

Uplands Farm
receives grant

The article in its entirety
is featured on page 11

Late Poughkeepsie
Airman honored
during ‘Honor-A-
Veteran’ Ceremony

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs hosted the County’s most recent “Honor-A-Veteran” Ceremony last week, recognizing the late Raymond J. Turner, an esteemed U.S. Air Force veteran and respected Town of Poughkeepsie resident. The event, held at American Legion Post 1302 in Poughkeepsie, was the most recent in a series of monthly ceremonies hosted by the County Executive to highlight the lives and distinguished service of local veterans who have passed away.

Serino said, “Raymond Turner lived a life full of heart – from serving our nation overseas to building a beautiful life here at home with his Muriel and their seven children. He was known as ‘the last great salesman,’ a man with a natural charisma and warmth that allowed him to connect with just about anyone. It’s an honor to help share his story through our Honor-A-Veteran program and to ensure veterans like Raymond are remembered not only for their service, but for who they were to the people who loved them.”

Born Jan. 19, 1932, in Troy, NY, Mr. Turner proudly served in the United States Air Force as an Airman during the Korean War, stationed in Tachikawa, Japan as a teletype and radio operator, earning him the Korean Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal, recognitions of his contributions and sacrifice.

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Art, sewing, story-telling
inspire young entrepreneur

By Kaeleigh Banda

What originated as a doodle drawn in a high school economics class has grown into a thriving toy business. Rhinebeck resident Lyla Andrick has turned her classroom sketches into “Happy Dinosaur,” a brand that captures hearts and imaginations with its playful characters and creative stories.

“Happy Dinosaur” was founded in 2020 as a way to raise money for frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, it has grown to include five different dinosaur characters and plushes, as well as non-dinosaur characters and a dinosaur world inspired by real places.

When Andrick was a student at Rhinebeck High School, her economics teacher, Dan Lavazzo, noticed her dinosaur doodles and encouraged her to continue drawing and to create something three-dimensional. He allotted a section of his classroom whiteboard for her to draw on and even bought her a pack of whiteboard markers that she still has today.

Andrick said Lavazzo’s small gesture made a huge impact on her journey. “It gave me this really big boost of confidence,” Andrick said. “Someone is valuing my cartoons now. I don’t feel like an illegal graffiti artist anymore.”

Lavazzo said he shares Lyla’s story



Young entrepreneur Lyla Andrick creates and cuts out drawings in her workshop in Rhinebeck. She draws all of the dinosaurs, maps, special characters and more to make the “Happy Dinosaur” world come to life. *Photo by Curtis Schmidt*

with his classes every year to hopefully inspire more students to become young entrepreneurs or follow their creative passion.

“Students like Lyla remind me that my job matters,” Lavazzo said. “In many ways, it validates all the education

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Excited families honor 2025 grads
at Anderson’s 101st commencement

By Kaeleigh Banda



Students and family members celebrate after graduation ceremonies at the Anderson Center for Autism on June 20. *Courtesy photo*

On June 20, the Anderson Center for Autism celebrated its Class of 2025 graduates at the 101st commencement ceremony. Surrounded by their families and loved ones, 12 students received certificates signifying the completion of their high school education.

The commencement was located outside under a tent behind the Anderson Center campus recreation center. As the ceremony began, the Class of 2025 processed into the tent wearing blue caps and gowns to the classic tune of “Pomp and Circumstance.” Each graduate was

greeted by their beaming supporters and families.

Mike Miner, father of graduate Olivia Miner, said Olivia worked hard to reach this moment.

“She’s made us so proud to be her parents,” Miner said. “We’re excited to start this new chapter in her life. She has come a long way.”

The Anderson Center provides education, resources, housing, technologies and more to people with autism and their support systems. Since its founding in 1924, there has been a growth in understanding and advocacy for people with autism.

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Art, sewing, story-telling inspire young entrepreneur

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certifications, trials and tribulations that go into every single school year. The job gets harder every year, and passions and successes like Lyla's are necessary to fuel us."

Andrick draws all of the dinosaurs, maps, special characters and more to make the "Happy Dinosaur" world come to life. She also handmade every dinosaur for four years until her demand allowed her to scale.

"I am at the point now where I am really starting to grow," Andrick said. "I quit my job last summer and I'm really putting all of my effort full time into this company."

To create the dinosaurs, Andrick sources sustainable materials made from recycled water bottles. Her anti-pill fleece and recycled polyester filling create a soft and environmentally friendly plush. However, this makes her materials more expensive and harder to source. Andrick said the current tariffs are affecting her supply chain, stuffing and fabrics.

Andrick said she doodles all kinds of characters, but dinosaurs stood out as the ideal choice for her brand because of their unique ability to spark children's curiosity.

"When kids learn about imagination for the first time, it always connects to dinosaurs because they're the closest real thing to fantasy because they actually existed," Andrick said. "Because we do not know everything about dinosaurs, kids start to wonder what dinosaurs could do. It's when their imagination really lights up."

While "Happy Dinosaur" can be for all

ages, Andrick has worked with children to develop stories and personalities for each of her main dinosaur characters. She said she visited schools with her dinosaurs and let the kids' imaginations run wild as they crafted narratives for her dinosaurs.

"One thing I love about the stories is that they are all based off of real kids," Andrick said. "The kids love these stories. ... They were laughing and super collaborative."

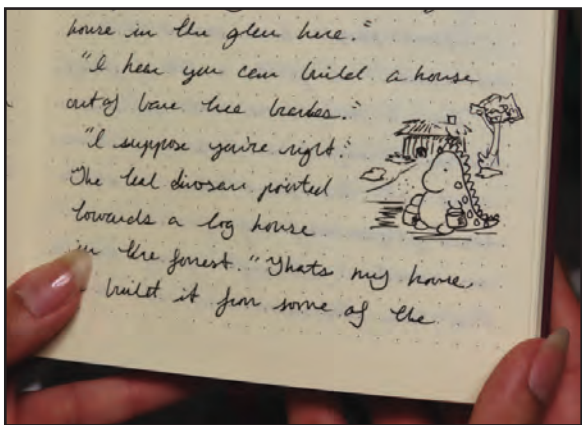
The personalities and names of the dinosaurs are part of why "Happy Dinosaur" stands out and is special to children. Andrick said she has received notes from families and customers about all of the places her dinosaurs have been, including a popular choice of bringing Chill Dinosaur to the dentist. On the "Happy Dinosaur" website, there is a quiz where customers can learn which dinosaur character best fits their personality. The quiz creates an initial bond between the customer and the character because they see themselves in it.

The Happy Dinosaur characters also provide a greater message. Andrick wrote on her website that dinosaurs are just like people because they make mistakes and procrastinate, but they are also constantly evolving.

"We don't have villains in the Happy DinoStories because we don't want to place the blame for mistakes on someone else; it's just too easy to evade responsibility by making someone else the 'bad-guy,'" Andrick wrote. "By fixing their own problems, our dinosaurs can help kids and even young adults find the hero-



Above: Entrepreneur Lyla Andrick of Rhinebeck poses with a grouping of her "Happy Dinosaur" characters. Below is a representative page from her story-telling with dinosaur drawings. Photos by Curtis Schmidt



ism in themselves. Solving a problem like a dinosaur requires a little forgiveness, a little creativity, and a lot of making mistakes."

When Andrick was first growing Happy Dinosaur, she was a student at the University of Connecticut on the pre-veterinarian track. Andrick said she was constantly forced to decide between her business and her academics. Being a successful business owner and creator while handling a full course load did not go well together.

Andrick said she took a break from school and spent a semester at home taking courses at Marist College while she decided what she wanted to do with her career. Eventually, Andrick combined her passions and studied Entrepreneurship in Animal Science Technology at the University of Connecticut.

Creating a growing and successful company as a young entrepreneur is rare. Andrick said she would advise other young entrepreneurs to pay attention to successful entrepreneurs and emulate their work. She also emphasized the importance of networking and how her

connections have helped her grow.

"Schools need to protect and provide individual student expression," Lavazzo said. "Young entrepreneurs are a necessity. We like to think that they're a luxury. They're not. Economically speaking, young entrepreneurs are a necessity to a successful, growing, evolving economy."

"Happy Dinosaur" has been around for five years and has already expanded in many ways. For the fifth anniversary, Andrick added mini versions of her plush dinosaurs to her website to include a cheaper option for customers. Looking into the future, Andrick said she only sees her company continuing to grow.

"I would love to build a character franchise out of 'Happy Dinosaur,'" Andrick said. "Maybe four or five years from now, I want to see Happy Dinosaur become a new childhood household character."

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Late Poughkeepsie Airman honored during ‘Honor-A-Vet’ ceremony

continued from cover

After his military service, Airman Turner built a career with Western Union, where fate led him to Muriel, the love of his life and his devoted wife of 56 years. Together, they raised seven children who became the heart of their shared journey. His legacy flourished through 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Airman Turner passed away Dec. 14, 2011.

Office of Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche said, “A selfless airman who defended our nation’s freedom half a world away, Airman Turner returned home following his service to build a life devoted to his family. By his example, he taught his loved ones how to embrace life fully, pursue their goals, push through challenges and turn dreams into reality – ideals emblematic of a model service member and an exemplary citizen. Dutchess County will long remember Airman Turner, his service and the strength and compassion he showed all who knew him.”

During the recent ceremony, Serino, Roche and members of the Dutchess County Honor-A-Veteran Committee presented Airman Turner’s family with several honors, including a:

- U.S. flag flown in Dutchess County for 30 days in his memory;
- proclamation from County Executive Serino;
- Veterans Challenge Coin from the Dutchess County Honor-A-Veteran Committee;
- New York State Senate Liberty Medal from Sen. Michelle Hinchey;
- handmade quilt from Mental Health America of Dutchess County’s Veterans Programs’ Quilts2Honor; and

• custom shadow box of memorabilia from the Office of Veterans Affairs.

Monthly “Honor-A-Veteran” ceremonies will continue through November, dedicated to honoring deceased veterans for their service to their nation. Future ceremonies will take place at 9 a.m. on or about the third Thursday of each month.

To be eligible for this initiative, veterans must meet the following criteria:

- be deceased for at least 30 days;
- have served in the United States Armed Forces with an honorable discharge, listed as missing in action, or died while serving in the military; and
- wartime and peacetime service is eligible, with no specific service dates or length-of-service requirements.

Family, friends and community members are encouraged to nominate a veteran to be recognized through the “Honor-A-Veteran” initiative. Applications for the program are available online at dutchessny.gov/honoraveteran or in person at the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs, 1335 Route 44 in Pleasant Valley. All submitted applications must be accompanied by a copy of the veteran’s military separation papers (DD-214, WD AGO 53-55, NGB-22 or report of casualty), obituary and death certificate.

Completed applications can be submitted via email to veterans@dutchessny.gov or returned to the Office of Veterans Affairs in person; members of the Dutchess County Honor-A-Veteran Committee will review each application for consideration. More information is available by calling the County’s Office of Veterans Affairs at 845-486-2060.



County Executive Sue Serino, Director Adam Roche, members of the Dutchess County Honor-A-Veteran Committee presented Airman Raymond Turner's family with several honors during a recent ceremony. Serino and the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs hosted the County's most recent "Honor-A-Veteran" Ceremony last week, recognizing the late Raymond J. Turner, an esteemed U.S. Air Force veteran and respected Town of Poughkeepsie resident (pictured below). *Photos courtesy of Dutchess County Gov't*



DUTCHESS COUNTY-POUGHKEEPSIE LAND BANK TO HOLD MEETING

The Dutchess County-Poughkeepsie Land Bank Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, in person at Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll St., Poughkeepsie, in the library. Members of the public are encouraged and welcome to attend.

To submit comments, for more information, please call 845-293-3547 or email info@dcpoklandbank.org.

County, local HAM Clubs to host Overnight Field Day June 28-29

The Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response, in partnership with the Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club and the QSY Society, will host the annual overnight Amateur (HAM) Radio Field Day from 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 28 through 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 29 at the Emergency Response campus’s Fire Training Center, located at 392 Creek Road, Poughkeepsie.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will include demonstrations of HAM radio equipment and operators during a simulated emergency. On Sunday, June 29th, starting at 10am, HAM licensing exams will be offered for a \$15 exam fee and \$35 FCC licensing fee once the exam is passed.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, “This annual event is a great way for us to test and highlight our emergency communications capabilities. HAM radio operators are an essential resource in any kind of emergency, helping bridge responding agencies through their ability to respond quickly and efficiently from remote locations, even when power sources or other infrastructure are compromised. We are proud to once again support the Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club and QSY Society to host this event at a Dutchess County location. We encourage anyone interested in amateur radio to attend.”The HAM Radio Field

Day is an on-the-air event held annually the fourth weekend in June in the United States and Canada where more than 35,000 radio amateurs, or HAMs, gather with their clubs, groups or friends to operate from remote locations. Operators will seek to contact as many other Field Day stations as possible under simulated emergency conditions and exchange information about their operation. As part of the emergency simulation, many of the participating operators will use alternate power sources such as portable generators, batteries and even solar power.

HAM radio operators have helped with emergencies across the state and nation. Locally, HAM operators have helped emergency response efforts in western New York following severe snowstorms; in New York City following the tragic events of September 11, 2001; and in the Harlem Valley area after severe flooding of the Three Mile River. HAMs also volunteer to assist with communications during local events, such as the annual Dutchess County St. Patrick’s Day Parade in the Village of Wappingers Falls. For more information about the Field Day or amateur radio in Dutchess County, contact Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response RACES Radio Officer Adam Nowik Jr. at 845-849-3666.



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OPINION

Congressional members from Dutchess County respond to U.S. strikes on Iran’s nuclear sites

Congressional members who represent the local area released statements regarding the U.S. strikes on Iran’s nuclear sites, which took place on June 21.
Iran has vowed to retaliate in response to the strikes.

U.S. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY)

Senator Chuck Schumer released the following statement on June 21 after President Donald Trump announced that the United States struck targets in Iran:
“President Trump must provide the American people and Congress clear answers on the actions taken tonight and their implications for the safety of Americans. No president should be allowed to unilaterally march this nation into something as consequential as war with erratic threats and no strategy. Confronting Iran’s ruthless campaign of terror, nuclear ambitions, and regional aggression demands strength, resolve, and strategic clarity. The danger of wider, longer, and more devastating war has now dramatically increased.”

