

NORTHERN  
DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living

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Pine Plains’  
softball season  
ends at state  
quarterfinals

By Morgan E. Maier

The Tuckahoe Tigers jumped on Talia Durant almost immediately in the Class C quarterfinal on June 9, but the Pine Plains ace made them work for the victory.

The pitchers’ duel between Durant of Stissing Mountain High School and Tuckahoe’s Katie Attwood was entertainment in its own, though Tuckahoe held an early lead, jumping out 1-0 in the second inning. What Pine Plains lacked in offense, they made up for in Durant’s escape from tough situations. Though Durant, a freshman, struck out 15 batters, she allowed nine baserunners over a complete seven innings. Durant kept her team in the game, though Attwood gave up just seven hits.

Tuckahoe scored in four straight innings to jump in front – and stay ahead – with Attwood virtually unhittable. Durant struck out 15 Tigers, but Pine Plains couldn’t overcome the early deficit. Just three of Tuckahoe’s runs were earned, and Durant allowed nine baserunners over a complete seven innings.

Durant shut the Tigers out in the opening frame, capturing the first punchouts. Tuckahoe reached base in each inning to follow, battling through extended at-bats to get its runners in scoring position.

With zero extra base hits for Pine Plains in this contest, its answer to Attwood lay in craftiness on the bases. The few Bombers who reached base were shifty as the late innings crept on. In the closing frames, each Pine Plains frame advanced 90 feet more than the previous, but the team couldn’t quite locate Attwood’s pitches to break the

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JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

NY grant helps Uplands Farm  
to upgrade dairy production

By Jim Donick

Stephen Van Tassell, a charming and articulate representative of his field, is a local leader of the area dairy community with an encyclopedic understanding of his vocation, a commitment to the community, and a genuine passion for his work. He is a fourth-generation dairy farmer carrying on a timeless tradition of family farming at Uplands Farm in Verbank.

Van Tassell has spent his life growing and improving his farm. It’s never easy, but now the State of New York has provided some additional support for him and for the state’s dairy industry.

On June 2, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced nearly \$21.6 million has been awarded to 103 farms across the state through the Dairy Modernization Grant Program to support New York’s dairy industry. The funding, first announced in the Governor’s 2024 State of the State address, will help New York’s dairy farmers and dairy cooperatives invest in new equip-

ment, expand storage capacity, and strengthen their operations, particularly as they face extreme weather events, providing a critical boost to New York’s dairy industry.

The announcement comes as the State officially kicked off the celebration of Dairy Month this June.

“New York’s dairy industry is the backbone of our agricultural economy, supporting thousands of jobs across our rural communities,” Hochul said. “With this \$26 million investment through the Dairy Modernization Grant Program, we’re giving hardworking dairy farmers and cooperatives the tools they need to grow, innovate and lead in a changing market. This is how we honor our agricultural legacy — by making sure it has a strong and sustainable future.”

As a part of this program, Van Tassell receives a grant of just over \$140,000 that will assist the operation and provide for a major expansion of his storage capacity.

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Dutchess County dairy farmer Stephen Van Tassell stands next to the soon-to-be-replaced 2,000-gallon milk holding tank at his Uplands Farm in Verbank. A new 3,000-gallon tank is on the way, thanks to a New York State Dairy Modernization Grant, announced in early June. Photo by Jim Donick

Town of Hyde Park commends volunteers  
for creating native plant gardens

By Barbara Hobens



Volunteers helping to plant native gardens at Hyde Park Town Hall included (from left) Diane Cullen, Barbara Hobens, Avalon Bunge, Mary Langenau, and Darcy Martin-Rose. Courtesy photo

At the Hyde Park Town Board’s June 9 meeting, Mary Langenau, Barbara Hobens and Diego Arreguin received certificates of thanks from the Town Board for their work in creating Certified Wildlife Habitats at Town Hall and Hackett Hill Park. The three participated in the project from start to finish: writing the grants, researching and locating native plants, designing, and installing the gardens.

“Our Supervisor, Al Torreggiani, and the Town of Hyde Park Board ‘get it,’” said Mary Langenau, Chair of Hyde Park Garden Habitat. “Not only is Hyde Park Town Hall a Certified Wildlife Habitat, but he has signed the National Wildlife Federations’ Mayors Monarch

Pledge for years. As the Town works toward becoming a Community Wildlife Habitat by getting more residents and businesses to certify their gardens, we are thrilled to have just finished planting these new native plant gardens.”

The rain held off on May 21st, the scheduled main planting day. Avalon Bunge, Ecological Projects Manager of the Climate Action Hudson Valley grant (a project of The New World Foundation) joined them to weed and plant both gardens.

After she was thanked by Cecelia Coppola, Secretary to Supervisor, at Town Hall, Avalon joined volunteers Cara Hochhalter, Diane Cullen, Darcy Martin-Rose, Mary Langenau, and

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• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

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# Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley releases ‘Voices of the Hudson Valley’ Report

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has released “Voices of the Hudson Valley,” its data-driven report that compiles valuable community conversations hosted in Dutchess, Putnam and Ulster counties, synthesizing voices and feedback from the public to capture the themes, hopes, and concerns of the region’s residents with a county-by-county focus. The findings from this report will influence CFHV’s future grantmaking opportunities and involvement.

“This is more than just a synopsis,” said Laura Washington, president & CEO of CFHV. “It’s a roadmap that will guide our work and help us build a stronger, more connected Hudson Valley. By amplifying the voices of our community, we can drive meaningful change together.”

Within the report, CFHV identifies the perspectives of residents, nonprofit leaders, and business officials across the three counties it serves, detailing what residents love about their hometown and what pressing needs should be addressed.

This regional snapshot reveals that the positive attributes of the Hudson Valley stem from its rich diversity in art and culture, encompassing everything from urban murals and centuries-old historic sites to its libraries, educational institutions, and the breathtaking beauty of its parks, trails and protected waterbodies.

In terms of the Hudson Valley’s pressing issues, CFHV identified some areas of concern including a need for housing, with homeownership out of reach and rent increasing, addressing food insecurity as the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley has almost doubled its distribution to its service area, and a shortage of resources to fight against the mental health and addiction crises. Additionally, families surveyed noted that childcare options in the Hudson Valley are dwindling, with fewer businesses in each county licensed, and finally, public transportation was noted as dire in rural areas, where people do not have walkable access to goods and services.

Following the report release, CFHV plans to host panel discussions, bringing



Laura Washington

together experts from the community, who can lend their insights in each issue area. These public talks will connect community members with nonprofits and other organizations to learn more, volunteer, or donate to a cause they feel passionate about.

CFHV emphasizes that this report serves not as a one-time initiative but as a catalyst for ongoing change. While this research allows CFHV to prioritize areas identified by the community, CFHV remains committed to addressing a broad range of issues. This research enhances understanding of residents’ perspectives and will facilitate stronger connections within the community as well as the administration and distribution of grants to nonprofits addressing the challenges area residents have deemed most critical.

For more information on CFHV and the Voices of the Hudson Valley report, visit [www.CommunityFoundationsHV.org](http://www.CommunityFoundationsHV.org) or connect with the group on LinkedIn, Facebook or Instagram. To learn more about establishing a fund with CFHV to address pressing issues highlighted in the report, allowing for a more tailored approach for giving that aligns with personal values and priorities, visit: [communityfoundationshv.org/donors/establishing-a-fund/](http://communityfoundationshv.org/donors/establishing-a-fund/)

# BeckHook Pride Parade & Festival set June 22

By Kate Goldsmith

Pride Month celebrations got under way at the beginning of June, and one of the major local events is coming up this weekend. The BeckHook Pride Parade & Festival is set Sunday, June 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Village of Red Hook. The parade, led by Grand Marshal Sunshine Cosplay, steps off at 10 a.m. at Red Hook High School and proceeds to the municipal parking lot, where attendees can enjoy free raffles, demonstrations, workshops, games, drag, dancing and music by local artists and DJs on stage. Food and drink will be available.

Parade line-up is at 9:15 a.m. at the High School, located at 103 West Market Street. Registration is required to march in the parade; visit [www.beckhookpride.com](http://www.beckhookpride.com) to access the registration form.

Live performances on the Main Stage include DJ Hiroshi (10 a.m.), Otiis (11:30 a.m.), Cathy Young (12:15 p.m.), Don’t Let’s Start (1 p.m.), All My Friends (2 p.m.) and DJ James Bond (3 p.m.).

Several local businesses and community organizations are participating in the event; the latter category includes Historic Red Hook, Red Hook Public Library and Starr Library.

Historic Red Hook members David Case and Doug Harders are organizing a group of seniors to march together. Bring your beads, banners, kazoos and tambourines and march with David and

Doug. Marchers will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the Red Hook High School parking lot (enter from West Market Street/Route 199). All are welcome, whether you identify as a senior or want to walk as a friend. Email [davidanddoug247@gmail.com](mailto:davidanddoug247@gmail.com) to join their group.

Historic Red Hook (HRH) seeks volunteers to carry its banner and march alongside the LGBTQ+ Seniors and Friends. Volunteers are also needed for a variety of activities at its table in the Village’s municipal lot. Chat with visitors about what HRH does, collect stories for its archives, run a kids’ activity table and/or help sell HRH merchandise. Email [info@historicrodhook.org](mailto:info@historicrodhook.org) to sign up.

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and their contributions to society. It is also a time to acknowledge the challenges faced by this community and to support their quest for equality and acceptance.

According to its website, BeckHook Pride, Co. is a community organization that strives to support the LGBTQIA+ community members of Rhinebeck, Red Hook and beyond by creating safe spaces for gathering, providing educational and enriching programming, promoting visibility and advocacy, and promoting respect for all people within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Visit [www.beckhookpride.com](http://www.beckhookpride.com) for more information about the event, to register for the parade and to volunteer.

# DC Transportation Council announces comment period for Draft Capital Program

The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) is currently accepting comments from the community about its Draft FFY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – the prioritized listing of federally funded transportation projects in Dutchess County.

Developed as part of the DCTC’s metropolitan transportation planning process, the TIP is one of the DCTC’s core products, where agencies and municipalities commit to carrying out federally funded projects. The TIP provides details such as the sponsor, scope, schedule and cost for each project, and the DCTC updates it every three years. The Draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP covers the period from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2030, and will program over \$164 million in federal transportation funding for state and local projects in Dutchess County. The five-year program will fund critical repairs to local bridges, maintain state and local roads, and support local bus and commuter rail services; residents can also view the DCTC’s online TIP Viewer map for more details about the projects. The Draft TIP proposes four new highway projects:

- Repaving Route 9 from Route 113 (Spackenkill Road) in the Town of Poughkeepsie to West Dorsey Lane in the Town of Hyde Park (\$15.5 million)

(2026)

- Improving the CR 114 (Main Street)/Grand Avenue intersection in the Town of Poughkeepsie (\$4.3 million) (2028)

- Making pedestrian and bicycle improvements on Beekman Street in the City of Beacon (\$3.8 million) (2029)

- Replacing the Parsonage Street Bridge in the Town of Rhinebeck (\$3.2 million) (2028)

In addition to projects located solely in Dutchess County, the Draft TIP programs federal funding for systemwide maintenance projects across the seven-county region of NYSDOT-Region 8, which includes Dutchess County. These projects cover work such as bridge and culvert repairs, road paving and traffic signal and sign improvements on State highways.

The comment period provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft TIP. Comments may be submitted by mail, email or phone, using the contact information below, by 5 p.m. on Monday, June 23.

Dutchess County Transportation Council85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 107 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Phone: (845) 486-3600

Email: [dtct@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dtct@dutchessny.gov)

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# June is Dairy Month: NY grant helps Uplands Farm to upgrade dairy production

continued from cover

Operating a modern dairy farm today is a very complex process. Several generations ago, Van Tassell’s father and grandfather milked their herd, all 30 of them, by hand into buckets. The first milking barn they used is still standing at the bottom of the hill that houses much of the farm. On top of the hill is the current milking barn, built in 2000 and 2001, where more than 130 cows are milked, and where their food and water are carefully monitored to maximize their health and their production. The cows are no longer milked by hand, of course, but by the latest equipment and most modern technology. The difference in the architecture of the two barns is striking; but the differences in how the herd is managed and milked is breath-taking.

**Cleanliness is critical**

Sanitary facilities are the primary concern in the Uplands Farm operation. The machines are sanitized as are the cows themselves. The modern milking machines are busy much of the day. Once the milk is harvested, it needs be cooled, just like it does in a family refrigerator. The milk is piped immediately to a holding tank and cooled along the way by what is called a cooling plate. As the herd has expanded, the need for a larger tank and a cooling plate with higher capacity has grown. Over the years, Van Tassell has had a number of tanks installed, each one larger than its predecessor and each a bit more expensive. Initially he used a 500-gallon tank. He moved then to a 1,000-gallon tank, then on to the current tank with a capacity of 2,000 gallons. That last tank cost just over \$3,000. Prices have risen greatly since then, and the new 3,000-gallon tank and cooling plate that is coming will cost roughly \$140,000.

Van Tassell’s grant from the New York State Dairy Modernization Grant Program will allow this expansion to happen.

“New York State is very supportive of our industry,” he notes. “This grant allows an expansion that we otherwise might not have afforded. Milk prices have been fairly flat but costs have not been.”

**Value of modern science in dairy farming**

The value of scientific methods of herd management are easily illustrated. Today, one of Van Tassell’s cows will produce, on average, 10 gallons of high-quality milk per day. That’s nearly twice what the production was just 20 years ago.

The cows’ health is monitored daily. Food is carefully mixed to specific formulae depending on the current needs identified in monitoring the cows. There are four basic components. On any given



The new barn at Uplands Farm in Verbank will house the new 3,000-gallon holding tank for milk. Photo by Jim Donick

day they include protein, soy oil, silage and chopped corn. Each cow is monitored for exactly how much food they consume and exactly how much milk is produced.

These management techniques, along with extensive focus on cleanliness, also help maintain the herd in exceptional health and exceptional productivity.

**Staff**

An operation like Uplands Farm doesn’t run itself, but requires a team. Van Tassell employs a staff of full-time and part-time individuals. He takes satisfaction in encouraging his staff in their development. He speaks with pride of how one of his people, Amanda Bergin, has left the farm to take on the role of Dutchess County Ag Navigator. On April 10 at the annual Ag Breakfast announced the new appointment. The Agricultural Navigator serves as the primary point of contact for agricultural inquiries within Dutchess County government and collaborates closely with the agricultural community to develop solutions to needs and concerns. In that role, Bergin will have a great influence on agriculture throughout the county.

Bergin brings to that county-wide job a great combination of education, including two degrees from SUNY Cobleskill, and practical farming experience as a Dairy Herd Manager for the past nearly eight years. She is a perfect example of the Van Tassell commitment to sharing his knowledge and passion with the entire community and with the wide influence his operation maintains.

Van Tassell is a leader in the industry worldwide. He bred a cow some years ago that was exceptional in all aspects.

“Cows aren’t bred to be smart, though,” he notes with a smile, “but this one, aside from everything else about her, was a lot smarter than most.” Her name was Erin and her DNA is in every cow in Van Tassell’s herd. Her DNA is now even present in some herds in Germany. The working life of a dairy cow these days is about five years. Erin may have been retired from work, but she lived to be 23 years old.

“She was a great cow,” he muses.

As further evidence of Van Tassell’s

commitment to his industry and to the community, he is chairman of the Dutchess County Dairy Committee. The not-for-profit committee operates a popular milkshake booth at the Dutchess County Fair, located among the 4-H buildings. These milkshakes, made with Hudson Valley Fresh milk and ice cream, are a country fair tradition. The proceeds of the effort benefit the committee’s scholarship program for local students studying agriculture and biology. This is simply another means of showcasing the Dairy Industry in the county and helping ensure that the needed skills to continue will be passed to coming generations.

## Pine Plains softball season ends at state quarterfinals

continued from cover

shutout.

Leadoff hitter Abbey Mayes notched three hits for Pine Plains, while Addy Farinaccio, Giana Dormi, and catcher Anna Essery each had one. The Bombers were able to advance on stolen bases and a passed ball, but left three runners stranded at third base late in the game.

Tiger starter Attwood also pitched a complete game and contributed three hits at the plate. A triple, an RBI, and one deep flyout that sounded gone right off Attwood’s bat helped seal the Tuckahoe

triumph. Durant had plenty of swings and misses, but Tuckahoe’s bats connected to seal the win.

