

Village of Red Hook
officials work on plans
to lower speed limit

By Curtis Schmidt

Village of Red Hook officials are working on plans to reduce the traffic speed limit to 25 mph and create a school speed zone.

A fatal car-pedestrian accident in the Village in late May has placed an additional emphasis on efforts to “create a safer and more walkable village,” according to Mayor Karen Smythe. She said discussions on the topic have been ongoing for more than three years.

According to reports from the Dutchess County Sheriff’s office, on May 25 at approximately 10:20 p.m., a car-pedestrian accident resulted in the death of Linh Hong Nguyen of Red Hook, who was a student at Bard College. The investigation is continuing; however, the initial accident report noted that the primary factor in the crash appeared to be unsafe speed.

“The plans for the 25 mph speed limit began well before this accident. This accident certainly makes it more urgent,” said Smythe. “The State passed a law that allowed municipalities to lower the speed limit, but it requires a traffic study. The (Village) Board approved using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding for the traffic study at our November board meeting. We are expecting the final report in the next few weeks.

“In order to implement a reduction in speed on a State road, we need permission/approval from the State DOT Department of Transportation). Once we have the traffic study in hand, we will proceed to work with the DOT to get their approval - assuming the traffic study supports the reduction.”

continued on page 2

Hyde Park’s July 4th Parade to mark
50 years of Music in the Parks

By Kate Goldsmith

The making and enjoyment of music will be front and center during this year’s Fourth of July Parade in Hyde Park. Each year, the parade takes on a specific theme; and in 2024 the town is celebrating the 50th anniversary of Music in the Parks.

The parade will step off at 10 a.m. from the Roosevelt Cinemas on Route 9 in Hyde Park and travel north on Route 9 to Town Hall. Spectators can view the parade from the sidewalks along the route.

The Music in the Parks series showcases a variety of local talent in weekly outdoor concerts held June through mid-August; the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site and Staatsburgh State Historic Site (also known as Mills Mansion) alternate each week to host the free performances.

Grand Marshals for the Parade are Melinda DiMaio, Director of Fine and Performing Arts in the Hyde Park Central School District; and James Osborn, conductor of the FDR High School Band and a performer in his own right. The two were chosen by the town’s Recreation Director Robert Pollard to lead the parade because of their involvement with Music in the Parks: DiMaio sits on the committee that sets up programming for the series; Osborn is a longtime participant in the series, with his own band and with the FDR Band, which also has a long history with Music in the Parks.

“I have been involved with the Music In the Parks concert series since the ’80s. My seven-piece band, The Jim Osborn Band, formerly known as Heart & Soul, started playing concerts there in approximately 1985,” Osborn said. “I have been conducting the FDR Band since 1993, and we have played the opening concert for the series since then. The band had previously played in the series under my predecessor, Jerry Conklin.”

Although the FDR Marching Band won’t be in the July Fourth Parade (they are regulars at the town’s Memorial Day Parade), Osborn said he’ll be there performing with the popular regional band The Saints of Swing.

Osborn added, “We have always felt so fortunate to have these two beautiful venues - the Vanderbilt and Mills mansions - within the boundaries of our



Jim Osborn, conductor of the FDR High School Band, and Melinda DiMaio, Director of Fine and Performing Arts in the Hyde Park Central School District, are the Grand Marshals for the 2024 Hyde Park Fourth of July Parade. The two were chosen for their support of and involvement with the town’s Music in the Parks series, which turns 50 this year. *Courtesy photo*

[school] district, and the support of the local community has been incredible!”

“The ... Music in the Parks series offers a prime example of the way that music can foster a sense of unity and community, and I am very proud of the

continued on page 8

City of Poughkeepsie, Walkway
plan viewing for July 4 fireworks



The City of Poughkeepsie will host its annual Independence Day Fireworks Display on Thursday, July 4, shortly after nightfall (approximately 9:20 p.m.).

Watch for free from Waryas Park, at the base of Main Street; or purchase a ticket for a vantage point at Walkway Over the Hudson, walkway.org.

No-parking zones will be in place along North Water Street and in the lots of Waryas Park, except for handicapped parking. John M. Flowers Circle at

Residents can watch July 4 fireworks for free from Waryas Park or purchase a ticket for a vantage point at Walkway Over the Hudson (walkway.org). Left is a view of fireworks from a previous year’s celebration from the Walkway. *File photo by Jim Donick*

Waryas Park will be closed to traffic.

Elsewhere, parking is free in lots starting at 5 p.m. and in metered spaces after 6 p.m. Remember to expect heavy vehicular and pedestrian traffic following the event throughout the west end of the city, with short-term detours and road closures expected. The rain date for this event will be July 5.

Walkway Over the Hudson will be open to ticket holders for an unobstructed view of the City of Poughkeepsie fireworks display. Spend the evening with friends and family taking in amazing twilight views 212 feet above the Hudson River before seeing the fireworks launch at eye level!

continued on page 2

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	8
Creative Living	10-15
Hudson Valley Naturalist	11
Suguru	12
Crossword Puzzle	12
Sudoku	12
Decoding Dutchess’ Past	13
That’s Italian!	14
Obituaries	16
Public Notices	17
Classifieds	18-19

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

Coppola’s of Hyde Park p 5
Hudson Valley Hospice p 20
Nuvance Health p 11
Powerhouse Theatre p 10
Pleasant Valley Department Store p 10

The Ridge School p 3
Roosevelt Cinemas p 8
Stormville Airport Flea Market p 2
Williams Lumber p 6
WKZE 98.1 p 4

INSIDE:
Adams Fairacre Farms
Dr. Oppenheimer



PSC: Central Hudson shareholders must pay full cost of remedial actions related to billing issues

By Kate Goldsmith

On June 20, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) resolved its ongoing investigation into past billing system failures by Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation (Central Hudson). The \$64.59 million settlement covers remedial actions taken to fix Central Hudson's billing system, as well as costs associated with the return to regular monthly meter readings and to implement recommendations made by an independent monitor.

The cost will be paid in full by shareholders, not ratepayers.

"Customers rightly expect to receive timely and accurate bills for their utility services," said Commission Chair Rory M. Christian. "Our investigation and prudence review and audit found that Central Hudson wasn't meeting this basic expectation. As a result of our investigation, the company has made and will continue to take corrective actions to resolve billing problems that have caused many customers great stress and confusion."

In response to the PSC's decision, Central Hudson issued the following statement on the company's website:

"Central Hudson has worked tirelessly to strengthen transparency and to rectify the billing issues our customers experienced due to the implementation of a new billing system. We've hired over 100 new professionals to better assist customers, hosted dozens of community meetings to address concerns directly, ensured affect-

ed customers were fully compensated, and rolled out monthly meter readings to largely eliminate bill estimates. As the billing system's performance has improved and as we have grown our team of customer service professionals, customer service metrics have improved considerably."

The specific provisions of the agreement include:

- Shareholders must pay the more than \$35.3 million spent over the last two and a half years to remedy problems with the company's customer information and billing system.

- Shareholders will pay \$4 million to directly benefit customers to be allocated by the PSC.

- Central Hudson will not challenge approximately \$8.75 million in negative revenue adjustments as a result of missed customer service metrics, largely stemming from the billing system failures.

- Shareholders have incurred more than \$8.2 million in costs associated with back-billing credits to customers that were related to the billing system problems. The company continues to be obligated to provide back-billing credits when warranted if future cases arise.

- Shareholders will pay costs incurred and projected to be incurred to implement monthly meter readings (estimated to be \$6.3 million).

- Shareholders will pay up to \$2 million in additional payments in the event the company does not implement monthly meter readings by October 31, 2024.

The settlement comes after a 123-page report issued by an independent monitor assigned to examine Central Hudson's billing system and proposal to end bi-monthly billing estimates. After a thorough review, the monitor found that Central Hudson has resolved critical billing issues and reached a stable state. The Department of Public Service (DPS), the staff arm of the PSC, noted that in April of this year, complaints reported to the Department reached its lowest number since the company launched its new billing system: down 88 percent from its high in March of 2022.

The independent monitor also identified foundational strategic issues that pose a risk to system stability if not properly addressed. In the company's statement, Central Hudson said it is "committed to implementing, to ensure Central Hudson's readiness for future system integrations and any unforeseen challenges."

The independent monitor's report was released with the June 20 settlement and order.

While the independent monitor and DPS staff have found that system-wide issues have been addressed, individual billing issues may still be possible (as is the case with any utility billing system), and customers who believe their bills are inaccurate are encouraged to file complaints with the DPS' Office of Consumer Services.

As part of the agreement, Central Hudson filed a revision to its monthly meter read plan with a goal of reading the vast majority of customer meters every month by October 31, 2024, an acceleration of more than 14 months compared to the company's initial plans (to reach this goal by February 2026). As noted, the settlement incentivizes completion of the meter reading plan by requiring the company to pay an additional \$500,000 for each month of delay up to \$2 million. If triggered, this incentivization remedy could bring the overall monetary value of the agreement up to \$64.59 million.

"Central Hudson appreciates the ongoing commitment of all our employees, both union and non-union. We will deliver the level of performance and service our customers expect and deserve," the company stated.

The PSC's action may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the PSC's website at www.dps.ny.gov and entering Case Number 22-M-0645 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number." PSC documents may also be obtained from the PSC's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500).

Local representatives weigh in

Pat Ryan, who represents New York's 18th Congressional District, was Ulster County Executive when he made a formal request to the PSC to look into Central Hudson's billing issues. The PSC investigation was launched in March 2022.

"As your [Ulster] County Executive and your Congressman, but most importantly, as your neighbor and fellow ratepayer, we've fought this battle against Central Hudson together for years. I always said we'd never back down until every ratepayer was made whole – today, we finally held them accountable," said Ryan. "This settlement, paid for solely by shareholders, and including direct relief for ratepayers, is a direct result of collective and relentless advocacy, particularly the tireless efforts of everyone at PULP [Public Utility Law Project]. These multi-billion dollar monopolies have more than enough power and profits – today, we returned that power to Hudson Valley families. But the fight isn't over yet. I promise I'll continue to hold their feet to the fire and stand up against Central Hudson's outrageous proposed rate hikes."

"The decision today by the PSC is a major step forward in finally holding Central Hudson accountable for its negligent billing practices that have been plaguing customers since 2021," said Senator Michelle Hinchey. "Despite having years to fix its system, Central Hudson has passed the buck and, in doing so, has failed to take accountability or right the wrongs they have caused. This settlement finally forces Central Hudson to change its practices while also protecting ratepayers by ensuring that shareholders will be the ones paying this cost."

"My constituents and I are relieved to see a long overdue decision come out of the investigation of Central Hudson's billing practices that have affected thousands since 2021," said Assemblymember Sarahana Shrestha (AD-103). "While we find this to be a welcome step, we'll be digging into the details to fully analyze the merit of the settlement and ensure there are robust monitoring protocols included. I want to note that we recently heard from a ratepayer who lives in an RV and didn't get a bill for over a year, and when they finally did, it was for \$6,000. With unresolved billing issues like these, we urge both the PSC and Central Hudson to pause account shutoffs until every case has been resolved. Considering how much time we've given Central Hudson to fix the issues, the same consideration should be given to customers so that they can catch up with their bills without losing access to energy."

SEND US YOUR NEWS

cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Hinchey, Jacobson pass legislation to curb estimated billing by utilities

ALBANY, NY – Prior to the June 20 decision by the Public Service Commission (PSC) ordering Central Hudson Gas & Electric to absorb up to \$64.59 million in costs from its 2021 billing system failure, Senator Michelle Hinchey and Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson passed legislation, S1851B/A888C, to curb estimated billing by the Company and all utilities serving New York. The legislation, authored in 2021 in response to Central Hudson's billing debacle, was the first major action introduced in the State Legislature to address the issue directly.

An estimated utility bill occurs when a supplier predicts and charges a customer's power consumption based on past usage rather than an actual meter reading for that month. As a result of Central Hudson's estimated readings, thousands of Hudson Valley residents have received inaccurate bills and excessive month-to-month fluctuations, which have posed a financial hardship for many. As part of the PSC's stipulations announced on Thursday, Central Hudson must read meters on a monthly basis by October 31, 2024, or pay up to \$2 million for each month of delay.

Hinchey said, "Utility companies must be required to provide customers with an accurate bill and should never be allowed to depend on estimated billing, a practice that's caused families and small businesses severe financial stress, making it difficult for people to budget effectively. Our bill will finally bring an end to this billing practice and create much-needed transparency in the utility industry at large in New York. We introduced this legislation in 2021 at the outset of Central Hudson's

billing debacle, and I'm proud that it finally passed both the Senate and Assembly this year. We hope the Governor will quickly sign it into law and deliver much-needed relief and security to ratepayers across our communities."

Jacobson said, "The only thing worse than receiving your utility bill is receiving an unexpected extremely high bill because it is estimated or because the previous estimated bills were too low and when the meter was finally read, the bill is very high to make up for the past low estimates. Your utility bill should be timely and not be a mystery. The two bills we passed this session do just that."

