

Storm recovery efforts ongoing across county

From county reports

Clean-up and power restoration efforts continue across Dutchess County, following the severe summer storm that ripped through much of Dutchess County on Saturday, July 4th, causing significant damage with downed power lines, trees and other damage.

The storm's most significant impacts were in the City and Town of Poughkeepsie, East Fishkill, Hyde Park, LaGrange, Beekman, Union Vale and Village and Town of Pawling.

The following are updates from Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino's conference call held Monday morning with local municipal leaders; County officials from the Public Works and Emergency Response departments; and representatives from Central Hudson and NYSEG, among others to discuss restoration efforts:

Central Hudson has restored power to approximately half of its impacted customers, with more than 19,000 customers in Dutchess County, still without power as of Monday. Anticipated global restoration (90% of customers) was expected by 10 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7.

NYSEG reported over 3,400 customers still without power in Dutchess County, with most customers expected to be restored on Monday and global restoration (90% of customers) was expected by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7th.

Both utilities are working with mutual aid and contract crews to help expedite restoration efforts.

Important reminders for those who are utilizing generators: Generators must be placed outside, at least 20 feet away from structures for safety, with their exhaust directed

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Rhinecliff Hotel begins a new era

By Cynthia Baer

This June, the Rhinebeck Planning Board approved plans for adding eight new parking spaces at the Rhinecliff Hotel, giving hospitality couple Michaela Carpenter and Barry Dobesh the last prompt needed to make a long-term commitment to the Hamlet of Rhinecliff: a 10-year lease with an option for an additional 10-year renewal of the Rhinecliff Hotel. In addition to the on-site spots, free overnight parking will be available to guests in the adjacent Amtrak lot, just below the hotel, through a lease agreement with the parking company.

Michaela and Barry are relative newcomers to the Hudson Valley, bringing a plethora of knowledge and expertise in the hospitality industry to our area. They relocated from Aspen, Colorado, where Michaela spent nearly 20 years building hospitality concepts and community-focused businesses. Barry grew up on a cattle ranch in Broken Bow, Nebraska. He has spent his career building restaurants in New York, Los Angeles and Aspen.

When asked why they moved to Rhinebeck, Michaela replied, "We chose to make the Hudson Valley our home because we were drawn to its

creative density, sense of access and community, and its natural beauty."

She continued, "We weren't actively looking for a hotel when we discovered The Rhinecliff. The building found us at exactly the right moment, and we live just minutes down the road. With our combined experience and passion for place-making and creative hospitality concepts, we were excited to discover the property and got curious about what might be possible. Standing on the lawn overlooking the Hudson, with the trains arriving just below, you immediately feel that this is a place with a remarkable past and, we believe, an equally remarkable future. We saw an opportunity to become stewards of a local landmark and bring it back to life for its next chapter."

And she is right. The Rhinecliff Hotel has long held a special place in the history of the small hamlet for which it is named. Situated at the end of Rhinecliff's main street, the historic property was built in 1854 by renowned architect George Veitch. The three-story wooden structure has stood witness to nearly 175 years of history. Throughout its changes of hands, the hotel has been able to

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New owners of the Rhinecliff Hotel Michaela Carpenter and Barry Dobesh are pictured with son, Wilder. *Courtesy photo.* The Historic Rhinecliff Hotel as viewed from the Hudson River. *Photo courtesy of Stacey vanden Thoon*



Tall ships gather in NYC for 250th celebration



Tall Ships from all over the world gathered in New York City for America's 250th anniversary on July 4th. The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter, Eagle (pictured at left) kicked off the parade of ships. This 295-foot-long Barque was joined by three of her four sister ships, the German Gorch Fock, the Portuguese NRP Sagres III and the Romanian Mircea. Over 400 ships took part in the event. Check page 10 for more photos and information. *Photos by Jim Donick*

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'Special flavor of busy' describes 4-H'ers in the summer

If you know 4-H, you know that summer is a "special flavor of busy" that 4-H members are excited to engage in. Summer vacations are packed full of tasks such as finishing touches for a woodworking piece or adjusting the diet on a prize show lamb. Many of these tasks can stand in as full-time occupations that take time each summer day to complete. In between feedings, sewings, and hammerings, many Dutchess 4-H members are spotted "out in the wild" and among community members bringing about the better change for their world.

Community events such as Zoe's Ice Cream Barn's 10th anniversary, are amazing opportunities for 4-H youth to represent their 4-H clubs and the Dutchess County program to the public at large. This year, Zoe's provided an amazing partnership with Dutchess 4-H, hosting a Sundae design contest. 4-H youth mixed, schemed, and created sundae recipes for Zoe's staff to test and judge, with the winner being promoted throughout the month of June (Dairy Month!). "Emily's Moo-licious Mudslide," tastefully created by Emily Burlingame, with the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club, and will be sold and featured until July 19th.

4-H members were again spotted at the Blessing of the Animals, held on May 30th in Rhinebeck. Dutchess 4-H youth from the Little Paws 4-H Club came out to represent and have their animals blessed for the year ahead. Rhinebeck community members were able to speak with Dutchess 4-H youth about their animals and even got to pet the 4-legged 4-H members!

The fun won't stop for our members this summer! Upcoming events that you can see 4-H youth at include the 4-H Multi-Species Showmanship Clinic scheduled for July 12th at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Also scheduled for the fairgrounds is the Eastern New York Black & White Holstein Show on July 17th-18th where many 4-H youth will attend with their Holstein dairy cattle. Keep your eyes peeled and be sure to ask a 4-H member in the wild about their club, their community, their country, and their world!

DUTCHESS 4-H YOUTH SPOTTED IN THE SUMMER WILDS



"Emily's Moo-licious Mudslide," tastefully created by Emily Burlingame, with the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club, and will be sold and featured until July 19 at Zoe's Ice Cream Barn in LaGrange. Courtesy photo

Rhinecliff Hotel begins new era

continued from cover

transform with the times. It first served as a rooming house and tavern for travelers using the newly built Hudson River Railroad and the Rhinecliff-Kingston Ferry under the proprietorship of William Chandell. In 1876, ownership transferred to Mrs. McElroy, transitioning again. Purchased by Ed Tybus in the 1940s, the family owned and operated the Rhinecliff Hotel for 55 years. As travel trends changed, so did the hotel, shifting to long-term housing and focusing as a venue for a vibrant music scene, and flourishing as a vital hub for local, often rowdy, engagements.

In 2003, Mr. Tybus closed the hotel due to ill-health. After over five decades of the Tybus family ownership, he sold a time-worn hotel structure to brothers, James and David Chapman, who, in turn, restored and transformed it once more, as a boutique hotel and wedding destination. The extensive renovation and reconstruction took nearly five years and more than \$5 million. During this time, the hotel was reconfigured from 15 small boarding rooms into nine luxury guest rooms, each with its own balcony on the upper floor; a large banquet space on the second floor; and a pub and patio on the first floor. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and the financial and social climate of that time, the small business was forced to close in 2020.

In 2024 the hotel passed into the current ownership of the Bender family, who have maintained limited operational use of the property while trying to find the right fit for its next evolution, and negotiated through a variety of operational setbacks. A major component of securing a long-term operator for the hotel involved solving parking issues. Before the lease with Carpenter-Bobesh was finalized, real estate developer Elijah Bender successfully secured conditional approval from the Rhinebeck Town Planning Board to add eight new on-site parking spots. This crucial expansion ensures that the hotel can seamlessly accommodate both overnight guests and local diners without disruption within the current Hamlet infrastructure.

Michaela said, "We began welcoming

overnight guests on June 5. This first season is intentionally operating as a rooms-only inn while we plan and fundraise for a much larger repositioning and refurbishment over the winter. Hospitality projects of this scale always involve plenty of moving parts, but we're excited by the momentum and incredibly encouraged by the response from guests and the local community."

The Hotel will continue to receive guests for the summer through the end of October. The additional parking will be in place by then.

"Over the coming months we'll continue operating the inn while planning a refurbishment that will begin later this year," said Michaela. "Our goal is to preserve the building's historic character while updating it, bringing a fresh energy and style to the space. Our 'official' opening date is tentatively planned for June 2027."

Of the pending re-design, Michaela said, "One of the things we're most excited about is opening the doors to the region's creative community. Over the coming year, we'll be putting out an open call for artists, makers, designers, photographers, craftspeople, musicians and other creative collaborators who want to help shape the next chapter of The Rhinecliff. The Hudson Valley is home to an extraordinary concentration of talent, and we'd love the property to become a place that reflects that creativity."

Whether it is the artwork, furniture, lighting, textiles, ceramics, photography, garden design, food or music, The Carpenter-Bobesh duo hope The Rhinecliff 's next chapter becomes a showcase for the creative diversity they see within the Hudson Valley.

The Rhinecliff Hotel is located at 4 Grinnell St., at the end of Shatzell Avenue in the heart of Rhinecliff. Patrons can book a their stay directly at rhinecliffhotel.com.



The Tybus family owned and operated the Rhinecliff Hotel for 55 years, spanning three generations across the mid-to-late 20th century. Below: Shown here, from left, are Betty, Ed and Ruth Tybus. *Courtesy photos*



Storm recovery efforts ongoing across county

continued from cover

away from the structure.

Dutchess County Public Works' highway division crews, as well as local municipal crews continue to work in coordination with Central Hudson and NYSEG to clear roadways as quickly as possible. Downed phone and cable lines are presenting challenges for highway and utility crews and creating obstruction issues on state roadways such as Route 55. Motorists are urged to use caution, as traffic lights may be without power in affected areas, and should be treated as a 4-way stop for safety.