The final score was 6-0 in Tuckahoe’s favor, and the Tigers punched a ticket to the state tournament in Binghamton. They placed as the eventual runners-up to the Class C champions of Bloomfield.

With a young and hungry squad and just one graduating senior, Pine Plains seeks to continue this season’s momentum, with a near-identical roster projected for next spring.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOTE: Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News. Letters must be e-mailed to be considered for publication. We cannot accept handwritten or faxed letters.

Democratic caucus urges action on EMS issues in County

To County Executive Sue Serino:  
We are writing as members of the Democratic Caucus of the Dutchess County Legislature to express both our appreciation and concern regarding the County’s current approach to addressing our emergency medical services (EMS) system.  
We recognize the administration’s efforts in launching the supplemental EMS program and taking steps to address critical service gaps. However, we believe the current approach remains a temporary solution—and one that still falls short of delivering equitable results across the entire county. The recently released Q1 data shows that response times in many rural towns remain well above acceptable targets. This is not just a data point; it is a serious public safety issue affecting thousands of Dutchess County residents.  
Dutchess County needs a more ambitious, long-term strategy—one that moves beyond stopgap measures and builds a comprehensive, countywide EMS infrastructure that meets the needs of every municipality, regardless of size or location. Other counties, including Ulster and Saratoga, are making significant progress toward regionalized EMS models, with dedicated funding and centralized oversight. Dutchess should be doing the same.  
To that end, we respectfully urge your office to:  
1. Accelerate development of a comprehensive, regionalized EMS plan, informed by legislators, municipal leaders, county officials, and EMS providers across the county. Identify the resources needed to implement this plan within Q4 2025 and ahead of FY26 budgeting.  
2. Expand transparency and accountability in the supplemental program, including clear reporting on performance metrics and a commitment to equitable deployment of resources in underserved rural areas. Include County Legislators in the quarterly regional meetings that align to their districts.  
3. Revamp the EMS public education campaign to meet its stated goals of reducing the volume of non-emergency calls to EMS and promoting EMS careers. The current public education campaign not only falls short of achieving its objectives, but could actually inflate non-emergency calls to 911. The taxpayer-funded billboards currently displayed throughout our county do nothing to address or reflect our EMS crisis, and instead simply promote EMS and the County Executive. Our goal is to save lives, not face.  
4. Implement immediate adjustments to improve current EMS coverage—including shifting deployment patterns, enhancing dispatch coordination, and providing interim financial support to struggling local agencies. The time for further study has passed. We have sufficient data, successful models to look to, and a responsibility to act quickly to address the crisis. County Executive Serino, you like to regularly point out that EMS is not a mandated essential service by the state, but that’s not an excuse for failing to fix our EMS crisis. Dutchess County should recognize EMS as an essential service. The County has a role to play beyond stopgap supplemental service, encouraging more mutual aid, and questionable public relations campaigns.  
We remain ready to work in partnership with your office to ensure that every resident of Dutchess County—regardless of geography—can depend on timely, high-quality EMS care. We welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss how to move forward together on this critical issue.

The Democratic Caucus - Dutchess County Legislature  
Yvette Valdés Smith, Barrington Atkins, Chris Drago, Brendan Lawler, Lisa Kaul, Kristopher Munn, Craig Brendl, Nick Page and Brennan Kearney

Ulster Financial Services adds  
Devin McGill at Kingston location

Ulster Financial Services, located at Ulster Savings Bank, recently announced the addition of Devin McGill as a Registered Representative/Financial Advisor at the Bank’s 280 Wall Street, Kingston location.  
McGill, a Saugerties resident, will help Ulster County clients achieve their financial goals through planning and investment management, with an active commitment to their economic well-being. Before joining the bank, Devin was Vice President/Financial Advisor at a local investment management company.  
When not giving advice on finances, he is also a musician and a martial arts instructor in Kingston.  
For more information about financial

products and services and investment services available through Cetera Investment Services, LLC, please call Devin at 845-338-6322, ext. 3243, or email him at [dmcgill@ulstersavings.com](mailto:dmcgill@ulstersavings.com).  
Securities and insurance products are offered through Cetera Investment Services LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services are offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC. Neither firm is affiliated with the financial institution where investment services are offered. Investments are: \*Not FDIC/NCUSIF insured \*May lose value \*Not financial institution guaranteed \*Not a deposit \*Not insured by any federal government agency.



Devin McGill Courtesy photo

CORRECTION

In our article of June 11, on the Naturalization Ceremony at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds, the following quote was attributed to Honorable Judge Tracy MacKenzie. The quote was actually from Dutchess County Clerk Brad Kendall.  
“I can safely say that today is a day that you will remember for the rest of your lives. Not because of what is said here by the distinguished speakers but by what you say when you take the Oath of Allegiance.  
“Politicians will come and go. Stocks will rise and fall and rise again. As surely as day follows night, fall will follow summer to be followed by winter and spring again. But the decisions that have brought you to this moment will change your lives ... the lives of your daughters and sons and grandsons and granddaughters forever.  
“In 1787, the Congress of the United States adopted a new Constitution. This new Constitution, in Article 1, enumerated the powers of the Congress. The fourth clause of Article one grants to Congress the power ‘To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization.’ “That the power of naturalization is enumerated ahead of the power to coin money, to declare war and to raise an Army and a Navy is proof that the founders knew what we know: that only by providing a means for this nation to welcome new citizens with their talents and abilities could this nation grow and prosper.  
“For 296 years, the oath of allegiance has been administered in Dutchess County. Today it is my pleasure to continue that long practice.”

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# Town of Hyde Park commends volunteers for creating native plant gardens

continued from cover



Barbara Hobens to weed and water more than 150 feet of garden beds. Diego Arreguin prepared the soil, planted, and delivered carloads of plants, mulch, and jugs of water before a source was available.

Thanks to two Ecological Restoration grants focusing on at-risk pollinator habitat from Partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley, the Town Hall Pollinator Gardens and the Native Plants of Hyde Park Garden at Hackett Hill Park were created. The focus was on plants that attract and support the growth of endangered Monarch, Spicebush Swallowtail, and Karner Blue butterflies. Native plants were researched and located; gardens designed; and trees, shrubs, plants, seeds, tools, boulders, birdbaths, and mulch were purchased, planted, and placed.

Founded in 2016 by National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Habitat Steward Host Barbara Hobens, the Hyde Park Garden Habitat has spread the “add native plants for pollinators and use organic products” to community members to safeguard our drinking water and provide the basics for wildlife: food, water, cover, and places to raise young.

As a garden designer, author, and certified Deer Steward with the National Deer Association, Hobens has lectured about and created native plant gardens since 1995. She met Mary Langenau when asked to speak at her North Park Elementary Schoolyard Habitat celebration. Mary is also a NWF Steward and

Hyde Park Pollinator Pathway Coordinator. Barbara and Mary created the native plant demonstration garden in front of the Hyde Park Community Garden in 2022 and give lectures at libraries and garden groups.

“Dutchess County has over 1,700 farms that grow food and tens of thousands of residential gardeners who grow vegetables - we all depend on pollinators to eat,” said Barbara, and added “special thanks to Hyde Park Parks & Recreation, Hudson Valley Arborists, and Rust & Co. For their assistance!”

The Town of Hyde Park has registered to become certified as a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat. No matter where you live, it is easy to certify your garden at [www.nwf.org/certify](http://www.nwf.org/certify). With more than 50% of the required points earned, if 50 more Hyde Park residents register and 15 businesses, school, churches, or public spaces also join, their goal of becoming a Community Wildlife Habitat will be reached.

Resources for more information:  
<https://www.facebook.com/HydeParkGardenHabitat/>  
<http://www.pollinatehv.org/>  
<http://www.nwf.org/>  
<https://www.nwf.org/MayorsMonarchPledge>  
<http://communitywildlifehabitat.nwf.org/>

Barbara Hobens is Chairperson of the Hyde Park Shade Tree Commission.

# Tyler Leclerc takes plea in Dutchess County court

## Sentencing adjourned to Sept. 3

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announced last week that Tyler Leclerc of Hyde Park pleaded guilty in Dutchess County Court to two counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, Class E felonies, in violation of Penal Law Section 130.40, subdivision (2); one count of Attempted Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, in violation of Penal Law Section 110.00/130.65 subdivision (4); and two counts of Forcible Touching, Class A misdemeanors in violation of Penal Law 130.52, subdivision (1).

Parisi said, “This plea agreement was made following the unanimous request of the victims’ parents, who wished to spare their children the emotional trauma of testifying in a public trial. Our office’s top priority has always been the well-being of the victims, and this resolution reflects the families’ desire to achieve justice while protecting their children from further harm.”

Leclerc admitted to the court that on two occasions on or about March 11, 2023, and March 10, 2024, in the Town of LaGrange and the Town of Pleasant Valley, being twenty-one years old or more, he engaged in oral sexual conduct with a person less than seventeen years old. The defendant also admitted that on or about April 1, 2024, and October 22, 2024, in the Town of LaGrange, being twenty-one years old or more, he attempted to subject another person to sexual contact while that person was less than thirteen years old. Additionally, Leclerc admitted that on or about May 1, 2023, and May 1, 2024, and April 1, 2024 and February 3, 2025, he intentionally and for no legitimate purpose forcibly touched the sexual or intimate parts of two different people for the purpose of his own sexual gratification.

Judge Jessica Segal presided over the case and adjourned sentencing to September 3, 2025. The sentence agreement is between 10 and 12 years in prison. The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Joseph Gruner.

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Thanks to two Ecological Restoration grants focusing on at-risk pollinator habitat from Partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley, the Town Hall Pollinator Gardens and the Native Plants of Hyde Park Garden at Hackett Hill Park were created. These images show the Town Hall gardens in progress. *Courtesy photos*

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## RENEGADES FEATURE

# Renegades’ community initiatives put focus on health and wellness

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades have announced the team’s latest initiative to create a lasting impact on wellness in the community. As part of the Hudson Valley Renegades Community Program, the team will be donating gently used weight training equipment from the New York Yankees to a deserving school or youth center in the Hudson Valley.

Executive board members of schools and youth organizations are encouraged to apply for this donation through the month of June. Applicants will be evaluated based on need, projected use, and overall fit for the equipment. The 2025 Hudson Valley Renegades Equipment Donation application can be found on the Hudson Valley Renegades website. All documents must be postmarked by June 30 to be considered. After review and recipient selection in July, the donation will be made in August.

The WMC Club Lounge in left field has facilities fitted with new equipment for both the Renegades and visiting

teams, and no use for the Yankees’ weight training equipment. Through the donation program, the gently used equipment may positively impact the health of youth in local organizations, rather than collecting dust at Heritage Financial Park. The commitment to friends, fans and families in the Renegades’ community doesn’t end at the final out. It stays a priority long after Renegades’ personnel clock out for the night. Schools and youth organizations across the Hudson Valley are eligible for the weight equipment donation, from Ulster to Sullivan to Dutchess counties - and in between!

Jessica Levinson, manager of community relations and ticket operations, said community initiatives like this are only half the fun of an organization like Hudson Valley.

“To have something that’s specifically focused on the health and wellness of the local youth, I think that’s what makes this initiative stick out,” Levinson said.

This campaign is just the most recent sports-centered program announced for the summer. On June

17, the Renegades participated in the Field Betterment initiative, renovating a field for Pine Bush Little League in Crawford, the first recipient of the grant based in Orange County. The weight donation project follows a similar structure to the Field Betterment program, according to Levinson.

The Renegades’ involvement in the community is built around genuine connection and communication. The team is dedicated to enhancing the well-being of youth in the Hudson Valley region, and it begins with physical fitness and wellness. Above all, physical and mental well-being at the forefront of all Renegades’ youth initiatives. Inspiring all kids to succeed, both on and off the field, is key to raising a healthy community.



Roc Riggio of the Renegades encourages a young performer to “keep your eye on the ball” during a sports/athletics-based community outreach event on June 3 at Little Britain Elementary School in New Windsor. *Courtesy photo*

To advertise on the Renegades pages, contact [cschmidt@sutchessnews.com](mailto:cschmidt@sutchessnews.com)

### League Standings

| SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH |    |    |      |      |     |      |
|-----------------------------|----|----|------|------|-----|------|
|                             | W  | L  | PCT  | GB   | L10 | STRK |
| Brooklyn NYM                | 43 | 20 | .683 | -    | 6-4 | W2   |
| Greensboro PIT              | 42 | 20 | .677 | 0.5  | 7-3 | W2   |
| Hudson Valley NYY           | 37 | 25 | .597 | 5.5  | 5-5 | L1   |
| Wilmington WSH              | 30 | 33 | .476 | 13.0 | 8-2 | W7   |
| Jersey Shore PHI            | 24 | 37 | .393 | 18.0 | 6-4 | W1   |
| Aberdeen BAL                | 24 | 38 | .387 | 18.5 | 4-6 | L1   |

| SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH |    |    |      |     |     |      |
|-----------------------------|----|----|------|-----|-----|------|
|                             | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | L10 | STRK |
| Bowling Green TB            | 33 | 29 | .532 | -   | 4-6 | L1   |
| Greenville BOS              | 33 | 30 | .524 | 0.5 | 7-3 | W1   |
| Hub City TEX                | 30 | 33 | .476 | 3.5 | 2-8 | L7   |
| Rome ATL                    | 28 | 35 | .444 | 5.5 | 1-9 | L2   |
| Asheville HOU               | 27 | 36 | .429 | 6.5 | 3-7 | L2   |
| Winston-Salem CWS           | 24 | 39 | .381 | 9.5 | 6-4 | W1   |



### Home Schedule

| July     |               |          |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------|---------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/01/25 | vs. Brooklyn  | 06:35 PM | 2025 Graduation Party Baseball Bingo Presented By PeopleUSA                                                                                                                |
| 07/02/25 | vs. Brooklyn  | 06:35 PM | The Inaugural Rascals Wine Wednesday Presented By Benmarl Winery                                                                                                           |
| 07/03/25 | vs. Brooklyn  | 07:05 PM | Independence Day Celebration: Happy Birthday America! Independence Day MEGA Fireworks!                                                                                     |
| 07/08/25 | vs. Asheville | 06:35 PM | Cider Donuts: Dusty's Revenge, Baseball Bingo Presented By PeopleUSA                                                                                                       |
| 07/09/25 | vs. Asheville | 06:35 PM | Jewish Heritage Night Wine Wednesday Presented By Benmarl Winery                                                                                                           |
| 07/10/25 | vs. Asheville | 06:35 PM | Union Night Blue Renegades Replica Jersey Giveaway Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union                                                                            |
| 07/11/25 | vs. Asheville | 07:05 PM | Italian Heritage Night Fireworks Friday                                                                                                                                    |
| 07/12/25 | vs. Asheville | 05:05 PM | Beach Night Hawaiian Shirt Giveaway Presented By Hannaford Supermarkets                                                                                                    |
| 07/13/25 | vs. Asheville | 02:05 PM | Gades 5K Star Wars Day                                                                                                                                                     |
| 07/23/25 | vs. Rome      | 12:05 PM | Camp Day Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union Wine Wednesday Presented By Benmarl Winery                                                                           |
| 07/24/25 | vs. Rome      | 06:35 PM | Hudson Valley Retrievers: Who's A Good Dog? Presented By The Brothers That Just Do Gutters Retrievers Replica Jersey Giveaway Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union |
| 07/25/25 | vs. Rome      | 07:05 PM | Christmas In July Fireworks Friday                                                                                                                                         |
| 07/26/25 | vs. Rome      | 05:05 PM | Introducing The Hudson Valley Big Apples Big Apples Bucket Hat Giveaway Presented By Hannaford Supermarkets                                                                |
| 07/27/25 | vs. Rome      | 02:05 PM | Princess Day Sunday Family Funday                                                                                                                                          |





**Summer Nights & Smooth Jazz: Bernie Williams returns to Millbrook Vineyards & Winery for 4th Annual Summer Jazz Concert**







**See story, page 8**

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

# Three one-run wins send Renegades past Greenville

By Morgan E. Maier

In the Renegades’ only homestand of the month, Hudson Valley proved victorious over southern rivals in the Greenville Drive. As the parent clubs in Boston and New York battled at Fenway, the Renegades split a series, with five games decided by two runs or fewer. There was little power hitting, but masterful pitching prevailed. Over the weekend, the Renegades took the field as the Cider Donuts and the new-look Retrievers, but through classic bullpen performances, Hudson Valley triumphed over its southern league rivals.

