

NORTHERN
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Serino proposes
county-wide ban
on kratom as health
concerns grow

From County reports

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino is working to protect residents from the dangers of kratom, proposing a countywide ban on its sale and distribution. Serino says the measure is aimed at safeguarding families and preventing young people from being exposed to a risky, unregulated substance that has been linked to a growing number of hospitalizations and deaths across the country.

Serino said, "My top priority is keeping our community safe and healthy, especially our children. Many families aren't aware of the dangers of kratom because it's often marketed as a natural product and it is so easily accessible. But 'natural' doesn't always mean safe and public health data shows kratom-related deaths are rising. We cannot wait until another life is lost. Protecting our community must always come first, and I am proud to take this important step to safeguard Dutchess County."

Kratom is an unregulated substance derived from a Southeast Asian plant. Its active compounds act on the same brain receptors as opioids and have been linked to addiction, seizures, liver damage, respiratory depression, and, in some cases, death. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not approved kratom for any medical use and continues to warn consumers about its risks.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported dramatic increases in kratom-related health emergencies. Hospitalizations for single-substance kratom exposure rose 1,200 percent—from 43 in 2015 to 538 in 2025. Multiple-substance exposures increased 1,300 percent, from 40 to

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Battenfeld family, Whalen, Germonds
gain top honors from DCAS for 2026

By Curtis Schmidt

As Board of Directors Chairman Tom Angell emphasized the key attributes of local farmers, members of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society (DCAS) presented the organization's top honors for 2026 at their Summer Meeting on July 22.

The members are in full preparation for this year's 180th Dutchess County Fair, set Aug. 25-30 at the Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck (visit dutchessfair.com for information).

Addressing the particular calling of farmers, Angell told those in attendance, "The Dutchess County Agricultural Society has been at work in this county for more than 180 years. Our group has worked tirelessly to promote, protect and advance the cause of those who day-in and day-out tend to our piece of the creation. And this is no small responsibility. We not only raise and grow the food that sustains human life and nurtures the land that makes it possible to do so, but we embody the very values which are the basis for a citizenry which governs itself - hard work, determination, discipline, perseverance, resiliency and commitment to community."

Farm Family of the Year

The 2026 Farm Family of the Year award was presented to the Battenfeld family of F.W. Battenfeld & Son Farm.

"Fred, his son, Lance and his daughter, Morgan, are carrying forward a proud five-generation legacy of F.W. Battenfeld & Son. Playing an integral part of this legacy is Fred's wife, Suzanne. The Battenfeld story reflects the multi-generational stewardship, dedication, and love of agriculture that are central to both farming and the Dutchess County Fair," stated Andy Imperati, DCAS President and CEO. "They clearly exemplify the importance of agriculture and how agriculture can be a successful business."

Fred Battenfeld commented, "We feel honored to be chosen as the Farm Family of the Year. The room was filled with many farm families as worthy as us. Our thanks to Andy Imperati and others responsible for choosing us."

Battenfeld Farm has been part of the Red Hook landscape since



From top to bottom: Dutchess County Agricultural Society Chairman of the Board of Directors Tom Angell speaks at the organization's Summer meeting. The Battenfeld family – Morgan, Fred, Lance and Suzanne – were named the 2026 Farm Family of the Year. Dick Whalen receives the Distinguished Service Award from DCAS President and CEO Andy Imperati. Judy and Mark Germond receive the Volunteer of the Year Award from Imperati. Photos by Curtis Schmidt

the late 1800s, when Conrad and Elizabeth Battenfeld founded it as a fruit and dairy farm specializing in apples. In the early 1900s, the family shifted to growing violets, which was then a thriving Hudson Valley industry that earned Rhinebeck the nickname "Violet Capital of the Country."

Now in its fifth generation, Battenfeld Farm grows fresh cut flowers across nearly two acres in eight glass greenhouses. Their signature crop is premium anemones. They also grow butterfly ranunculus, lilies, alstroemeria, dahlias, peonies and violets.

The flowers are shipped nationwide and to Canada, with wholesale customers in New York City, Boston and Philadelphia, as well as local florists and individual buyers. Each stem reflects their commitment to quality, consistency and the enduring beauty of farm-grown blooms.

The Battenfeld family planted their first Christmas trees in 1956, selling the first one for just a dollar.

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County election officials issued subpoenas by Dutchess County Comptroller; commissioners respond

Staff and county reports

Dutchess County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair has issued subpoenas to the Dutchess County Commissioners of Elections, Erik Haight and Lisa Jessup, as well as select employees, in order to obtain documents and conduct interviews central to an audit of the Board of Elections' ("BOE") election worker payroll process. Aymar-Blair said the subpoenas may be the first ever issued by the Dutchess County Comptroller's Office and reflect the unprecedented circumstance of County Commissioners refusing to cooperate with an audit. He said the subpoenas were issued as a last resort after the Commissioners refused to provide the requested documentation or agree to attend an entrance meeting for nearly three months prior to this conclusion.

On April 24, Aymar-Blair first notified the Dutchess County BOE that their election worker payroll process would be the subject of an audit, it was stated in a press release. On April 29, the BOE objected to the proposed audit plan, arguing that the Comptroller did not have the authority to conduct it.

After further attempts and rebuttals, on June 16, the Comptroller advised the BOE of their legal obligation to produce the requested documentation necessary for the Comptroller's Office to perform the full scope of their audit, with a deadline of June 30. The Comptroller stated that further failure to comply and provide

the documents by the provided date would result in a formal demand by way of a subpoena, pursuant to Dutchess County Administrative Code Article XXXII, Section 32.05.

On July 2, the Comptroller's outside counsel, retained exclusively to help obtain the cooperation of the Commissioners, gave them five more business days (until Friday, July 10) to comply and offered to confer with the Commissioners and/or their counsel. The Commissioners thereafter retained legal counsel to represent them in this matter, and counsel for the Comptroller corresponded with the Commissioner's counsel. Upon conferring with the Commissioner's counsel to resolve this matter, the Commissioners maintained their refusal to comply with the Comptroller's audit plan.

Commissioner Erik J. Haight stated via email last week to Northern and Southern Dutchess News, "We've tried our very best to educate the locally elected Dutchess County Comptroller that the operations of the Dutchess County Board of Elections (DCBOE) are outside of his purview. Based on common sense and on advice from personnel at the State Board, it is improper for a local elected official to review and ultimately attempt to dictate the policies and procedures of an autonomous BOE when we are mandated to administer the very election that puts him in office."