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Guest column statements concern reader

To the editor:

I am concerned by the guest column by Mr. Donnelly in your June 24 to 30 issue of the Northern Dutchess News. As Mr. Donnelly began by identifying himself as a history teacher, perhaps I should begin by saying that I graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Dickinson College, with an award for being the outstanding history major of my year. After receiving a master's degree in Library Science, I worked for more than 30 years as a library director, selecting and reading books on history.

The most troubling part of Mr. Donnelly's column is the statement that under the American Constitution "Congress gives orders, and the President executes those orders." This is false. The Constitution established three equal branches of government, the legislative, executive and judicial, with a variety of checks and balances to be sure that none of the branches predominates. The role of the presidency has evolved somewhat over 250 years, under both Democrats and Republicans, but the basic structure as laid out in the Constitution, remains the same.

In the late 18th century, many people believed that "standing armies in peacetime" were unnecessary. They thought that if a war broke out, there would be time to enlist and train armies to fight that war, after which the army could be disbanded. Obviously, with modern weapons, "standing armies" are necessary. The term "keeping standing armies on the streets during peacetime" was not used in the 18th century, and seems to be Mr. Donnelly's invention.

Congress passed laws in 1962 and 1974 giving presidents power to institute tariffs under certain circumstances. The Supreme Court is the ultimate judge of how well the president has followed the legislation.

Many presidents have pardoned more people than our current president. Franklin Delano Roosevelt holds the record for the most pardons, and Joe Biden for the most commutations.

Newspapers used to do something called "fact checking." That would have been helpful here.

Caroline Hall Donick
Pleasant Valley

Cyclists take bike trek on Empire State Trail to benefit national EMS Memorial Service

Ten cyclists took part in the Yo-Pough-Yo bike ride on Saturday, June 13, to benefit the National EMS Memorial Service, held annually in the Washington, DC, area. This year's memorial service in July will honor 37 EMS staff who passed away in the line of duty.

Event organizer Paramedic Bill Rothchild said about half of the cyclists were Empress employees. Two support volunteers were on hand to pick up riders who were ready to stop.

Riders started at the Empress stations in Yonkers and Poughkeepsie, both located near sections of the Empire State Trail. They met for lunch at a midpoint, Castle Park in Brewster. The full route from Yonkers to Poughkeepsie (or vice versa) covered 85 miles. Lunch was donated by Empress Emergency Medical Services.

"A lot of people went only the first 45 miles," Rothchild said. "They said in advance they would only go to Brewster. So, the support volunteers were available to shuttle people wherever they needed to go once they were finished riding."

He said representatives of the International Association of EMTs and Paramedics met them for lunch, "to cheer us on and make us feel loved." The union also donated breakfast for the participants.



Local cyclists raised \$1,200 in the Yo-Pough-Yo bike ride on Saturday, June 13. Courtesy photo

Rothschild said the event was a success, and he plans to organize it again next year.

"It went flawlessly — really good weather, and no one had any mechanical failures. There were no complaints from the participants. We had good conditions, and the trail was pretty flat. We raised \$1,200, with each \$25 participation fee being matched three times by Empress as well as the local and national branches of the union."

Empress Paramedic and Dutchess County EMS Coordinator John Mahoney started at the Poughkeepsie station and went south to Brewster.

He said his interest in cycling was longstanding, "I have been an avid cyclist since doing my first century ride in 1998 honoring a Yorktown Ambulance Corps member's fight with blood cancer."

Mahoney said he became a paramedic after losing a friend in a fireworks accident.

"The ability to help those in need is the most fulfilling part about EMS," he added.

Empress Paramedic Andrew Pinney was also among the cyclists, crediting Rothchild for sparking his interest in long bike rides. He has taken part in the EMS Memorial Bike Ride for two years.

"I hadn't done long bike rides until I was a paramedic student with Bill Rothchild," Pinney said. "It took him about five minutes before he sat me down in front of the computer in the New Rochelle Fire Station and showed me the websites related to the EMS Memorial Service and the EMS Memorial bike ride. He regularly refers to it as the 'best-kept

secret in EMS.'"

"Training for the EMS Memorial Bike Ride in 2025 got me back onto the road," he said. "At one point, I used to ride to work while in the UK."

Paramedic Ron Pugh, who works for Empress in Westchester, said he also got involved with the EMS Memorial Bike Ride through Rothchild.

"I rode a lot when I was younger and started riding again when COVID started — with Bill's help, of course," he said, adding that he has ridden in the EMS Bike Ride for the past four years, and attended two DC rides/memorial services, referring to the Weekend of Honor, which is held in the Washington, DC, area in July and also includes a bike ride, the Ride of Honor.

Pugh said he finds EMS work fulfilling and enjoys helping people. "Nobody is immune from help, everyone will need it eventually," he said.

For Pinney, EMS was a career change. He was formerly an applied statistician and director of Statistics for Sustainable Development, a nonprofit providing statistical support to projects seeking sustainability. When related projects dwindled, he began exploring new opportunities.

"I had become a volunteer EMT soon after arriving in the U.S. I enjoyed the role of providing patient care, so I pivoted to medic school in 2025. Being a paramedic provides a challenge on so many levels: Clinical, compassion, management, leadership, and logistics. So, there's plenty to work on and plenty to strive for in my semi-retirement," he said.

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Local PT shares injury prevention tips as World Cup soccer excitement grows

By Matthew Fetzer

The FIFA World Cup has come to the United States and interest in soccer has continued to grow. However, as more Americans take up the sport, the risk of injury also increases.

According to a study by the Sports and Fitness Industry Association, “In January 2023 [the month following the 2022 World Cup], roughly 6.7% of Americans reported participating in soccer. By May 2026, that figure has grown to nearly 8%, representing approximately 24.9 million Americans playing indoor or outdoor soccer.”

The study also showed that 34.4% of the U.S. population planned to follow the tournament.

With millions of people expected to play soccer this year, including a heavy turnout in the Hudson Valley, local physical therapist Vinny Colantuono of the Center for Physical Therapy is sharing his advice on how participants can reduce their risk of injury and stay on the field.

“Meet your body where you’re at,” Colantuono said. “Try to understand that you’re watching World Cup games where they’re playing at such a high level. Make sure that you do what you can do in the time being. Don’t push yourself too much in the short term and then slowly, but surely kind of build up that intensity.”

Colantuono works at the Center for

Physical Therapy in Wappingers Falls. He is also Director for the Center for Physical Therapy at Marist University. A Dutchess County native, Colantuono played soccer for Arlington High School. The sport also brought him close to Wappinger’s very own Tyler Adams, who is currently playing for the United States national team.

“I have great memories as I played with Tyler growing up for many years for our youth clubs and in New York Red Bulls camps,” he said.

“Guys like Tyler stay healthy, take care of their bodies, and play at a high level due to that care. He is a great example of an elite-level player,” he added.

Colantuono’s soccer career didn’t just end in high school, as he went on to play Division I at the University of Rhode Island, and then moving on to the semi-professional club, Kingston Stockade FC. He knows all too well the importance of preparation before playing.

“I think through those ranks there’s so many of my teammates that might’ve gotten injured because they hadn’t played in a while and then just started to play some pickup,” he said. “I think a huge misconception is that when you’re in the gym and you’re training for just strength, it might not prepare you enough for a high-level sport that works on a lot of different qualities like change of direction, sprinting mechanics, etcetera. To the gen-



Vinny Colantuono of the Center for Physical Therapy remembers his days of playing soccer. Now, as World Cup soccer excitement grows, he is helping local performers stay safe and prevent injuries. *Courtesy photos*

eral public I would say do movements that are seen in the sport you want to play.”

Colantuono noted, “It’s not injury prevention, but more so injury mitigation,” as nobody can ever truly prevent an injury while on the field, but there are ways that players can get themselves ready to play. In addition to avoiding overexertion and incorporating movement exercises before taking the field, hydration is key for both adult and youth

players; especially during the summer.

“You might be coming from work and going straight to a league game. If you’re not hydrated, or if there’s a lack of nutrition, it’s easy to pull up with some cramps or strain a muscle,” he said.

As the World Cup continues to showcase some of the world’s greatest players, Colantuono hopes people of all ages will use the tournament as motivation to get on the field while also making safe play a priority.



City, community leaders launch ‘30 Days of Summer’ in Poughkeepsie

The City of Poughkeepsie, the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet, and several local youth-serving organizations are launching “30 Days of Summer,” a six-week series of free afternoon activities in Malcolm X Park designed to provide young people with safe, engaging opportunities during the summer months.

The initiative will run in the park from now through Aug. 14, Monday through Friday, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. “30 Days of Summer” is designed primarily for youth ages 10-14 in the City of Poughkeepsie, but the opportunity welcomes children of all ages. No pre-registration is required and children can simply join in the afternoon drop-in activities from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

According to a summer programming analysis conducted by the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet, approximately 300 summer program spots currently serve youth in grades 1-5, compared with about 100 spots for youth in grades 6-8. The “30 Days of Summer” program was developed to help address that gap by expanding programming capacity for Poughkeepsie kids in middle school.

Programming will include a rotating series of activities led by local organiza-

tions such as The Art Effect, Charlia Frank Inc., Crazy Over Art, Growing Stemz, and The LoveQuest Foundation. Activities will include arts and recreation, STEM, gardening and nature exploration, and mentoring.

“The City of Poughkeepsie has invested significant time and resources into revitalizing our parks to create safe, welcoming spaces for children and families, especially during the summer,” said City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers. “The ‘30 Days of Summer’ youth program is a great example of what community collaboration can achieve. Supporting our youth means listening to their needs, investing in their future, and working together to provide fun, engaging, and educational opportunities that help them thrive.”