Strikes and swipes

In a bullpen-only affair on June 12, five Renegades pitchers combined for 12 strike-

outs. Geoff Gilbert was a highlight, fanning 5 batters over 2.2 innings. Tyrone Yulie, starter Hayden Merda, and Matt Keating had two punchouts each, and Bryce Warrecker added one in the 3-2 Renegades loss. With two outs in the second and third innings, Josh Moylan (4) and Jackson Castillo (11) swiped second base as the Renegades clung to an early 1-0 lead. Both of their scoring efforts were in vain, but each trotted back to the dugout with another stolen base under the belt. Props to manager-slash-first base coach James Cooper for promoting aggressive baserunning on a nightly basis and getting his guys in scoring position. After this week, the team is on the cusp of 100 stolen bags on the year.

Starting strong

To go along with a couple of fantastic

bullpen outings, Renegades starters combined for just three earned runs in six games. Josh Grosz allowed one earned run over 6.1 innings, striking out six in a 6-4 Greenville win on June 11. Kyle Carr allowed two over two starts, going 1-1 with nine strikeouts. Overall, the Renegades scored 14 runs but allowed 18 in the series split.

One-run fun

The Renegades were victorious by a lone run in three games this series. Winning 1-0 on a bullpen beauty in the June 13 contest, Hudson Valley hung on to a 2-2 series split approaching the final two games. But in the series opener, Hudson Valley held on to a 3-2 lead to secure Kyle Carr’s first win of the season! Longevity is his game of late, as Carr has revved into 6+ innings in three of his last four starts. In consecutive games,

the Renegades won 1-0, with a sacrifice fly by Tomas Frick ultimately proving to be the game winner on June 13. The following night, Jose Colmenares’ patience won the game for Hudson Valley in the first inning. Eight innings of shutout baseball followed Colmenares’ bases-loaded walk to give Hudson Valley its third one-run decision of the week.

The Renegades (37-25) will be on the road for the rest of the month, making stops in Jersey Shore and Wilmington to close out the week. Eight games ahead of the Blue Rocks for third place in the South Atlantic League (SAL), the Renegades trail the co-leading Brooklyn Cyclones and Greensboro Grasshoppers. Once again, the Renegades hold third place in the North division and the top run differential in the SAL.

RENEGADES FEATURE

# Minor leaguers recall performances in College World Series, playoffs

By Morgan E. Maier

As the College Baseball World Series gets under way in Omaha, surely some of the Hudson Valley Renegades are taking trips down memory lane. The 2025 Renegades have competed at various collegiate baseball levels, from junior college through Division I.

Even pitching coach Demetre Kokoris was instrumental in Texas Rangers’ practices en route to their 2023 World Series win. Though the current 30-man roster features just one national champion, plenty Renegades have notable post-season clips.

Greenville, SC native Tomas Frick faced his boyhood team in the Hudson Valley this week, but he first starred north of his native border in 2023 at the University of North Carolina. To clinch the Heels’ automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, Frick hit a monstrous .571 and led the tournament in runs batted in. Oh, and he hit two home runs, earning him a fast track to the All-Tournament team.

Though they didn’t rep the Carolina Blue together, Frick and Parks Harber were a part of back-to-back Tar Heel dream teams. In a possible foreboding, Harber went 3-6 in the first game of the 2022 Chapel Hill Regional, hitting a triple, a home run, and four RBI against Hofstra as a member of the Georgia Bulldogs. Two years later, Harber and the Tar Heels headed to Omaha for the team’s first College World Series appearance

since 2018.

The Renegades Roc Riggio couldn’t stop in Stillwater. Oklahoma State University hosted the 2022 regional, and Riggio dazzled in his NCAA tournament debut. A freshman back then, Riggio hit .555, mashing four home runs and notching 17 RBIs in five games at the Cowboys’ home regional.

With East Carolina University vying for an automatic tournament bid, Josh Grosz’ teammate Jacob Starling hit a massive home run during the conference tournament to cut the University of South Florida’s lead to one. Grosz, ever-conscious of the “hangry” teammate, figured such a clutch knock would call up an appetite. He handed Starling a hot dog as he returned to the dugout, to the horror of the American Athletic Conference (AAC). No matter how well intentioned such a gesture could be, it was considered a celebration prop, a no-no even among the most growling stomachs. Grosz was promptly ejected from the game, and banned from his following start in the AAC tournament.

NCAA Division I champion Griffin Herring has impressed Hudson Valley fans since his June 1 debut. Southerners repping the “Geaux Tigers” mantra picked their jaws off the concourse years ago. In a performance that arguably rivaled that of eventual first overall pick Paul Skenes, Herring held a must-win game for LSU in the 2023 edition of the College World Series, striking out the biggest of Wake Forest’s hitting threats.

The Tiger win brought Skenes to the mound the following day, clinching the College World Series title. It marked Herring’s second title in as many years, as the Texas native won the 2022 Class 6A state championship at Southlake Carroll High School.

Duncan Pastore and the 40-win Louisiana-Lafayette squad were all the rage in the 2024 College Station Regional. In the regular season, Pastore’s first and only as a Ragin’ Cajun, the graduate transfer finished with the second highest batting average on the team (.321) which was ranked 22nd in the nation. In Game 1 of the Regional round, Pastore finished 3-3 with a RBI single in a 10-2 rout of Texas to stave off elimination. He notched another RBI in the following game, but the hosting Aggies of Texas A&M mellowed the Cajuns’ hopes of reaching the Super Regional.



Renegades pitcher Josh Grosz has an interesting story about getting ejected from a playoff game in his college days. Photo by Dave Janosz

# Summer Nights & Smooth Jazz: Bernie Williams returns to Millbrook Vineyards & Winery for 4th Annual Summer Jazz Concert

Celebrating music, wine and the Dutchess County community, Millbrook Vineyards & Winery (Millbrook Winery) will host former New York Yankee centerfielder and jazz musician, Bernie Williams and his Band of Friends, for its fourth annual summer jazz concert overlooking the vineyard on Saturday, June 28 at 6 p.m. with the lawn and food trucks opening at 4 p.m.

As part of a shared commitment to music education and supporting future musicians, Williams and Millbrook Winery will donate \$10 from every concert ticket sold, as well as a portion of wine sales that evening, to the music programs at Dutchess Community College (DCC). DCC’s music program offerings are as diverse as they are dynamic, providing a strong academic foundation for students preparing to transfer into four-year programs in performance, education, studio production, music therapy, business, and more. With instruction spanning styles from classical to jazz, the College prepares aspiring musicians, educators, and industry professionals for success. Beyond the classroom, DCC fosters a vibrant musical community through ensemble opportunities, private lessons, and non-credit classes open to learners of all ages and backgrounds. By making high-quality instruction accessible to both degree-seeking students and passionate community members, DCC reflects Williams’ lifelong advocacy for the arts and the winery’s affinity to supporting its local community.

“Returning to Millbrook Winery and being a part of something that blends music, wine and community is always one of the highlights of my summer,” said Williams, on the partnership. “Sharing the stage with the next generation of musicians and supporting music education makes it all the more meaningful to me.”

“The Performing Arts program is thrilled for the chance to have members of the DCC Jazz Ensemble open for the Bernie Williams annual concert at Millbrook Winery on June 28,” said John Howell, assistant professor of music and supervisor of the performing and fine arts music program. “The Jazz Ensemble consists of a wide range of musicians: DCC students and alumni, students from local Dutchess County high schools, and musicians from the community at large, and they welcome new members every semester. We are grateful to both Millbrook Winery and Bernie Williams

for giving our students an opportunity to perform.”

Coupled with the concert and philanthropic partner, the 2022 vintage of “Bernie’s Blend,” a red wine blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc, aged to perfection, along with a newly created 2023 Chardonnay and the 2021 Pinot Noir varietals blended by Williams himself and Millbrook’s Head Winemaker, Ian Bearup, will debut at the evening of the concert. Becoming a family tradition, the wine blends will be adorned by a custom label created by Williams’ daughter, Beatriz Williams, a Brooklyn-New York-based artist. The label artwork features a symbolic guitar held by two sets of hands — one older, one younger — representing the passing of musical knowledge from one generation to the next. This visual pays tribute to Williams’ own journey, inspired by his father, who first taught him to play guitar.

“Working with Bernie on each year’s wine blend is a true reflection of the passion and artistry that winemaking and music share,” said Bearup. “Each vintage of ‘Bernie’s Blend’ is crafted with care and it’s an honor to see our work come together each year, especially as we celebrate our 40 year anniversary this year.”

Since retiring from the New York Yankees in 2006, Williams embarked on a successful second act as a jazz musician, earning a Bachelor of Music in jazz performance from the Manhattan School of Music. In 2021, a visit to Millbrook Winery sparked an unexpected connection. Captivated by the vineyards and the winemaking process, Williams struck up a conversation with David Bova, the winery’s vice president and general manager. Their shared appreciation for baseball, music and the artistry behind winemaking led to a unique and fruitful partnership. Each year since, Williams has collaborated closely with the winery, taste-testing barrels and carefully crafting each vintage with precision and creativity.

The 2025 concert will kick off at 6 p.m., featuring a special opening act by DCC Music Program students, who will join Williams and his Band of Friends during the second act. Led by director and saxophonist Joe North, the DCC ensemble includes standout performers, including DCC alum Ben Basile (upright bass) and current students Jevaughn Brown (keyboard), Teo Fairbanks (drums), Pedro Velez de Assis (bass), and Brianna Vivace (vocals).



Former New York Yankee centerfielder and jazz musician, Bernie Williams and his Band of Friends will perform at Millbrook Winery on Saturday, June 28. *Courtesy photos*



Tickets are on sale now on the Millbrook Winery website and offered in three tiers – VIP Deck or VIP Lawn (\$250 each), which includes a meet and greet with Williams and an open wine bar, and General Admission (\$70 each) where guests are welcome to bring their own lawn chairs. “Bernie’s Blend” red blend, Pinor Noir and Chardonnay will all be for sale the evening of the performance.

The Bernie Williams concert is one of many in Millbrook Winery’s summer jazz concert series, happening every Saturday evening, beginning June 21. A full concert schedule can be found on their website.

## NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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## Latest edition of ‘New York By Rail’ now available for summer travel

The 2025/2026 edition of the award-winning New York By Rail can take you places you’ve never imagined. Published by Content Studio New York, this year’s guide, with its vintage-inspired cover, is the ultimate playbook to traveling by Amtrak in New York. It’s complete with hot destinations, maps, a calendar of events, overnight itineraries, Amtrak special offers and even the best places to eat after you’ve pulled into the station.

“Once again, we are proud to partner with Amtrak to publish this beautiful guide that has all the bells and whistles—everything you need to know in order to plan an Amtrak getaway,” says Tom Martinelli, publisher of New York By Rail. “At a time when flying is a bit stressful, we hope it inspires more folks to think about the train, hop aboard Amtrak and explore all the reachable destinations throughout New York, Vermont and Canada.” This year’s edition takes you on a delectable, culinary journey through New York, a treat for the foodies in your life—and explores the best places to land everything from diners and donuts to hot dogs and hot wings. What would you do if you had just 24 hours to spend in Rochester? This issue has all the answers.

New York By Rail features a calendar of exciting events that you can get to by train. The guide includes a route map



and station services guide to thirty-seven Amtrak stops and connecting bus service along Amtrak’s Adirondack, Empire Service, Ethan Allen Express and Maple Leaf routes. Since 2004, New York by Rail has been the sought-after guide for train travelers and pleasure-seekers alike. The guide is printed annually and distributed at select New York Amtrak stations, tourist information centers, airports, hotels and through travel agents.

To learn more about Amtrak visit [Amtrak.com](http://Amtrak.com).

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Register by July 1 for  
Grange Camp's 'Kids Day Out'

The New York State Grange Camp Program is sponsoring a "Kids Day Out" on Monday, July 28, at the Stanford Grange Hall; 6043 Route 82; Stanfordville, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Kids Day Out" is for children ages 7-17 (5- and 6-year-olds may attend if a parent/guardian attends with the child).

Attendees will enjoy a day of fun with games, crafts, community service, leadership, swimming, and rocketry. A kid-friendly lunch will be served, and parents are welcome to stay for the day, as well.

The registration fee is \$20 per child (this includes lunch) and \$5 per parent staying for lunch. Registrations are due by July 1. To register or for more information, contact the New York State Grange Co-Camp Directors: Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 or rorton808@yahoo.com or Sherri Horner at (315) 380-2294 or kidsbreak1@yahoo.com.

Garden Talks set at  
Beatrix Farrand Garden in June

The Beatrix Farrand Garden Association will host free garden talks on Saturdays in June. The talks will take place from 11 a.m. to noon in the Beatrix Farrand Garden, located at the FDR National Historic Site, 4097 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park.

The Bellefield Garden Talks series is made possible by a grant from the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Talks are free and open to the public by reservation: www.beatrixfarrandgardenhydepark.org

The remaining schedule:

June 21: "Fragrant Native Plants," Ashley Gamell, landscape designer;

June 28: "Wild Edible and Medicinal Plant Walk," Dina Falconi, author and educator.

**Cupcake Celebration June 22 at Copake Grange**  
One thousand cupcakes of every flavor and description will fill the tables at Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Road, during the fifth annual Cupcake Celebration, Sunday, June 22, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. The sweet stars of this tasty showcase are for sale at \$1 each and all are vying in a competition for the Ultimate Copake Cupcake. Everyone is invited to shop and vote for their favorite. The winner will be announced at a 1 p.m. awards ceremony. Get more information at 917-270-5989 or www.friendsofcopakegrange.org/our-activities

**Documentary in Kingston June 22**  
Sunday, June 22, 2:00 - 5:00 PM at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston, NY. Showing of the award-winning documentary "The Advocate," about a lawyer seeking justice for Palestinians who have been arrested and jailed without due cause. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis Response mideastcrisis.org, Mid Hudson Valley DSA, Rally Middletown, JVP Hudson Valley, Peace Education Center, and Veterans For Peace. Contact: mecra@mideastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

**Anderson sets Second Annual Founder's Day; RSVP by July 3**  
Anderson Center for Autism will hold its Second Annual Founder's Day Celebration on Wednesday, July 9, from noon to 4 p.m., in the Spruces Business Center Parking Lot. All Anderson families, team members, trustees, and community partners are invited. This is an invite-only event and not open to the public. There will be food trucks, games, music, and more. RSVP is required by July 3 to events@andersoncares.org.

**Crafters Market at Ruby Hill Farm**  
Ruby Hill Farm, at 2325 Salt Point Turnpike in Clinton Corners, will host a Crafters Market from noon to 4 p.m. on the following Sundays: July 13, July 27, and August 24. See beautifully handmade items made by local artists and visit the farm store offering in-season goods. Entry for public is free. Vendors please register using the vendor ticket on Eventbrite. For questions, contact rubyhillfarm@yahoo.com. Visitor passes may be purchased for viewing the farm animals at the farm store. Vendors may sign up online at www.rubyhillfarm.com/events.

**Ukraine fundraiser set July 27 at Stissing Center**  
'Words to America from Ukraine' is an experience to connect our Dutchess County community with the unwavering spirit of Ukraine. The event will be held on Sunday, July 27, from 5 to 8 p.m., at The Stissing Center for Arts and Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains.

Expect to be moved by contemporary war-time Ukrainian poetry, eloquently blended with the vibrant sounds of folk music performed by the renowned Ukrainian Village Voices ensemble. Savor delicious food and drink, hear inspiring speakers, and participate in a live auction featuring exceptional works from local and Ukrainian artists.

Every ticket, every bid, every donation directly supports Razom for Ukraine, providing critical aid and keeping Ukraine's fight for freedom in the hearts and minds of Americans. Our actions will change lives. WordsFromUkraine.org

**Rhinebeck church to offer Vacation Bible School**  
Daily Vacation Bible School, a ministry of Grace Bible Fellowship Church, will meet July 28-Aug. 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., at the church at 6959 Route 9, just north of the 9/9G light in Rhinebeck. The Bible School is geared to ages 4-18; each day includes Bible lessons, music, skits, crafts, activities and refreshments. There is no fee to attend, and all are welcome. Call (845) 876-6923 or (845) 876-7214 or email fdcirone@aol.com for more information.