S1851B/A888C would require utilities to perform actual meter readings unless they can't access a meter due to circumstances beyond their control, such as extreme weather. The bill would also require the PSC to develop a model estimation formula based on a review of the estimated billing procedures used by all utility companies serving New York while limiting the number of times estimated billing can be used to three billing cycles per year (down from six).

Hinchey and Jacobson previously passed a significant utility reform bill (S4234/A4055) limiting late billing, which the governor has signed into law. According to the new law, utilities like Central Hudson cannot back bill if they send a bill more than three months after its due date. Additionally, utilities must provide customers with usage records for the past 13 months, including information from prior customers at that address. This provision allows customers to compare their bill with a similar period to determine if they're being overcharged.

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The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Two-state solution is best answer for Israel-Hamas conflict

To the editor:
President Biden is correct that a two-state solution for Palestine is the answer to Israel-Hamas conflict in the long run. It will not be done by negotiation. We can look at our own history with the 1830 Indian Removal Act “Trail of Tears” and “Manifest Destiny.” Britain clarified the Balfour Declaration term “national home” was not to intended to cover all of Palestine. Palestinian Arabs were not allowed participation in drafting the League of Nations Palestine Mandate, but World Zionist Organization President Chaim Weizmann had input.
In 1947, the United Nation intent was two (2) States with division of land area as 3 Arab (43%); 3 Jewish (56%), with1 international (1%). Israel declared its statehood in 1948, but there was no Palestine statehood and was followed by 1948 and 1967 wars. Neither side is violence guiltless, but each of these areas already had mixed populations of Arab, Jewish, and others living together.
The current 2024 status estimate is Israel 9.8 M (million) people on 8,630 sq mi (square miles) of land or 1116 PPSM density (people per square mile); Gaza strip has 2.2M on 142 sq mi and 15,164 PPSM; and the West Bank has 3.3M on 2.2 sq mi with 1.442 PPSM density {PRB Population Reference Bureau). Currently 145 of the 193 member States of the United Nations recognize Palestine as a sovereign state; until this equal recognition happens there can be no honest negotiations. The United States should be voting for Palestinian statehood, not promoting Zionist expansionism. Finish the 1922 Mandate with a recognized Palestinian Statehood and recognized boundary.
My thought is it should go back to the Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, and Dead Sea as East Boundary and 9,878 square mile land divided 64 % (6,322 sq mi) for Israel and 36 % (3,556 sq mi) for Palestine Arab based on current population with the 140 mile Mediterranean sea shore line for Israel 89.7 miles and 50.4 miles Palestinian Arab. A new boundary line starting at the ocean 50.4 miles southerly from Shlomi, Israel and about 23.8 miles south of Haifa. From there about 14 miles east to the existing West Bank line (Green Line); then follow the West Bank Line 112 miles to a point near Hebron; then 32 miles east on a new line to the existing West Bank boundary. All of the north including Haifa and Tiberias including most of West Bank would go to Palestine Arab statehood and all the rest to the Israel statehood, including the Gaza strip and maybe Hebron.

David F. Queen
Red Hook

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

Chancellor Livingston NDAR
takes part in RevCon

Members of the Chancellor Livingston Chapter of the National Daughters of the American Revolution (NDAR) participated in Rev Con at the Wallace Center on Saturday, June 8. Information was available for those interested in exploring the patriotic service of their ancestors, links to the DAR National site, and coloring pages for children.
This year the Chapter will focus on General Montgomery and his wife, Janet Livingston Montgomery as it will be the 250th anniversary of his death.
In the photos, Regent Doris Harrington, Registrar Wendy Wallace, and Past Regent Joann Schmidt behind the Chancellor Livingston NDAR table, which highlighted General Montgomery and Janet Livingston Montgomery.
Associate member Amanda Murtagh explains her insignia to two historical re-enactors.

Courtesy photos



OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

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

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Hochul announces funding to support education and support services for children with autism

On June 17, Governor Kathy Hochul announced capital funding for the Anderson Center for Autism. The \$3 million capital funding commitment will help to rebuild an historic, 11,000-square-foot carriage house at the Anderson Center's Staatsburg campus, and also address the workforce shortage in education, health care and behavioral health.

"As a mom, it is heartbreaking to think about a child alone, struggling and unable to get the care and support they need," Governor Hochul said. "This funding will help the Anderson Center for Autism to continue to provide education, support and outreach services, as well as help children with autism build the skills they need to connect with the world and live healthy, independent, productive lives."

The Anderson Center for Autism hosts a year-round residence and school for approximately 250 children with moderate to severe symptoms of autism. The Center also administers education, support, outreach services and information aimed at delivering assistance and increasing opportunities for inclusion for families, the autism community and public organizations. Additionally, the Anderson Center for Autism provides professional team administers programs that comprehensively address each individual's educational, emotional and social needs in a proactive and positive manner.

The \$3 million capital funding will be used to fully rebuild an historic, 11,000-square-foot carriage house called "Dellinwood," which will be renamed to "New Dellinwood" upon completion. The carriage house will house Anderson programs currently being developed to help address the workforce shortage in education, health care and behavioral health. The design of New Dellinwood will include indoor and outdoor multipurpose training and conference spaces, a trainee clinical, medical and dental skills practice rooms and a living classroom for

visitors who want to see what it looks like to create an autism supportive environment. In April 2024, the Anderson Center launched a fundraising campaign for the capital improvement project.

The Anderson Center for Autism Executive Director and CEO Patrick D. Paul said, "We want to thank Governor Kathy Hochul for visiting the Anderson Center for Autism today. We would also like to thank her for the impactful grant we received to support the building of New Dellinwood, a location which will be instrumental in training professionals of the future in supporting neurodiverse and autistic individuals."

The Anderson Center for Autism accommodates preschool, children's and adult's services throughout the Hudson Valley. Anderson Early Learning Academy is a state approved program that provides children ages three to five opportunities to learn in an environment that is developmentally appropriate and teaches the skills needed to be successful in kindergarten. The Center also provides educational, residential, recreational and life skills services to child with autism ages five to 21. Additionally, the Center provides various adult supportive services such as the day habilitation program, the community integration group and a residential program.

New York State Office of Children and Family Services Commissioner Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden said, "By investing in the rehabilitation of this facility, there is a resounding message that our children and families are supported here in New York State. We thank Governor Kathy Hochul for having the foresight to help fund valuable services for our vulnerable children, particularly those with autism. The benefits of this investment will be evidenced socially, emotionally, physically, and educationally."

New York State Office for People With Disabilities Commissioner Kerri Neifeld said,



Gov. Kathy Hochul recently awarded \$3 million in capital funding for Anderson Center for Autism in Staatsburg. Local officials were on hand to celebrate the funding. *Courtesy photo*

"OPWDD applauds Governor Hochul's commitment to this exciting initiative and to ensuring that school-aged youth with developmental disabilities receive the support they need to thrive. Autism is the fastest growing diagnosis in the field of developmental disability, especially in children. By providing these youth with the supports they need at an early age, New York is ensuring that they have the building blocks to live independent lives and fully participate in their communities as adults."

State Senator Michelle Hinchey said, "The Anderson Center is an incredible organization dedicated to building a Hudson Valley where everyone belongs. They ensure that our friends and family with disabilities have safe places to learn and exciting opportunities to carve out their own paths within our workforce and the wider community. We're thrilled about this new capital funding for the Staatsburg campus and the support it will

bring to ensuring the contributions of our neighbors with disabilities are honored and valued. We thank Governor Hochul for championing this important funding."

Assemblymember Didi Barrett said, "Anderson Center for Autism has been a pioneer in caring and innovative approaches to service delivery and education for those on the spectrum and their families. I thank Governor Hochul for her support of this important initiative to transform this historic building into a much-needed workforce development and training center here in the Hudson Valley."

County Executive Sue Serino said, "We are grateful to Governor Hochul for this investment and her focus on behavioral health. All too often, those with the greatest needs left behind. Funding for this innovative project will not only support those served by the Anderson Center, but also help secure the needed workforce for our future."

Military Museum exhibit in Saratoga Springs tracks history of nuclear Navy in New York

The key roles New York played in the birth of the nuclear submarine and the nuclear navy are the subject of a temporary exhibit opening on June 29, at the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs.

"From New York to the Nuclear Navy" highlights the roles that General Electric, the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory in Niskayuna, and the Kenneth A. Kesselring Site in West Milton, near Saratoga Springs, played-and continues to play-in the Navy's nuclear submarine program.

The exhibit will include over sixty artifacts highlighting the history of the Program and celebrating the contributions of all the Naval Nuclear Laboratory sites.

The artifacts include a model of a submarine's nuclear propulsion system, the "keel plate" from the Hortonsphere, a giant dome constructed to house a nuclear submarine reactor that was constructed at the Kesselring site.

To celebrate the opening of the exhibit to the public there will be ice cream, a brass band, activities for children, and representatives from the U.S. Navy and Naval Nuclear Laboratory personnel on hand from 11:00am – 3:30pm on Saturday June 29.

The display, which will run into 2025,

was developed in collaboration with the Naval Nuclear Laboratory, Naval Reactors, and the USS Nautilus Museum in Groton, Connecticut.

New York's role in the Navy's nuclear power program began in 1946 when General Electric in Schenectady signed a contract with the Navy to design and develop prototype nuclear propulsion systems.

Today the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory continues to play a vital role in the nuclear submarine program. The propulsion systems used on the Virginia class fast attack submarines and the Columbia Class ballistic missile submarine were designed there.

The Kesselring site, originally designed to test reactors, now serves as a training facility for Sailors operating nuclear power plants on aircraft carriers and submarines. Since 1955 over 50,000 people have been trained at the site.

Founded in 1948 by Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has total responsibility for all aspects of the Navy's nuclear propulsion, including research, design, construction, testing, operation, maintenance, and ultimate disposition of naval nuclear propulsion plants.

environmental safety, and health matters, as well as selection, training, and assignment of personnel.

The museum, maintained by the New York State Division of Military and

Naval Affairs, is open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

For more information on the Museum visit: <https://museum.dmna.ny.gov>.

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	Aberdeen BAL			2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	W2
	Greensboro PIT	*		2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	L1
	Jersey Shore PHI			2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	L1
	Brooklyn NYM			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	W1
	Hudson Valley NYY			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	W1
	Wilmington WSH			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	L2
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH				W	L	PCT	GB	E#	L10	STRK
	Asheville HOU			2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	L1
	Bowling Green TB			2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	W2
	Rome ATL	*		2	1	.667	-	-	2-1	W1
	Greenville BOS			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	L1
	Hickory TEX			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	L2
	Winston-Salem CWS			1	2	.333	1.0	63	1-2	W1



RENEGADES RAMBLINGS

Long stretch at home park and strong pitching stats

- **FRIENDLY CONFINES:** The Renegades recently completed a stretch where they played 24 of 36 games away from home. Following eight games at Wilmington in the beginning of June, Hudson Valley is currently playing 15 of its next 24 games at Heritage Financial Park.
 - **NY SLUGGERS:** The Renegades currently have the third-highest team OPS in the South Atlantic League (.742), and have the fifth-best mark in High-A heading into the weekend.
 - **STELLAR STARTERS:** Starting pitching continues to be excellent for the Renegades. In the team's last 19 games, 15 starters have gone at least 4.2 innings.
- Eighteen of nineteen starters have also allowed three earned runs or less in their outings.
- **LIMITING HITS:** Hudson Valley pitchers have allowed only 418 hits through the first 64 games. The Renegades have allowed the second-fewest hits in MiLB. Incredibly, Lansing (OAK, A+) has allowed a staggering 592 hits through 65 games, most among all non-AAA teams.
 - **SECOND CHANCE:** The second half of the South Atlantic League season began this week. Everybody's record reverted to zero and all teams have a chance at the second half division titles and a berth in the playoffs.

Renegades help out with 'Hope Week'

Just as the parent club New York Yankees do, the Hudson Valley Renegades have their own version of Hope Week to celebrate. Hope Week for the Renegades began on Tuesday, June 25.

The Renegades participation in the Yankees' Hope Week initiative is presented by Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth).

The Renegades' Hope Week initiatives are focused on local organizations and groups making a positive impact on the lives of others. Each Hope Week event includes a ticket fundraiser for the honored organization.

So far, the franchise was scheduled to honor the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation, which helps youngsters afflicted with life-threatening disease, and the Putnam Service Dogs.



