

Dairy cattle,
goat shows set
at Fairgrounds

By Curtis Schmidt

The barns and livestock show arenas at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck will be teeming dairy cattle, dairy goats and meat goats for a variety of events on July 17 and 18.

The Eastern NY Holstein Club, established in 1913, will be holding its 2026 Black and White Show for all members starting at 10 a.m. Friday and 9 a.m. on Saturday. Also on Saturday, the Dutchess County 4-H Goat Advisory will be running an American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA) sanctioned Dairy Goat and a Meat Goat show. This show is open to all youth aged 21 or younger. The advisory consists of leaders from all Dutchess county goat clubs.

This year, 56 junior members have entered in the Holstein Club's Black and White Show. They will compete in showmanship, a competition where the member's skills in showing their animals are judged. The remainder of the competition is judging the animal. To compete, everyone must be a member of ENY or another Holstein club in NY state.

Junior members showing are from three dairy 4-H clubs in Dutchess County and two in Columbia County, plus Future Farmers of America (FFA) members from John Jay, Pine Plains and Red Hook high schools, plus Housatonic High School in CT.

ENY Holstein Club President Carey Osofsky Alberg commented, "We could not put on this event without our amazing long-time volunteer committee from our club and the remarkable support from businesses and individuals in the community."

The goat shows are open to all

continued on page 2

Volunteer Chris Hawks & 'Tyson' to
lead DC Firemen's parade in Millbrook

By Curtis Schmidt

To veteran volunteer firefighter Chris Hawks, his 43 years with the Millbrook Fire Department has been all about caring for his neighbors and helping out in the community.

Hawks and his pal/fire station dog "Tyson" will be honored as co-grand marshals of the Dutchess County Firemen's Convention Parade on Saturday, July 18, in Millbrook and they'll be riding in the department's antique 1930 Seagrave truck. The parade is the culminating event of the annual Millbrook Fire Department carnival, which runs Wednesday-Saturday.

For many years Hawks has been (and still is) the "go to guy" for those middle-of-the-night calls to the fire department.

"I can usually make it to the fire house in about four or five minutes," said Hawks, who works at the Springhill Farm on Route 82.

Although Hawks enjoys the camaraderie and friendship of his fellow firefighters, his main impetus is simply helping out and being trained to do so. It's not about him, it's about the people he helps.

"At the end of the day, I just want to know that we did a good job," he said. "It takes a lot of teamwork to handle the emergencies, regardless of what's happening. You can't do it all yourself and you have to know your role. I'm not a paramedic, but I can be the gopher that the paramedic needs. The main point is being there and knowing how to help."

For Hawks, this all started back in



Millbrook Fire department past chief Chris Hawks holds his pal/fire station dog "Tyson." They will serve as co-grand marshals of the Dutchess County Firemen's Convention Parade on Saturday, July 18, in Millbrook. At the right is Kelly Tomasulo, President and Fire Captain of the Millbrook Fire Department. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

1983. He was working at the Rally Farm on the Shunpike and heard a fire alarm going off at the Elizabeth Johnson estate on North Mabbettsville Road.

"She was a good friend and there was a foot-and-a-half of snow in the driveway, so I cleared the way for the fire truck, said Hawks. "After it was over, they (firefighters) gave me an application to join the fire department, and I've been a member ever since."

He started out as a rookie probationary

member in his late 20s and worked his way up through the ranks and served as Fire Chief from 2006-2010. In addition to all of the calls, he has attended thousands of hours of training.

His pal "Tyson" is now 14 and he's been with Hawks since he was six months old.

"It's a rare day when they are not together," said Kelly Tomasulo, President

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Annual Millbrook carnival
runs July 15-18

The Millbrook Fire Department's annual carnival is running from Wednesday, July 15-Saturday, July 18 at 3323 Franklin Avenue for four nights of family fun, great food, exciting rides, midway games and live entertainment.

The Dutchess County Firemen's Convention Parade on Saturday will step off at 6 p.m. and move through the Village of Millbrook on Franklin Avenue. Leading the way will be this year's co-grand marshals Past Fire Chief Chris Hawks and "Tyson," his devoted fire dog.

Fire Captain and president Kelly Tomasulo said 18 fire companies and approximately eight other entities will be participating in the parade to include the Dutchess County Hazmat Division, Fire Investigation Division, Dutchess County Forest Rangers, Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, NY State Police, plus the Village of Millbrook mayor, deputy mayor and trustees.

In response to community feedback, the carnival will open one hour earlier this year to better accommodate families

with young children. The grounds will be open daily from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The Entertainment lineup includes: Wednesday - Heavy Gauge Band, Thursday - DJ Johnny Mac, Friday - Rhythm & Brews, Saturday - DJ Johnny Mac.

Tomasulo added that this year officials have added new food to the lineup, including fried Oreos, popcorn, cookies, gluten-free brownies, fried ravioli, and chicken tenders. They have also added red and white wine to the bar booth.

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Volunteer Chris Hawks & ‘Tyson’ to lead DC Firemen’s Parade in Millbrook

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and Fire Captain of the Millbrook Fire Department. “Tyson’s name is even on our run sheets. He goes to all of the calls and knows his role.”

Tomasulo also noted that the Millbrook Fire Department and Millbrook Fire Rescue has gained over 50 members in the last two years. While some area volunteer fire departments have seen declining recruitment, their organization is growing.

She attributes the growth to a family-oriented philosophy and mutual respect. “We all understand that we have a place here – a job to do. We form a team and we all have important roles and responsibilities,” she said. “There are no generational gaps and we all get along. It’s about respect and we learn from each

other.”

Tomasulo said the Millbrook team has a variety of individuals with expertise in many areas, ranging from electricians to plumbers to computer technicians to carpenters and many others.

“We discover what they are good at and we let them concentrate on those areas,” she said. “Everyone has ownership and feels like they belong.”

Members attend many hours of training in a variety of areas, which also promotes the team concept.

Many volunteers also serve in non-firefighting roles, such as secretary, treasurer, fund-raising and a variety of roles within the auxiliary. It’s a great team of helpers.



Chris Hawks served as Fire Chief from 2006-2010 with the Millbrook Fire Department. He will be co-grand marshal of the DC Firemen's Convention Parade in Millbrook Saturday. His pal/fire station dog "Tyson" will be right beside him as co-grand marshal. "Tyson" is a familiar sight on all calls and Hawks says he knows his role. "Tyson" is shown in the fire engine cab, on an ice-rescue maneuver and watching from a storage compartment. *Courtesy photos*

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MILLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chris Hawks

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Chief: 2006 - 2010



Dairy cattle, goat shows set at Fairgrounds

continued from cover

2026 ENY Holstein Club
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youth aged 21 or younger. The advisory consists of leaders from all Dutchess county goat clubs.

The goat advisory sees these shows as great opportunities for youth to practice their showing skills in a low-stress environment. Approximately 100 participants are expected.

The goal is for youth to have fun while they learn.

Officials added that they would like to take this opportunity to thank the Dutchess County Agricultural Society for allowing them to hold the shows at the Fairgrounds. They would also like to thank Hackett Farm Supply for supplying shavings for the show ring, as well as the many local businesses who have made donations to support the show.

Choose your favorite ‘I Voted’ sticker

The Dutchess County Board of Elections announced the selection of six finalists in its inaugural “I Voted” Sticker Design Contest, a first-of-its-kind initiative inviting county youth ages 9 to 18 to submit original artwork celebrating civic participation.

On Monday, July 6, a panel of distinguished judges convened to review 55 entries submitted by young artists from across Dutchess County. After careful deliberation, the panel selected six finalists whose designs will now advance to a public online vote. Four additional designs were recognized as runners-up.

The judging panel included Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, County Legislature Chair Yvette Valdés Smith, County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair, Poughkeepsie Public Arts Commission Chair Tim McQueen, and Arts Commissioner Ty Johnson.

“It was a pleasure to select from the amazing artistry of our local students in Dutchess,” said Arts Commission Chair Tim McQueen. “It was very hard to select but exciting to see so many young people engaged.”

“Our Dutchess County youth have shown extraordinary creativity in this year’s ‘I Voted’ Sticker Design Contest and helping select the finalists was truly a privilege,” said County Legislature Chair

Yvette Valdés Smith. “Each design reflected not only their artistic talent but a genuine excitement for civic engagement, which is especially meaningful at such a young age, when early experiences with voting and elections can inspire life-long participation. As a mom and as a teacher, I’m very proud of every student who took part and grateful for the enthusiasm they brought to this effort.”

Dutchess County Democratic Elections Commissioner Lisa Jessup stressed the significance of the judges’ commitment. “In the aftermath of a terribly devastating storm in our county, our judges still showed up and showed that they prioritize our Dutchess youth and the importance of engaging them in voting,” she said. “It was a delight working with them in what I hope will be the first of many Dutchess County ‘I Voted’ sticker contests.”

Dutchess County Republican Elections Commissioner Erik Haight added: “I’m overwhelmed by the participation in the inaugural year and even more impressed by the creativity and quality of the submissions. I too thank the thoughtfulness of the panel of judges along with the steadfast work accomplished by staff and thank Commissioner Jessup for spearheading the project.”

The public is now invited to cast their



The group of judges reviewed 55 entries for the “I Voted” Sticker Design Contest. The public can choose out of 6 designs now until Sept. 7. *Courtesy photo*

vote for the ultimate winner at Cast Your Vote! Survey. Online voting is open now and will close on Sunday, Sept. 7. The winning design will be printed on official “I Voted” stickers and distributed to voters at polling locations throughout Dutchess County during the 2026 General Election.

For more information about the contest, contact the Dutchess County Board of Elections at (845) 486-2473 or visit elections.dutchessny.gov.

First Amendment Culture Team conducts rally on July 4 at FDR site

The local First Amendment Culture Team (FACT) held a First Amendment Rally on July 4th at the FDR campus in Hyde Park, with approximately 100 individuals in attendance. Dutchess County Historical Society Executive Director Bill Jeffway explained how New York - and Poughkeepsie - played a key role in the development of the Bill of Rights. Retired NY Court of Appeals Judge Al Rosenblatt noted that the First Amendment is our nation’s fundamental call for citizen participation in government, regardless of political affiliation. Congressman Pat Ryan led speakers from the Interfaith Council, Immigrant and Women’s Rights groups, education, the arts and local government.

In the photos, clockwise from top: Walking in the Hyde Park July 4th parade are Jeff Aman, Julia Rubinic, Lily Piro and Deb Piro. Lucas Argow, Lily Piro and Akeliyah Fray address the audience. Bettina “Poet Gold” Wilkerson speaks. *Courtesy photos*



State Police investigating death in Wappinger Creek

On July 12, 2026, at approximately 4:20 p.m., New York State Police in Poughkeepsie responded to the area of 1624 Main St. in the Town of Pleasant Valley for a report of suspicious activity.

Upon arrival, troopers located a deceased male in Wappinger Creek. At this time, there are no indications of criminality. The investigation is ongoing.

The identity of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.



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Publisher
Albert Osten

General Manager
Curtis Schmidt
cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Editorial/Creative Director
Kate Goldsmith

Reporters
Kristine Coulter

Contributing Writers
Cynthia Baer
Jim Donick
Morgan E. Maier

Interns
Matthew Fetzer
Francesca Oliva

Advertising Representative
Richard Wambach
845-417-5377
richardlw47@gmail.com

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cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Guest columnist wrong on points relating to the U.S. Constitution

To the editor:
The guest column by Mr. Paul Donnelly in the June 24 -30 edition of the Northern Dutchess News surprised me. I have a Master of Arts Degree (MA) in National Security: Defense and Strategic Studies. as well a Master of Science Degree (MS) in International Diplomatic Affairs.
I was dismayed to find that a writer, who is said to be a 20-year teacher of history should make so many serious misrepresentations of the constitutional procedures of the United States of America in order to support his views of the current President of the United States (POTUS).

I will not go through them all, but will note the one I find most egregious. He says, "Congress gives orders and the president executes those orders." Actually, the three branches (Executive, Legislative and Judicial) of the U.S. Government are equal. No law that the Congress passes becomes law until the president agrees with it by adding his signature. If he chooses not to sign it, then Congress may override him, but this process requires a larger majority than had originally passed the legislation.

