Elvis Presley, The Righteous Brothers, Simon & Garfunkel, Herb Alpert, Brazilian jazz and more.

Joining the program is acclaimed tribute artist Gene DiNapoli as Elvis Presley. One of the nation's top Elvis performers, DiNapoli is known for his powerful three-and-a-half octave range and meticulously crafted replica costumes. He has performed alongside members of Elvis Presley's original band and earned national recognition, including being named "Fave Elvis in New York."

Tickets for this concert are priced at \$38 per person, with special discounts available for seniors and students. Family ticket packages are \$40 for one adult and two students. To learn more and purchase, visit www.ndsorchestra.org or call (845) 445-9606.

Dive into Dutchess County's Hidden Gardens on June 13

On Saturday, June 13, the Garden Conservancy's Open Days program invites garden enthusiasts to explore exceptional gardens in Dutchess County. This is a one-day-only opportunity for visitors to get a glimpse of the stylistic choices, dedication, and personality of the garden owners. Each garden is an experience like no other. The participating gardens include:

Lossing Manor - Dover Plains. This historic haven encompasses predominantly native flowers, hedges, and boxwoods that form the unusual shapes and lines of the garden. The defining feature of the 1-acre garden is the 1806 Victorian house and 20-acre meadow.

Broccoli Hall - Maxine Paetro, Amenia. This lavish hillside garden offers various plants like irises, peonies, and old shrub roses with an apple tunnel, brick courtyard, and tree house. The haven's highlights are the wood carvings and beautiful views in the garden.

Clove Brook Farm - Christopher Spitzmiller and Anthony Bellomo, Millbrook. This historic hideaway features various interconnected spaces displaying different plants like peonies, roses, lilies, dahlias, and a vegetable garden. The 3-acre garden highlights unique sculptures and an oval swimming pool.

Ellen Petersen - Stanfordville. This exotic oasis is replete with rarities like big red azalea, native Rhododendron prunifolium, variegated Cornus kousa, and other exotics. The 7-acre garden features a water garden as well as sculptures and a small pond.

Sharpstone Farm - Millbrook. This stroll garden incorporates meadows, a steep valley, streams, a waterfall, and a series of spring-fed ponds. The naturalistic oasis favors native woodland plants that complement the architecture of the outdoor space.

The gardens will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for registered guests. Tickets are \$10 per person; \$5 for members of the Garden Conservancy. Children 12 and under are admitted for free when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Visitors are reminded that no pets are allowed. All registrations must be processed online through the Garden Conservancy's website. Visit gardenconservancy.org/opendays.

In addition to the open days, the garden conservancy is offering a Digging Deeper in partnership with Wethersfield Estate & Garden. Digging Deeper programs give participants the opportunity to explore more about a garden's history, the impact of gardening, and the process that goes into it. These events often involve guided tours through the garden and talks by the garden curators about the area. Event details:

Confronting Beech Blights Through Soil Health - Amenia. Participants join the gardener for an in-depth look at the beautiful garden and current research on beech leaf disease and the estate's response. The program highlights the strategies to restore and protect beech trees, emphasizing soil health. The event is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person; \$30 for members.

Latest edition of New York by Rail pulls into the station

The 2026/2027 edition of the award-winning New York By Rail is making fun, affordable, safe, stress-free travel within reach. Published by Content Studio New York, this annual Amtrak magazine, with its vintage-inspired cover and its digital edition, is the ultimate playbook to traveling throughout New York and into Canada and Vermont by Amtrak.

The 22nd issue focuses on traversing the state by rail to enjoy the outdoors – from your favorite music festival or athletic event to the ideal hiking, biking, skiing or leaf-peeping spot. It's complete with hot destinations, maps, a calendar of events and overnight itineraries, including Toronto's art scene and 46 hours in Burlington, Vermont. There are special offers and even some tips on where to find the best made Amtrak-inspired pizza.

"Once again, we're proud to partner with Amtrak to publish this beautiful guide that has everything you need to plan an Amtrak getaway," says Tom Martinelli, publisher of New York By Rail. "At a time when flying and driving has become more stressful; we're encouraging more folks to hop aboard Amtrak for easy travel."

