



NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living

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Poughkeepsie Social Security Office reopens

The Social Security office in Poughkeepsie, which had been undergoing renovation, was set to reopen on Monday, June 30. The new entrance will open at 4 Academy Street, around the corner from the office's former entrance at 332 Main Street. Local telephone services will remain available at 1-877-405-6747. Social Security office hours are from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. (The office will be closed this Friday, July 4.)

Social Security's customers can now make appointments for all types of services instead of waiting in line, resulting in a better overall experience and reductions in wait times with predictable appointments that help prevent long in-office lines.

Customers can still wait in line if they cannot or do not want to make an appointment. Staff at local offices are being particularly mindful of vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and other groups needing specialized or immediate attention when they walk in. People can schedule an appointment by calling their local office (recommended) or 1-800-772-1213, which also has a call-back feature. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call Social Security's TTY number, 1-800-325-0778.

Many Social Security services are conveniently available online at www.ssa.gov. People may create their my Social Security account, a personalized online service, at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. If they already receive Social Security benefits, they can start or change direct deposit online, request a replacement SSA-1099, and if they need proof of their benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter from their account.

People not yet receiving benefits

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Hyde Park July 4th Parade has Roaring Twenties theme

World War II vet
Ralph Osterhoudt
named Grand Marshal

By Kate Goldsmith

It'll be "the bee's knees"!

With a theme of The Roaring Twenties, a "swell" time is planned for Hyde Park's annual July 4th Parade. Festive floats created by local businesses and organizations, entertainment featuring The Saints of Swing, and much more will highlight the celebration America's independence at Dutchess County's only July 4th parade.

The parade will step off at 10 a.m. from the Hyde Park Drive-In and march north on Route 9 to Town Hall.

World War II veteran Ralph Osterhoudt will lead the parade as Grand Marshal.

Hyde Park Recreation Director Rob Pollard said of this year's theme, "We [the Rec Commission] felt like we wanted to change things up, [create] more of a party atmosphere."

Rec Commission member and long-time volunteer with the Girl Scouts Debbie St. Onge said the Commission aims for "themes that might get people motivated" to come up with



World War II veteran Ralph Osterhoudt will be honored as Grand Marshal for Hyde Park's July Fourth Parade. This year's parade theme is The Roaring Twenties. *Archival photo by Curtis Schmidt*

creative floats.

"The Girl Scouts are creating a float," St. Onge said. "I hope a lot of folks will come in with cool stuff. People get there early and put the final touches on the

floats. I like watching it all come together that morning. The excitement, the creativity; people enjoy putting that together."

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NYS will fund Youth, Education programs to support county fairs

By Morgan E. Maier

Picture fun, music, food and family, plus lights, rides and cotton candy. Then, add the massive "Livestock Hill" plus gallons of lemonade fit for guzzling, and every food item you can think of – fried! Are you at the Dutchess County Fair?

On June 23, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets took to the Ulster County Fairgrounds to announce initiatives to fund local and youth participation for the 50 county fairs across the Empire State.

At last week's meeting, Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball highlighted the two newest initiatives: the Transportation for Youth to Local and County Fairs Program and the Agricultural Fairgrounds Advertising,

Promotion and Education Program. Both intend to increase interest and participation in local fairs, especially for younger and underserved demographics. The tradition of fairs in New York State is one that spans generations. Family summers spent, prize goldfish that miraculously live for years on end.

Said Commissioner Ball, "I'm excited to continue our support of county fairs, including a unique new program that helps bring more young people to experience the tradition of their local fair. I'm looking forward to seeing the impact that these programs have during the 2025 season."

Continued involvement from young folks in Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H initiatives across Dutchess County shows a promising future of fairs

in the local region. With state officials implementing campaigns to strengthen and support the efforts of local fairs and agricultural properties, the promotion of county fairs will also be evolving across platforms.

The New York State Association of Agricultural Fairs also gives out \$10,000 in scholarships per year.

The Dutchess County Fair, a representative of the Mid-Hudson region, received the Advertising and Marketing Grant.

A total of \$1 million will be dedicated to spotlighting fairs across the state, in a full marketing campaign to direct attention to fairs in local hotspot regions. In a multimedia approach, radio,

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Unofficial results of the June 24 primaries

Compiled by Kate Goldsmith

The Dutchess County Board of Elections' website has posted the unofficial results from last Tuesday's primaries.

County Legislature District 20 – Democratic Primary

(most of Red Hook & part of Rhinebeck)

Incumbent Kristofer Munn leads Troy Haley. Munn has 552 votes (55.31%) and Haley has 446 votes (44.69%). There were no write-in votes.

Breaking down the votes into the Election Districts (EDs):

In the Town of Rhinebeck (ED1), Munn received 99 votes to Haley's 25. In Red Hook's Election Districts 4 and 5, the race was much closer, with Munn receiving 231 votes to Haley's 200. Red Hook's Election District 3 tallies were Munn 128, Haley 119. Red Hook's ED 1 and 2 came out for Haley by a tally of 102 to 94.

County Legislature District 22 – Republican Primary

(Union Vale, Part of Beekman)

Incumbent Legislator Faye Garito trails Joseph Tresca. Tresca received 480 (55.11%) and Garito 391 received (44.89%). There were no write-in votes.

In the Town of Beekman's EDs 1, 3 & 4, Tresca received 257 votes to Garito's 137. In the Town of Beekman's EDs 2 & 6, Tresca received 103 votes to Garito's 35. Garito was favored in the Town of Union Vale's EDs 1 & 2 by a count of 219 to Tresca's 120.

TOWN PRIMARIES BEEKMAN

Supervisor – Republican

Lauren Abbatantuono prevailed with 591 (75.67%) votes to Stella Maria Slattery's 190 votes (24.33%). There were no write-in ballots cast.

Member of Town Board – Republican

Four candidates vied for two seats on the general election ballot. The top two vote-getters were Gina Ragusa with 547 (36.61%) and Kate Blake with 499 (33.40%).

Ezio Battaglini received 235 votes (15.73%) and Frank M. Lemak V received 210 votes (14.06%). There were 3 write-in votes (0.20%).

Superintendent of Highways - Republican

Anthony Coviello prevailed over Brian Green by a count of 585 (74.71%) to 198 (25.29%). There were no write-in votes.

LAGRANGE

Town Supervisor - Republican

Anthony Marinaro defeated David Anthony Mashiah by a count of 582 (88.58%) to 75 (11.42%). There were no write-in votes.

Town Supervisor - Conservative

Anthony Marinaro defeated Steven McKenna by a count of 49 (94.23%) to 2 (3.85%). There was one write-in vote (1.92%).

Town Supervisor - Working Families

Rovin Persaud and Suzette Persaud were on the ballot. Neither candidate received any votes. There were six write-in votes (100%).

Member of Town Board - Republican

Three candidates vied for two seats on the general election ballot. Franco Giangrosso received 548 votes (49.19%) and Susan Condon received 467 votes (41.92%). In third place was Daniel Mosquera with 97 votes (8.71%). There were also two write-in votes cast (0.18%).

Member of Town Board - Conservative

Three candidates vied for two seats on the general election ballot. Susan Condon received 35 votes (52.24%), with a close race for second between Alfred P. Rabasco with 16 votes (23.88%) and William Bedford with 15 votes (22.39%). There was also one write-in vote (1.49%).

Member of Town Board - Working Families

Three candidates vied for two seats on the general election ballot. Reese Persaud and Allyson Persaud each received 4 votes (40% each). Luis Rodriguez received 2 votes (20%). There were no write-in votes.

UNION VALE

Town Supervisor - Republican

Steven Frazier leads with 216 votes (62.07%) to Charles Richwine's 131 (37.64%). There was one write-in vote (0.29%).

Pleasant Valley Firefighters win top awards at convention



The Hudson Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association (HVVFA) held their annual convention in Lake George at the Georgian Hotel in late June. This year, the Firefighter of the Year award was presented to Assistant Chief John Cronk and Firefighter Ed See of the Pleasant Valley Fire District. The reason for this award was their heroic actions taken on a fully involved structure fire in a smoke-filled apartment on October 13, 2024. Photo by Vinny Galvin

Bridge to be replaced on Noxon Road in LaGrange

The Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced work will begin on or about Monday, July 7, to replace a bridge on Noxon Road over the Jackson Creek, near Rymph Road, in the Town of LaGrange. Noxon Road will be closed from the Taconic State Parkway to Rymph Road with a detour posted along Stringham Road, State Route 55, Velie Road, and Todd Hill Road. A map of the detour is available at www.dutchessny.gov on the DPW page.

Project work will include replacing the existing structure with a new, wider bridge to incorporate 4-foot shoulders and the installation of new guiderails. Access to driveways in the vicinity, as well as the exit from the northbound

Taconic State Parkway (westbound turns only), will be maintained. The project is anticipated to be completed with the roadway re-opened to traffic, by the end of 2025.

This section of Noxon Road averages approximately 4,600 vehicles per day.

Motorists are advised to plan for additional time and to exercise extra caution near the construction site and on the detour, obey the posted speed limits, and traffic advisory signs and the directions from flaggers near the work zone to ensure the safety of workers and other motorists.

For more information, contact the Dutchess County Department of Public Works' Engineering Division at (845) 486-2925.

STOP-DWI enforcement campaign runs July 3-6

Various law enforcement agencies in Dutchess County will take part in a targeted initiative to reduce impaired driving during the Independence Day holiday weekend, part of a statewide STOP-DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign, from Thursday, July 3 through Sunday, July 6. Local police departments across New York State will work together and increase their presence as part of a unified campaign aimed at preventing alcohol-related crashes, injuries and fatalities during this time.

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino said, "As we celebrate our nation's independence, it's important to protect the safety of those around us on our roadways. If you choose to drink this Fourth of July weekend, please plan ahead for a safe ride home. One careless decision can change lives forever."

Across the country, the Fourth of July ranks as the second-most dangerous holiday for drivers and passengers. Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that from 2019 to 2023, there were 2,653 traffic crash fatalities during the Fourth of July holiday period; in 2023 alone, 617 drivers lost their lives in traffic crashes during the holiday period.

The July 4th Weekend enforcement campaign is part of a broader series of enforcement efforts organized by the New York State STOP-DWI Association, supported by the STOP-DWI Foundation through a grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. In addition to this upcoming initiative, similar statewide campaigns are held during other high-risk times of the year, including Super Bowl Sunday, St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving and the winter holiday season.

Although STOP-DWI programs throughout New York have helped decrease the number of alcohol- and drug-impaired driving deaths, too many lives are still cut short due to these preventable crashes. Public awareness campaigns like the July 4th weekend crackdown are designed to make an even greater impact by deterring impaired driving through strong visibility and outreach.

Drivers can help to make a difference by having a sober plan! Motorists can download the mobile app, "Have a Plan," and be able to find a safe ride home www.stopdwi.org/mobileapp.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

Dialing 988:

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

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Hyde Park July 4th Parade has Roaring Twenties theme

continued from cover

St. Onge helps line up the cars. “I enjoy that, because I see lots of people I know,” she said. “I’m also a runner, so I like that. Someone comes in, I say ‘follow me’ and run them to their position.”

St. Onge said the Rec Commission chose Osterhoudt as Grand Marshal because he’s “somebody who’s been involved in Hyde Park.

“We hadn’t honored him [before] and thought it would be good to have him there, [as one of the] people who are significant to Hyde Park,” she said. “I think they’ve lined up an old car for him to ride in, too.”

See the sidebar on this page for more information about Grand Marshal Ralph Osterhoudt.

Traditionally, the parade stepped off from the Roosevelt Theaters, but with the large volume of parade participants, the logistics dictated a move to someplace larger.

“We’re grateful to the Parks Service for letting us use the Drive-In,” St. Onge said. “The Drive-In is big enough and gives us enough distance for the parade, but not too much.” There’s enough parking for everybody, and affords an area where parents are able to drop off their children who are participating in the parade, she added.

The newest member of the Rec Commission, Felicia R. Kirschner-Meyer, is On-Air Co-Host of “Marino in the Morning” on Q92 radio. She wears other hats, as well, at iHeartMedia of the Hudson Valley, Albany, NY & Sussex NJ.

“I do love this job, because I get to do fun things [like working] these parades,” she said. “This is my first year on the

‘other side’ of the parade [being a Rec Commissioner].”

Kirschner-Meyer, who is expecting her first child, has known Hyde Park her whole life.

“In 1962 my grandfather built a house in Greentree [Park],” she said. “I bought it from my grandmother in 2020. I’m definitely a lifer. I want to see the community grow and prosper, especially the newest generation.”