Commissioner Lisa Jessup commented in that email to Northern and Southern

Dutchess News from Haight, "It's unfortunate that the Comptroller is spending time and money subpoenaing records already in his possession. The BOE cooperates with the Comptroller after every election to review money spent to compensate Election Day workers and we will continue to do so. Not a single check is issued to anyone without the Comptroller's close examination of payroll and approval. This legal maneuver is confusing and unnecessary."

Commissioner Haight said, "During my tenure, the IRS and the State Board have audited our office because the law permits those agencies to do so. This local comptroller clearly does not enjoy the same authority, so sadly we will have to spend significant dollars to protect the integrity of the BOE(s) from an overzealous auditor that has drifted out of his lane. In short, he can count pennies, not conduct a performance review under the guise of a financial audit. That responsibility rests solely with the State Board."

Commissioner Jessup concluded by saying, "Despite our attempts to resolve this issue and avoid litigation, it may be up to a judge to rule on the limits of the Comptroller's purview over the operations of the Board of Elections. This can happen when parties disagree, but I am dismayed to see that the Comptroller is seeking to discredit the Board of Elections in the media, especially in the current political climate where we have almost daily assaults on the credibility of our elections coming out of the Oval Office."

Aymar-Blair's release said that after three months, the BOE has still failed to present the Comptroller or the Comptroller's Attorney with any applicable legal argument justifying their non-cooperation, resulting in a failure to fulfill their legal obligation as an auditable entity operating with taxpayer funds, according to the Comptroller's office. He added that under New York County Law Section 577, Dutchess County Administrative Code Article XX Section 20.02(a)-(e), the Comptroller has the authority to request documents related to expenditures of County funds as was requested. It stated further that the assertion on the part of both Commissioners that the Comptroller is seeking operational information, and therefore exceeding the scope of the Comptroller's authority, is belied by the above quoted legal authority and the fact that the Comptroller's Office has performed similar audits in 2008, 2010, 2011, and 2020. Accordingly, subpoenas were issued as the Commissioners advised through counsel that they would not comply.

"It is not the preference of the Comptroller's Office to obtain audit materials under threat of subpoena," said Aymar-Blair. "We provided the BOE with ample time to comply and offered to adapt the plan around their busy calendar. As I have always said, we audit County departments and partners to offer recommendations for making government financial operations more efficient, a high priority for County taxpayers."

Serino proposes county-wide ban on kratom as health concerns grow

continued from cover

549. The CDC also reported 233 kratom-associated deaths nationwide over the same period.

Kratom is increasingly easy to obtain, sold online and in convenience stores, smoke/vape shops, gas stations, and other retailers. Marketed as a "natural" supplement, many consumers mistakenly assume it is safe. Products are often displayed alongside everyday goods and sold in capsules, powders, gummies, and beverages—frequently in bright, flashy packaging—making them easy to purchase and difficult for parents to recognize.

Under Serino's proposed legislation, any person found to be selling or distributing Kratom or a Kratom derived product, with limited exceptions, will be subject to civil penalty up to \$1,500. Additionally, her legislation puts height-

ened focus on preventing youth access to Kratom, with higher penalties for those found to be selling or distributing to a minor (under the age of 21) – going up to \$2,000 for a violation. The law will be enforced by the Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH).

Dutchess County DOH Commissioner Dr. Livia Santiago-Rosado said, "Kratom products have not been tested for safety, consistency, or accurate labeling and are not approved by the FDA. The potential for harm is clear, with cases nationwide linking these products to addiction, serious health complications, overdose, and even death."

Serino has submitted the proposed resolution for the local law to the County Legislature for consideration at their August 10 board meeting.

Transportation Council expected to act on 25-year plan during meeting on Aug. 6

The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) will host a public meeting on 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) in Hyde Park. At the meeting, the DCTC is expected to act on its latest update to "Moving Dutchess Forward," its 25-year plan to make the County's transportation system safer and more reliable.

"Moving Dutchess Forward" looks at the ways people and goods move about the County, evaluates future trends, assesses transportation barriers, and recommends actions and investments to create a safer, more reliable transportation system for all residents and visitors. It

includes a financial plan with anticipated federal funding that supports a set of investment priorities that address broad state of good repair goals for our system (e.g., maintaining road and bridges, reducing crashes and congestion, maintaining transit services, etc.). It also includes a short list of more transformative, unfunded illustrative projects. A fully digital product, "Moving Dutchess Forward" is flexible and interactive, with maps and visuals so readers can easily understand ideas and information.

More information is available at dutchessny.gov/dctc, by emailing dctc@dutchessny.gov or calling 845-486-3600.

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Networking event brings together nearly 200 women from across Dutchess County

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino welcomed nearly 200 attendees to Locust Grove Thursday evening for her tenth Women's Networking Event, for an evening of connection, inspiration and celebration of the strength that builds when women show up for one another.

"Every year I look forward to this event because when women come together, we don't just empower one another – we witness the incredible strength and resilience that exists in every corner of our community," said Serino. "I am so grateful to Renee, Micah, and Fallon for courageously sharing their stories. They reminded us that the lives we touch, whether through service, compassion, or simply believing in someone, can leave a lasting mark."

This year's theme, "The Lives We Touch," showcased three dynamic speakers including:

- Renee Fillette-Miccio, PhD, Executive Director of Dutchess Outreach, shared her journey from being involved with the Grace Smith House helping domestic violence victims to her current role helping others find food security with Dutchess Outreach. She shared moving stories of those she's met and helped along the way and how, even when they are going through their own struggles, individuals find the strength to help others.

- Micah Smith, President and Founder of Micah Abigail LLC, shared her story

of faith and surrender in finding her sobriety and finding her purpose in helping others build their credit and find financial freedom. She emphasized that sometimes, the things that try to break you can be the same thing that becomes the foundation you build your life on.

- Fallon Meneses, Emergency Room Technician at Vassar Brothers Medical Center and rare disease awareness advocate, shared her journey of meeting life's challenges with resilience, transforming her view of hardship into one of compassion, hope and courage. She emphasized that even small gestures such as showing up, listening and advocating for what you believe in can profoundly change someone's life.

Fillette-Miccio, PhD said, "What made tonight so memorable is that while we all come from different backgrounds, we're united in a shared belief in the power of connection. There's something so special when we come together, to listen and lend a helping hand and tonight showcased just that. I'm grateful for the opportunity to speak and thank County Executive Serino for hosting an event that continues to foster this environment."

Smith said, "Silence is expensive; I know, I paid it twice - once through addiction and once through financial shame I wouldn't acknowledge to anyone. What breaks that silence isn't advice, but someone standing up and sharing their similar



County Executive Sue Serino is pictured with speakers, from left, Fallon Meneses, Renee Fillette-Miccio, and Micah Smith at the 2026 Women's Networking Event. *Courtesy photo*

experience and how they got through it. Last night was a room full of women gathered to be themselves; you could feel the weight of expectations lift. I walked out reminded that connection doesn't happen through a screen, it happens when we show up for each other."