With special emphasis on our nation's 250th birthday, you can catch all the celebrations that New York has to offer with a calendar of exciting events that you can access by train. It includes a route map and station services guide to forty Amtrak stops and Amtrak Connection buses along the Adirondack, Berkshire Flyer, Empire



The latest edition of New York by rail can be picked up now to discover travel through New York into Canada and Vermont by Amtrak. *Courtesy image*

Service, Ethan Allen Express and Maple Leaf routes. The magazine is brought to life on Instagram @newyorkbyrail with first person car-free, train experiences and is available at most Amtrak stations, tourist information centers, airports, hotels and via travel agents.

For more information or to request a hard copy of the guide, visit NewYorkByRail.com. Follow New York by Rail on Facebook and Instagram. To learn more about Amtrak, visit Amtrak.com.

'The Story of Arthurdale' set June 27 at FDR Library

"The Story of Arthurdale: Eleanor Roosevelt's Vision of Community" is a program taking place on Saturday, June 27, from 12:30 to 3 p.m., at the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, 4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park. Tickets are \$65, with all proceeds supporting future programming at the Eleanor Roosevelt Center (ERVK).

Following an informal lunch, join the Eleanor Roosevelt Center and Arthurdale Heritage for a special fundraiser and panel discussion exploring the extraordinary history of Arthurdale and Eleanor Roosevelt's enduring connection to the community she called her "pet project."

The afternoon will feature a panel discussion with Franceska Urbin, Supervisory Park Ranger at National Park Service, and Elizabeth Satterfield,

Curator and Director of Education at Arthurdale Heritage, and moderated by Anna Fierst, Board Chair of the Eleanor Roosevelt Center (ERVK). They will examine the origins of Arthurdale, Eleanor Roosevelt's advocacy for struggling families during the Great Depression, and the continued relevance of her vision today. Learn more about the history of Arthurdale here.

This event is presented by the Eleanor Roosevelt Center and Arthurdale Heritage, and hosted by the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Museum & Library. It includes presentations and a panel discussion about Arthurdale; a catered lunch; and historic artifacts from Arthurdale on display.

Purchase tickets at <https://ervk.org/arthurdale/>.

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.

Elizaville: Roosters Roadside Creamery & Grill Farm & Flea Market, 669 County Rte. 2. Saturdays through end of September, noon-4 p.m. (845) 756-2400, roosters.roadside669@gmail.com, <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61574957068800>

Hyde Park: 4390 Rte. 9. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., through October. [\[parkfarmersmarket@gmail.com\]\(mailto:parkfarmersmarket@gmail.com\) or \(845\) 337-9349](http://thehyde-</p>
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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 tastenyoddhill.com/pages/outdoor-market

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Dutchess Rev250

continued from page 14

"Amenia's Spycatcher" Play, Amenia Town Hall, Amenia, August 21-23: The Amenia Historical Society will present multiple performances of their original script and first production of "Amenia's Spycatcher," the story of Ephraim Paine. Paine served as a justice of the peace for Amenia, Dutchess County Judge, and delegate to the Continental Congress. At home in eastern Dutchess, he played a crucial role in finding Loyalist Tory spies and securing the ultimate success of the Revolution. This play explores how local residents navigated questions of allegiance, authority, and justice during the Revolutionary War. The Amenia Historical Society received a grant of \$15,000 to produce these performances.

Colonial Tavern Experience, The Elmendorph Inn, Red Hook, September 19: Explore tavern life in the years around the American Revolution at Historic Red Hook's Elmendorph Inn. This rare surviving Albany Post Road tavern in the Village of Red Hook will debut a hands-on experience featuring reproductions of common items found in taverns, immersive soundscapes to bring the tavern to life, and a talk-back station inviting visi-

tors to reflect on how civic participation looks today in Red Hook. Costumed interpreters in period attire will be on hand and the historic kitchen will be open for a cooking demonstration. Historic Red Hook received a grant of \$15,000 to underwrite the exhibit and programming.