“We must enforce the War Powers Act and I’m urging [Senate Majority] Leader [John] Thune to put it on the Senate floor immediately. I am voting for it and implore all Senators on both sides of the aisle to vote for it,” added Schumer.

According to History.com, “The War Powers Act is a congressional resolution designed to limit the U.S. president’s ability to initiate or escalate military actions abroad. Among other restrictions, the law requires that presidents notify Congress after deploying the armed forces and limits how long units can remain engaged without congressional approval. Enacted in 1973 with the goal of avoiding another lengthy conflict such as the Vietnam War, its effectiveness has been repeatedly questioned throughout its history, and several presidents have been accused of failing to comply with its regulations.”

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released a statement on June 22, which read: “I am grateful that no U.S. service members were harmed during the military operation against Iran’s nuclear facilities. I am praying for American troops and citizens in the region, and I will be working with

state and local partners to ensure New Yorkers here at home are safe.

Throughout my career, I have been a steadfast champion of Israel, leading U.S. support for Iron Dome and initiatives to strengthen the alliance between our nations. I have long supported efforts to ensure that Iran, the foremost exporter of terrorism in the world, cannot obtain a nuclear weapon.

However, I am deeply concerned by President Trump’s decision to unilaterally launch these attacks without seeking congressional authorization, as required by the Constitution. The Trump administration must fully explain to the American people the rationale for this military action and a strategy to avoid being mired in another Middle Eastern war, and it must give Congress a full intelligence briefing immediately.”

Gillibrand, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, added: “No further military actions should be allowed without proper congressional approval.

Avoiding further escalation is essential to the peace and security of Israel, the U.S., and our partners in the region. I urge the president and Iran to pursue a diplomatic resolution to this conflict.”

Congressman Mike Lawler (R-17th Congressional District)

On the platform X on June 22, Congressman Mike Lawler wrote, “If Iran tries to strike or attack the U.S., our assets, or our allies in response to the elimination of their nuclear program, they will be met with the full force of the United States military.”

Lawler posted on June 21, on X: “I am glad to see that @POTUS and his Administration are taking swift action to prevent the Iranians from acquiring a nuclear weapon. The Iranians had months to negotiate a deal that would have avoid-

ed the need for our strike tonight [June 21], but chose not to. They learned the hard way which military is the most powerful in the world - ours. We must continue to work with our strongest ally, Israel, in ending the threat of a nuclear Iran once and for all.”

Congressman Pat Ryan (D-18th Congressional District)

In a Facebook post on June 22, Congressman Pat Ryan wrote: “I love our country. I served in America’s longest wars, where I saw the best of humanity in my fellow veterans’ heroism and selfless service (much like we witnessed last night); and saw the worst of humanity and horrors of war up close and personal.

Twenty years ago, in their rush to appear strong and tough, politicians – from both parties – failed to ask the hard questions before starting wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Now, trillions of dollars and countless deaths later, we still haven’t gotten accountability.

America must not make those same mistakes again.

I am under no illusions about the nature of the Iranian regime and its proxies – they are evil. We must continue to stand strongly with our Israeli allies – including active and robust support for the defense of the state of Israel and its people, as we have for decades.

But Trump’s actions last night, taken without any case being made to the American people or the Congress, coupled with his speech doubling down on his sole authority to further escalate the conflict, risks repeating history and starting another forever war in the Middle East.

The Constitution explicitly grants the power to make war to Congress, on behalf of the American people – not the President. I am supporting the War Powers Resolution because we must act immediately to reclaim that authority.”

Excited families honor 2025 grads at Anderson’s 101st commencement

continued from cover

Tina Covington, chief operating officer at the Anderson Center, reminded the audience that the Department of Education did not even recognize autism as a special education service until 1991 which can be attributed to the work of advocates.

Covington then introduced the 2025 commencement speaker, Jeanne Raichle who advocates for individuals with autism through her work as an Anderson Foundation for Autism Trustee and a member of Anderson Family Partners. Raichle’s daughter Katy has been with the Anderson Center for 46 years.

“It is an incredible organization like no other,” Raichle said. “Patrick Paul, the Anderson staff, the teachers and the direct service providers provide the support our loved ones need. Quality of life for individuals at Anderson is Anderson’s focus.”

Before the diplomas, Jayson Pistrutto, assistant principal at the Anderson Center, gave out the V.V. Anderson Award for Outstanding Achievement to Chris and the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Good Neighbor Award to Sean. Then, each graduate was called up

one by one to receive their diplomas and officially graduate.

Kendall Wolven, assistant principal at the Anderson Center, said she has known many of the students since they were five or six years old.

“We have gotten to watch their growth,” Wolven said. “With the families being here and enjoying the day together, it is very special, and we are happy to be a part of it.”

The growth these students have experienced throughout their years at the Anderson Center is not only felt by the staff but is also felt by their families. Shauna Mower, sister of graduate Johanna Mower, said the growth is visible by the fact her sister was able to sit through the graduation ceremony which was something she could not do years ago.

Robert Mower, Johanna’s father, said it is great to see the hard work of these students and how far they have come thanks to the Anderson Center.

“We have seen her use the communication device and do things we have never seen her do before,” Robert Mower said. “This institution is phenomenal.”

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Driver in critical condition following fiery crash in Red Hook



A first responder rushes to a burning vehicle near the intersection of Route 9 and Fraleigh Lane in the Town of Red Hook on June 18. The driver of the vehicle is in critical condition. Photo by the Red Hook Police Department

On Wednesday, June 18, at approximately 3:43 p.m., Red Hook Police patrols were dispatched by Dutchess County 911 for a report of a vehicle that crashed into a telephone poll on Route 9 near the intersection of Fraleigh Lane in the Town of Red Hook. Preliminary investigation determined that a 2019 Toyota Tacoma, operated by a 70-year-old Germantown man, left the roadway for unknown reasons and struck a telephone pole.

The impact rendered the driver unconscious and entrapped within the vehicle, which subsequently caught fire. The Red

Hook Fire Company extinguished the fire and the jaws of life were used to extricate the driver. The driver, who was not identified, was then transported to Westchester Medical Center where he was listed in critical conditions from severe injuries and burns.

The investigation into the cause of crash is ongoing.

The Red Hook Police were assisted on scene by the Red Hook and Tivoli Fire companies, Northern Dutchess Paramedics and Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corp.

Girl Scouts of the HV recognizes 2025 Gold Award class

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. (GSHH) recognized the 70 members of the 2025 Girl Scout Gold Award class who earned the highest award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award. Gold Award Girl Scouts make positive impacts on our local communities by addressing some of our most pressing issues, including mental health, eating disorders, endangered wildlife, food insecurity, and more.

Gold Award Girl Scouts become innovative problem-solvers, empathetic leaders, confident public speakers, and focused project managers. They learn resourcefulness, tenacity, and decision-making skills, giving them an edge personally and professionally. As they take action to transform their communities, Gold Award Girl Scouts gain tangible skills and prove they're the leaders our world needs.

The 2025 Gold Award Girl Scout class identified issues in their communities, took action, and found or created solutions to earn their Gold Awards, addressing real-life problems.

This year, Girl Scouts of the USA awarded a scholarship to one Gold Award Girl Scout from each council across the Movement. This year, GSHH's recipient of the \$5,000 scholarship is Mary Elizabeth Wilantewicz a senior in high school from Dutchess County. Mary Elizabeth's project, "Memory Care Sensory Room" aims to improve symptoms of and slow cognitive decline in dementia patients through multi-sensory activities and 'life stations.' Her project was so successful that it has become a model for other Memory Care sensory rooms.

During a ceremony held on Saturday, June 7, at the Muriel H. Morabito Community Center in Cortlandt Manor, GSHH's CEO, Dr. Kari L. Rockwell honored the Gold Award Girl Scouts in attendance, saying:

"As the highest award in Girl Scouting,

the Gold Award marks the culmination of an exceptional project demonstrating leadership, responsibility, and the commitment to making the world a better place for all people. The young women who have earned their Gold Award have embraced the Girl Scout Promise and Law and have put these words into action. They are strong, courageous, and accomplished young women who are the heroes of today and the future leaders of tomorrow."

Rebuilding Together HV accepting applications

Deadline is Sept. 30

Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley (RTHV) is accepting applications for their Rebuilding Day home repair and accessibility modification program. These services are provided at no cost to income qualified homeowners and focus on ensuring that individuals can live independently in a safe, warm, dry, and healthy home. The deadline for applications to be considered for the 2026 Rebuilding Day program is Sept. 30.

Income qualified Dutchess and Ulster County homeowners are encouraged to apply. The Rebuilding Day program takes a whole-house approach. Typical repairs can include replacing a roof or windows, addressing electrical or plumbing issues, fixing a porch, installing a ramp, bathroom accessibility modifications, and much more. By performing these types of repairs, RTHV helps ensure that homeowners can live in a safe and healthy home for as long as they wish.

Neighbors, friends, and family of those who have been served by the local nonprofit all suggest and strongly encourage their fellow Dutchess and Ulster County residents to apply.

A recent homeowner exclaimed, "I can't thank you enough for all you do. Your kindness, empathy, and concern made it an even more incredible experience. I feel blessed to have been accepted into your program when at a time in my life it was desperately needed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"

David, the son of a recent homeowner RTHV served said, "My father was amazed when everyone showed up on Rebuilding Day and was touched by the warmth of the volunteers. My dad hopes to never have to leave his home. The work performed will help with that goal by keeping him safe, secure, and happy."

Another homeowner told RTHV, "Thank you for the joy and hope that you have reignited in me. The compassion, the care and the power of working together to improve the world have had a profound impact on my home and for me. I am truly thankful for the work that you have done, I will never be able to thank you enough!"

To request an application or inquire about our programs please call the RTHV office at 845-454-7310. The application and further details can also be found at RTHudsonvalley.org.

Greystone Programs receives donation from Mid-Hudson Subaru

Greystone Programs, Inc. is honored to be the recipient of a generous donation from Mid-Hudson Subaru as part of the national Subaru Share the Love® Event. The check presentation celebrated the impactful, community-centered partnership between Mid-Hudson Subaru and Greystone Programs, which supports individuals living with autism and other intellectual/developmental disabilities across the Hudson Valley.

The 2024 Subaru Share the Love Event raised a record-breaking \$31.7 million, the highest in the initiative's 17-year history. Since its inception, the campaign has generated nearly \$320 million, fueling Subaru's mission to be More Than a Car Company® and benefitting nonprofits and communities nationwide.

As a participating hometown retailer, Mid-Hudson Subaru selected Greystone Programs as its local charity partner, enabling customers to direct a portion of

their vehicle purchase or lease or service purchase toward services that enrich lives throughout the Hudson Valley. The dealership's decision to support Greystone reflects a deep, shared dedication to empowering people through compassion, inclusion, and innovation.

Mid-Hudson Subaru's support helps Greystone continue offering life-enriching programs such as Expressive Arts Therapy, Residential and Day Habilitation, community-based services throughout the Hudson Valley, NY area, and much need renovations to various properties to keep the standard of living quality. The presentation took place at Mid-Hudson Subaru's Wappingers Falls dealership, where Greystone leadership, The Subaru team, local officials, and community supporters gathered to recognize this meaningful collaboration and its ongoing impact.

A Bank for the Next Generation

To George Whalen IV, relationships are what build community, and lending is a tool that helps people make things happen. He's seen it his whole life – the Bank of Millbrook working together with people like you, in this area that's thrived from his great grandfather's generation to his son's.

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Best moments from 31 years of Renegades’ homestands

By Morgan E. Maier

June 18, 2025 marked the 31st anniversary of the first tickets punched at Dutchess Stadium, home of the Hudson Valley Renegades. Now named Heritage Financial Park, the stadium has hosted many magical moments at 1500 Route 9-D. And although the Renegades are not in town to celebrate the park’s big milestone, the 2025 homestands have proven memorable for Hudson Valley.

The Renegades’ home record is 19-13 on their turf this year, and some ‘Gades particularly enjoy the home cooking. Hitters facing Sebastian Keane have just a .077 average at Heritage Financial, while Tony Rossi has allowed just three hits in 10 innings. And both of Josh Moylan’s home runs have come in front of his favorite crowd. Here are some of the season’s top moments at the place where we root, root, root for the Renegades.

1. The Seven-Run Inning

On April 19, the Renegades scored 7 runs in the third inning en route to an 8-0 victory over the Wilmington Blue Rocks. The inning included three

straight singles to load the bases by Frick, Hall, and Brendan Jones. Omar Martinez’s two-run, line drive single scored two runners, followed by consecutive doubles by Moylan and Brenny Escanio. The good guys batted through the order, knocking out starter Travis Sthele before he faced Tomas Frick one more time in the inning. During Frick’s at-bat, a wild pitch scored Escanio to cap off the Renegades’ seven-run slaughter.

2. Renegades claw back for the walkoff

Against the Jersey Shore BlueClaws on May 3, the Renegades found themselves in a one-run hole in the ninth after leading half the game. Jersey Shore scored in the top of the ninth to pull ahead 4-3, and the Renegades had just three outs remaining to make some magic. Leadoff double, sacrifice, and a Coby Morales RBI double launched Hudson Valley’s winning percentage from 16.0% to 60.8% according to MiLB Gameday. The bases were loaded on two straight walks, the latter being an intentional walk. Escanio stepped up to the plate, and on a 3-1 count, seemed fixed to walk in the winning run. Escanio

ripped a line drive to the outfield to score Morales easily. And so came the first walkoff of the season, in dramatic fashion.

3. “Everyone’s Birthday” Night

Naturally, this birthday celebration for the Renegades’ home would not be complete without acknowledging everyone else’s birthday. The 2-1 Renegades win was the icing on the cake for the “Everyone’s Birthday” promotion. The Renegades never trailed, scoring in the first two innings. Kyle Carr pitched into the seventh, allowing just one run on three hits. The bullpen continued the party after 6.2 sparkling innings from the southpaw. And everyone got a slice of that sweet June 10 victory, as Rossi held the Greenville Drive scoreless, then Hueston Morrill notched his fifth save.