- Meneses said, "I was humbled and grateful to be part of this event. I meet a lot of people every day, and you never know what will resonate or give someone the hope they need to keep moving forward. I was so inspired by my fellow speakers' stories and thank County Executive Serino for bringing us all together to share our inspiration, our motivation and our purpose."

Event attendees had the opportunity to

learn about various Dutchess County Government resources available to them at information tables hosted by various County agencies including Dutchess County Public Transit, Department of Health, Veterans Affairs and Office for the Aging.

Serino launched the Women's Networking Event during her time in the New York State Senate and has since welcomed thousands of local women to come together to support one another and make new connections that extend well beyond the event.

To learn more about future networking events, contact the Dutchess County Executive's Office at 845-486-2000 or CountyExec@dutchessny.gov.

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TOWN OF CLINTON ANNOUNCES UPCOMING ROAD WORK

Clinton Town Clerk Carol Mackin alerted residents to expect road delays during the week of Aug. 17 due to several road projects.

The town's highway crew will be Fibermatting with Fogseal and sweeping the following roads to extend the life of the pavement: East Fallkill Road, Pumpkin Lane, Lake Drive, Allen Road, Woodlea Road and Oak Grove Road.

Battenfeld family, Whalen, Germonds gain top honors from DCAS for 2026

continued from cover

Today, more than 100 acres of evergreens stretch across the farm. Each December, families return to cut their own tree, take a horse-drawn wagon ride, visit Santa, and enjoy a tailgated meal among the fields. It's become a Hudson Valley holiday tradition.

Distinguished Service

Dick Whalen, who calls the Fairgrounds his "second home," was honored with the Distinguished Service Award.

"Often times people will fly under the radar with their contributions to the Agricultural Society and the Fair. Dick Whalen is one of those people. He's been involved with the Fairgrounds for over 71 years. He is very deserving of our first Distinguished Service Award," said Imperati,

Whalen responded, saying "My involvement with the DCAS and the Fair has always been a top priority in my life. I am overwhelmed and extremely happy to be the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award."

In an interview in 2025, Whalen spoke about his involvement the DCAS and the Fair. "It's about care and respect for all of the other individuals in the organization and working together. I've seen the Fair evolve and I've been part of the decision-making process to help the Fair grow. With the business side, it's been a lot of learning and hard work," he said.

And with the Fair itself, Whalen said he "hasn't missed a day in all of these years – and that includes all of the extra

days in setting up with the animals." He has been showing dairy cattle at the Fair for over 70 years.

Friendships, like his Friendship Farm, mean everything to Dick Whalen. And the Dutchess County Fair and its people are his "best friends."

Volunteers of the Year

Recognizing their commitment to rural history and the Fair, the DCAS presented the Volunteers of the Year Award to Mark and Judy Germond.

"For the first time, the Agricultural Society is presenting husband and wife, Mark and Judy Germond, with the Volunteer of the Year Award. Both have been involved with the Fairgrounds, particularly the Century Museum Village, for over 30 years. Their dedication to the museum and the Agricultural Society has not gone unnoticed. They are an integral part of our team and Fair family," said Imperati.

The Germonds thanked Imperati and the DCAS and said they "enjoy planning new exhibits, watching visitors reminiscing about items they see, children seeing how simple life can be and the opportunity to showcase our rural history."

The Germonds are members of the Century Museum Village and Collectors Association (CMVCA). Mark noted that in 1990, this group was contacted by Tom Odak (Fair Manager) about the possibility having of a museum at the Fairgrounds. The Museum would cover the time period 1870-1929 of rural life in the Hudson Valley.

"The CMVCA members were very happy to accept the offer. Plans were made and the Museum was finished in 1992," he said. "The Museum has some permanent exhibits. When Volunteers join with special talents, exhibits are made so they can demonstrate their skills. The Museum is entirely staffed by volunteers. To date we have 60 volunteers."

Current exhibits include: Ice

Harvesting, Model "T" Repair Shop, Barber Shop, Modern Conveniences, Clock Shop, 1910 Bedroom, 1910 Parlor, 1910 Kitchen, 1910 General Store, Busy Hands (sewing etc.), Wood Harvest & Crafts, Print Shop, Broom Shop, Chair Caning, Weavers, The "Whatsit" display, Blacksmith Shop, Shingle Mill and Vintage Farm Equipment.

Beatrix Farrand Garden

A Day of African Drumming & Nature Exploration for 9-12 yr olds

Date: Sat, Aug. 22
Times: Session 1: at 9am
Session 2: at 1pm
Where: Beatrix Farrand Garden
FDR National Historic Site
4097 Albany Post Rd
Hyde Park
Price: FREE – Registration Required



Enjoy a one-day program that will immerse children (ages 9–12) into the wonder of African drumming and nature exploration activities. Children may register for the morning session (9 a.m.–12 p.m.), which is the African drumming session, or the afternoon session (1–4 p.m.), which is the nature activities session, or enjoy the full day of discovery.

Families should register by August 15, 2026
https://www.viewcy.com/event/rhythm_nature_afri

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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.

Hyde Park Democrats push to secure workforce housing in Elbow Creek LLC

To the editor:
The Hyde Park Democratic Council members asked pointed and relevant questions at the special town meeting on 7/28 before voting to approve Resolution 7:28- 1 of 2026. Importantly, they secured a commitment from Elbow Creek LLC to include 20% workforce housing in the development.
The Hyde Park Democratic Committee commends our current council members for their steadfast commitment to affordability issues in Hyde Park.
During discussion of the grant application process, the Democrat Council members Paul Donnelly, Greg Komar and Marc Prine pressed the affordable housing issue which was not a part of the grant under consideration, but is a critically important issue for Hyde Park residents. The discussion and public comment resulted in pressing Supervisor (Al) Torregiani to obtain assurance from the developer to include workforce housing. The resolution passed to apply for the grant, which puts Hyde Park in the pool of State applicants. The application is for a \$1,000,000 grant to replace an existing culvert crossing over Crum Elbow Creek with a bridge, and to construct and complete Crofton Street, and add an associated NYS Route 9G north-bound turning lane.
Marc Prine, councilmember for Ward 1, said: “As a town, we need to support the people that live in Hyde Park and make sure there are affordable options for housing for the people that work and support other members of the community.”
Russell Urban-Mead, Democratic Candidate for Hyde Park Town Supervisor, said: “Replacing this inadequate culvert bridge is urgently needed and I’m proud that our Town Board Democrats also identified and secured this commitment for more affordable housing. We will continue opportunities to keep Hyde Park safe and affordable for families, seniors, and young people starting out in life.”
Learn more about Hyde Park Democrats: <https://www.hydeparkdemocrats.com/>