The “30 Days of Summer” program grew out of discussions among the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet Leadership Council, a cross-sector group co-chaired by Mayor Yvonne Flowers and Superintendent Greg Mott, that also includes Dutchess County leadership, nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions, and philanthropy.

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Former Renegades Lombard, LaGrange Set to play in annual MLB Futures game

Major League Baseball (MLB) has announced the rosters for the 2026 MLB All-Star Futures game presented by Nike. The Futures game is set Sunday, July 12 at noon and will be broadcast on NBC.

Former Renegades players Carlos Lagrange and George Lombard, Jr. have been selected to represent the Yankees on the American League team managed by Larry Bowa.

Lombard Jr., 21, is the consensus #1 prospect in the Yankees system and currently plays with the Yankees' Triple-A affiliate, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders. He played for the Renegades across the 2024 and 2025 seasons, batting .269/.401/.376 in 53 games.

This will be Lombard, Jr.'s second Futures Game appearance, having also been selected in 2025. MLB Pipeline rates Lombard, Jr. as the #20 prospect in baseball.

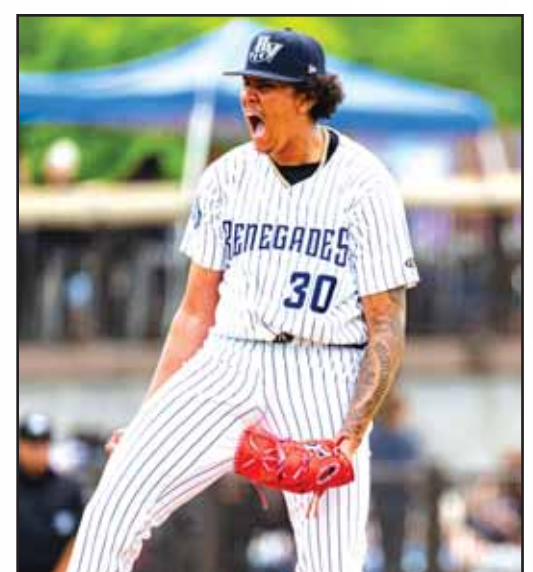
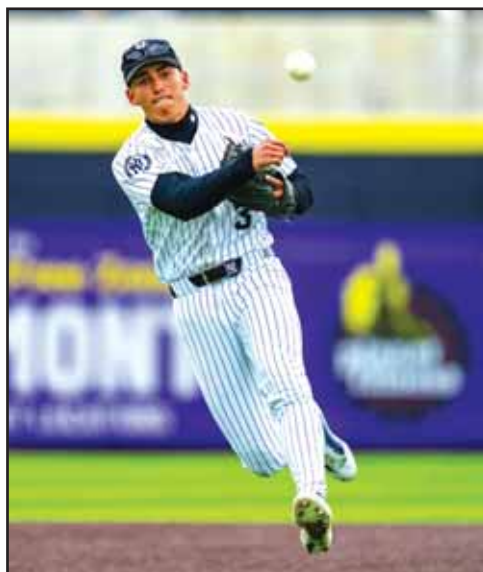
Lagrange, 23, is rated as the #4 prospect in the Yankees system and also currently plays for Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. He

pitched for the Renegades in 2025 and went 4-2 with a 4.10 ERA and 64 strikeouts in 41.2 innings across eight starts. This is his first Futures Game selection. MLB Pipeline rates Lagrange as the #85 prospect in the sport.

Additionally, 2025 Renegades manager James Cooper has been announced as the Third Base Coach for the American League squad. Cooper led the Renegades to a franchise-record 79 wins in 2025 and is currently managing the Double-A Somerset Patriots.

Since the Futures Game began in 1999, 26 former Renegades players have been named to a Futures Game roster, including 2001 Futures Game MVP Toby Hall, Evan Longoria (2007), Jeremy Hellickson (2010), Anthony Volpe (2022) and Spencer Jones (2023, '24).

The full Futures Game rosters can be found on MLB's website. Sunday, July 12 at Noon and will be broadcast on NBC.



George Lombard, Jr., left, currently plays with the Yankees' Triple-A affiliate, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders. He played for the Renegades across the 2024 and 2025 seasons, batting .269/.401/.376 in 53 games. Carlos LaGrange also currently plays for Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. He pitched for the Renegades in 2025 and went 4-2 with a 4.10 ERA. Photos by Dave Janosz

To advertise on the Renegades pages, contact cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Greensboro PIT	11	4	.733	-	8-2	L1
	Wilmington WSH	9	6	.600	2.0	6-4	L2
	Frederick BAL *	8	6	.571	2.5	5-5	W3
	Brooklyn NYM	7	7	.500	3.5	6-4	L3
	Hudson Valley NYY	7	8	.467	4.0	5-5	W2
	Jersey Shore PHI	2	12	.143	8.5	1-9	L8
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH		W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
	Asheville HOU	10	5	.667	-	9-1	W1
	Winston-Salem CWS	9	6	.600	1.0	7-3	W1
	Bowling Green TB *	8	7	.533	2.0	4-6	W1
	Rome ATL	7	7	.500	2.5	5-5	W5
	Hub City TEX	5	10	.333	5.0	3-7	L1
	Greenville BOS	5	10	.333	5.0	1-9	L1



July			
07/08/26	vs Rome	06:35 PM	Jewish Heritage Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/09/26	vs Rome	06:35 PM	Harry Potter Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/10/26	vs Rome	07:05 PM	Renegades: The Musical! WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/11/26	vs Rome	05:05 PM	Christmas In July WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/12/26	vs Rome	01:05 PM	Princes & Princesses Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/28/26	vs Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Italian Heritage Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/29/26	vs Jersey Shore	12:05 PM	Super Splash Day Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/30/26	vs Jersey Shore	06:35 PM	Video Game Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
07/31/26	vs Jersey Shore	07:05 PM	WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets Fireworks Friday





Renegades Extra!



IMPACT

PR & Communications

14 HVCU Employees Across Six Counties Graduate From Area Leadership Programs

See story, page 8



IMPACT

PR & Communications

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades salvage split in home series vs. Blue Rocks

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades couldn't beat the heat against the Wilmington Blue Rocks this week. After being held scoreless in the series opener, Hudson Valley salvaged the split, celebrated America, and came out on the right side of a few one-run decisions in the process.

The Renegades are now 35-42 on the season and in fourth place of the Northern Division of the South Atlantic League.

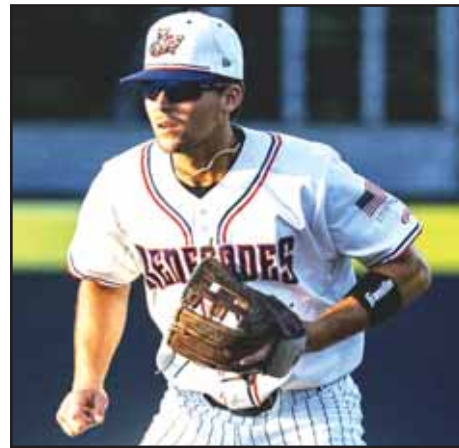
(Not) Caught Stealing - The Renegades clung to a 5-4 win on a rainy Fourth of July. It was a bursting defensive display to rival the fireworks, as Josue Gonzalez threw out four Blue Rocks on the basepaths. He even caught infielder Eli Willits twice, as Franyer Herrera picked off another at first.

Core Jackson, Cam Troyer and Wilson

Rodriguez all reached second base with ease on the Wilmington catcher. But Jackson was racing fire this week, racing to three stolen bases in the Renegades' loss on July 2.

777 - Either side scored seven runs in three games of the six, but neither could hit the straight. The Renegades were 2-1 in those contests, matching their highest-scoring inning of the series in the last at-bats of the finale. Kyle West matched Wilmington's three-run top of the ninth in one swing. One mash, three runs, and a big jackpot for the home team to salvage the sweep. Roderick Arias capped another impactful series with a 3-4 day.

The Renegades stay home to host the Rome Emperors for the last series before the All-Star Break. Promotions feature some whacky wizardry; dashing princes and princesses; and the Renegades' second-ever musical!



Infielder Kaeden Kent, left, and pitcher Franyer Herrera starred for the Renegades as they split a home series against the Wilmington Blue Rocks. Photos by Dave Janosz

RENEGADES FEATURE

Arias turns into 'hitting machine' as Renegades 'Player of the Month'

By Morgan E. Maier

On July 1, the Hudson Valley Renegades named Roderick Arias the team's Player of the Month. It is no secret why.

The switch-hitting Arias has the speed to score from any base, power to hit 'em past the wall, and a proclivity for knocking in runs.

Arias played in all but one of Hudson Valley's June matchups. He amassed 7 stolen bases, 17 runs batted in, and a .416 on-base percentage (1.049 OPS) over 22 games.

Arias opened July with a 2-RBI performance, a bright spot of the Renegades 5-3 loss to the Wilmington Blue Rocks. A single to score Eric Genter got the

Renegades score of the second inning, cutting a 4-1 deficit. A later sacrifice fly put the Renegades within one, but Wilmington resisted the comeback effort to complete the wire-to-wire win.

A two-hit, 3-RBI night on July 2 helped Hudson Valley outlast Wilmington, 9-7. Arias drove the second pitch he saw behind the right field fence. A groundout and RBI single rounded out Roderick's night, as he did his job in extending a 9-1 Renegades lead. The Blue Rocks battled back, but fell just short in the ninth inning.

Arias finished the series 7-for-21 with one home run and 7 RBI. The infielder exploded for another multi-hit masterpiece in the July 5 series finale. He offered a 3-4 night, plus an RBI.