A partial list of confirmed parade participants includes Town of Hyde Park Police, American Legion #1303, Hyde Park Town Board, Congressman Pat Ryan & State Senator Michelle Hinchey, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, Hyde Park Town Clerk Sarah Hohmann, Roosevelt Fire Department, Dutchess County Sheriff, PBA Explorers, County Legislator Will Truitt, County Legislator Brendan Lawler, Dutchess County Veterans, NYS Police, American Legion #1466, Saints of Swing, Knights of Columbus, American Red Cross, Town Square Media, Scout Troop 37, Hyde Park Fire Department, Roosevelt/Vanderbilt National Park Service, FW Vanderbilt Garden Association, Q92 Radio, DC-13 Foundation, Viola Gun Club, Sons & Daughters of the American Revolution, Patriots Fife & Drum, Dance Works Too, Captain America/Hudson Hornet, Korean Martial Arts, Hyde Park Soccer, iHeartMedia, Hyde Park Little League, “Annie” Musical, Pleasant Valley Fire Company.

The Roaring Twenties July 4th Parade is sure to be “the cat’s pajamas”! Visit <https://www.facebook.com/hacketthill> park for updates.

ABOUT GRAND MARSHAL RALPH OSTERHOUDT



World War II Veteran Ralph Osterhoudt is pictured at an event in January 2024 in his honor hosted by NYS Senator Michelle Hinchey. Archive photo by Curtis Schmidt

Information provided by Hyde Park Recreation

Ralph Osterhoudt’s service to his country began at 15, when he joined the Ground Observer Corps, a World War II-era Civil Defense program under the US Army Air Force that recruited civilian volunteers to monitor the skies over the Hudson Valley, with the task of reporting potential enemy aircraft sightings to the Roosevelt Estate.

Shortly before he was due to graduate from FDR High School, Osterhoudt was drafted into the Army, first deployed to Scotland and later to France and

Germany as part of the 575th Field Artillery Battalion. He was one of the first 30 liberators of Auschwitz, and his unit played a pivotal role in the Battle of the Bulge, shelling Nazi bridges and fuel supplies as they endured relentless bombardment and traveled treacherous terrain.

He’s received three Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and a French Medal of Honor.

We thank you Ralph for your selflessness, dedication and bravery. For his commitment to the people of U.S.A, Ralph Osterhoudt, is the Town of Hyde Park’s Grand Marshal of the year.

Family Services’ Family of the Year Awards set July 10

Two families dedicated to serving the community have been selected as recipients of Family Services’ 2025 Family of the Year Awards. Alex Tuller & Dean Temple are being awarded with the Community Partner Award for their commitment to strengthening and driving meaningful change in the community. The Ascienzo Family Foundation is being awarded the Right to Thrive Award for the significant and lasting impact they have made in the Hudson Valley.

The Family of the Year Awards is Family Services’ signature event and is known as the “Event of the Summer” drawing our area’s most involved and energetic community members, civic representatives, and business leaders. This year, the event takes place on Thursday, July 10, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie.

“We are honored to recognize these two extraordinary families for their generous spirit and commitment to the community,” said Family Services’ CEO, Leah Feldman. “It is a privilege to celebrate their achievements and have them be united in our purpose to support everyone’s right to thrive.”

Alex Tuller & Dean Temple said “Every one of us wants to live in a nice place where we feel safe and have opportunities to pursue successful lives. But a lot of us don’t. A healthy community requires investment. Organizations like Family Services are a smart investment. They’re on the front lines of mental health, community and personal safety, and creating access to resources where

there are none. And every time they help improve someone’s situation, life improves for every one of us who lives here.”

“As a private nonprofit foundation in the Hudson Valley we were and are humbled by any public recognition of the grant funding we provide to those agencies and organizations whose day-to-day advocacy - for those in need and those striving to thrive - is transformative. We are honored to draw attention to their noble undertakings,” said Nick Ascienzo, founder of the Ascienzo Family Foundation.

This year’s Family of the Year Awards is organized by a dedicated team of agency staff and community volunteers. Former award recipients, Michael Dupree & Michael Fleischer, serve as honorary chairs on the planning committee. Major Sponsors (as of publication) include Marshall + Sterling, Nuvance Health, proudly joining Northwell, D. Rohde Home Services, WMC Health, Feldman, Kleidman, Collins & Sape, and Central Hudson.

The Family of the Year Awards dinner not only recognizes the strong commitment of the honorees but is Family Services’ primary fundraiser supporting their vital work in Dutchess, Orange and Ulster counties.

To purchase tickets to the event, visit: www.familyservicesny.org. For more information about Family Services, contact Kerri Minet, Manager of Marketing & Events, at (845) 250-5272 or kminet@familyservicesny.org.



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Elevate, educate, integrate – Dutchess Roots brings recreational cannabis to local area

By Morgan E. Maier

“Weed like to meet you” read the signs around South Road Crossing in Poughkeepsie on June 28. The Dutchess Roots cannabis dispensary was celebrating its grand opening, but owners and Queen City natives Lisa and Scott Sweeney didn’t just introduce themselves. Their goal is to elevate and educate everyone on the industry.

The area’s first licensed dispensary to be built from the ground up, Dutchess Roots was a seedling in the Sweeneys’ minds for four years. It became a reality with the decriminalization and legalization of recreational cannabis in 2021. In recent memory, the brick-and-mortar storefront was uninhabited concrete, then a construction site. Dutchess Roots is the first dispensary of its kind to be built from the ground up.

“Scott and I wanted to build something of our own,” said Lisa. “We wanted to be in our community.”

Customers and neighboring businesses came out to celebrate the first official day of a new era. Vendors hailed from far and wide to support Dutchess Roots commitment to accelerating the industry. Some traveled two hours south from Argyle, while others crossed the Hudson River from High Falls. Per NYS law, Dutchess Roots sells products made only in New York state, with a full wall dedicated to Hudson Valley farmers and their products.

The “typical” cannabis user does not



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on June 28 for the grand opening of Dutchess Roots. It is located at 2615 South Road in Poughkeepsie. Photo by Mike Mazzuca

exist. They are young and old, new parents and medical patients - from fledgling business owners to recreational users of 40 years ago. For every consumer of cannabis, there is a duty to a responsible, educated use. As is the mantra of Dutchess Roots: elevate, educate, integrate.

The middle third takes form in a sort of “Dispensary 101.” It includes informative material for all who pass through the Dutchess Roots doors that explains doses, mechanisms of cannabis, hemp, CBD and THC. A few areas are for consumers to document the products they liked, or those to avoid in the future. Thrown in - free of charge - the material teaches consumers about products as much as it allows an opportunity to learn about the people behind the Town of

Poughkeepsie’s newest business.

Dutchess Roots has partnered with the Dutchess Community College Foundation to give back to the college’s Cannabis Retail Program. They will award a scholarship to a student, in hopes they continue growing and educating others within the industry.

“It goes both ways. We’re investing back in the community, the community invests in us, and it’s just this beautiful cycle,” said Lisa.

Born from a lifetime in the hospitality industry, Dutchess Roots is woman-owned, women-led and fixing to shake up the Hudson Valley cannabis industry. It’s just the beginning for a community whose dream grew from the pavement at 2615 South Road.

Dutchess Figure Skating Club to send 3 skaters to U.S. Excel National Final

Ranked among the top figure skaters in the U.S. Figure Skating National Excel Series, three athletes from the Dutchess Figure Skating Club have qualified to compete at the 2025 U.S. Figure Skating Excel National Final, taking place July 9 – 13 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the headquarters of the U.S. Figure Skating Association.

Alexa Brittell (14), Kaitlyn Brittell (17) and Sadi Roloson (15), all residents of Highland, train at McCann Ice Arena in Poughkeepsie under the coaching team of Allison Constant, Heather O’Connor and Sergei Sakhnovskiy. Together, they will represent the Dutchess Figure Skating Club on the national stage at their respective levels.

“It is incredibly meaningful to see

three skaters you’ve coached since their earliest days on the ice step into the national spotlight,” said coach Heather O’Connor. “Alexa, Kaitlyn and Sadi have been part of the Dutchess Figure Skating Club family for more than 10 years, and in that time, they’ve shown exceptional talent and unwavering dedication. This year, they showed up at every competition with focus, resilience and heart. This isn’t just a milestone, it’s the result of years of work and belief in themselves.”

To qualify for the Excel National Final, skaters must rank among the top six in one of U.S. Figure Skating’s three regions, East, Midwest or Pacific, or hold one of the next six highest national scores at their level earned at sanctioned Excel Series events.

Alexa Brittell, competing at the Excel Intermediate Plus level, is currently ranked first in the East and third in the nation. Her sister, Kaitlyn Brittell, will compete in the Excel Junior category, ranked fourth in the East and sixth nationally. Sadi Roloson, qualifying at the Excel Novice level, holds the third-place ranking in the East and sixth nationally.

The Excel Competition Series and National Final offer a prestigious platform for skaters across all levels to showcase their skill, determination and growth in a national spotlight. The Dutchess Figure Skating Club, based in Poughkeepsie, continues to build its



From left, Alexa Brittell, Sadi Roloson and Kaitlyn Brittell will represent the Dutchess Figure Skating Club on the national stage at their respective levels. Courtesy photo

reputation for developing passionate, high-performing athletes committed to excellence.

To learn more or register for McCann Ice Arena’s year-round learn-to-skate, figure skating or hockey programs, visit www.mccannicearena.org.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Anderson sets Second Annual Founder's Day; RSVP by July 3

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

Needlework Flea Market set for July 9

Skyllkill Chapter's Annual Needlework Flea Market will be held on July 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, LaGrangeville. There will be yarn, fabrics, beads, threads, notion, kits and tools for all one's needle arts projects presented by the Skyllkill Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America (EGA). Cash or check only will be accepted. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkyllkillEGA or send an email to EGASkyllkill@gmail.com.

Montgomery House Museum in Rhinebeck open to visitors on select Saturdays

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

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

Crafters Market at Ruby Hill Farm

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

Free Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7412 So. Broadway in Red Hook, is going to be a blast! For free, your child can enjoy lots of active play, discovering Bible stories, singing, playacting, prayer, conversation, and arts & crafts. A special highlight is a pottery workshop with local artist Marion Quenzer. All children, grades K-5th in the fall, are welcome at this fun filled annual event, July 14-18, 1-3:45 PM.. To save your child's space please register at myvbs.org/celebrate2025

Penny Social set July 19 at Stanford Grange

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Summer Penny Social on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. (strictly enforced), calling begins at 7 p.m., and the Grange Hall has air conditioning! There will be penny prizes, \$1 table, homemade baked goods, theme baskets, 50/50 drawing, and door prizes. Summer items will be featured. The Grange Youth will have refreshments for sale (please don't bring outside food - it takes money away from the kids). For more information, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 or the Stanford Grange Hall at (845) 868-1700.

Copake Falls Day set July 19

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

Pets can parade, win prizes at Copake Falls Day

Copake Grange #935 sponsors the third annual Pets in the Park event at the Taconic State Park, 35 Valley View Road, July 19, 9 a.m. to noon. Held in conjunction with Copake Falls Day and co-sponsored by the Copake Veterinary Hospital, this is a fun event where adults and children are invited to bring their favorite pet dog (all dogs must be licensed), cat, lizard, goat or whatever (except—no birds this year due to the risk of bird flu) to mingle and parade around at a beautiful location in the Taconic State Park. There is a \$5 registration fee for each pet. Admission is free. Prizes will be awarded for the cutest, the most

vocal, the best tail, etc. Proceeds benefit AnimalKind, Inc. and Everlasting Pet Rescue. More info at copakegrangepets@gmail.com or visit www.copakegrange.org/events for a registration form.

Millbrook Historical Society to present Quaker lecture

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

Carl Lounsbury of the College of William and Mary and Colonial Williamsburg will speak on the architecture of the Nine Partners Meetinghouse on Sunday, July 27, at 2 p.m. His talk, "Nine Partners Meetinghouse Plan: A New Form in the Hudson Valley," will put the structure in the context of other later 18th-century houses of worship in New York and New England. Lounsbury is the author of many works on early American architecture. The talk will be held at the historic Nine Partners Quaker Meetinghouse in Millbrook. Enter through the cemetery gate on Church St. The program is free and open to all.