Mark Campbell
Chair, Hyde Park Democratic Committee

Witness to genocide

To the editor:
In 1945 German civilians from a nearby town were forced to view some of the atrocities that had occurred at Buchenwald, one of the most brutal of the Nazi concentration camps. Movie clips show the German civilians holding their noses and trying to look away from the piles of naked bodies and bones. The GIs escorting the civilians looked straight ahead, made speechless by the charnel house. Over 56,000 people had been murdered at the camp through starvation, exhaustion, disease and medical experimentation.
Eighty years later, America has its own concentration camps to hide. Over 73,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been slaughtered by bombs, drones, and starvation. 20,000 children have disappeared into the dust and rubble. Here is a list of those who should be forced to look at this carnage of US militarism.
Representative Pat Ryan has repeatedly voted for sending arms to Israel. The Israel Lobby bribed him with \$416,135 last year (<https://yourrecord.org>). Pat should cover his nose.
I have talked to students from Bard, Vassar and New Paltz. Dozens of New Paltz students were arrested and faced charges. I witnessed the court proceedings. Students from Bard and Vassar were threatened. The presidents of these colleges should pack their bags for Gaza.
The legislatures of both Dutchess and Ulster have approved a resolution that equates criticism of Israel with antisemitism. The resolution, IHRA, is a direct negation of free speech. 700 local people have signed a petition condemning this IHRA definition. It is time that these legislators are forced to witness the genocide of the US empire.

Fred Nagel
Rhinebeck

Elizabeth Hewitt named Chair of Cary Institute Board of Trustees

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies has announced that Elizabeth Hewitt has been named Chair of its Board of Trustees, effective June 2026.
An experienced not-for-profit financial executive, Hewitt brings deep expertise in investment management, governance, and strategic leadership. She formerly served as Chief Investment Officer at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and is now Chief Investment Officer at Miras Investments, an institutional single-family office. She has also served on the boards of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and The Madeira School and currently serves on the board of the Dana Foundation.
Hewitt has been on Cary's Board of

Trustees for several years, most recently as Co-Vice Chair and Chair of the Investment Committee. Throughout her tenure, she has brought strategic insight and sound financial stewardship in support of Cary’s mission.
“I was drawn to Cary Institute for its combination of rigorous science and real-world impact,” Hewitt said. “I’m inspired by their commitment to making the world a better place. Cary’s research team is known regionally for their work on tick-borne disease, forest health, and the Hudson River – but they are also leaders on the national and global stage, with work on things like wildfire, natural climate solutions, and diseases like Ebola, Zika, and SARS.”
As Board Chair, Hewitt will help guide Cary through its next chapter of scientific discovery and organizational growth. She begins her tenure at a time when Cary is expanding its staff and broadening the reach of its research programs.
She notes, “As climate impacts become increasingly evident around the world, keeping a pulse on our planet has never been more important. Cary’s scientists are building innovative models and frameworks that combine emerging technology and world-class science to give us a powerful view of ecosystem health.

Their work and leadership informs practical solutions for climate resilience and ecosystem management.”
“Beyond being a research powerhouse, Cary is a neighbor who is committed to sharing its science with the community,” Hewitt adds. “For those living near Cary’s Millbrook, NY headquarters, I encourage you to visit its 2,000-acre campus, hike its trails, attend its public programs, and explore its offerings for students.”
Dr. Joshua Ginsberg, President of Cary Institute, commented, “Elizabeth brings strategic vision and a deep appreciation for the role science plays in addressing today’s environmental challenges. She has been an invaluable member of our Board, and I look forward to working with her as we continue to expand the impact of Cary’s research.”
Ginsberg also thanks outgoing Board Chair Scott Ulm for his eight years of exceptional leadership. During his tenure, Ulm helped steer a major capital campaign that transformed the Institute’s Millbrook headquarters, fostered a culture of scientific collaboration, and guided the organization through the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic. “Scott’s contributions have left Cary stronger than ever, and we thank him for his dedicated service,” Ginsberg said.

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Big Read professional development workshop offered to educators Aug. 6

The Big Read, hosted by Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD), is offering professional development for educators. (Re)Forging Democracy: Teaching the American Revolution & Its Aftermath will be held on Thursday, Aug. 6, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Adriance Memorial Library in partnership with The Art Effect.

During this professional development workshop, educators will gain concrete curricular resources and replicable strategies for student engagement inspired by the 2026 Big Read theme, “America at 250: Revolutionary New York.”

The 2026 Big Read selections, “Fire and Freedom” by Thomas Wermuth, “The Fateful Hour” by Al Rosenblatt, and “Forgotten Founders: Black Patriots, Women Soldiers, and Other Thinkers and Heroes Who Shaped Early America” by Mifflin Lowe and Wiliam Luong, exam-

ine the American Revolution and its aftermath through stories from the Hudson Valley.

The program will look at the question of: What happens in the wake of war, and what is it like to live through the creation of democracy being forged and reformed? Questions about how ordinary people respond to and endure moments of national transformation feel just as urgent today as they did 250 years ago. In the aftermath of the American Revolution, old institutions gave way to new systems, communities healed from the war, and the young United States began the difficult work of establishing its democracy.

By the end of the workshop, participants will be prepared to engage students with underreported local stories of heroic individuals whose actions shaped the Revolutionary era and its aftermath; foster democratic classrooms by helping stu-

dents build consensus, set shared goals, and participate in meaningful civic decision-making; use drama-based teaching practices to deepen learning across subject areas while building confidence and engagement; and integrate the 2026 Big Read titles into their curriculum!

Lunch will be provided, and each participant will receive complimentary copies of the featured books. There is no cost to attend this workshop.

The Big Read is an annual community reading program coordinated by the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. This current iteration will run throughout Fall 2026. The Big Read is designed to broaden the local community’s understanding of history, local heroes, and one another through the joy of discussing great books.

The Art Effect is a non-profit group that empowers young people to develop

their creative voice to shape their futures and bring about positive social change. The Art Effect helps youth explore, experience, and excel in the arts, introducing them visual arts and media, giving them the opportunity to develop real skills in these fields, and guiding them towards achieving their academic and career goals.

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

Stanford Free Library upcoming events

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please register via the online calendar at www.stanfordlibrary.org or call (845) 868-1341

Stanford Supper Club
Wednesday, August 12 , 6-7pm

Theme: Pastapalooza. Make pasta the main ingredient of any dish you bring to share. Beverages, paper plates, paper bowls, plastic ware, nametags and food signage signs will be provided.