**Brunch to benefit library project**  
A brunch to benefit the Hyde Park Library's accessibility project will be held at Joseph's Italian Steakhouse (728 Violet Ave.), from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 3. The event will feature a delicious buffet-style breakfast as well as a silent auction and raffles. Tickets are \$70 at the door, but can be purchased in advance for a small processing fee when you register via the library's online calendar. Proceeds will be put toward the upcoming construction taking place in the library, which will include an accessible restroom and the installation of a lift. For more information call the library at 845-229-7791.

**ONGOING**  
**Men's fellowship and Bible study:** Tuesday nights, 7-9 p.m., in the home of David Mahoney, 21 Mountain View Road, Staatsburg. Call (845) 797-4805 for more information.

**PV Garden Club** meets first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Library. No experience necessary. Pleasant Valley Community Gardens are volunteers learning as they grow vegetables and flowers in Helen Aldrich Park on Route 115. Everything we grow is to benefit local food pantries. See our Facebook page and website at www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com.

**GREETERS IN THE GARDEN:** Visit the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, located at 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park, on the FDR National Historic Site, any day from dawn to dusk. Entry is free. On the first and third Sunday afternoons, 1-3 p.m., Volunteers Greeters will be on hand to informally provide historic and garden information. The historic, walled garden was designed in 1912 by Beatrix Farrand, the first American woman landscape architect. The newer "Wild Garden" is a thriving demonstration garden featuring 140 native plants. Free parking and restrooms are available at Wallace Center, a few steps from the historic, walled Beatrix Farrand Garden garden. For information about the nonprofit BFGA, a Park Partner to the National Park Service, visit the website: www.beatrixfarrandgardenhydepark.org.

**The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association** is looking for volunteers to perform all tasks required to plant and maintain the garden. No gardening expertise is needed, we will train as we work. You need to be 18 years old or older and be able to perform, at minimum, basic physical labor such as bending, kneeling and carrying buckets. Garden work is done during the spring, summer and fall months on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For more information, visit www.vanderbiltgarden.org or call 845-229-6432.

**Meals on Wheels of Hyde Park and the Village of Rhinebeck** is seeking volunteer drivers during the hours of 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Drivers are needed Monday-Friday. You can drive one or more days each week or substitute as needed. All drivers work in teams so couples or friends are encouraged to volunteer together. For more information visit www.mealsonwheelsofhp.org or, contact Andrea Tkazyik at (845) 229-5896.

Tickets now available for  
July 4th fireworks at Walkway

This Independence Day, Friends of the Walkway invites the community to experience the City of Poughkeepsie 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular from the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge, perched 212 feet above the Hudson River.

On Friday, July 4 at 6 p.m., Walkway Over the Hudson will open exclusively to ticket holders offering panoramic twilight views of the professional fireworks show launching between 9-9:30 p.m. Tickets are available now at walkway.org/fireworks.

Ticket information includes:  
• **\$20** - Walkway members, seniors, and veterans. To become a member and access discount tickets, visit join.walkway.org.

• **\$25** - General Admission  
• **FREE** - Children 12 and under (but must be registered for a free ticket)

All sales are final. No tickets will be sold on-site at the event.

Proceeds support Friends of the Walkway and its strategic vision to create meaningful, on-the-ground experiences for every person who steps into the park.

On Friday, July 4, Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park will begin closing procedures at 4 p.m. for setup and safety preparations. It will reopen at 6 p.m. to event ticket holders only. The fireworks display will begin between 9-9:30 p.m. The Walkway closes immediately following the conclusion of the fireworks.

If the event is postponed due to severe weather, the fireworks will launch on Saturday, July 5.

**Special guidelines include:**  
• No pets are allowed on the Walkway during this event.

• No bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, personal fireworks, or firearms are permitted.

• Drone photography is prohibited. Guests may set up cameras and tripods within designated seating areas only.

• Personal coolers, food, and drink are permitted, but no glass containers are allowed. The Walkway is a smoke- and alcohol-free park.

• Guests may bring bags, chairs, blankets, etc. but must be set up in the designated seating area along the south railing. No tents are allowed. All are subject to inspection at entrances.

**Parking and accessibility** - Those with valid tickets are encouraged to carpool and to park at various City of Poughkeepsie and Town of Lloyd locations, or approved on-street parking spaces, and allow ample time to get to the Walkway in time for the fireworks.

works. Ticket holders may access the Walkway from either the East (Poughkeepsie) or West (Highland) entrances. The elevator at Upper Landing Park will be closed. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.

**East side parking – Poughkeepsie**  
• Poughkeepsie - 80 Washington Street Lot - 80 Washington Street, Poughkeepsie (approx. 0.2 mile walk to Walkway)

• Pulaski Park - 162 Washington Street, Poughkeepsie (approx. 0.3 mile walk to Walkway)

• Italian Center - 227 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie (approx. 0.4 mile walk to Walkway)

• Civic Center Plaza Garage - 41 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie (approx. 0.6 mile walk to Walkway)

• Main Street Municipal Parking - 197 Main Street, Poughkeepsie (approx. 0.7 mile walk to Walkway)

\*Parking is free in City municipal lots beginning at 5 p.m. and in metered spaces on-street after 6 p.m.

**West side parking Highland**  
• Hudson Valley Rail Trail Parking Lot - 75 Haviland Road in Highland

• Haviland Road Street Parking - 87 Haviland Road, Highland

**Note: The Town of Lloyd charges for all non-handicapped parking along Haviland Road and in the Rail Trail Parking Lot.** Follow posted signage. The Town of Lloyd Police Department will close Haviland Road when at capacity.

Guests needing handicapped parking should park on the West (Highland) side of the Walkway. The handicapped parking is approximately 0.3 miles from the nearest fireworks viewing area. No stairs are required to access the bridge, and the pathway from the parking lot to the Walkway is mostly flat and paved. There is no transportation available from the parking lot to the Walkway.

The July 4th Fireworks Spectacular is sponsored by Rutberg Breslow Personal Injury Law, Alpha Win Racing, Chestnut Market, and Optum. It is presented by Friends of the Walkway, the City of Poughkeepsie, and Q92.1 FM. Special thanks to the Town of Lloyd, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York State Police, local law enforcement, and Walkway staff and volunteers. Visit walkway.org/fireworks or call 845-454-9649 for complete event information.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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# Why join your local American Legion and VFW?

These organizations offer much to the community.

When I returned home from active duty in 2004, I was 22 years old. I didn't know many veterans my age and certainly didn't know how to turn the skills I learned as Sergeant of the Guard for the American Embassy in Kabul and Infantry Squad Leader fighting in both Iraq and Afghanistan into viable employment.

So, for almost 15 years, I found various jobs in the security and restaurant business and as a bouncer in several establishments throughout the Hudson Valley.

Numerous times during those years of feeling alone and often misunderstood, family members and friends who weren't even military veterans would attend various functions at local chapters of the American Legion (TAL) and (Veterans of Foreign Wars) VFW. They would encourage me to join them and suggest I get involved, but I always resisted. I found I had accepted the cliché that these groups were filled with older men who gathered at the bar on weekends to tell war stories, watch football games and maybe offer an occasional spaghetti dinner.

In fact, it wasn't until 2016 – when I was blessed to get hired at Mental Health America (MHA) Dutchess County's Vet2Vet program and began visiting local American Legion and VFW chapters and meeting fellow veterans who belonged to those groups – that I realize I had missed nearly 15 years of opportunity to serve both the veterans and the communities of Dutchess County.

I found these men and women offered me a social connection, regardless of their age; understood the obstacles of returning to community life; understood the trauma of battle and the isolation I was experienc-

ing; and many were leaders in the community forming a large network of contacts in various areas of public life.

According to a 2024 Sun Newspaper article, the VFW and its auxiliary members totaled about 1.4 million, with 5,667 posts around the world. The American Legion has approximately 2 million members in more than 12,000 posts around the country. Those numbers makes both organizations fierce advocates for improved healthcare and benefit access, enhanced women's healthcare and veteran-focused legislative changes at all levels of government.

Locally, both organizations are active participants in community events and offer volunteer opportunities for veterans through youth outreach and scholarship programs for both veterans and non-veteran families. Their commitment to organizing holiday ceremonies and parades that honor our fallen comrades and those who have served, keeping that service at the forefront of public consciousness, is unquestioned.

Despite all this, however, there is evidence that the younger generation of military vets have shied away from becoming involved in their local chapters of TAL and the VFW. Groups like the Wounded Warriors Project, Student Veterans of America and non-veteran groups that focus on activities such as one-on-one mentoring of disadvantaged youth, delivering food to the needy and personal health related pursuits have given returning veterans a wide range of activities to choose from, rather than what some see as traditional and outdated social gatherings.

A 2019 New York Times article stated,

"The newer organizations reflect cultural shifts in a smaller community of younger and increasingly diverse veterans who are replacing the older, predominantly male veterans."

Add to that busy lifestyle, raising families, involvement in kids sports and social events, church commitments and a perception that the experiences of serving in more recent conflicts like the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are not adequately represented, understood or acknowledged by members of the older veterans' organizations, makes recruiting new members into the American Legion and VFW challenging.

However, there is some good news. In July 2019, during President Trump's first term, he signed the "LEGION Act" (Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service) into law. This law honored close to 1,600 U.S. military personnel who were killed or wounded in action during previously undeclared times of war and allowed nearly 6 million additional veterans access to American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

Along with opening the door to more veterans, there is a recent trend among American Legion and VFW leaders to not quietly sit back and accept declining participation. They instead are working to appeal to newer generations by simplifying eligibility requirements; pushing the government to speed up electronic health records to help post 9/11 veterans in transition; offering mental health treatment programs; and organizing job fairs with local Chambers of Commerce.

In the case of the American Legion, there is also a move taking place to go back to the founders' original, post-World War I era mission: That is, to give back to communities and foster programs that are inclusive and geared toward family outings and events.

Derric Grimes, an Army veteran and a member of the post in Fuquay-Varina, NC, related in an interview with military.com that about 10 years ago, his post had roughly 250 members and now it's North Carolina's largest post, with more than 920 members. "We made it about

family," Grimes said. "Reinvigorating family time – cookouts, fairs and a little something for everyone was the catalyst it needed because if I can't take my family to Legion stuff, I'm not going."

Leaders of both groups say two things they hear over and over from vets are, "No one has ever asked me to join" and "What is in it for me?"

Dutchess County American Legion Adjutant Kevin Hathorn hears a similar refrain. He says local Legion and VFW posts are collaborating to address the issue by creating a hub of communication at all levels of the organization that fosters community unity and awareness – awareness that will allow members to come to the aid of those in real need of assistance by getting to know the community through blood drives, cook-outs, giveaways and offering construction assistance to them. There is also an effort to better broadcast programs that younger veterans' children can benefit from, such as Legion Baseball, Oratorical Contests and the Boys State Program, a summer program that immerses high-school students with hands-on experience in the practical operation of local government by running a mock government. Hathorn says it's all about keeping the American Legion and VFW strong for future military personnel and their families, and he says that clearly rests on younger vets getting involved.

There is much both the American Legion and VFW offer the entire family and community; and I encourage any veteran, young or old, to take the step of contacting their local chapter. I've found you don't have to commit to attending every weekly meeting. Just getting involved once a month and participating in some select events often serves as a catalyst for becoming engaged and brings new ideas and talents to the group.

If this article has piqued your interest, please call your local American Legion or VFW; or if you are not sure how to proceed, feel free to contact me at the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs at (845) 486-2060; or email us at veterans@dutchessny.gov. We will gladly help you get started.

## RED HOOK VFW POST AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP TO RED HOOK SENIOR



Red Hook VFW Post 7765 annually awards certificates of merit and scholarships to Red Hook High School Seniors entering active duty in the military or being accepted in college ROTC or a military academy. Officers awarded a Certificate of Merit and a \$1,000 scholarship to graduating senior Justin Smith-Mineault who enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. VFW Trustee and Scholarship Chairman Thomas Sullivan (left) and VFW Commander Jon Conroe (right) made the presentation. Graduating Senior Uri Marcos, entering the US Navy, also received a Certificate of Merit and a grant of \$250 but was not present. *Courtesy photo*

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# Creativity shines in Dutchess Heritage Quilt Show



From top, the "Heart of America" quilt was made by Terri Cronk of Pleasant Valley. It won a Vendor's Choice award. The octopus quilt is titled "Athena Take 2" and was made by Meegan Veeder-Shave. It won a second place award. The red and tan quilt is called "Headin' Home" and was made by Elaine Watkins of Poughkeepsie. The quilt with poppies is called "Plus Harmonia Axyridis" and was made by Mary Nisley. *Courtesy photos*



From top, The show was held in the Thomas Odak Horticulture Building at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds and featured over 80 handmade quilts. Linda Dearing of Poughkeepsie made the quilt called "Wine and Roses Legacy," which won a third place award. "The Bookcase" by Meegan Veeder-Shave took a second place award. The quilt with horses is a community quilt and was donated to the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office as a gift to any child being removed from a difficult situation. *Courtesy photos*



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# Edible postcard

A meal enjoyed on a past vacation, re-created

It's the time of year that, even if I'm not going anywhere, I want to eat like I'm on vacation. For me that usually means smaller portions (think tapas), appetizers as a meal and lots of fresh flavor, nicely presented. I certainly don't eat that way all summer long, but when I can it's a treat. Some of my favorite recipes came about as a result of dishes I experienced while on vacation, and it's always fun to try to re-create them once I'm back home. That way I can relive the memory and be transported back to when and where I first had it, which is, for me at least, much better than a photograph posted on social media and more like an edible postcard.

I think most of us eat a little differently when on vacation. We tend to treat ourselves, give in to decadence and sample unique regional specialties, all of which is lovely and certainly a fun part of the travel experience. And while it's nice to keep great meals as fond memories, it also wonderful to be able to revisit those experiences when you're back home. I have a few such recipes that I've collected over the years that are fun to pull out when I need a little mini vacation or just want a treat.

Lately I've been craving just such a treat, so I looked through my recipes and found one I hadn't made in years. On a summer trip to Nantucket many, many years ago I went to a quaint restaurant. I wish I remembered the name of it, and I often wonder if it's still there. The salt air had given me quite an appetite, and a look at the menu was a bit overwhelming because everything looked appealing. Not able to decide on an entrée, I ordered an appetizer to savor while I made a decision. Turns out it was so good I didn't order anything else and knew I had to make my own version, which I did. I hadn't thought about it for years but when I came across it, it served as dinner and was just as good as I remembered; so I wanted to share it with you.

It's the kind of dish I love – easy to put

together with fresh ingredients, rustically elegant and filling enough to be a meal. It combines flavors and textures that work beautifully together, the result seeming decadent and special. It's a take on bruschetta with toppings served over toasted bread; and when I tasted it again after so many years it took me right back to that lovely restaurant in Nantucket.

**'BELLA BRUSCHETTA**

This can be an appetizer or a meal in itself. It's rich and earthy with a peppery nuance offset by the tangy creaminess of the feta without being too heavy. You can substitute cremini or button mushrooms for the Portabellas, or use some of the more exotic varieties available now. Served in shallow bowls with toasted bread, it's perfect for enjoying al fresco with a glass of wine.

**INGREDIENTS**

Olive oil  
2 medium shallots (or 1/2 an onion), finely chopped  
2-3 cloves garlic, chopped  
4 Portabella mushrooms (or 1lb other mushrooms), stems removed, sliced  
6 large basil leaves, chopped or chiffonade  
2 tablespoons fresh parsley or oregano, chopped  
Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste  
Red wine to deglaze pan  
3 medium (preferably heirloom) tomatoes, diced (or 1 small can diced tomatoes, juice and all)  
1-2 bunches arugula, well cleaned (or 3 cups baby arugula)  
~6 oz feta cheese, crumbled  
Baguette

**METHOD**

In a large skillet, sauté shallots and garlic in olive oil until just translucent. Add mushrooms, basil, parsley, salt and pepper. Cook over medium heat until mushrooms soften. Add a little wine and stir to deglaze the pan, scraping up any browned bits.



'Bella Bruschetta's name derives from the star ingredient: Portabella mushrooms. Photo by Vicki Frank Day

Stir in tomatoes. Add arugula and cook until it wilts. Add feta and stir through.

Cut baguette into 6-8-inch pieces. Slice each piece in half lengthwise, brush with olive oil and broil just until toasty and golden brown, 2-3 minutes (watch closely so it doesn't burn).

Place toasted bread in serving bowls and generously spoon mushroom mixture on top. Sprinkle with more fresh, chopped herbs and serve immediately.

Serves 2-4.