		Players Statistics																		
PLAYER	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS			
1 JaredSerna SS	HV	65	252	44	65	19	0	11	49	36	54	9	6	0.258	0.357	0.464	0.821			
2 JaceAvina CF	HV	55	218	29	60	19	0	7	37	24	64	4	1	0.275	0.355	0.459	0.814			
4 OmarMartinez C	HV	53	185	26	45	7	1	7	21	40	50	0	0	0.243	0.382	0.405	0.787			
4 RafaelFlores 1B	HV	56	192	27	55	17	0	6	35	35	55	2	1	0.286	0.397	0.469	0.866			
5 GarrettMartin RF	HV	36	121	21	26	7	1	5	21	10	45	6	1	0.215	0.307	0.413	0.72			
5 RocRiggio 2B	HV	50	184	37	40	9	3	5	20	39	43	9	2	0.217	0.37	0.38	0.75			
5 JesusRodriguez C	HV	56	211	39	70	14	4	5	33	29	30	7	3	0.332	0.412	0.507	0.919			
8 KikoRomero 3B	HV	37	114	15	25	6	0	4	14	21	49	4	1	0.219	0.364	0.377	0.741			
9 JoshMoylan 1B	HV	51	170	26	39	5	1	3	18	32	50	0	1	0.229	0.361	0.324	0.685			
10 KyleBattle LF	HV	21	46	14	8	1	1	1	5	9	23	5	0	0.174	0.316	0.304	0.62			
10 TylerHardman DH	HV	16	59	8	14	3	0	1	7	5	26	1	0	0.237	0.292	0.339	0.631			
12 BeauBrewer 3B	HV	26	68	8	17	4	0	0	9	8	15	0	0	0.25	0.329	0.309	0.638			
12 JuanCrisp P	HV	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
12 BrennyEscanio DH	HV	7	23	4	7	4	0	0	4	1	6	1	1	0.304	0.333	0.478	0.811			
12 ChristopherFamilia LF	HV	9	30	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	10	0	0	0.133	0.278	0.133	0.411			
12 ColeGabrielson RF	HV	43	131	20	26	10	1	0	12	21	40	6	2	0.198	0.346	0.29	0.636			
12 AnthonyHall RF	HV	11	33	3	3	0	0	0	1	9	13	1	0	0.091	0.286	0.091	0.377			
12 DJLeMahieu 3B	HV	2	7	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0.286	0.286	0.429	0.715			
12 NelsonMedina CF	HV	41	130	11	17	2	1	0	14	13	62	7	0	0.131	0.214	0.162	0.376			
12 AlexanderVargas SS	HV	5	15	1	3	1	1	0	5	3	1	1	1	0.2	0.316	0.4	0.716			
12 JorbitVivas 2B	HV	4	16	4	5	1	0	0	5	2	3	0	0	0.313	0.389	0.375	0.764			
		Pitcher Statistics																		
PLAYER	TEAM	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WHIP	AVG
1 CamSchlittler P	HV	3	2	2.32	11	11	0	0	0	0	54.1	31	21	14	5	3	28	71	1.09	0.162
2 BenShields P	HV	2	2	3.06	13	6	0	0	0	1	47	34	19	16	5	3	10	62	0.94	0.198
3 SebastianKeane P	HV	5	5	5.02	12	12	0	0	0	0	57.1	55	33	32	6	4	29	55	1.47	0.258
4 MattKeating P	HV	1	1	3.46	21	0	0	0	2	3	41.2	28	18	16	4	0	17	50	1.08	0.184
5 ColeAyers P	HV	2	3	2.68	25	0	0	0	3	5	40.1	31	16	12	2	2	15	49	1.14	0.208
6 KyleCarr P	HV	0	3	6.19	12	12	0	0	0	0	48	54	41	33	3	2	35	46	1.85	0.292
7 TrentSellers P	HV	5	2	4.33	17	0	0	0	1	3	35.1	25	23	17	2	1	25	44	1.42	0.192
8 BaronStuart P	HV	4	2	4.03	9	9	0	0	0	0	44.2	39	21	20	2	2	18	42	1.28	0.236
9 JacksonFristoe P	HV	1	3	3.79	12	12	0	0	0	0	38	27	18	16	2	1	28	40	1.45	0.201
10 JoelValdez P	HV	1	2	3.51	19	0	0	0	2	4	33.1	23	16	13	2	4	17	38	1.2	0.195
11 MasonVinyard P	HV	2	1	2.18	13	0	0	0	0	0	20.2	14	11	5	2	1	10	32	1.16	0.184
12 LuisArejula P	HV	3	3	3.14	16	0	0	0	1	4	28.2	24	14	10	1	1	16	30	1.4	0.229
13 HuestonMorrill P	HV	1	2	4.7	17	0	0	0	1	2	23	26	17	12	6	2	7	23	1.43	0.28
14 BrianHendry P	HV	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	11	5	2	0	0	0	6	15	1	0.125
14 LeonardoPestana P	HV	1	0	1.86	6	0	0	0	0	1	9.2	1	2	2	0	0	5	15	0.62	0.036
16 EricReyzelman P	HV	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	1	3	12	0.57	0.045
17 GeoffreyGilbert P	HV	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	2	2	7	1	0	0	0	0	2	10	0.43	0.043
18 YorlinCalderon P	HV	0	0	2.84	3	0	0	0	0	0	6.1	4	3	2	0	1	2	7	0.95	0.167
18 StevenFulgencio P	HV	1	1	4.15	8	0	0	0	0	1	8.2	7	7	4	0	2	6	7	1.5	0.219
20 McKinleyMoore P	HV	0	0	7.36	4	0	0	0	1	1	3.2	2	3	3	0	1	2	6	1.09	0.154
21 JuanCrisp C	HV	1	0	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	4	4	2	0	4	4	2	0.182
22 BlaneAbeyta P	HV	0	1	3.6	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	4	4	2	0	0	1	3	1	0.222
23 BryceWarrecker P	HV	0	0	3.86	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.1	3	1	1	0	0	2	2	2.14	0.333
24 JoshGrosz P	HV	0	1	13.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.1	6	7	5	2	0	6	1	3.6	0.429





Renegades Extra!



RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades have tough week, fall to Greensboro in 1st-half title chase

By Rich Thomaselli

For the Hudson Valley Renegades, it was all over within a matter of 96 hours.

Maybe less than that.

Hudson Valley was within striking distance of the Greensboro Grasshoppers, the first place team in the South Atlantic Lake North Division. The Renegades left for a six-game road trip down south to play the Division leaders.

Hudson Valley was just three games out of first and hoping for a miracle to win the division and qualify for the automatic berth in the playoffs.

After the first two games of the series, the Renegades were out of it.

Hudson family lost four straight to Greensboro and slid all the way from striking distance in second place to a distant fourth place in the five-team division.

The series opener last Tuesday did not bode well. Hudson Valley got a strong pitching performance, but fell to the Grasshoppers 2-0 at FNB Field. Jackson Fristoe turned in a solid start for the Renegades, tossing 5.0 innings and allowing just two runs on three hits. The right-hander struck out six and issued only one walk while completing six innings for the second time in his career. The lone blemish against Fristoe (1-3) was also the only two runs in the game, a two-run home run by Hudson Head in the bottom of the third inning. After a leadoff single by Shawn Ross, Head lifted a fly

ball to right field that just cleared the wall for his eighth home run of the year to put Greensboro in front 2-0.

That was it.

Renegades fell to the Grasshoppers 8-2 on Wednesday afternoon to effectively end its division hopes.

After setting a new career-high in strikeouts in his last start, Baron Stuart repeated that feat by punching out 10 Grasshoppers across 4.1 innings. In his last two starts, the right-hander has struck out 18 batters across 10.1 innings for Hudson Valley.

Despite the strong start, the Grasshoppers got to Stuart (4-2) in the bottom of the third with two outs. Geovanny Planchart singled and Termarr Johnson followed with a two-run home run to right field to put Greensboro in front 2-0. The Grasshoppers added two more off Stuart in the fifth on a double steal of second and home executed by P.J. Hilson and Lonnie White and an RBI single by Planchart. Eric Reyzelman relieved Stuart after Planchart's hit and escaped further damage while throwing 1.2 scoreless innings. Greensboro added four runs in the bottom of the eighth against Matt Keating on a White RBI single and a three-run home run by Hilson to extend the lead to 8-0.

Hudson Valley lost again on Thursday, Friday and Saturday to fall even further behind.

The one bright spot came on Sunday



Garrett Martin, above, and Josh Moylan each hit two homers in the Renegades' 12-9 win on Sunday over the Greensboro Grasshoppers. Photo by Dave Janosz

afternoon when the Renegades outscored Greensboro, 12-9. Garrett Martin and Josh Moylan each hit two home runs, collecting back-to-back blasts in both the fourth and ninth innings. They are the first pair of Renegades teammates to hit two home runs in the same game since

Ben Cowles and Alexander Vargas on April 30, 2023 at Greenville.

The Renegades are 1-2 in the second half of the season and finished the first half at 32-33. They are at home this week with games against the Wilmington Blue Rocks.

GENERAL MANAGER Q & A

Communicating with other GMs, following the Yankees and time off

The Hudson Valley Renegades have a first-year general manager in Zach Betkowski. He sits down with reporter Rich Thomaselli every week to express his thoughts on the Renegades and on minor league baseball in general.

What is the communication like with other general managers in the league? Is there a competitiveness or do you guys just bounce ideas off each other?

I think there's a camaraderie. There's not much competition because we're all in different markets and we're not competing for the same dollar. Take our ownership group, for instance, Diamond

Baseball Holdings. They own 34 teams now. There's a lot of sharing of best practices. There are monthly calls with Diamond Baseball and bi-weekly calls with other GMs in the South Atlantic League. I have always said that this industry is an industry where theft is encouraged (laughs).

Do you follow the Yankees at all? Or is your plate full enough here?

I will definitely say that, since I have been working in minor league baseball, I watch less and less of Major League Baseball. It's not conducive. The times are so similar. It doesn't mean I don't fol-

low Major League Baseball. And of course I follow the Yankees. It's exciting to see them in first place, and hopefully they will make a deep run in October. And it's exciting for our franchise, too, being one of their affiliates.

Do you ever try to get away from baseball? And if so, what do you do?

It's definitely not easy to get away. There's always a failing that you have to be available. Of course, there are a lot of times when I just spend time with my family, and a lot of times when I just unplug.



Bard to make history with first female baseball player

By Rich Thomaselli

Bard College is set to make school history this coming fall. Bard will have its first female baseball player take the field for the 2024 fall season beginning in September. Elise Berger will not only be the school's first female player, but only the

ninth overall this season at any level of collegiate baseball. The pitcher hails from Vermont. Berger has been playing organized ball for 13 years. She will be turning 19 when the Bard season begins in the fall. She is a member of the USA Women's National Baseball Team during the summer.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wilderstein to host Summer Cocktail Party July 6
Wilderstein Historic Site, 330 Morton Road in Rhinebeck, will host its "Red White and Blues" Summer Cocktail Party on Saturday, July 6, from 5 to 8 p.m., on the South Lawn. The event is a benefit for the site and will feature live blues in the ambiance of the past, fabulous food and libations, silent auction, house tours, and fun. Rain or shine. RSVP at www.wilderstein.org or call (845) 876-4818.

Repair Cafes set in Stanford
The Stanford Free Library will host Repair Cafes on July 6 and Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, toys and more to be repaired, instead of throwing them away. The cost is a voluntary donation. The library is at 6035 Route 82 in Stanfordville. Visit repaircafe.org for more information.

Vanderbilt Garden Association offers tours
Every third Sunday of the month through Sept. 21, Vanderbilt Garden Association's Interpreters will offer regular free monthly tours from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Upcoming dates are July 21 and Aug. 18. Tours meet outside the Tool House building.

Interpreters will discuss the history of the gardens, with a focus on the 40th anniversary of the F.W. Vanderbilt Association, the Vanderbilt ownership and the mission of the not-for-profit Vanderbilt Garden Association to rehabilitate and maintain the plants, shrubs and trees within the formal gardens as they were in the 1930s just prior to Frederick Vanderbilt's death in 1938.

For more information, e-mail info@vanderbiltgarden.org or visit <http://www.vanderbiltgarden.org>.

Rhinebeck church offers Vacation Bible School
Grace Bible Fellowship Church will hold its Vacation Bible School July 22-26 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The Bible School is for children ages 4 through teens and is free of charge. The church is at the intersection of Route 9 and Route 9G in Rhinebeck. Contact Pastor Frank L. Cirone at (845) 876-2122, (845) 876-6923 or fdcirone@aol.com for more information.

FARMERS MARKETS
Bangall/Stanfordville: Bear Creek Farmers Market, 108 Hunns Lake Rd., Bangall. Bi-weekly on Saturdays, starting on May 18, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering a rich array of locally sourced food for families to make complete at-home meals, and a lineup of community-centered events. More info: Debra Kaye, debra@bearcreekfarm.com or (914) 475-1150

Paul's Hyde Park Farmers Market, 4390 Albany Post Road (Route 9, across from Town Hall), Hyde Park. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., June-October. Sponsored by the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce. Local fruits & vegetables, meats & eggs, Italian specialties, baked goods, breads & bagels, arts & crafts, eat-there foods & beverages and much more. New vendors always welcome. (845) 229-9336 or oakgreen@optonline.net

Poughkeepsie Waterfront Market, the Pavilion at the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum at 75 North Water St. in Poughkeepsie. Tuesdays, 2-5:30 p.m., May 21-Oct. 29. (845) 471-0589 or info@mhdm.org

ONGOING
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 our website at <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.mealsonwheelsohp.org or, contact Andrea Tkazyik at (845) 229-5896.