Ukraine fundraiser set July 27 at Stissing Center

'Words to America from Ukraine' is an experience to connect our Dutchess County community with the unwavering spirit of Ukraine. The event will be held on Sunday, July 27, from 5 to 8 p.m., at The Stissing Center for Arts and Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Expect to be moved by contemporary war-time Ukrainian poetry, eloquently blended with the vibrant sounds of folk music performed by the renowned Ukrainian Village Voices ensemble. Savor delicious food and drink, hear inspiring speakers, and participate in a live auction featuring exceptional works from local and Ukrainian artists. Every ticket, every bid, every donation directly supports Razom for Ukraine, providing critical aid and keeping Ukraine's fight for freedom in the hearts and minds of Americans. WordsFromUkraine.org

Rhinebeck church to offer Vacation Bible School

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

Brunch to benefit library project

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

ONGOING

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

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

GREETERS IN THE GARDEN: Visit the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, located at 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park, on the FDR National Historic Site, any day from dawn to dusk. Entry is free. On the first and third Sunday afternoons, 1-3 p.m., Volunteers Greeters will be on hand to informally provide historic and garden information. More information at www.beatrixfarrandgardenhydepark.org.

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

FARMERS MARKETS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NYS will fund Youth, Education programs to support county fairs

continued from cover

television, and other modes of advertising are set to highlight the summer campaign. The "Get Offline, Get Outside" as named by Gov. Kathy Hochul, approaches fairs as a mechanism for creating memories with the entire family, no tech necessary. It's an opportunity to learn about agriculture-based economies while spending a day within the local community.

There is another opportunity to explore outside one's county lines, too, while Dutchess County Fair visitors wait for our own fair, which is set August 19-24.

Included in the campaign is the NYS

Fairs Passport Program, encouraging New Yorkers to stamp their way across the state's county fairs, with an enticing promise of pins and stamps aptly named "Ag Swag." Frequent fairgoers can be delighted by the fairs of distant and neighboring counties. All it takes is a willingness to venture outside the borders.

New York's county fair season kicks off way north in Allegany County on July 15 and will wind down in September on Long Island.

So...which New York fairs will fill your passport pages this summer?

we're on the web!

www.sdutchessnews.com



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Great Summer reads for fans of the game

By Morgan E. Maier

With long summer nights replacing school days, kids and adults alike need to continue working out those reading muscles. Though the Renegades didn't claim the first half league title, there are still plenty baseball titles fans can feast on this summer! These nonfiction baseball reads will steer one towards enjoying a ball game or a trip down memory lane. Sometimes, the cure to a heat wave is a cool page-turner.

1. Baseball in Dutchess County: When it was a Game (2000)

Baseball didn't begin in Dutchess County with the arrival of the Hudson Valley Renegades in 1994. Dutchess County native Joseph V. Poillucci was for decades the leading source on local history. In this work, he chronicles a century of baseball, from the players who traversed the Hudson River to compete and promoters who filled seats, to community clubs that set a competitive fire ablaze in many neighbors and fans. From 1859 to 1959, the baseball climate and conditions were mighty different than those of today's era, but the hometown love for

ballplayers is still alive in Dutchess County. A century condensed in 720 pages, this book explores the roots of the county's pastime and a community's dedication to grow a game while keeping it close to the heart.

2. Chicken Soup for the Baseball Fan's Soul (2001)

The famous Chicken Soup series comes with cracking tales of hope, nostalgia, and love for the game, from Little League to the majors. Humanizing stories of giants like Roger Maris and Tommy Lasorda, plus musings of t-ball parents and the fond memories of kids whose dads took the time to dust off the old glove after a day of work, still dressed in uniforms. Keep the tissues in sight for this read; the baseball-loving reader never knows when a memory will strike.

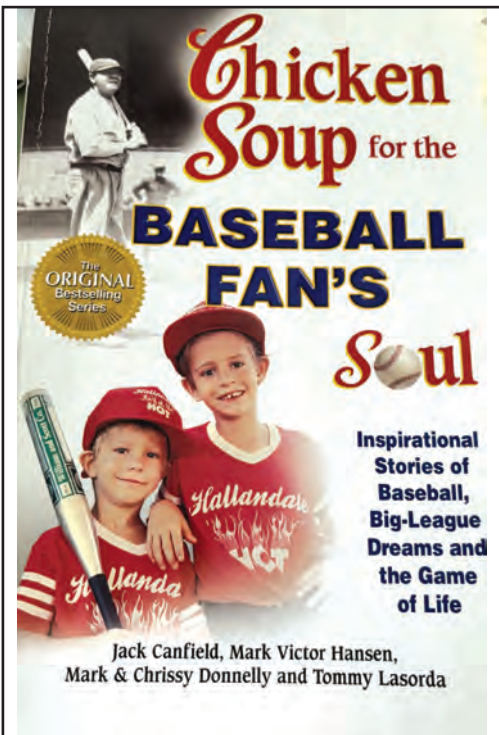
3. Why We Love Baseball in 50 Moments (2025)

Joe Posnanski brings us the baseball book of the summer with accounts of electrifying plays and devastating defeats from the people who experienced them firsthand. Written through the eyes of fans, umpires, players, and other baseball faithful, this collection of essays hinges on the momentous

feats caught not on camera, but in memories. Written not only by the heroes but the witnesses. The defeated, and the blamed. If 50 isn't enough by the final page, pick up Posnanski's debut "The Baseball 100" for twice as many vignettes of figures in American baseball history!

4. Moneyball: The Art of Winning a Losing Game

How does a team replace a traded MVP, frankensteining a new one? No. We re-create him in the aggregate. No better time to revisit the glory days of the Oakland A's, who currently play home games in a minor league ballpark in Sacramento. Over twenty years before the great Athletics implosion of '24, there was Billy Beane. The multidimensional Beane, as portrayed by Brad Pitt in the "Moneyball" film, built his game-changing baseball maneuver on statistics, budgeting, and sheer market research. Though Oakland's bunch of misfits didn't go on to hoist the World Series trophy, this account of Beane's antics captures the spirit and science of moneyball as



only author Michael Lewis can. Every off-field player who contributed to Beane's idea, down to the dream draft class of 2002. Dedicated to "Coach Fitz" Billy Fitzgerald, whom Lewis "can still hear him shouting at me."

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Brooklyn NYM	7	2	.778	-	7-2	W3
Greensboro PIT	7	2	.778	-	7-2	W3
Hudson Valley NYG	4	5	.444	3.0	4-5	L3
Aberdeen BAL	4	5	.444	3.0	4-5	L1
Wilmington WSH	4	5	.444	3.0	4-5	W3
Jersey Shore PHI	2	7	.222	5.0	2-7	L3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB	6	3	.667	-	6-3	W1
Asheville HOU	5	4	.556	1.0	5-4	L1
Greenville BOS	4	4	.500	1.5	4-4	W1
Hub City TEX	4	5	.444	2.0	4-5	W1
Rome ATL	3	5	.375	2.5	3-5	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	3	6	.333	3.0	3-6	L3



Home Schedule

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



**IMPACT**
PR & Communications

**Jad Haddad Receives
The Amee VanTassel Award**









RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Great performances are not enough as Renegades drop series to Wilmington

By Morgan E. Maier

The Renegades dropped another series at Wilmington despite magnificent performances from Alexander Vargas and a franchise-record-setting grand slam by Josh Moylan.

In its second consecutive away series, Hudson Valley had little rebuttal for Wilmington’s early-inning leads and late-game comebacks, dropping the series four games to two.

Hudson Valley was shut out twice in the series. In the 11-0 stomping on June 27, Hudson Valley was held to just four hits.

Moylan’s homer set the Renegades single-season record for grand slams as a

team, and we’re only halfway through the year!

In the series finale, Wilmington scored three early runs. The Hudson Valley negated two, but couldn’t fully rally. Moylan cut the deficit with an RBI in the ninth, but it couldn’t salvage the series split. The Renegades ended their extended road trip with a 4-3 loss, an overall 5-6 record, and a three-game losing streak.

Vargas recorded a hit in every game of the series, including a two-run home run in the Renegades’ 10-3 win on June 25. He finished the series with 12 hits, three RBI, and a .288 batting average. Against the Blue Claws just a series ago, Vargas’s average was .176.

In another 1-0 loss to open a series, the

Renegades weren’t able to provide a big hit to break the shutout.

Under rainy conditions and an extended delay, the June 26 matchup was tabled for the following day. With two innings to make up in a quasi-double header, the game resumed in the fifth inning with a couple of goose eggs on the scoreboard. The Renegades jumped ahead with seventh inning RBI singles from Vargas and Tomas Frick, and kept the Blue Rocks at bay for their second win in Wilmington.

On June 28, Josh Grosz went 7.1 innings, but gave up four earned runs on seven hits. Despite the longevity that has become typical of Grosz’s outings, the righthander was charged with his sixth

loss of the year. Wilmington posted a five-spot in the eighth inning en route to a 7-4 lead. Moylan’s grand slam put the Renegades ahead 4-2, but they didn’t score past the sixth. With just three outs to spare after the Blue Rocks’ big comeback, Hudson Valley couldn’t make up the lost ground.

The Renegades (42-31) return home for a home matchup with the Brooklyn Cyclones (53-22). They will play six at Heritage Financial, then ring in Independence Day with the firecracker spectacular. The Renegades need no Roman Candles or Cherry Bombs, but some rockets at the plate if they want to make up ground on the division leaders.

RENEGADES FEATURE

Avina gains honors and continues to lead Renegades

By Morgan E. Maier

There is one unwritten stat in Jace Avina’s stat line: Robbery. In his young minor league career, his tendency to scale walls has led to a few stolen home runs, including one that landed the number one spot on SportsCenter’s Top 10 Plays of the Week.

This season, Avina returned from injury in time for the May 17 giveaway, a bobblehead commemorating the viral grab. One thousand (and more!) approving nods for the 22-year-old, who cemented the Renegades’ comeback win with a game-tying sacrifice fly.

Along with diving plays and well-timed free climbs, Avina has made leaps in the Hudson Valley lineup this season. One of just two outfielders batting from the right side, Avina hits .311 against right-handed pitchers.

When the South Atlantic Leagues Weekly awards dropped on April 27, Avina, alongside top pitcher Elmer Rodriguez-Cruz, showcased a Hudson Valley sweep. Hitting a monstrous 545/.643/.773 with seven RBI in a series win against the Asheville Tourists. Adding back-to-back three-hit games that week in North Carolina, Avina was in

familiar territory.

Milwaukee drafted Avina out of Spanish Springs High School (NV) in 2021. He was the state’s sixth overall prospect and third-ranked outfielder.

With the Brew Crew’s affiliate Carolina Mudcats, Avina hit a pair of home runs in his Single-A debut. Three launched over the fence in the first two games, and none came close to glancing into an outfield glove.

He showed Zebulon, N.C. a bit of juggling talent the following season. After Avina snagged a would-be walkoff home run, the ball threatened to drop to the left field grass upon his landing. A few bobbles, but a catch, and a Mudcats’ win. Quite the knack for defying gravity.

New York caught wind of Avina in the second half of 2023, when he dropped his strikeout rate and put up a 1.097 on base plus slugging percentage (OPS) in 38 games.

Brewers beat writers with twinkling saucers for eyes had the organization’s 28th prospect bookmarked for ‘24 when... The Yankees front office made its off-season move.

New York dealt outfielder Jake Bauers for two promising prospects in Avina and Brian Sánchez. Fans couldn’t imagine a



Returning this week, Jace Avina again was a spark that the Renegades have desperately needed. Hitting coach Tom DeAngelis summed up Avina’s impact after his SAL award, saying, “[Jace] continues to bring an immense amount of concentration and energy every day to his training, preparation, and in-game performance that is contagious to his teammates.”

Photo by Dave Janosz

trade more than a bag of baseballs in Bauers, and were rewarded with the acrobatic Avina, who heated up in the second half of 2024.

Since June 2, Avina was sidelined once more. Returning this week, he again was a spark that the Renegades have desperate-

ly needed. Hitting coach Tom DeAngelis summed up Avina’s impact after his SAL award, saying, “[Jace] continues to bring an immense amount of concentration and energy every day to his training, preparation, and in-game performance that is contagious to his teammates.”

Jad Haddad of Stenger, Glass,
Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP
honored by DC Bar Association

Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP announced that Jad Haddad has been honored with the Amee VanTassel Young Lawyer Award. The award is given each year to an attorney who has been practicing for less than 10 years and is recognized by their peers for their civility and professionalism, service to the Bar and community and commitment to pro bono service.

"It is an honor to receive this award," said Haddad. "It is especially meaningful to be recognized by the Dutchess County Bar Association so early in my career."