The food we eat, whether on vacation or at home, should fill us with joy. It should be an experience that goes beyond mere sustenance, each bite savored to its fullest. Perfect dishes that combine fresh flavors can make memories that last a lifetime and, when we're lucky, can even transport us to another place and time. Here's to many more such memories! Enjoy!

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

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# Connecting the dots across collections

By Aidan Chisamore

Although digital collections are ever increasing public access to historical material for researchers and history enthusiasts alike, it can be all too easy to forget that each item constitutes only a small part of a larger collection. These collections, held at archival institutions across the county, often represent interrelated material that, when viewed as a whole, grants us a deeper understanding of their subjects.

At the Dutchess County Historical Society, our collections are largely organized by donor, and thus, relate to a particular family, area, or interest. While thematically distinct, they all serve as the basis for conducting historical research. At DCHS, we are guided by a commitment to the ethical and responsible archival stewardship of tangible objects. This objective motivates us, as it does many other institutions, to maintain the “context” of items within a collection. More simply put, this means preserving both how items arrived and ensuring all collections are kept intact. It is only through this careful stewardship that we as historians can begin to interpret and present history.

Sometimes the singular dimension in a collection is the collector who gathers historically significant material related to personal interests. This is true, for example, for our Mangold Collection. Harold Mangold and his father did not focus so much on their family as they did local history. So the collection of rare photos, documents, and ephemera reflect their two generations of collecting interest (and in this case, great skill!). It has been important for us to leave scrapbooks, and displays they created just as they created them – we are in fact preserving more than just the objects, we are preserving how they viewed what was of interest in local history.

One such display is the Mangold collection pin boards. Initially, this subcollection, comprising nearly 150 pin-back buttons, might appear random. On closer inspection, however, the related subject of the buttons reveals intentionality on the part of the collector. Specifically, the subcollection emphasizes the material history of popular civic movements in the first few decades of the 20th century. Viewed together, historically significant narratives such as the battle for public health and childhood education begin to emerge.

Other examples of collections can be organized around a single family or place, the result of generations of accumulated material. Our single biggest family collection is the Hart Hubbard Collection which tells the story of the family that continues to live in the farm house their ancestors built in 1838 in LaGrange. Unlike the Mangold Collection, it is not the arrangement of a specific subcollections that gives the Hubbard Collection contextual significance. Instead, its great value comes from its continuity and breadth. Through this the collection can tell many stories: the transformation of a self-sufficient farm into a successful international apple business by the turn of the last century. The multi-generational household produced accomplished artists like Caroline Clowes in the 19th century, and Edith Hubbard in the 20th century.

Collections can also tread the line between familial and antiquarian. The Beckwith collection provides one such example. Recently secured at auction, this acquisition includes a dozen ledger and account books; a box of Dutchess County ephemera, photographs, and legal documents; and a large portrait of George Washington Beckwith (1848-1881) by Ammi Phillips (1788-1865). While the contents largely relate to the Beckwith Family during the 19th century, the col-



Above, image of one of the two pin-back button boards in the Mangold Collection. The buttons range from the 1900s to the 1930s, and most of the above relate to the National Tuberculosis Association, leading in civic health and childhood education around WWI. Mangold Collection, DCHS Collections and Archives

lection also shows how later generations collected items of personal interest. This allows us both to access a deeper historical understanding of a subject like in the Hubbard Collection, and to understand the intent of the collector as in the Mangold Collection.

Items directly related to the Beckwiths construct an intimate view of the family and their farm over several generations. Most prominently, the portrait depicting George Washington Beckwith serves as an important visual record, literally giving a face to the collection. If our engagement stopped there, however, we would miss the other side of the rich history revealed in the rest of the collection. Ledger and account books, for example, speak to important aspects of daily life on the farm, detailing the produce grown and its value, conditions of harvest, practical remedies for livestock, relationships between family members and friends, and the expenses needed to keep the farm running. Additional material in the collection, not directly connected to the family, reveals an interest in civic engagement and agriculture by later generations that expands on the familial material further bringing its subjects to life. The Beckwith collection is an important

example of how a wide range of sources and source types are used in conversation to deepen our understanding of local history and the residents of the county. Had any of the collection not been kept together, the narrative is lessened, and the information it contained, lost.

Through maintaining the context of a collection, whether personally or at an institution like DCHS, we seek to preserve the history of its subjects. It is for this reason that holdings such as the Beckwith, Hubbard, and Mangold Collections are so invaluable. While individual items might have historical significance, collections demonstrate the age-old adage that “the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.” Through preserving collections together in context we begin to scratch the surface of understanding the people, families, and localities in a way that would be impossible through individual items.

Aidan Chisamore is part of DCHS's staff. He works in Collections and Archives and may be reached at [aidan.chisamore@dchsnny.org](mailto:aidan.chisamore@dchsnny.org).



Above: Among the things we can learn about G.W. Beckwith from his portrait by the renowned itinerant local artist Ami Phillips, is that he was fond of his dog. Phillips would often have a child hold his own dog for effect, but this seems to be the only portrait that includes the portrait subject's dog. While we can learn a lot by looking at the portrait, the real “decoding” comes through locating, reading and interpreting sometimes dozens of written documents and ledgers. Beckwith Collection, DCHS Collections and Archives

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**IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE**

Luigi Coppola shares stories and recipes.





# The Big Garden

It's time to do some serious planting.

It would not stop raining. This weather reminds me of the time Sue and I were hiking in “La Mosquitia” in Honduras, and I started complaining that I was getting wet.

“We're in a \*\*\*\* rain forest!” Sue shouted through the steady downpour, with tears.

Last Tuesday (June 10) the rain finally let up enough so we could plant the “big garden.” That's a 70 X 30-foot garden of annual flowers that we start fresh every year. The garden, filled with almost a thousand individual transplants, serves as a nursery for the new varieties Sue is trialing, and as a collection of cut flowers to compete in the Dutchess County Fair (Becky won a thousand dollars the year before they changed the rules, reducing the number of ribbons given out). Plus, we get gorgeous cut flowers to make

arrangements for our tables all summer long.

And the garden is alive with pollinators. Monarch butterflies especially love the tithonias, to fill up before they head south for the winter. (We have an adjacent wildflower meadow with lots of milkweed for Monarch caterpillars). And, of course, it just looks beautiful.

Here's how we do it:

- **Select the flowers** – Sue chooses about 40 varieties of annual flowers to grow from seed or from unrooted cuttings sent to her from breeders like Ball, Proven Winners, Benary or Syngenta. We sow the seed in cell packs in late April to grow in the greenhouse. Zinnias are a staple, because they're deer proof.

- **Topdressing** – A few days before the starting date, winter rye that was sowed last fall is mowed down with a lawn mower. Then about a hundred cubic feet of compost or peat moss is spread out, along with 40 pounds of 10-10-10 granular fertilizer, to make up for the nutrients and soil that were removed when last year's garden was put to bed.

- **Tilling** – My friend Rick brings his big tiller (my Mantis tiller wouldn't handle this) down from his farm in Wurtsboro and spends an afternoon working the soil to a nice fluffy consistency.

- **Laying the plastic** – It takes three people four hours to lay down eight rows of three-foot-wide black plastic mulch, each row 70 feet long. The edges of the plastic are covered by hand, leaving about eight inches of space between the rows.

- **Planting the garden** – Nine people show up to spend two hours planting 1,000 transplants into plastic,



Above: Last year's Big Garden. Photo by Sue Adams. Left: Planting the Big Garden. Photo by Mark Adams



covering each hole with a trowel full of compost. Ideally, this happens before it rains, or we'll be wallowing in mud. Sue supervises, trying to keep the taller zinnias, including the new “mazarukia” from Harris Seeds, in the back row. Seven other new varieties are scattered around, including celosia “shimmer” from Johnny's Selected Seeds, along with tried-and-true varieties to enter in the fair.

- **Water and deer** – We might need an inch of water per week, measured by putting a couple of containers around before we turn on a sprinkler. I haven't seen as many deer this year, not like a few years ago when a six point buck stood watching us plant. We kept him at bay with “liquid fence,” my favorite deer repellent. If we get a lot of rain in July, we might need to toss on a bit more fertilizer, but the initial

dose before tilling is usually enough.

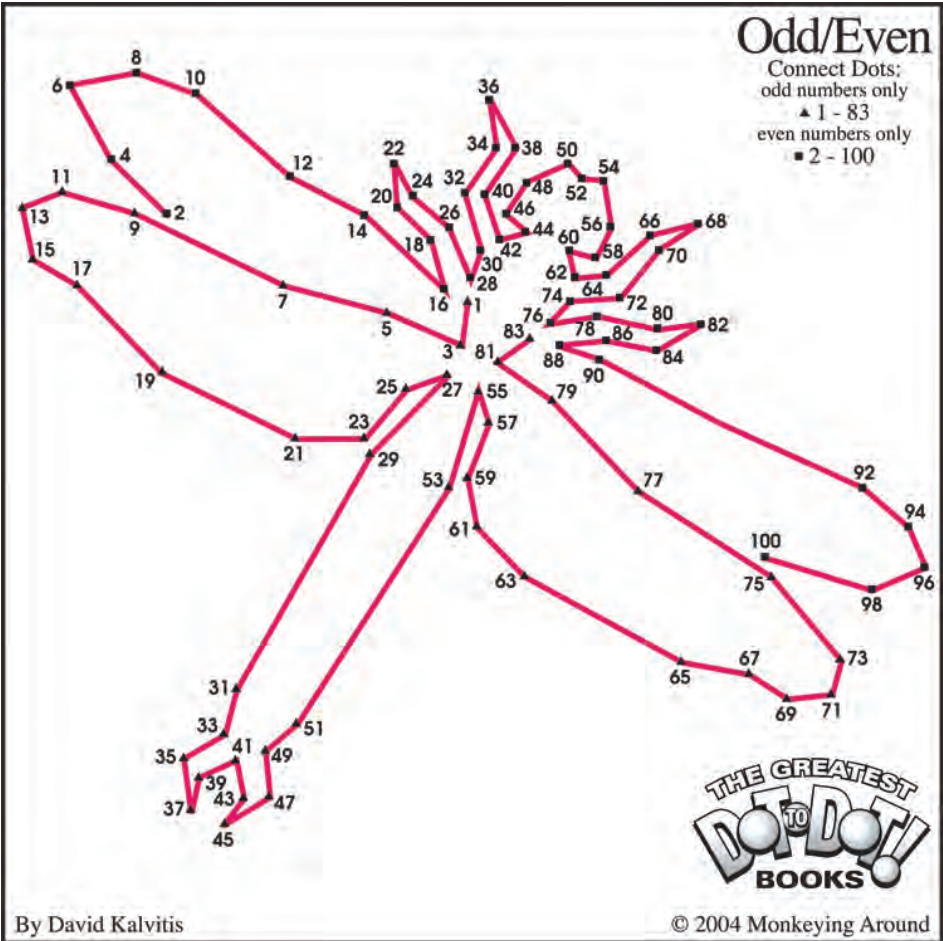
- **Weed control** – Weeds come up between the rows of plastic like a green carpet. Two weeks after planting, when the weeds are a quarter-inch tall and before the flowers have grown over the sides of the plastic, I put on my backpack sprayer and apply a contact herbicide between the rows. Just one time.

- **Enjoy** – Now for the fun part – harvesting the flowers.

After we clean up the garden and sequester the plastic, we rake in 10 pounds of winter rye seed to hold the soil in place until next year. And we hope for nice weather in June.

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

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



## NEEDLEWORK FLEA MARKET SET FOR JULY 9

Skyllkill Chapter's Annual Needlework Flea Market will be held on July 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, LaGrangeville. There will be yarn, fabrics, beads, threads, notion, kits and tools for all one's needle arts projects presented by the Skylkill Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America (EGA). Cash or check only will be accepted.

For more information visit [www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEGA](http://www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEGA) or send an email to [EGASkyllkill@gmail.com](mailto:EGASkyllkill@gmail.com).

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# June events to honor Dutchess County’s role in the Revolutionary War

As the country gears up to celebrate America’s 250th birthday next year, Destination Dutchess, formerly known as Dutchess Tourism, Inc., is announces a series of interactive events and experiences launching this month. Held in partnership with Dutchess County Government’s Department of History and host locations, these events honor Dutchess County’s role in the Revolutionary War and spark community excitement for the 250th commemoration continuing through 2026.

“These events will help bring our history to life by highlighting the important role our county played in securing American independence,” said Melaine Rottkamp, president and CEO of Destination Dutchess.

Funding to support these events and activities was provided by Dutchess County Government in the 2025 County Budget as part of the County Government’s annual support to Destination Dutchess. Additionally, the Dutchess County Legislature allocated \$100,000 in grant funding for local historical societies to offer public programming to connect residents and visitors with the Dutchess County’s vibrant role in the Revolution and the subsequent 250 years of American history.

“We’re thrilled to see such enthusiasm across Dutchess County for this milestone,” said Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Will Truitt. “With continued investment by the County; Destination

Dutchess, our Dutchess County History Division and local historical societies are developing compelling programming that is both meaningful and innovative. The best is yet to come as we head toward 2026!”

Dutchess County was vital to the patriot cause during the American Revolution. The Village of Fishkill was home to one of the largest supply depots for the Continental Army during the war. And after the burning of Kingston by the British in 1777 — in retaliation for the Patriot victory at Saratoga — Poughkeepsie served as the state capital. In 1778, General George Washington used the John Kane House in Pawling, now a museum and home to the Pawling Historical Society, as his headquarters. Meanwhile, the Verplanck family homestead at Mount Gulian Historic Site in Beacon served as the headquarters of Patriot General Friedrich Von Steuben. After the war, Von Steuben and his fellow Continental officers formed America’s first veterans' organization, the Society of the Cincinnati, at Mount Gulian. To commemorate this legacy, Destination Dutchess invites residents and visitors to engage with history in fresh, accessible and exciting ways with its Commander in Cheers augmented reality experience.

**Revolutionary Cider Celebration**  
June 28, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rain or shine. Fishkill Farms, Hopewell Junction  
Guests will partake in a day filled with Revolutionary War and Colonial-era

history, hayrides, food tastings, farm experiences and hard cider. Dutchess County Historian Will Tatum, Cider Historian Mark Turdo, and Hudson Valley master storyteller Jonathan Kruk will regale families with tales of 18th century America and the Revolutionary War. Fishkill Farm’s Treasury Cider Bar will also offer flights of four ciders of your choice on their outside cider deck for \$12 and will be celebrating the release of Counterpane, their cherry and stone fruit cider. Advance reservations are required to pick-your-own produce at the farm. [destinationdutchess.com/spotlights/rev250-cider-event](https://destinationdutchess.com/spotlights/rev250-cider-event)

**Commander in Cheers**  
Available now, the Commander in Cheers augmented reality experience continues to engage history buffs and casual explorers alike. This free, self-guided digital experience is available at over 20 participating taverns, tasting rooms and restaurants in six different regions of Dutchess County. By using a mobile device and scanning a QR code on specially-marked coasters, Destination Dutchess’ hologram of George Washington – also known as Tiny George – will appear to share a story about one of Dutchess County’s revolutionary endeavors. Each region features its own story. Visit all six regions to activate each tale.  
[commanderinchears.com](https://commanderinchears.com)

**Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail**  
The Tavern Trail is a collaborative endeavor between the Dutchess County Department of History, local historical societies and signature food and beverage partners to create an innovative program that highlights the county’s rich history. Join Dutchess County Historian Will Tatum as he tells engaging stories of local history with a focus on the Real Time Revolution, tracing developments in Dutchess County during 1775.  
• Wednesday, June 25, 6-7 p.m., Old Drovers Inn, Dover  
• Friday, August 1, 6-7 p.m., Germania of Poughkeepsie  
• Friday, September 19, 6-7 p.m., Lasting Joy Brewery, Tivoli  
• Wednesday, October 22, 6-7 p.m., Foster's Coach House, Rhinebeck  
[destinationdutchess.com/spotlights/tavern-trail](https://destinationdutchess.com/spotlights/tavern-trail)

These events are just the beginning of REV250, Dutchess County’s campaign to commemorate the 250th birthday of the United States. Celebrations will continue in 2025 through 2026 and beyond with historical programming, educational events, exhibits and more. To learn more details about Dutchess County’s place in the American Revolution and to stay up to date on REV250 events and programs, visit [DestinationDutchess.com/rev250](https://DestinationDutchess.com/rev250).