It is POTUS who issues orders in support of some Congressional legislation. Additionally, POTUS issues Executive Orders, not Congress. I will not spend time on the questions of pardons or tariffs, other than to note that the writer is wrong on these points as well.

The Northern Dutchess News should do better.

Rev. Karl A. Lindblad
LCDR, USN (ret)
Saint Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church
Pleasant Valley

Back and forth with U.S. War against Iran

To the editor:
What happened to the Iran ceasefire deal, with (President) Trump bombing Iran, and Iran responding with attacks on U.S. bases?

The explanation is straightforward. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) President Trump signed allowed Iran to control passage through the Strait of Hormuz. Iran will likely, after 60 days, charge ships transiting, thus replenishing Iran's Treasury, which has suffered from U.S. financial sanctions.

A main purpose of the sanctions was to limit Iran from funding other Shiite groups that, like Iran, support the Palestinian cause.

But the Strait of Hormuz tolls or fees could put Iran in a strong financial position. So the U.S. sought to set up an alternate Hormuz passage near Oman to bypass Iranian control and prevent Iran from getting a financial windfall. If successful, Iran would be back in the same old financial bind.

Iran, pointing to the MOU section giving it control, fired on ships trying the new U.S. approved passage that bypasses Iranian control.

Trump responded by bombing Iran. We could be back to square one (and \$4 gasoline, or more).

In a sense, the world economy is held hostage by the failure to craft a fair resolution to the Israel/Palestine situation. A tough problem, but solving it will bring many benefits.

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

Importance of fact-checking

To the editor:
I much appreciated Caroline Hall Donick's letter correcting "facts" misstated in a previously published guest column (By Paul Donnelly, 6-24-26). With "facts" being invented on the fly at high levels of business, government and society, attention to truth is critical, whether accomplished by media fact-checking or reader fact-checking.

Jane Cottrell
Stanfordville

Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum hosts World Cup Celebration Day

By Matthew Fetzer

Families gathered at the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum on July 6 for its "World Cup Celebration Day," an event featuring soccer-themed activities inspired by the FIFA World Cup.

For Samantha Schillinger, soccer could be described as "the beautiful game." As the museum's membership and guest experience coordinator, she was instrumental in organizing the event.

"It's called the beautiful game for a reason," said Schillinger. "It's one of the most universal sports of all time. You can pick up any round object and without even knowing how to talk to another per-

son, you know how to play together. The World Cup in general is supposed to be very unifying and can bring people together, so I wanted to bring that to us because it's important for kids to get interested in that."

Kids were able to choose from a variety of activities, such as decorating jerseys, cleats, balls and trophies at the arts and crafts station. For more active play, mini goals were set up where kids could challenge one another to a soccer game, or even try to take on their parents.

The museum also incorporated its STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) mission as it even had a station for learning about kinetic and potential energy within soccer.

Schillinger remarked, "Kids are very into the technology aspect of things. I think that getting them active and getting them involved in sports is one of the main goals of this."

The event was held in partnership with the Sports Museum of Dutchess County located in Wappingers Falls. Members of the Sports Museum staffed a booth at the celebration, answering soccer-related questions and providing information on

local soccer stars, including Town of Wappinger native Tyler Adams, who is a member of the U.S. Men's National Team.

Among those at the booth was former John Jay High School All-League soccer player Uriel Botchway, now a volunteer at the Sports Museum. He spoke with visitors about the organization and shared his own experiences while growing up playing soccer.

"Soccer is a lot more globally known compared to other sports," said Botchway. "You can go to any other country in the world and see people playing. Looking at soccer not just as a game, but also as a global foundation really helps kids understand where we're heading inside the sport and in life in general."

"They can see different people from other countries representing their cultures," Schillinger added. "It's definitely the coolest thing about celebrating the World Cup and I think it's so important because Poughkeepsie is such a diverse place."

The celebration ended with a telecast of the Spain - Portugal match inside the museum for families to watch.

Milan Community Day set Aug. 8

Milan's Community Day will take place on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Milan Rec Park, 30 Matecki Road, Red Hook. There will be new and exciting events this year along with perennial favorites.

Activities include Milan's Citizen of the Year and Beautification Awards, line dancing, American Colonial dancing les-

sons, local food & beer vendors, Gladiator Joust, Minecraft Bounce House, corn hole, pickleball, kickball, craft vendors, nonprofit resources, Field Day games, The Candyman, an antique car show, and dunk tank.

No outside food or drinks can be brought in.



A look back at those who served throughout American history



With the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding just passed on July 4, we have the chance to look back on the countless Armed Forces members who have founded, shaped and protected the United States of America. More than simply a celebration of our country's founding, this watershed moment is the perfect opportunity to recognize generations of brave men and women who have served our nation and preserved our American way of life.

In our country's formative days, some two-and-a-half centuries ago, everyday people – be they blacksmiths, farmers, carpenters, shipwrights, tinsmiths – stood side-by-side to pursue a daring dream: the American experiment, a democracy that allowed these colonists to rule and govern themselves, an ocean away from the monarchy that laid claim to governing them. Despite being underdogs against one of the world's dominant military forces, they stood firm in their pursuit of liberty.

It's that bravery that helped found the country we now call home.

Beginning with those first battles, leading all the way to modern conflicts, the U.S. Armed Forces have been integral to writing the history of our great nation. From those formative years to the current day, courageous Americans have stepped

up in selfless sacrifice for their neighbors. Whether protecting our country in wartime or answering the call to respond when catastrophe strikes at home, they have remained at the ready on a moment's notice.

The American tale has been shaped, in large part, by the service of these dedicated heroes. When others ran from peril, they ran toward danger to fight for the freedom we hold dear.

During the Civil War, they preserved the Union; they fought halfway across the globe in a pair of World Wars to defend freedom; and they have remained a beacon of hope in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan and other lands far from home.

Too many of these heroes never made it back to their families. Still others returned to face the challenges that the physical and mental toll of war took on them, never to be the same. All this to defend the same liberty that united us at our nation's founding many years ago.

More than combat, though, military service teaches the basic American tenets that are foundational to our way of life: courage, accountability, teamwork and endurance. Our veterans bring those values back home with them. They become pillars of their communities, vital neighbors, and continue to serve – just in dif-

ferent ways, often not seeking the limelight.

In just the past month, for example, through our "Honor-A-Veteran" and "Veteran of Distinction" programs, Dutchess County has recognized vets who returned to their community to become a youth baseball and basketball mentor, a firefighter, a teacher and a school nurse. They continue to set an example – no longer for their military brothers and sisters, but now for their neighbors, their students, their co-workers, their community.

As Dutchess County's Veterans Affairs Director, I've had the honor of listening as veterans of every era have shared tales of strength, sacrifice, friendship and resilience. Whether these stories come from battles on the frontline, from serving on a stateside base or from advancing missions across the globe, they all have a shared theme: an unselfish desire to give of themselves to their country when called upon.

While often deeply personal, these individual stories make up the fabric of our collective American history. As we continue to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution this year, let us all reflect on that shared history and how it has shaped the great nation we still love, today.

Let us also never forget that freedom is not a given; rather, it's a sacred gift that has been secured and passed down to us all over generations, through the valiant service of those in the Armed Forces. Just as in colonial days, those liberties have been defended by those who continue to band together and fight for their neighbors.

This historic year should serve as a reminder to commemorate the service of all those who have worn the uniform. I encourage you to thank the active-duty service members and veterans in Dutchess County; you'd be amazed how much a simple "Thank you for your service" can mean to those who have served, particularly those who came home to little or no acknowledgment or appreciation.

It should also be a reminder that the same ideals that guided those founding patriots in 1776 – principles like commitment, courage, character, service – remain the inspiration for everyone in the Armed Forces to this day.

As we mark 250 years of American history, I thank all who have served and continue to serve our nation. We in Dutchess County continue to honor the generations of service members whose courage and commitment have helped shape our country.

Town of Clinton begins process to update Comprehensive Plan

Editor's note: The following information is being presented by Town of Clinton Councilwoman Katherine Mustello and Deputy Supervisor Eliot Werner. Mustello is chair of town's Comprehensive Plan Committee and Werner is the deputy chair.

The Town of Clinton has begun a process to update its current Comprehensive Plan. A Comprehensive Plan is an overarching guidance document identifying the goals and strategies that inform future decisions about zoning, land use, and other local policies and decision making. A Comprehensive Plan answers the question "What do we want our town to look and feel like now and in the future?"

The town's current Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2012, has played an important role in shaping the town. Major themes of the plan include balancing growth with the needs of residents, maintaining the rural and historic character of the town, and preserving invaluable agricultural land and natural resources.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee consists of 10 members who represent a wide range of perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds and are familiar with

local government, planning, and public engagement—including two members from the Town Board; one member each from the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Conservation Advisory Council; and five representatives from the general public. The committee is working closely with the town's planning consultants to ensure that the planning process reflects best practices for community engagement and that the resulting Comprehensive Plan incorporates Smart Growth principles.

The first step in the process (which is presently under way) is to undertake a survey to identify the priorities and concerns of people who reside in or visit the town. Widespread public participation in the survey will greatly assist the committee in crafting a document that is wide ranging and inclusive. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V6TXC6K>.

The committee will meet regularly throughout the Comprehensive Plan update process and meetings are open to the public. More information (including a list of committee members) can be found at <https://www.clintondcn.gov/comprehensive-plan-2028/>.



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RENEGADES ALL-STARS

Former Renegades players Schlittler, Rice gain MLB All-Star recognition

By Morgan E. Maier

This year, a wealth of Hudson Valley Renegades alums have caught eyes on the big stage, and took their talents to Philadelphia for All-Star events and celebrations.

Among the league leaders in earned run average, strikeouts and average against, Cam Schlittler earns a first All-Star nod before completing a full major league season. The owner of a 1.62 earned run average through his first 17 starts, it was a no-brainer for Schlittler to join the starting rotation after a breakout debut last season.

Though the Yankees announced July 12 that Cam Schlittler would not be pitching in the game, this accolade should continue the momentum of the 2024 South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year for the Renegades.

The same could be said for Ben Rice. Arguably the Yankees' most reliable bat this season, Rice takes his talents twofold in the All-Star break. With the injured Nick Kurtz withdrawing from play, Rice is projected to be the starting first baseman for the

American League.

The East's master of extra bases and sheer power will also be participating in the home run derby, looking to take the crown against hometown favorites Kyle Schwarber and Bryce Harper. Rice debuted for the Renegades in 2023, a year that saw him hit .324 with 20 home runs across Low-A, High-A, and Double-A.

Splitting time in the bits between first base, catcher and designated hitter, Rice was cooking early this season, and now sits at a .279 average and 29 home runs to lead the Yankees' offense. Without the usual suspects of Aaron Judge, Pete Alonso and reigning champ Cal Raleigh, the third-year man has a chance to take the title among some of baseball's biggest power hitters.

The Futures Game highlights the best and brightest prospects across 120 minor league clubs — and the personnel committed to their success.



Pitcher Cam Schlittler and slugger Ben Rice have earned All-Star nods for the New York Yankees. Schlittler was the 2024 South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year for the Renegades. Rice debuted for the Renegades in 2023, a year that saw him hit .324 with 20 home runs across Low-A, High-A, and Double-A. Photo by Dave Janosz and courtesy photo

The 2025 Hudson Valley skipper James Cooper was tabbed for the managerial job at this event, one of a few Renegades alumni featured this year. After replacing 2025 Renegade Carlos Lagrange at the top of the bill, Ben Grable stole the show with a scorching fastball clocking 96.6 miles per hour. The reliever has captured

attention between High-A and Somerset this season, dealing heat and showing strong development from the bullpen.

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Greensboro PIT	13	8	.619	-	4-6	W1
Frederick BAL *	11	9	.550	1.5	6-4	L2
Brooklyn NYM	11	9	.550	1.5	5-5	W4
Wilmington WSH	11	10	.524	2.0	3-7	L4
Hudson Valley NYY	11	10	.524	2.0	7-3	L1
Jersey Shore PHI	5	15	.250	7.5	3-7	W2
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB *	13	8	.619	-	7-3	W1
Asheville HOU	13	8	.619	-	6-4	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	12	9	.571	1.0	6-4	W1
Rome ATL	9	11	.450	3.5	6-4	W1
Greenville BOS	9	12	.429	4.0	5-5	L1
Hub City TEX	6	15	.286	7.0	2-8	L1



July		
07/28/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM
07/29/26	vs. Jersey Shore	12:05 PM
07/30/26	vs. Jersey Shore	06:35 PM
07/31/26	vs. Jersey Shore	07:05 PM
August		
08/01/26	vs. Jersey Shore	05:05 PM
08/02/26	vs. Jersey Shore	02:05 PM
08/11/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM
08/12/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM
08/13/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM
08/14/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM





Renegades Extra!