A 2020 graduate of Albany Law School, Haddad joined Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP in 2022. He works across the firm's litigation, criminal and real estate teams.

“Jad has distinguished himself through his drive, work ethic and commitment to excellence,” said Kenneth Stenger, founding partner at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP. “His clients trust and value his legal acumen and ability to protect their interests. We are proud of him and look forward to seeing his continued career growth.”



Jad Haddad receives the Amee VanTassel Award. *Photo courtesy of Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP*

Poughkeepsie Social Security office reopens

continued from cover

can use their online account to get a personalized Social Security Statement, which provides their earnings information as well as estimates of their future benefits. The portal also includes a retirement calculator and links to information about other online services.

To make an appointment, one can visit <https://www.ssa.gov/manage-benefits/make-an-appointment>.

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To apply for benefits

People can apply online for most benefits. In many cases, there are no forms to sign. The agency will review the application and reach out with questions or for more information. Visit www.ssa.gov/online/services to apply for retirement, disability, or Medicare.

Need proof of benefits, want to check the status of an application or appeal, or curious what else people can do online? Visit www.ssa.gov/myaccount or www.ssa.gov/onlineservices today.

Serino launches new grant for local organizations providing food assistance to those in need

Applications accepted
online through Aug. 5

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino recently announced a new grant opportunity to support organizations throughout Dutchess County dedicated to feeding neighbors in need – be it serving warm meals to those facing homelessness. Eligible non-profit organizations can apply for these grants online, now through the Aug. 5 application deadline.

Serino said, “Local organizations are out there every day making sure neighbors have food on the table, often with limited staff and resources. This funding is about helping them do what they do best: serve our community. By investing in their infrastructure, we’re helping them reach more people and continue to be there for those who rely on them most.”

Eligible non-profit organizations are those with a 501(c)(3) designation whose primary mission is to serve food to those experiencing homelessness or provide food to those in need of food assistance, i.e., food pantries, within Dutchess County. Examples of eligible expenses include freezers; grab-and-go coolers; shelving/storage systems; food preparation and transport equipment; food packaging; Point of Sale (POS) systems and inventory management systems.

Priority will be given to agencies that show a strong commitment to providing meals for individuals experiencing homelessness.

A total of \$100,000 was dedicated through a Dutchess County Legislature amendment to the 2025 County Budget for 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations' operating infrastructure initiatives as part of the County's 2025 Agency Partner Grant (APG): Infrastructure program.

The County's Community Development Advisory Committee and the Department of Planning & Development's staff will review all APG: Infrastructure applications and send their recommendations to the County Executive for final approval.

Additional information, application instructions and guidance about the 2025 APG: Infrastructure program is available online at www.dutchessny.gov. Applications will be accepted via an online portal through Aug. 5 at 3 p.m.; awards are expected to be announced in early fall 2025.

Organizations that have questions or would like additional information about the grant program can contact the Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development at communitygrants@dutchessny.gov or (845) 486-3600.

These grants are the latest in Dutchess County's continuing efforts to address hunger and improve access to healthy food. In 2024, County Executive Serino established the Dutchess County Food Security Council to identify the scope, causes and barriers of food insecurity in Dutchess County while reducing food waste, expanding food access and recommending effective policy solutions.

NYS Parks announces \$2.5M for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail in Columbia County

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) announced today that \$2.5 million in capital funding from the FY2025-26 Enacted Budget has been committed to a new section of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT). Crossing State Route 22 in Columbia County, the 1 mile section of planned trail links the towns of Copake and Hillsdale via the Black Grocery Road and Orphan Farm Road trailheads. Utilizing a newly acquired parcel of vacant land, this segment of the HVRT once completed will bring the total distance of contiguous trail to 26.5 miles.

The Harlem Valley Rail Trail connects 150,000 annual users to communities in Columbia and Dutchess County. Of the trail's 46 planned miles, 26 miles have been paved with the remaining sections in various stages of planning and development. Running through the Harlem Valley and Taconic Hills of eastern New York, the HVRT was built over a 19th century railroad that existed between New York City and Chatham, New York.

Funding sources for this \$4.9 million extension of the HVRT includes \$2.5 million earmarked in the Fiscal Year 2026 Executive Budget, previously awarded \$1.9 million in federal Transportation Alternatives Program funds and \$230,000 in Environmental Protection Fund grants matched by the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association.

Senator Michelle Hinchey said, "Connecting Copake and Hillsdale along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail has been a longtime goal for so many of our neighbors in Columbia County, and I'm proud to have helped secure state funding to construct this new section. Outdoor enthusiasts will soon be able to access a continuous path—enhancing quality of life while also bringing more people and economic activity to our local shops and small businesses. Trail

expansions like this help us make the most out of our beautiful region, and we can't wait to see our neighbors and visitors out enjoying it."

Assemblymember Didi Barrett said, "The long-anticipated section of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail that crosses Route 22 in Columbia County is critical to the completion of this beautiful rail trail which runs along the eastern edge of my district in Dutchess and Columbia counties. For years, I have worked with the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, local elected officials, business owners and concerned residents to secure this funding, and I thank Governor Hochul and State Parks for their support of this critical project in the State budget."

The project builds on Governor Hochul's efforts to encourage affordable outdoor recreation. The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget includes \$200 million for State Parks to invest in and aid the ongoing transformation of New York's flagship parks and support critical infrastructure projects throughout the park system. The Governor's new Unplug and Play initiative also earmarks \$100 million for construction and renovation of community centers through the Build Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids and Seniors (NY BRICKS), \$67.5 million for the Places for Learning, Activity and Youth Socialization (NY PLAYS) initiative helping New York communities construct new playgrounds and renovate existing playgrounds; and an additional \$90 million for the continuation of the Statewide Investment in More Swimming (NY SWIMS) initiative including \$50 million for a competitive grant program supporting municipalities in the renovation and construction of swimming facilities and \$40 million for other swimming-based investments.

For more information about the HVRT
please visit www.hvrt.org.

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Yoga with Kristin
Sundays @ 10:00 am
All levels welcome in peaceful Morton Hall. The classes are breath-based with an emphasis on thoughtful sequencing and alignment so that practitioners can move with stability, awareness, and grace. This is a drop-in class and all are welcome. Please bring your yoga mat, a blanket, and blocks if you like. \$12 suggested donation

Euterpe Ensemble Call for Musicians
Concert: July 14 @ 7:30 pm
The program this year is centered around songs of protest, hope, and peace, and includes Haydn’s “Farewell” symphony and Barber’s Adagio for Strings, as well as five new pieces written for this concert on the theme.

MakerSpace Summer Camp
“Let’s Build a City”
July 7 - July 11, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
This camp will incorporate elements of urban planning, architecture, and interior design as we make a city (or small town or hamlet). Time will also be available for children to work on their own MakerSpace projects such as sewing, woodworking, and construction.
This is geared to children ages 8-13. Please contact Judy at MakerSpace@mortonrhinecliff.org to register.

Oblong Books Presents:
Gary Shteyngart, VERA, OR FAITH in conversation with Francine Prose
Wednesday, July 9 @ 6:30 pm
(at Morton)
From the bestselling author of Super Sad True Love Story and Our Country Friends comes a poignant, sharp-eyed, and bitterly funny tale of a family struggling to stay together in a country rapidly coming apart, told through the eyes of their wondrous ten-year-old daughter.
Tickets/Registration Required.
Admission only: \$10
Admission with book: \$31 - includes one hardcover copy of VERA, OR FAITH.

Morton Book Club:
“The Years”
by Annie Ernaux
Thursday, July 10 @ 7:30 pm
Read, ponder, discuss, broaden your horizons, and have fun - all in a very casual and low key style. Potluck encouraged! Books available at the library.

Informational SAT
Prep Course Meeting
with Holly Tarson
Saturday, July 12 @ 11:00 am
Come to a free SAT information session. Holly Tarson has over 25 years of experience as an SAT teacher and tutor. In this session she will provide an overview of the SAT and testing strategies, followed by time for Q&A. Parents and students are welcome. Holly will also be offering a free three-class SAT prep series this summer at Morton Library.

You will learn SAT fundamentals and stealthy test taking strategies for both the Reading/Writing and the Math modules of the exam.
Tuesday, July 29th 2:30 – 4:30pm
Tuesday, August 5th 2:30 – 4:30pm
Tuesday, August 12th 2:30 – 4:30pm
The classes are sequenced to build upon each other, so please attend all three!

Please register for the classes as a series. Questions about the info session or the class series?
Feel free to email: holly.tarson@gmail.com

No Joke Improv
Saturday, July 12 @ 7:00 pm
Come see The Improv Comics perform games such as Whose Line, Scenes From a Hat, Secret, Bad Day, and Doo-Wop. Everything you see will be made up on the spot.
Directed by Logan Gray Darkholme.
Show may not be suitable for all audiences. Tickets: \$10 at the door.

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SUMMER READING PROGRAMS Weekly Programs

Tunes and Tales
Mondays at 10:30 AM
Ages 6 months - 2

Wiggles and Words
Mondays at 11:15 AM
Ages Birth - 1

Lego Club: Master Builder
Tuesdays at 2 PM

Storytime: Busytown Special Guests
Wednesdays at 10:30 AM
Ages 6 and under

Tunes and Tales Fridays
Fridays at 10:30 AM
Ages 6 months - 2

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR KIDS
Summer Reading Launch: Tie-Dye party
Wednesday, July 2 at 10:30 AM
Registration Required

Dog Man Book Party
Friday, July 18 at 3 PM
Registration Required

Llama Llama Llama Book Party
Friday, August 1 at 2:30 PM
Registration Required

End of Summer Reading Water Party
Saturday, August 16 at 11 AM
Registration Required

Escape Rooms
Wizard of Oz Theme (teams of 6)
Registration Required
Wednesday, July 23: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.; 5-6 p.m.
Thursday, July 24: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.; 5-6 p.m.
Friday, July 25: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.

Inside Out Theme (teams of 6)
Registration Required
Wednesday, Aug. 13: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.; 5-6 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 14: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.; 5-6 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 15: 1-2 p.m.; 2-3 p.m.; 3-4 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR TEENS & ADULTS
Intro to R Programming Language
Thursdays in July at 5 PM
Starting on July 10
Registration Required

Embroidery Workshop
Thursday, July 10 at 5:30 PM
Registration Required
Watercolor Painting Workshop
Monday, July 14 at 5:30 PM
Registration Required

Natural Dye Workshop
Wednesday, July 30 at 5 PM
Registration Required

Hand Spinning and Weaving Workshop
Wednesday, August 6 at 5:30 PM
Registration Required

MUSIC ON THE PORCH SERIES
Jasperoo and George Potts
Saturday, July 12 at 1 PM

Bruce T Carroll and Frank Migliorelli
Saturday, Aug 9 at 1 PM

Liz Reed and Roger & Lenny
Saturday, September 13 at 1 PM

BOOK CLUBS
Mystery Book Club - The Hunter
Friday, July 18 at 2 PM
Registration Encouraged

Evening Book Club - The Princess Bride
Monday, July 28 at 6 PM
Registration Encouraged

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<https://stanfordlibrary.org/>
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SUMMER STORY TIMES
Babies—Tuesdays at 9:00am
Session 1 July 8 and July 15th
Session 2 July 22nd and July 29th

Toddlers—Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00am
Session 1 July 8th, 10th, 15th and 17th
Session 2 July 22nd, 24th, 29th and 31st

Preschool & Kindergarten—Mondays & Wednesdays at 10:00am
Session 1 July 7th, 9th, 14th, and 16th
Session 2 July 21st, 23rd, 28th and 30th.

Grades 1-3—Mondays at 11:00am
Session 1 July 7th and July 14th
Session 2 July 21st and July 28th

Register for one or both sessions

Chair Yoga
Friday, July 11th. 1pm-2pm
This is gentle yoga with a chair to support and aid seated and standing postures.

July Book Club
Monday, July 14th, 1:00 pm-2:00pm
This month's selection is Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders. This novel is based on the true story of the death of Abraham Lincoln’s beloved son Willie.

Read to Therapy Dog Jambo
Tuesday, July 8th, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
He’s a gentle giant who loves to make new friends. People of all ages are welcome to come and visit with him. Sign up for a 15 minute slot with Jambo.

Supper Club with Lenny
Wednesday, July 9th, 6-7 pm
Enjoy a community tasting and sharing

event with friends and family. This month the theme I’d “Rice is Nice”. Bring any dish with rice as an ingredient. No need to register - just come with your cuisine and enjoy food and conversation!