"Harlem Valley Glimpses" Play, Old Drivers Inn, Dover, September 23, 5:30 p.m.: Town of Dover Historian Val LaRobardier brings the long history of eastern Dutchess to life through a series of vignettes based on the experiences of outstanding local residents. Actors will perform dramatic readings of this original script, which explores character ranging from indigenous elder Eunice Mauwee to French General the Marquis de Chastellux. This event will take place in the Preston Barn Catering Hall at Old Drivers Inn. The Dover Historical Society received \$7,526 to write and produce this play.

Will Tatum is a resident of Red Hook, holds a Ph.D. in Early American History from Brown University, and has served as Dutchess County Historian since 2012.

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

June 11: Doug Howard's "Summer of '72," The Colony, 22 Rock City Rd., Woodstock. Performance will focus on some of Doug Howard's favorite music and bands from the 1960s through 1972, with a solid dose of Todd Rundgren mixed in, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at www.colonywoodstock.com or (845) 679-7625

June 12: America: Songs of Patriotism, Protest, and Praise: A Cello Show with Alex Prizgintas, Pleasant Valley Library, 1584 Main St. (Rte. 44), Pleasant Valley. Alex Prizgintas presents hymns, noble anthems of patriotism, and tunes of solidarity and resistance on his amplified cello, 6 p.m. Register at <https://pleasantvalleylibrary.org/>

June 12-28: "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 Stroly. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

June 12: Red Hook Summer Lawn Concert Series at "Eat-N-Go," 7509 N. Broadway, Red Hook. Free live summer concert series at Eat-N-Go every Friday night, 6-8 p.m. This week: Willie Amrod. Bring a chair or blanket, some food and enjoy an evening of local bands performing live. Lineup may be subject to change.

June 12: Renaissance String Quartet, The Thorne Center, 3323 Franklin Ave., Millbrook. A Salon performance, 6 p.m. Concert tickets are \$70 per person and include pre-concert cocktails and the post-concert reception. Free admission for students, educators, and veterans. Free Open Rehearsal, 10 a.m.-noon. All are welcome to the rehearsal. <https://millbrookmusicsalon.org/>

June 12: Roast of Rhinebeck, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Radio Free Rhinecliff presents a roast with Norm Magnusson, Jenn Berry & Rob Kirwood, Jen C., David Stickle, Dana Peterson, Eric Steinman and Andy Ostro, 7 p.m. Admission \$35. (845) 876-2903

June 12: Staged Reading, "Helpful Neighbors," The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Staged reading of a sharp, funny and

thought-provoking new work by playwright Robert Lyons, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10. www.thestissingcenter.org

June 12-14 & 19-21: "The Minutes," Claverack Library, 629 NY-23B, Claverack. The Two of Us Productions presents "The Minutes," a dark satire and thriller that dissects American politics, local corruption, and the biased rewriting of history. The Minutes is set during a town council meeting in the fictional American town of Big Cherry. The play follows a newly elected councilman, Mr. Peel, who uncovers a dark conspiracy behind the town's founding myth and a secret, unsettling ritual among the leadership, resulting in an allegory about the lengths taken to maintain power. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors. www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or (518) 771-1003.

June 13: Art Auction, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Festive evening invites art lovers, collectors, and community members to enjoy and bid on exceptional artwork while supporting Stissing Center's mission to bring people together through the shared experience of arts and culture. 5-7 p.m. Tickets \$100. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

June 13: Author Event, Barnes & Noble, 2518 South Rd, Poughkeepsie. An afternoon with author, certified life coach, mindfulness teacher, and speaker Lourdes Laifer, 2-4 p.m. Get a signed copy of "A Path to Resilience: Small Steps to an Unshakable You," a book that breaks resilience down into small, doable steps that busy people can integrate into everyday life, and offers practical, accessible tools for navigating stress, anxiety, and burnout, all challenges that many people in our area face right now.