IMPACT

PR & Communications

**From Farms to Families: CFHV Awards
Over \$1 Million in Farm Fresh Food Grants**

See story,
page 8



IMPACT

PR & Communications

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Five-game win streak, strong series propel Renegades as All-Star break arrives

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades clinched a series victory over the Wilmington Blue Rocks, a remarkable four-win week that displayed the best of the team's pitching and offense. Before the All-Star Break gave the Renegades a well-earned midsummer break, a promising win streak and strong pitching highlighted a battle between two teams scratching at the door of their respective .500 records.

The Renegades now own a 11-10 record in the second half of the season and are tied with Wilmington for fourth place in the Northern Division of the South Atlantic League.

Streak of five -To extend a five-game series win dating back to the bout with the Blue Rocks, the Renegades won three straight to start against Rome. The trio of victories saw the Renegades outscore the Emperors 19-6, as the pitching staff allowed just two runs in each of the games.

Rory Fox got much-needed run support in the series-clinching win on July 11, improving to 6-3 on the season as the Renegades rolled to a 7-1 victory. With Fox dealing through five innings, the Renegades scored all seven runs in five straight innings, beginning with a "blun-

derous" balk by the Rome pitcher, then Eric Genter home run in the third. Hudson Valley had nine hits that day, each one belonging to a different Renegade bat.

Oh, what a relief! - The bullpen showed out against Rome last week, with two relievers catching a win in the series. Brian Landry continued a strong streak of outings with a clean one inning of work on July 7, where he also was the pitcher of record in a tight 3-2 win. Hudson Valley held on for a more demonstrative win two nights later, as Tanner Bauman saw to a 9-2 victory.

Roderick Arias had a huge night, knocking 5 runs batted in with a pair of home runs. Allen Facundo fanned 8 in his start, as Bauman improved to 2-0 on a two-hit, two-strikeout outing. Exiting the bullpen behind Bauman were Aaron Nixon, Brady Kirtner and Jack Sokol. Each contributed an inning to shut down the Emperors the rest of the way.

Finale Fumble - Late-game heroics prevailed for the Emperors in the final game before the All-Star break, as a three-run ninth held up for the visitors in the 7-4 Sunday result. Despite a strong five innings from Franyer Herrera (1 H, 2 ER, 2 BB, 3 K), Hudson Valley had little happening on the other side of the ball. With just five hits scattered across



Franyer Herrera, left, pitched five strong innings in the Renegades loss on Sunday, giving up just one hit and two runs with three strikeouts. Catcher Josue Gonzalez also had a strong series vs. Rome. Photos by Dave Janosz



Hudson Valley's day, the team also left 13 runners stranded in scoring position.

Luis Durango went 3-for-4 for Hudson Valley, a glimmer of winning play not just in the box, but on the basepaths. Only Arias and Josue Gonzalez notched hits alongside the nine-hitter. Durango's three stolen bases matched a season-high,

bringing his July total to nine swipes in eight games.

Hudson Valley returns to post-break play with three games against the Brooklyn Cyclones July 17-19. They will creep down to Coney Island for the final season matchup with the in-state rivals, having won seven of their last 10.

RENEGADES EXTRA



Eric Genter, far left, had a homer in the Renegades' 7-1 victory over Rome on July 11. Roderick Arias had a huge night, knocking 5 runs batted in with a pair of home runs in the Renegades 9-2 win on July 9. Photos by Dave Janosz

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From farms to families: CFHV awards over \$1 Million in Farm Fresh Food Grants

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) has committed more than \$1 million over the next three years to strengthening food security across the region through its Farm Fresh Food Grant initiative. Made possible with support from the NoVo Foundation, along with contributions from other funders, the initiative will provide annual grants totaling \$350,000 to 28 organizations working to expand access to healthy food throughout the Hudson Valley.

The grants will support a wide range of efforts, including partnerships between farms and food pantries, fresh produce production and distribution, meal delivery for seniors and individuals undergoing cancer treatment, nutrition education and hands-on agricultural learning opportunities for students.

“Healthy food is essential to healthy communities,” said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. “These grants invest in organizations that are addressing immediate needs while building stronger, more resilient local food systems. By supporting partnerships among farmers, food pantries, schools and community organizations, we’re helping ensure more of our neighbors have reliable access to fresh, nutritious food.”

The Farm Fresh Food program has grown into a comprehensive regional effort to strengthen food access and build a more resilient local food system. Since its inception in 2013, more than \$5.4 million has been distributed to 54 organizations, but its impact extends far beyond these grants. The program also supports innovative efforts that reduce food waste and strengthen the regional food systems, including FeedHV, the Chowmatch app, and the Food Systems Coalition.

This latest round of funding builds on CFHV’s long-standing commitment to food security across the Hudson Valley. That commitment was affirmed by find-

ings from the foundation’s 2025 “Voices of the Hudson Valley” report, which identified food assistance organizations as among the most valued community resources and highlighted growing demand for the services they provide. According to the report, the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley distributed 54 million pounds of food in 2024, compared with 38.8 million pounds in 2018 — an increase of approximately 45 percent.

Grant recipients include Angel Food East; Camino al Exito Project for All; Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster; Common Ground Farm; Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County; Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County; Dutchess Outreach; Family of Woodstock, Inc.; Glynwood; Grannies Respond/Abuelas Responden; Hillside Food Outreach; Kingston Emergency Food Collaborative; Kingston YMCA Farm Project; Newburgh Urban Farm and Food; North East Community Center; Pawling Resource Center; Phillies Bridge Farm Project, Inc.; Poughkeepsie Farm Project; Red Hook Responds; Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York; Rondout Valley Food Pantry Inc.; Scenic Hudson, Inc.; Second Chance Foods; Sky High Farm; Sparrow’s Nest of the Hudson Valley; St. Thomas Episcopal Church Amenia Union NY; Stonewood Community Project Inc. and Ulster Immigrant Defense Network, Inc.

“Food security is about more than meeting immediate needs — it’s about building systems that connect people to healthy food year-round,” said Troy Ellen Dixon, program & operations consultant at Kingston Emergency Food Collaborative, who will use its grant to increase community access to farm-fresh food. “This grant will allow us to expand access to farm-fresh produce for our neighbors while deepening partnerships with local growers and community



Stonewood Community Project in Millbrook will use its Farm Fresh Food Grant to support The Market Garden, which provides fresh produce to more than 2,800 neighbors in Northeast Dutchess County. *Courtesy photo*

organizations. We are grateful for the opportunity to strengthen a food network that benefits both residents and the agricultural community throughout the Hudson Valley.”

Stonewood Community Project in Millbrook will use its Farm Fresh Food Grant to support The Market Garden, which provides fresh produce to more than 2,800 neighbors in Northeast Dutchess County. Kristen Essig, director of culinary outreach and development, remarked: “The Market Garden at Stonewood Farm is about much more than growing vegetables—it’s about growing access, health and community. This funding will help us continue providing thousands of pounds of fresh, certified organic produce to neighbors experiencing food insecurity while supporting seniors, immigrant families, children and aspiring farmers throughout Northeast Dutchess County. We are grateful to Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley for investing in local agriculture as a powerful tool to strengthen food security and improve quality of life across our region.”

Ensuring high school students won’t go home hungry after the school day

ends, the Rondout Valley Food Pantry will use its grant to support the High School Backpack Pantry Program. The High School Backpack Pantry Program is a student-requested creation. In years past, as students got older, they didn’t want to participate in the Backpack Program we have in place for younger students due to the stigma. The RVFP (Rondout Valley Food Pantry) has worked diligently to remove that mindset and are so excited that those efforts and the support of the Community Foundations Fresh Food Grant will allow us to provide the fun and nutritious backpacks that older students can enjoy over the weekends when access to school snacks and meals isn’t available. By meeting students where they are and reducing barriers to access, we can help support their well-being, academic success and ability to thrive,” thanked Sue Bruck, Rondout Valley Food Pantry board president.

For more information about Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and its efforts to strengthen food security across the region, visit CommunityFoundationsHV.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. to 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 start-

ing 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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Garden lovers, families and community members are invited to experience the beauty and diversity of gardens in the Hudson Valley during Growing Together: A Tour of Mid-Hudson Gardens. This is a free, self-guided garden tour taking place on Saturday, July 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (rain or shine). For additional information, maps, and updates, please visit: www.growingtogethertour.com

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Historic Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum open for Saturday tours

On Saturdays from July 18 through Sept. 19, from 1 to 5 p.m., the non-profit Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum, supported and maintained by the Hudson Valley Railroad Society (HVRRS), will be open for free for all members and the general public. Soft drinks and light refreshments are available free, as well.

Enjoy a free tour of the Station Museum, a railroading time capsule built in 1914. Stroll the surrounding park and playground. The Museum's patio is next to the safely fenced-off and active Amtrak mainline to Grand Central and to Albany and beyond, as well as the Hudson River. The patio is great for both train watching and boat watching, and for enjoying great sunsets and stargazing in good weather.

Several model railroad layouts will also be running, including ones with hands-on operating features, such as Thomas The Tank Engine ©.

Admission and parking are free to all attendees. The Museum's main floor is handicap-accessible.

The Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum was once used by the Vanderbilt Family, and by FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt. The Station Museum is located at 34 River Road in Hyde Park.

The HVRRS is a group of volunteers who restore, maintain and operate the Museum. All donations go to the continuing restoration and operation of the Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum. This is a Nationally Registered Historic Place open to the public by appointment and on Thursday evenings year-round, plus on Saturdays in summer, with free admission year-round, and which members of the HVRRS work to support. (Private group tours by appointment.)

Call (845) 229-2338 or visit www.hydeparkstation.org for more information.



The Historic Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum, pictured in 2022. Photo courtesy of the Hudson Valley Railroad Society,



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DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

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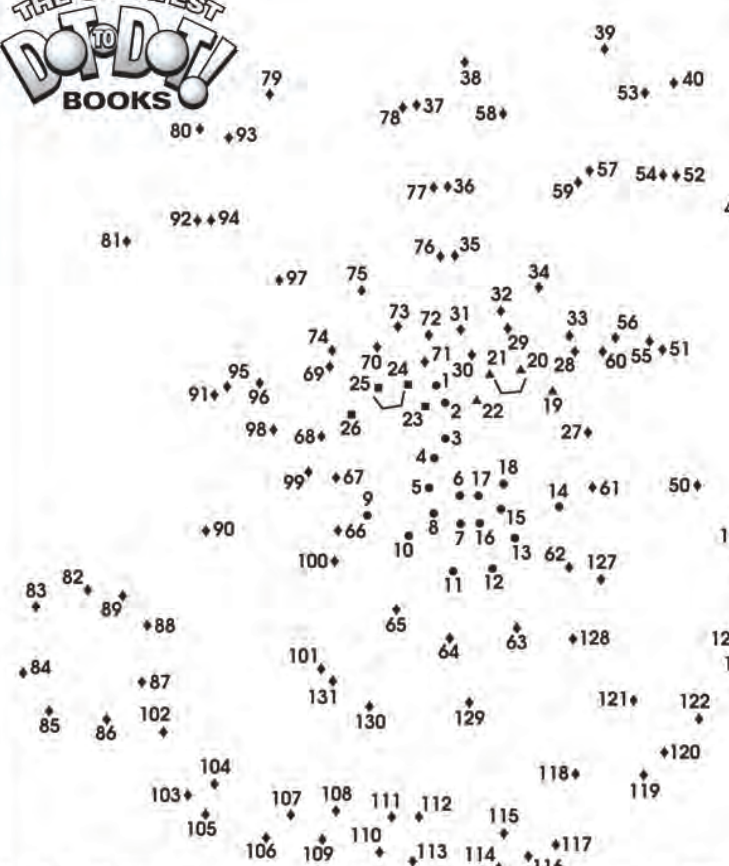
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By David Kalvitis

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Side-dish star

A good coleslaw recipe can steal the show.