With the Renegades staying in the Hudson Valley until at least 2045 due



Fans line up at the gate for another Hudson Valley Renegades game at Heritage Financial Park. *Courtesy photo*

to the Heritage Financial Park naming rights deal, homestand hijinks are in the future, including six more series in 2025 ... Happy birthday to the park formerly known as Dutchess Stadium!

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Hudson Valley NYY	2	1	.667	-	2-1	L1
Brooklyn NYM	2	1	.667	-	2-1	W1
Greensboro PIT	2	1	.667	-	2-1	W2
Aberdeen BAL	1	2	.333	1.0	1-2	L1
Jersey Shore PHI	1	2	.333	1.0	1-2	W1
Wilmington WSH	0	3	.000	2.0	0-3	L3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Asheville HOU	3	0	1.000	-	3-0	W3
Bowling Green TB	2	1	.667	1.0	2-1	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	2	1	.667	1.0	2-1	W2
Greenville BOS	1	2	.333	2.0	1-2	L2
Hub City TEX	1	2	.333	2.0	1-2	W1
Rome ATL	1	2	.333	2.0	1-2	L2



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





Let's Roll: Dutchess Roots to Hold
Grand Opening Celebration on June 28







See story
page 8

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades top BlueClaws with great pitching and timely hitting

By Morgan E. Maier

The third-place Hudson Valley Renegades got some sand between the toes last series, visiting the Jersey Shore BlueClaws for the first time this season. Though the Renegades’s recent skid officially eliminated the team from the first-half title race, they returned to early season form in the first series of a two-week road trip.

In the teams’ third consecutive matchup to feature a rainout, Hudson Valley washed away some recent offensive woes. The pitching staff continues to be bright, leading the South Atlantic League (SAL) in lowest team earned run average, hits and home runs allowed, and batting average against.

The BlueClaws started the week sizzling hot with seven wins in their last nine games. Jersey Shore bookended the series with two wins, but Hudson Valley took three of five games for the team’s first series victory since May 6-11.

Clean up the beach!

The Renegades got the wins, but couldn’t keep clean sheets in this matchup. Scoring early was the key to Games 2, 3, and 4, the Renegades never trailed in any of the wins, but the errors could have proven costly. Renegades pitching allowed nine runs over the three games, but only three were scored as earned runs. Hudson Valley clinched the series win on June 21, but committed five errors en route to the victory. Good for pitchers’ league-leading 1.88 ERA, but detrimental to the Renegades’ defensive rating. The Renegades recorded a clean sheet in the season finale, for the sole error-free performance of the week.

The Longest Yard

On June 18, the Renegades got even, avenging the opening game’s loss with a 9-2 victory over the BlueClaws with slugs in three straight innings. Coby Morales led off with a first-inning shot that rescued Jackson Castillo from second base. The Renegades loaded them up

and walked a run in the following inning. Then Dillon Lewis sent everyone home with his first pro grand slam. Alexander Vargas followed suit, with a solo trip around the bases in the third. For the second consecutive away series, Lewis and Vargas have gone yard in the same game. In Aberdeen on June 5, they had twin two-run shots in the same inning!

The Renegades were one three-run smash away from a team home run cycle, an achievement rarely reached in the minors. The feat has been completed just twice by an individual. Tyrone Horne in 1998 with the AA Arkansas Travelers, and the Springfield Cardinals’ Chandler Redmond in 2022 are the only two players in professional baseball history to complete this unique cycle.

The launch party continued on June 20, following Thursday’s rainout. Hudson Valley hit five home runs in an 11-1 rout, with three coming in the second inning. MLB rehabber Duke Ellis’ hit two out of the park, while Colmenares, Lewis, and Frick con-

tributed four runs via the long ball. Lewis finished 3-5, with three RBI and three runs scored.

In the series’ penultimate game, the BlueClaws made it interesting for Hayden Merda in the final inning. Trailing by six, the BlueClaws offered back-to-back flyouts, followed by a single. Then a catcher’s interference call put a second Jersey Shore runner on base, and Bryan Rincon beamed one to the right field grass. The lead was cut in half, but Hudson Valley faced no further damage. Merda retired the final batter with a tricky inside pitch. One resounding swing, zero earned bullpen runs, and a 9-6 win for the Renegades helped Hudson Valley to a three-game winning streak ahead of Sunday’s matinee.

The Renegades trek down to Blue Rocks territory in Wilmington, Delaware, atop the second-half standings with a 2-1 record. Their road trip continues in the Small Wonder State, hardly a two-hour drive from Shoretown Ballpark.

RENEGADES FEATURE

Castillo makes huge impact with hitting and fielding

By Morgan E. Maier

Just 22 years old, outfielder Jackson Castillo enters his second full minor league season since signing with the New York Yankees as an undrafted free agent in 2023. As the Renegades’ leadoff hitter and primary left fielder, he’s making an impact on every side of the diamond.

A 2024 Florida State League (FSL) postseason All-Star with the Single-A Tampa Tarpons, Castillo made waves in his first professional season. He was one of eight current ‘Gades led by Hudson Valley manager James Cooper last season in Tampa. Castillo finished his Tarpons tenure with the team’s second-most walks, a .386 on-base percentage, and a .250 batting average.

But neither reaching base nor run production is a new element of his game. In two years at the College of Southern Nevada (2022-23), Castillo peppered the single season Coyote record book. He’s top ten in average (.432), hits (79), home runs (two times), and slugging percentage (.814), among others. Honored as the male athlete of the year in 2022,

Castillo’s impact off the field showed long before he donned the pinstripes.

This season, Castillo’s offensive impact was brightest on April 11, going 3-5 with six RBI. In consecutive innings, Castillo is tagged with retrieving a full field of runners. Twice, he answered the call with a double to empty the bases.

A season earlier, a different Castillo web gem had baseball media buzzing. Playing center field on May 19, 2024, he made a leaping home run robbery in a 4-4 deadlock, to the delight and tipped cap of the Tarpons’ starting pitcher.

His 51 hits are the second most on the team, trailing only Coby Morales. Also, Castillo is second in RBI, with 32. He’s top 20 in the league in RBI, doubles, and walks, one of just a few Renegades to appear multiple times on the first page of SAL stat sheets.

Defensively, he’s touched all the outfield grass, taking reps in center and right alongside 33 games in left field. Through 50-plus games, Castillo boasts a 1.000 fielding percentage.

He’s also perfect on the basepaths, 13/13 in stolen base attempts to lead the

current roster. The lethal lefty is batting .243 at the top of the order, a few points higher than the team batting average (.240). Castillo hits .273 with runners in scoring position. The guy starts rallies and he continues big innings. And he enjoyed the latest series against Jersey Shore, going 3-5 with two RBI and a run scored on June 21.

Outfielder Jackson Castillo is second in RBI for the Renegades, with 32. He’s top 20 in the league in RBI, doubles, and walks, one of just a few Renegades to appear multiple times on the first page of SAL stat sheets. *Photo by Dave Janosz*



DC Comptroller: \$3 million shortfall in 2024 sales tax revenues

The Dutchess County Comptroller's Office has completed its review of the County's 2024 sales tax revenues. Sales tax, which comprises 42% of the total income received by Dutchess County, is the largest and most vital revenue source. Sales tax collections in Dutchess County totaled \$263.7 million in 2024, up 4% from 2023, but 1.1% or \$3 million lower than what was budgeted for the year.

The 2024 budget assumed an increase in sales tax revenue after, in 2023, the Dutchess County Legislature passed a

sales tax rate increase from 3.75% to 4%. The County's requested sales tax rate also needed to be voted on in Albany.

"The County's request for the tax rate increase was not supported by the State Legislature, resulting in a tax revenue shortfall in 2024," said the Comptroller. "Had it been approved, this increase would have raised an additional \$9.9 million."

To balance the budget following the lower-than-expected sales tax revenues, the \$3 million shortfall would have to

be covered by other sources, such as property taxes or state and federal grants. In 2024, American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds and increased state revenue contributed to the County ending the year in a net positive position.

The Office of the Comptroller is tracking sales tax disbursements monthly in 2025, which has been projected to increase by 1.6%, to \$268 million, according to the 2025 adopted budget.

As part of an ongoing effort to increase how much information the Office of the

Comptroller shares and to make that information more accessible, the annual Sales Tax Report has been expanded.

"Recognizing the importance of sales tax revenues to maintaining the County's economic health, our Office has made what we believe are some helpful and important additions to the annual Sales Tax Update Report," said Comptroller Aymar-Blair, "including a description of how sales tax is collected and distributed, insight into the industries with the most taxable sales and purchases, and more."

Let's roll: Dutchess Roots to hold Grand Opening June 28

Dutchess Roots, the Town of Poughkeepsie's first and only dispensary, officially opened its doors at 2615 South Road (Route 9) in South Road Crossing. Marking the milestone with a grand opening celebration from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, Dutchess Roots will welcome customers, neighbors and local leaders to experience a new standard in cannabis dispensaries.

The grand opening celebration will invite guests into a thoughtfully designed, customer-focused space that showcases over 450 cannabis products, highlighting both major brands and locally grown selections from Hudson Valley farms. Throughout the day, regional and national cultivators will lead informative workshops, offering valuable insights into cannabis cultivation, its benefits and evolving industry trends. Attendees will also have the opportunity to connect directly with the Dutchess Roots team, learn more about the company's mission, and participate in raffles, giveaways and special day-of discounts.

Led by Town of Poughkeepsie locals

Lisa and Scott Sweeney, Dutchess Roots brings an elevated yet inviting and education-driven experience to both new and seasoned customers. As the first dispensary in the region designed from the ground up, Dutchess Roots blends intentional design and curated product offerings with personalized guidance, regardless of a customer's experience level with cannabis. The retailer's convenient location, focus on Hudson Valley-based brands and competitive pricing embody this commitment to putting the customers first.

"We wanted Dutchess Roots to feel approachable, welcoming and grounded in community," said Lisa Sweeney, who also serves as president and leads the on-site customer experience. "I think that's exactly what we did here, and we know that our customers will feel that as soon as they step inside."

For more information on the Dutchess Roots, visit www.dutchessroots.com and follow along on Facebook (@Dutchess_Roots) and Instagram (@dutchess_roots).



Dutchess Roots, a locally-owned and woman-led cannabis dispensary, is located at 2615 South Road (Route 9) in South Road Crossing in the Town of Poughkeepsie. The thoughtfully designed, customer-focused space showcases over 450 cannabis products, highlighting both major brands and locally grown selections from Hudson Valley farms. *Courtesy photos*



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**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 must be purchased in advance. More information is available at walkway.org/fireworks.

**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 orton808@yahoo.com or Sherri Horner at (315) 380-2294 or kidsbreak1@yahoo.com.

**Garden Talk set at
Beatrix Farrand Garden June 28**

The Beatrix Farrand Garden Association will host a free garden talk on Saturday, June 28, from 11 a.m. to noon. Dina Falconi, author and educator, will present "Wild Edible and Medicinal Plant Walk." The Beatrix Farrand Garden is located at the FDR National Historic Site, 4097 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park. Reservations are required; visit www.beatrixfarrandgardenhydepark.org to reserve and for more information.

**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. Enter through the cemetery gate on Church St. The programs are free and open to all.

**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.

Needlework Flea Market set for July 9

Skylkill 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/SkylkillEGA or send an email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

**Montgomery House Museum in Rhinebeck
open to visitors on select Saturdays**

The General Richard Montgomery House Museum-Chancellor Livingston DAR Chapter House will be open from 2pm-4pm Saturday July 12, 19 and 26, and August 2, 9 and 16, 2025. The House, located at 77 Livingston Street, is the oldest clapboard house in the village of Rhinebeck. General Richard Montgomery and his wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery, resided there in 1773 while building Grasmere. The house belongs to the chapter and is an accredited museum on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Rhinebeck Village Historic District.

This is an opportunity to view the many items that have been donated over the years. Admission is free; donations welcomed. Open also by appointment. (845) 871-1777, or email darrhinebeck@gmail.com.<https://sites.google.com/view/clcdar/>

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.

Copake Falls Day set July 19

Copake Falls Day will take place on Saturday, July 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the intersection of NY Route 22 and NY Route 344. There will be live music, train rides, food, raffles and silent auction, tag sale, kids activities, 5K run, market and local history tours. Visit www.copakefallsny.com for more information.

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

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, making this Hyde Park garden very significant. 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 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 eighteen 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 mornings from 8:30 a.m. to noon. You are welcome to work as often and on any days that suit your schedule. For further information, visit <http://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.

Red Hook VFW Post 7765 June Calendar

The Post is at 30 Elizabeth St., Red Hook, NY 12571

Call 845-758-6212 for reservations and more information.

Check in Facebook for details & updates.

HOMEMADE MONDAY: 6/30
Music BINGO 6/27 7PM

VFW LIFE LINE SCREENING
Tuesday, July 1 RSVP required

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<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552090657276>

FARMERS MARKETS

Arlington Farmers Market, Vassar College Alumnae Lawn, Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., through Oct. 30. <https://arlingtonhasit.org/farmers-market/>

Eastdale Farmers Market, Eastdale Village, 10 Otto Way, Poughkeepsie. First & third Sundays through October, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Shop farm-fresh produce, handmade goodies, and local treats while soaking up the community spirit. Located in front of Sims Podiatry & Jolie Medi Spa on Eastdale Avenue South. <https://www.eastdalevil.lage.com/farmers-market>

Millbrook Farmers & Makers Market, Front St., Millbrook. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. through Oct. 25. Locally harvested foods, artisanal items and ready-to-eat goodies. Children's activities, special events and more. See Facebook page for more info.

NECC Farmers Market, Millerton. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. through Oct. 25. Offers a wide variety of seasonal produce, pasture-raised meats, fruit, cheeses, baked goods and prepared foods. All vendors are local and use sustainable and ethical growing practices. <https://www.neccmillerton.org/farmers-market-millerton>

Paul's Hyde Park Farmers Market, 4390 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park (across from Town Hall). Runs Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. through Oct. 25. Local fruits & vegetables, meats & eggs, Italian specialties, baked

goods, breads & bagels, arts & crafts, eat-there foods & beverages and more. Sponsored by the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce. More info on Facebook, or email oakgreen@optonline.net.