June 13: Children's Stop-motion Animation Workshop, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Workshop led by teachers from The Art Effect in Poughkeepsie, 10 a.m. This pay-what-you-can event coincides with Pine Plains' Community Day celebration. Explore the wild and wacky world of humanimation, which is stop-motion animation using only our bodies to create the illusion of movement. Capturing live-action footage in stop-motion animation format is a fun and freeing way to get creative without making a mess. All participants receive their animations by the workshop's end. www.thestissingcenter.org

June 13: Klezmer Night, Copake Grange Hall, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Join Boston-based clarinetist Itay Dayan and his band for an evening of energetic klezmer tunes, old Yiddish songs and some original music, 7-9 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20 or pay what you can. Purchase advance tickets online at www.copakegrange.org/events. More info: info@copakegrange.org

June 13: Lafayette Trail Sign Dedication, Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave., Germantown. Dedication of a new historical sign, commemorating Gen. Lafayette's September 1824 visit to Aryl House, 10 a.m. The dedication ceremony for this new marker will take place as part of a Lafayette250 function, honoring Lafayette's contributions to American freedom as the United States marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. www.friendsofclermont.org

June 13: Presentation by Nelson Byrd Woltz with American Society of Landscape Architects, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. Join ASLA-NY, The Olana Partnership, and NBW Landscape Architects for an in-depth exploration of the landscape, architecture,

and ongoing stewardship of one of America's most significant cultural landscapes, 2 p.m. Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects will provide a presentation at the new, ARO-designed Frederic Church Center for Art and Landscape. To register and learn more, visit www.olana.org.

June 13: RevCon: Dutchess County in the Revolution, FDR Library & Museum, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn about Gen. Richard Montgomery, the first military martyr of the Revolution from New York, who fell leading American troops against the City of Quebec on New Year's Eve 1775. See re-enactors including indigenous interpreters and a cannon crew offering firing demonstrations throughout the day. Learn about how 18th-century cooking techniques compare to the modern kitchen. History fair with hands-on activities for the entire family. Free. Rain or shine. www.fdrlibrary.org

June 13: Walkway Market: A Taste NY Experience, Walkway Over the Hudson's Ulster Welcome Center, Highland. This lively, open-air farmers market brings together a handpicked lineup of 30 New York State makers, growers, and artisans in a setting you can't find anywhere else. Come ready to taste, shop, and discover everything from maple syrup, honey, jerky, pickles, and spices to soaps, flowers, pet treats, jewelry, handcrafted goods, and more. Plus our community partners will be on site with fun experiences for the whole family to enjoy. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. www.walkway.org

June 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 14: "America 250: The People of Clermont in 1776," Clermont State Historic Site, 1 Clermont Ave., Germantown. Clermont's celebration of the Semiquincentennial continues with a series of presentations about Clermont at the brink of revolution. Join Historic Site Manager and premier Livingston scholar, Geoff Benton, for a presentation about the People of Clermont in 1776, 3 p.m. Delve into the lives of the Livingston family, the dozens of people they enslaved, and the thousands of Palatine Germans bound to their lands. A discussion over tea will follow. www.friendsofclermont.org

June 14: Brazilian Bossa Nova Concert with Boreal, Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. Free outdoor concert, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bossa Nova, which means "new wave," is a style of samba music that was developed in the late 1950s and early 1960s in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro. Bossa Nova consists of a mixture of soft samba based on traditional Brazilian music and rhythms, American jazz, and a new style of Portuguese lyrics. Bring food & drink to enjoy during the show, if desired. beatrixfarrandgarden.org

June 14: Driftwood Chorus Spring Concert, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. With members of Kingston and Rhinecliff folk choirs, 3 p.m.