As anyone with a theatrical background can (or should) tell you, the supporting cast and crew are just as important as the star of the show. The same holds true just about everywhere in life, if you ask me. When it comes to food, for example, a chef needs sous chefs, prep cooks, dishwashers and servers to run a tight restaurant. And every entrée needs its side dishes to round out the meal and make it memorable. Sometimes they can even steal the show!

One thing to have in your side dish repertoire is a good coleslaw recipe. Now, before you make a face or tell me you never eat the little bowl of it you get at the diner, hear me out. Not all slaws are created equal, and not all are good. The one I make most often is a classic cabbage slaw with a creamy cider vinegar dressing, but there are all kinds of slaws out there; so let's talk about them because I'll just bet we can find one you like.

First, it might help to know just what a slaw is and why it isn't quite the same as other salads. While coleslaw comes from the Dutch koolsla, or literally "cabbage salad," and definitely (obviously) refers to a cabbage base, other slaws just refer to any salad of shredded or julienned, raw, often crisp vegetables: carrots, jicama, fennel, Brussels sprouts, broccoli stalks, kohlrabi, bell peppers, for example. I've made different slaws over the years with all of these, but cabbage is still my favorite.

So, let's talk about cabbage. You can certainly use a pre-shredded bagged coleslaw mix, but I prefer cutting my own, mostly because I like a finer, more uniform shred. A mix of green and red (or really purple) cabbage is always pretty, especially with shredded carrots thrown in, but I also really like Napa and Savoy cabbage. Both are milder, slightly sweet and have crinkled leaves that really hold the dressing well. They are both more tender and delicat, as well, so may wilt a bit more, which is why I toss in the dressing closer to serving time than I do when using green cabbage. Generally, I prefer to let whatever slaw I make sit with its dressing for an hour or so before I plan to serve it so it has time to soak in and add

its flavor throughout. That's why I usually don't put all the dressing on it at once. When it sits for a while, give it a stir and a taste. If it's dry you can always add more, but if you overdo it from the start, you have soggy slaw, which may be why a lot of people don't love it.

But fear not! Slaw sog (potentially great band name) can be avoided before the dressing ever gets added simply by removing some of the moisture in the cabbage. Once shredded (I slice it thinly with a knife, avoiding the core), toss it in a colander with a little salt (1 teaspoon per head) and let it rest about 30 minutes to draw out some of its water content. Rinse and dry thoroughly with a salad spinner or by gently pressing between tea towels to remove any excess water. This will lightly season the cabbage while keeping it crisper yet less chewy and will allow the dressing to cling better without being watered down.

So on to the all-important dressing! Some slaws are best dressed with oil and vinegar or citrus juice, as when using fennel or making one with Asian flair; but most cabbage-based slaws get a creamy, mayonnaise-based dressing with some vinegar added. I always add some sugar and pepper, only adding salt if needed after it's sat a while and had a chance to season through. Some people like a more vinegar-forward dressing or even add Dijon mustard, but I like mine simpler with balanced creamy-acidity.

CLASSIC COLESLAW

I have to confess right out of the gate that I make this to taste every time, so amounts are approximate. I taste the dressing as I go, adding more of whatever I think it needs. Sorry, not very helpful but it works for me, and I think you should do the same. Let the slaw sit a while after adding the dressing and taste/fix it again 'til you get it juuuuust right.

A QUICK NOTE: For this I usually use one medium-sized green cabbage, which I cut into fine shreds with a knife. Use a different variety or a mix of cabbages if you like.

INGREDIENTS

1 medium head green cabbage, any

damaged outer leaves removed, shredded, salted and rinsed (like we talked about)

2-3 large carrots, peeled and shredded (I use a box grater for this)

1 cup mayonnaise

2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar

2 teaspoons sugar

Freshly ground pepper, to taste

Salt, to taste

METHOD

Place cabbage and carrots in a large bowl.

Whisk mayo, vinegar, sugar and pepper to combine. Taste and add a little salt if needed. Pour over cabbage, reserving a little, and toss well to coat. Refrigerate for 30-60 minutes. Stir, taste again, add the reserved dressing and season more as necessary.

Serves about 10 as a side. (My latest guilty pleasure is mixing it with baked beans but don't judge til you try it). Great on sandwiches, too!

SWEET CREAM SLAW with GRANNY SMITH APPLES

A slight variation on my more classic version, this is so popular that this recipe makes enough for a crowd. Sweet-tart and creamy, it's great with barbecued anything or served as a brunch side.

INGREDIENTS

2-3 heads cabbage (green, red, Savoy or a combination)

6 Granny Smith apples, cored and julienned

¾ cup fresh chopped flat leaf parsley.

DRESSING:

1½ pints heavy cream

¾ cup mayonnaise

5 tablespoons cider vinegar

¼ cup sugar

kosher salt to taste

METHOD:

Remove any outer or damaged leaves from the cabbages. Thinly slice (avoiding



Sweet Cream Slaw with Granny Smith Apples. Photo by Vicki Frank Day

the core) and place in a large bowl. Add apples and parsley and toss.

In a medium bowl or large measuring cup, whisk together cream, mayo, vinegar, sugar and salt. Pour over cabbage, reserving some, and toss well to combine. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Stir and add reserved dressing if needed.

Serves 15-20

Coleslaw may never be the star of the show, but it really doesn't deserve to be so underrated. When done right it can shine on its own while making everything around it better without being overly dramatic. Like any great supporting cast member should. 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.

what's happening? —————
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Two of Us Productions sets auditions for fall production

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Columbia County, will hold auditions for its Fall 2026 production of "Man Of La Mancha."

Audition dates:

Saturday, July 18, at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, July 21, at 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 23, at 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 25, call backs will held as needed starting at 11 a.m.

Performances are set for Nov. 6-8 and 13-15 at the Copake Grange in Copake.

Audition Information:

• All auditions will be at the Dutch

Reformed Church, 88 Route 9H in Claverack.

• Sides will be provided.

• Please be prepared to sing 16 bars of a song of your choice. Pieces from "Man of La Mancha" are acceptable. An accompanist will be provided, so please bring marked music.

• Wear comfortable clothes and bring dance footwear for the audition.

Visit www.TheTwoOfUsProduction.org or write to the director at StephenSanbornPhD@gmail.com for more information or to schedule an audition.

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R.I.P. 2-Bits

Mark and Sue get new goats.

Becky wanted a horse. When Sue and I, along with our 10-year-old daughter, moved into our new house, Becky, like every 10-year-old in the world, wanted a horse. After all, we had a seven-acre front yard, carved out of a piece of the old farm that was too rocky to grow crops. And like every father of a 10-year-old who wants a horse, I visualized my life slowly slipping off a steep cliff.

“A a, a horse?” I stammered. “Well, that’s wonderful, but first you have to join a 4-H horse club for a year, and then we’ll talk.” I figured that would give me time to sell the house.

Lo and behold, after a year at the “Hoofin It” 4-H club, Becky came back and said, “Dad, I think horses are too much work. But could I have a goat?”

“You can have a thousand goats,” I proclaimed. Esther Ottaway and her husband Jerry (I asked Esther if I could refer to her a the “goat lady.” She said she was called that for the 40 years she ran a 4-H goat club). We ended up with two goats, “Black Goat” and “Gray Goat.” They were a handful, and we learned to love them, when they weren’t crashing through the roof of my Corvair convert-

ible or eating the money out of Sue’s purse. One day they walked down to the Adams store, stepped on the door opener, and walked around the grocery department, munching on popcorn and Triscuits.

Fast-forward 16 years. Becky moved away, and the goats passed away from old age. It was a little quieter around the house. One day I found Sue crying in the kitchen as she was twisting the tops off a bunch of carrots. “I miss the goats,” she sobbed. “They used to love carrot tops.”

“But if we get more goats I’ll be 76 years old, still taking care of them.” I called the goat lady, bringing 5-year-old granddaughter Ambika to pick out two new goats, Frances and 2-Bits. Frances died of cancer at age 10, but 2-Bits lived to the ripe old age of 17, a beloved member of the family. At the end, she couldn’t walk and lost her appetite. We said a tearful good-bye.

“If we get more goats, I’ll be 91 years old, and still taking care of them!” I exclaimed. I called the goat lady. When I stopped by, Esther and Jerry were knee deep in goats on their 58-acre farm in Pleasant Valley. And guess what? Jerry is



2-Bits. Photo by Sue Adams. Left: From left: Ambika with Triscuit and Becky with Popcorn on the way home. Photo by Mike Gallagher. Below: Jerry & Esther. Photo by Mark Adams

91 years old! Esther is 88, and they just celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary. Esther tells me that when they bought the farm in 1969, one of their five human kids, Kathy, had read the novel “Heidi,” and was crazy about goats, inspiring her parents on their new career. Jerry was from Niskayuno, N.Y., and Esther from Fort Benning, Georgia. They met when Jerry was starting his 35 years at I.B.M., after graduating from Harvard. Esther was a Vassar alum, majoring in ecology.

“We find homes for goats,” Esther explained. “We don’t make money, we

make friends.” Alas, their current crop is the last to be born on the farm, but they plan to keep 17 goats just for fun.

I called Becky, and she came over with her husband Mike and my now adult grand-kids, to pick out two new goats, for me and Sue to take care of until I’m 91 and Sue is 88, and we’re celebrating our 66th wedding anniversary.

R.I.P. 2-Bits. Hello, Popcorn and Triscuit.

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



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Dutchess County
Historical Society

The Citizen Against the ‘Swindler’: William Clowes and his untold history of New York Equitable Education

By Haley Brown

It is almost impossible to think of the history of progressive education in New York State without thinking of Vassar College. With halls wide enough to accommodate hoopskirts and an education to rival that of Harvard and Yale, the college opened as an academic utopia for educated young women in 1865.

The place of women in education was highly disputed in the mid-19th century. What little education was offered was typically concerned with artistic and domestic skills, serving as spaces where girls could be trained in etiquette over intellect. Many doctors believed that traditional education would have adverse effects on the physical and reproductive health of young women. Vassar College’s mission of providing education of the same quality as institutions for men turned away from social norms, and was not met without criticism. In order to protect the female body from her new-found collegiate education, founder Matthew Vassar adapted the curriculum to include calisthenics and athletic activity, hoping to quell anxiety in older generations sending their daughters to school.

Even with these and other provisions, Vassar’s school was met with fierce local

opposition. The manuscript collection of William Clowes, part of the extensive Hart-Hubbard Collection, expresses one such local reaction of disappointment. Only two months after the college formally opened in September of 1865, Clowes stated that “there is not a greater swindle in the State of New York at least than the Vassar College.” A historian’s heart can be warmed to know that Clowes did not live long enough to see tuition prices as they are today. He goes on to describe Matthew Vassar as not only a cheat, but a knave and a scoundrel.

William Jones Clowes (1802 to 1881) was an eccentric figure locally. Frequent readers of our column may recognize him as the father of Caroline Clowes, an established female painter in the Hudson River School, who would ironically go on to study painting with Vassar professors. In his life, he was a lawyer in Dutchess County to some, and a landowner in Orange County to others. He was an avid writer, self-publishing multiple pamphlet and newsletter series sent out across New York State, using the publications to detail elaborate plans and suggestions for civic reformation.