## Roosevelt Reading Festival set June 21

On Saturday, June 21, from 9:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will host the annual Roosevelt Reading Festival. The day-long program will highlight the recently published work of 14 authors – including a special afternoon presentation with Richard Breitman, author of “A Calculated Restraint: What Allied Leaders Said about the Holocaust.”

The festival will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. This is a free public event. Registration is not required.

In six concurrent sessions taking place throughout the day, 14 authors of works that draw upon the Roosevelt Library archives – or focus on the Roosevelt era – will present author talks followed by question-and-answer sessions and book signings. Copies of all the authors’ books will be available for sale in the New Deal Store. The program begins at 9:45 a.m. with coffee and refreshments.

This year’s Roosevelt Reading Festival authors include:  
Valdivia S. Beauchamp  
“PARNAMIRIM: An American Airbase in the Tropics, 1939-1945”

Talmage Boston  
“How the Best Did It: Leadership Lessons from Our Top Presidents”

Christopher N. Breiseth  
“The New Deal: Looking Back, Moving Forward”

Karen A. Frenkel  
“Family Treasures Lost & Found”

David Kohnen  
“King’s Navy: Fleet Admiral Ernest J.

King and the Rise of American Sea Power, 1897–1947”

John W. Lanza  
“From One War to Another”

Sarah Miller  
“Hick: The Trailblazing Journalist Who Captured Eleanor Roosevelt’s Heart”

Christopher D. O’Sullivan  
“Frank Knox: Roughrider in FDR’s War Cabinet”

Samuele F. S. Pardini  
“Writing Home: Selected World War II Letters of Leslie A. Fiedler”

Jeffrey P. Rogg  
“The Spy and the State: The History of American Intelligence”

James Shapiro  
“The Playbook: A Story of Theater, Democracy, and the Making of a Culture War”

Jason E. Taylor  
“The Brew Deal: How Beer Helped Battle the Great Depression”

John Thomas  
“Kalamazoo Gals: A Story of Extraordinary Women & Gibson’s ‘Banner’ Guitars of WWII”

**SPECIAL AFTERNOON PRESENTATION:** Richard Breitman  
“A Calculated Restraint: What Allied Leaders Said about the Holocaust”

For additional information about this event, call Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745.

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## A & E CALENDAR

**June 20: Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show,** Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Featuring Pat Lamanna, Phil Miller, Sharon Klein, Mark Houghtaling & Neil Herlands, Jasperoo, 8 p.m. Donations to benefit Morton are suggested. (845) 876-7007

**June 20-22: Fairy Houses at Locust Grove**, 2683 South Rd. (Rte. 9), Poughkeepsie. The event, formerly known as Fairy House Hunt, features whimsical fairy houses and gnome homes. Sat. & Sun., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Last ticket entry at 2 p.m. Advance tickets: \$12 per person (adults and children ages 4 and older). Children under 4 are free. Tickets \$15 at the door, if available. [www.lgny.org](http://www.lgny.org)

**June 20-21: Live Entertainment at the Towne Crier Cafe**, 379 Main St., Beacon.  
**June 20:** Stand-up comedian Chloe Radcliffe, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. **June 21:** LOTUS Santana Tribute; guest School of Rock House Band, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door (845) 855-1300 or [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com)

**June 20-22: The Poughkeepsie Passion Play, "The Promised One,"** Living Water Church, 260 Mill St., Poughkeepsie. "The Promised One" is the story of Christ: His life and death, burial, resurrection, and ascension to Heaven. The staged musical production will include more than 150 cast, crew, pit choir, and live instrumentalists. Five performances. Tickets available at [www.poughkeepsiepassionplay.org](http://www.poughkeepsiepassionplay.org) through Eventbrite.

**June 20-29: “The Wizard of Oz,”** The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents the Royal Shakespeare Company adaptation of “The Wizard of Oz,” directed by Hannah Corneau. The production follows Dorothy on her journey through Oz, meeting characters like the Scarecrow, Tin Man, Cowardly Lion, Glinda, and the Wicked Witch. Featuring memorable songs and magical moments, this family-friendly show offers a new level of excitement while honoring the original movie’s spirit. Performances: Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or [www.centerforperformingarts.org](http://www.centerforperformingarts.org)

**June 20-July 27: Powerhouse Theater,** Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. Theater artists experiment and develop new plays and musicals for productions headed to Broadway, off-Broadway and regional theaters around the country. This week: **June 20: Reading,** "Medea and Her Sons," 8 p.m., in the Powerhouse Theater. "Medea and Her Sons" is the story of a mother reckoning with the way her life has been mythologized and misunderstood. All these years later, the question is: can she avoid her murderous fate or will she kill them after all? **June 21: "It Is Right to Rebel!"** 8 p.m., in the Powerhouse Theater. "It Is Right to Rebel!" tells the story of Jiang Qing, who was Mao Zedong's wife for thirty-eight years and eventually one of the most powerful women in the Communist world. **June 22: "Untitled, Unknown Artist(s),"** 6 p.m., in the Powerhouse Theater. A play about how people determine what is valuable and what is not in arts, artists, and education. All readings are free, but reservations are required. Contact the Box Office at (845) 437-5599 or [phtboxoffice@vassar.edu](mailto:phtboxoffice@vassar.edu)

**June 20-Sept. 26: Red Hook Eat & Go Free Summer Lawn Concert Series,** Baright Associates, 7509 North Broadway, Red Hook. Purchase take-out from local eateries and bring it along to enjoy while a band performs. A tented area and tables

with umbrellas are set up for comfortable dining. Concerts take place Fridays, 6-8 p.m. This week: NY Funk Alliance Band playing classic Motown, R&B, funk, blues, rock and originals. More info on the Facebook event page.

**June 21: Author Talk,** Hyde Park Library, 2 Main St., Hyde Park. Sarah Miller, author of "Caroline: Little House Revisted" and "The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden and the Trial of the Century," has written another historical young adult book, and she'll be at the library to talk about it, 1 p.m. "Hick: The Trailblazing Journalist who Captured Eleanor Roosevelt's Heart," tells the true story of Lorena Hickok, whose talent with words took her from cooking and cleaning to make ends meet as a teenager to becoming one of the Associated Press' top reporters by the age of 35. Once she was assigned to cover Eleanor Roosevelt during FDR's presidential campaign, her life would never be the same. Registration required. [hydeparklibrary.org](http://hydeparklibrary.org)

**June 21: The Lopez/Mori/Parkins Trio,** the VBI Theatre of Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St., in Poughkeepsie. A supercharged ensemble of innovators, bassist Lopez (William Parker, Tyshawn Sorey, Fred Moten) joins longtime collaborators and multi-instrumentalists Mori (DNA, Kim Gordon, Thurston Moore, John Zorn) and Parkins (Björk, Yoko Ono, Hole, Pauline Oliveros, Zorn) for unparalleled electro-acoustic sonic adventures, 8 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$40 door. Advance sales via EventBrite, ends at midnight the evening before the concert.

**June 21: Movies with Spirit, “Ocean of Pearls,”** Vivekananda Retreat, Ridgely, 101 Leggett Rd., Stone Ridge. A poignant drama about identity, sacrifice and the tension between assimilation and staying true to one’s roots, 7 p.m. The story follows Amrit Singh (Omid Abtahi), a gifted transplant surgeon and medical innovator who moves to Detroit from Toronto to advance his career. A practicing Sikh, he was wooed to leave his family and girlfriend, Smita (Navi Rawat), by a visiting Detroit doctor (Ron Canada) with the promise of a well-funded research program and the freedom to break new ground in his field. But Amrit’s appearance subjects him to racial profiling and workplace discrimination. Under intense pressure to conform, Amrit makes a painful decision: He distances himself from his family and does the unimaginable for a Sikh — he removes his turban and cuts his long, black hair — abandoning a core tenet of his religious identity. But the compromises Amrit makes prove more complex and painful than he expects. Runs 1 hour 38 minutes. Rated PG–13. The screening will be followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be served. Attendees over age 12 are asked to contribute \$10 a person. For more information, call Gerry Harrington at 845-389-9201 or email [gerry.harrington@mindspring.com](mailto:gerry.harrington@mindspring.com).

**June 21: Roger Phillips Concert Series,** Starr Library, 68 W. Market St., Rhinebeck. Saxe & Brass, setting the tone as the next wave, horn-energized ensemble in the Hudson Valley Region, 4:30-5:30 p.m. The band's repertoire incorporates a blend of jazz, R&B, Motown, disco, classic rock, pop country, and today's contemporary favorites. Free. (845) 876-4030 or [www.starrlibrary.org](http://www.starrlibrary.org)

**June 21: Roosevelt Reading Festival,** Henry A. Wallace Center, FDR Library & Museum, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Author talks & signings, 9:45 a.m.-5 p.m. This day-long program will highlight the recently published work of 14 authors whose works draw upon the Roosevelt Library archives – or focus on the Roosevelt era. Sessions will run concurrently throughout the day.

Book signings will follow each talk and copies will be available for sale in the New Deal Store. The event is in-person only. Sessions will be recorded for later broadcast. Free to attend, no registration required. [www.fdrlibrary.org](http://www.fdrlibrary.org)

**June 21: Solstice Concert,** Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Nivedita ShivRaj & Charanams present "Ragas and Rhythms," 3 p.m. Nivedita ShivRaj and her band Charanams are the recipients of a grant from Arts Mid Hudson for a World Music composition. They will present an exclusive summer solstice concert featuring a unique blend of melodious carnaatic music and groovy jazz. Free. More info: [charanams.com](http://charanams.com)

**June 21-22: Ars Choralis**, Maverick Concert Hall, 120 Maverick Rd., Woodstock. "Fauré at Maverick," featuring Fauré's Requiem and the premiere of In Praise of Dignity by Alaina Ferris, commissioned by Ars Choralis for its 60th Anniversary. Other music on the program will be by composers from the Hudson Valley. Barbara Pickhardt conducts soloists Amy Martin, soprano, Harvey Boyer, baritone, and chamber orchestra. Performances: Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 4 p.m. Tickets from \$10 to \$60. [arschoralis.org](http://arschoralis.org)

**June 22: Author Event,** Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Oblong Books presents Ashley Poston ("Sounds Like Love") in conversation with Patti Murin, 2 p.m. Registration required. Tickets \$20.55 (includes 1 paperback copy of "Sounds Like Love" and sales tax). (845) 876-2903

**June 22: BeckHook Pride Parade and Festival**, Village of Red Hook Municipal Lot. The Parade will lead everyone to the BeckHook Pride Festival in the Village of Red Hook municipal lot. Enjoy free raffles, demonstrations, workshops, and perform-

ances by local artists on stage, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. All ages welcome. Details on the event's Facebook page.

**June 22: Free Acoustic Concerts on the Lawn,** Beatrix Farrand Garden, FDR National Historic Site, 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. This week: Pena Project, HV Flamenco guitar & dancer, 1:30-3 p.m. Free. Reservations required via [BeatrixFarrandGarden.org](http://BeatrixFarrandGarden.org).

**June 24: Author Event,** Oblong Books, 6422 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. Local author John Wiswell (“Wearing the Lion”) in conversation with Emet North, 6 p.m. Nebula Award-winning author John Wiswell brings a humanizing and humorous touch to the Hercules story, forever changing the way we understand the man behind the myth—and the goddess reluctantly bound to him. Free; registration requested. (845) 876-0500 or [events@oblongbooks.com](mailto:events@oblongbooks.com)

**June 25: “Leading with Activism”**  
**Discussion**, Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Tpk., Poughkeepsie. An interview with Jaime Ransome & Ransome, led by Poet Gold, 7 p.m. Event is in-person and also will be live streamed on YouTube and Facebook. This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required to receive the streaming link. All who register are invited to submit questions that will be asked during the Q&A session of the event.  
[www.artsmidhudson.org](http://www.artsmidhudson.org)

**June 25: Music in the Parks, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh.** Hyde Park Recreation presents free concerts held alternately at Vanderbilt Mansion and Staatsburgh SHS (a.k.a. Mills Mansion), Wednesdays at 7 p.m. This week: Big Band Sound. For inclement weather locations & other updates, call (845) 229-8086 or check Hyde Park Recreation on Facebook.

Artist Talk + Live  
Painting Experience  
in Hyde Park on June 26

Arts Mid-Hudson announces a special Artist Talk + Live Painting Experience with acclaimed Hudson Valley painter Tarryl Gabel, taking place on Thursday, June 26, from 4-6 p.m. at The Inn at Bellefield, 25 Old Vineyard Place, Hyde Park.

This event is part of a partnership between Arts Mid-Hudson and The Inn at Bellefield, a collaboration that features work by Arts Mid-Hudson member artists throughout the hotel. Artwork is rotated every six months and installed on the elevator landing areas of every floor, enhancing the hotel's aesthetic with a regional flair that complements its historic and agricultural branding.

Guests are invited to hear directly from featured artist Tarryl Gabel as she shares insights into her creative process, artistic journey, and the influences behind her richly detailed landscapes and Western-themed paintings. Following the talk, attendees will have the unique

opportunity to witness a live painting demonstration, bringing the artist's vision to life in real time.

Tarryl Gabel, originally from a cattle ranch on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in North Dakota, has lived in the Hudson Valley for over 30 years. A five-time recipient of Best Artist in Hudson Valley Magazine's Best of the Hudson Valley, her work has garnered both regional and national acclaim, including honors from Paint the Parks, Paint America, and Plein Air Easton, where she received the prestigious "Worthy of the Met" award.

Her paintings are held in private and corporate collections across the U.S. and internationally.

This immersive event is free and open to the public. Whether you're an art enthusiast, student, or fellow creative, you're invited to experience the artistry of one of the Hudson Valley's most celebrated painters.

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*Hope to hear from you! Thanks!*

# Millbrook Historical Society to present Quaker lecture series

The Millbrook Historical Society will hold two lectures related to Quaker history as part of Dutchess County's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution (a.k.a. Rev 250)

On Sunday, June 29, at 2 p.m., Sarah Gronningsater, Professor at the University of Pennsylvania and author of "The Rising Generation: Gradual Abolition, Black Legal Culture, and the Making of National Freedom" (2024), will speak on "Quakers, Anti-slavery, and the American Revolution." Her talk will focus on the role that Quakers in New York and specifically the Hudson Valley played in the rise of anti-slavery sentiment and activism in the years following the American Revolution.

Carl Lounsbury of the College of William and Mary and Colonial Williamsburg will speak on the architecture of the Nine Partners Meetinghouse

on Sunday, July 27, at 2 p.m. His talk, "Nine Partners Meetinghouse Plan: A New Form in the Hudson Valley," will put the structure in the context of other later 18th-century houses of worship in New York and New England. Lounsbury is the author of many works on early American architecture.

Each talk will be held at the historic Nine Partners Quaker Meetinghouse in Millbrook. The brick meetinghouse was built in 1780 to replace an earlier version that burned and is little changed from its 18th century appearance. Enter through the cemetery gate on Church St. The programs are free and open to all.

Please note: Due to the historic nature of the buildings, handicap accessibility is limited. Additionally, restroom facilities are not available on site.

These programs are made possible through grants awarded by Dutchess County.