Repair Cafe
Saturday, July 12th, 10am-2pm
The Repair Cafe is open for business. Bring clothes, furniture, appliances, toys, bicycle, etc to our talented volunteers. Get professional advice, personal encounters and inspiration. Enjoy refreshments, handicapped access, easy parking.

Everyday Governance Amid Revolution in Northeast Dutchess County
Friday, July 18th, 7pm
Presented by the Stanford Historical Society, Dillon Striefeneder will be speaking about life during revolutionary times as part of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution

Introduction to Babysitting
Wednesday, July 30th, 5pm-8pm
This three hour class is designed to prepare teens to feel confident when accepting a babysitting job. Participants will learn interviewing tips, communication skills, ages and stages of young babies and toddlers, safety, first aid tips, and feeding and caring for children, including diaper changing. At the completion of the course, participants will take a brief quiz and certificates of completion will be distributed. This program is for ages 10+. Pizza will be provided. Registration is required.

Music in the Library
Saturday, August 2nd, 11-12pm
Andrew Baffi will be back bringing classical guitar for all to enjoy

ONGOING EVENTS
Case Management Services
Tuesday 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Free and available to anyone in our community. North East Community Center’s case management services can help clients meet emergency needs and provide ongoing support. For example, we can assist with food rent and utilities.

Yoga with Mia
Saturdays, 10am-11am
Please note: The July 5th will be led by Bobbie. There is no Yoga class on July 12th. Mia will return on July 19th.

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners
Mondays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
All levels welcome.

Knitting
First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Come for knitting, tea and conversation. All levels welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games
Thursdays 10:30 – 12:00 pm
Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

Mahjong for Intermediate Players
Fridays 10:00 am - noon
Come and play Mahjong with this fun, friendly group. Are you a beginner or want to learn the game, ask at the library for more information.

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County Players to present ‘Lips Together, Teeth Apart’

Adult drama-comedy
opens July 11

County Players, one of the longest-running community theatre companies in the area, will present the adult comedy-drama “Lips Together, Teeth Apart” by Terrence McNally. This Main Stage production is directed by Kit Colbourn and opens Friday, July 11 with additional performances scheduled for Fridays and Saturdays July 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 at 8 p.m.; with matinees on Sunday July 20 and Saturday, July 26 at 2 p.m., at the County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 West Main St. in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

Set on the beachside deck of a house on Fire Island during the 1990 Fourth of July weekend, McNally’s story imagines a gathering between two mismatched couples. Debate, discussion, and disclosure (including secrets, a mystery, and an affair) follow. Content warning: Contains strong mature language.

The production features the local talents of Deborah Coconis, Michael

Frohnhofer, Brian Kuchicki, and Jenn Propfe. “McNally has created a world that, on the surface, seems like a simple weekend by the sea for two couples,” said Colbourn, “but it’s quickly revealed that the four characters have deep seated conflicts and fears. It’s scathingly funny, because it’s scathingly human. It’s about life in the presence of death, and loneliness in the presence of others. You will recognize elements of yourselves as you laugh with them and feel for them as they navigate their individual pain.”

Individual tickets are available online in advance of the performance dates at countplayers.org. Prices are: Adult: \$26, Senior 60+, Military, Students (with ID at the door): \$24. Box Office is open for in-person ticket sales one hour before performance time.

This production of “Lips Together, Teeth Apart” is supported by show Bronze Sponsor, Facilities Maintenance Corp., and is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC serving Dramatists Play Service collection, dramatists.com. Hudson Valley Credit Union proudly sponsors County



The cast of “Lips Together, Teeth Apart.” The adult drama-comedy will run July 11-26. Photo by Louisa Vilardi Photography

Players’ 67th Season.

One of the longest-running community theatre companies in our area, County Players is an all-volunteer organization that has presented more than 200 productions and has served thousands of theatergoers since 1958. Located in the historic Village of Wappingers Falls the all-volunteer theatre company acquired the former Academy Theatre and renamed it the

County Players Falls Theatre, their home since 1977.

County Players Falls Theatre is equipped with an assistive listening system for the hard of hearing. If one requires wheelchair accessibility, please contact the Box Office at 845-298-1491.

For more information, go to <https://countplayers.org/show/lips-together-teeth-apart>.

NEXT TAVERN TRAIL EVENT SET AUG. 1 AT GERMANIA

As the nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of the events that led to the American Revolution (Rev 250), Dutchess County is putting a local slant to the observance. The Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail brings history and local cuisine together while introducing the community to iconic locales.

The next Tavern Trail event is set Friday, Aug. 1, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., at Germania, 37 Old Degarmo Road, Poughkeepsie. The topic will be “Dutchess County’s First Germans.” The event is free, but reservations are required. Visit <https://germaniapok.com/> for more information. Upcoming events include: Friday, Sept. 12, at Lasting Joy Brewery in Tivoli; and Wednesday, Oct. 22, at Fosters Coach House in Rhinebeck.

The Tavern Trail is a collaborative endeavor between the Dutchess County Department of History, local historical societies and signature food and beverage industry partners to create an innovative program that highlights the county’s rich history. Each installment of the program is held at a different historic location and includes a brief presentation on an engaging episode of the local past. Visit www.destinationdutchess.com for updates.



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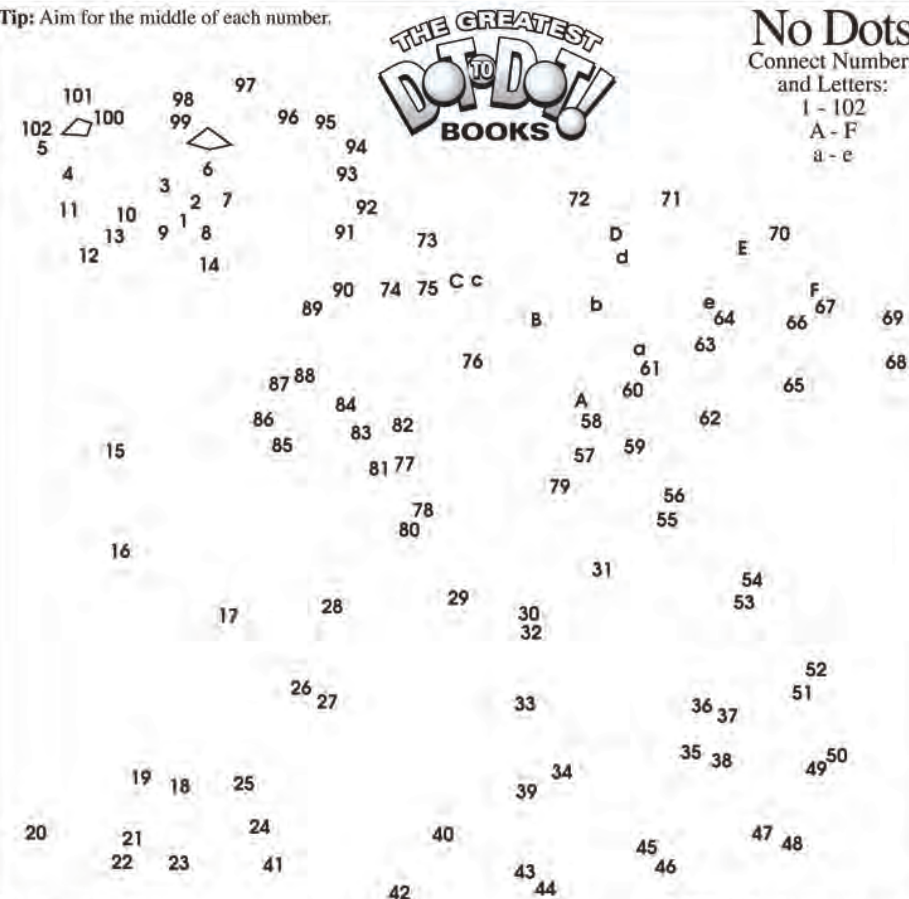
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communityatbrookmeade.org

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 19 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Tip: Aim for the middle of each number.



No Dots
Connect Numbers and Letters:
1 - 102
A - F
a - e

By David Kalvitis

© 2005 Monkeying Around



Chicken inspiration

An alternative to the usual hot-weather fare, cooked on the stove with delicious results.

I feel like a broken record saying this because it happens every year at this time, but summer’s heat usually leaves me without much of an appetite. It also tends to drive me from the kitchen for any extended time. For me that usually means coming up with light, fresh things that are easy to throw together, like sandwiches and salads, but after a while those get a little old. But I recently made a light, lemony chicken dish that changed all that, and was well worth the time in my hot kitchen.

(A word about my kitchen: I live in an early 1900s bungalow without central air conditioning, which means I rely on window units in the summer to cope with the heat. They do what they can in my sweltering abode, but don’t do a thing for the kitchen. I’m sure many of you don’t have this problem and so cooking in the summer months isn’t that big of a deal; but since heat and I do not get along, it’s a huge issue for me. I really can’t complain, though, since it’s forced me to come up with more summer-friendly recipes than I would have thought possible. Necessity really is the mother of invention!)

What happened was this: I was in a bit of a dinner rut. It was the start of a beastly hot week, but the thought of yet another salad for dinner just wasn’t gonna cut it. I didn’t want to fire up the grill or the oven or even order takeout. But I had a few things in the fridge to use up and a crisp, ice cold Chardonnay for inspiration, and a recipe was born! I used thin chicken cutlets, which took no time at all to cook on the stovetop, so I wasn’t adding much more heat to my already stifling kitchen; used a rice cooker to make a side dish; and tossed up a light side salad. In under 30 minutes I had a lovely dinner to go with that Chardonnay. But the best part? It’s all about the sauce, my friends. I could drink it, it’s THAT good! I really don’t have much more to say about it, so we may as well get right to it.

CHICKEN IN LEMON CREAM SAUCE

But not just any lemon cream sauce! It’s kissed with white wine, and garlic and Parmesan get blended in for a velvety texture. The flavor is bright and luscious. A sprinkling of fresh mixed herbs is the crowning glory.

INGREDIENTS

- olive oil (about 2 tablespoons) for the skillet
- 1/2 cup flour
- salt and pepper to taste
- 6 thin-sliced, skinless chicken cutlets
- 1/4 cup dry white wine (preferably the same one you serve with it)
- 3/4 cup heavy cream
- Juice and zest from 1 lemon (helpful tip: zesting before juicing is easier)
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cloves garlic
- chopped fresh herbs: parsley, oregano, thyme and/or basil (about 2 tablespoons total)

METHOD

Heat olive oil in a large skillet. In a shallow bowl, whisk flour, salt and pepper together. Dredge chicken cutlets in the flour, coating both sides. Place chicken in the skillet and cook until golden, 3-5 minutes per side. Transfer chicken to a plate.

Add wine to the skillet and scrape up any browned bits. Add wine, cream, lemon juice and zest and garlic. (NOTE: I used a microplane/fine cheese grater for the garlic right over the skillet so the resulting paste would mix in better). Add more salt and pepper if needed. Stir to combine, lower the heat and simmer to thicken slightly, 4-6 minutes.

Stir in herbs and return chicken to the skillet. Simmer another 2 minutes or so to warm through. Plate chicken and spoon extra sauce over the top. Sprinkle with more fresh herbs and serve immediately. Makes 3-6 servings.

This recipe makes quite a bit of sauce, so you will likely have some left over,



Photo of Chicken in Lemon Cream Sauce by Vicki Frank Day

which is a great thing! Put it in an airtight container in the fridge and use it within a day or two. It would be amazing on cooked shrimp, fish or grilled vegetables. You could even drizzle it on a sandwich or over tuna salad. Or eat it by the spoonful. I can’t say I haven’t done it, so no judgment here! Enjoy!