At their core, Clowes’ personal papers and publications reveal a life-time goal of bettering society. He took the idea of

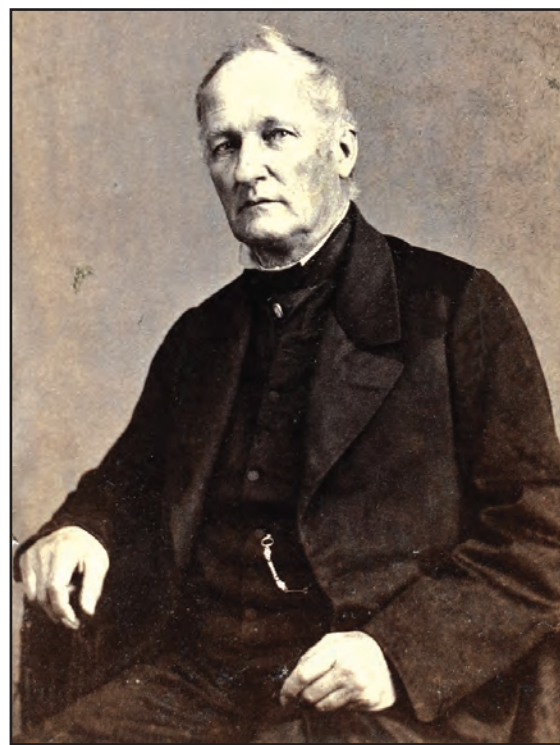
“We, the People” literally, and based his political ideology on an inclusive definition of society, acknowledging men, women and children as equal participants in the status quo. There is no proof Clowes and Vassar had ever corresponded with each other. Perhaps if there had been, the two men could’ve realized the similarities in their values. More likely, as Clowes would’ve preferred, Vassar could’ve instead learned a thing or two about progressive education.

Clowes’ view for progressive education fell under a model he termed the “self-supporting school.”

Within his material, we found floorplan illustrations and annotated sketches of his proposed idea, giving insight into how another local thinker was attempting to provide equal education. Even more radical than Matthew Vassar, the self-supporting school model was intended for any citizen above the age of 10, men and women alike. In his building plans, the layout of student living spaces occupies the same floor of the building regardless of gender, complete with men’s and women’s dressing rooms sharing a wall. Designed to foster curiosity rather than enforce obedience, other floors of the self-supporting school would operate as classrooms, where all pupils would be trained together in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, astronomy, politics and the sciences. Students were expected to simply become as educated as their interest would carry them.

The self-supporting school model differed from Vassar College beyond social and educational structure. William Clowes designed the school to be fully functioning without tuition payments or yearly fees, separating himself from his harsh criticism of Matthew Vassar’s tuition model. He wrote highly of tax-funded education in Europe to his subscribers, and would bring attention to how taxes in Dutchess and Orange counties were allocated. He kept a homemade journal of school boarding meeting minutes and ideas for how education could receive more money, believing that education was the utmost priority for the American civil body. Clowes wrote about the self-supporting school model for almost twenty years, constantly adapting the idea as education evolved around him.

This would be an incomplete discussion of equality in education without addressing race. In a draft publication from December 1866, Clowes sought \$5,000 from his subscribers, to be paid back with interest in his own money, in order to renovate a 400-acre property of the deceased Dr. Samuel Fowler. The school was intended to give employment



William Jones Clowes. From the Hart-Hubbard Collection. DCHS.

and instruction to a population of 50 Black children and adults living in Port Jervis, and was to be named “the Africamerican Institute.” It is unknown whether this draft was ever published or how widely it would have been shared, and we cannot confidently describe Clowes’ opinions on race. He was described by daughter Lydia as, “not an abolitionist,” and avoided discussion of slavery in all political writings on the Civil War. This lack of material could be telling by itself, but it is further complicated by his proposal for the Africamerican Institute.

Neither the Africamerican Institute or the self-supporting school model would be established. William Clowes’ financial struggles and lack of social standing would impede on not only his visions for education, but a multitude of other ideas for improvement. Matthew Vassar and others would receive praise for their actions, while the ideas of Clowes remained folded on single sheets of paper. His ideas for education were surprisingly contemporary, anti-capitalist and inclusive, but remained ideas. This introduction to Clowes and his beliefs on education allows us to think about his many other projects for social betterment in the Hudson Valley, even if they have never materialized. We are still working to understand the complexities of all of William Clowes’ ideas, but we encourage you to stay tuned.

Haley Brown is an Archival Intern at the Dutchess County Historical Society. She is a senior at Vassar College studying Media Studies and Film.



A collection of manuscript pages relating with the “self-supporting school” model, including an illustration of the front of the school and the prospective co-educational living quarters. Courtesy of DCHS Collections.

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Is your municipality or organization hosting an event related to America’s 250th anniversary? Let us know about it! Email creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

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. **This week: July 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 17-19:** Workshop: "Fanboy/Diva," a once-iconic Broadway diva, determined to reclaim the role that made her a star, discovers her online identity has been hijacked by a teenage superfan. Forced into a prickly alliance, diva and fan must share the spotlight—until admiration turns to confrontation in this hilarious, heartfelt new musical about legacy, currency, and the cost of being seen. Tickets \$30. **July 17-19:** The Training Company presents Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" at the Preserve. Free. **July 19-20:** "Ashram" in the Susan Shiva Stein Theater. "Ashram" explores obsession, devotion, mortality, sexuality, and the mundane—the spiritual through the quotidian—the afterlife and doing dishes. Free, but reservations required. Call (845) 437-5599 or email pht boxoffice@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. Tickets & more info at fishercenter.bard.edu or (845) 758-7900

Through July 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

Through July 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

Through Aug. 2: New York Stage & Film Season, Marist University & Bardavon, Poughkeepsie. This week: **July 19:** "Paper Menagerie" at the Bardavon, 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Based on the short story "The Paper Menagerie" by Ken Liu, a biracial son struggles to understand an enduring rift with his Chinese immigrant mother. Through ancestral magic and an array of paper animals his mother breathes to life on stage, this new musical explores the magic that is possible when what was left unsaid is finally heard. www.newyorkstageandfilm.org

July 16: Author Event, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. Merritt Bookstore partners with the Millbrook Library to host Michael Murphy, author of "Our World in Ten Buildings," 6 p.m. Free admission. Copies of the book will be available for purchase & signing. Register at www.merrittbooks.com.

July 16: Meet the Author, Adriance Memorial Library, 93 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Meet John Breiner, author of "The Cryptic Mural Gallery," which covers more than 77 murals painted by 55 different artists, both local and international, completed between 2020 and 2022 in Poughkeepsie, 6:30 p.m. Registration required. www.poklib.org

July 16: Railroad Bingo & Trivia Night, Historic Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum, 34 River Rd., Hyde Park. Fun for the whole family, 7-8:30 p.m. Several model railroad layouts will also be running, including ones with hands-on operating features, such as Thomas The Tank Engine ©. Free admission & parking. (845) 229-2338 or www.hydeparkstation.org

July 16: Third Thursday Outdoor Evening, Olana State Historic Site, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. Celebrate this special Frederic Church 200th anniversary year, Church's global travels, and the beauty of

the Hudson Valley with free house and landscape access, a special line up of outdoor music from around the world, and a movie on the East Lawn, 5-7 p.m. Free. www.olana.org

July 17: Garrison Starr, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Garrison Starr is the quintessential musical triple-threat, singer, songwriter, Grammy-nominated record producer, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

July 17: Golden Hour Plant Walk, Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, on the grounds of the FDR Library & Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Enjoy a "narrated plant walk" through the mid-season displays of native plants in the Wild Garden, with the BFG Horticulturist Ashley Gammel, discovering the characteristics, care and design features of the extensive native plant demonstration garden, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. www.BeatrixFarrandGarden.org

July 17: 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: NY Funk Alliance. Bring a chair or blanket, some food and enjoy an evening of local bands performing live. Lineup subject to change.

July 17-19 & 22-26: "Letters from Max," Ancram Center for the Arts, 1330 Co. Rte. 7, Ancram. "Letters from Max" by Sarah Ruhl, based on the book by Sarah Ruhl and Max Ritvo. Performances: Wed.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets & more info at www.ancramcenter.org

July 18: ACW presents INDYpendence Day, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Awesome Championship Wrestling returns to the MJN Center for a celebration of independent wrestling featuring some of the biggest stars in the industry, 6:30 p.m. Tickets at MJNCenter.org

July 18: Ingrid Laubrock/Cecilia Lopez, VBI Theatre of Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. Composer/saxophonist Laubrock and multimedia artist Lopez sculpt otherworldly soundscapes rich with electro-acoustic invention in this startling collaboration, 8 p.m. Advance tickets are on sale at https://ilcl.eventbrite.com

July 18: Meet the Author, Boardman Road Branch Library, 140 Boardman Rd., Poughkeepsie. In "Walking the Talk: One Year of Change, One Step at a Time," Hopewell Junction resident Natesan Venkateswaran shares his experience of committing to walk at least 10,000 steps every day for a year – and the insights that emerged from showing up consistently, even on difficult or imperfect days, 2:30 p.m. Registration required. www.poklib.org

July 18: Millbrook Summer Concert Series, Bandshell, Franklin Ave., Millbrook. Raquel Hawkins, country & rock and roll, 6 p.m. Free. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of music. www.millbrookartsgroup.org

July 18: Movies in the Park, Copake Falls Near the Ore Pit. Free movie night in the park. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs, and snacks. Movie starts at 8:30 p.m. We'll be showing some of our favorite movies throughout the season in the open air on the lawn at Copake Falls. Movie choices will be announced via social media and in the Park's Office. Free. (518) 329-3993

July 18: 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: "Hoppers." 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 18: Mini Mystery Book Festival, Millbrook Farmers Market, Front St., Millbrook. Join Merritt Books at the market, where authors will sign books and talk to you at tables. More info at www.merrittbooks.com

July 18: Summer Series, Opus 40, Saugerties. Reggae on the Rocks: The Big Takeover, 8-10 p.m. Tickets \$30 GA, \$55 reserved seating. opus40.org

July 18: "Twelfth Night: 1941," Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Living Room Productions NYC presents special one-night only benefit staged read-

ing performance, 6:30 p.m. London. January 5, 1941. A brave troupe of actors defies the Blitz to stage Shakespeare's most joyful comedy. Inspired by incredible true events, "Twelfth Night: 1941" is Shakespeare's comedy framed within the true story of the real performers who brought joy to their community during the darkest of times. Proceeds will support the full New York City production coming this December. Registration requested. Admission: \$35. Other tiers available. (845) 876-2903

July 19: Beethoven's Piano in Concert, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Daniel Adam Maltz is a fortepianist based in Vienna, Austria. He is the leading fortepianist of his generation, performing in 50+ cities per year as a sought-after soloist, director, and Lied accompanist, 3 p.m. Tickets \$40-50 in advance. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

July 19: "Capturing the Beauty of Plants and Pollinators in Watercolor with Pen and Ink," Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, on the grounds of the FDR Library & Home, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Hands-on workshop with local multi media artist, Cara Hochhalter, 1-3 p.m. She will teach simple techniques so that you can express their beauty in watercolor and ink, and take home delightful artwork. Cost \$45. Register at BeatrixFarrandGarden.org

July 19: Guided Hike: History Hidden in the Woods, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. 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 study footwear. Free, but reservations required: https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS

July 20: Artists' Eyes on the American Revolution: John Trumbull's Paintings of U.S. History. Virtual program, 7 p.m. This talk features the life story of a pre-eminent American artist who worked during the American Revolution (1775-1783). Registration required via www.poklib.org

July 22: "America: Songs of Patriotism, Protest, and Praise": A Cello Show with Alex Prizgintas, LaGrange Association Library, 1110 State Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Alex Prizgintas and his amplified cello present key hymns, noble anthems of patriotism, and tunes of solidarity and resistance, 6 p.m. Classically trained, Prizgintas employs non-classical tools like distortion, delay, and the iconic "wah-wah" guitar pedals symbolic of 1960s Rock n' Roll bands--all in conjunction with a looping station. Registration required via https://laglib.org/.

July 22: Hollywood Goes to War Film Series, Henry A. Wallace Center, FDR Library, 4079 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. "They Were Expendable" (1945), 2 p.m. Starring Robert Montgomery, John Wayne, and Donna Reed, the film is based on the real-life heroics of PT Boat squadron leader John Bulkeley, and the defense of the Philippines from December 1941 through April 1942. Free, but registration is required for in-person attendance. www.fdrlibrary.org

July 22: Lucy Dacus, UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston. Lucy Dacus is on tour in support of her latest album, "Forever Is A Feeling," 8 p.m. Lucy will be supported by indie pop artist Smidley. www.upac.org

July 22: Music in the Parks, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Outdoor concert series featuring Matt Jordan, 7 p.m. Rain location: Taconic Reginal OFC-NY Parks, 9 Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. For any cancellations or changes, check the Hyde Park Recreation Facebook page.