Switch-hitting Roderick Arias amassed 7 stolen bases, 17 runs batted in, and a .416 on-base percentage over 22 games for the Renegades during June. Photo by Dave Janosz

14 HVCU employees across six counties graduate from area leadership programs

Demonstrating its commitment to developing talent from within and creating opportunities for long-term career advancement, Hudson Valley Credit Union (HVCU) announced that 14 team members across six counties have recently completed leadership programs. These comprehensive courses – ranging in length from five days to 10 months – aim to educate and motivate professionals to expand leadership capabilities, enhance community participation and respond effectively to changing conditions.

“Our members, employees and the communities we serve are at the heart of everything we do,” said Desiree Wolfe, executive vice president, chief experience officer. “One of the ways we put people first is by investing in our employees — supporting their growth and ensuring our members are served by knowledgeable, engaged professionals.”

The credit union’s 2026 graduates included the following individuals, by program:

Columbia and Greene County Chambers of Commerce’s Leadership Columbia-Greene

- Melissa O’Shea, Branch Supervisor, Hudson

Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Dutchess

- Dawn McFadden, branch manager, Beacon

- Ashley Simoni, manager, consumer loan underwriting, Dutchess County

Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Executive Leadership Program

- Jijo Koshy, assistant vice president, IT service delivery, Dutchess County

- Leann O’Brien, director of consumer lending operations, Dutchess County

Leadership Orange

- Yoselyne Nava, branch supervisor, New Windsor

Leadership Orange E.D.G.E.

- Edward Eliassen, branch supervisor, Montgomery

- Destiny Quinonez, branch supervisor, Middletown

- Alex Quintana, branch supervisor,



Jijo Koshy, left, assistant vice president, IT service delivery, and Leann O’Brien, director of consumer lending operations, are both graduates of The Chamber Foundation’s Executive Leadership Program in Dutchess County. *Courtesy photo*

Chester

Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Sullivan

- Kaylee Wagner, branch manager, Grahamsville

Ulster Chamber Foundation’s Leadership Ulster

- Cynthia Bruno, assistant branch manager, Rhinebeck

- Alycia Cates, branch supervisor, Highland

- Stacie Schoonmaker, contact center team leader, Ulster County

Volunteer New York’s Leadership Westchester

- Swati Sharma, assistant branch manager, Cortlandt

“It’s a privilege to work alongside so many talented, dedicated individuals, and I look forward to seeing each one of them utilize these new skills to expand their leadership capabilities,” added Wolfe.

To learn more about HVCU and its commitment to members, employees and the areas it serves, visit www.hvcu.org.

HP Chamber Car Show set July 26



A wide variety of show cars, antiques, hot rods and more will be on display at the 16th Annual Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Car Show, scheduled for Sunday, July 26. *Courtesy photos*



Calling all show cars owners and auto enthusiasts - the 16th Annual Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Car Show is scheduled for Sunday, July 26 with rain date August 2.

The car show runs from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the old Hyde Park Motors lot (Across from Town Hall) on Route 9, Hyde Park.

Registration for show cars is \$20

starting at 10 a.m., with trophy presentation at 3 p.m.. Motorcycles are welcome. Show Cars receive dash plaques and trophies.

There will be food, 50/50 and Live Music by Harvest. Spectators may attend free.

Check www.hydeparkchamber.online/car-show for information, full list of event Sponsors and cancellation notices.

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‘Bada Swing!’ to bring live music and comedic chaos to Stissing Center

By Francesca Oliva

“Bada Swing!” will bring its blend of comedy and lounge inspired music to the Stissing Center on July 11, following successful runs at the New York Comedy Festival and Joe’s Pub. Written and performed by Josh Nasser and Michelle Chan Bennett, the musical comedy follows Bobby Bingus and Tommy Linguini, two fictional 1960s crooners attempting one final concert. Their reunion quickly goes off script, turning the evening into an unpredictable mix of live music, improvisation and comedy.

Although the show centers on two musical personalities clinging to their glory days, Nasser and Bennett say audiences can expect more than just a parody of classic lounge acts. Blending cabaret-style music and sharp comedy, the production explores friendship and masculinity.

“We’re giving the people what they want, which is a jazz musical about two disgusting old men,” Bennett joked. Through those characters, however, “we explore masculinity, American decline and a little bit of gender politics, but most importantly, we are really silly and it’s just like a raucous time and a reunion concert that goes wrong.”

Before Bobby Bingus and Tommy Linguini took to the stage, the characters

existed in casual conversation between the show’s creators.

“My recollection of this is that Josh and I would talk to each other as these characters without names, but in their voices, when we would play video games on voice chat,” Bennett said. At the time, Nasser was finishing his first musical comedy album, and Bennett had an interest in pursuing musical comedy, posing the idea of turning the unnamed characters into a fleshed out musical act.

“We found out about this residency at Ars Nova in New York City and developed a full musical out of it,” Bennett said.

Since premiering in 2023, “Bada Swing!” has evolved with every performance. New songs have been added, and jokes have been changed as the creators find ways to make the comedy work better for different audiences and venues.

“How do we make this special for people who come back? And how do we make this a unique experience for people who come for the first time,” Bennett said. “We want them to feel like even though they came to a musical, they are seeing something that will never happen exactly that way again.”

“It’s constantly evolving,” Nasser said, “it’s nice to have something that just continues to grow as we grow.”

Despite its unconventional premise,



Josh Nasser and Michelle Chan Bennett present “Bada Swing!” at The Stissing Center in Pine Plains this Saturday. *Courtesy photo*

the production balances jazz lounge-inspired music with moments of comedic theatrical chaos throughout the evening. Directed by Emily Olcott and produced by Dana Kreitz, with music by Andy Bell, audiences can expect to laugh as they experience a once-in-a-lifetime reunion concert between Bobby Bingus and Tommy Linguini.

“This is theater by comedians who love theater,” reaffirmed Bennett.

“Bada Swing!” will be performed Saturday, July 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Tickets range from \$30 to \$50 and are available online at thestissingcenter.org or by calling (518) 771-3339.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 13 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

THE GREATEST DOT-TO-DOT BOOKS!

Sets
Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.
 1 thru 7
 8 thru 18
 19 thru 28
 29 thru 37
 38 thru 66
 67 thru 95

By David Kalvitis © 2007 Monkeying Around

LOOK FOR LOVE TO COOK
IN NEXT WEEK’S ISSUE

Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.



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Tall ships, flyovers mark July 4th party in NYC



By Jim Donick

The 250th birthday of the United States was marked in New York City with a party like only New York can throw. The harbor and the Hudson River provided a backdrop that showed off the largest-ever gathering of Tall Ships in the U.S., maybe in the world. There were over 400 ships from all over the world taking part.

As a comparison, the fabled Spanish Armada, a fleet previously unparalleled, was only about 130 ships.

The party on the river wasn't limited to the water. Flyovers were provided first by the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and then followed by historic aircraft, helicopters and representatives of allied air forces, including the famed French Airfare aerobatic team, which made its flight up the river with jet exhausts blowing red, white and blue.

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter, *Eagle*, kicked off the parade of ships. This 295-foot-long Barque was joined by three of her four sister ships, the German *Gorch Fock*, the Portuguese *NRP Sagres III* and the Romanian *Mircea*. There was even a

rumor circulating that this very rare reunion might be a perfect time to race them against each other. There is more than enough water outside the harbor to satisfy this dream.

Sloops and schooners from all over the world were in evidence, as well, having come from Sweden, Netherlands, Monaco and many other countries. Others were from as far away as India, and much of South America. The tall ships sailing by often had their yards manned by their crew, sometimes hundreds of feet in the air.

The USA, a country founded on access to the sea, provided a fair number of ships from up and down the coast. New York's South Street Seaport came out with their 1885 schooner, *Pioneer*. Baltimore's *Pride of Baltimore II* came up from the Chesapeake. There were so many more that space would never permit listing them.

Ships, aircraft and thousands of happy and enthusiastic people - what more could one ask for on a birthday party for the ages?



Clockwise from top left, the Peruvian Vessel BAP *Union*, the Dutch topsail schooner "Oosterschelde" has circum-navigated the globe at least twice in the last 30 years before sailing into New York Harbor to join the 2026 festivities. The *Pride of Baltimore II*, a Baltimore Clipper style topsail schooner, represents the City of Baltimore and the people of Maryland in every port she visits. The Italian Training Ship *Amerigo Vespucci* has been termed by many as "the most beautiful ship afloat." Our oldest ally, the French, sent along their famous Air Force Aerobatic team to join in the flyovers during the parade. They are called "The Patrouille de France (PAF)" - in English, "The French Patrol" - and they perform all over the world. The Polish ship *Dar Młodzieży*, is pictured coming up the Hudson River with all sails pulling. *Photos by Jim Donick*

Hyde Park celebrates July 4th in 250th style



The Hyde Park Independence Day parade went off in style with a theme of America's 250th anniversary. In the photos, clockwise from top left, a vintage military jeep was one of the leading vehicles. Parade Grand Marshal Michael Athanas of the Hyde Park American Legion Post 1303 greets visitors. The Rondout Savings Bank was the official sponsor of the parade. Members of the Roosevelt Fire District march. Members of the F.W. Vanderbilt Garden Association had a colorful float. A drummer marches with the Patriots Fife and Drum Corps from Rhinebeck. Detectives Charles Locke and Kurt Twaddell of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office ride four-wheel all terrain vehicles. An antique fire engine represented the Roosevelt Fire District. *Photos by Curtis Schmidt*





The intrigue of fizzy drinks & fuzzy trees

Famed film director Alfred Hitchcock famously popularized the mimosa cocktail in the United States, enjoying the libation so thoroughly that his biography, "It's Only a Movie," lists it as his "top drink." The Master of Suspense allegedly touted mimosas as a "morning-after" hangover cure. Today it's a staple at bridal showers, celebratory brunches, sunrise jubilees, and other such a.m. soirées. But the cocktail's history began in the 1920s.