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

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8	4						2	5
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				2				7
4			6					

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

Suguru

		1		4	
		4			
			4		
			2	5	

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

THEME: FOURTH OF JULY

ACROSS

1. Croat, e.g.
5. Reverential respect mixed with wonder
8. Island near Java
12. From where to eternity?
13. *"Land of the ____"
14. Rowed
15. Diabolical
16. Mideast bigwig
17. Unleashes
18. *Star-spangled banner (2 words)
20. Type of ski lift
21. *Day before Independence Day
22. Quilting party
23. Sherlock Holmes' confidant
26. Formal dinner
30. U.N. working-conditions agency
31. Sextet plus one
34. Cancel
35. Holey confection
37. Electric swimmer
38. Frame job
39. Comparison word
40. Type of deodorant
42. Skater's field
43. *Like "America the Beautiful"
skies
45. Covered with a ceiling
47. Tennis do-over
48. Surfer's stops
50. Not guilty, e.g.
52. *Yankee Doodle's feather
55. *"To Freedom!", e.g.
56. Tel ____, Israel
57. Bébé's mother
59. Pseudonym
60. *Cup at a picnic
61. Do like exhaust pipe
62. Late George Wendt on "Cheers"
63. Give it a go
64. *Betsy of #18 Across-related
fame

DOWN

1. "He said, _____ said"
2. Russian left
3. Pomegranate seed
4. South African grasslands
5. Knight's protection
6. Odd and unusual
7. Like ghostly howls
8. *July 4th culinary tradition
9. _____ 51 in Nevada
10. Lecherous look
11. Dog tags
13. Felidae family member
14. As a rule
19. Casper, e.g.
22. Cricket club
23. Measurement
24. Hello, to Mr. Hand
25. Opposite of atonal
26. *Philadelphia's Liberty _____
27. "_____ death do us part"
28. Draw out a conclusion
29. Drank too much
32. Lowly laborer
33. What lintel and mantel have in common
36. *Personification of the U.S. (2 words)
38. Show contempt
40. Decompose
41. In eighth, book format
44. "The Second Coming" poet
46. Chemical cousin
48. Relish
49. In an unfriendly manner
50. Horseback sport
51. Bear's hang-out
52. Sail holder
53. "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" captain
54. Part of an eye
55. Sun kiss
58. "The Extra-Terrestrial"-inspired toys

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11
12					13					14				
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59						60					61			
62						63					64			

A promotional graphic for Consumer Cellular. On the left, a large, 3D-style "\$25" is displayed, with a speech bubble containing the text "SWITCH & GET" pointing to it. To the right, a black speech bubble contains the text "Off First Month of New Service!" and "USE PROMO CODE: GZ590". Below this, the "Consumer Cellular" logo is shown in a white speech bubble. At the bottom, a black banner contains the text "CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913" in white. A small copyright notice is at the very bottom: "© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913".

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



Northeast Ag Labor Working Group

Stakeholders join forces to find a solution to the undocumented labor issue.

It's no big secret that almost half of the U.S. Agricultural workforce is undocumented (42% of crop workers, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture). Since President Reagan signed the Immigration Reform and Control Act in 1986, it has been illegal for an employer to "knowingly" hire an unauthorized worker. Contrary to popular belief, and as a consequence of the law's wording, the vast majority of undocumented farm workers are "on the books" – receiving a paycheck, paying taxes and social security, and making at least minimum wage, in some cases much more.

I was recently recruited to be a member of an outfit called the Northeast Ag Labor Working Group, made up of stakeholders – farmers who rely on a stable supply of labor to produce locally grown food. The group brings together people from the dairy, vegetable, fruit and ornamental horticulture industries, all concerned about the current political climate as it affects the agricultural labor market.

As a member of New York Farm Bureau, I've spent way too much time advocating for a legal workforce, traveling to Washington to meet with legislators, going back to when Hillary Clinton was our senator. Back then, the big sticking point to granting any kind of amnesty to undocumented workers was that they "broke the law" by coming here in the first place. At one meeting with some legislators, I said I broke the law on my way

to the meeting. I drove 68 miles an hour on the New Jersey turnpike. I was even an illegal worker myself, in London for a few months in 1970, working in a Heinz ketchup factory.

How did U.S. Agriculture get itself into this situation of relying on illegal workers? Our porous southern border is one contributing factor. These people just showed up, with credible documentation, willing to work. Employers were actually prohibited from discriminating, as long as the documents were properly filed and an I-9 (Employment Eligibility Verification) form filled out. And it isn't easy to find people who are willing to pick tomatoes all day.

But what about the H-2A visa program that allows U.S. employers to temporarily employ foreign workers in agricultural jobs? That program was originally set up to help with seasonal harvests, where a lot of labor was needed for a short period. It worked well and still works well for the apple industry. Charles Hurd from Hurds Family Farm in Clintondale says his apple farm has employed H-2A workers since 1953, and has enjoyed a consistent and reliable legal workforce ever since. But other aspects of agriculture need workers on a more permanent basis.

On a Zoom meeting of our group, Paul Bleiberg of the National Milk Producers Federation was advocating for a three-year renewable visa, since the dairy industry works year-round. Brian Reeves,

president of the N.Y. Vegetable Growers Association, points out that any "permanent" H-2A workers should be allowed to go home to visit their family, not stuck on a farm for 365 days straight. One problem with H-2A is the cost. Employers must pay above minimum wage rates (currently \$18.83 per hour), provide free housing, and pay air fare.

Back when the program started in the 1950s, apples farmers in particular were flush with cash. My father remembered getting five dollars for a bushel when he paid workers 15 cents an hour. Nowadays farmers in New York State are up against the wall. I don't know how Charles Hurd does it, but he points out that if more farmers had bought into H-2A from the get-go, the program would by now be working more efficiently, even for dairy farmers. Right now it's a burden, especially for farmers who don't have on-site housing.

The Northeast Ag Labor Working Group is looking for a legal workforce, with help from our legislators. I contacted the office of my congressman, Pat Ryan. He sent me this message:

"When I speak with farmers across the Hudson Valley, labor is often their top concern. Many producers in New York are already struggling to keep their doors open and their lights on. Having to contend with a bureaucratic, outdated agriculture immigration system makes it even harder. Washington owes it to America's



US Rep. Pat Ryan (D, CD18) says when he speaks to farmers, labor is their top concern. He is working for a bipartisan solution to a "reliable and legal workforce" for the agriculture sector. *Courtesy photo*

farmers to deliver a reliable and legal workforce that is accessible and affordable. That's why I'm fighting for bipartisan reform in Congress. We have to be willing to attack the issue from every angle, and I remain committed to working with anyone to deliver for Hudson Valley farmers."

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

West Point Band to celebrate 250 years of Army heritage on Independence Day

The West Point Band's annual Independence Day Celebration will take on special significance as it honors 250 years of Army heritage on Friday, July 4 at 7 p.m. Held at the iconic Trophy Point Amphitheater at West Point overlooking the majestic Hudson River, this musical performance will celebrate the roots of both the Army and our country, and the lives of the soldiers who helped shape and protect it. The evening will culminate in a spectacular fireworks display, offer-

ing a fitting tribute to this historic milestone. In the event of inclement weather, this performance will be rescheduled for Saturday, July 5.

This special celebration will feature stirring patriotic music, inspiring stories of service, and the premiere of "Hand in Hand," a new song composed by Bill Sherman ("Hamilton," "Sesame Street") and Sam Hollander ("High Hopes," "HandClap"). In attendance will be the new cadets of the Class of 2029, repre-

sending the future of Army leadership and the continuation of a proud tradition of service.

Experience the magic of live music, breathtaking performances, and a dazzling fireworks display, all set against the historic backdrop where our Army fought for freedom. It's a family-friendly event that honors our nation's heroes and prom-

ises an unforgettable experience. Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend. For more information, visit westpointband.com, or follow the West Point Band on Facebook, Instagram, or X.

For West Point Band concert information, cancellations and updates, visit www.westpointband.com, or follow on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and X.



The West Point Band's annual Independence Day Celebration will honor 250 years of Army heritage on Friday, July 4 at the Trophy Point Amphitheater at West Point. *Courtesy photo West Point Band*

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GRAND CIRCUIT RACE DATES

Friday, July 4
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Fair Races

Saturday, July 5
New York Excelsior Races,
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3-Year-Old Landmark
Stake Races,
and C.K.G. Billings

Sunday, July 6
New York Excelsior Races,
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2-Year-Old Landmark
Stake Races,
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www.DCHSNY.org/ddp



Dutchess County
Historical Society

July 4th starts celebration of local American journeys

By Bill Jeffway

This July 4th marks the 249th anniversary of the founding of our country, and the run-up to the celebration of the 250th anniversary in twelve months. Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS) recently revealed how it will tell this amazing story at “RevCon” at FDR Library & Museum, where local historical organizations gathered to share their plans with each other and the public. The narrative of “American Journeys” will be explored in DCHS’ 2025 Yearbook and in published articles, programs and performances. We will feature what is unique about our location, and profile local persons who journeyed to embrace and realize the American promise and dream.

Our unique location

General George Washington described the military site at West Point specifically, and the mid-Hudson area in general, as the “key to the North American continent” during the Revolutionary War. The British plan was to approach by ship from the south where they occupied New York City – and by ship from the north where Canada was a British territory. In addition to cutting the north/south supply route, New England’s six States would be separated from the other Seven.

Mountainous Putnam County was a natural, protective barrier. Strategic sites emerged just north of it on both sides of the Hudson. Poughkeepsie became the State capital and the Fishkill Supply depot was a major supply point between New England and the other States, and was just across the Hudson from where Washington set up headquarters at Newburgh.

The unique intersection of local and national

We are fortunate to have persons and events of national importance locally. As states were voting in 1788 whether to endorse the United States Constitution

being proposed at the time, the New York State convention at Poughkeepsie was famously hesitant. Alexander Hamilton was arguing for its adoption, and New York State Governor George Clinton was pushing back. That pushback resulted in the creation of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments, a major consequence of the Poughkeepsie convention.

Although the overall goal of the British securing the entire Hudson River was not accomplished, a raid in October of 1777 up the Hudson from New York City was very destructive. The city of Kingston was completely destroyed by fire, and the New York State capital moved to Poughkeepsie.

Among items relating to the burning of Kingston in DCHS Collections is the beam of the Poughkeepsie home of Henry Livingston that was hit by a British cannon ball, as well as a letter from him a few months earlier saying the British would never do such a thing! One of the first things Franklin Roosevelt did as US President was to ask the British Admiralty to provide the logs of the ships involved in the Kingston raid. FDR then gave them to DCHS Collections.

The journeys of Indigenous peoples

The scale and sophistication of the pre-contact Indigenous peoples is reflected in the number and variety of Indigenous names which remain in use today. “Poughkeepsie” is what European ears heard local Indigenous People refer to as a “reed covered lodge at the watering place,” and the name stuck. Halfway between the cusp of the Atlantic to the south and the intersection of the west-bound Mohawk River to the north, Dutchess was a crossroads with the great Mahican civilization to the north, the Wappinger or Delaware to the south, the Schaticoke to the east, and Munsee to the west.

Daniel Nimham (1726-1776) was from the area we refer to today as Wicopee. He became a renowned mili-



Above: Shortly after becoming president, Franklin Roosevelt requested the October 1777 ship logs for the British ships that burned Kingston from the British Admiralty in London. Excerpts were published in the DCHS Yearbook and were given to DCHS Collections where they are kept today. Inset: Beam of the Poughkeepsie home of Henry Livingston which was hit by a British cannon ball. DCHS Collections

tary leader in service to the British in 1755 in King George’s War, but chose to side with the patriots in the Revolutionary War. He served with distinction but was killed in a raid in 1776. Nimham was a fierce advocate for the return of lands he claimed were illegally taken, which included his traveling (albeit unsuccessfully) to England. The issue of land rights remains among the prominent issues of Indigenous People today.

The journeys of the traditional working class

As the population of the United States grew beyond anyone’s expectations in its first century, the largest population group, the White Protestant working class, fought for an equal seat at the increasingly diverse American table by arguing (successfully) for the elimination of property requirements for voting and the abolition of imprisonment for debt before the Civil War. After that, their advocacy expanded the revolutionary changes brought by manufacturing and industry to include broader economic justice.

One of the leaders of the “Mechanics Movement” (mechanic referring to any working class job) was Rhinebeck’s Nathan Darling, whose rise from abject poverty to personal financial and political success was launched through service in the military in the Florida Seminole Indian wars.

The journeys of Persons of Color

The resolution of the contradiction of slavery in a country founded on the premise that all are created equal was resolved through what remains America’s deadliest war. The US Civil War saw the deaths of 2% of its population, the equivalent of 7 million people today. The story of Northern Dutchess’ Andrew Frazier is

inspiring. He served with distinction in the Revolutionary War, earning a pension. Local descendants served in subsequent wars, including WW2.

The story of Andrew Frazier is told in schools using DCHS’s booklet on the Rhinebeck post office murals to inspire contemporary expression by students (also shown).

The journeys of women

Dutchess County had the largest Quaker population outside of Philadelphia. In spite of a rapid drop in size after an internal schism in 1848, many local Quaker women took their faith’s values that gave women an equal opportunity in education and other matters and took them to a broad national stage. Four out of five organizers of the 1848 Seneca Falls convention on women’s rights were Quakers. The fight for equal suffrage was a long one. Anna Rozell became the first woman to win a competitive election when she won for Town of Clinton Overseer of the Poor in 1919 with a majority of 157 votes (416 to 259).