July 22: 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: O'Sullivan's March, Irish music. www.walkway.org

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

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS

Sets
Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.
□ • 1 thru 18
□ • 19 thru 22
□ • 23 thru 26
□ • 27 thru 131

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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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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: BEVERAGES

ACROSS

1. Every which way

5. *Whole milk has about 8 grams of this per cup

8. Sound rebound

12. Not yet final, in law

13. Tibetan teacher

14. Twig of willow tree

15. Bad wishes

16. Like certain tradition

17. Separated

18. *Fermented tea

20. Trampled

21. Hermey and Buddy, e.g.

22. Pronoun

23. *Bee's favorite beverage

26. Like blabbermouth

30. Freud's concern

31. Becoming

34. Uncontrolled swerve

35. Type of heron

37. Unidentified John

38. Pocket change

39. Ding follower

40. Kenya's neighbor

42. "Five down" fighter pilot

43. Cuddle, romantically speaking

45. Eras

47. Film director's cry

48. Opinion

50. ____ Bora

52. *Blended fruit beverage

55. *Most-consumed beverage

56. Abbreviation, abbr.

57. Miniature whirlpool

59. The Brady Bunch, e.g.

60. Hanukkah gift

61. Came by horse

62. "For ____ the Bell Tolls"

63. Schiller's famous poem, e.g.

64. One-armed bandit

DOWN

1. "Wheel of Fortune" purchase

2. *Most popular choice for official state beverage

3. Nobel Peace Prize capital

4. It's meant to be

5. Travesty

6. Wet nurses

7. Samoan money

8. *Caffeinated "shot"

9. Bye, in Palermo

10. *Group of bovine milk producers

11. Table scrap

13. Mona Lisa's home

14. Presidential promises, e.g.

19. Detonation

22. *Plant-based "milk" choice

23. Must-haves

24. Encourage (2 words)

25. Cornua, sing.

26. Late country singer-songwriter Campbell

27. Relating to ilium

28. *Popular party beverage

29. Affirmatives

32. Competitive advantage

33. New Zealand's bygone bird

36. *Milk+carbonated water+syrup

38. Head of a body part, anatomically speaking

40. Preceding month

41. Send back to mother country

44. Road-crossing helper

46. Not these or those

48. Implant

49. Like duchess or count

50. Johann Sebastian of music fame

51. Sgt. Snorkel's dog

52. Palm starch

53. Object of worship

54. Starchy tuber

55. "Amazing!"

58. Thus far

CROSSWORD

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

16 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - July 15-21, 2026

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through August:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. is multidisciplinary artist Shirley Parker-Benjamin and photographer Onaje Benjamin. At 12 Vassar St., painter Meghan McDonough presents her artwork in the Reception Gallery, and visual artist Mukta is showcased in the Hancock Gallery. The Hancock Gallery and Reception Gallery are open Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. but visitors should stop by 9 Vassar St. first or call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. The 12 Vassar St. Galleries are also open during events at the VBI Theatre. More info about the artists at cunneen-hackett.org.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through Dec. 6:** Special exhibition, "Declaring the Revolution: America's Printed Path to Independence -- Historical Works from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection." Between 1765 and 1783, the 13 American colonies, once separate possessions of Great Britain, strove to become a self-governing, democratic alliance with a shared identity and destiny. This struggle is known as the American Revolution. In the process, 18th-century Americans defended their liberties as citizens, protested their second-class political status, organized economic boycotts, established fighting forces and shadow governments, and affirmed their legal bonds with one another. This was all done through "declarations" of various kinds, which were all expressed through the dominant medium of the time: print. The supreme example of printed democratic aspirations is the Declaration of Independence. Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit. www.fdrlibrary.org

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through Aug. 22:** "PLACE | MEANT," exhibition by Laura Cannamela, Monica Church, Elisa Lendvay, Susan Newmark & Barbara Todd. www.millbrooklibrary.org

Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through July:** Morton's Treasures of Backyards, culverts, skeletons, bottles, toys, pottery, car parts, and many other odd and wonderful treasures that have been found literally in our back yards. Free admission; purchases of art and donations for the library are welcome. (845) 876-2903

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through Aug. 2:** “Duets, Trios & Quartets: Close Harmonies,” the exhibition explores the dialogue that emerges when an artist creates groups of related works. The show features a diverse range of works by gallery members across all mediums, styles, and sizes: from intimate visual “duets” to expansive four-part “quartets.” (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

Chess event held in Wassaic



Recruitment for this event takes place starting with posted notices (in schools,

This year, 9 of the 10 places were filled. One by one defeated players dropped out. Kroeger is an English teacher and an educator who runs this event as an opportunity for players to all learn and develop during the game, so that everyone benefits in some way. And someday, of course, he may not always win.

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- 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.

 Audien Hearing

‘The Lives We Touch’ theme of Women’s Networking Event on July 30

Registration open

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino invites women and all those who support women in our community to a special evening of empowerment, connection, and inspiration at her annual Women’s Networking Event on Thursday, July 30, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie. This free event is a chance for Dutchess County’s women to come together in support of one another’s personal and professional growth.

Serino said, “There is nothing more powerful than women showing up for one another. When we gather, share our stories, and celebrate the lives we touch, we are reminded how our strength grows through community and connection. This event is a chance to connect, lift each other higher, and honor the incredible resilience and hope that women throughout Dutchess County demonstrate every single day.”

This year’s theme, “The Lives We Touch,” celebrates women in Dutchess County who have overcome challenges,

found their life’s purpose, and help to build up their community with dedication and hope for a better future for all.

Attendees will hear from three inspiring women whose journeys reflect this year’s theme:

Renee Fillette-Miccio, PhD, Executive Director of Dutchess Outreach, Inc. and a staunch champion for food justice within our community;

Micah Smith, President and Founder of Micah Abigail LLC, a credit and financial freedom educator and supporter of new beginnings in every stage of life; and

Fallon Meneses, an Emergency Room Technician at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, a mother and passionate mental health and rare disease awareness advocate.

Several Dutchess County Government departments will also be on hand at the event sharing information about programs and services. Light refreshments will be served. The Women’s Networking Event is free, but spots are limited. Registration is available online at dutchessny.gov/womensevent or by calling (845) 486-2000.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Town of Stanford announces tour of West Point & lunch on Oct. 7; register by Aug. 31

In celebration of America 250, the Town of Stanford and the Forever Young Club have organized a tour of West Point and lunch at MacArthur’s Restaurant at The Thayer Hotel on Wednesday, Oct. 7. Bus Pickup: 9:30 a.m. at the Town Hall. Lunch at noon. Tour starts at 1:30 p.m., “The West Point Story.” We will depart for home after the tour.

Cost is: \$48 per person for lunch. For reservations, contact: Gloria Heuer, (914) 474-3479 or Barbara Mauer, (845) 797-5978. Deadline for registration is Aug. 31.

All attendees are required to fill out a manifest for security reasons.

Pets in the Park on July 18 in Copake

Anyone who likes pets or has pets will enjoy the Pets in the Park event hosted by Copake Grange #935 at Taconic State Park, 35 Valley View Road, during Copake Falls Day, July 18 from 9 a.m. till noon. Pet owners can enter their pets in a pet show. Pets of all kinds are welcome. All dogs must be licensed. Registration is free and all participants will receive an award. Several animal rescue organizations have been invited to raise funds at the event, which promises fun event for all ages.

Open House at Gen. Montgomery House Museum in Rhinebeck

On Saturdays through Aug. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m., The General Richard Montgomery House Museum-Chancellor Livingston DAR Chapter House will be open at 77 Livingston Street. 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. Admission is free;

donations welcomed. Open also by appointment. (845) 871-1777, or email darrhinebeck@gmail.com or Facebook

Knights of Columbus to host Yard Sale on July 18

The St. Stanislaus Kostka Knights of Columbus #7875 Annual Yard Sale is set Saturday, July 18, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 1590 Main St., Pleasant Valley. There will be many items for sale ranging from indoor furniture, outdoor furniture, children’s toys, books, CDs, pictures in frames, sports gear, tools, kitchenware and various knick knacks and tchotchkes. Email kocstan@gmail.com or call Steve Murray at (914) 475-8799 for more information.

Copake Falls Day set July 18

The community is invited to celebrate the annual Copake Falls Day on Saturday, July 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This family-friendly event features a wide range of activities designed to bring residents and visitors together while supporting vital local organizations.

Event highlights include:

5K Run: A morning race to kick off the day’s festivities. Registration: cfd5krun@gmail.com

Family Entertainment: Live music, kids’ activities, and rides on the Pomeroy Family Railroad.

Shopping & Auctions: A community tag sale, local market vendors, raffles, and a silent auction.

History & Food: Tours of the Copake Iron Works, historical exhibits, and a community BBQ.

A portion of the proceeds from the day will directly support Dollars for Scholars and the Roe Jan Food Pantry. For more details, visit copakefallsny.com or email copakefallsdayny@gmail.com.

Repair Cafe in Stanfordville July 18

There will be a Repair Cafe on Saturday, July 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Stanford Free Library, 6035 Route 82, Stanfordville. Get your broken things fixed for free. Questions? Call the library at (845) 868-1341.

Farm & Garden Ramble set July 19

On Sunday, July 19, The Good Dirt: Farm & Garden Ramble invites the public to explore a vibrant network of gardens, small farms, and pollinator habitats across Rhinebeck, Rhinecliff, and Red Hook. This self-guided tour celebrates the creativity, care, and ecological stewardship of local growers and land-tenders. Building on the success of Dirty Gaia’s “Edible Gardens Tour” of the past, this year’s event expands both the footprint and diversity of the tour to include Red Hook and community and school gardens. Designed to be both joyful and educational, The Good Dirt makes gardening and ecological stewardship more accessible to all.

Tickets are offered on a sliding scale of \$5-\$50, with all proceeds going to support the nonprofit’s work. Space is limited. To purchase tickets: <https://events.humanitix.com/ramble2026>

For more information and updates, follow Dirty Gaia on Instagram @dirtygaiahv and www.dirtygaia.org

Living History Day set July 25

Family Fun: Living History Day: America 250 will take place on Saturday, July 25, from 2 to 6 p.m., at the Rhinebeck American Legion Hall Montgomery Post 429, 6361 Mill St., Rhinebeck. Celebrate America’s 250th anniversary through history, agriculture, service, and community. Its fun for the whole family with displays & exhibits, demonstrations, kids activities and hands-on learning. Contact (845) 876-4429 for more information.

Free tour of 8 local gardens on July 25

Garden lovers, families and community members are invited to experience the beauty and diversity of gardens in the Hudson Valley during Growing Together: A Tour of Mid-Hudson Gardens. This is a free, self-guided garden tour taking place on Saturday, July 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine).

This collaborative event brings together historic estates/gardens, educational programs, and community gardens across the Mid-Hudson region for a day celebrating horticulture, local history, wellness, and community connection. Visitors are invited to visit as many of the gardens as they wish.

Visit www.growingtogethertour.com for participating gardens and more information.

Daily Vacation Bible School set July 27-31 at Rhinebeck church

Grace Bible Fellowship Church will hold its Daily Vacation Bible School July 27-31 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Ages: 4-Teens. Free. All are welcome. The church is at 6959 Route 9, Rhinebeck, 1/4-mile north of the Route 9/Route 9G intersection. For more information, call (845) 876-6923 or email fcirone@aol.com.

Chicken BBQ in Salt Point

Chicken BBQ on Saturday, Aug. 8, 4-6:30 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 1872 Salt Point Turnpike in Salt Point. Menu is BBQ boneless chicken breast, corn on the cob, coleslaw, pasta salad, baked beans, cornbread and a dessert for the low price of \$15 for all.

Reservation and pick-up time required by calling Diana at (845) 656-9959.

ONGOING

Parkinson’s Support Group - at Starr Library Community Room, third Monday of the month, noon-1:30 p.m. The monthly Parkinson’s Support Group is a gathering place for those with Parkinson’s and their loved ones to create community and share information. The group will meet each month to offer a space for everyone to discuss their challenges and successes, share stories, connect with others who are navigating similar issues, and sift through medical information and the latest news about available treatments. Refreshments and resources provided. Register via the online calendar at www.starrlibrary.org. The library is at 68 West Market St., Rhinebeck.

Chess: First Monday, 7 p.m., at Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck.