The Millbrook Historical Society will present Sarah Gronningsater on June 29 and Carl Lounsbury on July 27. The speakers will offer lectures on topics related to Dutchess County's Quaker history. *Courtesy photos*

## RUGE'S AUTOMOTIVE WELCOMES BOCES GRADUATE TO TECH TEAM



Ruge's Automotive recently participated in the Dutchess BOCES Career and Technical Institute's Career Signing Day, an event designed to help connect graduating students with local employers. Ruge's currently employs about six individuals from previous BOCES Signing Days. Graduates start careers with Ruge's as Apprentice Technicians. Said Scott Hutchins of Ruge's Automotive, "We've have had a lot of great success since partnering with Dutchess BOCES and the Career & Technical Institute! Many past graduates are still employed and working with us in our service centers." Ruge's Automotive is excited to welcome new graduate Diego (center in above photo) to the Ruge's family and Tech Team. *Courtesy photo*

## EXHIBITIONS

**Clinton Historical Society**, 1777 Quaker Meeting House, 2433 Salt Point Tpke., Clinton Corners. **Through June 29:** Exhibit of antique schoolgirl samplers made at the Nine Partners Boarding School (1798-1846) along with related samplers from Clinton and the surrounding area. Open weekends, 1-4 p.m. (845) 242-5879



**Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center**, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through June:** Five new art exhibitions. Showcased in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is a photographic display by Jim Smith, Jr. At 12 Vassar St., the works of Kate Masters, Sylvia Mueller, and Jacqueline Oster of the CIRCLE24collective are featured in the Reception Gallery; and Mari Keeler Cornwell presents her artwork in the Hancock Gallery. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: [cunneen-hackett.org](http://cunneen-hackett.org). *Pictured: "The High Life" by Jacqueline Oster*

**Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center**, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Aug. 17:** "Great Green Hope for the Urban Blues," exhibition that explores the art and myths of the Hudson Valley. The exhibition is part of a legacy that began 200 years ago as landscape painter Thomas Cole traveled up the Hudson River to paint the Catskill Mountains: a voyage that marked the mythical origin of the so-called Hudson River School of American landscape painting. Also on view: "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Black Space-Making from Harlem to the Hudson Valley," installation related to "Great Green Hope" by Vassar student Harrison Brisbon-McKinnon '26; and the second, "Water/Bodies: Sa'dia Rehman." (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

**Kleinert/James Center for the Arts**, 36 Tinker St., Woodstock. **Through July 20:** "Andrew Lyght | Touch Wood," curated by Osi Audu, featuring the constructed paintings of Andrew Lyght. [www.woodstockguild.org](http://www.woodstockguild.org)

**Millbrook Arts Project**, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through July 5:** "Lively Flourishes," works by Ben Pederson and Joy Taylor, two multidisciplinary artists whose practices traverse a range of materials with playful rigor and precision. (845) 677-3611 or [www.millbrooklibrary.org](http://www.millbrooklibrary.org)

**Millbrook Vineyards & Winery**, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook. **Through Nov. 9:** "Art in the Loft," a juried exhibition and sale of fine art featuring the work 16 Arts Mid-Hudson member artists. On view daily, noon-5 p.m. Visitors are invited to vote for their favorite piece to be featured on an exclusive wine label. <https://www.artsmidhudson.org/art-in-the-loft>

**Morton Memorial Library**, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through June 28:** "The Diner Project - Discovering a Time Past but not Forgotten," photographs by Andrew Mark Satter. (845) 876-2903

**Olana State Historic Site**, Sharp Family Gallery, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. **Through Nov. 2:** "What's Missing?" site-specific artworks in the Olana landscape by Ellen Harvey and Gabriela Salazar. (518) 751-6879 or [www.olana.org](http://www.olana.org)

**Pawling Free Library**, 11 Broad St., Pawling. **Through July 12:** "Wild Toys: The Toy Photography of Zach Oat," one of the photographers of the cult classic Twisted ToyFare Theatre strips in ToyFare magazine, Oat takes you into the fantastical world of toys as they battle for supremacy in action-packed photos taken on both indoor sets as well as in the real world. (845) 855-3444

**Thomas Cole National Historic Site**, 218 Spring St., Catskill. **June 21-Dec. 14:** "ON TREES: Georgia O'Keeffe and Thomas Cole," exhibition brings together two iconic American artists in the COLE 200 anniversary year (1825-2025). The presentation explores how Thomas Cole depicted trees in the year of his transformational first visit to Catskill, NY in 1825, and how Georgia O'Keeffe did so in her pivotal first visit to New Mexico a century later in 1929. **Through Nov. 2:** "EMILY COLE: Ceramics, Flora & Contemporary Responses," placing the art of Emily Cole (1843-1913), a professional artist and daughter of Thomas Cole, into conversation with eight, internationally celebrated contemporary artists including Ann Agee, Jacqueline Bishop, Francesca DiMaggio, Valerie Hegarty, Courtney M. Leonard, Jiha Moon, Michelle Sound, and Stephanie Syjuco. The exhibition is the largest display of original painted porcelain and works on paper by Emily Cole ever shown since the 19th century. [www.thomascole.org](http://www.thomascole.org)

**Tivoli Artists Gallery**, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through July 6:** Rae Gagliardi Vincent, "A Solo Show Honoring the Summer Solstice," this exhibition, a reflection of light, spiritual awakening, and personal rebirth, embodies Vincent's deep connection to nature and the sun's energy. Her art represents a journey of introspection, revisiting the past and embracing an enlightened future. (845) 757-2667 or [www.tivoliartistsgallery.com](http://www.tivoliartistsgallery.com)



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# OBITUARIES

## Catherine B. Chupay

Catherine B. Chupay, 102, of Hyde Park, NY passed away on June 7, 2025 at her home. She was born on February 10, 1923 in Poughkeepsie, NY, the daughter of Thomas & Irene Sopher Berrigan. She graduated from St. Mary’s Grade School and Poughkeepsie High School. Catherine was employed by IBM in Poughkeepsie as an Account Payable Clerk. She retired in 1987.

Catherine married John Chupay, Jr. on February 24, 1968 in St. Peter’s Church, Poughkeepsie, NY. He predeceased her on July 6, 1977.

She was a longtime Volunteer at St. Peter’s Church working in many areas of the Parish, a member IBM Quarter Century Club and AARP.

Survivors include her stepdaughter: Marianne Chupay at home and step-sons: Joseph (Barbara) Chupay of Rhinebeck, NY and John (Alice) Chupay of Hyde Park, NY. There are several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and 1 niece. She was predeceased by 4 brothers and 1sister.

A Mass of Chrisitan Burial was held on Friday, June 13, 2025 at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel, Poughkeepsie, NY. Burial followed in St. Peter’s Cemetery. Memorial Donations may be made to: Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 OR St. Peter’s Church, 171 Salt Point Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

## Robert S. Crabtree

Robert Samuel Crabtree, a longtime area resident, passed away on June 8, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Born on September 3, 1937 in Holyoke, MA to the late Samuel Stanford Lewis and Harriet (nee Butler) Crabtree.

Bob proudly served in the U.S. Navy as an Electronic Technician, earning his Electronics “A” School certification, TS Classification, and Class “A” driver’s license. After his military service, he pursued higher education, earning a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts and a Master of Science in Computer Science from Marist College. His professional career spanned over 30 years at IBM, where he worked as a technical writer of machine specifications, tested and programmed computers, and eventually served as project engineer on what was, at the time, the largest database in the world. His work took him to Montpelier, France; Yasu, Japan; Toronto, Canada; and Poughkeepsie, NY. Through IBM’s faculty loan program, he also taught engineering courses at Spellman College, later serving as an adjunct professor at Marist College and teaching Microsoft Suite courses at Dutchess Community College.

Bob was deeply committed to education, leadership, and community service. A member of the Hudson Valley Railroad Club since before its acquisition of the Hyde Park Railroad Station, he also chaired the “Committee to Save Nooteeming,” a 501(c)(3) preservation organization. His decades-long involvement with the Boy Scouts of America included roles as Scoutmaster, District Commissioner, and Waterfront Director at the Lowell Council Scout Camp. A certified Water Safety Instructor, Bob began teaching swimming and board diving in high school and went on to become a SCUBA DiveMaster, with a diving career that spanned nearly 70 years. He served as past president of the Aquatic Explorers Scuba Club and was also treasurer of the New Hamburg Yacht Club. In addition, Bob was a certified NRA pistol instructor and range safety officer, committed to safe and responsible training.

Outside of his professional and volunteer work, Bob led a rich and active life. A pianist for nearly 80 years, his love of music was a constant presence. He umpired baseball and softball for over 50 years at the little league, high school, and JUCO levels, and also managed and played on a senior softball team. He was a dedicated Little League coach and part-time disc jockey in his earlier years. Bob’s life was full of energy, curiosity, and service—a lasting example of how to live with purpose and passion.

Robert is survived by his wife, Eloise Crabtree; his children, Donald Crabtree of Port Ewen, NY, David Crabtree of Wappingers Falls, NY, and Kathleen Kalcevic of South Fork, PA; his grandchildren, Kira and Dana; in addition to extended family and friends.

Memorial donations may be made in Bob’s memory to the East Clinton Fire Department, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY 12514.

Friends and family called at Burnett & White Funeral Homes-Rhinebeck on Monday, June 16. A funeral service was held Tuesday,

June 17 at Burnett & White Funeral Homes. Burial followed at St. John’s Reformed Church Cemetery, Red Hook. Funeral arrangements under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Rhinebeck, NY.

## Louis A. DeCarolis

Louis A DeCarolis was born February 2, 1931 in Brooklyn, New York. Son of Jennifer and Peter DeCarolis he was the second of their four children.

Lou’s childhood was spent in Brooklyn, NY, raised surrounded by extended family and a group of friends, some of whom remained steadfast for his lifetime. As a young boy he attended parochial school and adventured the neighborhood streets playing stickball, riding trolley cars, visiting his grandfather’s candy shop and sharing both meals and time with immigrant relatives and friends who were working their hardest to chase the American dream. Perhaps it was this early exposure to the medley of go-getting carpenters, shoemakers, shop owners, grocers, barbers and the like, which instilled in Lou the entrepreneurial spirit- it demonstrating that if you work hard and believe - anything is possible. This spirit led Lou to a career including owning and running a Brooklyn Luncheonette prior to moving upstate to Red Hook, New York where in 1970 he and his wife, Lorraine, and mother-in-law Annie Robinson purchased “Schaeffer’s Cabins and Tourist House” from which they developed into “The Gaslight Inn”. Together they would run this family business until 2015.

While Lou was passionate about his work it was his family that fueled his joy for life. Louis is predeceased by his stunning and adoring wife, Lorraine (deceased January 20, 2021), whom he met through mutual friends while playing dice on the sidewalk in Brooklyn and married in 1951. Together, they had four children, and he is survived by: Doreen, Glenn and Crystal (Aiello), Gregg and Denise (Bertodatto) and Claudine “Pooops” DeCarolis. Lou also leaves behind treasured grandchildren: Vanessa and Daniel Shafer, Cassandra and Kara Dunbar-Ruff, Marissa Ruff, Danielle, Drew, and Devin DeCarolis, as well his prized great grandchildren: Lincoln Rupe-DeCarolis, Shea Karaline and Etta Lou Shafer. Lou is also survived by an extension of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends who he loved as family.

Moving upstate was a beautiful shift of lifestyle and livelihood for Lou. Pulling into the Gaslight meant being greeted by the smile of a man chipping golf balls in the lawn or grilling at a BBQ that welcomed all. Lou understood hospitality and loved enjoying the company of others. While often stationed as “check-point Charlie” at the motel he was still able to build many friendships, be an active church goer, and beloved community member. Inspired by Laurel & Hardy or the goofiness of Three Stooges, Lou’s humor was infectious and playful. There wasn’t a dance floor that Louie didn’t conquer or a meal he would refuse. Lou took pride in the upkeep of his property, often found doing yard work and being an inventive handyman. He was an enthusiastic sports fan and coach, adoring the participation of his children and grandchildren in play or while watching golf. He loved music and had a curiosity that led him to dabble in many interests over the years.

Lou had a full life: he worked hard, he played enthusiastically, he found extreme joy in seeing his grandchildren grow up. He loved his final years spent in a sweet apartment Glenn and Crystal created for him in their home and after years of being far away in Florida having the chance to be a daily part of Devin’s upbringing and the steadfast companionship of his protective dog, Gus. Lou was a man of strong faith, he sought the presence of Padre Pio and after the birth of his first great-grandchild he wrote what captures his guiding principles: “if we teach him humility, pride, wisdom, fairness, kindness to help others and consideration, who knows where this little guy can wind up”. Lou was very clear that if a movie was to be made about his life, he envisioned a very young Ron Howard, followed by a teenaged Matt Damon, an older Leonardo DiCaprio and an elderly Don Knotts. While Lou peacefully went to heaven on Saturday, June 7, 2025, his legacy will remain unceasing.

Memorial calling hours were held on Wednesday June 18th at the Burnett & White Funeral Home, Red Hook. Mass was held at St. Christopher’s Church on Thursday June 19th and burial immediately followed at St. Paul’s Lutheran cemetery. In lieu of flowers Lou would appreciate you donate to St. Jude’s; or Padre Pio, organizations he was a longtime supporter of. Arrangements under the direction of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY.

## Reno Giancarlo

Reno Nicholas Giancarlo, 96, of Hyde Park, died on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at home with his family by his side.

Born December 19, 1928 in Wappingers Falls, NY, he was the son of the late Nichola (“Nicholas”) Giancarlo and Maria (“Mary”) Giancarlo. After graduating from Wappingers High School, he went on to receive his associate degree from Dutchess Community College. Reno proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War from 1950 to 1952. After returning home from the service, he went on to work for IBM in Poughkeepsie as a Mechanical Engineer for 39 years before his retirement.

In his free time Reno could often be found weeding the front yard to make sure his yard was immaculate, taking trips with his wife, or sharing a good story or joke. On Saturday, April 16, 1955, he married the love of his life, the former Jeanette Masciola Giancarlo. Together they shared over 70 years together. Mrs. Giancarlo survives at home. Along with his wife, they were able to enjoy many vacations to various destinations over the years, including traveling across the country twice. Above all, Reno loved spending time with his grandchildren and his family.

Along with his wife, he is survived by his son Michael Giancarlo and wife Tammy, and four grandchildren, Nicholas Giancarlo and wife Brittany, Taylor Onusko and husband Dave, Jessica Cappuccetti, and Joseph Cappuccetti. He is also survived by a great granddaughter Lillian, and a great grandson Onusko on the way! Along with his parents, he was predeceased by his daughter Karen Cappuccetti and four siblings.

Calling hours were held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at Sweet’s Funeral Home, Hyde Park, NY. A Funeral Mass took place on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at Regina Coeli Church, Hyde Park, NY. Burial followed at St. Peters Cemetery, Poughkeepsie.

Reno’s family respectfully requests memorial donations to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN 38105. Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet’s Funeral Home, Hyde Park. To send an online condolence, please visit [www.sweetsfuneralhome.com](http://www.sweetsfuneralhome.com)

## Edward (Ed) Kovalsky

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Edward “Ed” Kovalsky, who left us peacefully on June 10, 2025, in Hyde Park, NY. Ed, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, cousin, and friend, was a devoted family man who touched the lives of many during his years on this earth.

Ed was preceded in death by his brother and sister, Maggie and Andrew. He is survived by his long-time companion, wife, and caregiver, Ann Marie Kovalsky, who stood by his side through thick and thin. Together, they shared a beautiful life filled with love and laughter.

Ed was proud to be a father to his son, Edison Kovalsky, and to welcome Edison’s wife, Selena Perry, into the family. Ed was especially fond of his granddaughter, Ellie Rose, whose spirit brought him great joy. He also cherished his relationships with friends and family, including his friend and ex-wife, Cindy, and his sister, Elaine Parisi. Ed’s heart was large enough to embrace his stepchildren—Erin Haddeland, Joseph Condon, and Eve Competiello—and their families, as well as several grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

For over 30 years, Ed was a successful business owner, operating Koval’s Major Appliance Repair in Poughkeepsie and Salisbury Center, New York. His steadfast work ethic and his commitment to customers made him a respected figure in the community. Ed’s passion for innovation could often be seen as he tinkered in the barn, working on restoring motors, a testament to his inventive spirit.

Beyond his professional life, Ed was a man of many interests. He had a profound love for music and could often be found playing his guitar and dancing to his favorite tunes. His zest for life extended to his fascination with antique cars and motorcycles, which fueled countless adventures and memories with his loved ones.

The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to the hospice team, especially Amanda, Jeremy, Chynna, and Julie, for their compassionate care during Ed’s final days. Their kindness and support allowed Ed to spend his last moments surrounded by love.

In honoring Ed’s wishes, a private celebration of his life will be held for family and close friends. As we remember Ed Kovalsky, let us celebrate his life—a life filled with creativity, love, and the unwavering spirit of a man who always had a song in his heart.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ed’s honor may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice to help others receive the same quality of care he received.

Rest in peace, Ed. You will be deeply missed, but your legacy of love, laughter, and creativity will live on in all who knew you.

Goodbye for now, beep beep.

## Charles Paul Morrow

Charles Paul Morrow, age 88, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully on June 8, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born on May 8, 1937, in New York City, Charles—affectionately known as Chuck—was a true New Yorker at heart. Raised in the vibrant streets of the city, he carried with him a spirited blend of wit, warmth, and generosity. In the late 1960s, Charles moved to the Hudson Valley in search of a quieter, more rural life, where he found great joy in the beauty of the countryside and built a life grounded in service, integrity, and love.