Pull the Tank raises more than \$65,000 for local veterans

The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region's Pull the Tank event was a resounding success on June 15th, exceeding expectations and raising more than \$65,000 for Mission United, a program dedicated to supporting veterans and military families in the community.

Teams of 20, including local businesses and a dedicated veterans' team, battled it out to pull a massive World War II Sherman Tank and flatbed weighing over 120,000 pounds across a 50-foot course. The competition was fierce, but the spirit of camaraderie prevailed as participants cheered each other on. The winning team, Hannaford Supermarkets, clocked an impressive 17.88 seconds!

The sunny skies at Orange County Airport provided the perfect backdrop for a day of community fun. More than 240 participants across 13 teams enjoyed: Warm-up exercises to get ready for the challenge, exciting raffle prizes, a dedicated children's area with games and face painting and food and refreshments.

"We're thrilled with the turnout and the incredible amount raised," said Jeannie Montano, President & CEO of United Way. "This event truly embodies our community's spirit of coming together to support those who served."

The United Way extends its gratitude to the numerous sponsors who made the event possible, as well as the 50 volunteers who played a vital role in its success. Sponsors included: Acorn Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, Bob's Discount Furniture, Kevin Cleary and Holly Wahlberg, Central Hudson Gas &

Electric Corporation, Bill and Candy Davies, EC Media Group, Galleria at Crystal Run, IBM, iHeart Radio, Hotaling Property and Casualty LLC, Hudson River Truck and Trailer, Key Bank, Town of Montgomery Ambulance, M&T Bank, Jim Monroney's Harley Davidson, Pamal Broadcasting, RBT CPAs, LLP, Pratt & Whitney Advanced Coating Technologies, Resorts World, TD Bank, Ulster Savings Bank, Wall Radio, WGHT and WTBQ. A special thank you goes to the Orange County Airport, Bud Walker, BTM, and Minuteman Press-Red Hook for their additional support.

Every dollar raised will provide veterans with essential services such as housing assistance, legal support, mental health treatment, and basic necessities.



The team from Adams Fairacre Farms participates in the annual Pull the Tank event. *Courtesy photo*

Hyde Park's July 4th Parade to mark 50 years of Music in the Parks

continued from cover

Hyde Park Central School District's continuous participation in kicking off the series for so many years," said DiMaio. "The series of concerts set against our beautiful historic Hyde Park backdrops has been enjoyed by generations of families, and it is something our whole community can enjoy and take pride in."

Osborn pointed to the district's "support of live music, both professional and school age, in the local area." He noted, "The Hyde Park Schools has once again been recognized as one of the Best Communities for Music Education this year, something that we take great pride in with the support of our administration, led by our superintendent Roman Pedro."

Many local officials, businesses, performers, community organizations and others participate in the July Fourth

Parade, which is sponsored again this year by Rondout Savings Bank. A partial list includes Saints of Swing, Academy of Korean Martial Arts, the 1951 Hudson Hornet car ("Doc Hudson") from the movie "Cars," the Patriots Fife & Drum Corps from Rhinebeck, Dance Works Too!, Cub Scout Troop 153, and the Hyde Park American Legion Post 1303, to name a few.

County Executive Sue Serino, Legislator Will Truitt, and all Hyde Park Council members were also confirmed to participate as this paper went to press.

Townsquare Media will provide sound and emcee the proceedings.

For more information, contact Recreation Leader Morgan Sacerdote at (845) 229-8086, ext. 301.

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GENERAC

8 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - June 26-July 2, 2024

Abilities First graduation celebrates accomplishments of three students with developmental disabilities

Abilities First honored three young men at Graduation 2024 Friday June 21, celebrating their commitment to education with faculty, staff and families whose devout support helped the students, with developmental disabilities, succeed and mature. The outdoor graduation, under a canopy at Abilities First's LaGrange school on Firemen's Way, honored Hunter Dylewski of Hopewell Junction, Rene Larin of Kingston and Thomas Reeves of New Paltz. Abilities First, a nonprofit organization, provides people who face developmental challenges and their families support to attain independence, self-determination, integration and acceptance by others through education, exploration and experience. "It has been incredibly heartwarming to watch these three graduates progress through our program with the love and strength of their inspiring families and our devoted faculty and staff," said Abilities First CEO Jeffery Fox.

Georgia Patchen, Abilities First's LaGrange campus principal, echoed Fox's congratulations when addressing the graduates and their families. "Over the past year, it has been a pleasure to get to know these students and see their

growth," she said. "There are so many people here today to celebrate – not only your parents who love you, but representatives of your home school districts who have supported you through your journey. Your Abilities First family adored you and enjoyed watching you grow as well." "Pomp and Circumstance" and other selections were played by the Arlington High School String Quintet, and the graduates were resplendent in bright blue caps and gowns. An uplifting video chronicled the past school year, using the songs "Our Time" from the Broadway play "Merrily We Roll Along" and Faith Hill's "There You'll Be" as the soundtrack. The ceremony concluded with Frank Sinatra's "My Way," sung by Santos Rodriguez and accompanied by Jeffrey Mansfield, Ryan Ellis and graduate Thomas Reeves under the direction of Music Therapist Noah Pomerselig. Refreshments followed. For the graduates' families, pride, smiles and the warmth of their children's milestone accomplishments will be wonderfully enduring memories.

Alex Reeves, father of graduate Reeves, said, "I'm very happy and proud about this occasion. Abilities First is



From left, Abilities First CEO Jeffery Fox, graduate Thomas Reeves, teacher Nancy Besio, graduate Rene Larin (seated), Abilities First LaGrange School Principal Georgia Patchen, graduate Hunter Dylewski, Abilities First Chief Program Officer Mark Nace and Abilities First Chief Administrative Officer Kelly Martinez are pictured after the graduation ceremonies. *Courtesy photo*

really one of the greatest places. It's been a great fit for Tom and kids with needs." "It's awesome and rewarding after so many years," said Rene Larin Sr., father of new graduate Rene Larin. "It has been

a long journey. At the end, it was very joyful to see this day." "I am so proud of all three of these kids," said Stacey Dylewski, mother of graduate Hunter Dylewski. "The ceremony was beautiful."

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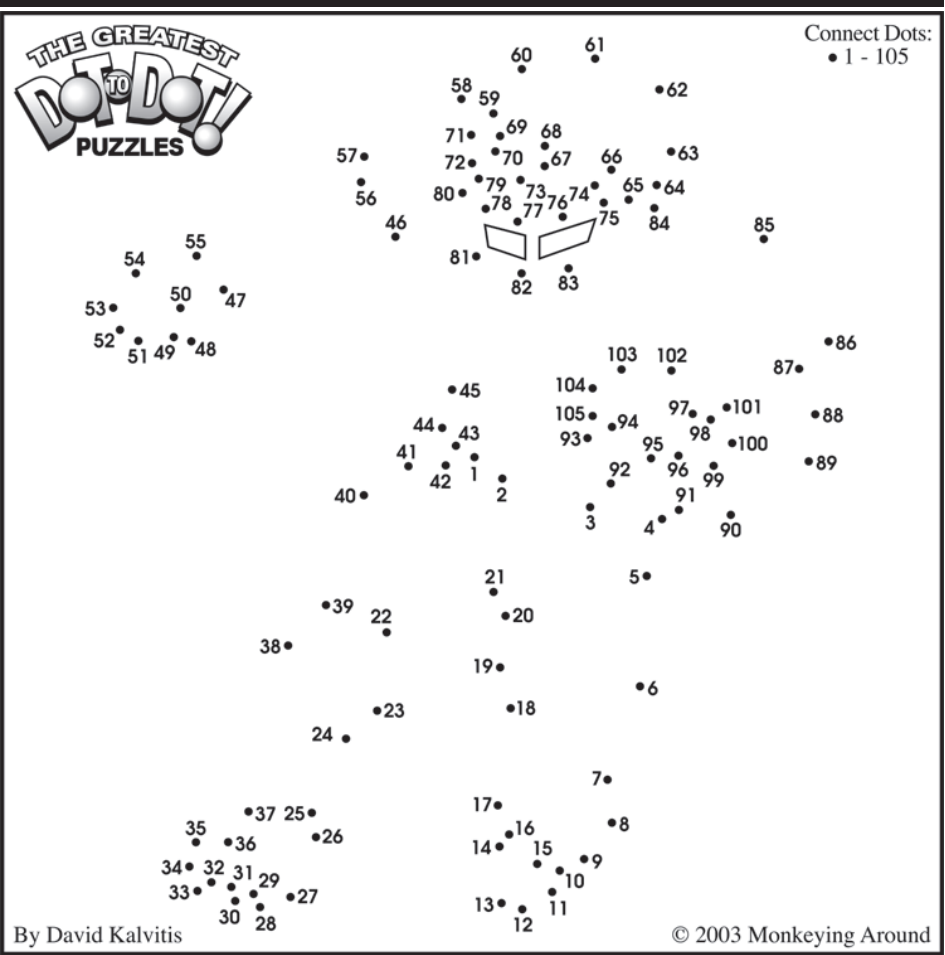


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DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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Creative Living

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Cocoon Theatre’s Soiree to offer a multi-arts experience

By Kate Goldsmith

Cocoon Theatre will present “Form Without Matter,” an evening of original film, music, spoken word and dance, on Sunday, June 30. The performance will start at 7 p.m. at Cocoon’s new space in Red Hook, at 25 East Market Street. Suggested donation is \$20 at the door; bring a dish to share for the potluck and enjoy discussion following the performance.

Sunday’s event revives Cocoon Theatre’s Soiree Series, a monthly program created in 2015 when Cocoon relocated to Poughkeepsie from its Rhinebeck space. The evening will feature a collection of nine short films based on archival footage with original music and words by Fred Levine and recorded spoken word by Penelope (Penny) Hyde Levine; in addition, Cocoon Theatre Director Marguerite San Millan will perform a dance piece that

she choreographed for one of the films. The Soiree Series offers original performances and works-in-progress on the last Sunday of every month.

“We started the Soiree series when we made that transition to Poughkeepsie, [in order] to meet [local] artists,” said San Millan. “Fred and Penny were actually parents of a student I taught. [Initially] they were just people standing in the hallway, waiting to pick up their kid. As we got to know them, we found out they were artists, too.”

The Levines performed at the Soirees in Poughkeepsie, and also became Cocoon Theatre board members.

“That’s what the Soirees did; they brought out artists we didn’t know about,” San Millan said.

The origins of ‘Form Without Matter’

A lifelong resident of the Hudson Valley, Fred Levine has worked for a number of years to create a synthesis of sound, words, and film. According to his bio, Fred is intrigued by “found footage,” including home movies and educational films, which he edits to form the visual component of a unified synthesis with music and poetry. He records electric guitar and electronic/acoustic keyboard, combined with recordings of his poems performed by his wife, Penelope Hyde Levine. The result is “Form Without Matter and other songs” a series of films about dreams, myth, and transcendence.

“[Fred] took the phrase ‘Form Without Matter’ from Aristotle ... who said that form without matter is God...,” said San Millan.

Asked to delve deeper, Fred wrote: “Form Without Matter - the phrase and the piece - seems to embody best the themes of myth, dreams and transcendence in the trajectory of the whole collection (the poem ‘Form Without



Above: Cocoon Theatre’s Director, Marguerite San Millan, dances to “Theater of God,” one of nine short films by Fred Levine that will be featured in a Soiree event this Sunday. Below: Cocoon Theatre’s space at 25 East Market Street in Red Hook. Below, left: Penny and Fred Levine create a balloon display at Cocoon Theatre. *Courtesy photos*

Matter’ started as a dream, as did some of the others). As for why I use the phrase ‘and other songs’ in the title ... I struggled with what to call these pieces, even though they have components of film and poetry, it somehow felt best to call them songs (in the title at least).”

The June 30 Soirée presentation will also venture into the realm of dance. San

Millan has choreographed a piece that she will perform live to the fourth film of the evening, “Theater of God.”

“Creating the dance, I did feel like [it was] interplay: the way two or more things have an effect on each other ... like play! The film projected on me, the

continued on page 17



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The busiest bees won't make you honey

Bees have been in the news the last few years due to declining populations likely caused by habitat loss, climate change, pesticides, and monocrop agriculture. Fewer bees and other pollinators endanger not only world commerce, but also ecosystems. If you want to “bee” better informed about history, economics, or science, or are just curious about your favorite tea sweetener, here is a brief tutorial on bees and honey.

HOW DO SCIENTISTS CLASSIFY BEES?

Bees are members of the Animal Kingdom because they have many nucleated cells, can move, and have specialized sensory organs. They are in the Arthropod Phylum because they are invertebrates with an external skeleton, a segmented body, and paired jointed appendages. They have six legs and one or two pairs of wings, which makes them part of the Insect Class. Bees are of the Order Hymenoptera meaning “membrane-winged,” which includes ants and wasps. There are several bee Families; the largest is Apidea, which includes bumblebees and honeybees.