Peace Poster: Harmony in Humanity
Saturday August 8th 11:30am - 1:30pm & Wednesday August 19th, 4-6pm

Stanford Lions Club encourages children grades K-8 to creatively express what peace means to them so that we may all have greater tolerance and understanding. The Lions Club will be at the library on these dates with materials to make a poster. Come join us for this fun event.

Operation: Mobile Outreach
Thursday, August 20th, 1-4PM

Come to this Veterans Benefits Mobile Outreach Event to learn about and register for benefits, find out about emergency

funding and transportation assistance, have your questions answered and get help with health care, disability, education and training, housing assistance and more.

ONGOING EVENTS

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

Yoga with Bobbie
Saturdays, 10am-11am
Bring your own mat and blanket. One time waiver must be signed prior to first class.

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

Knitting
First, Third, and Fifth Thursday of the month 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Come for knitting, tea and conversation.

All levels are welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games
Thursdays 10:30 – 12:00 pm
Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimu-

lating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

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

Free Virtual Homebuyer seminar set for Aug. 11

Ulster Savings Bank is hosting a free homebuyer seminar on Tuesday, August 11, at 5:30 p.m. They are hosting this event along with RUPCO to help attendees understand the critical steps to owning one’s own home. This seminar will be offered as an interactive live Zoom meeting. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions in real time.

They will discuss:

- Steps in getting pre-qualified
- Credit scores and why they are important
- Documentation needed to apply
- Low down payment options
- Choosing the right lender
- What to expect during the buying process.

The best part is that you may be eligible for a \$750 Home Buyer Credit* just for attending!

Sign up at: <https://www.ulstersavings.com/personal/loans/seminars/>

*Receive a \$750 coupon good towards borrower’s choice of closing costs, down payment, or post-closing payment assistance, in accordance with the loan program selected and that program’s eligibility requirements. The certificate must be presented at time of application. Customer pays for all other fees and services. Eligible mortgages include owner-occupied home purchases only. Not valid for refinances, home equity products, second homes, or construction loans. Not valid for mortgage applications received prior to date of seminar on certificate. Offer may not be combined with any other offers or discounts unless otherwise noted. This offer expires on December 31, 2028. Limit one (1) per loan transaction. Certain conditions apply.

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Pitching, hitting, speed lead way as Renegades welcome 4 new players

By Morgan E. Maier

Four new players arrived at the Hudson Valley Renegades clubhouse this month with strengths reaching from the mound to the basepaths and back to the warning track. As Hudson Valley bids its latest farewell to the likes of Rory Fox and Luis Durango, fans will look to this newest bunch to spark the hometown team.

Henry Lalane, LHP - New York has been waiting to welcome Bronx-born lefty Henry Lalane, the New York Yankees' 4th-ranked prospect. Lalane may graze a ceiling with his 6'7" stance, yet the southpaw's pitch command and penchant for strikeouts hint at how high he could soar. Back-to-back wins in Single-A Tampa, tossing seven innings with double-digit strikeouts, turned up Lalane's summer. He fanned 12 while allowing just one hit to the Dunedin Blue Jays. The Saint Lucie Mets wished to see a bullpen arm warming over Lalane's next start, a three-hit, 11-strikeout night. He has yet to be awarded a High-A decision, scattering 17 strikeouts to 4 walks across his first three starts.

Jackson Lovich, SS - Multi-hit master Jackson Lovich needs an introduction, but his bat will have the last

word. The infielder arrives at Hudson Valley after batting .275 for Single-A Tampa this season. A reliable offensive producer for the Tarpons, the former Missouri Tiger led the Florida State League with 18 home runs. Lovich, scouted by the Yankees for his speed, was highly effective (21/28) on the Tampa basepaths. Lovich further showcased power and flair for entertaining with his historic three-home-run day on May 20. With 8 hits already in 6 games with the 'Gades, Lovich brings much excitement for the next stage in his development.

Willy Montero, CF - Willy Montero's bat earned his High-A ticket, scorching Florida land like the July sun. An impressive string of hit streaks marked a .304 batting average in a month that began with Montero breaking a seven-game hit streak. He would follow with an eight straight, including five multi-hit games. Montero was an All-Star for FCL Yankees in 2023, his first year playing outside of his native Dominican Republic. With an .822 on-base plus slugging (OPS) this season, Montero knows how to reach bases and balls. And though his first High-A series was one marred by a collective sluggish offense, the outfielder produced a



Henry Lalane



Jackson Lovich

pair of RBIs in Hudson Valley's lone win over the Jersey Shore BlueClaws on July 31.

Gabriel Lara, OF - Gabriel Lara is meeting his second new home crowd of the season, and wasted no time starting some action for Hudson Valley fans. Where he caught eyes in rookie leagues with a bit of offensive

crack and timely hitting, Lara's ascent slowed a bit in Single-A. Yet every change of scenery can be a hot spot for adjustment. The youngest current Renegade got his first High-A hit in his debut, and his second the next night. Suppose the Hudson Valley summer ignites the speed that first hooked scouts in Santo Domingo?

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Wilmington WSH	21	14	.600	-	7-3	W4
Greensboro PIT	20	16	.556	1.5	4-6	L1
Frederick BAL	18	16	.529	2.5	4-6	L4
Brooklyn NYM	17	18	.486	4.0	5-5	W1
Hudson Valley NYV	17	19	.472	4.5	3-7	L3
Jersey Shore PHI	14	21	.400	7.0	7-3	W3

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB	25	11	.694	-	7-3	W1
Greenville BOS	19	17	.528	6.0	8-2	W7
Winston-Salem CWS	18	18	.500	7.0	5-5	L1
Rome ATL	16	18	.471	8.0	6-4	L1
Asheville HOU	16	20	.444	9.0	1-9	L6
Hub City TEX	11	24	.314	13.5	3-7	W1



August

08/11/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	First Responders Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/12/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Strike Out Cancer Night WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/13/26	vs. Wilmington	06:35 PM	Agriculture Night Jersey Thursday presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union
08/14/26	vs. Wilmington	07:05 PM	Make-A-Wish Night presented by Mirabito Energy Fireworks Friday
08/15/26	vs. Wilmington	05:05 PM	Union Appreciation Night Oasis Bottle presented by CSEA
08/16/26	vs. Wilmington	02:05 PM	Football Day WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/25/26	vs. Brooklyn	06:35 PM	An Ode to Cream Cheese WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets
08/26/26	vs. Brooklyn	06:35 PM	Welcome Back College Students WMCHHealth Club Lounge Tickets





Renegades Extra!