Suggested donation \$15 per person or \$25 per family. (845) 876-2903

June 14: Quilling Workshop: Create a Sailboat, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Quilling is the art of creating designs using rolled, shaped, and glued paper. Just in time for Father's Day, this 2-hour, instructor-led workshop will have you creating a stunning filigree sailboat design, 2 p.m. All materials, tools, and instruction are included. Light refreshments of tea and cookies will be served. Cost: \$15 plus Eventbrite fee/general admission. Tickets required: <https://FO.MAS.eventbrite.com>

June 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 14: Walkway Connections: The Losses and Services of the American Loyalist in Poughkeepsie, Walkway Over the Hudson State Park, East Gate Plaza, Poughkeepsie. During the American Revolution, not everyone was a patriot. Poughkeepsie had its mix of patriots, loyalists, and people who simply didn't care either way. Those who decided to remain loyal to the crown were not always treated with the respect they once were. Join Historian Shannon Butler as she presents her research on the small but active community of loyalists of Poughkeepsie, 2-3 p.m. Free. www.walkway.org

June 16: Happy Together Tour, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Show full of chart-topping hits from the '60s and '70s, featuring The Association, The Troggs, Gary Puckett, The Vogues. The Cowsills and more, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: (845) 454-5800, ext 1201, or MJNCenter.org

June 17: Antonia Bennett, Daryl's House Club, 130 Rte. 22, Pawling. Daughter of Tony Bennett honors the classics while showcasing original compositions that feel right at home alongside the timeless standards of the Great American songbook. Her voice is sultry and sophisticated, capturing the timeless allure of jazz while firmly anchoring it in today's landscape. Showtime 7 p.m. www.darylshouseclub.com

June 17: Music in the Parks, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Outdoor concert series featuring Thunder Ridge, 7 p.m. Rain location: Taconic Regional OFC-NY Parks, 9 Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. For any cancellations or changes, check the Hyde Park Recreation Facebook page.

June 17: 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: Tony DePaolo, jazz. Concerts are free and suitable for all ages. www.walkway.org

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GENERAC



The Town of Dover Historical Society will present 'Transport & Logistics for the Continental Army' on June 13 at FDR site

By Karen Hansen Lambdin

The Town of Dover Historical Society will present "Transport & Logistics for the Continental Army" at the RevCon26 History Fair. This free, family-friendly event takes place on Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Wallace Center within the FDR Presidential Library in Hyde Park.

As part of Dover's presentation, visitors can experience history with horse-drawn wagon rides and oxen demonstrations (weather permitting), provided by John and Danny Blumberg of Rockhill Farm in Pawling. Visitors will meet Jim and Jake – a pair of massive Percheron draft horses weighing 2,500 pounds each – and Chip and Dale, two powerful oxen weighing 1,800 and 1,900 pounds. These gentle giants demonstrate the raw power required by the Continental Army to transport thousands of pounds of supplies and munitions overland during the

Revolutionary War. Indoors at the Wallace Center, the Dover Historical Society will host informative displays and interactive activities, including a Revolutionary War Quiz, historical toys, period games and a hands-on craft project.

RevCon 2026 marks the third and final installment of the Revolutionary War Reenactment and History Fair. Hosted by Destination Dutchess and the Dutchess County Department of History, the fair is organized by Dutchess County Historian, Dr. William P. Tatum III. The event brings together historical societies from across the county to showcase the regions deep involvement in the War for Independence.

You don't have to be a history buff to enjoy the festivities. The day-long event offer something for everyone, and visitors see history come to life with cannon- and musket-firing demonstrations, alongside realistic exhibitions of military camp life and historic uniforms. Youngsters will especially enjoy the Children's Musket Drills, butter making and traditional weaving. In addition to the Dutchess Rev250 Programming Grant Awards Ceremony, a new event, "The Commander in Cheers Beer Tastings," features tastings of limited-edition commemorative beers crafted by local Dutchess County breweries. Feature presentations include a lecture, "The Canonization of Richard Montgomery" by Michael Gabriel, and "From the Colonial Hearth to Your Kitchen," presented by Sara Evenson.

Last year, the FDR Library & Museum calculated that 937 visitors came through their site for the RevCon Fair, despite the rain. The weather cleared long enough for the outdoor activities; and children and adults alike were awed by the musket and cannon demonstrations and enjoyed the many educational and fun displays.