Poughkeepsie Waterfront Market, The Pavilion at Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, 75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie. Open Tuesdays through Oct. 21, 2-6 p.m. Features farm fresh vegetables, fruits, meat, eggs, poultry, baked goods, maple products and more. (845) 471-0589

Rhinebeck Farmers Market, Municipal Parking Lot, 61 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., through Dec. 28. Rain or shine. More info at www.rhinebeck-farmersmarket.com

Roosters' Roadside Farmers Market, 669 County Rte. 2, Elizaville. Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Produce, meat, soap and other local items. @roostersroadsidegrill

Todd Hill Outdoor Market, 4640 Taconic State Parkway North, Poughkeepsie. Run by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County to bring its stakeholders together throughout the summer and fall seasons. The market includes seasonal produce, craft beverages, textiles, and value-added products that result from farming efforts or small businesses with a link to sustainable agriculture and horticulture in the Hudson Valley. (845) 849-0247 or <https://tastenytoddhill.com>

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

845-266-4283

The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org



New 4-H team leads Dutchess County youth

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) now sports a new 4-H team to develop and deliver quality youth development programming. Dutchess County currently provides to almost 400 youth enrolled in the 4-H program; providing essential tools, training, and life skills to further the national 4-H motto, “To Make the Best Better.”

Heading up the new team is Carolyn McGraw. Carolyn is the 4-H Youth Leadership & Workforce Development Program Leader for Dutchess County and brings over a decade of diverse 4-H experience as a member and as a professional to the table. When asked what she is looking forward to in Dutchess County, Carolyn quoted, “...connecting with our 4-H families and community partners to strengthen and expand our Dutchess County 4-H program.”

Following Carolyn is Jim Barey, 4-H Program Manager. Jim quoted himself as a “returning transplant” to New York 4-H, as he previously lived and traveled throughout New England and Eastern New York, networking agriculture industry professionals and youth in 4-H and FFA. Jim brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from several different state 4-H associations, most notably Maryland and Delaware. Jim will join the rest of the Dutchess County Extension team full-time in July.

Rounding out this team of professionals is Brooke Tibbetts, a Dutchess County 4-H alum. Brooke gained her start in 4-H as a member of the Got Goat Milk 4-H Club when she was 8 years old. Brooke will provide an insider perspective for the Dutchess County 4-H Team and is looking forward to working with the amazing 4-H youth and volunteers for her home county. Brooke will fulfill the role of Dutchess County 4-H Program Coordinator.

Dutchess County 4-H is a collection of programs that provide youth, ages 5-19, with the mentoring and support to grow and thrive regardless of their background, interests and abilities.

Positive Youth Development strategies, such as engaging young people in topics that interest them, empowering them to make their own decisions, and providing challenging opportunities, result in youth who have: Confidence, Competence, Caring, Character, and Connection.

These Life and Leadership Skills are the foundations which enable 4-H youth to: succeed as individuals, support their families, strengthen their communities, and make a difference to our world.

4-H empowers nearly six million young people across the US with the skills to lead for a lifetime. Learning through 4-H is fun and effective; children



The new 4-H team at Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County includes, from left, leader Carolyn McGraw, program manager Jim Barey and program coordinator Brooke Tibbetts. *Courtesy photo*

learn life and technical skills through hands-on learning in topics of their choice. The Dutchess County 4-H Club Program has evolved from its rural agricultural roots. While we are proud of our strong agricultural programs, we are excited to provide other outlets for youth to explore and grow in, such as arts, crafts

and technology. Embracing differences and welcoming diversity, 4-H offers a place for all Dutchess County youth to grow and thrive.

Want to learn more about the 4-H Positive Youth Development programs of CCEDC? Please visit our website: cce-dutchess.org/youth-4-h.

NYS Court of Appeals upholds authority to set bail in terroristic threat cases

The New York State Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the People on June 17, holding that courts may set bail in cases where a defendant is charged with Making a Terroristic Threat, a class D violent felony under Penal Law § 490.20. People ex rel. Ellis v. Imperati, 2025 NY Slip Op 03646 (2025). The Court held that this offense qualifies as a violent felony under Penal Law § 70.02, thereby meeting the criteria for courts to consider setting bail when a defendant is charged with Making a Terroristic Threat.

The ruling resolves a key legal question concerning the scope of judicial discretion in bail determinations involving serious threats to public safety. By classifying the making of a terroristic threat as a violent felony offense, the Court reaffirmed the legislature’s intent to treat such conduct with the seriousness it warrants and to provide courts with the necessary authority to protect the community during the pendency of criminal proceedings, according to the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office.

“This is an important and welcome decision that clarifies the law and reinforces public safety,” said District Attorney Anthony Parisi. “Threats that terrorize the public and disrupt our communities must be treated with the seriousness they deserve. Today’s (June 17) ruling ensures that judges retain the discretion to set bail in these high-risk cases. I want to thank the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Appeals Unit for their tireless work in securing this outcome. In

particular, I commend Deputy Unit Chief Anna Diehn for her outstanding advocacy. Because of her efforts, we are better positioned to protect our communities and uphold public safety.”

The Court’s opinion underscores that the statutory framework of New York’s bail reform laws still permits courts to

consider setting bail where the charged offense is categorized as a violent felony — a designation that applies to making a terroristic threat under existing law, stated the D.A.’s office.

The full decision can be accessed here: <https://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/Decisions/2025/Jun25/54opn25-Decision.pdf>



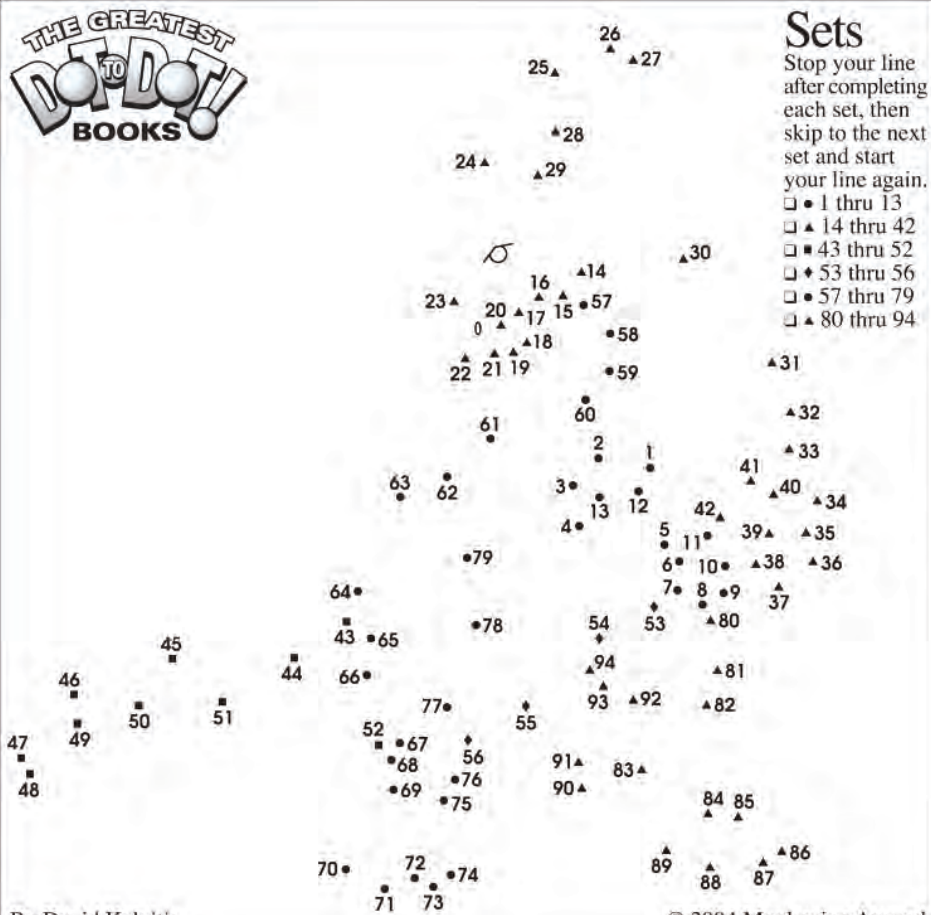
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Sets
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□ • 14 thru 42
□ • 43 thru 52
□ • 53 thru 56
□ • 57 thru 79
□ • 80 thru 94

By David Kalvitis

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NY grant helps Uplands Farm to upgrade dairy production

By Jim Donick

Editor's note: A production error resulted in the printing of only the first part of the following article on Uplands Farm in the June 18 papers. Here is the article in its entirety.

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 equipment, 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.

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 man-

aged 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 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



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



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.





Observe a striking change in the *potenz* of hydrogen

In 1909, S.P.L. Sørensen, a chemist, devised a system of measuring the concentration of hydrogen ions (*potenz* hydrogen) in a solution. Hydrogen ions, which determine the acidity or alkalinity of a solution, significantly impact many processes, including those involved with ecosystems, corrosion rates, the quality of food and pharmaceuticals, and human health. High concentrations of hydrogen ions can be detrimental to most living things and materials because they alter the solubility and toxicity of various substances.

Sørensen called his system the pH scale because, in German, *potenz* means “power”; and the capital “H” represents the elemental symbol for hydrogen. The pH scale runs from 0 to 14, with pure water considered neutral at pH 7. Solutions with a pH below 7 are acidic, while those above 7 are basic. Changes from one unit to the next on the scale represent a tenfold difference in the concentration of hydrogen ions. Therefore, a solution with a pH of 3 is ten times more acidic than a solution with a

pH of 4; a solution with a pH of 10 is one hundred times more basic than a solution with a pH of 8.

Indicators

Indicators change color when exposed to acidic or alkaline solutions. Perhaps you’ve used litmus paper to test swimming pool water, soil, cleaning products, or fermented foods like yogurt or kimchi. You might have also seen natural indicators like red cabbage, turmeric, hibiscus, and blueberries change color as a result of exposure to pH differences. Another indicator, bromothymol blue (BTB), is beneficial because of its obvious color changes. It transitions from yellow in acidic solutions to blue in basic solutions, making it ideal for detecting even slight pH shifts. That makes it particularly helpful for educational purposes.

Carbon dioxide: A waste product of cellular respiration

Cellular respiration is a process that our cells use to extract energy from sugar. Water and carbon dioxide are wastes from the process that we release when we



Bromothymol blue (BTB) in test tube before being exposed to CO2 and (left) BTB in test tube with straw after exposed to CO2. Photos by Francine Wizner



exhale. During exercise, our cellular energy needs and waste production increase.

BTB displays an unmistakable change

BTB is inexpensive and reusable. The indicator is not toxic nor dangerous under normal laboratory conditions. However, direct contact with eyes or skin may cause mild irritation, and ingestion of large amounts could cause stomach upset. Therefore, proper handling practices, such as wearing eye protection and gloves, are important.

In the presence of acids (like carbon dioxide), BTB becomes more yellow. When oxygen is present, carbon dioxide levels are typically low, resulting in a more alkaline solution, which makes the BTB indicator turn blue. BTB is an ideal indicator for investigations related to carbon dioxide.

Show that exercise increases the rate of cellular respiration

Ask those participating in this investigation to predict how BTB will react when exhaling into it both before and after exercise. To do the activity, participants need two test tubes (or glasses) each containing 10 ml (2 teaspoons) of BTB and a straw. A stopwatch can be shared.

This exploration can be performed in two timed rounds. In the first round, participants blow through their straw into the bottom of the first test tube. (They should be careful not to inhale.) Time how long it takes for the BTB to change color before exercise. In the second round, par-

ticipants exercise vigorously (jog, jumping jacks, burpees, etc.) in place for one minute. They then use their straw to blow into the bottom of the second test tube, again being careful not to inhale. Compare the amount of time it took for the BTB to change color in the two rounds.

If this activity is being done in a classroom, students can display their data on a graph to analyze the trends. “Typical” data can be provided for smaller classes or students doing this as a home activity, so that they can graph a larger quantity of data points. Were the predictions made at the start of the activity correct? This quick lab is a great addition to a Cellular Energy Unit. Here is an organized write-up of this activity: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/EXERCISE-AND-CELLULAR-RESPIRATION-LAB-5107648> Here is a video showing the activity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyzKjxSFaY>

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

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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. **July 1-Aug. 29:** Local artist Jenny Sweeney presents her solo show, "Through the Eyes of a Child," in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St.; and internationally acclaimed artists Semine Hazar, Fatma Kadir and Ilhan Sayin are featured in a group art exhibition entitled "I Love New York" in the Reception and Hancock Galleries at 12 Vassar St. **Free Public Art Opening Receptions held in all three Art Galleries** on Fri., July 11, 5-7 p.m. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: cunneen-hackett.org

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **June 28, 2025-July 7, 2026:** Special exhibition, "Signature Moments: Letters from the Famous, the Infamous, and Everyday Americans," During their extraordinary public careers, the Roosevelts interacted with a "who's who" of the 20th century. "Signature Moments" opens the FDR Library's archives and museum for an insider's view of the remarkable – and sometimes surprising – variety of personal exchanges with an amazing array of famous (and a few infamous) people, including golden age movie stars, queens and kings, scientists, and legendary military heroes. Visitors will see signatures of literary giants, celebrated artists, world leaders, and, of course, prominent politicians and political activists – including seven American presidents. Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit. www.fdrlibrary.org

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

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

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

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. **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 DiMattio, 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. **Through 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. 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



The Transverse Gallery for Contemporary Art, Locust Grove, 2683 South Rd., Poughkeepsie. **June 27-Sept. 14:** "Spirit Rising: Recent Works by Susan Miller." A resident of the Hudson Valley for over 25 years, Miller continues the tradition of fine landscape painting that dates back to the early 19th century in America. Her distinct style builds upon the innovations of the past. Public reception: Sun., June 29, 2-4 p.m. (845) 454-4500 or www.lgny.org. Pictured: "Alizarin Sunrise," oil, 20x20. Image courtesy of the artist

Movies under the Walkway returns



The Movies under the Walkway series presents free, family-friendly movies at Upper Landing Park in Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy photo*

Four free, family-friendly movies will be shown on the big screen beneath the Walkway Over the Hudson at the Upper Landing Park in Poughkeepsie this summer. The screening dates and films are:

- June 28: Disney's "Moana 2"
- July 12: "Paddington in Peru"
- July 26: "Despicable Me 4"
- Aug. 9: "Minecraft Movie"

Doors open at 7:30 p.m., followed by the feature film at sundown at approximately 8:30 p.m. These events are held under the stars at Upper Landing Park, 83 North Water St., Poughkeepsie.