IMPACT

PR & Communications

**HVCU Charitable Foundation Awards \$550,000
in Grants to Non-Profits Across the Hudson Valley**

See story,
page 8



HVCU
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION



HudsonValley
CREDIT UNION



IMPACT

PR & Communications

Hot dog champ Chestnut ‘meats’ Renegades’ Cider Donut Challenge

By Morgan E. Maier

He’s the top-ranked athlete of Major League Eating, but Joey Chestnut is bringing his talent to Minor League Baseball this season. The Hudson Valley Renegades hosted the 18-time Nathan’s Hot Dog Eating Contest champion for the Cider Donut Challenge on July 31. As Chestnut fielded fans by the dozens, each dressed the experience to their liking.

Hot dog costumes, Joey jerseys and condiment stains were worn for the occasion; Chestnut himself came fitted with the Yellow Mustard Belt, Major League Eating’s championship belt. Some fans traveled from out-of-town and state to see Coney Island’s king in the flesh at Heritage Financial Park. And plenty took their time to share thoughts on Chestnut’s biggest rival, Takeru “Tsunami” Kobayashi.

Local resident David Kalb got tickets to the game as a birthday celebration with family. During his meet-and-greet, Chestnut recorded a video shoutout for Kalb’s campus organization at Plymouth State University.

“I’ve been coming to games here since I was a little kid. It’s a great family tradition. Bringing that [the video] there up in New Hampshire, it’s awesome. It’s a little piece of home,” said David.



Other fans opted to give Chestnut their own local taste.

Newburgh native Vincent Puleo and the team from social media outlet Finally (formerly Big Knick Energy) brought the meet and greet its juiciest spectacle: a six foot hot dog, created locally at Beacon’s own Dave the Butcher.

“I wish this was my challenge!” Chestnut said, smiling wide at the dog and



Hot dog eating champion Joey Chestnut “chows down” on cider donuts and joins a group of challengers at Heritage Financial Park on July 31. Photos by Dave Janosz

three people it took to deliver.

Did he get a taste of the all-beef offering?

At the risk of Nathan’s Famous sponsorship — and appetite for his impending Cider Donut Challenge — “Jaws” could not indulge. In his spirit, fans finished the entire thing before the inning was over.

Competitors ranging from Renegades staffers to fans and K104 radio station

favorite Diva filled the field for a sticky, sweet post-game sweepstakes. The table was tasked with eating as many apple cider donuts as they could in five minutes.

“Joey’s Going Down” read one challenger’s shirt. Cinnamon dust was all that dropped at Chestnut’s spot as he downed 53 donuts. To nobody’s surprise, the champion’s mark easily swept the contest.

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Hudson Valley endures tough week as Jersey Shore wins five of six games

By Morgan E. Maier

The Jersey Shore BlueClaws pinched the Hudson Valley Renegades five times in six games, leading the home team to pack for sunnier days in South Carolina. Two swept doubleheaders — one for each rain-out that began the series — drizzled a sweet and sour week in Hudson Valley.

T.G.I.F. - July 31 saw the Renegades’ only win of the series, starting with Sean Paul Liñan and ending with Friday fireworks. Liñan allowed 0 runs after giving up one in the first inning, passing a shortened outing to the bullpen at the end of his 7.1 innings. Brady Kirtner retired both batters he faced; Thomas Balboni gave up one, but held the save for Brandon Decker to complete the one-out save. Cam Troyer’s three-RBI night included the ultimate game-winning home run, a two-run laser beam to cap the Renegades’ four-run fourth.

That night, the demolishing of cider donuts at the jaws of competitive eater Joey Chestnut followed Hudson Valley’s strong two-way performance. The Cider Donuts that took the field the rest of the series met a similar fate in BlueClaws.

Donut Holes - Hudson Valley clung to a one-run lead in the first of an eight-inning series opener on July 30, but were held to zeroes the rest of the way. Jersey Shore would prevail with a 2-1 win, holding Hudson Valley scoreless until the second inning of Game 2. Hudson Valley took a 4-2 lead into the ninth inning, but a four-run winning inning was in store for Jersey Shore. Robbie Burnett, Jackson Lovich and Diomedes Hernandez had an RBI in the 6-4 loss. Hudson Valley did not score a run after the fourth inning of the seven-inning nightcap.

Roderick Arias, Lovich and Enmanuel Tejeda had Hudson Valley’s three hits to start the series’ second doubleheader. Hudson Valley put a donut on the scoreboard for the 2-0 loss. Unfortunately for Renegades starter Luis Serna, Jersey Shore opted for the twist in Game 2. Eight runs in the first inning stood as the difference in the 14-6 clobbering for Jersey Shore’s fourth win of the season. Robbie Burnett sprinkled a rare Jersey Shore mistake over the fence in his three-RBI, 2-for-4 night. The finale came and went uneventfully for the Cider Donuts in their last-ever appearance.



Shortstop Jackson Lovich, left, had a strong hitting performance last week and Gabriel Lara notched his first RBI for the Renegades. Photos by Dave Janosz

Newcomer Gabriel Lara notched his first High-A RBI with a sacrifice fly. West and Willy Montero each added an RBI in the 10-4 loss.

Hudson Valley goes next to Greenville, hoping to right the rocky stretch since the All-Star Break. The Drive enter the series

with eight wins in the last 10 games, including a seven-game win streak to start their week as Hudson Valley’s hosts. There may be hope yet for the sub-.500 Renegades; Greenville is 6-9 against teams with a losing record in the second half!

HVCU Charitable Foundation awards \$550,000 in grants to non-profits across the Hudson Valley

Hudson Valley Credit Union (HVCU) has announced that the HVCU Charitable Foundation recently awarded \$550,000 in grants to 80 nonprofits across its 13-county footprint, helping to expand access to essential resources in four key categories of need – education, food, health and housing. A total of \$383,900 was distributed to 50 Mid-Hudson Valley-based organizations, reinforcing the credit union’s impact on the region and the people who call it home.

The Foundation’s Grant Review Committee used a data-informed approach to ensure grantees would address significant community needs and deliver measurable outcomes. Recognized for an ability to tackle immediate challenges and create pathways for long-term stability, the Foundation’s Mid-Hudson Valley grant recipients were: Anderson Center for Autism, Bridge Arts and Education, Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie, Coalition of Forward Facing Ellenville, Community Matters 2, Inc., Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County, Dutchess Community College Foundation, Dutchess Outreach, Family Outreach Food Pantry, Fareground Community Kitchen, Goshen Historic Track, Guardian Revival, Humane Society of Walden, Hurley Library, Kingston Land Trust, Kingston Midtown Arts District, Jewish Family Service of Orange County, Land to Learn, Mid-Hudson Energy Transition, Mid-Hudson Works, Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, Museum Village at Old Smiths Clove, New Windsor Ambulance, Newburgh Urban Farm and Food, Inc., Nubian Directions II, Inc., Philipstown Depot Theatre, Poughkeepsie Farm Project, Putnam County Housing Corporation, Reading &

Math, Inc DBA Ampact, Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley, Red Hook Community Center, Safe Harbors of the Hudson, Seasoned Gives, Second Chance Foods, Sparrow’s Nest, St. Luke’s Cornwall Health System Foundation, Stony Kill Foundation, The Ashokan Center, The Cathedral at the House, The Lee A. Archer Jr. Red Tail Youth Flying Program, The Roy Community Foundation, The Susie Reizod Foundation, Town of Newburgh EMS, Ulster County Habitat for Humanity, United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region, Unshattered, Victory Hill Therapeutic Horsemanship, Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Woodstock Day School, Woodstock Farm Festival.