The event is free. Additional information about REVCON2026 is available at destinationdutchess.com.



Re-enactors in Revolutionary War uniforms will be on hand at RevCon26 on June 13 outdoors at the FDR Library in Hyde Park. Below: The Town of Dover Historical Society will present a program, "Transport & Logistics for the Continental Army," featuring Chip and Dale, two powerful oxen weighing 1,800 and 1,900 pounds; and Jim and Jake (left), a pair of massive Percheron draft horses weighing 2,500 pounds each. *Courtesy photos*



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

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Powerhouse Theater at Vassar announces programming for the 40th anniversary season

Vassar College announced the lineup for the 40th Powerhouse Theater Season, set June 18 to July 26. After more than four decades, this annual summer season brings together some of today's most influential theatrical voices and welcomes the next generation of theater artists as members of the renowned Powerhouse Theater Training Program.

Powerhouse will also host the Soundpainting Thinktank, a week-long gathering of artists from around the world, culminating in a one-night-only performance. Soundpainting is the universal live composing sign language created in Woodstock by composer Walter Thompson.

As always, Vassar welcomes a new cohort of young actors, directors, and writers to campus as members of the Powerhouse Theater Training Company. These emerging artists will present a slate of free theater throughout the season.

Also in residence at Powerhouse this summer is Vassar Professor Shona Tucker ("To Kill a Mockingbird") who, alongside John Summerford, are in the early stages of developing "Better Angels" by LuAnn Kaldor and Eve Gendron.

"It's an honor to have so many Powerhouse favorites alongside fresh voices on campus, as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary Powerhouse Season," said Producing Director Michael Sheehan. "Since 1985, Powerhouse has offered space to both established and emerging artists. 40 years later, I'm proud to be continuing that tradition at Vassar."

"And what a joy it is to welcome back Powerhouse alums Erin C. Buckley and Ellenor Riley-Condit, both of whom were members of the Powerhouse Training Program. After having begun their journey as artists at Powerhouse, it's a joy to have them return to share their latest

work with our audiences and students," added Producing Director Ed Cheetham.

"Vassar's role in shaping the history of American theater cannot be overstated. It is a privilege to welcome and support the work of renowned artists each summer, as well as the works of local artists of the Hudson Valley, including Vassar's own Associate Professor of Drama, Peter Gil-Sheridan, and Professor of Drama, Shona Tucker," said Vassar College President Elizabeth H. Bradley.

"At the foundation of the Powerhouse program is the Training Company. We are delighted to welcome a new cohort of dedicated aspiring artists, who come from all over the country to study, create, and perform alongside our world-class faculty and professional artists," added Sheehan.

"We can't wait to welcome our loyal audiences back to the Vassar campus. See you this summer!" concluded Cheetham.

Powerhouse will present a special event on June 18. "Theater Idiot," written and performed by Drew Droege, will take place in the Martel Theater. Tickets are \$40.

Synopsis: On December 14, 2025, Patti LuPone attended a performance of Drew Droege's play, "Messy White Gays." It was nearly ruined thanks to the outbursts of a raving drunken lunatic. After the show, LuPone eviscerated this person and told them to "never go back to the theater again."

The New York Post ran the headline "LuPone Blasts Theater Idiot."

Tonight, meet the Theater Idiot. For updates and information about the Powerhouse schedule, visit www.vassar.edu/powerhouse/season.

Call (845) 437-5599 or email phtbox-office@vassar.edu for tickets and more information.



The Powerhouse Theater on the Vassar College Campus. Photo by Tamar Thibodeau. Below: Powerhouse Training Company performs "Soundpainting" in 2016. Photo by Buck Lewis



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FIRST WALKWAY MARKET DEBUTS JUNE 13

POUGHKEEPSIE – Connecting exceptional local products with sweeping Hudson River views, the inaugural Walkway Market: A Taste NY Experience is set for Saturday, June 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Walkway Over the Hudson's Ulster Welcome Center Plaza in Highland.