Chuck touched the lives of everyone he met with his kindness, intelligence, and unwavering sense of humor. He had a wide array of interests and found joy in growing his blue-ribbon roses, woodworking, skiing, snowmobiling, tennis, swimming, life guarding and flying his own plane. He enjoyed flying to Nantucket, Martha’s Vineyard, and throughout the Hudson Valley. He was also a devoted member and volunteer at the Hyde Park Railroad Museum – Historical Society, where he lovingly restored model trains. Time spent with his family, close friends, his cherished Siamese cats, and poodles brought him the greatest happiness.

His formative years were spent at the Coindre Hall boarding school in Huntington, Long Island. Charles spoke of his time at Coindre Hall frequently and fondly. In 1956, after graduating from Brooklyn Technical High School, Charles enlisted in the United States Army. He proudly served for over seven years, beginning with the 101st Airborne Division and later as a U.S. Army Reservist, and was honorably discharged in 1963. Research revealed that Charles’ lineage includes a notable figure who contributed to the founding and independence of America—a legacy he carried with quiet pride. Charles earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Hofstra University in 1960 and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from St. John’s University School of Law in 1968, where he served on the St. John’s Law Review.

Admitted to the New York State Bar in 1968, Charles went on to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Northern Districts of New York and the U.S. Supreme Court. He began his legal career with New York State Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz before co-founding the law firm Gilday & Morrow in 1971. After Mr. Gilday’s retirement, Paul Banner joined as partner and worked alongside Charles for many years. Throughout his career, Charles served a wide range of clients, including major banks. His practice areas spanned banking law, collections, bankruptcy, commercial law, real estate, and general legal counsel.

Above all, Charles was devoted to his family. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, stepdaughter, Tara, and four children: Debbie, Scott, Susan, and Kristina. He also leaves behind numerous grandchildren and extended family members.

Family and friends celebrated Charles’ life at Sweet’s Funeral Home in Hyde Park on June 13, 2025. A prayer service took place, followed by military honors.

Memorial donations may be made to either: (1) Willow Gardens Memory Care, 60 Willow Drive, New Rochelle, NY 10805, Attn: Grace Ferri or via <https://uhgc.org>. Please specify Willow Gardens Activities Department on any donation.

(2) Hudson Valley Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association via <https://www.alz.org/hudsonvalley>.

Charles’s life was a testament to hard work, integrity, curiosity, and compassion. He was a lifelong learner, a principled advocate, and a man who believed deeply in the dignity of every person. Charles embraced people from all walks of life—employing and representing individuals of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs. He celebrated our differences, recognizing that they enrich and strengthen the fabric of our shared humanity. In a world too often divided, Charles chose connection, respect, and love. In this time of sorrow, we take comfort in the lasting joy and light he brought into our lives. May his memory be a blessing to those who cherished him.

To send an online condolence, please visit Charles’ obituary page at [www.sweetsfuneralhome.com](http://www.sweetsfuneralhome.com).

Legal Notices

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

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition:  
**366 Creek Road, Pleasant Valley Appeal #1081 Grid# 6464-02-541606**  
Area Variance Requests: The applicant would like to erect a 24'x24' workshop in front of the face of the residence, which is against Pleasant Valley Zoning Code.  
**SAID Meeting** will take place on June 25, 2025 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y, and begins at 7:00 p.m.

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

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition:  
**49 Woodland Drive, Salt Point Appeal #1082 Grid# 6464-01-338725**  
Area Variance Requests: The applicant would like to erect a porch/office addition on the front of the residence that is 39'x11'. The required front yard setback for LDR zoning is 60', but the setback for this addition would only be 38'. A variance of 22' is being requested.  
**SAID Meeting** will

Legal Notices

take place on June 25, 2025 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y, and begins at 7:00 p.m.

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

Please take note that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Pleasant Valley, NY, will hold a public hearing on the following proposition:  
**94 Sherow Road, Pleasant Valley Appeal #1083 Grid# 6364-04-718059**  
Area Variance Requests: The applicant would like to erect a 40'x30' garage in front of the face of the residence, which is against Pleasant Valley Zoning Code.  
**SAID Meeting** will take place on June 25, 2025 at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, N.Y, and begins at 7:00 p.m.

**SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**  
**EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners will hold a **Special Meeting on June 25, 2025 at 7 PM** for the purpose of reviewing/adopting the AUD, reviewing preliminary engineering costs for the new Firehouse and to review the monthly financial reports. The meeting will be held at the East Clinton Fire District Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY.

Legal Notices

Dated: June 12, 2025  
East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners  
Carol Mackin, Secretary

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**To all voters of Dutchess County, New York**  
**Primary Election, Tuesday, June 24, 2025**

The following is a true and correct list of all nominations of candidates for the offices to be filled at the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, certified to us or filed in our office pursuant to the provisions of Election Law.  
**ALL POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.**

**D e m o c r a t i c**  
**Primaries:**  
**County Legislature – District 20**  
Kristofer Munn  
Troy Haley  
**City of Poughkeepsie – Ward 1 City Council Member**  
Ernest J Henry  
Warren G Jones  
**City of Poughkeepsie – Ward 8 City Council Member**  
Daniel L Atonna  
Sakima AG McClinton  
**R e p u b l i c a n**  
**Primaries:**  
**County Legislature – District 22**  
Faye B Garito  
Joseph Tresca  
**Beekman – Member of Town Board** (Vote for Two)  
Ezio Battaglini  
Frank M Lemak V  
Gina Ragusa  
Kate Blake  
**Beekman – Superintendent of Highways**  
Anthony Coviello  
Brian Green  
**Beekman – Supervisor**  
Laureen Abbatantuono  
Stella Maria Slattery  
**Lagrange – Member of Town Board** (Vote for Two)  
Daniel Mosquera  
Franco Giangrasso  
Susan Condon  
**Lagrange – Supervisor**  
Anthony Marinaro  
David Anthony Mashiah  
**Pawling – Supervisor**  
James Schmitt  
Catherine Giordano  
**Village of Pawling – Mayor**  
Lauri Taylor  
Louis Musella

Legal Notices

**Union Vale – Supervisor**  
Charles Richwine  
Steven Frazier  
**C o n s e r v a t i v e**  
**Primaries:**  
**Lagrange – Member of Town Board** (Vote for Two)  
Alfred P Rabasco  
Susan Condon  
William Bedford  
**Lagrange – Supervisor**  
Anthony Marinaro  
Steven McKenna  
**Working Families Primaries:**  
**Lagrange – Member of Town Board** (Vote for Two)  
Allyson Persaud  
Luis Rodriguez  
Reese Persaud  
**Lagrange – Supervisor**  
Rovin Persaud  
Suzette Persaud  
**ERIK J. HAIGHT**  
**LISA JESSUP**  
**COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS**  
**DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**112 DELAFIELD ST., STE 200**  
**POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601**  
**845-486-2473**

Legal Notices

Pursuant to the provisions of New York State Election Law, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in the below listed towns/cities in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.  
ALL POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

| TOWN OR CITY.        |                    | Election District(s) |  |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| Beekman              | All                |                      |  |
| Beekman              | All                |                      |  |
| Beekman              | All                |                      |  |
| LaGrange             | All                |                      |  |
| LaGrange             | All                |                      |  |
| LaGrange             | All                |                      |  |
| Pawling              | All                |                      |  |
| Pawling              | All                |                      |  |
| City of Poughkeepsie | 1-1, 1-2, 8-1, 8-2 |                      |  |
| City of Poughkeepsie | 1-1, 1-2, 8-1, 8-2 |                      |  |
| Red Hook             | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5      |                      |  |
| Red Hook             | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5      |                      |  |
| Red Hook             | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5      |                      |  |
| Rhinebeck            | 6                  |                      |  |
| Union Vale           | All                |                      |  |

Legal Notices

**www.dutchesselections.com**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Pursuant to New York State Election Law §4-118, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, as follows:  
**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
City Poughkeepsie/001-Ward City Council Member  
City Poughkeepsie/008-Ward City Council Member  
County Legislator-District 20  
**REPUBLICAN PARTY**  
Beekman-Town Board Member  
Beekman-Superintendent of Highways  
Beekman-Supervisor  
Lagrange-Town Board Member  
Lagrange-Supervisor  
Pawling-Supervisor  
Village of Pawling-Mayor  
Union Vale-Supervisor  
County Legislator-District 22  
**C O N S E R V A T I V E**  
**PARTY**  
Lagrange-Town Board

Legal Notices

DUTCHESS COUNTY POLLING PLACES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in the below listed towns/cities in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

ALL POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

**QUALIFIED VOTERS MAY VOTE AT ANY POLL SITE LOCATION WITH YOUR TOWN OR CITY.**

| TOWN OR CITY.                        |                   | Site |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------|--|
| Beekman                              | Recreation Center |      |  |
| Town Hall                            |                   |      |  |
| Beekman Elementary School            |                   |      |  |
| Overlook Primary School              |                   |      |  |
| Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church   |                   |      |  |
| Town Hall                            |                   |      |  |
| Lathrop Center                       |                   |      |  |
| Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association |                   |      |  |
| Interfaith Towers                    |                   |      |  |
| St. John's Lutheran Church           |                   |      |  |
| Bertelsmann Campus Center            |                   |      |  |
| Mill Road Intermediate School        |                   |      |  |
| Red Hook High School                 |                   |      |  |
| Starr Library                        |                   |      |  |
| Fire House                           |                   |      |  |

**LISA JESSUP and ERIK J. HAIGHT, COMMISSIONERS**  
**DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**112 DELAFIELD STREET, SUITE 200**  
**POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601**  
**845-486-2473**  
**www.elections.dutchessny.gov**

Legal Notices

Member  
Lagrange-Supervisor  
**W O R K I N G**  
**FAMILIES PARTY**  
Lagrange-Town Board Member  
Lagrange-Supervisor  
**LISA JESSUP and ERIK J. HAIGHT, COMMISSIONERS**  
**DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**112 DELAFIELD STREET, SUITE 200**  
**POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601**  
**845-486-2473**  
**www.elections.dutchessny.gov**

Notice is hereby given that **FRANK VENTURELLA, JR.** is to appear before the Honorable Edward T. McLoughlin, Acting Justice of the Supreme Court on June 27, 2025 at 9:15 a.m. at the Dutchess County Supreme Court-house, located at 10 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York, as the Respon-

Legal Notices

dent in an Extreme Risk Protection Order application. At the hearing, the parties shall have an opportunity to be heard, give testimony, call witnesses, and offer evidence to assist the Court in determining if a final Extreme Risk Protection Order will be issued. The respondent may request a later hearing date to prepare for the hearing. To request a later hearing date, the respondent must contact the court BEFORE the scheduled hearing date above. The respondent may also seek the advice of an attorney, and the attorney should be consulted promptly. Failure to appear may result in findings against Mr. Venturella.

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Primary Election will be held in the below listed towns/cities in Dutchess County on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

ALL POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

**QUALIFIED VOTERS MAY VOTE AT ANY POLL SITE LOCATION WITH YOUR TOWN OR CITY.**

| TOWN OR CITY.                        |                   | Site |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------|--|
| Beekman                              | Recreation Center |      |  |
| Town Hall                            |                   |      |  |
| Beekman Elementary School            |                   |      |  |
| Overlook Primary School              |                   |      |  |
| Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church   |                   |      |  |
| Town Hall                            |                   |      |  |
| Lathrop Center                       |                   |      |  |
| Holmes Whaley Lake Civic Association |                   |      |  |
| Interfaith Towers                    |                   |      |  |
| St. John's Lutheran Church           |                   |      |  |
| Bertelsmann Campus Center            |                   |      |  |
| Mill Road Intermediate School        |                   |      |  |
| Red Hook High School                 |                   |      |  |
| Starr Library                        |                   |      |  |
| Fire House                           |                   |      |  |

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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.

Suguru solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |

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

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

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# GOLDEN LIVING

## Staying safe on Dutchess County's roads

Would you be able to walk from your home to your favorite grocery store – and back, loaded down with your purchases? It's doubtful. How many of your health-care providers are within walking distance of your home? Most people will answer: none. Could you walk from home to your post office, house of worship, pickleball court, or favorite restaurant? Rarely, at best.

Independence, and concerns about its potential loss, regularly top surveys of what aspects of aging worry seniors the most. It's access to reliable transportation that gives meaning to independence, especially in a largely suburban and rural county like Dutchess. In this context, independence is usually defined as being able to drive one's own car.

As you age, being able to drive for as long as is safely possible can no longer be taken for granted. Have a plan, and your driving lifetime can be extended.

### What to watch out and listen for

As we age, many of us will experience vision challenges, including glaucoma, cataracts and macular degeneration. These conditions can make it difficult to see other vehicles, pedestrians, animals on the road, signs, potholes, and other hazards. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, many crashes involving older-adult drivers have been the result of "inadequate surveillance" where an older adult didn't notice a traffic control device or another vehicle.

### Got your ears on, good buddy?

You might not immediately think of hearing as a sense that's essential for driving - but if you can't hear the siren of a first responder behind you, only your sight will enable you to notice and pull

over as needed. Safe driving requires all your senses working at their best.

### Driving in pain can be a pain

Sitting in a car for extended periods, especially with arthritis or jointinflammation, can affect the physical skills needed to operate a car. Thankfully, modern car technology like heated seats and back-up cameras can alleviate some of the challenges; still, it pays to take precautions if you know your joints are prone to acting up on longer trips. Whether you're a driver or a passenger, arrange for more frequent breaks to stretch your legs.

### Know lots of ways to get from Point A to Point B

If you suspect a particular stretch of road could be a bit much for you, plan alternative routes before setting out. Many times, the slightly longer route is safer - and sometimes it's also more scenic. Even if you've lived in Dutchess County all your life, there's always a chance you'll see something new and fascinating.

### SAVE TWO DATES:

July 10th (Skills Fair) and  
September 27th (Golden Gathering)

Many readers may be enjoying their retirement years, but at the same time they still have an itch to contribute, learn, and maybe make a few extra dollars along the way. Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino hosts her first Older Adults Skills Fair, at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center in Hyde Park (4079 Albany Post Rd. a/k/a Route 9), on Thursday, July 10th from 2-4 pm. No RSVP is required for guests.

As a guest, you'll have the chance to:

- meet local employers offering flexible, part-time positions tailored to experienced workers;
- connect with nonprofit organizations

seeking dedicated volunteers; and

- enjoy complimentary light refreshments.

If you're looking for extra income, to give back through volunteering, or simply to stay active, the Skills Fair fits the bill. Companies interested in participating can find sign-up information at [www.dutchessny.gov/senior-skills](http://www.dutchessny.gov/senior-skills)

The second date to save is Saturday, September 27th. That's when the annual Senior Golden Gathering returns to Arlington High School (1157 NY 55, Lagrangeville), from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., hosted by State Senators Rob Rolison and Michelle Hinchey in partnership with Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Office for the Aging. You can enjoy a free healthy breakfast courtesy of the McCann Charitable Trust; and learn about local health services, resources and information. Flu shots will also be available while supplies last (bring your photo ID and insurance card).

### SENIOR PICNIC SEASON VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Dutchess County Office for the Aging's annual summer picnics are now under way, continuing until the end of August. As of this week there are eight picnics left on the schedule.

There are plenty of ways volunteers can help our older Dutchess County neighbors enjoy a fine picnic lunch and good company, at picnic sites all over Dutchess County as well as behind the scenes at the Office for the Aging's

facilities in Poughkeepsie. On picnic days, we welcome volunteers who can help set up picnic equipment, guide parking lot traffic, bring guests their food and drinks, and help break down picnic equipment when the day is done. Volunteer for the one picnic closest to you, or volunteer for all the remaining picnics...or any number in between!

Clerical picnic season volunteers can help with stocking picnic goodie bags at the OFA main office in Poughkeepsie, and with making reminder calls to older adults who have reserved seats at their community's picnic. For more information on OFA volunteering opportunities, visit [dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer](http://dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer), email [bjones@dutchessny.gov](mailto:bjones@dutchessny.gov), or call 845-486-2555. For programs that accept volunteers under age 18, a signed parental waiver is required.

The full OFA Summer Picnic schedule with venues is available at [dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics](http://dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics).

### SUMMER 2025 THRIVE60+ NEWSLETTER IS OUT

If you didn't catch OFA's newest newsletter in the email that went out on Thursday, you can also find the brand-new Summer 2025 issue of "THRIVE60+ at [www.dutchessny.gov/thrive60](http://www.dutchessny.gov/thrive60). For our friends and neighbors who aren't online, paper copies of the newsletter are being printed and will soon be distributed via our mailing list, as well as at area libraries, senior centers and municipal buildings throughout Dutchess County.

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