The Millman Harris Romano Foundation, Dutchess County Parks, Poughkeepsie Public Library and Walkway Over the Hudson are the presenting partners for the film series. Additionally, and the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum is providing accessible parking. This year's broadcasting sponsor is IHeart Media.

Jode Millman, Millman Harris Romano Foundation Chairman, said, "We can't wait to be back at Upper Landing Park to offer Movies Under the Walkway and are thrilled with our upcoming movie lineup. We are also grateful to our community partners and sponsors who have joined together in support of our family-friendly nights down by the Hudson River."

Admission is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs and picnics while viewing the movies. The events are sunshine only. Free parking will be available at The Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, and Metro North parking areas.

Up-to-date movie schedule information can be found at the Facebook pages @MoviesUnderTheWalkway, @DutchessCountyParks and @WalkwayOverTheHudson as well as on these organization's websites.

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Top 10 Italian movies

Pop reads Luigi's selections.

The other days I was watching “The Godfather,” and I started to think what are the best Italian movies of all time. After some soul searching, I came up with my choices. I have enlisted my father to read this list.

Pop: Luigi whatsa this. You wanta me to reada this. OK. This isa my sona Luigi’s list for a the best Italian movies ofa all time. Coma on Luigi. Alla time? Whata you thinka youa so important you can maka a list. OK. Hera we go.

Numero 1: The Godfather - Luigi, this was a gooda movie. I lika the Marlon Brando anda Al Pacino. Hey, dida you know there was a Coppola ina the book?

OK, *Numero 2: The Godfather numero 2* - Luigi. Ima put this movie witha numero 1. This was a gooda movie. I lika the part when they show Sicily. Ita reminds me ofa my home town.

Numero 3: Goodfellas - Luigi, me I noa lika this movie. Too much spara spara (shooting).

Numero 4: Big Night - Oh I lika this one. It’s about two brothers who opena a restaurant. I laugha a lot. It reminds me when I open the first restaurant with a my brothers.

Numero 5: Moonstruck - I only gonna say one ting about this movie. The bigga Knife!

Numero 6: Rocky - Ia lika the Sylvester Stalone. Hesa Bravo Waiyo (good boy).

Numero 7: Life is Beautiful - Thata movie maka me cry. Ita remind me ofa what life wasa like in Italia during the war.

Numero 8: My Big Fat Greek Wedding - Whya you puta this ona the list. Ita no about Italian.

Basta. Ima no read anymore. Forgedaboutit. Ima gotta go make the asparagus with a pasta.

TUBETINI WITH ASPARAGUS
Ingredients
1 bunch fresh asparagus

1/3 cup diced shallots
2 cloves garlic, peeled
1 tablespoon olive oil
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 cup heavy cream
salt & pepper
1 lb. tubetini pasta
cracked black pepper
toasted pine nuts
grated lemon rind
grated Parmesan cheese

Directions:
Trim the ends off of the asparagus spears and cook them in lightly salted water for about 5 minutes until tender.
Cut off the tips, reserve and set aside, then cut the stems into pieces.
In a saucepan, heat the oil and cook the shallots about 3 to 4 minutes.
Add the garlic and cook until the garlic is golden.
Add the cream and chopped asparagus stems and heat over a low flame.
Add the grated Parmesan cheese,

and stir.
Taste, and season with salt and pepper.
Keep the sauce warm while you cook the pasta.
Drain the pasta, then toss with the sauce and reserved asparagus tips until everything is heated through.
Serve in individual bowls garnished with pine nuts, lemon rind, and black pepper.

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

PPLD Summer Reading program has something for all ages

Come check out Summer Reading for all ages at the Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD). The annual series of programs for children will run from June 28 to Aug. 15, teens from June 21 to Aug. 30 and adults from June 28 to Aug. 2. The theme for this program is “Color Our World.”

On Saturday, June 28, from 9 a.m. to noon, PPLD will host the Summer Reading Kickoff in the parking lot at Adriance Memorial Library, at 22 Noxon Street. There will be games, prizes, and crafts. This is a free event, no registration is required.

Summer Reading at PPLD features

activities throughout the summer for all ages that promote reading. Children up to age 12 can track their minutes of reading for a chance to win great prizes. Teens aged will earn one entry to win awesome prizes for every 100 pages read, including Manga and graphic novels. Reading logs are available at the kickoff event as well as the Adriance Children’s Room desk, Rover, or the Boardman check-out desk.

Adults can pick up a Bingo sheet at any PPLD location (ground floor and reference desks at Adriance; check-out desks at Boardman or Sadie Peterson Library, as well as Rover) or print a copy online. Read books matching the Bingo squares

or complete one of the suggested fun activities to fill out the Bingo card. Return the sheet by Sunday, August 2, to be entered to win a gift bundle that includes an Adams gift card valued at \$25, \$50, or \$100, and some PPLD swag! Adults ages 18 and up can play. EBooks and audiobooks also count toward your goal.

If you’re looking for a popular book or author, we suggest Without Wait (WoW!) books near the check-out desks at Adriance and Boardman Road or borrow eBooks and audiobooks from the Libby app using your library card. Learn more at <https://poklib.org/summer-reading> or contact Charlotte at cmarriott@poklib.org.

Rules and restrictions will apply to all Summer Reading challenges.

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) has been serving the community since 1874, striving to provide resources and opportunities that enrich, inform, and empower individuals of all ages. Through innovative programs, comprehensive collections, and a commitment to fostering a love for learning, PPLD aims to positively impact the lives of the people it serves. For more information about this event, follow the Poughkeepsie Public Library District on Facebook and Instagram, visit the website at <https://poklib.org>, or call (845) 485-3445 x3707.

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Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.

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A & E CALENDAR

Through 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 28: Reading in the Powerhouse Theater, “In The Bronx Brown Girls Can See Stars Too (or The F*ck Is You Lookin’ At?)” 8 p.m. June 29: “Performing Art,” a highly collaborative performance project that brings together an ensemble of creators to explore the relationship between visual and performing art, 2, 2:30 & 3 p.m. in the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center. Contact the Box Office at (845) 437-5599 or phtboxoffice@vassar.edu

June 26: Artist Talk + Live Painting Experience with Tarryl Gabel, The Inn at Bellefield, 25 Old Vineyard Place, Hyde Park. 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, 4-6 p.m. 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. Free. www.artsmidhudson.org

June 26-29: Live Entertainment at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. June 26: Latin Dance, Beacon Dance Beat plays a wide array of Latin rhythmic styles, 7 p.m. All seats \$15. June 27: Joe Crookston and Antje Duvekot, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. June 28: SoulShine – The Allman Brothers Experience, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. June 29: Metropolitan Klezmer, 7 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

June 27-29: “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

June 27-Aug. 17: SummerScape, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Bard SummerScape returns with opera, dance, Spiegeltent, and the 35th Bard Music Festival, “Martinu and His World.” This week: Pam Tanowitz’s “Pastoral” (June 27-

29) opens the festival. Tanowitz collaborates with artist Sarah Crouner and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw to create a work that muses on and transforms Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6 in F Major. Together, the collaborators take the beloved classical work, also called the Pastoral Symphony, as a choreographic and compositional framework, then erase it—creating something new with what remains. Performances: Fri., June 27, 7 p.m.; Sat., June 28, 7 p.m.; Sun., June 29, 3 p.m., in the Sosnoff Theater. Pre-show Conversation with the Artists on June 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets & more information at fishercenter.bard.edu or (845) 758-7900

June 27-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: Willie Amrod Band. More info on the Facebook event page.

June 28: “Real People, Real Stories,” Hilltop Barn, Roeliff Jansen Park, 9140 NY Rte. 22, Hillsdale. A signature night of storytelling where friends and neighbors share authentic personal stories, 7:30 p.m. June’s storytellers are Simone Stevens (Stuyvesant), with a story about why it took 30 years to return to the home she knew as a child; Brooke Schooley (Millerton), with a story about the difficulty of answering the question, “What do you do?”; Macey Levin (Taghkanic), with a story about the adventures of running a small theater. Tickets \$25 GA, \$20 student (valid ID required). www.ancramcenter.org

June 28: Revolutionary Cider Celebration, 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, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 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. Rain or shine. destinationdutchess.com/spotlights/rev250-cider-event

June 28: Summer Dance Party, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Twist, shimmy, floss, jerk and two-step at dance party, 7-9:15 p.m. All are welcome. Admission is a \$5 suggested donation. Refreshments will be served, BYOB. Bring

non-perishable food or hygiene product for donation to the Roe Jan Food Bank. More info: CopakeGrange@gmail.com

June 28-29: Author Events, Oblong Books, 6422 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **June 28:** Jonathan Gould, “Burning Down the House: Talking Heads and the New York Scene That Transformed Rock,” in conversation with Joe Hagan, 6 p.m. Free. Registration requested. **June 29:** Local authors Elizabeth Tracy & Anna Aronson (“Mystery Driver: The Story of Alice Johnson and the First Soap Box Derby”), a storytime and book signing event for Ages 4-8, 4 p.m. Free. Registration requested. (845) 876-0500 or events@oblongbooks.com

June 29: Free Acoustic Concerts on the Lawn, Beatrix Farrand Garden, FDR National Historic Site, 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. This week: Alex Turnquist, composer and 12-string guitar, 1:30-3 p.m.

Free. Also: African Drumming in the Garden, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Experience the joy and power of African drumming with Baba Kazi and special guests in a high-energy outdoor performance. This free concert also kicks off our Rhythm of Nature youth summer series. Reservations required via BeatrixFarrandGarden.org.

June 29-July 12: The Lyra Music Festival, Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon. Summer classical music series with concerts and masterclass workshops, bringing together world-class musicians, advanced pre-conservatory string players and pianists, and an exceptional faculty of professional musicians and artist educators for concerts, masterclasses, and young artist performances. This year’s festival will feature performances by guest artists: Amy Schroeder, Violin; Julia Yang, Cello; and Michael Stephen Brown, Piano. Full calendar of events and tickets: <https://lyramusic.org/festival-events>

FDR Library exhibit of letters opens June 28

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will open a new special exhibition, “Signature Moments: Letters from the Famous, the Infamous, and Everyday Americans,” on Saturday, June 28, in the William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery of the Library and Museum. The exhibit runs through July 7, 2026. Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit.

Albert Einstein, Amelia Earhart, Walt Disney, Abraham Lincoln, Queen Elizabeth II, Benjamin Franklin, Joe Louis, Thomas Edison, Frank Sinatra, Dalai Lama, Shirley Temple, J. Robert Oppenheimer, Mao Tse-Tung, Harpo Marx, and General George S. Patton ... What do each of these famous figures have in common? They, among many others, wrote to Franklin or Eleanor Roosevelt, sent a special gift, or FDR himself collected their documents as historic treasures.

During their extraordinary public careers, the Roosevelts interacted with a “who’s who” of the 20th century. “Signature Moments” opens the FDR Library’s archives and museum for an insider’s view of the remarkable – and sometimes surprising – variety of personal exchanges with an amazing array of famous (and a few infamous) people. This fascinating group includes more

than 100 golden age movie stars, queens and kings, scientists, and legendary military heroes. Visitors will see signatures of literary giants, celebrated artists, world leaders, and, of course, prominent politicians and political activists -- including seven American presidents. Some letters are even paired with unique gifts from the sender.

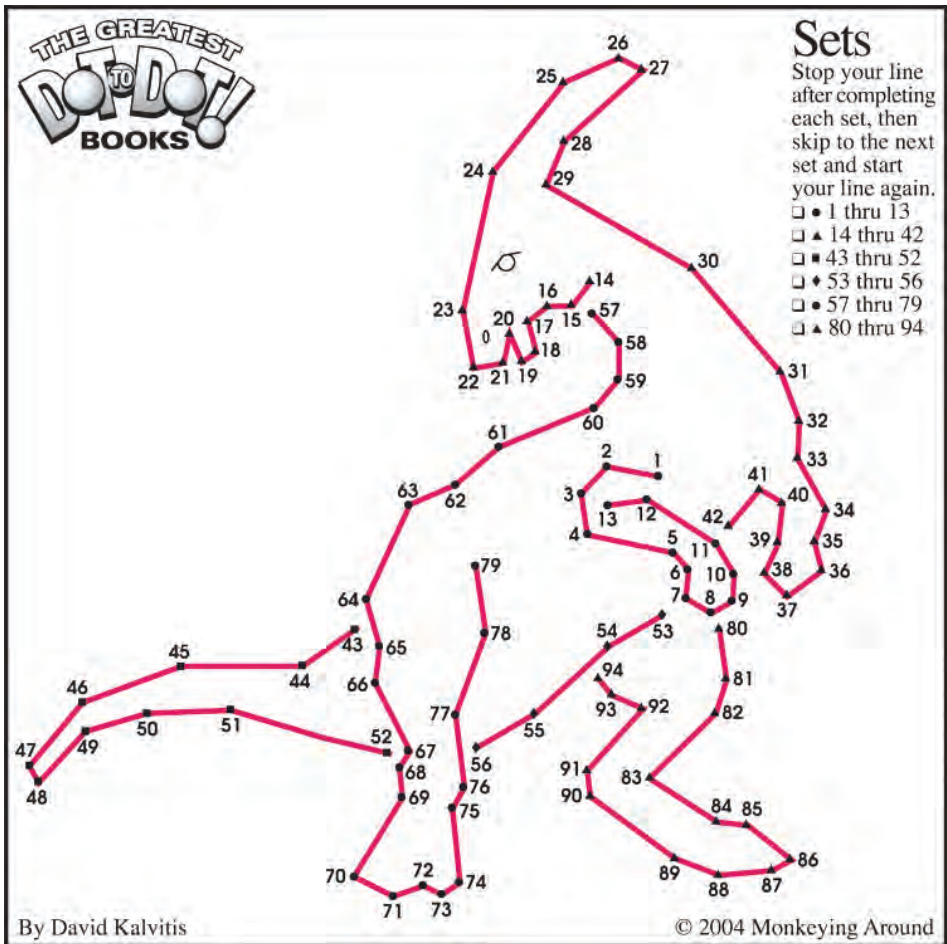
“Signature Moments” is a key part of the Roosevelt Library’s celebration of America250. The exhibit features prize selections from FDR’s personal collection of historical documents of America’s Founders, including items signed by George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson. These items provide a direct connection to the Colonial Era, offering visitors a host of first-person encounters with key figures of our nation’s past.