The generous 2025 Dutchess County “Rev250” grant to local historical societies, including DCHS, will allow us to share these amazing journals through a variety of ways like our Yearbook, programs, and performances. Please check our website or ask to receive our monthly newsletter by emailing bill.jeffway@dchsnny.org.

Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at bill.jeffway@dchsnny.org or (845) 293-7711.



Above left to right: Daniel Nimham (1726-1776), shown in a memorial statue in Fishkill, was a fierce advocate for Indigenous Peoples’ land rights and fought, and died, in service to the newly formed United States. The journey of equal treatment when it comes to voting took several generations. Lucretia Mott was an early advocate for women’s rights who was first a student (1806 to 1810) and then a teacher at Nine Partners Boarding School in the Town of Washington. It took until 1919 for Anna Rozelle to become the first woman candidate in a contested election as Overseer of the Poor in the town of Clinton. DCHS Collections

‘JAZZ AGE’ SUMMER CELEBRATION TO BENEFIT WILDERSTEIN

“The Jazz Age” is the theme of Wilderstein Historic Site’s 2025 Summer Celebration fundraiser, set Saturday, July 12, from 5 to 8 p.m. The event promises an evening of elegance and opulence with live jazz, swanky drinks, delicious bites, silent auction, house tours and roaring fun.

Wilderstein is at 330 Morton Road, Rhinebeck. RSVP at www.wilderstein.org or call Wilderstein at (845) 876-4818.

Creative Living

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Music & wine create inspiring evening at Millbrook Winery

By Morgan E. Maier

The double rainbow at intermission's close was a sign of good fortune. Millbrook Winery owner John Dyson predicted a bountiful harvest for the rolling hills of grapes that lay beyond the concert stage.

In front of a crowd numbering in the hundreds, with a smattering of New York Yankees hats and jerseys, Bernie Williams returned to Millbrook Winery for his annual concert to benefit the Dutchess Community College music program.

Aplenty at the winery on June 28 were the sounds of summer and glasses of Bernie's Blend, a deep red blend selected and mixed by Williams himself. Known internationally as a four-time World Series champion, Williams now lays down the sounds of jazz and his Puerto Rican upbringing as a musician. Between ticket sales and auctions, the concert raised \$11,000 for the students, while the audience enjoyed the talents of the Dutchess Community College jazz ensemble as the opening act.

Friendly chatter mixed with instrumentals, as the audience shared their own stories with neighbors and friends. Some reminisced on previous concerts, while others speculated on future events. Many uncorked Millbrook wines to share among their groups.

Led by Dutchess Community College band director Joe North, the set was a lovely appetizer to the main event: Bernie Williams and the Band of Friends. Overlooking miles of vineyard, sizzling

heat turned to a cool evening, and a double rainbow came overhead at the close of the first intermission, foreshadowing nature's plans for thirty minutes later. Williams performed with the DCC folks for a spell, then brought out his band of friends for a full-bodied set list to match each original blend of wine, four in total. Beginning with "African Blues", the Band of Friends added their flair to classic music covers, and showcased original compositions from "Moving Forward", Williams's sophomore album.

The night turned "Ritmo de Otono" (Rhythm of the Fall) to the sound of the summer, as couples, solo patrons, and families blended into one. No gap between generations, as '60s kids, infant fans enjoying in first summers on earth, enjoyed the tunes offered by Williams and the Friends.

The raindrops did come, but dampened none. While some in the audience rose from the lawn to dance between raindrops, others swayed beneath winery balconies. The Band of Friends musical director Dan Orlando, with whom Williams released the song "Perpetual Motion" last year, lent his vocals in the second act for original compositions and today's top pop tracks.

The past few concerts have gone on despite pouring rain and overcast concert conditions, the threat of thunder and lightning threatening to move the party inside. In the 2025 edition, no storms could dim the spirits raised by the community support, original melodies, and medleys.



Former New York Yankees centerfielder turned musician, Bernie Williams holds the proclamation from Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino naming it "Bernie Williams Day" in Dutchess County. Photo courtesy of DCC Foundation

A & E CALENDAR

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

Through July 27: Powerhouse Theater, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. Theater artists experiment and develop new plays and musicals for productions headed to Broadway, off-Broadway and regional theaters around the country. This week: June 28: Reading in the Powerhouse Theater, "In The Bronx Brown Girls Can See Stars Too (or The F*ck Is You Lookin' At?)" 8 p.m. June 29: "Performing Art," a highly collaborative performance project that brings together an ensemble of creators to explore the relationship between visual and performing art, 2, 2:30 & 3 p.m. in the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center. Contact the Box Office at (845) 437-5599 or phtboxoffice@vassar.edu

Through Aug. 17: SummerScape, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Bard SummerScape returns with opera, dance, Spiegel tent, and the 35th Bard Music Festival, "Martinu and His World."

Tickets & more information at fisher.center.bard.edu or (845) 758-7900

Through Sept. 26: Red Hook Eat & Go Free Summer Lawn Concert Series, Baright Associates, 7509 North Broadway, Red Hook. Purchase take-out from local eateries and bring it along to enjoy while a band performs. A tented area and tables with umbrellas are set up for comfortable dining. Concerts take place Fridays, 6-8 p.m. This week: Painted Blue Sky, 5-piece '70s Southern rock band. More info on the Facebook event page.

July 5: Freedom Day Event, Freedom Park, Lagrangeville. The LaGrange Historical Society presents a reading of the Declaration of Independence by a George Washington re-enactor; the winners of the Freedom Day essay contest reading their essays and receiving their awards; the launching of Knox's Cannonball Run, a virtual mission for fitness enthusiasts to walk along the 1775 Revolutionary War era Henry Knox trail; and a performance by the Young Colonials Fife and Drum Corps playing American Revolutionary songs. More info: <https://www.lagrangenyhistoricalsociety.org/>

July 9: Music in the Parks, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. Hyde Park Recreation presents free concerts held alternately at Vanderbilt Mansion and Staatsburgh SHS (a.k.a. Mills Mansion), Wednesdays at 7 p.m. This week: Thunder Ridge. For inclement weather locations & other updates, call (845) 229-8086 or check Hyde Park Recreation on Facebook.

LOOK FOR THAT'S ITALIAN!
IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Luigi Coppola shares stories and recipes.



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PUBLIC NOTICE
Please take notice that the Town of Milan Democratic Committee will hold a caucus on: Saturday July 12, 2025 at 12 noon Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, Milan, NY to nominate candidates for the following town offices: Town Supervisor 2 Town Council members Town Justice Town Clerk to be voted on at the General Election to be held November 4, 2025 and to conduct any business that may properly come

Legal Notices

before the caucus. All residents of the Town of Milan enrolled in the Democratic Party are eligible to vote. Town of Milan Democratic Committee

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, FOR THE YEAR 2025 HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE UNDERSIGNED ASSESSOR, AND A

Legal Notices

CERTIFIED COPY IS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK ON JULY 2, 2025 WHERE THE SAME WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. DATED JULY 2, 2025 GARTH SLOCUM ASSESSOR TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL
The bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on April 16, 2025, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be here-

Legal Notices

after contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the East Clinton Fire District in the Town of Clinton, Dutchess County, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation

Legal Notices

of the provisions of the Constitution. A proposition for the approval of such resolution was duly approved by the qualified voters of said Fire District at a special election held on June 3, 2025, upon which such resolution took effect. A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Fire District Secretary for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice. Dated: Clinton Corners,

Legal Notices

New York, June 25, 2025. Carol Mackin Fire District Secretary BOND RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 16, 2025. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FIREHOUSE FOR THE EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF CLINTON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$6,000,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,500,000 SERIAL

Legal Notices

BONDS AND THE APPROPRIATION ANDEXPENDITURE OF \$1,500,000 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND MONIES OF SAID FIRE DISTRICT TO PAY THE COST THEREOF. **Specific object or purpose:** Construction of a new firehouse **Period of probable usefulness:** 30 years **Amount of obligations to be issued:** \$4,500,000 bonds **SEQRA Status:** Type I Action **Amount of capital reserve funds:** \$1,500,000

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

OBITUARIES

Joseph F. LaBonte Jr.

Joseph F. LaBonte Jr., 87, of Poughkeepsie, took his final checkered flag on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at Northern Dutchess Hospital at Rhinebeck.
Born, June 3, 1938, in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of the late Joseph LaBonte Sr and Eleanor Marshall LaBonte.

On August 7th, 1960 in Hyde Park, Joseph married the beautiful Roslyn Taber, together they spent over 65 years as husband and wife. Mrs. LaBonte survives at home.

Growing up on the family farm in Salt Point, where many of his famous stories began. at that time, he would cut hay selling it for .75 cents a bale and cutting wood for \$65 a cord. Following his graduation from high school Joe went back to doing what he loved and worked for many years as a Logger and Wood Cutter, clearing land for various places including Marist College, for many years until his retirement at 82 years old.

Joe could often be found out and about at the Eveready Diner many mornings with his breakfast crew, telling jokes and enjoying making people laugh.

He also enjoyed spending time with family, watching NASCAR, watching his grandson Ryan race in the south, or taking trips with his son Rick and grandson Joe to Lebanon Valley almost every Saturday night, as often as he could.

As a faithful father and grandfather, he loved coaching baseball, playing softball for Schmaling Glass, or going to his children's events. In later years this transitioned to spending time with his grandchildren, taking them fishing, going to car shows, attending softball games and cheerleading events and looking forward to ending the day with ice cream.

Along with his wife Joe is survived by his children Rick LaBonte and wife Nia, and Karin LaBonte Glenski and husband Randy; four grandchildren, Joe LaBonte, Melissa LaBonte and husband Brian Dorsey, Briona Glenski and Ryan Glenski.

He was predeceased by three siblings, Jean, Carol, and Marshall, and finally being reunited with his brother, you can be certain he's having a catch and with Marshall.

And if anyone who's ever heard the joke about the pig blowing the horn..... well.... you're lucky to have known such a great man.

A celebration of life was held on June 29th at the Red Rooster, 82 South Cross Rd. Staatsburg.

Joseph's family respectfully requests memorial donations to be made to yourself for "self-care" as our ancestors did once upon a time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park.

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

Carl Richard Lindholm Jr.

Carl Robert Lindholm Jr., of Millbrook, died peacefully at home on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. He was born March 14, 1929, to Carl and Alice Lindholm in Queens, NY. After graduating from Poughkeepsie High School in 1947, Carl began a career at Central Hudson Gas & Electric, retiring in 1993. He was drafted into the Army in 1951, serving for two years and reaching the rank of Private First Class. Carl

served his community as a Volunteer Firefighter for the Millbrook Engine, Hook, & Ladder Co. No. 1 from 1955 to 1968. On June 29th, 1968, he married the love of his life, Beatrice B. Lindholm, at the Lyall Memorial Church. Carl was preceded in death by his beloved Bea in 2010. He remained an active member of the Lyall Community Church and dedicated many of his later years to the Nine Partners Burial Grounds Association as Superintendent.

Carl was a beloved member of the Millbrook community and a dedicated patron of local businesses. He was an innovative thinker, known for his keen mind and sharp wit. He was never without a story to share, a book to recommend, or a pocket full of silver half dollars. To know him, truly, was to love him. While he never had any children of his own, Carl was an involved Uncle and friend. He is survived by three generations of nieces and nephews, as well as the many friends he came to love as family. Services for Carl will be held on Saturday, July 12, 2025, 10 AM at Nine Partners Cemetery in Millbrook.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Carl's memory to Hudson Valley Hospice, at hvhospice.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, 3270 Franklin Ave., Millbrook, NY 12545. To leave an online condolence and for directions, please visit www.HudsonValleyFuneralHomes.com

Barbara Mallen

Barbara Mallen of Clinton Corners, NY, passed away on Saturday, June 14th, surrounded by her family and under the compassionate care of her medical team. She was born on November 8, 1938, in Brooklyn, NY. She was the only child of Charles and Teresa Corun. She attended St. Angela's Academy for Girls and had a charmed childhood getting into mischief with her huge array of Lennon family cousins from her mother's extensive Irish family. As a teen, Barbara studied fine art, ice skating, dance, the piano, and horseback riding--the latter of which sparked a lifelong passion that she passed down to all of her descendants.