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

GREETERS IN THE GARDEN: Visit the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield, located at 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park, on the FDR National Historic Site, any day from dawn to dusk. Entry is free. On the first and third Sunday afternoons, 1-3 p.m., Volunteers Greeters will be on hand to informally provide historic and garden information. Free parking and restrooms are available at Wallace Center, a few steps from the historic, walled Beatrix Farrand Garden garden. For information about the nonprofit BFGA, a Park Partner to the National Park Service, visit the website: www.beatrixfarrandgardenhydepark.org.

Volunteer at Vanderbilt Garden: The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association is looking for volunteers to perform all tasks required to plant and maintain the garden. No gardening expertise is needed, we will train as we work. You need to be 18 years old or older and be able to perform, at minimum, basic physical labor such as bending, kneeling and carrying buckets, but there are other support tasks such as greeting the public that require no physical labor. 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, e-mail volunteers@vanderbiltgarden.org or visit www.vanderbiltgarden.org.

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

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OBITUARIES

Katherine Armstrong



Katherine (Kathie) Armstrong, age 94, died peacefully in Poughkeepsie, New York, on June 26, 2026, holding her daughter's hand. Kathie was born in April 1932 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the oldest of two daughters to Samuel and Katherine Armstrong. She grew up in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania, and attended The Baldwin School for Girls in nearby Bryn Mawr, graduating in 1950. Her love of nature was defined as a child from her summers at the family cottage on Kezar Lake in Lovell, Maine. There she learned to appreciate the beauty and fragility of the natural world. She attended Mount Holyoke College in Holyoke, Massachusetts, graduating magna cum laude in 1954 with an A.B. in biology. After college she received a Fulbright Student Scholarship from 1954-1955 to study fruit fly genetics at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. While there she took the opportunity to travel widely through Europe, eventually returning home with 25 cents in her pocket.

She married Robert (Bob) M. Briber in 1956 and they settled in Lexington, Massachusetts, where their first child Robert (Rob) M. Briber, Jr. was born in 1957. Their daughter, Katherine (Katy) M. Briber was born in 1961. Kathie attended a teacher training program for women at Harvard University and received her Master of Arts in Teaching in 1965. Kathie taught biology at the Brimmer & May School in Chestnut Hill Massachusetts, from 1975-1976. The family moved to Schenectady, New York, in 1967 when Bob was relocated by GE from the Boston area. Kathie and Bob separated in 1973 and divorced in 1975. After the divorce, Kathie reverted to her maiden name.

Kathie received an MS degree in biology from Union College in 1972, publishing as coauthor the paper "Comparative Studies on Tobacco Pith and Sweet Potato Root Isoperoxidases in Relation to Injury, Indoleacetic Acid, and Ethylene Effects" in 1973 in the journal Plant Physiology. She taught biology at Albany Academy for Girls from 1972-1976, where she was beloved by both students and colleagues. She then accepted the position of Associate Dean for Graduate & Continuing Studies at Union College from 1976 until her retirement in 1985.

Kathie met Chester (Chet) Harvey through a mutual friend in 1977. Their first date was canoeing in the White Water Derby on the Hudson River. Together they built a passive solar house in Rexford, New York, and in 1981 they were married in the house surrounded by family. Kathie and Chet were avid canoeists, skiers, and hikers. They were known in the upstate New York region for joining and occasionally leading backcountry canoe expeditions throughout North America. Over the years they canoed an impressive

range of rivers including the Thelon, the South Nahanni, the Burnside, the Coppermine, the Soper, and the Churchill rivers in northern Canada. When not in the northern reaches of Canada or above the arctic circle, their paddling adventures included the Rio Grande, the Saint John, the Eel, the John Day, the Main Salmon, the Rio Fuerte in Mexico, the Poroeno in Finland, and the Kautokeino and Reisa, both in Norway. Slide shows of their trips were renowned among local outdoor organizations.

Their expertise with the rivers in New York and New England led to their editing the guidebook: "The Adirondack Mountain Club Canoe and Kayak Guide: East-Central New York State: Includes Selected Waterways of Western New England". Kathie was also an avid skier, joining Chet as a member of the ski patrol for Hickory Ski Center in upstate New York. Their ski adventures included helicopter skiing in the Canadian Rockies. Kathie and Chet continued their adventures until Chet's passing in 2017. Kathie was predeceased by her sister Carol Armstrong, and is survived by her children Rob (his wife Veronica Irrera), their son Colin Briber, Katy (her husband Marty Gillow), and their daughter Coral Briber.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2026, at 2:00 pm at St. James' Episcopal Church in Hyde Park, New York, with a repast to follow at the parish house. A private celebration of life will be held next summer in Lovell, Maine, with details to be announced.

For memorial contributions and in light of Kathie's love of the outdoors, please consider a gift to the Adirondack Mountain Club (<https://adk.org>), or the Kezar Lake Watershed Association (<https://kezarwatershed.org/>) in Kathie's name.

Arrangements are by Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park, NY. To leave an online condolence, or for directions, please visit Kathie's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Nicolina Caul

MILLBROOK – Nicolina D. Caul, 97 of Millbrook, NY, passed away on June 29, 2026 at The Renaissance. Born in Millbrook on June 30, 1929, she was the daughter of James and Mary Anna Ciferri DeFazio. Mrs. Caul was employed by the Town of Washington NY Zoning Board as it's Recording Secretary. In addition to the Zoning Board, she was employed by Trinity Pawling School, and Bennett College prior to TP School.

Nikki is survived by her sons James Caul and his wife Debbie Innello and Stephen Caul; her grandchildren, Melissa Caul, Stephanie Caul, Cassandra Czyzewski, Lauren Innello, Kaitlyn Innello and Michael Innello, her great grandchildren, Dahlia Leone, Anna Leone, Samantha Paraszti and Craig Paraszti. Also surviving are several cousins.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on September 19, 2026 at 11 am from St. Joseph's Church, North Ave., Millbrook. Interment will follow in the family plot at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Millbrook.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook. Please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com for condolences.

Craig Elder

PLEASANT VALLEY – Craig Elder, 59, of Pleasant Valley, passed away on June 30, 2026, at Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital. Born in Cold Spring on June 13, 1967, he was the son of Margaret Miracle and the late Arlie Pete Elder. He was also raised by his beloved stepfather, the late Gerald Miracle.

Craig was a life-long resident of Pleasant Valley and a graduate of Arlington High School in June 1985. As a skilled carpenter, he worked alongside his father and brother in

the family businesses, B/D Contracting and later GALS inc. He was part of Carpenters Union 203, and later in his career he became an Operating Engineer with Union 137.

Craig will be remembered as a true craftsman and spent his weekends perfecting home projects in his garage or beautifully landscaping his yard. He was also a gifted musician who could rarely be found without a guitar in his hands or classic rock playing in the background. His lifelong passion for music led to his co-ownership of PJ's Music store. Above all, he cherished time with his family, especially during their annual summer vacations at the beach. He was also a devoted animal lover who provided a loving home to many wonderful pets throughout his life.

Craig is survived by his devoted wife, Alexis; his mother Margaret Miracle; and his children, Robyn Butler (Scott), Allyson Kastner (Michael), and Daniel Elder. He is also survived by his brother Peter Elder (Debbie); his stepbrothers Michael Miracle, Jay Miracle (Phuong); his half-sister Dana Elder; his Aunt Penny Largay; his stepmother Grace Elder; and Julieann Morano, the mother of his children. Craig was also surrounded by nieces, nephews and his beloved six grandchildren (Annabelle 15, Lucas 12, Sean 12, Madison 6, Lincoln 4, and Holland 3 months). He was predeceased by his wife Courtney Elder, father Arlie Pete Elder, stepfather Gerald Miracle, and Uncle Tony White.

Visitation was held on Thursday, July 9th at Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley, NY. A private burial will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Craig's name may be made to the Dutchess County SPCA.

Ruth Hogan

POUGHQUAG – Ruth Carol Hogan, a resident of Poughquag, NY since 1946, passed away Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Poughkeepsie, NY; she would have been 102 at the end of this month.

Born in East Fishkill, NY on July 30, 1924, she was the daughter of Berthold S. Alley and Mary Lucy Ham, and wife of Robert Hogan who passed away on September 11, 2004.

Ruth graduated from Arlington High School and the Vassar Hospital School of Nursing. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Science degree from Empire State College, becoming a registered nurse.

Before she retired, Ruth was the school nurse teacher at Arlington Central School for many years.

Ruth was a life member of the Beekman Fire Department, a charter member of the Beekman Rescue Squad, a former member of the Poughquag Methodist Church and current member of the Hopewell Dutch Reformed Church, and a member of the Arlington Alumni Association and the Arlington Administrators Association.

She is survived by three grandchildren, Carrie (Scott) Wilburn of York, PA, Jeffrey (Michelle) Hogan of Utica, NY, and Brian (Melissa) Hogan, also of Utica; three nephews Raymond (Linda) O'Leary of Shelton, CT, Adam (Kristen) Merritt of Hyde Park, NY, and Alex (Susan) Merritt of San Diego, CA; two nieces, Judith (Robert) Merritt of: Salt Point, NY and Julie O'Leary of West Hartford, CT; six great-grandchildren, Michael Wilburn, Rorey and Declan Hogan, Addison Merritt, Erin Hogan, and Cayden Merritt; a sister-in-law, Jeri Alley of Rhinebeck, NY; her best friend Barbara Scoralick; her special friends and neighbors, Chuck & Mary Jakubek; and her caregiver Cathy.

In addition to her husband and parents, Ruth is predeceased by her two sons, Robert who passed away at birth in 1956 and Michael, who passed away February 8, 2003; her three brothers, Richard, Robert, and John Alley; two sisters, Mary Shirley Sabellico and Susan Hudson; and a niece, Patricia O'Leary.

Family and friends paid their respects Friday, July 10th at Horn & Thomes, Inc Funeral Home, Pawling, NY. A service was

conducted on Saturday, July 11, 2026 at the Dutch Reformed Church, Hopewell Junction, NY. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations in Memory of Ruth be made to the Beekman Fire Department.

Fred Joseph (Joe) Hues

STAATSBURG – Fred Joseph Hues ("Joe") 88, of Staatsburg, NY, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on Friday, July 3, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of hard work and devotion to his family.

Born on November 5, 1937, in Poughkeepsie, NY, he was the son of the late Fred H. Hues and Rosean Layman Hues. On July 7, 1963, he married the love of his life Susan Lown in Hyde Park, NY with whom he shared nearly 63 wonderful years of marriage.

Joe was a self-employed mason and bricklayer, known locally as FJ Hues Masonry. He served as a lieutenant with the Roosevelt Fire Department and was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church of Rhinebeck. He was also a proud 65- year member of Bricklayers Local #44.

In addition to his beloved wife, Susan, he is survived by his sons, Shawn Hues (Deidra) of Colorado, Scott Hues (Maria) of Staatsburg, Kurt Hues (Shana) of Staatsburg, Daniel Hues (Rose) of Rhinebeck; his daughter, Sharon DeMatteo (Mark) of Wallkill. He also leaves behind nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In addition, he is survived by many siblings, cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family, and cherished friends.

At Joe's request, there will be no services, a private burial will take place at the convenience of the family.

Connie Lown



Constance "Connie" Lown passed away on February 10, 2026. She was born in Rhinebeck on February 8, 1949, to Malcolm & Dolores (Keator) Lown. After graduation from Stissing Mountain High School, Connie completed her education at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, but Connie loved to travel and that passion led to her ultimate career in the travel industry. She traveled the world, built a strong career and lived for many years on the west coast and in the South Pacific, but she always loved home and she ultimately returned to Rhinebeck in 2011.

Connie may have retired from her career, but she never stopped working. She was a force in the community. She served for years on the Rhinebeck Tree Commission; worked at the Church of the Messiah food pantry; volunteered and served on the board and of the Rhinebeck Historical Society; volunteered at Val-Kill garden; volunteered as coordinator at the Community Garden; spearheaded grave-stone cleaning with Friends of Rhinebeck Cemetery; volunteered at the Starr Library doing book repair and helping with book sales. In addition to being a tireless volunteer, she was a true friend and could never give enough of herself to a wide range of friends and acquaintances. She is missed by many.

A Celebration of Life for Connie was held on Sunday, July 12 at the Church of the Messiah Hall in Rhinebeck.