BOMBUS IMPATIENS: THE BUSIEST BEE

Bumblebees are in the Bombus Genus.

They are round, fuzzy, and have two sets of wings. They live in nests with up to a few hundred others. Humans have had limited success with bumblebee domestication.

Bumblebees are active only from early spring through late fall. During the rest of the year, the colony is survived by one queen bee hibernating below ground. Although they do produce honey, it is only enough to feed their larvae and the queen for a few days during bad weather.

There are 250 species of bumblebees which feed on a multitude of flower types. They are fast workers with hefty pollen baskets on their hind legs. Pollen also clings to their hairy abdomens and is deposited during successive visits to different blossoms. Bumblebees are adept at cross-pollination and are resistant to weather conditions such as cold, rain, and limited light. All these factors make bumblebees superior pollinators. The Common Eastern Bumblebee (*Bombus impatiens*) is one of the best native pollinators.

EUROPEAN HONEYBEE

Like bumblebees, honeybees have two



Bumblebee covered with pollen. Photo by Robert Rightmeyer

continued on page 20

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ACROSS	DOWN
1. Molten rock in earth's crust	1. Bonkers
6. Scarlett Johansson's 2013 voice only role	2. Sir Mix-_____ -_____
9. Jezebel's idol	3. Kind of boots in the '60s
13. Not silently	4. One M in MMR vaccine
14. Pro vote	5. Slowly and gracefully, in music
15. Italian bowling	6. Mass number
16. Proclaimed as true without proof	7. Snake-like reef dweller
17. Rob Manfred's org.	8. Teacher of Torah
18. Savory taste sensation	9. *"Oppenheimer" subject
19. *Tom Cruise's 1986 blockbuster	10. Popular smoothie berry
21. *It featured the song "What Was I Made For?"	11. Pinnacle
23. Wrath, e.g.	12. Hula dancer's necklace
24. Milton Bradley's "The Game of _____"	15. B in FBI
25. General Post Office	20. Open up
28. A woodwind	22. Half of NFL
30. Group of trained professionals, pl.	24. a.k.a. Hansen's disease
35. Icy precipitation	25. *1990 Swayze/Moore blockbuster
37. Concert units	26. Trattoria staple
39. Charles Dickens' Heep	27. Petroleum tanker
40. Scandinavian capital	29. *It premiered in the U.K. on 6/6/76, with The
41. Rebroadcasted	31. Chemical cure
43. Khrushchev's domain, acr.	32. Revered Hindu
44. *What the gang did in 1988's "A Fish Called Wanda"	33. Drawing support
46. Exploding star	34. *2001 blockbuster ogre
47. Clarified butter	36. Type of rich soil
48. Airport surface	38. "Keep this information" button
50. Highway hauler	42. Name-chooser
52. Breed	45. Wyatt Earp and such
53. Miss Muffet's repast	49. Cuban dance syllable
55. Not flow	51. Letter-resembling supports
57. *Tim Burton's 1989 and 1992 title character	54. End of a poem
60. *It featured the song "Summer Lovin'"	56. Primary
63. Popular fashion magazine	57. Like certain china
64. Road in Rome	58. Malaria symptom
66. Comment to the audience	59. Ankara native
68. Deposit the ashes	60. Gangster's pistols
69. Giant Hall-of-Famer Mel _____	61. Cosine's buddy
70. Canine skin infection	62. U2 member
71. Humble and docile	63. Vigor's partner
72. Name badges, acr.	65. It would
73. Streamlined	67. Comic book cry of horror

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4			3	5	1



DECODING DUTCHESS PAST

www.DCHSNY.org/ddp



Dutchess County
Historical Society

By Aidan Chisamore

*We use such balms as have no strife,
With Nature nor the Laws of Life;
With blood our hands we never stain,
Nor poison men to ease their pain.*

Motto of the Poughkeepsie
Thomsonian [1 October 1842]

This motto, now mostly forgotten, once represented one of the most prominent health crazes of the 19th century. The poem advertised the Thomsonian (or “Botanic”) system of medicine in which doctors challenged conventional medical practice, instead recommending natural plant-based cures. While largely ineffective, these remedies captivated public attention, something we are all too familiar with in an age of health influencers and digital cures. Dutchess County, particularly Poughkeepsie, had a strong voice in the Thomsonian movement. This philosophy created a vibrant sub-culture within the County’s medical community for more than two decades, receiving state and national attention.

Dr. Samuel Thomson (1769-1843), the movement’s founder, worked as an herbalist and botanist in rural New Hampshire. In the summer of 1790, Thomson’s wife Susanna suffered a life-threatening illness that conventional medicine was unable to cure. Turning to a plant-based remedy, Susanna eventually recovered. The following decades, Thomson developed his new medical system, testing various cures on his neighbors and children. In 1822 he released the “New Guide to Health, or, Botanic Family Physician,” which outlined natural remedies to common ailments.

Thomson and his followers cultivated a personal system of bodily health in which medicine targeted the root of the problem rather than treat its symptoms. These “cures” ranged from specific activities such as the famous Thomsonian steam bath in which a patient drank a mix of cayenne pepper and laxatives while sitting in a sauna, to common herbal medicines. Ardent Thomsonians publicly denounced doctors who practiced blood-letting and used harmful or toxic drugs such as Opium, Laudanum, and the mercury solution Calomel.



Above: Title page of the United States Thomson Almanac published in Poughkeepsie, 1840. Image courtesy of Heritage Auctions

These cures purported to solve illness without invasive procedures. Through natural substances—only compounds easily derived from plants—they promoted a holistic view of the human body, targeting both physical and emotional unwellness. The historic News Paper Collection in the Dutchess County Historical Society’s archive, replete with signs of this system, shows the range of these Thomsonian remedies. One notice, included in an 1836 issue of Poughkeepsie Journal advertised “syrup of Liverwort,” “Cephalic Snuff,” and “Concentrated Syrup of Sarsaparilla” all made in Thomsonian fashion with “medicinal herbs, extracts, and ointments.” Another, published in an 1841 issue of the Poughkeepsie Telegraph, claimed that all-natural vegetable pills sold in every town in Dutchess would cure any fever, “Bilious Cholic, Dypensia, heart burn, and Female Weakness.” These local examples aptly demonstrates both the range of uses and the variety of material claimed by the Thomsonianist.

Through cures like this, the movement attempted to empower individual health. Under the Thomsonian system, patients had full control over the administration of treatments. Informally trained practitioners and local Thomsonian publications could recommend cures that could be purchased at Thomsonian stores, but nothing was prescribed. Thus, easily applied and widely applicable cures had the greatest appeal.

The movement grew as stories of miraculous cures spread throughout the county. Outside of New England, New York had the largest community of Thomsonianists, and Poughkeepsie functioned as a locus for the state’s Thomsonian movement during its formative years. Indeed, as the Poughkeepsie Eagle noted in 1837, the city was quickly becoming the meeting place of Thomsonian medical conferences and the State’s Thomsonian Medical Society.

The most prominent local Thomsonian was Thomas Lapham (b. c.1780). Lapham ran a clinic, store, and school for the new systems treatments on the north end of Catharine Street in Poughkeepsie. In May of 1838 Lapham along with local businessman A. H. Platt printed the inaugural issue of the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian, a bi-monthly newspaper that detailed remedies, clinics, and testimonies. Each issue of the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian offered to “Let a knowledge of the healing art be diffused among the people,” a nod to the broader movement’s desire to make medical knowledge public. The publication’s readership rapidly expanded, distributing thousands of papers, reflecting the movement’s success in the county with dozens of practicing offices and several Thomsonian societies.

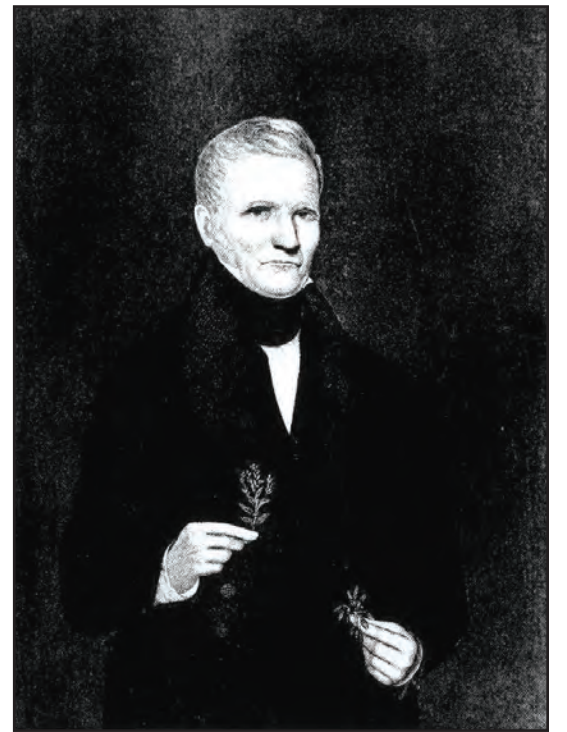
The zenith of Dutchess Thomsoniansm can be seen in medical publications where the Thomsonians of Dutchess County gain national attention. In 1840, the editors of the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian—facing harsh criticism over the validity of the medical system—called for the creation of an informative almanac. Originally used as a tool to chart stellar movements and weather, by the 19th century almanacs were full of informative articles that often looked at personal health, farming, and history. Their reputation for credibility made

them the most popular serial publication after newspapers.

Lapham and Platt called for a national publication based in Poughkeepsie titled the United States Thomsonian Almanac (or Poughkeepsie Thomsonian Almanac). In his appeal, Lapham described almanacs as “powerful auxiliaries [for] advancing the Thomsonian system.” During a meeting of notable practitioners later that year, Poughkeepsie’s request was accepted. While several other communities already had established and successful almanacs, Thomsonianists in Poughkeepsie distinguished their book by adding several new cures outside of Thomson’s system and detailing the history of each cure. In doing this, they promoted unapproved herbs which they claimed better regulated the body’s blood and had a wider historical use.

These additions brought negative attention to the Thomsonians in Poughkeepsie. The movement’s founder declared the United States Thomsonian Almanac dangerous, claiming the additions would harm any who used them and had no place in the medical system. However, the damage had already been done as Lapham and Platt shipped thousands of copies throughout New York and the country. Among practicing Thomsonists the book received high praise. The Botanico-Medical Recorder in Cincinnati, Ohio deemed it “admirably well calculated” and called for all Thomsonians in the West to “exert himself to circulate this almanac.”

Despite its success, issues with non-conformity prevented further publications of the almanac. However, Poughkeepsie Thomsonian continued to publish, and by 1848 the publication moved upstate to widen its reach, changing names to the New York Thomsonian.



Above: Portrait of Dr. Samuel Thomson, Founder of the Botanical Health Movement. The image appears in the 1835 edition of his New Guide to Health.

While this popular medical movement was not unique to Dutchess County, the enthusiastic involvement of many of its residents left a mark. This history continues to crucial insight to better shape our understanding of the politics and health movements in our county. As we consider what constitutes legitimate medical knowledge we should be aware of the parallel between this history and our own day.

Aidan Chisamore is a recent addition to the DCHS staff. He works in Collections and Archives and may be reached at aidan.chisamore@dchsnny.org.



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Flat tire

Luigi comes to the rescue.

I found myself thinking about my mother the other day. Though she passed away a few years ago I still feel her presence from time to time. When I do, I laugh at some of the funny memories.

Quite a few years ago I got a call from my sister-in-law, Elizabeth. Apparently, my mother was driving my nephew to school, and she had her tire blowout. She told me that Mom was probably going to need some help and could I assist her.

I called Mom up on her cell phone, fully expecting to not get an answer because she is not 100% sure how to use her cell phone. Surprisingly, she answered

Mom: Ello.

Me: Mom, this is Luigi. You OK?

Mom: Who told you?

Me: Mom, do you need me to come change the tire?

Mom: No Ia calleda the towa truck. Who told you?

Me: You sure, Mom? I can be there in 5 minutes.

Mom: No, Ima OK.

I hung up the phone not feeling too confident, so I called Pop, who was at home. Unfortunately, no one answered. I figured he was outside and probably

would be back in a few minutes. Five minutes later, Pop called me.

Pop: Nick, John, Anthony, Luigi, Vinny.

Me: It's Luigi, Pop.

Pop: OK, listen, Momma she gotta the flat tire.

Me: Do you want me to go fix it?

Pop: Imma not sure.

Me: Pop, listen. I can be there in 5 minutes. I'll take care of it. OK?

Pop: OK.

I grabbed my tool box and jumped in my car. On my way there I started laughing to myself, thinking of what I'd find. When I arrived, it was much worse and funnier than I expected.

Mom was parked in the middle of the road with her hazards on. Pop was parked in his pickup truck right behind her with his hazards on. Traffic was backed up behind both of them, with everyone honking their horns. Shaking my head in disbelief, I pulled into the school parking lot, parked my car, grabbed my tool box and ran down to the scene of the blowout.