“Each one of this year’s grantees is making a meaningful impact on the population it serves,” said Desiree Wolfe, president and board chair of the Foundation and executive vice president, chief experience officer at HVCU. “The funding we are providing will support these programs as they address immediate challenges and create pathways for long-term stability within the state.”

As a 501(c)(3) organization, the HVCU Charitable Foundation supports nonprofits that help to enhance the quality of life and foster financial freedom across HVCU’s service areas. Since its inception in 2024, the Foundation has built a \$10 million endowment, ensuring it can sustainably support organizations addressing the state’s most pressing needs. To date, it has invested more than \$1.1 million into communities, reaching more than a million individuals and families.

“We established the Foundation because we recognize that financial health is influenced by more than access



Pictured from left are - front row, are Desiree Wolfe, HVCU Charitable Foundation president and board chair and HVCU executive vice president and chief experience officer; Ashley Riker, HVCU Charitable Foundation board secretary and HVCU vice president, culture and employee engagement officer; Amy Jakobeit, HVCU Charitable Foundation board director and HVCU executive vice president, chief of member operations; and Wesley Lee, HVCU Charitable Foundation board director. In back are Robert Brown, HVCU Charitable Foundation board treasurer and HVCU senior vice president, head of retail network; Jonathan Roberts, HVCU Charitable Foundation board director and HVCU president and CEO; and Jay Pantaleo, HVCU Charitable Foundation board director and HVCU board director. *Courtesy photo*

to financial products and services,” said Jonathan Roberts, Foundation board member and president and CEO of HVCU. “When people struggle to meet basic needs, achieving financial stability becomes increasingly difficult. Through

the Foundation, we can support organizations working to remove those barriers and play a role in building a stronger foundation for communities.”
To learn more about the Foundation, visit hvcu.org/Foundation.

Child care desert focus group set Aug. 19 at Pine Plains Library

A focus group organized by the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam Counties will be held on Aug. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pine Plains Free Library, 775 South Main Street in Pine Plains.

This focus group is for local elected officials, parents and caregivers of children under five years old and local businesses.

The goal is to educate our local, state and federal officials (some of whom will

attend) on how Northern Dutchess’ child care desert affects their constituents.

Input will from those attending will help to design a child care system in rural Dutchess County that works better for families, children and employers.

Refreshments and child care will be provided.

Please RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/aTLuXLVEBFU1MrDp9>

PPLD upcoming events

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District announces the following events for August.

Indoor Plant Swap: Wednesday, Aug. 5, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Adriance Memorial Library. No registration required.

Concert by Hudson Valley Bluegrass: Saturday, Aug. 8, 2:30 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. No registration required

Garden Enthusiasts Meet Up: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. No registration required.

Open Mic: Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m., Adriance Memorial Library. No registration required.

Strategy Board Game Night: Thursday, Aug. 13, 5 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. No registration required.

Medicare 101/Navigating the Medicare Website, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 3 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. Registration required.

Handy Chatter - American Sign Language Monthly Meetup: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 6:30 p.m., Adriance Memorial Library. No registration required.

Fala D. Roosevelt: Presidential Pooch, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., Virtual. Registration required.

Concert: Kevin Sherwin presents The Gilded Age Guitar: Thursday, Aug. 20, 6:30 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. No registration required.

A Virtual Trip to 19th Century Main Street pt. 2: Wednesday, Aug. 26, 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library. Registration required.

Summer Reading Challenge ends Friday, Aug. 14. Get your logs, reading trackers, and Bingo sheets in for a chance to win a prize!

The Adriance Memorial Library is at 93 Market St. in Poughkeepsie. The Board Road Branch is at 141 Boardman Road in Poughkeepsie. For more information, call (845) 485-3445.

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Kosher farm market in Hopewell Junction offers fresh foods, traditional favorites

By Francine Wizner

More than a dozen seasonal farmers markets operate in every corner of Dutchess County. They emphasize a face-to-face connection between shoppers and producers of fresh, nutrient-dense, locally grown foods. As an addition to the produce and artisanal goods found at those hubs, this summer you can find Pardess Center Kosher Farm Market in Hopewell Junction.

I visited the market on a recent Friday in July, finding a farm stand stocked with a variety of traditional favorites, including fresh potato kugel, rugelach, knishes and authentic deli staples. My husband and I enjoyed their half-sours and fresh challah with our dinners over the next few days. As for the chocolate Babka I picked up, it was demolished in one evening!

Harmony between heritage and health
Kosher foods are prepared in strict accordance with traditional Jewish dietary laws, which govern how animals are processed, what ingredients can be combined, and how kitchens are supervised. In their raw, natural state, foods like fruits, vegetables, nuts, grains and eggs are inherently kosher, provided they are thoroughly checked for insects or

imperfections. By contrast, meat and dairy are subject to strict laws that dictate specific processing methods and forbid combining the two.

Centuries before microscopes existed, kosher traditions instituted practices that inadvertently aligned with modern hygiene principles. While followed for spiritual reasons, these laws frequently mirror concepts found in modern biology. Specific preparation techniques, such as salting meat to remove blood, act as a natural antimicrobial defense by dehydrating potential pathogens. Additionally, the strict separation of meat and dairy kitchen utensils fundamentally reduces risks of cross-contamination. This harmony between religious heritage and modern health science demonstrates that ancient traditions can be remarkably ahead of their time.

Nostalgic classics for a limited time
Like a curated pop-up of home-style noshes and heartwarming fare, the Pardess Chabad Farm Market has a limited duration. If you want to experience a unique destination that bridges local agriculture with Jewish heritage by pairing fresh, home-grown vegetables with kosher provisions, plan a trip soon to Pardess Center for Jewish Life at 171 Blue Hill Road, Hopewell Junction.