Most importantly, the exhibit features a new, short film showcasing the hundreds of thousands of letters that everyday Americans sent to the Roosevelts. Here visitors encounter people like themselves who wrote to the President and First Lady. FDR considered letters from the public the most important records preserved in his Library.

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

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

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS



Sets

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

☐ 1 thru 13

☐ 14 thru 42

☐ 43 thru 52

☐ 53 thru 56

☐ 57 thru 79

☐ 80 thru 94

By David Kalvitis

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F1: THE MOVIE

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JURASSIC WORLD: REBIRTH

PG-13

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

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

Suguru

	3	5			
			2		
		4			
1					3

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

THEME: SUMMER VIBES

ACROSS

1. Baking ingredient
5. Accounting pro
8. Depletes
12. ____ reflection
13. Painter Chagall
14. Feeling of resentment
15. Member of Germany's NSDAP
16. ____ lily
17. Light shade of blue
18. *Summer thirst quencher
20. Same as tsar
21. Subside
22. Tierra ____ Fuego
23. Taken without consent
26. Even greener, as in fruit
30. Dot follower
31. Largest hot dessert
34. Australian palm
35. Evian, backwards
37. A in FANBOYS
38. *Like a lightning bug
39. Prima donna
40. *Midsummer's maypole dance, e.g.
42. *William Blake's "To Summer," e.g.
43. Any voting citizen
45. *Sun to ice cream
47. Feeling of veneration
48. Two-door
50. *Beach bag, usually
52. *Summer rays
55. Rock bottom
56. Altar location
57. Milk ____, candy
59. Small stream
60. Turned to the right, like a horse
61. Starchy tuber
62. *It's knee-high by the 4th of July
63. Ctrl and Delete partner
64. Type of tide

DOWN

1. * ____-kissed
2. Birthstone after sapphire
3. Nod off
4. Kind of instinct
5. Diamond weight unit
6. Bluenose
7. Climber's destination
8. *Intensely hot
9. Greenish blue
10. Make like a cat
11. "Monkey ____, monkey do"
13. Sometime in the future
14. Indianapolis basketball player
19. With BMI over 30
22. Piece of evidence, acr.
23. Type of probe
24. *Summer hiking path
25. Nose of a missile
26. Pakistani tongue
27. Sitcom trial
28. Lyric poem
29. Less experienced
32. *Boat ____, don't care!
33. *Uninvited picnic guest
36. *Break from summer routine
38. First in Hebrew alphabet
40. Fish eggs
41. Entertained
44. Twist plus jerk
46. City in Netherlands
48. Precious metal extraction cup
49. Early stages
50. #61 Across cousin
51. ____-Eaters
52. Literary genre
53. In the buff
54. Collection of Norse mythology
55. Oldest of the "Big Three" TV networks
58. Dip into liquid

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11
12						13					14			
15						16					17			
	18				19						20			
				21						22				
23	24	25						26				27	28	29
30				31		32	33				34			
35			36			37				38				
39					40				41			42		
43				44					45		46			
				47				48	49					
	50	51					52					53	54	
55							56					57		58
59							60					61		
62							63					64		

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 23

16 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - June 25-July 1, 2025

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LOCAL VALEDICTORIANS & SALUTATORIANS!

Arlington High School names valedictorian, salutatorian



In the photo, from left, are Arlington High School Counselor Ms. Weber, House Principal Dr. Carroll, Salutatorian Yashaswini Bonthu, Valedictorian York Zhou, Counselor Mrs. Hartman, Assistant Principal Ms. Nixon and Executive Principal Dr. Solimene *Courtesy photo*

Congratulations to Arlington High School’s 2025 Valedictorian York Zhou and Salutatorian Yashaswini Bonthu.

In addition to his high level of academic achievement that earned him the highest GPA in his class, York Zhou has been a well-rounded student, a committed leader, and a creative problem-solver. As a captain of the varsity boys swim team, he helped lead his team to their first undefeated season in nine years. Additionally, he is the president and founder of the STEM and Standardized Peer Tutor Club, as well as the Mandarin Language and Chinese Culture Club at Arlington High School. He has even coded an AI Chatbot using Large Language Model (LLM) and Generative AI.

Outside of school, Zhou is involved with multiple volunteer organizations, mostly within the local Chinese community. He was a concert pianist for 13 years and has performed at Carnegie Hall three times.

Zhou selected as a 2025 Coca-Cola Scholarship Winner. Only 150 out of 103,000 applicants were chosen for this prestigious award. After graduation, Zhou is planning to attend Notre Dame University where he will major in computer science and economics.

Although she challenged herself with rigorous AP classes, Yashaswini Bonthu was also active outside the classroom. She balanced her courses with various

extracurricular activities, including figure skating, being an All-League varsity tennis player, and serving as president of the AHS UNICEF club. Bonthu also served as a student representative on the Arlington District Equity Committee and worked on a peer mentorship program that connects freshmen with upperclassmen who share their interests. She has been active in the music program throughout high school.

Along with her typical high school classes, Bonthu joined the Climate and Energy Science Research class in tenth grade and continued through her senior year. Her passion for environmental science led to various projects, including a group project called the “Right Lighting Project”, which focused on reducing carbon emissions and light pollution by measuring the brightness of school spaces and removing excess light bulbs by “delamping.” The project now saves an estimated 26,000 pounds of carbon emissions each year. Additionally, Bonthu completed an independent research project on the effects of dams and PCB pollution on fish health in the Hudson River, which was accepted for publication in the Journal of Student Research.

Bonthu has been recognized as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. After graduation Bonthu is attending Brown University and plans to major in economics.

Pritchard, Yang earn top honors at FDR



Julian Pritchard



Jason Yang

F.D. Roosevelt High School is pleased to announce that Julian Pritchard is the 2025 Valedictorian and Jason Yang is the Salutatorian. Both will speak at the Class of 2025 Graduation on June 27. The District congratulates these two on their achievements!

Pritchard, an AP scholar and Scholar-Athlete, has a weighted average of 102.84 and will earn 32 high school credits (New York State requires 22 for graduation). He will graduate having earned 21 dual-enrollment college credits from Dutchess Community College and Marist University in addition to college credits earned from his stellar AP exam scores in numerous subjects. He will study chemical engineering in college.

During his time at FDR, Pritchard was inducted into the National Honor Society and was a proficient student-athlete, where he competed on the cross country, swim, and winter and spring track teams. Additionally, he played trombone in numerous school bands and was a peer leader in the Sources of Strength program, which strives to prevent bullying and violence. When asked about his most memorable FDR experiences, Pritchard enjoyed playing at the “Music in the Park” event at Six Flags Great Adventure

and winning “Mr. President,” FDR’s annual senior-run talent show and comedy routine hybrid.

Yang, an AP scholar and National Honor Society inductee, has a weighted average of 101.76 and will earn 31 high school credits. He will graduate having earned up to 21 college credits from Dutchess Community College and Marist University, as well as additional credits from AP courses in numerous subjects. He plans to major in biochemistry in college and desires to join the Army through the Health Professions Scholarship Program.

At FDR, Yang had a passion for science. He won the 2024 science fair, advanced to the Dutchess County Regional Science Fair and volunteered at the district’s Camp Invention, offering STEAM activities for elementary students. He also played violin in numerous school bands and participated in the Academic World Quest and tennis teams, the latter earning him Scholar-Athlete status.

For Yang, his favorite FDR experiences were playing in the All-State Symphony Orchestra and performing a chemistry demonstration for elementary students as part of his AP chemistry class’ final.

More Val & Sals on pages 18 and 21

Concannon, Cameron named Top 2 in Millbrook’s Class of 2025

Millbrook High School recognizes Amber Concannon as Valedictorian and Lisa Cameron as Salutatorian of the Class of 2025.

Amber’s passion for learning, dedication to excellence, and deep involvement in the school community have made her an outstanding role model for her peers. From her participation in Jazz Band, Mock Trial, and Model United Nations, and Drama Club to her leadership in National Honor Society and volunteer work, Amber has fully embraced every opportunity to grow and contribute. Her curiosity and ambition will no doubt take her far as she pursues her studies at

Marist and explores the world beyond Millbrook.

Lisa’s unwavering dedication to academic excellence, leadership, and community service embodies the very best of what it means to be a Millbrook student. Her commitment to challenging herself in the classroom, leading her peers through National Honor Society and student government, and serving the community showcases her remarkable character and determination. Lisa’s future in civil and environmental engineering at Penn State is bright, and we have no doubt she will continue to make a meaningful impact wherever she goes.



Millbrook High School celebrates Valedictorian Amber Concannon (left) and Salutatorian Lisa Cameron (right). *Courtesy photo*

Derman, Valentino named top students at Rhinebeck HS



Sophie Derman



Laila Valentino

Sophie Derman and Laila Valentino are preparing for their next chapter as they start college after graduating from Rhinebeck High School as the Class of 2025 valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

“The Rhinebeck High School faculty and I are proud to celebrate the work and achievements of these deserving students,” said Edwin Davenport, high school principal. “We wish them continued success in their post-secondary careers.”

Derman is planning to study political science at Georgetown University as she pursues a career in law.

“I think I’ve known for a long time that I wanted to study something government related,” she said. “Between 10th and 11th grade, I did a pre-college program at Columbia University and we were looking at political and economic ideologies of the modern world. It was a theory oriented class and that was really where I solidified my desire.”

The senior added, “I felt like being in D.C. would be beneficial for my future in terms of internships and jobs that would be available. I visited it in 10th grade. It’s such an amazing city, and Georgetown itself, it’s so picturesque and beautiful. The school has a very good reputation for the fields I want to go into.”

Derman moved to the Rhinebeck district from Brooklyn before the start of her sophomore year.

“I’m going to miss the community I’ve built here, the friends I have and the families I know,” she said. “There is a real sense of love that I’m surrounded with here.”

Derman served as president of Interact, Spanish Club and Advocates for Community Transformation. She also is a member of the Alice T. Daly Chapter of the National Honor Society and treasurer of her class council.

Derman, who played varsity girls soccer and varsity tennis, was named AP Scholar With Distinction and recently received the New York State Seal of Biliteracy for her proficiency in Spanish. She conducted research at the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education

and Human Development, investigating how high achieving middle schoolers view themselves as learners. She also volunteered at the local library, providing tech help to senior citizens.

The daughter of Jeff Derman and Florian Bouwmeester has a younger sister, Rio Derman, and enjoys traveling, tennis, hiking, visiting New York City and hanging out with family and friends.

“Family is everything to me,” she said. “They are the people I’m closest to in my life. We do so many things together. I adore my family.”

Valentino will study biological sciences at Binghamton University as she begins pursuing a career as a doctor.

“I think I’m ready for that challenge,” said Valentino, who took eight AP classes and an English class through Dutchess Community College at Rhinebeck. “I’m used to being busy and working hard. If it’s what I want to do, I’ll be able to get it done.”

The daughter of Frank and Mary Valentino said her mom is truly inspiring in her pursuit of a career in medicine.

“I definitely look up to my mom as a person and for what she does,” she said. “She was a nurse and a couple of years ago she went back to school and received another degree to become a nurse practitioner. I’m really happy she did that and I admire that. I know she wanted to do that for a long time and got it done while working and doing everything for my brother and I.”

Valentino is a member of the Alice T. Daly Chapter of the National Honor Society and Peer Leadership Club, and is an active member of the community as part of the Centerstage Dance Studio and as a Red Cross volunteer.

Valentino, who has an older brother Jacob, said she enjoys dancing.

“I’ve done it my whole life,” she said of dancing. “Dance is a fun thing to do. It’s a good outlet and I like to have something outside of school. I like ballet and the people there.”

Story and photos courtesy of the Rhinebeck Central School District

Red Hook twins earn Val-Sal distinction, will both attend Williams College



Maximus Darling and Danielle Darling. *Courtesy photo*

Valedictorian Maximus Darling will attend Williams College in the fall to major in chemistry or physics after graduating with a full International Baccalaureate Diploma. He participates in many extracurricular activities at school including athletics like soccer, track and field and ski club, and other clubs such as Student Council, National Honor Society, Mentor Club, Tutoring Connections club and the Hardscrabble Players drama club as part of stage crew.

Max is actively involved in the community outside of school with volunteering for CYO Basketball and Saint Christopher’s Youth Group, and by being a lifeguard at the local Recreational Pool. At Red Hook he has had the opportunity to grow and excel in many ways which have allowed him to receive honors such as the Clarkson University High School Achievement Award and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Leadership Award, and have led him to participate in activities such as a month-long study abroad trip to Spain, where he earned the Global Seal of Biliteracy, and the chance to participate in the National Chemistry Olympiad.

Salutatorian Danielle Darling plans on attending Williams College for

biology/biochemistry with a possible minor in physics after graduating with a full International Baccalaureate Diploma. She is hoping to participate in research in a lab, similar to the gravitational optics internship she had at Bard College last summer. She has held various leadership roles including being the Class Treasurer for four years and serving as both Student Council Vice President (11th grade) and Student Council President (12th grade). She has served as Board of Education Student Representative for three years and Mentor Club Treasurer this year.

Throughout high school Danielle has received several awards, including the Clarkson Leadership Award and the Global Seal of Biliteracy which she earned while participating in a study abroad program. She also volunteers with many organizations including Culture Connect, Tutoring Connections, and CYO Basketball. This past fall she organized a walk for Suicide Prevention that raised \$2,500 for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Since 9th grade, she has worked at Holy Cow and been on the volleyball team (Junior Varsity Captain for two years and Varsity player for two years).

More Val & Sals on page 21

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COLLEGE NOTES

SLIPPERY ROCK, PA - Rebecca Rugar from Clinton Corners was named to Slippery Rock University's dean's list for the Spring 2025 semester. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits.

BOSTON, MA - Olivia Wynkoop of Clinton Corners has been named to the 2025 Emmanuel College Dean's List. Wynkoop is majoring in Sociology - Social Work at Emmanuel.