Presented in partnership with Taste NY, Walkway Market brings a vibrant open-air farmers market to one of the region's most iconic destinations celebrating the best of New York State's farmers, producers, and artisans.

The event will feature a curated lineup of 30 vendors from across the Empire State, offering a wide array of goods including maple syrup, honey, jerky, pickles, spices, fresh flowers, soaps, pet treats, jewelry, and handcrafted items. In addition to shopping and sampling, attendees can enjoy community activations and family-friendly experiences throughout the day.

Admission to Walkway Market is free and open to the public. Made possible by Friends of the Walkway, free parking for all attendees will be available along Haviland Road to ensure easy access for visitors from across the region.

Set adjacent to the sweeping Hudson River views that define the Walkway experience, the market offers a unique opportunity to support small businesses while enjoying a day outdoors with friends and family.

"Walkway Market is an exciting new way for people to experience our park while directly supporting New York's incredible community of farmers, makers, and small businesses," said Lori Robertson, Executive Director, Friends of the Walkway. "Through our partnership with Taste NY, we're able to showcase the very best of what our state has to offer in a setting that brings people together."

Walkway Market is part of Friends of the Walkway's ongoing efforts to activate the park with engaging, community-centered programming that enhances the visitor experience while supporting regional economic vitality. Taste NY is an initiative of New York State dedicated to promoting locally grown and produced food, beverages, and agricultural products while showcasing the quality and diversity of products made across the state.

For a full list of vendors and event details, visit walkway.org/walkwaymarket.

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The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-72-26
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Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., July 6, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and sub-

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mittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.
REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
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Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 25th 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 <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.
LEGAL NOTICE
DUTCHESS COUNTY EARLY VOTING FOR THE 2026 PRIMARY

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ELECTION LEGAL NOTICE
POLLS ARE OPEN FOR EARLY VOTING AS FOLLOWS:
Saturday, June 13: 9AM – 5PM
Sunday, June 14: 9AM – 5PM
Monday, June 15: Noon – 8PM
Tuesday, June 16: 9AM – 5PM
Wednesday, June 17: Noon – 8PM
Thursday, June 18: 9AM – 5PM
Friday, June 19: 9AM – 5PM
Saturday, June 20: 9AM – 5PM
Sunday, June 21: 9AM – 5PM

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At any of the following locations:
Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive, Rhinebeck
Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
Cornell Cooperative Center, 2715 US-44, Millbrook
Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
Board of Election's Training Facility, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger

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Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 23rd 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 <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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

OBITUARIES

Kevin Kenney

RHINEBECK – Kevin Kenney, 76, of Rhinebeck, NY, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on June 4, 2026.

Born on October 24, 1949, in Richmond, NY—now known as Staten Island—Kevin was the son of the late Marie (Wallace) and Eugene Kenney. He was born and raised on Staten Island, a place he loved dearly and remained proud to call home.

Kevin graduated from Saint Francis College, earning a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with a minor in Psychology. He later received his Master's degree in Social Work from Adelphi University.

On February 13, 1988, Kevin married the love of his life, Shelly Nee, at the Church of the Messiah in Rhinebeck. Together they shared 38 beautiful years of marriage.

Kevin dedicated his life's work to helping others. He began his career as a social worker serving troubled youth at Holy Cross Campus and later at St. Cabrini Home. He eventually became Director of Social Services at The Thompson House at Northern Dutchess Hospital, where he was known for his compassion, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the residents and families he served. He retired in 2013 after a distinguished career in social work.

A true family man, Kevin was a devoted husband, a proud father, and a beloved "Poppi" to his cherished granddaughters, Paige and Brielle. He found joy in tending his gardens, grilling for family and friends, and spending a beautiful summer day by the pool.

He is survived by his loving wife, Shelly Kenney; his daughter, Courtney (Jonesy) Boehm; and his adored granddaughters, Paige and Brielle Boehm. He is also survived by his brother, Robert Kenney and his wife, Kathy; his sister, Maureen Kenney; his sister-in-law, Kathy Stone; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Kevin was predeceased by his parents, Marie and Eugene Kenney; his brother, Brian Kenney; and his nephews, Steve and Dan Kenney.