The precursor, "Buck's Fizz," was invented in 1921 at London's historic Buck's Club. It featured a 2:1 ratio of champagne to orange juice, famously giving members an excuse to drink before lunchtime. A few years later, at the Ritz Hotel in Paris, a more daytime-friendly alternative with a 1:1 ratio was dubbed the "mimosa." It was this version Hitchcock preferred, offering greater hydration, sugar, vitamin C, and the classic "hair of the dog."

**France in the 1920s:
The Golden Age of Mimosas**
Hitchcock may have first encountered his favorite drink's floral namesake while shooting on location along the sun-drenched coastline of the French Riviera. In winter, a multitude of Mimosa trees bloom in a sea of brilliant yellow that contrasts with the blue of the Mediterranean.

Mimosa (*Acacia dealbata*) was discovered in Australia in the early 1800s during a French scientific voyage. By the 1860s, wealthy aristocrats were planting them in the south of France, where they escaped into the wild. Local horticulturists soon realized the acidic soil of the Tanneron Hills was an ideal growth medium.

By the 1920s, the mimosa industry exploded. Thanks to bud-forcing greenhouses and the expanding European railway network, local cultivators transitioned to a global enterprise. At its peak, they shipped up to 30 tons of fresh yellow



Above: Mimosa in bloom. Photo by Francine Wizner. Left: *Acacia dealbata*. Photo by Eugene Zelenko, Wikimedia



blossoms daily to cold northern cities like Paris and London, cementing a traditional craft that survives today.

Hey, mate, that's called Silver Wattle back home

When *Acacia dealbata* arrived in France, botanists misidentified it because its foliage resembled the true Mimosa genus. They christened it "mimosa" in error. Back in Australia, it is known as silver or blue wattle, named for the glaucous sheen on its fern-like leaves and bark. Similarly, the latter part of its scientific name originates from the Latin *dealbare*, meaning "covered in a white powder."

British settlers in the late 1700s called it "wattle"—meaning woven twigs—because they used the flexible branches to weave frameworks for mud huts. Silver wattle was a utilitarian pioneer in the Southern Hemisphere; mimosa became a sun-drenched symbol of European high society in the North. The tree is practically a botanical double agent—Hitchcock would love the intrigue!

Mimosa trees in Dutchess County

I have seen a couple of mimosa trees in Poughkeepsie—and I am hunting for more! We have a type of true mimosa tree: *Albizia julibrissin*. Though completely different genera, *Acacia dealbata* and our Dutchess County mimosa are cousins within the legume family.

The evergreen *Acacia dealbata* thrives in USDA Hardiness Zones 8 to 10 and blooms fuzzy yellow pom-poms in late winter. Meanwhile, our green-leaved, deciduous mimosas grow in Zones 6 to 9 and bloom silky, pink powder-puffs in late summer.

Both cousins share the unique behavior of folding their fern-like leaves at night or in response to darkness. Our Dutchess mimosas are even more sensitive, slowly closing their fronds during rain, heavy cloud cover, or when gently held.

The Greeks said it first

Long before it was a plant or a drink, the name originated from the Ancient Greek 'mimos' (mime or act) combined with the suffix '-osa' (to resemble). In the 17th century, the term was adapted into Modern Latin as a botanical genus name. Scientists named plants like the *Mimosa pudica*, the "sensitive plant," because its sudden movements made it look like the plant was mimicking animal behavior.

Leaflets drop, glasses raise: Sip happens

If a cocktail containing orange juice and champagne is a Mimosa, a cocktail with pink grapefruit juice should be called an Albizia.

The Albizia Cocktail

- 1 part pink grapefruit juice
- 1 part sparkling wine (or sparkling apple juice/water for a mocktail)
- 1 dash elderflower liqueur (or syrup)
- Garnish: Sugar rim and a pink grapefruit twist

Enjoy it while watching one of Hitchcock's films — like the one where Norman Bates remarked that Marion Crane "ate like a bird." The line reminds me that the director once told Dick Cavett that puns are the highest form of literature. (I think so, too.)

Raise a glass to the Master of Suspense. Sip a fizzy cocktail, admire a fuzzy tree, drop your leaflets and unwind. Cheers!

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

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The Focaccia Fire & The Biscotti Apocalypse

(A Two-Act Italian Kitchen Disaster Saga)

Darren walks into the restaurant like a man carrying emotional baggage – not the heavy kind, the my-mother-tried-to-cook-again kind. I'm at the front desk talking to my brother John when he spots me, and his whole face lights up with that unmistakable expression customers get when they know they're about to deliver premium-grade chaos.

He doesn't order. He doesn't say hello. He just looks at me like he's delivering a message from the Vatican and says:

"Luigi ... my mother Joanne tried making your focaccia recipe."

Right away, you know this isn't going to end with, "and it came out beautiful."

He takes a deep, dramatic breath – the kind people take before confessing to a priest – and continues:

"She set her oven on fire."

Now he's fully committed. Hands flying. Eyes wide. He's reliving the trauma in real time.

He explains how Joanne followed the recipe exactly – except for the part where she poured olive oil like she was blessing the oven. The focaccia goes in, the oil drips down, hits the heating element, and suddenly the oven lights up like Times Square on New Year's Eve.

Darren says the smoke alarm started screaming. The dog started barking. Joanne started yelling, "LUIGI SAID OLIVE OIL!" like I personally instructed her to ignite the appliance. OK, maybe I'm exaggerating a little bit. But in my mind that's what I'm picturing.

He's waving his arms, reenacting the flames, the panic, the chaos – again, maybe a little exaggerated – and John and I are standing there thinking:

This is nothing. This is a warm-up ct. This is the appetizer before the real disaster.

Because my family? We don't do "small fires." We do cinematic catastrophes.

And that's when the memory hits – the one John told me – the one that makes Joanne's focaccia fire look like a scented candle.

John and I look at Darren and say: "This is amateur hour. Let me tell you about Pop."

ACT II — POP AND THE BISCOTTI APOCALYPSE

Pop makes biscotti every week. Not for company. Not for holidays. For himself. He brings them home like contraband and toasts them in his pop-up toaster – a toaster so old it probably remembers when bread was invented. One day, the biscotti gets stuck.

Not "stuck." Welded.

Pop tries everything – and I mean everything:

- Slams the lever down like he's trying to launch a rocket.

- Smacks the side of the toaster with the confidence of a man who believes all appliances respond to physical intimidation.

- Tilts it back and forth like he's burping a colicky baby who owes him money.

- Gives it the full Italian "COME ON!" hand wave, the kind that has solved absolutely nothing in the history of electricity but somehow feels mandatory.

- Pokes at it with a butter knife, muttering, "Stupida biscotti ... she no listen," as if the biscotti is being defiant on purpose.

- Blows into the toaster slots, like he's giving CPR to a dying accordion.

And of course – none of this works. Because Pop isn't troubleshooting. Pop is performing.

Then the toaster decides it's had enough of this life and bursts into flames. Most people would unplug it. Some would smother it. A few would call the fire department. Pop? Pop goes full Rambo: Kitchen Edition.

He grabs the nearest liquid – a gallon of milk. And he doesn't pour it. He

deploys it. Milk everywhere. Toaster drowning. Counter flooded. Cabinets dripping like a dairy waterfall. The smoke hits the ceiling. The steam rises. The kitchen soundtrack is sizzling wires and Pop yelling, "I FIX IT!"

John walks in and freezes. The kitchen looks like the final scene of "Apocalypse Now" – but with biscotti shrapnel and the smell of burnt milk. Pop turns around, holding the empty milk jug like a war trophy, and calmly says: "John ... the biscotti, she got stuck."

As if that explains the smoldering toaster graveyard. Sooooooo ... enjoy my recipe for chocolate hazelnut biscotti. And please DO NOT PUT THESE IN THE TOASTER.

CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT BISCOTTI

- Ingredients
- 2 cups flour
 - 1 cup sugar
 - ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
 - 1 teaspoon baking powder
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 3 large eggs
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 ½ cups toasted, chopped hazelnuts
 - 1 cup semi sweet chocolate chips
 - ¾ cup butter

Method
Whisk ½ cup melted butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.

Add the eggs and vanilla extract, mixing until fully combined.

Whisk the flour, baking powder, and salt in a separate bowl.

Add the dry ingredients to the wet mixture, stirring just until incorporated.

Fold in the ½ cup chocolate chips and ½ cup hazelnuts until evenly distributed.

Shape the dough into a 12-inch log on a lightly floured surface.

Bake the log at 300 degrees for about 30 minutes until golden brown and firm.

Cool slightly, then using a serrated knife, slice into 1-inch pieces.

Bake the slices, at 350 degrees for 15 minutes, again until crisp and crunchy.

Cool completely.

Melt the chocolate and ¼ cup of chocolate chips. Drizzle mixture over the flat biscotti. Sprinkle chopped hazelnuts. Let cool again.

Serve with espresso.