To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

EAST STROUDSBURG, PA - A total of 1,741 students have been named to the Dean's List at East Stroudsburg University for the Spring 2025 semester of the 2024-2025 academic year, as announced by Margaret Ball D.M.A., the university's provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Local students on the list include:
Eleeana Francia, a Physical Education Teacher Education major from Clinton Corners;
Tashakay Mason, a Social Work major from Pleasant Valley.

SPRINGFIELD, MA - Springfield College recognizes Dean's List students for the 2025 Spring Semester.

Local students include:
Hope Christensen from Red Hook. Christensen has a primary major of Education.
Collin Fuller from Millbrook. Fuller has a primary major of Exercise Science / Applied ES.
Sebastian Ortega Gutierrez from Red Hook. Ortega Gutierrez has a primary major of History.
Thomas Rice from Pleasant Valley. Rice has a primary major of Pre-Prof Athletic Training.
The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term. Student must not have been barred from Dean's List due to disciplinary action.

NEWPORT, RI - Hailey Cummings of Pleasant Valley was awarded a BAS in Secondary Education & Chemistry degree during Salve Regina University's 75th Commencement.
Salve Regina President Dr. Kelli J. Armstrong conferred 508 bachelor's degrees, 206 master's degrees 18 doctoral degrees and 11 doctor of nursing practice degrees to members of the Class of 2025.

ELMIRA, NY - Alexander Gross of Hyde Park was among the graduates celebrated at the 167th Elmira College Commencement on Sunday, May 18. The exercises included 120 undergraduate, 12 associate, and 22 graduate students.
Gross earned a Master of Science in Education.

HARRISONBURG, VA - Colleen Biskup of Hyde Park graduated with a degree in Hospitality Management - BS from James Madison University during commencement exercises in May 2025.
Biskup was among 4,575 students who received undergraduate and graduate degrees.

KINGSTON, RI - The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Spring 2025 Dean's List. Among them are Paige Arent of Clinton Corners, Hannah Ross of Millbrook, Addie

Selfridge of Red Hook, and Ava Wilber of Red Hook.
To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

DANBURY, CT - The following full- and part-time students have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2025 semester at Western Connecticut State University:
Holmes: Katherine Castaneda, Psychology; Anna Chiacchia, Psychology; Anthony Justo, Public Health; Melissa Pfister, Management
Lagrangeville: Zach Lockwood, Nursing; Faith Rand, Theatre Arts; Annie Sobolewski, Nursing
Pine Plains: James King, Theatre Arts
Pleasant Valley: Desmond Gomez, Social Work; Christopher Vallone, Music Education (K-12)
Poughquag: Hannah McCabe, Biology
Stormville: R Hunter Brown, Business Administration – Undeclared
Verbank: Nora Gehlhoff, Music Education (K-12)
Wingdale: Carrie D'Andrea, Nursing; David Ipavich, Psychology; Justin Williams, Nursing

BUFFALO, NY - The following local students graduated from the University at Buffalo.
Joe Alessi of Red Hook graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in computer science from the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.
Gabriella Dos Santos of Pleasant Valley graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in communication from the College of Arts and Sciences.
Izzy Dos Santos of Pleasant Valley graduated with a bachelor's degree in communication from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Nathalia Flores-Feliciano of Pleasant Valley graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in nursing from the School of Nursing.
Seamus Hally of Red Hook graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in accounting from the School of Management.
Maggie Kalba of Pleasant Valley graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in exercise science/physical therapy from the School of Public Health and Health Professions.
Britney Mercado of Stanfordville graduated with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Lowell Santoro of Stanfordville graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in psychology from the College of Arts and Sciences.
Alex Ulrich of Rhinebeck graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in exercise science from the School of Public Health and Health Professions.
UB is New York State's flagship and the largest and most comprehensive institution in the State University of New York system.

The university awarded over 10,100 degrees across 18 school-based degree-conferral ceremonies held May 1-18 and earlier in the academic year.

TROY, NY - More than 1,500 students were named to the Spring 2025 President's List at Hudson Valley Community College. These honored students include:
Lillian Coyle of Salt Point, who is studying in the Non-matriculated academic program.
Kirstin Handy of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Early Childhood Administration academic program.
Conall Haughey of Staatsburg, who is

studying in the Non-matriculated academic program.
Sydni Koster of Rhinebeck, who is studying in the Respiratory Care academic program.
Jahmal Lee of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program.
Jayleen Torres of Pleasant Valley, who is studying in the Business Administration academic program.
Vinh Tran of Rhinebeck, who is studying in the Paramedic academic program.
Zach Wessel of Millerton, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program.
Each fall and spring term, the college's President's List names those full-time students and part-time students registered for at least six college credits who have a term average of between 3.5 and 4.0 and who received no grade of "D," "F," "I," "Z," or "W" on their record for that term. Students must have completed at least 12 college credits successfully.

TROY, NY - More than 1,000 students were named to the Spring 2025 Dean's List at Hudson Valley Community College. The honored students include:
Kaitlyn Cope of Millerton, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program
Elizabeth Lopez-Roberg of Stanfordville, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program
Liz Messina of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Individual Studies academic program
Hailey Putorti of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Dental Hygiene academic program
Ella Rose of Staatsburg, who is studying in the Biological Sciences academic program

The Dean's List recognizes those full-time students and part-time students registered for at least six college credits who have a term average of 3.00 to less than 3.50 and who received no grade of "D," "F," "I," "Z," or "W" on their record for that term. Students must have completed at least 12 college credits successfully.

WEST HARTFORD, CT - The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,228 students have been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the spring 2025 semester.
Among the local honorees are:
Briahna Curcio of Staatsburg - Dean's List and President's List
Molly Doherty of Salt Point - Dean's List
Amelia Jensen of Pleasant Valley - Dean's List
The Dean's List recognizes students achieving superior academic standing. The requirement, with some exceptions, is a grade point average of at least 3.0 and no grade below C.
The President's List recognizes a select group of students reaching the highest level of academic standing. To be placed on the President's List, students must maintain a GPA of at least a 3.75 and receive grades of C or better.

WORCESTER, MA - Clark University awarded 468 undergraduate degrees and 1,014 advanced degrees during two ceremonies as part of the University's 121st Commencement exercises, held at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass., on Monday, May 19.
Diana P. Reyes of Pine Plains graduated with a Bachelor of Arts.

Henry Patrick Hoey-Wasow of Rhinebeck graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts.

CHARLESTON, SC - Natalie Whitman of Millbrook was named to the College of Charleston Spring 2025 Dean's List. Whitman is majoring in Marketing.
To qualify for the Dean's List (Distinguished), students must earn a GPA of 3.500 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

CHARLESTON, SC - Emma Barry of Rhinebeck was named to the College of Charleston Spring 2025 President's List. Barry is majoring in Elementary Education.
To qualify for the President's List (Highly Distinguished), students must earn a GPA of 3.800 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

CHARLESTON, SC - The College of Charleston recently awarded the following local students undergraduate and graduate degrees at its Spring 2025 commencement:
Natalie Whitman of Millbrook graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing.
Emma Barry of Rhinebeck graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education.
More than 1,700 bachelor's degree and master's degree candidates participated in the 2025 College of Charleston Spring Commencement ceremony.

ONEONTA, NY - More than 1,175 SUNY Oneonta students earned Dean's List honors for the spring 2025 semester. Local students include Nammari Drayton of Pleasant Valley, Delano Knox of Pleasant Valley, Thomas Westpfal of Pine Plains, Nicholas Whitten of Salt Point, Joshua Youngquist of Rhinebeck.

POTSDAM, NY - The State University of New York at Potsdam recently named 150 students who excelled academically in the Spring 2025 semester to the College's Dean's List.
This semester's list included:
Sebastian Hughes of Pleasant Valley, whose major is Music Education;
Quinton Lloyd of Red Hook, whose major is Music Education;
Chris Percopo of Hyde Park, whose major is Music Education.
To achieve the honor of being on the Dean's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade point average of between 3.25 and 3.49 in the given semester.

POTSDAM, NY - The State University of New York at Potsdam recently named 669 students to the President's List, in recognition of their academic excellence in the Spring 2025 semester. The SUNY Potsdam students were honored for earning top marks by President Dr. Suzanne Smith.
This semester's list included:
Josh Buessem of Pleasant Valley, whose major is Music Education;
Ilse Kollmar of Millbrook, whose major is Biochemistry.

To achieve the honor of being on the President's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

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OBITUARIES

Philip C. Bruno

Philip Christopher Bruno, 63, a long time resident of Red Hook, passed away on June 12, 2025.

Born on March 8, 1962, in the Bronx, Phil was the son of the late Philip and Ellen (Sheehy) Bruno.

He proudly served in the United States Army from 1980 to 1983.

Phil spent most of his career working for Red Hook Central School District. In his free time, he could be found outside, on a calm day fishing. He also loved to draw and had a love for Sci-Fi films and shows.

Phil is survived by his best friend of 48 years and wife of 40 years, Florence Terry Bruno of Red Hook; his sons, Anthony Bruno and his wife, Stephanie, and Mark Bruno and his wife, Abra; his mother-in-law, Deanna Calvert; his brother-in-law, Val Calvert and his wife, Evelyn; his sister-in-law, Deanna Bernard and her husband, Scott ;his close cousin who Phil thought of as a sister, Valerie O’Leery and her husband, Timothy; as well as many nephews, nieces and extended family who will miss Phil dearly.

In addition to his parents, Phil is predeceased by his brothers, Richard and Michael Bruno.

Philip’s love and memories will forever be cherished by those who knew him.

Friends and family called on Tuesday, June 17. A service was conducted. Interment will be private. Funeral arrangements were trusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook.

Jeanne F. Hubbell

Jeanne F. Hubbell, 81, a longtime resident of Red Hook, NY, passed away on June 5, 2025 at her sister Janet’s house at West Hyannisport on Cape Cod, MA.

Born Jeanne Elizabeth Franklin on April 13, 1944 in Boston, MA, to the late Richard and Wanda Franklin (née Bejnarowicz), Jeanne grew up in Quincy, MA, along with her seven beloved siblings. She married Ralph Peters Hubbell, Jr., (“Peter”) on July 15, 1972 in Chazy, NY. Peter survives at home in Tivoli.

Jeanne worked throughout her life as an office administrator for a number of different businesses and firms. Early in her career she was a legal secretary in Boston for Nessen and Csaplar, a job she often looked back on with fondness, later working as a legal assistant for former Gallatin resident Tia Denenberg, a labor arbitrator and former town justice, where Jeanne took great pride in her legal research and preparing initial drafts of decisions. She also used her talents as a researcher and transcriptionist by recording the life story of her father in law, Ralph P. Hubbell, Sr., which she transcribed for the benefit of future generations of her family. Whether it was learning to make sheepskin hats early in her marriage or transitioning in later years to a successful career as a medical transcriptionist, Jeanne mastered just about anything she put her hand to.

As much pleasure as Jeanne took in her work, it was her family that she lived for. A phenomenal cook, she was most in her element during family get-togethers and holidays, regaling her husband, her children and her children’s families with exquisite meals, colorful salads and delicious homemade pies. Her family always said that cooking, for her, was an artistic expression, so much so that sitting at her table had the potential to be the culinary highlight of one’s year. She also enjoyed reading fiction, researching the Franklin

and Hubbell families’ genealogies and spending time with her grandchildren, whom she doted on to no end. A woman of strong Christian faith, Jeanne was a member of the Reach Out Family Worship Center in Hyde Park, NY, and congregant of New Beginnings Assembly of God Church in Red Hook.

Jeanne is survived by her loving husband Peter of 52 years; her children, Nan (Ronnie) Croney of Tremonton, Utah; Aaron (Jennifer Pribble) Hubbell of Jackson, NH; Daniel (Stephanie Valle) Hubbell of Red Hook, NY; and Chip (Azade Diykan) Hubbell of Baltimore, MD; her siblings, Richard Franklin, Barbara Kippin, Janet Kleimola, Terry Farquhar and Steven Franklin; her grandchildren, Madeleine, Winter, Eva, Thomas, Efsun, Sammy, David (Samantha), Daniel (Allyson) and Dallan; her great-grandchildren Wren, Leif, Persia, Baron and Jemma; along with numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She was predeceased by her brother Michael and her sister Carol.

Peter and the rest of Jeanne’s family would like to extend the deepest gratitude to Jeanne’s sisters Janet, Terry and Barbara, along with their husbands Dave, Doug and John for their ten months of devoted care and love.

Friends and family were received at the Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY on Monday, June 23, with a service presided over by Pastor Carl Forster. Funeral arrangements were trusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook.

Florence Olive Zutter Murphy

STANFORDVILLE, NY - It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Florence Olive Zutter Murphy who went home to be with the Lord on June 16, 2025 at the age of 99.

She was born in Sharon, Connecticut on November 20, 1925 and was a long time resident of the Dutchess County area.

She was a devoted mother, loving wife to James Francis Murphy, who passed on October 11, 1971, and a dear friend to many.

Florence, who was also known as Flo, managed a dairy farm for many years on Carpenter Hill Road in Pine Plains, N.Y. She is remembered for her delicious home cooked meals.

After raising her children she became an avid square dancer, racketball and tennis player. She then discovered her love for bike riding. She enjoyed embarking on bike tours well into her mid 80's. When Flo wasn't out riding her bike she could be found taking care of her property. She loved gardening, clearing the woods and building rock walls one stone at a time.

Florence was an amazing woman of great integrity, strength and tenacity. She was adored, respected and greatly loved by her family and those who knew her.

Florence is survived by her seven children - Bonnie June Chase, James Albert Murphy, Donna Sue Strauss, Jackie Lynn Merwin Disher, Glenn William Murphy, Lori Lee Mora and Clint Evan Murphy as well as 16 grand children and 20 great grandchildren.

She will always be remembered and greatly missed.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Ronald Anthony Orlando, Jr.