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members must be 55 years or older or disabled.
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Background Check is required. Property is SMOKE-
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collection. All household members must be 62
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RFB-DCH-2026-13
NAME OF PROJECT:
CR-85 Slope Failure Re-
construction Town of
Rhinebeck Project De-
scription: Reconstruction
of the roadway on
County Route 85 in the
Town of Rhinebeck,
Dutchess County. The
work includes the instal-
lation of 129 piles, recon-
struction of 1,360' of
roadway, and related an-
cillary work. The County
of Dutchess official bid
documents for this proj-
ect are obtained from the
Empire State Purchas-
ing Group's Regional Bid
Notification System at
www.bidnetdirect.
com/new-york /county-
of-dutchess. Copies of
bidding documents ob-
tained from any other
source are not consid-
ered official copies. It is
incumbent upon all po-
tential bidders to view all
posted addenda prior to
the bid close date. You
may obtain an official
copy by registering on
the Empire State Re-
gional Bid Notification
System at www.bidnet-
direct.com/new-york
/county-of-dutchess or

by using the link
provided at
www.dutchessny.
gov, selecting "Govern-
ment" then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities." For those
without Internet access,
you may obtain an elec-
tronic copy of bidding
documents by contact-
ing the Dutchess County
Department of Public
Works at
dpwcontracts@
dutchessny.gov, or in
person, Monday
through Friday, 8 am to 4
pm: Dutchess County
DPW, Business Office,
1st Floor, 626 Dutchess
Turnpike, Poughkeep-
sie, NY 12603. Upon re-
quest, all interested par-
ties may review the hard
copy of the Bid Specifi-
cations and Drawings by
visiting the above refer-
enced address. All Ad-
denda will be posted
on BidNet Direct (aka
Empire State Purchas-
ing Group) site. Bids for
the above project will be
received by: Lorraine
Grant, Contract Special-
ist Dutchess County De-
partment of Public
Works (DPW) 626
Dutchess Turnpike-1st

Legal Notices

Floor Poughkeepsie,
NY 12603 on or before
11:00AM Friday, July
24, 2026, and at that time
publicly opened and
read aloud. Bids re-
ceived after that time will
not be accepted. All inter-
ested parties are invited
to attend. The bid open-
ing for this solicitation
may also be attended
through Microsoft
Teams Audio Confer-
encing. Anyone who
wishes to hear bids read
aloud via Teams, will
need to call into the
phone number listed be-
low. We ask that you call
in at least three minutes
prior to bid due time to
ensure you are con-
nected properly. All calls
will be asked to iden-
tify themselves by name
and organization. Join
Microsoft Teams Meet-
ing +1 516-268-4602
United States, Hemp-
stead (Toll) Conference
ID: 809 889 806# Each
bid shall be submitted as one pa-
per original and one elec-
tronic flash drive copy
and be accompanied by
Bid Security (bid bond,
certified check, official
bank check) or a Letter of

Legal Notices

Credit (in a form agree-
able to Dutchess
County) in the amount of
10% of the bid amount.
Bidders' security will be
retained until the suc-
cessful bidder has
signed the Owner-Con-
tractor Agreement and
the County has finalized
the Agreement. Each bid
with Bid Security shall be
enclosed in a sealed en-
velope bearing the name
of the Project, Name of
the Bidder, and the date
and hour of the bid open-
ing, which must be vis-
ible upon delivery. Ques-
tions will be accepted by
the close of business
Monday July 13, 2026
and emailed to
Lorraine Grant at
dpwcontracts@
dutchessny.gov with the
County's response pub-
lished in Addenda prior to
48 hours before the bid
opening date. The anti-
cipated start of construc-
tion is November 15,
2026; the anticipated
substantial completion
date is June 30, 2027.
Failure to meet these
dates may result in liq-
uidated damages. This
project may be sub-
ject to NYS Department of

Legal Notices

Labor Prevailing Wage
Rates PRC#: 2026018045 Starting
December 30, 2024:
NYS DOL Contractor
and Subcontractor reg-
istry requirements. View
Bid Specifications re-
garding APPRENTICE-
SHIP PROGRAM, if ap-
plicable. The County re-
serves the right to waive
irregularities in bids and
in bidding and to reject
any or all proposals.

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REQUEST FOR BIDS
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of sealed
bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-
77-26
Rebid for Air Compres-
sor Preventive Mainte-
nance and Repairs
Bids will be received un-
til 2:00 p.m. on the 23rd
day of July 2026 at the
Dutchess County Divi-
sion of Central Services,
378 Violet Avenue, Suite
2, Poughkeepsie, New
York 12601. Specifi-
cations and bid forms may
be obtained by visiting
our website
http://www.dutchessny.

Legal Notices

gov, selecting "Govern-
ment", then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities". For addi-
tional information, call
845-486-3613.

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REQUEST FOR PRO-
POSAL
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of proposals
for: Bid #RFP-DCP-65-
26
DCTC On-Call Trans-
portation
Planning Support
Proposals must be sub-
mitted electronically
through the Empire
State Purchasing
Group's Regional Bid
Notification System
(BidNet Direct) Portal on
or before 2:00 p.m., Au-
gust 6, 2026. Specifi-
cations, proposal forms
and submittal instruc-
tions may be obtained by
visiting our website
http://www.dutchessny.
gov, selecting "Govern-
ment", then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities". For addi-
tional information, call
845-486-3613.

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REQUEST FOR PRO-
POSAL
NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent,
County of Dutchess,
Poughkeepsie, New
York, hereby invites the
submission of proposals
for: Bid #RFP-DCP-87-
26
Bus Line Inspection
Services for Dutchess
County Public Transit
Proposals must be sub-
mitted electronically
through the Empire
State Purchasing
Group's Regional Bid
Notification System
(BidNet Direct) Portal on
or before 2:00 p.m., Au-
gust 7, 2026. Specifi-
cations, proposal forms
and submittal instruc-
tions may be obtained by
visiting our website
http://www.dutchessny.
gov, selecting "Govern-
ment", then selecting
"Bidding and RFP Op-
portunities". For addi-
tional information, call
845-486-3613.

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

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

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

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W	H	O	M			O	D	E			S	L	O	T

Answers to this
week's diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

Is it time to clean up our rooms?
When it's an older adult's safety and independence on the line, the answer is a resounding "yes."
There are many aspects of aging that are inevitable, but being injured in a fall in one's own home is largely preventable. What you're used to can still hurt you
Fall vulnerability doesn't announce itself ahead of time, but can creep up on us through vision loss, cognitive decline, medication side effects, and mobility issues. That's how a throw rug can become less a charming home accessory, and more of a fall hazard, should it slide when stepped on. Any such rugs in your home should either be removed, or fastened securely to the floor.
That's just one recommendation of many. For the purposes of this article, we'll start with solutions that are either low-cost or free, with minimal renovations required:
• Make sure nothing is blocking your walking paths (furniture, floor lamps, pet bowls, etc.);
• Keep objects off the floor when possible;
• Keep cords and wires next to walls, not under rugs or running across rooms; and
• Clean up clutter.
Falls at home most commonly happen in the bathroom, bedroom and kitchen. Let's focus on those rooms next, starting with the kitchen:
• Wear skid-free footwear;
• Keep things you use most often on lower shelves, about waist high;
• If you must use a step stool, get one with a bar to hold on to, and never use a

chair as a step stool;
• Clean up spills right away, especially if oily or greasy; and
• Cut, shred or grate cooking ingredients while seated, if necessary.
In the bathroom:
• Use a removable shower chair or bench to avoid overexertion and slips while washing;
• Consider a transfer bench that allows you to sit outside the tub, slide safely in, and avoid stepping over a high tub wall; and
• Install a raised toilet seat or use a toilet safety frame to make sitting and standing less strenuous.
In the bedroom:
• Place lamps close to each side of your bed, within easy reach;
• Nightstands should be able to support your weight, if needed, for help with balance;
• Keep shoes and clutter off the floor;
• If you use a walking aid, save a spot near the bed for it; and
• Closet contents should be easy to reach.
The Great Grab-Bar Debate
Many older adults object to the installation of grab bars in their homes. "They look institutional" is one key complaint. We may be aging, but we might not want to be continually reminded of it. Older adults increasingly want safety features to mesh well with other fixtures, and the home safety market is slowly evolving to meet the demand.
No matter the style, correct grab-bar installation remains key. This is a key concern for renters, who often need to involve their landlord in the installation

process. Regardless of one's housing arrangements, one thing holds true: don't bother with suction cup grab bars. Suction cup grab bars are often marketed as temporary or portable solutions, but they are notoriously unreliable and can detach suddenly, leading to serious injuries.
Other grab bar mistakes
A grab bar must be able to support a person's full weight, not just a light pull. Mounting into drywall alone is one of the most dangerous mistakes, because the bar can rip out of the wall with very little force. Other installation errors include not matching placement to a person's real-world mobility, such as placing a grab bar too high, too low, or too far from where it's needed.
Proper grab bar installation requires:
• Anchoring into studs whenever possible;
• Using load-rated anchors when studs are not in ideal locations; and
• Confirming a secure connection before finishing.
Wappinger OFA Picnic at capacity
The OFA Summer Picnic scheduled for July 22nd for older residents of the Town of Wappinger and Village of Wappingers Falls has reached maximum capacity. For residents of other communities that haven't yet experienced this year's picnics, seats remain available. All picnics are scheduled for Wednesdays:
July 29 – Town of Pleasant Valley (at West Road School)
August 12 – City of Poughkeepsie (at Stitzel Field)
August 19 – Towns of Beekman and LaGrange (at Freedom Park)

August 26 – Town of East Fishkill (at Hopewell Rec Park)
The full schedule, including Google Map links and pictures from past picnics, is at www.dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics. Many thanks to the Pines at Poughkeepsie, Central Hudson, Westchester Medical Center Health Network, and AccentCare for their support of this year's program.
OFA Mobile Office Hours for summer
Here's the summertime list of OFA Ambassador Mary Reedy's mobile office hours ... thus far.
To book your half-hour time slot to get your aging services questions answered, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555:
(NEW) Tuesday, July 21st, noon-1:30pm – Clinton Library/Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd., Rhinebeck
Thursday, July 23rd, 10am-noon – Tri-Town Friendship Center, 1576 Main St. (US 44), Pleasant Valley (at the Presbyterian Church)
Tuesday, July 28th, 1-3pm – Millbrook Library, 3 Friendship Ln.
Thursday, August 27th, noon-3pm – Amenia Library, 3309 NY 343
Your local civic organizations or governments can arrange Mobile Office Hours for your home community by contacting OFA at 845-486-2555 during business hours or emailing ofa@dutchessny.gov.
How about a Bad Joke in honor of heat and humidity?
What do you call a bee that's having a bad hair day?
A frisbee!

Comment period open for Draft Transportation Plan through July 31

The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) has opened its public comment period for its countywide plan: Moving Dutchess Forward, a strategic look at maintaining and improving the transportation system in Dutchess County through 2050.
Moving Dutchess Forward, the DCTC's long-range plan, which is updated every five years, establishes a vision for the County's future transportation system to be safer and more reliable. The plan is centered around four strategic goals – Learn, Assess, Advocate and

Invest – and looks at the various ways people move about Dutchess County: driving, walking, bicycling, and riding public transit. It evaluates trends, assesses transportation barriers, advocates for best practices, and recommends priority investments to create a safer, more reliable system for all residents and visitors, while supporting access to basic needs such as jobs and housing.
Moving Dutchess Forward is designed as a digital product and includes interactive maps and visuals to help readers understand the transportation issues

facing the county. The DCTC encourages the public to visit movingdutchessforward.com to explore the draft plan. Comments on the plan and accompanying air quality statement will be accepted through July 31, 2026, and can be sent by mail, email or phone to:
Dutchess County Transportation Council
85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 107
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: (845) 486-3600
Email: dctc@dutchessny.gov

Website: www.dutchessny.gov/dctc
A virtual information meeting on the Draft Plan is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, at noon; please register here: Virtual Meeting Registration.
All public comments will be summarized and presented to the Council prior to its next voting meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 6, at 1:30 p.m., at the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, 4079 Albany Post Rd (Route 9), Hyde Park.

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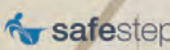
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