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

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

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS

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

- • 1 thru 7
- • 8 thru 18
- • 19 thru 28
- • 29 thru 37
- • 38 thru 66
- • 67 thru 95

By David Kalvitis © 2007 Monkeying Around

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MOANA PG

EVIL DEAD BURN R

--HELD OVER--

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Young Washington (PG13)	Young Washington (PG13)
Toy Story 5 (PG)	Toy Story 5 (PG)
Supergirl (PG13)	Supergirl (PG13)
Obsession (R)	Obsession (R)
	Disclosure Day (PG13)

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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

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5		4						3
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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: THE 4TH OF JULY

ACROSS

- Dagger's partner
- Elephant party, acr.
- Do like volcano
- Fire (2 words)
- Pro football org.
- Jonas Salk's conquest
- Like a Harvard building?
- ET carrier
- Bedeck
- *Tasty Fourth of July outings
- *Float processions
- Black gunk
- Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
- The Jackson 5's 1970 hit
- Caffeine source
- TV classic "____ Heroes"
- Folio page
- Abel's big brother
- Fortune teller's card
- Rank in British peerage
- Archipelago parts
- Head for (2 words)
- Beseech
- Impermanent employee
- Prayer's end
- Gardener's trimmer
- Part of speech
- Am is to I as ____ is to we
- Calista Flockhart's husband
- Likewise
- *Salad tuber
- *____ Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest
- Nonsense
- Female gametes
- "A Doll's House" playwright
- Cuckoo
- Opposite of guzzle
- Cuckoo for what puffs?
- Eyelid affliction
- Driver's aid
- Giving a once-over

DOWN

- Hair holder
- First name in jeans
- Auricular
- ____ provocateur
- Island off Alaskan coast
- Wildebeests
- *For most, the 4th is a day ____
- Onomatopoeia for splash
- *Drink at a barbecue
- Weary walk
- Ireland, once
- *Patriots ____ over Loyalists
- Long John Silver's pet
- Crocus, pl.
- Ooh partner
- Last part (2 words)
- 1st letter of Hebrew alphabet
- Famous Memphis street
- Felt concern
- *"...twilight's ____ gleaming"
- Lady of "A Star is Born"
- Smell
- Post-it user
- *"Born on the Fourth of July" director
- *Popular July 4th decoration
- Captain of Nautilus
- Phlegms
- Sully one's reputation
- Go bad
- Public announcement
- Fowl perch
- Exclamation of delight or dismay (2 words)
- Bridge, in Paris
- Colloquial approval
- Ditty
- Back of neck
- Ascus, pl.
- Ne
- Glitch
- Part of O.H.M.S.
- Strive

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
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64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 16

New York Stage & Film returns to Marist University for an exciting summer season

By Francesca Oliva

New York Stage & Film will return to Marist University this summer with a lineup of new creative works, giving Hudson Valley audiences the opportunity to experience theater while it is still being developed. Beginning July 10, the season will feature eight new plays and three musicals, bringing together artists, performers and audiences for a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process.

"When you think about going to a big theater-loving city like New York City or London, you go to see an end result ... here, you're seeing it begin in its raw form and that can be really thrilling," said Ian Belknap, Artistic Director for New York Stage & Film.

Founded in 1985, New York Stage & Film has spent decades supporting playwrights, performers and directors as they develop new work. The summer season is a place where artists can experiment, collaborate and refine their storytelling abilities before they reach larger audiences.

"There will literally be a copy machine down the hall that'll kick out new pages that are warm, and we'll run that upstairs into the theater, where an actor will read them out loud, and the audience will hear them for the first time ever," said Belknap.

"Sometimes even at the same time as the playwright," added Isabelle Fereshteh Sanatdar Stevens, Associate Artistic Director.

New York Stage & Film has traveled to the Hudson Valley each summer for over 40 years for their summer season, where many of the works showcased have gone on to Broadway and Off-Broadway productions, such as "Hamilton" and "Hadestown."

"A founding idea of the organization was to be in an environment where you could take artistic risks and be away from any type of critical pressure," said Belknap. Artists-in-residence and creative professionals live in community on

Marist University's campus, preparing for play readings and musical workshops throughout the summer.

Unlike a traditional theater performance where you are seeing a final product, New York Stage & Film allows audiences to be a part of the process. Their responses to a piece help artists understand how a story connects with viewers and what changes could be made moving forward.

"Every audience has a different sensibility and imagination, so for an audience to come in and hear pieces, it is kind of a huge part of the developmental process, said Belknap, "seeing what they respond to and what they are interested in can be really informative in a play's journey."

This year's season also expands New York Stage & Film's presence throughout Dutchess County with a new collaboration at The Bardavon, located in the heart of Poughkeepsie. This partnership will allow select productions to be seen in a larger venue while providing "enhanced and stronger production values to support these projects," according to Belknap.

"We are excited to be in the city of Poughkeepsie," said Belknap, explaining that the collaboration connects the organization with the surrounding community outside of Marist's campus.

The 2026 summer season features many diverse perspectives and stories, with adaptations of classic works to new musicals exploring identity and human connection.

Among the works being developed this summer is a new stage adaptation of Dashiell Hammett's "The Maltese Falcon," directed by Belknap and adapted by Betty Shamieh. This reading brings the famous noir story of crime and desperation set in the backdrop of Great Depression-era San Francisco to the stage.

This season will also feature a reimagined production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Whistle Down the Wind," in collaboration with Tony Award-winning



From last year's New York Stage & Film season at Marist: Tyqaun White (left) and Jason Maina in "The TeeTee & LaLa Show." Photo by Deborah Lopez

Deaf West Theatre and directed by Bill Rauch ("CATS: The Jellicle Ball"). Set in the southern United States in the late Fifties, this production will incorporate the unique perspectives of both deaf and hearing children.

"There will be a multimodal version of "Whistle Down the Wind," both in ASL [American Sign Language] and English, and there will also be live captioning happening," said Belknap. "That alone, even in pre-production work, has been one of the more satisfying things I've ever worked on."

Belknap described the production as "a really unique" project and a must-see event of the season.

Another featured work is "Paper Menagerie," a musical adaptation based on the short story by Ken Liu, with music by Thao Nguyen. This piece explores themes of family and memories, as a young man reflects on his relationship with his mother and his cultural identity.

Belknap described the musical as "a

beautiful retelling of finding oneself through losing your parent."

Beyond the individual productions, Sanatdar Stevens said what makes this year's season exciting is the variety of stories being brought to the stage. From new adaptations to original works, each project approaches storytelling differently and gives audiences the opportunity to be immersed in the theatrical process.

"At the end of the day, theater is really just a way to connect and see the world through a new perspective," said Sanatdar Stevens.

Musical workshops and play readings will take place at Marist University's Symphonic Hall and at The Bardavon in Poughkeepsie. Tickets can be purchased by calling The Bardavon's Box Office directly at (845) 473-2072 or visiting in person at 35 Market Street. Additional information is available through New York Stage & Film's website, newyorkstageandfilm.org.

A & E CALENDAR

Through July 26: Powerhouse Theater, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. Annual summer season brings together some of today's most influential theatrical voices and welcomes the next generation of theater artists as members of the renowned Powerhouse Theater Training Program. This week: **July 9, 16 & 23:** "In This Economy?" Developed and performed by members of the Training Company. "In This Economy?" utilizes the gestural composing language of Soundpainting to create an ensemble-based improvised performance about what things cost. Free. No ticket required. **July 10-12:** Workshop, "Godfriend," in the Powerhouse Theater. Equal parts true story, theatrical play, live music, and spiritual gathering, Godfriend asks audiences to practice radical belief in each other while facing uncertain futures. Tickets \$30. **July 10-12:** The Training Company presents "Fuenteovejuna," 7 p.m., at the Preserve. Based on actual events, Lope de Vega's Fuenteovejuna shines a spotlight on the small Village of Fuente Ovejuna in 15th century Spain. The village, run by a corrupt and overbearing tyrant, must find their courage and their voice after years of horrific abuse, or risk losing their honor, freedom, and the beloved community they call home. Free. **July 11:** An Evening of Soundpainting, a dynamic, one-night-only performance featuring Soundpainting creator Walter Thompson alongside an international cohort of musicians, actors, dancers, and visual artists. The event marks the culmination of the Soundpainting Thinktank, a week-long gathering of artists from over a dozen

countries engaged in intensive collaboration, performance, and research. Free. Tickets required. Call (845) 437-5599 or email phtboxoffice@vassar.edu for tickets and more information.

Through Aug. 16: Bard SummerScape, Fisher Center & other locations on the Bard College Campus, Annandale-on-Hudson. Annual performing arts festival features music, dance, theater & more. Now playing: **Through July 19:** The world premiere of "Suddenly Last Summer," MacArthur Fellow Courtney Bryan's first work for the stage, with libretto by Gideon Lester and Daniel Fish based on Tennessee Williams' play, directed by Fish, with music direction by Nathan Koci. In the LUMA Theater. A thrilling new opera based on Williams' fever-dream of a play about a family secret, and a mother's desperate attempt to silence the truth. See the website for performance days & times. **Through Aug. 15:** The return of the festival's majestic handmade mirrored pavilion, the Spiegeltent, with live music, performance, and dancing curated by Jason Collins, emceed by Spiegeltent darling Adrienne Truscott, with Andy Monk hosting the After Hours series. Tickets & more info at fishercenter.bard.edu or (845) 758-7900

July 9: Maryland State Boychoir, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Founded in 1987 with just 14 boys, the mission of The Maryland State Boychoir has remained clear: to foster the boychoir tradition by offering talented boys opportunities to sing and build self-esteem, self-discipline and character. 7:30 p.m. Free. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

July 10: Red Hook Summer Lawn Concert Series at "Eat-N-Go," 7509 N. Broadway, Red Hook. Free live summer concert series at Eat-N-Go every Friday night, 6-8 p.m. This week: Wyld Blu. Bring a chair or blanket, some food and enjoy an evening of local bands performing live. Lineup subject to change.