A private celebration of Kevin's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice in his memory.

Funeral Arrangements are in the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 91 E. Market St. Rhinebeck, NY.

Monique D. Longhitano

HYDE PARK – We sadly announce the passing of Monique D. Longhitano. Born on September 16, 1942, passed away on June 4, 2026.

Monique is a beloved wife, mother, sister, friend. She will remain forever in our hearts.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 9:45 AM, at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel, 185 Hudson View Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Interment will follow at the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. Condolences may be made to the family at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Christine Foreacre Toomey

RED HOOK – Christine Foreacre Toomey passed away peacefully on May 28, 2026. She was born March 22, 1943 in Chester, PA to the late Keithley and Jane (Collins) Foreacre. On July 3, 1976 she married Bard College Professor, John A. Toomey Jr; he predeceased on November 18, 1994.

After graduating from Mount Holyoke in the 1960s, where she was inducted into and remained a lifelong proud member of Phi Beta Kappa, she went on to complete her Master's in Child Development at University of Pittsburgh. She had a respected career at Astor Home for Children from 1969 until her retirement in 2001.

She was an active and dedicated member of both her professional and local communities. A member of the New York Association for Play Therapy, she served on its board and co-authored the organization's newsletter

with her colleague, Dave Crenshaw. Deeply committed to service closer to home, she also volunteered in the NICU at Northern Dutchess Hospital and devoted 20 years to Wilderstein Historic Site as a docent, archivist, and board member.

In her youth, Chris was an accomplished equestrian and won hundreds of silver cups and ribbons.

Chris is survived by her step daughter, Martha J. Toomey and her husband, Jeff McCord; and her step son, John A. Toomey III, his wife, Wendy and their family. Her step grandson, Jeffrey A. McCord also survives her. Her many friends mourn her passing and have good memories of their times together.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband and her dear friend Claire Longden.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 12th at 4PM at the Church of the Messiah, Rhinebeck. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her honor to Wilderstein Historic Site, PO Box 383; Rhinebeck, NY 12572 or the Church of the Messiah, 6436 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572.

Funeral Arrangement has been entrusted to the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.

Answers to this week's diversions
(puzzles on page 22)

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Suguru solution

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

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

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 18)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 85

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Assembly candidate **Sam Hodge** is

LYING TO YOU.

You deserve the truth.

LIE:

Didi Barrett **"refuses"** to tax the rich

TRUTH:



Didi just passed a tax on ultra-luxury NYC pied-a-terres and sponsors legislation to raise taxes on the ultra-wealthy and raise the corporate tax [A.5435 & A.1971]



She has consistently supported common-sense measures to make the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share (Ch. 59 of 2021, E. 948 of 2024, E. 183 of 2025, E. 1034 of 2026)

LIE:

Didi **"hasn't done enough"** to protect immigrants

TRUTH:



She sponsors New York for All further protecting immigrants [A.3506B of 2026]



She banned ICE from conducting raids in sensitive places like schools and hospitals [Ch. 55 of 2026]



She voted to prohibit local police from working with ICE unless a serious crime has been committed [Ch. 55 of 2026]



She passed a law forbidding ICE agents from wearing masks to hide their identities [Ch. 55 of 2026]

LIE:

Didi takes money from **"greedy fossil fuel companies"**

TRUTH:



Local, in-district contributions make up the vast majority of Didi's fundraising



As Chair of the Energy Committee, **she's supported by environmental advocacy groups working to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels**



She's leading the charge to reduce utility costs – she sponsored the ASAP Act to expand solar power [A.8758A of 2026] and fought to ensure it was included in the budget along with measures to hold utility companies and the Public Service Commission accountable [Ch. 58 of 2026]



She passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act [Ch. 106 of 2019], one of the most ambitious climate laws in the country, and voted against delaying it [Ch. 58 of 2026]

VOTE FOR THE TRUTH

Vote Didi Barrett June 23.

Paid for by Friends of Didi Barrett for Assembly