While majoring in Fine Arts at New York City College, Barbara met her future husband, Robert. They married soon after graduation. A few years later, they moved upstate with their two young children to a small house in Hopewell Junction and immediately purchased a four-year-old pony (Lancelot) for their four-year-old daughter (Tracie). Their third child arrived soon after, as did five standard poodles, a collection of cats, and many more horses and ponies. Their growing number of animals and kids led Barbara and Robert to Clinton Corners and their dream home, which they named Rivendell Farm.

Barbara will be remembered for her sharp wit, incredible fashion sense, her love of watercolor painting and overall artistic aesthetic, her passion and care for animals of all sorts, and most of all, her deep connection with her children and grandchildren. She will also be remembered for the impactful care and support she and Robert provided for so many young people over the years, helping them to develop practical skills and open the door to brighter futures.

Barbara is survived by her children Tracie

[Jonathan] Ruzicka, Scott [Jody] Mallen, Tara [Keith Kupferer] Mallen, her grandchildren Prudence [Julie] DePew, Harrison Mallen Ruzicka, Andrew [Meredith] Mallen, Shane Mallen, Katherine Mallen Kupferer, and her great-granddaughters Madeleine and Elowen. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert and her parents Charles and Teresa.

Family and friends were invited to calling hours on Monday, June 30, 2025, at Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Barbara's memory to Rivendell Theatre Ensemble, www.RivendellTheatre.org, the small professional theater her daughter Tara founded in Chicago in 1996.

Arrangements are under the care of Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY. To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapsonchestney.com

Frederick R. Scheltmeyer

Frederick R. Scheltmeyer, 91, of Pleasant Valley, NY passed away on June 17, 2025 at his home. He was born in Poughkeepsie, NY on May 31, 1925, the son of Frederick and Marion Davis Scheltmeyer.

Fred graduated from Arlington High School, where he lettered in Football. He married his sweetheart, Theresa on September 19, 1954 at the Hudson River Psychiatric Center Chapel. She predeceased him in 2012.

Before his retirement in 1992, he worked as Process Operator as IBM in East Fishkill and as a Lithographer at Western Printing in Poughkeepsie. He was a member of the Western Retiree's Club.

Fred was a loving husband and father. He loved fishing and working out in the yard. He also loved watching and feeding his birds and watching football.

Survivors include his daughter Terri Scheltmeyer of Wappingers Falls, NY, brother Ron Scheltmeyer of Pleasant Valley, NY, sisters Nancy Hendricks of Pleasant Valley, NY, Renee Davis of Missouri and Janet Davis of Florida.

Also surviving are his girlfriend Tiffany Hazzard and his bonus son and daughter, Anthony and Lisa Hazzard and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son Fred Scheltmeyer in 2013, brother Kenneth Scheltmeyer and sister Maryann Bolde.

A Memorial service was held on Saturday June 28, 2025 in the Community Mausoleum at the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. Inurnment followed the service. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Fred's name to the SPCA, <https://www.dcsPCA.org/donations>

Janet Usewicz

Janet Usewicz, age 63, of Unionvale, NY was tragically taken from her family on June 19 as the result of a hit-and-run. Her sudden loss has left a deep void in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Janet was the heart and anchor of her family—a woman of remarkable strength, resilience, and fierce love. She took on life's challenges with unwavering determination and never backed down from doing what was right for those she cared about.

A natural leader who held the family togeth-

er, she was passionate about seeing her loved ones grow, pushing them—sometimes firmly—toward their goals and helping them become their best selves. She raised her children and grandchild with incredible dedication, pouring love and purpose into them every day.

Janet was known for her bold spirit, and those who truly knew her saw the depth of her emotions and the loyalty that defined her. Her love was intense and unwavering—when she was in your corner, you knew it.

Her role as a grandmother brought her immense joy. She flew across the country to support her grandchild in times of need, never hesitating to step in when her family needed her most.

Janet is survived by: her loving husband Richard Usewicz Jr; her son Kenneth Usewicz and his fiancé Brianna Bowman; her daughter Kimberly VanWagner-Usewicz, Kimberly's husband Andrew VanWagner, and their child Aurelia VanWagner; her sister Edith Evangelista; and her brothers Yury Montenegro, James Montenegro, Jorge Montenegro, Antonio Montenegro, and Johnny Montenegro. She was preceded in death by her parents Hugo Montenegro and Lidia Montenegro.

A wake was held on Thursday, June 26, at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon, NY. A funeral service followed on Friday, June 27 at St. Mary's Church, 180 South Street, Newburgh, NY.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Irene Winby

Irene N. Winby, 91, an area resident for 48 years and formerly of Brooklyn, died on June 13, 2025 at Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital.

Born in Brooklyn on March 11, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Rocco and Maria (Caputo) Pasqualicchio. She worked alongside her husband in their family-owned laundry service until 1977 when they moved to Beekman and ran Lake Service Station. Irene had also been employed as a secretary for Century 21 in LaGrangeville.

Irene spent many years involved with Cub Scout Pack 62 in Brooklyn. She also enjoyed nature programs, black and white movies, and refurbishing old furniture. Irene had a passion for cooking for family and friends, and tending to her garden and plants.

Irene loved spending time with her family at their vacation home on Upton Lake. Her grandchildren were her world.

On October 30, 1954 in Brooklyn, Irene married the love of her life, Allan Knowles Winby, whom she met in the fifth grade. He predeceased her on February 26, 2017. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Allan "Abba" and Mary Winby, Steven and Diane Winby, and Kathleen and Duncan Phyfe; and her grandchildren, Bernadette Winby, Taylor Winby Golembiewski and her husband Dan, and Duncan Phyfe and his wife Janna.

Calling hours were held on Monday, June 23, at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., Hopewell Junction. Private interment was in the Friends Upton Lake Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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100 Help Wanted
105 Employment Opportunity
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904 Auto Parts & Tires
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Answers to this
week's diversions

(puzzles on page 12)

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

Suguru solution

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

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

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

Tip: Aim for the middle of each number.

**THE GREATEST
DOT TO DOT
BOOKS**

No Dots
Connect Numbers
and Letters:
1 - 102
A - F
a - e

By David Kalvitis

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GOLDEN LIVING

Note: The Office for the Aging and OFA Friendship Centers will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Many of us look forward to retirement for much of our working lives; but when the big day finally passes and we see a calendar with a lot more blank space than we’re used to, a new question arises: now what?

Older workers are redefining what it means to be retired. You may or may not want to go back to a full-time job, but at least a few hours a week would be nice. Or you’ve been thinking of volunteering with a worthy local organization, but don’t know where to begin.

Allow us to fill one blank space on your calendar: Thursday, July 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. That’s when dozens of organizations will gather for Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino’s “Putting Your Skills Back to Work” Older Adult Skills Fair at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum on Route 9 in Hyde Park.

No registration is required for guests. Light refreshments will be available.

The ‘A’ Word

Ageism in employment does exist; then again, the organizations taking part in “Putting Your Skills Back To Work” have signed on specifically because they’re seeking the unique value of older workers and volunteers. But if it’s been a while since you’ve been on a job hunt, you’re likely to be looking at a much different landscape. While the language that was effective on your résumé 30 years ago is unlikely to help your cause today, you can capitalize on your decades of experience.

Availability is the best ability

Younger workers often come and go more frequently than employers would like. That means you’ve got an advantage simply by being the one who can be relied on to show up. Older workers often add stability to a work team. For a business, that can mean less turnover and its associated costs.

The tech gap is shrinking

Our older workers are the last ones to have grown up without computers and the internet, but many catch up to the digital pack with remarkable speed. If you’ve ever been to an Apple store, it’s no accident that they try to position older workers front-and-center, so that older customers just getting used to technology are less likely to feel overwhelmed. A recent AARP survey found that over 90% of older workers are interested in developing new professional skills, with the support of their employer.

If it can be said that anything positive came from the COVID-19 pandemic, a big increase in digital fluency among older adults from 2020-2025 would be a top candidate. With much work having been done remotely, workers of all ages needed to adapt to holding meetings via Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams. The result: Workers of all ages are more likely to be on the same page with each other, technology-wise.

Remote work has been a game-changer for workers with disabilities, according to a 2024 study from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. A worker with a disability that might have forced them into an unwilling early retirement in days gone by can now stay employed and economically productive for longer. It reduces the pressure on gov-

ernment programs like Social Security Disability Insurance, as well as on the worker’s caregivers and family.

Is working later in life healthy? Could be

65 might not be the new 40, but over three-quarters of Americans age 50-94 polled by the University of Michigan say that work positively affects their overall well-being, while two-thirds said work had improved their physical health as well. For our own part, we’ve noticed more than a few Dutchess County centenarians who attributed much of their longevity to staying active, mowing their lawns with a push mower until as old as 107.

The value of older volunteers

“Putting Your Skills Back To Work” will also feature organizations who are looking for volunteers, including the Office for the Aging. Our volunteers help Dutchess County’s older adults, from Pawling to Tivoli and Millerton to Beacon, and everywhere in between. OFA can work with your schedule, and help you find the options that work best for you and your skills. We provide free training.

Like staying physically active? You could become an OFA Senior Exercise or “A Matter of Balance” volunteer instructor. If a structured exercise class isn’t your thing but you want to stay physically active, helping out at OFA Summer Picnics and other events is a tremendous workout.

Good with numbers? The OFA Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP) is looking for volunteer counselors, especially with Medicare Open Enrollment season getting under way in mid-October. If a drive in the countryside appeals to you, OFA’s Home Delivered Meals program always has an eye out for volunteer drivers. Gas reimbursement is available for volunteers who use their own vehicles.

OFA’s “Friendly Calls” program is volunteering that you can do from home, or anywhere your phone gets a signal.

Visit dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer to learn more about all our volunteering options - and come see us at “Putting Your Skills Back To Work” at the Wallace Center in Hyde Park on July 10!

RENOVATED POUGHKEEPSIE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE SCHEDULED TO REOPEN MON 6/30

Social Security officials announced that their newly renovated office in Poughkeepsie were scheduled reopen to the public for full in-person services on Monday, June 30, with a new entrance at 4 Academy St., around the corner from the former entrance. In-person office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday (closed July 4).

The Poughkeepsie office’s toll-free phone number remains the same: 877-405-6747.

Many Social Security services are available online at www.ssa.gov and through the Social Security national toll-free number 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Automated attendant services are available at most hours and staff are available 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM NOW OPEN

Starting in July, qualifying Dutchess County older adults (age 60+) have an opportunity to improve their nutrition while supporting local farms, thanks to New York’s Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP).

Many older Dutchess County residents may already be qualified if their household income is below 185% of US poverty guidelines. An older adult who qualifies for other means-tested assis-

tance programs may also qualify for SFMNP.

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

A variety of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, and honey may be purchased with SFMNP benefits.

How to apply for SFMNP benefits

SFMNP booklets will be distributed, starting in July, at the OFA main office (114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie), only on Thursdays and Fridays from 2:30-4 p.m. Note that OFA and Friendship Centers are closed for Independence Day on Friday, July 4.

Booklet distribution at OFA Friendship Centers is available from OFA on request. OFA Friendship Centers are in Beacon, East Fishkill, Millerton, Pawling, Pleasant Valley (Tri-Town), Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, and South Amenia/Wassaic.

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

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

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

Other markets may join SFMNP later this summer. A regularly updated list of participating markets in Dutchess County can be found at dutchessny.gov/ofanutrition. For the latest county-by-county list of participating local markets, go to agriculture.ny.gov/farmersmarkets.

Eligible recipients must personally sign the Statement of Eligibility Form to receive SFMNP checks. Checks cannot be mailed to eligible older adults. Proxies may not pick up or sign for checks. A valid Power of Attorney (POA) may sign for and pick up SFMNP coupons for an eligible older adult.

A FAREWELL TO FISHKILL’S LOSSIE LEE (1923-2025)

With a marriage of nearly 83 years, Lossie and her husband Samuel Lee, Sr. (1921-2022) were, by OFA calculations, one of the 30 longest-married couples in American history.

Both together and separately, the Lees were honored for their extraordinarily long lives and marriage, in the annual Office for the Aging “Celebration of Aging,” for a record 15 years.

Lossie would have turned 102 on July 12. Her Poughkeepsie Journal obituary includes information on calling hours and funeral services.

NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN NEAR MAJOR NORTHERN DUTCHESS INTERSECTION

Old Post Road Extension in the Town of Rhinebeck is only a few hundred feet long, but it’s been a key shortcut between Routes 9 and 9G since before most of us were born.

It’s still a shortcut, but as of this week it has become a one-way road from southbound 9 to northbound 9G. Drivers looking to turn from southbound 9G to northbound 9 will have to use the signal at the 9/9G intersection. New traffic control signs have been installed.

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