VILLAGE OF MILLERTON – Ronald Anthony Orlando, Jr., 59, of

Millerton, NY, passed away at home on June 12, 2025, following an 18-year battle with bone marrow failure diseases and acute myeloid leukemia. He is survived by his wife Linda Moon Orlando at home; his parents, Ronald and Marlene Orlando, Sr. of Sharon, CT; his son, Nathaniel Orlando; his brother, Todd Orlando of Lincoln Park, NJ; three nieces, Jordan, Alex and Avery; his brother-in-law, Robert Moon of Pawling, NY, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Ronald was born on July 10, 1965 in Peekskill, NY. He grew up in Putnam Valley, NY, and graduated from Peekskill High School in 1983. Ronald graduated from Elizabethtown College in 1988 with a Bachelor’s Degree in History and from Fordham University in 1989 with a Master’s Degree in Education.

Ronald was previously employed by Putnam County Dept. of Social Services and Dutchess County Dept. of Social Services. At the time of his retirement, he was employed as a probation officer with Dutchess County Probation.

Ronald was a proud Eagle Scout and also served as a Cub Scout leader with his son’s troop. He served on the Millerton Zoning Board for several years due to his interest in his local community. Ronald was a knowledgeable historian with a keen interest in the history of World War II. His other many interests included a love of film noir movies, the TV show Svengoolie, crossword puzzles and curating his many collections of vintage toys and soldiers, movie lobby posters, baseball cards and antique photos and postcards.

Ronald was a wonderful husband, father, son and friend and will be greatly missed. Many thanks to Hudson Valley Hospice for their care. This obituary was lovingly composed by his wife Linda.

Calling hours took place on Friday, June 20, 2025 at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, Millerton, NY. Graveside services and burial took place on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton, NY. Clergy from Hudson Valley Hospice officiated. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, TN. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Carroll Watson

Carroll Watson, 94, of Millbrook, NY - Beloved Father, Veteran, and Firefighter - passed away peacefully on June 10, 2025. A devoted husband, proud veteran, and loving patriarch, Carroll led a remarkable life of service, adventure, and deep family devotion.

Born on February 20, 1931, to Norman Watson and Helen Dingwall Watson, Carroll was raised in Mount Vernon, NY. From a young age, he embodied the values of hard work, service, and integrity.

Carroll bravely served his country as a member of the 5th Regimental Combat Team during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953. A man of deep patriotism, he wore his veteran’s hat with pride every day—a symbol of his enduring commitment to his country.

Following his military service, Carroll was appointed to the Mount Vernon Fire Department on October 1, 1955. He served his community with honor and pride for 23 years, retiring on July 1, 1978. As a firefighter, Carroll was best known for his dedication and skill as a fire truck driver, always answering the call with courage and resolve.

Carroll married the love of his life, Rose Ann Breisacher, on March 2, 1957. Together for 65 years until her passing, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and purpose. After retirement, the couple embraced every moment—traveling the world, wintering in Melbourne, Florida, and spending summers at their treasured lake house on Sleepy Hollow Lake. That home became a hub of warmth and joy for family and friends, filled with tradi-

tion and unforgettable memories.

Carroll remained active in his community throughout his life. He worked as a Laidlaw bus driver and instructor, was a member of the Poughquag Methodist Church, a Boy Scout leader, and proudly participated in the Town of Beekman Fife and Drum Corps. He and Rose Ann also shared a love for square dancing, which brought them lasting friendships and joy.

But of all his accomplishments, Carroll took the greatest pride in being a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather—known affectionately as “Pop Pop.” He leaves behind four children: Steven Watson (Nancy) of Clinton Corners, Julie Watson Friedlander of Cold Spring Harbor, NY, Kenneth Watson of North Woodstock, NH, and Timothy Watson (SonYo) of Amherst, NH. He is also survived by his loving grandchildren: Shelby Gregson (Brian) of Pleasant Valley, Travis Watson (Ilana) of Newburgh, Paige Palley (Ross) of Wellesley, MA, Eric Friedlander of New York, Daniel Watson of Amherst, NH, Emily Parisi (Ethan) of Amherst, NH, and his cherished great-grandson Elijah Palley.

Carroll Watson will be remembered for his unwavering strength, his gentle wisdom, and the love he poured into his family and country. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the memories shared by all who knew and loved him.

A service will be held at the convenience of the family.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie, NY.

To leave an online condolence please visit www.doylefuneralhome.com.

Phyllis E. Weil

Phyllis E. Weil, 77, a longtime resident of Dover Plains, NY, passed away on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Weil was a therapy aide at Taconic DDSO in Wassaic, NY for 37 years retiring as a supervisor in 2003.

Born on March 17, 1948 in Malone, NY she was the daughter of the late Lawrence and Idella (Palmer) Dunn. She was a graduate of Dover High School class of 1966 and later graduated from Krissler Business Institute in Albany. On February 15, 1970 in Dover Plains, NY she married Richard C. Weil who predeceased her on December 26, 2022.

Phyllis was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and lifelong caregiver who always put the needs of others above her own. She was an avid reader and love playing cards and board games with her grandchildren. She also enjoyed watching game shows. Phyllis was also a longtime member of the Sharon United Methodist Church in Sharon, CT.

Phyllis is survived by a daughter Jill Cooney of Worcester, MA and a son, Justin Weil and his wife, Leina Singh, of Sacramento, CA. She is also survived by three grandchildren; Jack, Abby and Owen Cooney who affectionately referred to their grandmother as “Winnie;” two nieces, Karen See and Tammy Mann; a nephew, Lawrence Harrison; dear friends, Kay Carmen and Liz Miller and her feline companion, Sammie.

In addition to her parents and husband, Phyllis was predeceased by two sisters, Beverly Barkman and Sharon Payne.

Graveside services and burial took place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at Valley View Cemetery, Dover Plains, NY with Rev. Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse officiating. Contributions in memory of Phyllis should be made to the Sharon United Methodist Church, 63 Main Street, Sharon, CT 06069. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. To send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

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Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices
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 Respondent 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 Ex-	treme 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.	Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-26-25 On-Call Commercial / Industrial HVAC Contractor Services Construction, Renovation, Preventive Maintenance and Repair Services Bids will be received	until 2:00 p.m. on the 15th day of July 2025 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website http://www.dutchessny.gov, selecting	"Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.
The deadline for Legals is every Friday @ 12 noon for a Wednesday Publication* *When a public holiday falls on a Monday the deadline becomes Thursday at noon.						

FDR students recognized at honor breakfast



Liz Angel-Ojeda

Two students from Franklin D. Roosevelt High School in the Hyde Park Central School District were recognized for their outstanding achievements during Dutchess BOCES’ Distinguished Graduate Recognition Breakfast, held this year at Villa Borghese in Wappingers Falls on June 6.

The breakfast recognized two students from each high school in Dutchess County’s public school districts.

This year, Hyde Park’s Board of Education and administrators decided to highlight the accomplishments of seniors Liz Angel-Ojeda and Edgar Quinonez, who overcame challenges to become leaders in their school.

Ojeda, who will study elementary education at SUNY Oneonta, emerged as a leader during her time at FDR. She served as class president for all four years of high school, was a student representative on the Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year and was involved in many extracurricular activities including National Honors Society and



Edgar Quinonez

competing as part of the Track and Field and Varsity soccer teams.

In addition, Ojeda is a candidate for the Seal of Biliiteracy.

Quinonez, who will study business at SUNY Albany, broke barriers by being the first male cheerleader on FDR’s varsity cheerleading team where he demonstrated adaptability and courage and is also very talented in track which showcases dedication to pushing boundaries. At FDR, Quinonez was a dedicated member of the school’s orchestra and was a peer mentor in the Sources of Strength Club. Outside of school, he volunteers his time with the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, is active in his church and earned the Elmira College Key award during junior year.

“I am incredibly proud of Liz Angel-Ojeda and Edgar Quinonez for their outstanding accomplishments and resilience,” District Superintendent Dr. Pedro Roman said. “We eagerly anticipate seeing them soar in their chosen areas of study and interests.”

Rhinebeck Bank announces retirement of Fred Battenfeld from Board of Directors

Rhinebeck Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ: RBKB), its wholly-owned subsidiary, Rhinebeck Bank, and its mutual holding company, Rhinebeck Bancorp, MHC, has announced the retirement of Frederick L. Battenfeld from their respective boards of directors, effective May 21, 2025.

Battenfeld, the fourth-generation owner of F.W. Battenfeld & Son, a family-run farm (greenhouse range and Christmas trees) in Red Hook, served as a Rhinebeck Bank board member since 1995. He succeeded his father, Richard, on the Bank’s board. During his board tenure, he served on multiple committees, including many years as chairman of the Audit committee and as a member of the Loan Review committee.

“I’m proud to have served on the board of what I considered to be the best bank in the Hudson Valley,” said Battenfeld. “Through good service, good

value and good customer relationships, I know we can continue as the best of the Valley for years to come.”

“Fred has been a valuable board member and has greatly contributed to Rhinebeck Bank becoming the premier community bank that we are today,” said Bill Irwin, Chairman of Rhinebeck Bank’s board of directors. “His business acumen, strategic foresight, personal integrity and commitment to the betterment of the communities we serve have helped lead us over the past three decades. It has been my privilege to have worked alongside Fred and I am deeply grateful for the significant contributions he has made.”

Among his many community service endeavors over the years, Battenfeld has been an active volunteer with the Dutchess County Fair, including service as past president.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LOCAL VALEDICTORIANS & SALUTATORIANS!

Dover Val & Sal cite high-school activities, share future plans



Nayeli Escalante

Hi! My name is Nayeli Escalante, and I’m honored to be this year’s valedictorian at DHS. Throughout high school, I’ve been deeply involved in sports in the fall/spring, like soccer, volleyball, and cross country. I have, also, greatly enjoyed being a Track & Field athlete for the past 3 years, where I have been able to make memories with friends, and deepen my understanding of hard work and perseverance.

This fall, I’ll be attending Binghamton University (SUNY), where I plan to major in Biology on the Pre-Med track. I’m excited to explore my passions further, hoping to take part in important research regarding health and the human body overall. In the future, I hope to pursue a career in medicine, which has been a long-time goal of mine.

I’m incredibly grateful for my teachers, friends, and especially my family who have always pushed me and supported me through everything - I’m beyond excited for the experiences that wait for me!

My name is Summer Anderson and I am the Dover High School class of 2025



Summer Anderson

Salutarian and class president. These past four years of high school I have loved contributing to not just my school community, with my role in student government and as a member of the math and Spanish honor societies, but also to the Dover community as a whole. As Vice President of National Senior Honor Society, we as a group have been able to help our community in many ways — whether it’s funding to help pay for community member’s medical treatments, running the blood drive or writing veterans and seniors holiday cards. I’m involved in athletics in Dover as well, as I’ve been on the Dover Varsity Volleyball team for all four years of high school. I was captain for the last two years and also assisted in running our recreation summer volleyball camp for younger kids. When it’s not school volleyball season, I am on a club volleyball team for New York Elite. I am also a part of the ski and snowboard club at our school. After high school I plan to attend West Virginia University to study forensic biology and potentially participate in their student government and club volleyball team.



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

Suguru solution

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

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

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

Dialing 988:

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

GOLDEN LIVING

Note: the OFA Summer Picnic for older adults living in the Town of Poughkeepsie has been postponed to Friday, June 27th, because of expected extreme heat on the original picnic date. In addition to this advisory, we will be reaching out to all older adults who have made a reservation for this picnic, to advise them of the new date. See www.dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics for the complete 2025 schedule.

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 p.m. 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 signup information at 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).

2025 SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

Starting in July, qualifying Dutchess County older adults (age 60+) have an opportunity to improve their nutrition while supporting local farms, thanks to New York's Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). Many older Dutchess County residents may already be qualified if their household income is below 185% of US poverty guidelines. An older adult who qualifies for other means-tested assistance programs may also qualify for SFMNP.

To find out more about SFMNP qualifications, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555 or email ofa@dutchessny.gov. Older residents of low-income housing complexes may be able to find out more about SFMNP from their residence manager.

How to apply for SFMNP benefits

SFMNP booklets will be distributed, starting in July, at the OFA main office (114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie) only on Thursdays and Fridays, from 2:30-4pm. Note that OFA and Friendship Centers are closed for Independence Day on Friday, July 4th. Booklet distribution hours at OFA Friendship Centers are available from OFA on request. OFA Friendship Centers are in Beacon, East Fishkill, Millerton, Pawling, Pleasant Valley (Tri-Town), Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, and South Amenia/Wassaic.

Each booklet contains five checks valued at \$5 each. Treat the checks like cash to avoid loss or theft.

Customers redeeming SFMNP checks at participating markets will not receive cash change, so use the whole check whenever possible. SFMNP checks cannot be exchanged for cash.

Distribution will continue throughout the 2025 growing season for as long as supplies last. SFMNP checks can be used until November 30th or a participating market closes for the season, whichever comes first. Leftover checks from 2024 or earlier years are no longer valid. New York SFMNP checks cannot be used in other states.

As of this week, here are the markets participating in SFMNP in Dutchess County, and their operating hours and contact information:

Beacon Farmers Market
223 Main St., Beacon
Sundays 10 am - 2 pm
beaconfarmersmarket.org
845-231-4424

Dykeman Farm - Farm Stand
31 Dykeman Lane, Pawling
Tue-Sat 9 am-6pm
Sun/Mon 9 am-5 pm
July 1 - October 31
dykemanfarm.com • 845-832-6068

Judson Farm Market

3255 Pleasant Ridge Rd., Wingdale
Daily 10am-6pm, July 20-October 31
845-832-6286

Millerton Farmers Market
6 Dutchess Ave.
(Millerton Methodist Church)
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm
neccmillerton.org/farmers-market
518-789-4259

Obercreek Farm Stand
81 New Hamburg Rd.,
Wappingers Falls
Wed-Sat 11 am-6 pm, Sun 12-5 pm
obercreekfarm.com • 845-218-9262

Pawling Farmers Market
Pawling Village Green
85 Charles Colman Blvd.
Saturdays 9 am-1 pm through Sept. 28
pawlingfarmersmarket.org
914-941-8762

Rhinebeck Farmers Market
Municipal Lot, 61 E. Market St.
Sunday 10 am - 2 pm
rhinebeckfarmersmarket.com
518-821-1481

With markets often joining SFMNP during the summer and fall, you can find the most recently updated list of participating Dutchess County farmersmarkets at www.dutchessny.gov/ofanutrition.

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