July 10: The Slambovian Circus of Dreams, Daryl's House Club, 130 Rte. 22, Pawling. Explore the depths of Americana "one trippy tune at a time," 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$33.84. www.darylshouseclub.com

July 10: Stand-Up Comedy, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Headliner Carolyn Castiglia, who has appeared on Comedy Central, MTV, VH1, and more, is a regular on New York stages from Joe's Pub to The Bell House. Her quick wit and lively, unpredictable style make for a dynamic set that feels right at home in a small space. She's joined by MothSlam winner Bridget O'Neill, and local favorite Shawn Hollenbach. Hosted by Jenny Rubin, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

July 10: Summer Music Series, Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd., Rhinebeck. Grampa Joe's Washboard Band, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. BYO chair. www.clintondcny.gov

July 10-25: "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. Offbeat adult comedy by Christopher Durang. Vanya and his adopted sister, Sonia, live a quiet life in a Pennsylvania farmhouse, while their movie star sister

Masha travels the world. When Masha appears for an unannounced visit with her 20-something boy toy in tow, the weekend builds to a fever pitch. Will Vanya and Sonia ever find happiness? Will Masha sell the Bucks County farmhouse out from under them? And will Spike ever put his pants on? Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., July 19, 2 p.m.; Sat., July 25, 2 p.m. Tickets: \$29 adults; \$26 Senior 60+, Military, Students (with ID at the door) and Children Under 12. countyplayers.org or (845) 298-1491

July 10-26: "Company," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Rhinebeck Theatre Company presents Stephen Sondheim's multiple award-winning musical. On the night of his 35th birthday, confirmed bachelor Robert contemplates his unmarried state. Over the course of a series of dinners, drinks and even a wedding, his friends explain the pros and cons of taking on a spouse. The habitually single Robert is forced to question his adamant retention of bachelorhood during a hilarious array of interactions. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$29. www.centerforperformingarts.org

July 10-Aug. 2: New York Stage & Film Season, Marist University & Bardavon, Poughkeepsie. The 2026 season kicks off with a fundraising reading of "The Maltese Falcon" (written by Betty Shamieh, based on the novel by Dashiell Hammett) on July 10 at 8 p.m. at the Bardavon, 35 Market St, Poughkeepsie. Also this week: **July 11:** A presentation of "bala.fruta./bullet.fruit."

continued on page 16

'Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike' to open at County Players on July 10

County Players, one of the longest-running community theatre companies in the area, launches their 69th Season with the Offbeat Adult Comedy by Christopher Durang: "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike." This Main Stage production, directed by Matt Andrews opens Friday, July 10 with additional performances scheduled for Fridays & Saturdays July 11, 17, 18, 24, 25 at 8 p.m., with matinees on Sunday July 19, and Saturday, July 25 at 2 p.m. at the County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main Street in the Village of Wappingers Falls.

A delightfully off-kilter romp, Vanya and his adopted sister, Sonia, live a quiet life in a Pennsylvania farmhouse, while their movie star sister Masha travels the world. When Masha appears for an unannounced visit with her 20-something boy toy in tow, the weekend builds to a fever pitch. Will Vanya and Sonia ever find happiness? Will Masha sell the Bucks County farmhouse out from under them? And will Spike ever put his pants on?

This production features the local talents of Aiden Breneman-Pennas, Deborah Coconis, Michael Frohnhoefer, Ana Hein, Leigh Katz, and Rebecca

Nagle. Of this production Andrews says, "This play is incredibly funny and yet strikingly meaningful. One moment you're laughing out loud and the next you're examining your own familial ties."

Tickets are \$29 Adults: \$26; Senior 60+, Military, Students (with ID at the door) and Children Under 12. Individual tickets are available online in advance of performance dates at countyplayers.org and the Box Office is open for in-person sales one hour before each performance. For info: countyplayers.org/show/vasamas/.

This production of "Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike" is supported by Gold Show Sponsors: Denny & Rosemary Evaul, and is presented by arrangement Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. dramatists.com. Hudson Valley Credit Union sponsors County Players' 69th Season.

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

A & E CALENDAR

continued from page 15

written by Jesús I. Valles, directed by Adil Mansoor, 5 p.m. in Marist University's Symphonic Hall. **July 11:** Presentation of "Lagniappe," written by C.A. Johnson, directed by Eric Ting, 8 p.m., in Symphonic Hall. **July 12:** "Unmoored," written by Betty Shamieh, directed by Ian Belknap, 1 p.m. in Symphonic Hall. www.newyorkstageandfilm.org

July 11: Bada Swing! Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. A night of retro flair, razor-sharp comedy, and gloriously awkward nostalgia, 7:30 p.m. This wildly entertaining show imagines the reunion of Bobby Bingus and Tommy Linguini, two wonderfully eccentric 1960s crooners attempting a comeback concert that goes hilariously, and spectacularly, off script. Tickets: \$30-\$50. thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

July 11: Garden Talk, Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, on the grounds of the FDR Library & Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. "Harvest & Arrange: Techniques for Natural Floral Arrangements," 10:30-11:30 a.m. Christine Fontana of Peony Design Studio will demonstrate how to gather seasonal stems from the garden and turning them into loose, organic designs. Guests will learn simple harvesting tips, conditioning basics, and natural arranging techniques that highlight each flower's movement and character. Cost \$15. Register at www.BeatrixFarrandGarden.org

July 11: Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival, Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon. Young Artist Concert with Lyra Young Artist Program Pre-College Musicians, 2 p.m. Program to include Piano Trios by: Beethoven, Coleridge-Taylor, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Clara Schumann, and Turina. lyramusic.org or info@lyramusic.org

July 11: Movies Under the Walkway, Upper Landing Park, 83 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., followed by the feature film at sundown at approximately 8:30 p.m. This week: Disney's Live Action, "Lilo & Stitch." Free. Shows are sunshine only. Bring blankets and chairs. Free parking available at The Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum & Metro North parking areas. www.walkway.org

July 11: Summer Concert Series, Red Hook Library, 7444 S. Broadway, Red Hook. Music on the library's front lawn, 1 p.m. This month: Bill Buttner & Jim Petrie. www.redhooklibrary.org

July 12: Bossa Blue Presents James Taylor Re-Imagined, The Colony, Woodstock. 7 p.m. www.colonywoodstock.com

July 12: The Rooted Voyageurs Present Shakespeare's "As You Like It," Millbrook Winery, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook. The Rooted Voyageurs' family-friendly bare-bones production of "As You Like It" is abridged and will run 90 minutes. Bring your own seating and a picnic, or pick up food from the farmers markets or food trucks at select venues and enjoy, 2:30 p.m. rootedvoyageurs@gmail.com

July 12 & 19: Guided Hike: History Hidden in the Woods, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Have you ever wondered what some of the ruins within Mills and Norrie State Parks might be? The beautiful park land was once the setting for grand Hudson Riverfront estates. This two-hour guided hike will lead visitors through park, exploring the history of three historic estates: from Staatsburgh's founding as a gentleman's farm in the 1700s to the development of The Point and Stonehurst estates in the 19th century. The hike begins at 10 a.m. and is approximately 1.5 miles of uneven terrain, requiring sturdy footwear. Free, but reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

July 15: Music in the Parks, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. Outdoor concert series featuring Bosco & The Storm, 7 p.m. Rain location: Taconic Reginal OFC-NY Parks, 9 Old Post Rd., Staatsburgh. For any cancellations or changes, check the Hyde Park Recreation Facebook page.

July 15: Twilight Music in the Park, Walkway Over the Hudson's Ulster Welcome Center, Highland. Featuring free acoustic music performances by local musicians from the Hudson Valley, 6-7 p.m., weather permitting. This week: Storm King Skyline, Hudson Valley Folk Guild. www.walkway.org

QUAKER MEETING HOUSE TOURS ON JULY 12



Three 18th-century historic Quaker Meeting Houses in Clinton, Millbrook and Pawling, plus an 1850s one-room schoolhouse in LaGrange, will be open for tours with banners, videos and docents to educate visitors beginning on July 12. The sites will feature the "Quakers during the American Revolution." This project is funded by Dutchess County. Above is the 1777 Creek Meeting House, Clinton Corners, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information, visit meetinghousetour.com. Visitors are invited to "Discover the stories of notable local Quakers." *Courtesy photo*

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Suguru solution

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

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 14)

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

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145 Adult Care	300 Real Estate	502 Clothing	712 Moving sale	900 Autos for Sale
150 Announcements	301 Townhouses & Condos	503 Furniture	713 Rummage Sale	901 Vans/SUV's
151 Adoption	302 Commercial Property	504 Appliances	714 Flea Market	902 Trucks
152 Novenas	304 Mobile Homes	505 Free Items	715 Craft Corner	903 Motorcycles
154 Lost & Found	305 Lots & Acreage	506 Computers	716 Barn Sale	904 Auto Parts & Tires
155 Personal Services	400 Townhomes & Condos for rent	507 Sports Equipment	717 Estate Sale	905 Autos Wanted
		508 Exercise Equipment	718 Auctions	
			719 Antiques	

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OBITUARIES

Agatha Caso

LAGRANGEVILLE – Agatha Caso, 103 years, of LaGrange, passed away on Tuesday, June 30, 2026 at her home, surrounded by her beloved family.

She was born in October 1922 in Caltagirone, Italy. In August 1948, Agatha married Michael Caso, Sr. They raised their family in Brooklyn and Staten Island before becoming local residents of LaGrange in 1972. She attended Hunter College and did administrative work prior to having children. Later, Agatha worked as a Teacher's Assistant at Overlook school in the Arlington School District until retirement. While waiting for her husband to retire, she decided to take a job at JC Penney.

She was a member of St. Martin de Porres Church and a long-time parishioner of Holy Trinity. She was a devout Catholic and always put her faith and trust in God, which was reflected in how she lived every day of her life. Agatha was a member of the choir at her church in Staten Island and loved singing around the house.