First thing I did was tell Pop to move his truck and park it in the school parking lot, which is literally 50 feet away. Next, I told Mom to get into the passenger seat

so I could drive the car with the flat into the school parking lot.

Mom moved but was not happy. All the while she was yelling at me because I couldn't drive the car with a flat tire, and she was not going to be able to go to the beauty parlor to get her hair done, and it had been six weeks and she had to go.

I kept my mouth shut because I knew by the time I could explain what I was doing it would already be finished.

Once I parked, Mom looked at the car with the tire and she had no idea how I was going to fix this mess. The tire was shredded at this point, but at least traffic was moving again and there were no more honking horns. Mom looked at me with a slight smile because she knew I could fix this situation and have her car ready for her hair appointment, but she didn't know how.

Pop was standing there staring at me getting antsy because it was almost dinner time and he had to watch Jeopardy before he went to bed.

Me: Mom, first we are going to get the spare tire out.

Mom: Where is the spare? I looked, there is nothing in the trunk.

Me: Mom, look. You pick up the carpet, and it's right there.

Mom: Somanagun. Wait. Thatsa no big nough?

Me: Mom, this is a donut.

Mom: I no lika the donuts. I like biscotti.

Me: No Mom, this is called a donut. Oh, forget it.

Mom: How you gonna to pick upa the car?

Me: (I reach into the trunk) With this, Mom. This is a jack.

Mom: Donta call Jack. He isa doing his homework. You don't need him (Jack is my other nephew).

Me: No Mom, listen, this is called a jack.

Pop: Yeah you no calla Jack. Ima gonna help you.

Me: (I slap my head in exasperation. I take a deep breath.) Listen, Pop, you go home and get dinner going. I promise by the time you get done, Mom will be home. Mom, you go sit in my car and wait for me to fix this. OK?

Pop: OK

Mom: OK

So now I jack up the car, remove, the blown tire, replace is with the donut, lower the car and put everything away in the trunk. I take the shredded tire and put it into my truck so I can bring it to the garage and get it repaired. I then told Mom to wait for me, because I wanted to test drive it around the parking lot just to make sure everything was OK.

Once satisfied, I tell Mom, I'm going

to follow her home. On the way home, I noticed her putting the hazards on and off several times. I also see in the radio antenna go up and down. I figure she makes sure the blown tire hasn't affected her radio.

Once we get home, Pop is just finishing dinner. Every year Pop has butternut squash growing everywhere. He loves to mix it with Arborio Rice and some fresh grated cheese. As I was walking into their house he was putting some in a Tupperware for me to take with me. As I'm walking out the kitchen door with my Risotto, my mother smacks my cheek and asks yet again, "Can I still go getta my hair done witha thata donato on the car?"

It's never a dull moment in the Coppola house. Well, at least I get fed.

BUTTERNUT SQUASH RISOTTO

Ingredients

- 1 onion, diced
- 3 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 cups arborio (risotto) rice
- 1 cup white wine
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup peeled diced butternut squash
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 1 tbsp. chopped fresh basil
- 1 tbsp. butter
- Grated Pecorino Romano Cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

Sautee the diced onion and squash in the olive oil over medium heat for about three to five minutes, or until the onion is mostly soft. Next, add in the rice. Allow to cook, stirring, for a minute or two, just to lightly toast the rice, and being carefully that it doesn't burn. Slowly add in the white wine.

Next, add the broth. Allow the moisture to cook off about 15 minutes. Stir frequently.

Once the rice is nearly cooked, add in the nutmeg, fresh basil and butter. Stir well to combine everything well, and season lightly with a bit of salt and pepper, to taste.

Allow everything to heat, just for another minute or two, until everything is thoroughly heated through, and stirring frequently. Serve with fresh grated Pecorino Romano and a nice glass of Pinot Grigio.

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.

Roy C Ketcham



Class of 1974

50th Reunion

Date:
September 21, 2024 • 7pm - 11pm Local Time

Location:
Mahoney's Irish Pub & Steakhouse
35 Main Street, Poughkeepsie

Details:

FRIDAY 9/20: 7pm Kicking things off at District Social, 511 Fishkill Ave., Beacon. District Social is the newest scene in music entertainment in the Hudson Valley.

SATURDAY 9/21: 7-11pm Dinner \$65 pp (cash bar) at Mahoney's Steakhouse, 35 Main Street, Poughkeepsie. 1974 Classmates + 1 guest (Checks or money order only, payable to Sue Theiss & mailed to her at 14 Marco Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603) due by 8/15/24

SUNDAY 9/22: 11am Walkway Over The Hudson State Historic Park / Meet at 61 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie. With good weather, this will be awesome!

A block of 20 Double/King rooms has been reserved 9/20-9/22 at Hampton Inn, 2360 South Road, Poughkeepsie at \$219/night. Reservations must be confirmed by August 20. (833) 604-7020.

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A&E Calendar

arts and entertainment happenings

Through June: Fairy House Hunt Family Program, Locust Grove Estate, 2683 South Rd. (Rte. 9), Poughkeepsie. Enjoy this fabulous outdoor scavenger hunt with whimsical and adorable Fairy Houses hidden among the blooming flowers and trees at Locust Grove, Saturdays & Sundays in June. Each Fairy House celebrates a different heirloom flower or historic tree on Locust Grove's park-like property. Tickets: \$10/person, kids under 4 are free. Timed entry tickets available at www.igny.org or (845) 454-4500.

Through July 7: "My Fair Lady," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Presented by Rhinebeck Theatre Society. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Through July 28: Powerhouse Theater, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. The annual summer season brings together some of today's most influential theatrical voices to present new musicals, plays, and readings, and welcomes the next generation of theater artists as members of the Powerhouse Theater Training Program. This week: Readings, "Holes in the Shape of My Father" (June 27), written by Savon Bartley, directed by Adam Coy; "Possessed (or, 'the Crazy African Girl Play') (June 28), written by Gloria Majule, directed by Shariffa Ali; "Ping Pong Play" (June 29), written by Kaela Mei-Shing Garvin. All readings are free. For reservations, call (845) 437-5599 or email phtbox-office@vassar.edu. Visit www.vassar.edu/

powerhouse for season schedule.

Through Aug. 18: SummerScape, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Featuring eight weeks of opera, theater, dance, music, Spiegeltent, and the 34th Bard Music Festival: Berlioz and His World. Highlights include: "Ulysses," a SummerScape Commission/World Premiere, created by Elevator Repair Service, with text from "Ulysses" by James Joyce, through July 14; "SCAT!" by Urban Bush Women, a SummerScape Commission/World Premiere, with conception, eirection, and choreography by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and original music composed and performed by Craig Harris, June 28-30; "Le prophète" an opera by Giacomo Meyerbeer, a new production sung in French with English supertitles, libretto by Eugène Scribe and Émile Deschamps, the American Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leon Botstein, July 26-Aug. 4; The 34th Bard Music Festival: Hector Berlioz and His World, Weekend One (Aug. 9-11): Revolutionary Spectacle and Romantic Passion; Weekend Two (Aug. 15-18): Music and the Literary Imagination; The return of the Spiegeltent, June 28-Aug. 17, with programming curated by Caleb Hammons. Tickets and more information at www.fishercenter.bard.edu

Through Sept. 2: Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, 2015 Rte. 9, Garrison. The 2024 repertory season includes the world premiere of "Medea: Re-Versed," by longtime HVSF company member Luis Quintero (Love's Labor's Lost), adapted from Euripides, and co-con-

ceived and directed by Nathan Winkelstein (Seascape); as well as "The Murder of Roger Ackroyd" and "By The Queen." See www.hvshakespeare.org for performance dates/times, tickets and more information.

June 28: Chamber Music: All About Songs, The Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. American tenor Daniel McGrew and mezzo-soprano Katherine Beck present a wide range of repertoire from gorgeous European art songs to beloved American musical theater classics, with Sophia Zhou on piano, 7 p.m. Tickets \$37-\$42. www.thestissingcenter.org/chamber-music

June 28-30: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. June 28: SIRS; with special guest Christine Havrilla, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. June 29: Sharkey & The Sparks, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. June 30: Open Mic Invitational, 6:30 p.m. come enjoy some of the finest talents from our weekly Open Mic Nights. Tickets \$10. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

June 28-July 7: "Driving Miss Daisy," Bannerman Island. Daisy Werthan, an elderly Jewish widow and former school-teacher, is determined to maintain her independence. When Miss Daisy drives her 1946 Chrysler Windsor into her neighbor's yard, her son Boolie hires Hoke Colburn, a Black man, as chauffeur. Miss Daisy and Hoke gradually form a close friendship over the years, one that transcends racial prejudices and social conventions. Performances Fri.-Sun. At 8 p.m. Access the island via The Estuary Steward, departing from the Beacon dock at both 6 and 7 p.m. Attendees have the opportunity to take a

short tour through the gardens and structures on Bannerman's Island before the performance. Proceeds fund restoration projects on Historic Bannerman's Island. Tickets are \$80 for Premium Seating, \$75 for General Seating. Purchase at bannermancastle.org.

June 29: Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers Spirit Trail: 25th Anniversary Tour, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. 8 p.m. show. Celebrate 25 years of Spirit Trail with Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers. Each ticket will include a copy of the Spirit Trail: 25th Anniversary Edition 3-CD box set to be picked up at the show. Tickets \$50, \$60, \$75, \$85. (845) 473-5288, UPAC 845-339-6088 or bardavon.org

June 29: Murder Cafe presents "Mystery at the Starlight Ballroom," Hudson House Distillery, West Park. A riveting new show that promises a delightful blend of comedy, music, and of course, a dastardly murder waiting to be solved. This show is set in a 1940s dance hall that hosts a weekly radio show featuring the singer Madeline DeVore. Donny, the show's master of ceremonies, is hopelessly in love with Madeline, but producer Sidney Meanstreet, is standing in the way. The studio musician Victor Olla is furious with being replaced with recorded music, and Penny, the scriptwriter, is vying for her own moment in the spotlight. As tensions rise and secrets are revealed, a body falls, and it's up to you to gather clues and solve the murder mystery. 7 p.m. Three course dinner, cash bar, show & prizes. Tickets at <https://www.thehudsonhouseny.com/>

MOVIES UNDER THE WALKWAY RETURNS JUNE 29

Three free, family-friendly movies will be shown on the big screen beneath the Walkway Over the Hudson at the Upper Landing Park, Poughkeepsie, this summer. The screening dates are June 29, July 20 and August 10. Doors open at 7 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.

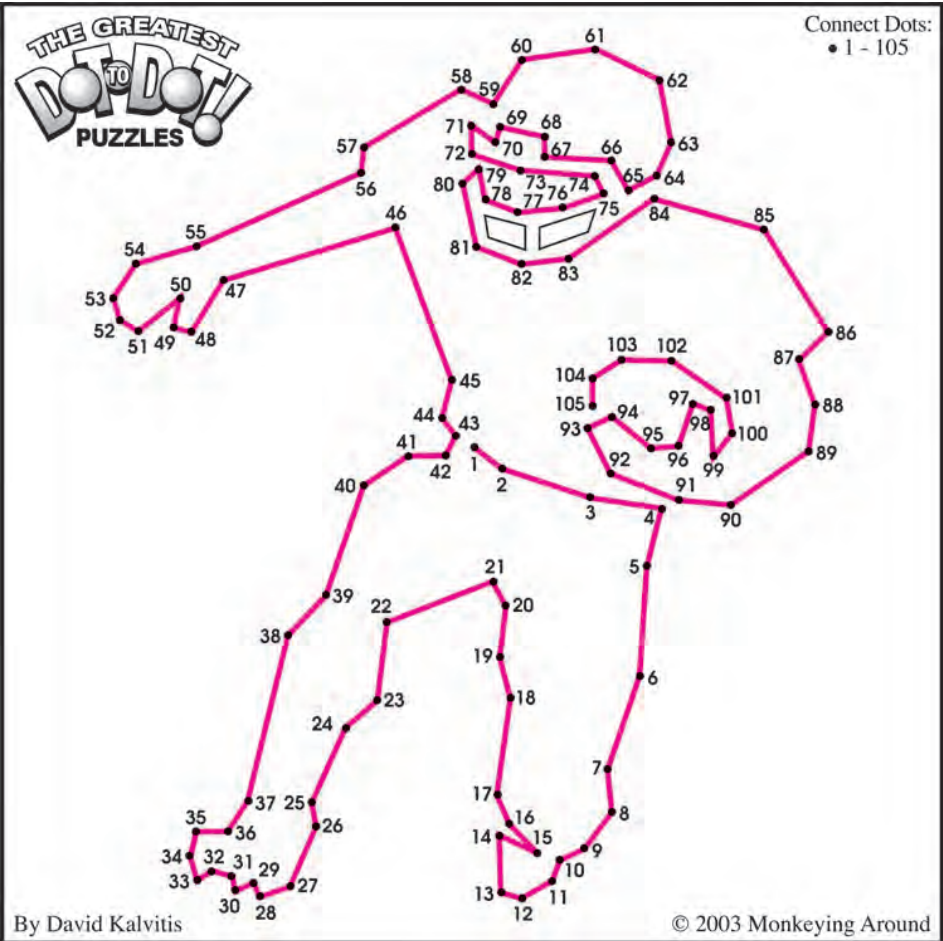
The Millman Harris Romano (MHR) Foundation, Dutchess County Parks, and Walkway Over the Hudson are the presenting partners for the film series. Additionally, the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, and Scenic Hudson are the family friendly activity supporters, and the Mid-Hudson Children's Museum are providing accessible parking. This year's broadcasting sponsor is IHeart Media.