Agatha and her husband enjoyed traveling extensively throughout the U. S. and Europe and they enjoyed family vacations with their children and grandchildren at Bethany Beach and Virginia Beach. Together they served as volunteers at the Nearly New Shop by the Junior League and she volunteered for Birthright of Dutchess County.

Agatha spoke fluent Italian, and inspired her family to learn the language and embrace their culture. She was a lifetime member of the Italian Center, where she regularly played in the women's bocce league well into her 80s. She was an avid reader, an exceptional cook, loved music and the arts, and enjoyed playing cards and boardgames - and even just a few weeks ago she was winning dominoes against her great-grandsons! She loved going to the casino with her daughter, Ann Marie, and you could never get her off her iPad playing "her games".

Above all else, Agatha was the light and strength of her large family. Her primary role was first as a mother and later as a doting and supportive grandmother and great-grandmother. She attended countless recitals, games, and concerts, unwavering in her love for her family. Her laughter and smile would brighten anyone's day. She created beautiful family photo albums of all the amazing memories curated over the years, and would often share stories of the past, amazing everyone with her experiences of over a century of life.

Agatha's joy for life, generosity, thoughtfulness, and compassion will be greatly missed by her family and friends. She truly embodied a life well-lived.

Survivors include her children: son Joseph (Debbie) Caso of Orange Park, FL, daughter Ann Marie (David) Roberts, Sr. of

Poughkeepsie, NY, daughter Valerie Beckett of Rockville, MD, son Michael (Kim) Caso Jr. of Myrtle Beach, SC, and son Robert (Jennifer) Caso of Poughkeepsie, NY.

Agatha is also survived by her grandchildren: Joey Caso; Lisa (Eric) Horn, David Roberts, Jr., Christine (Jacqueline) Sisco; Makayla (Jacob) Hess, Savanna, Michael III and Steven Caso; Jessica, Gabriella, and Daniel Caso; step-grandchildren Carolyn (Dennis) Aguilar, John P. Beckett, and Christopher (Crystal) Beckett; great-grandchildren Matthew and Alexander Horn; Andrew and Brielle Sisco; and Emmett Hess; step-great-grandchildren Anthony Aguilera; William, Joshua, Matthew and Alina Beckett; and several nieces and nephews.

Agatha was predeceased by her husband Michael; son-in-law John C. Beckett; her sisters and brother Mary Bagnara, Jack (Ardell) Bagnara and Fay (Ralph) Bozzo; sister-in-law Theresa (John) Maggi; and brothers-in-law Daniel, John (Ann) and Richard Caso; and nephews John Maggi and Paul Caso.

We are grateful for the excellent care provided by all her caregivers, and the care provided by Ana the last nine months. The Hospice Team provided exceptional comfort and support to Agatha and her family over the past two years.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice (www.hvhospice.org) or the Covenant House (www.covenanthouse.org).

Joanne Daniele

MILLBROOK – Joanne F. Daniele of Millbrook, passed away peacefully at home on June 29, 2026 at the age of 87. Joanne was born in Poughkeepsie on February 24, 1939 to the late Elynore Kuklin Waryas and former Mayor of Poughkeepsie and New York State Assemblyman, Victor C. Waryas.

On December 11, 1960, Joanne married Charles T. Daniele at St. Joseph's Church in Poughkeepsie. Joanne graduated from Poughkeepsie High School and Barbizon School of Fashion in New York City. Joanne also graduated from White Plains Hospital School of Nursing.

After working for a short time at White Plains Hospital, she went to work at St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie as an operating room nurse until she and Charlie started a family. Joanne was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She loved and cherished her family above all. She loved to read and was a member of a local book club for 15 years. Joanne was also a member of The Red Hat Society. Joanne enjoyed baking and her homemade cookies were the best. When Joanne's children were young, she always volunteered at their schools. Joanne also was a participant in the Harvard Nurse Health Study since its inception in 1976. Joanne and Charlie loved camping with their children

every summer at Camp Waubeeka in Copake New York. After Charlie retired, they loved travelling in their motorhome all over the country including trips to 42 states and numerous trips in the spring and fall months to Florida.

Joanne is survived by her daughter, Susan Volino and her grandson, Mitchell Volino of Millbrook, her son Robert Daniele and his wife Jennifer, and her granddaughter Audrey Daniele, and grandsons Charlie Daniele and Owen Daniele of North Haven Connecticut, and her son Richard Daniele of Millbrook. Joanne was predeceased by her husband Charlie, her infant grandson Nicholas Michael Volino, her brother, Victor C. Waryas, Jr., and her son-in-law, Michael Anthony Volino.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, July 6, 2026 at St. Joseph's Church in Millbrook. Interment followed in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Millbrook.

Arrangements were entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook. Memorial donations may be made in Joanne's memory to the Dutchess County SPCA or Hudson Valley Hospice. Joanne's children would like to thank her caregivers, and the staff of Hudson Valley Hospice for their unconditional support and exception care.

George B. Hooper Jr.

RED HOOK – George B. Hooper, Jr., 71, of Red Hook, passed away at his home on Tuesday morning, June 30, 2026.

Born on February 23, 1955, in Princeton, NJ, he was the son of the late George B. Hooper, Sr. and Catherine (Weber) Hooper.

George—known simply as "Hoop" to all who knew and loved him—grew up in Hyde Park, NY. He had a lifelong love of deep-sea fishing, Fleetwood Mac and Stevie Nicks, camping trips with family and friends, trips to the Jersey Shore at Aunt Bette's house on Sandy Hook, attending his son Ryan's baseball games from high school through college, spending time with his family - especially his grandchildren - and last (as usual) but certainly not least, the New York Jets (Meadowlands, Section C6 - JJJ EEE TTT SSS JETS-JETS-JETS!). After graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1973, George began his career as an equipment technician in the semiconductor industry, working for Harris Semiconductor, IBM, and ASML. His exceptional fastpitch softball skills were known throughout the region, and in 1996, he was inducted into the Dutchess County Fastpitch Hall of Fame.

George is survived by his wife, Jamie; his daughter, Lindsey (Breandan) Lowry, and their children, Rowan, Teagan, Maeve, and Cillian; his son, Ryan (Natalie) Hooper, and their children, Benson and Charlotte; his stepdaughter, Shannon (Neva) Healer, and their children, Djuna and Sloan; his stepdaughter, Lindsay Schultz (Joe Palumbo), and their

children, Franky and Cami; and his stepdaughter-in-law, Chantel Schultz, and children, Morgan, Cassidy, and Rocco.

In addition to his wife, children, and grandchildren, George is survived by his sister, Carol (Peter) Wawrzonek; his brother, Roger (Michele) Hooper; his sister, Christina Bouska; and countless nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, cherished friends, and his devoted canine companion, Mackie, who was a constant source of comfort and unconditional love.

In addition to his parents, George was predeceased by his stepson, Justin Schultz, in 2018.

Family and friends are invited to call at Burnett & White Funeral Home, Red Hook, on Wednesday, July 8, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.

Jean Murphy

HYDE PARK – Jean C. "Ahmie" Murphy passed away peacefully on June 25, 2026, at the age of 97.

Born on July 10, 1928, in the Town of Washington, NY, Jean was the daughter of the late Raymond and Julia Sherow Cromwell. She graduated from Arlington High School in 1946 and went on to build a career in collections, working in both Poughkeepsie, NY, and Escondido, California.

Jean was a woman who cherished holidays, family traditions, and the joy of gathering with loved ones. Above all else, she was fiercely devoted to her children and family, whose lives were enriched by her love, strength, and unwavering support.

Jean is survived by her son, Philip Schultz and his wife, Kathryn; her grandchildren, Ross Schultz of Poughkeepsie, New York, and Dawn Schultz Ulloa of Poway, California; her great-grandchildren, Elena and A.J. Ulloa of Poway, California; her nephew, Michael Philipbar; and her cousin, Carol DiBenedetto.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Robert Murphy, in 2009, and by her son, Peter, in 2021.

Jean's family will remember her for her warmth, dedication, and the lasting traditions she created for those she loved. Her memory will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Services will begin at 11:30 am on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery Mausoleum Chapel, 342 South Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12602. Please arrive at 11:15 am and gather at the cemetery office.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Meals on Wheels of Hyde Park, 1 Church Street, Hyde Park, NY 12538 or <https://mealsonwheelsofhp.org>.

Hose

Editor's note: The following poem is in remembrance of a special friend.

People knew him as "The Hose."
The Hose was also known as Jim.
His song was sweetly high and clear,
It had depth and goodness, quite like a hymn.

His voice dripped with gentleness;
He had no foes.
But he forgot to love himself.
We'd gather round to greet him;
We'd ask about his health.
His attitude was casual.
Didn't see vitality as wealth.
He didn't see.
He couldn't see.
"Go get checked out!" exclaimed his coterie.

He chose to keep himself so blind.
Running away from his condition,
Putting a padlock on his mind.
Hose had a quiet way about him.
Music was his luminous alter.
Following his innermost whim,
Strumming softly his guitar,
This minstrel couldn't falter.
A teddy bear with the gift of serenade,
He crooned so enticingly,

We were blissfully enveloped
In his musical escapade.
Friends say that in his steamy youth,
He was sturdy and athletic, a demigod of the sun.

Like Tarzan, he'd swing into a pool
And emerge the laughing one.
A former firefighter, the epitome of bravery.

In shielding another, he fell through a floor.

This act so-oozing courage,
Rendered Tarzan moments long-ago lore.

When he fell down, his health fell too.
The fear of losing him engulfed his crew.

We seemed to sense, his crowd who knew him as the Hose.

On Christmas Eve, he bade good-bye to all his earthly woes.

He is so very deeply missed.
We shower on his sacred path
Our terrestrial blessings and an angel's kiss.

Carmel H. Forte
Astoria Queens