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 Midhudson Discovery Museum, Waryas Park, and Metro North parking areas.

Up to date movie schedule information, can be found @MoviesUnderTheWalkway, @DutchessCountyParks and @WalkwayOverTheHudson Facebook pages as well as on their websites.

Attendees are encouraged to follow New York State covid guidance taking necessary precautions, as needed. If movie-goers are feeling sick, they should remain home.

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 9)



The unofficial kick off of the Saratoga racing season.

To Benefit
Center for Disability Services

JULY 10, 2024 | 6:30PM
SIRO'S RESTAURANT
168 Lincoln Avenue, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866
Rain or Shine

2024 Siro's Cup Award recipient
TO BE ANNOUNCED

Honoring
SENATOR HOWARD C. NOLAN JR.
Posthumously

Music by Ten Most Wanted | Light Fare by Chef Noah Frese
Online Silent Auction | Open Bar | Dancing
Visit cfdnsny.org, call 518-944-2107, or scan to purchase tickets.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW — \$150
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

walk-ins welcome

Presented by
THE SHOPS AT newton plaza
MORE THAN 35 STORES TO CHOOSE FROM!

OBITUARIES

William R. Conners



William R. Conners, 78, of Pleasant Valley, NY passed away at home on Monday, June 17, 2024. Born in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of the late William G. and the late Evelyn Robinson Conners. William was one of 9 brothers and 3 sisters.

After graduating from Poughkeepsie High School, he worked for their family siding business and then as a welder for his future father-in-law. On September 3, 1967, in Poughkeepsie, William married Brenda Joy Seaman. William then started a career at IBM and managed various systems and programs before retiring in 1997.

Having been an avid fisherman and hunter throughout his life, he devoted his remaining

decades to various wildlife, conservation, and youth programs in the state and local area. William served as a Dutchess County clerk and the chairman of the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency. He was a member of the DC Federation of Fish and Game Clubs since 1987 and served on the board as president for many years. William was extremely active in the NYS Conservation Council, NYS Fish and Wildlife Management Advisory Board, Watershed and Preservation Advisory Committee, Estuary Management Plans Advisory Board, various state and local youth fishing and hunting programs, Dutchess Deer Search, Hunters for the Hungry, and many levels of educational outreach. His passion was shared in a weekly Poughkeepsie Journal outdoors column from 1994 until recently.

He loved a challenge, reading a good book, cooking without recipes, and his camera was never out of reach. Most of all he loved his family and loved his friends. We will miss him.

William is survived by his wife Brenda of Pleasant Valley, his two sons Dana J. Conners and Donna Rogers of Hopewell Junction, Matthew R. Conners and Gail of Toano Virginia, his granddaughters Molly and Emma, several nieces and nephews.

Services for William will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are being handled by the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home 371 Hooker Ave. Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

If you would like to leave a online condolence please visit our website at www.doylefuneralhome.com.

Evelyn Jane Browne

POUGHKEEPSIE - Evelyn Jane Browne, nee Hanaburgh, passed away on June 16, 2024, in Wilton, NY at the age of 89. She was born on April 5, 1935, in Poughkeepsie, NY. Evelyn was a beloved figure known for her genuine sweetness and kindness. Described as a second mother to many, she opened her home to those in need, offering warmth and love to all.

Evelyn was an active member of the United Methodist church where she taught Sunday school for many years. She was a Girl Scout leader who made the lives of children easy, adventurous and joyful. She loved reading and watching mysteries on television.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Browne, her parents Edward and Alva Hanaburgh, and her brothers Edward and Thomas Hanaburgh. Evelyn is survived by her son, Craig Browne and his wife, Sarah, daughter Kathleen Salaway and her husband, Peter, grandchildren Samantha McKay, Griffin Browne, James Salaway and Matthew Salaway, and great-grandchildren Gwenyth Browne, Bastian Browne and Adelina Salaway.

Visiting hours were at Parmele, Auchmoody & Schoonmaker Funeral Home, 110 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY on Friday, June 21. A graveside service took place at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery, 342 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY on Saturday, June 22. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or Saratoga Hospice. The compassionate staff at Parmele, Auchmoody & Schoonmaker Funeral Home is assisting the family with the funeral arrangements at this difficult time. Please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com for condolences.

Bruce Close

Bruce Walter Close, 78, a longtime area resident, passed away on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at Vassar Brothers Hospital, with his family by his side.

Born May 24, 1946 in Orange, NJ, he was the son of the late Donald Kinnie Close and Nina (nee Dudnik) Close.

After attending Dutchess Community College, Bruce went on to work for Holy Cross, Greer, and McQuade Foundation as a childcare worker.

Bruce married Sheila Fagan of Copake Falls on November 30, 1968 in a ceremony held in Wappingers Falls.

Bruce loved being on the open road, usually venturing out daily on his motorcycle or taking his wife for ice cream in one of his classic cars. Each summer he logged thousands of miles on his bike, riding throughout the Hudson Valley.

He was a vintage car enthusiast, watch collector, member of Mensa and enjoyed flying RC planes with his son.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son Kelly Close and wife Kendra; three grandchildren whom he was extremely proud of, Riley Close and his wife Andrea, Devon Close and Jake Gaskins, and Quinn Close. He is also

survived by his sister Sherrie Seeley and nephew Noel Seeley. He was predeceased by his brother-in-law Vincent M. Seeley

In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held in his honor.

Memorial calling hours will take place on Wednesday, June 26, from 3 pm to 6 pm at Sweet's Funeral Home, 4365 Albany Post Rd. Hyde Park, NY 12538.

A memorial service will take place at 5:30 pm during the calling hours, followed by a reception.

In lieu of flowers the family respectfully requests donations to Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, by mail to 80 Washington St. Suite 204, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or online www.hvhospice.org

To send an online condolence or for directions, please visit www.sweetfuneralhome.com.

Howard A. Goodrich

LAGRANGEVILLE - Howard A. Goodrich, a resident of LaGrangeville, NY passed away on June 18, 2024, surrounded by his loving family. He was 80 years old.

Howard was born on December 29, 1943 in Wethersfield, CT the son of William and Gladys (Scheinbart) Goodrich.

Howard lived a big and beautiful life. His wife, children, grandchildren, his dog Bailey, his two African Gray parrots, Howie and Pauline and his famous koi pond, were everything to him. Howard loved nature, birds, animals and gardening. His backyard was his sanctuary where he loved spending time with his family.

He was an accomplished trumpet player who loved music and played in many bands over the past 70 years. He loved sharing the gift of music, including teaching and mentoring students in the art of trumpet playing. He was a cherished member of The Aerophone Community Band, the Southern Dutchess Concert Band and the Jazz Pioneers.

Howard attended NYU where he received his Master's in Education. He was a junior high school band teacher for 15 years. He performed for years in wedding bands in the Catskills.

He left teaching and went into business with his father growing one of the most successful nonunion fire protection companies in the tri-state area.

Howard is survived by his loving wife Pauline Edwards-Goodrich, his beloved children: Adam Goodrich, Ericka Vulaj and her husband Gino and Keeva Young-Wright and her husband Jay. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Emily, Isabelle, Justin, Sophia, Ava and Zachary, his brother Sidney Goodrich nephews Mark Goodrich and Matthew Goodrich.

Howard is predeceased by his nephew Michael Goodrich.

Calling hours will be Saturday, June 29, 2024, at McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction, NY from 11 am - 12 Noon. A service will begin at noon in the funeral home.

Memorial donations can be made in Howard's name to the following community bands: The Aerophone Community Band, the Southern Dutchess Concert Band and the Jazz Pioneers and Plant a Tree with Jewish Nation Fund. Please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Dolores H. Healey

STAATSBURG - Dolores H. Healey, 90, left this world peacefully on June 18, 2024, after a long illness.

Dolores was born to Clinton and Evelyn (Cole) Allerton on January 31, 1934, in Saugerties, NY. She grew up in Poughkeepsie with her mother, Evelyn, and stepdad, John Wysocki, along with her brother, Donald Allerton, and sisters, Jacqueline and Sharon Allerton.

Dolores was a graduate of Poughkeepsie High School, Class of 1953. She excelled in typing and shorthand, which led to a career in secretarial and bookkeeping positions. Mom would always comment however her favorite job was being Office Manager at the WHVW Radio Station back in the 1970's!

Known to so many as "Aunt Dolores," she will be fondly remembered for her Community Day celebrations, her famous Christmas coffee cakes, and her Betty Boop collection! Mom enjoyed crossword puzzles and back in the day twirling around the dance floor with her husband, Richard (Dick).

Along with her parents, brother and sister, Dolores was predeceased by her husband, Dick, and daughter, Susan O'Rourke.

She is survived by her children, Sharon Conklin of Staatsburg, Deidre (Dan) Gaunce of Asheboro, North Carolina, Jeff Conklin of Brookfield, Missouri, Rich (Nona) Healey of Egg Harbor Township, NJ, Andy (Lynne) Healey of Boca Raton, Florida, Kevin Healey of Marlboro, NY, and sister-in-law, Jackie Allerton of Salt Point. Dolores is also survived by many special nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She loved and enjoyed them all, along with her special cousin, Joan Heiser; friends, Judy Greaves and Joan Thorne, and niece, Keeley Arico.

The family would like to thank the staff at Dutchess Dialysis, Dr. Lorraine Nardi, and Hudson Valley Hospice, especially nurse Kelly for all the care given to mom in her final weeks and months.

Calling hours were Sunday June 23rd, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park.

Funeral services took place on Monday June 24th at the Funeral Home.

Burial followed in the Lawn Crypt Garden at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the Healey Family respectfully request memorial donations to the National Kidney Foundation, Attn: Gift Processing, 30 East 33rd Street, NY, NY 10016. (www.kidney.org)

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

Fern L. Madison

POUGHKEEPSIE - Fern L. Madison, 78, of Poughkeepsie, NY, passed away on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at Danbury Hospital in Danbury, CT. Visitation will be held on Friday, June 28, 2024 from 3PM-7PM at the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. A Funeral Service will be held at 6PM in the Funeral Home. To read the full obituary or to leave an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

Maureen Mozdzierz

POUGHKEEPSIE - Maureen Mozdzierz, a resident of Poughkeepsie, entered into rest Sunday, June 16, 2024 at The Pines at Poughkeepsie. She was 67.

Daughter of the late Adolph and Frances McNulty Mozdzierz, she was born February 14, 1957 in Poughkeepsie. Prior to her retirement, Maureen worked as a dietary aide at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie.

Maureen enjoyed painting and coloring as well as working on word searches.

Survivors include her son, Brian Mozdzierz

of Beacon, her sister, Muriel Dooris of Poughkeepsie; her nephews and niece, Kevin, Danielle, Michael, Jr. and Adam; and several great-nieces and great-nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Michael Mozdzierz and sister, Kathleen Mozdzierz.

Family and friends gathered on Friday, June 21, 2024 at Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 East Main Street in Wappingers Falls.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, June 22 at the funeral home. Interment followed in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Evergreen Avenue in Poughkeepsie.

To send the family a personal condolence, please visit our website at www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

Shirley J. Nemec Obituary

Shirley Jean Nemec of Red Hook, NY, passed away suddenly and peacefully, after a brief illness, at Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, NY, where she was born, on April 1st, 1944.

She was the daughter of Carl and Margaret (Schutte) Stockenberg and raised in Red Hook by her loving parents.

After graduating from Red Hook Central School, she pursued a career in cosmetology. As one who enjoyed interaction with others, she gravitated to retail sales at Rhinebeck and Red Hook pharmacies and Baright Realty in Red Hook.

In 1992, she married Joseph Nemec with whom she shared 32 years of a happily married life.

Shirley was loved and admired by all. Known for her friendly, cheerful, outstanding personality and joy of living and helping others, with a warm compassionate word or conversation, she never failed to meet someone she knew.

She was an avid reader and lover of nature and the beautiful Hudson Valley sunsets.

Most recently she was employed at Wonderland Florists, in Rhinebeck where she thrived in the fresh air amid the colorful beauty of fresh blooms.

Shirley was predeceased by her parents, Carl and Margaret Stockenberg and her loving daughter, Tracey Tremper.

Surviving are her husband Joe; her son Brant Tremper; her grandchildren, Anthony and Trevor Okie; her sister and brother-in-law, Carleen and Richard Baright and several nephews and cousins and countless friends and acquaintances.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Burnett & White Funeral Home, Red Hook.

Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

John T. White

BEEKMAN - John Thomas White, 88, died on June 17, 2024 at the Taconic at Hopewell.

Born on December 20, 1935 in County Leitrim, Ireland, he was the son of the late Bernard and Ellen (Dolan) White. He came to the United States from Ireland in 1954 and proudly served our country in the US Army. He had been employed as a Product Engineer for IBM, East Fishkill for 35 years.

John was a member of St. Mary's Council #4065, Knights of Columbus; a 4th Degree and Color Corps member of St. John Paul II Assembly, Knights of Columbus; and a member of the Kevin Barry Irish Club, Emerald Association of Putnam County and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

On September 17, 1970 in County Galway, Ireland, John married the love of his life, Bridget "Bridie" Cormican, who predeceased him on November 24, 2004. He was also predeceased by his brother, Michael White. He is survived by his siblings, Bernard White, Christopher White, Anne White-Fox, Alphonsus White, Joachim White and James White; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends.

The Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Denis Church, 602 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Denis Church or the American Cancer Society.

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Legal Notices

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION: 601/2024
RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE FROM THE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$23,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SNOW PLOW
WHEREAS, the Town Highway Department, in order to continue its maintenance of Town roads, must replace certain equipment to maintain operational capability; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the purchase of said equipment is economically feasible and can meet the requirements and the needs of the Highway Department in the future and that the Highway Department has the space to house the new equipment;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase by competitive bidding of one snow plow as specified by the Highway Superintendent; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes expenditure of up to \$23,000 from the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund (Equipment Reserve Fund) for said purchase, subject to applicable law with reference to Capital Reserve Fund transfers; and be it further
RESOLVED, that this resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided by law; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to post notice of such resolution; and be it further
RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.
DATED: June 3, 2024

MOTION: Councilman Rifenburgh
SECOND: Councilwoman Chapman

ROLL CALL:
Councilwoman Chapman
Councilman Degan
Councilman Iapichino
Councilman Rifenburgh
Supervisor Albrecht
Carried.

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Legal Notices

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION: 609/2024
RE: AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE FROM THE INFRASTRUCTURE RESERVE FUND FOR ROAD PAVING
WHEREAS, the Town Highway Superintendent has recommended repair and repaving of certain Town roads; and
WHEREAS, the funds currently allocated in the Highway budget are insufficient to cover these improvements;
WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is appropriate to use funds from the Town's Infrastructure Reserve Fund for this purpose;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the expenditure of up to \$715,836 from the Infrastructure Reserve Fund for road repair and improvement in accordance with the Town's 284 Agreement; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and Bookkeeper are authorized to take necessary actions to allocate such funds; and be it further
RESOLVED, that this resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided by law; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to post notice of such resolution.
MOTION: Councilman Rifenburgh
SECOND: Councilman Iapichino

Dated: June 17, 2024

ROLL CALL:
Councilwoman Chapman
Councilman Degan
Councilman Iapichino
Councilman Rifenburgh
Supervisor Albrecht

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*Carried.

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SECOND: Councilman Iapichino

Dated: June 17, 2024

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Councilman Degan
Councilman Iapichino
Councilman Rifenburgh
Supervisor Albrecht

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Supervisor Albrecht

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*ABSENT

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Supervisor Albrecht
Carried.

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

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Dutchess News
Beacon Free
Press
Northern
Dutchess News
845-264-3723

NEWS FROM THE OLD DUTCH VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB

Club announces June Commercial Garden of the Month

By Linda Glowienka

Every month in the summer, the Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC) highlights outstanding gardens in Red Hook. This year, the Garden of the Month for June is the Red Hook branch of the Rhinebeck Bank, at the corner of Route 9/South Broadway and MM Ham Memorial Firehouse Lane.

This beautifully designed columned red brick building sits on a diagonal on about an acre of land. Entry is from either street, so that you get varying views of its lovely gardens.

The perimeter borders are deep and architectural. Evergreens and tall flowering bushes lean from the building, providing a 'garden wall' against the bank. The next level of the garden is formed by mid-sized clusters of daisies, allium, various lilies, and native grasses. Lastly, in the front of the border are low-growing plants – monkey grass and a variegated ivy with tall wispy flowers like Queen Anne's Lace that add a third dimension to

the ground cover.

In addition to the building's border gardens, there are a number of outlying 'little' beds in different shapes and sizes, giving an appealing structural impression to the otherwise flat lawn areas.

Adding to the ecological pluses, there is a variety of pollinator plants, important for plant reproduction. These beds include milkweed, cornflower, monarda and black-eyed susan, great for attracting bees, hummingbirds, butterflies, birds and other insects.

Overall, the many elements of these gardens at Rhinebeck Bank form an archipelago of differing horticulture in the midst of commerce!

ODVGC meets the second Thursday of the month (except August) at St. John's Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. The Club encourages and informs home gardeners, and works to support natural beauty in our community. For more information on the Club, follow us on Facebook: [Http://www.facebook.com/ODVGC](http://www.facebook.com/ODVGC).

The Old Dutch Village Garden Club selected the Red Hook branch of Rhinebeck Bank as its June Commercial Garden of the Month. *Courtesy photo*

Cocoon Theatre's Soiree...

continued from page 10

music I work with, the poem recorded... 'Look, ma, I'm playing!'

The source of her inspiration can be seen in the rehearsal photo pictured with this article, of a person leading a white horse across a beach.

"It just struck me, the way [the person] I believe is a young man in the film moves across the beach with this horse. It just stuck with me, the whole metaphor of a horse, and this young man is leading the horse across the beach with only a rope, no saddle," said San Millan. "It just resonated with me in my life. What does the horse represent? It was also the idea of the piece, 'Theater of God,' thinking about how I feel as a human being – all the world is a stage – it feels like we're all involved in this theater of trying to figure out roles and plots and resolutions, all of that. It's a six-minute dance, six-minute film. It's very beautiful."

Previously, San Millan brought "Theater of God" to the Dance in the Desert Festival in Las Vegas; and she'll bring it back there next month.

"They had new equipment there, a giant projector. The year before they'd had a small projector," San Millan said. "This is a huge backdrop, and I thought, wow, maybe I should bring one of Fred's films here. How exciting it would be to see your films in such a large manner!"

On Sunday, the film will be projected on the wall of Cocoon's space, and San Millan will dance in and out of the film.

Food and thought

Sunday's performance will be about an hour long, San Millan said. Those who stay for the potluck are likely to enjoy some engaging conversation.

"We'll get to talk 'creativity,'" said San Millan. "I'm excited; it's a lot of work bringing back the Soirees, but they're like little samplings of things." And the idea that someone is stimulated to continue their creative work is an incentive to continue.

For more information about the Soirees and other programs offered by Cocoon Theatre, call (845) 835-8156 or visit cocoontheatre.org.

LOCAL RESIDENTS TO SHARE STORIES AT ANCRAM CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Ancram Center for the Arts will present Real People Real Stories at the Hilltop Barn in Roeliff Jansen Park on Saturday, June 29 at 7:30 p.m. Real People Real Stories features area residents sharing poignant, humorous, surprising true tales, and has been a signature part of every Ancram Center season since 2016.
This summer's storytellers are:
Margaret Rubin (Millerton) with a story about defining yourself and the life you want to live; Lori Evans (Lenox, MA) with a story about exploring her intuition on the road; Mark Senak (Copake) with a story about discovering the magic of being able to do anything; and Rick Reiss (Canaan) with a story about kidnapping his mother.
Paul Ricciardi, Ancram Center Co-Director and Professor, City University of New York - Kingsborough CC, curates and directs the series. He said, "We don't have to look far in our area for great stories: every year I'm inspired by how people, in sharing their stories, show us what it means to be human, brave, and whole-hearted."
This production of Real People Real Stories is underwritten by Herrington Fuels. The Hilltop Barn is located at 9140 NY Route 22, Hillsdale. Tickets can be purchased online at ancramcenter.org, or at the door. Price: \$25 general admission, \$15 with student ID. Beer and wine will be available for purchase at the show.
Ancram Center for the Arts is an award-winning theater located in an historic Grange Hall. For tickets and more information, visit www.ancramcenter.org.

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

Classified Index

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

509 Office Equipment
510 Firewood
511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
512 Winter Merchandise
516 Misc. Merchandise
700 Pets & Supplies
701 Free Pets
702 Lost & Found Pets
703 Pets for Adoption
710 Garage & Yard Sale
711 Tag Sale
712 Moving sale
713 Rummage Sale
714 Flea Market
715 Craft Corner
716 Barn Sale
717 Estate Sale
718 Auctions
719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted
721 Wanted to Buy
722 Bazaar
723 Consignments
724 Farmers Market
725 Collectibles
750 Events
800 Boats
801 Campers & Trailers
802 Motor Homes
803 Recreational Vehicles
900 Autos for Sale
901 Vans/SUV's
902 Trucks
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ANTIQUE LOVERS TAKE NOTE! BRIMFIELD IS HERE - ALL SHOWS! July 0-14. New shows open daily! www.brimfieldantiqueweek.com. 2024 dates: May 14-19, July 9-14, September 3-8

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sets of wings; but they are smaller and thinner than bumblebees. Honeybees are in the Apis Genus, indicating that construct nests from wax and store a surplus of honey.

Native bees, including bumblebees, were in the Americas long before European Honeybees. European Honeybee colonies were brought by settlers to New England in the 1600s. Honeybees gather pollen and nectar from any plant in bloom. This is the reason honey comes in so many different flavors.

Honeybees live either in domesticated beehives or in wild hives with tens of thousands of their brethren. They produce honey as a way of storing food to eat over winter, when they are unable to forage. Honeybee hives can last indefinitely with the right environmental conditions.

HONEY PRODUCTION

It should be noted that honeybees are agricultural livestock, much like cows, poultry, and pigs. And, like other conventionally farmed animals, apiculture has been described as being unsustainable and lacking ethics in terms of animal treatment. In a trend toward more natural food choices, some folks have opted to purchase foods made from animals that have been pasture raised. What is characterized as a “cruelty-free” environment enables the animals to be healthier while they are alive.

Factory farming manages livestock to maximize output at the lowest possible cost. In beekeeping, that may mean causing honeybees to overwork themselves due to inappropriately sized hives, extracting honey when it is needed by the

bees, replacing honey in the hive with substitutes that lack necessary nutrients, limiting diversity in forage, and artificially managing hive size by wing clipping and artificial insemination.

One way to purchase more sustainably sourced honey is to buy it from a local producer. In that way, you can speak with the grower to determine their methods. Some grocery stores also carry locally farmed honey. While there is no guarantee that local honey is ethically sourced, there is a greater tendency for small farms to use more sustainable strategies than industrial agricultural operations.

Another option is to buy honey that is labeled as raw, unfiltered, organic, or biodynamic. The practices involved with those products tend to be more sustainable and better for the bees. Sustainable beekeeping practices include allowing bees to naturally produce their own queens, rather than through artificial insemination; allowing bees to swarm to expand their colony; allowing them to forage a variety of chemical-free plants; harvesting honey in the spring (rather than fall); and not replacing honey in the hive with low-nutrient substitutes.

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 wood land of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://www.gertrudekatzchronicles.com/> and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>



Honeybee on open sunflower. Photo by Robert Rightmeyer

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Field Hall Foundation announces \$240,800 in new grants

Field Hall Foundation has announced \$240,800 in new grants through its Spring 2024 grant cycle. The funds will be used to provide food security, homeless prevention, emergency relief funding, caregiver support, and geriatric case management services for older adults. Grant recipients include:

Westchester Jewish Community Services, Inc. \$40,000 – To provide geriatric case management services to low-income seniors

People USA \$30,000 – To improve accessibility and provide emergency financial assistance and educational workshops

Bridge Fund of New York Inc. \$25,000 – To provide emergency financial assistance for rent and utility arrears for seniors in Westchester County

Hudson River Housing Inc. \$25,000 – To financially assist seniors who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and provide emergency groceries to the food insecure

Port Chester Carver Center \$25,000 – To provide case management services to low-income seniors

Phelps Memorial Hospital \$20,000 – To provide information, workshops, and emo-

tional support to family caregivers

Fareground Community Kitchen, Inc. \$15,000 – To deliver free groceries twice a month to homebound seniors

Hudson Valley Justice Center \$15,000 – To assist seniors facing eviction due to temporary financial or other hardships

United Way of Westchester & Putnam \$15,000 – To provide deliveries of food, clothing, and essential goods to underserved seniors

Furniture Sharehouse \$10,800 – To provide beds and basic furnishing for older adults

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester \$10,000 – To protect the health of older adults with Cerebral Palsy

Red Hook Responds \$10,000 – To deliver free meals to seniors in need

The Foundation award grants through its winter, spring and fall grant cycles. Letters of Inquiry are now being accepted for the Winter 2024/25 grant cycle.

For more information on the grants awarded or future grantmaking, please visit www.fieldhallfoundation.org.

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