A variety of fresh, locally grown foods are available at Pardess Center Kosher Farm Market in Hopewell Junction. Photos by Rabbi Zalman Sandhaus, rabbi@mypardess.org



DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 17 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Sets

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

- 1 thru 4
- 5 thru 15
- 16 thru 30
- 31 thru 54
- 55 thru 75
- 76 thru 114
- 115 thru 134

By David Kalvitis

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Divine fillers: A budget bloom’s backstory

It might be carried as an accessory, given as a gift or used as home décor. Its beauty, capable of so many messages, could say love, gratitude, hope or peace. Birthdays, holidays, receptions for work or family—it doesn’t matter if the milestone is sorrowful or joyous—most likely there will be at least one flower bouquet to mark the occasion. Do you notice the component flowers?

Roses are a global bestseller. In a variety of colors, they are used for romance, celebration and comfort. By occasion, and as seasonally available, lilies, tulips, peonies and sunflowers are valued for their volume and presentation. But, for budget-friendly versatility, carnations are the ultimate bloom.

Scientifically known as *Dianthus caryophyllus*, the carnation is uniquely structured to survive transport and handling where more delicate blooms fail. While highly responsive to the natural aging signal ethylene, modern post-harvest conditioning allows the hardy carnation to resist premature withering. This

managed resilience gives its petals an incredible three-week lifespan and a rigid structure that easily withstands being packed tightly into arrangements. Florists rely on this durability to create a dense, cloud-like cushion within a bouquet, using the carnation’s natural ruffles to support heavier stems and act as fillers for empty spaces at a fraction of the cost.

Pink family

The Caryophyllaceae family, commonly known as “Pinks” (because of its most famous members, the *Dianthus* genus), includes several filler and volume flowers used in the floral industry. Those include Baby’s Breath (*Gypsophila*) as well as Carnations and Mini Carnations.

Flowers of the *Dianthus* genus typically have five petals with a frilled margin. The verb “to pink” means “to decorate with a perforated pattern”; pinking shears are scissors that create a zigzag edge on cloth, which discourages fraying. The color “pink” got its name from the flower, not the other way around.

The name *Dianthus* is a compound of



Above: Two varieties of cultivated garden *dianthus*. Right: Deptford Pink, a wild *dianthus*. Left: A bouquet of roses, carnations and Baby’s Breath. Carnations and Baby’s Breath are members of the same family as *dianthus*. Photos by Francine Wizner



the Greek words *Dios* (divine) and *anthos* (flower). The blooms were woven into ceremonial crowns and garlands worn during festivals, athletic victories and temple offerings in the Hellenistic World. In fact, our word “carnation” likely traces back to the Latin word *corona*, or crown, since the Greeks used these “divine flowers” to crown their heroes and deities.

Botanical quirk

The name Caryophyllaceae also originates from the ancient Greeks, who combined *karyon* (nut) and *phyllon* (leaf) to describe spice cloves. Centuries later, European botanists noticed that wild carnations—the ancestors of the ones we buy today—smelled like cloves. (They were, in fact, called Clove Pinks.)

Rather than devising a novel term, they adopted *Caryophyllus* as the official genus name for the flower. The standard suffix *-aceae* was added for the broader plant family. In 1753, when botanist Carl Linnaeus modernized the biological naming system to eliminate confusion, he replaced the genus name, *Caryophyllus*, with *Dianthus*. But the broader family

name, with its eponym an unrelated spice, remained unchanged. It has remained a lasting botanical quirk!

The Garden Pinks that have a warm, spicy aroma do so because of organic chemistry, not due to any familial relationship with cloves. *Dianthus* flowers—especially traditional varieties like the Clove Pink (*Dianthus caryophyllus*)—naturally produce a chemical compound called eugenol in their petals. Eugenol is the same volatile aroma-molecule that makes up roughly 70% to 90% of a tropical clove tree’s essential oil. Plant some, and your garden can smell like a jar of fresh cloves!

Scent-free and sterile, but puffy

The transformation of the simple five-petaled wild *Dianthus* into a dense commercial money-maker spanned over two thousand years of human intervention.

continued on page 17

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Bard Music Festival to highlight 'Mozart and His World'

Bard's SummerScape festival culminates with the 36th Annual Bard Music Festival: "Mozart and His World," exploring the life, times and work of one of the greatest classical composers. In 11 themed concerts over two weekends (Aug. 7-9 and 13-16) Co-Artistic Directors Leon Botstein and Christopher H. Gibbs will promote new ways of understanding and presenting the history of the peerless Wolfgang Amadé Mozart (1756-91).

Mozart remains one of the most celebrated and recognized names in classical music. Probably the most gifted musical child prodigy ever, over the course of his brief life he completed more than 800 compositions, demonstrating extraordinary mastery of every Classical genre, including keyboard, chamber, religious, symphonic, concertante and dramatic music. Against the political and cultural backdrop of Enlightenment-era Vienna, in the aftermath of the American Revolution and during that in France, he revolutionized both instrumental and operatic forms.

In subsequent centuries, Mozart's

innovations fundamentally shaped the trajectory of Western classical music, just as his own compositions continued to dominate the concert hall.

Despite this enduring impact, much of Mozart's rich output remains unfamiliar to today's audiences, who have a limited understanding of the context in which he worked. To explore his life and world in all their complexity, the festival presents a broad sampling of his oeuvre, including his Symphonies Nos. 31 ("Paris"), 36 ("Linz"), and 38 ("Prague"); his operas "The Impresario" and "The Abduction" from the Seraglio; audience favorites like the C-minor Piano Concerto and Exsultate, jubilate; and such seldom-heard rarities as the Davide penitente and excerpts from the collaboratively created opera "The Philosopher's Stone."

These will be heard alongside music by composers including Mozart's Renaissance and Baroque predecessors Gregorio Allegri, Johann Sebastian Bach, and George Frideric Handel; his teachers and mentors Leopold Mozart and Giovanni Battista Martini; his revered older contemporaries, like Josef

Mysliveček, the brothers Joseph and Michael Haydn, and half-brothers Carl Philipp Emanuel and Johann Christian Bach; Mozart's colleague Emanuel Schikaneder; his friends Maria Theresia von Paradis and Marianna Martines; his Italian rivals Muzio Clementi, Giovanni Paisiello, and Antonio Salieri; his students Thomas Attwood, Johann Nepomuk Hummel, and Franz Xaver Süssmayr; his youngest son, Franz Xaver Wolfgang Mozart; and the many successors he influenced, Ludwig van Beethoven and Richard Strauss among them.

Mozart's shifting but enduring place in our cultural history stems from his expansion of the expressive power and reach of musical ideas and thought, first in the compositions of a child prodigy, and last in the philosophically complex operas written in his prime and the exquisite late chamber music. The 36th Bard Music Festival will confront the many Mozart myths and examine his legacy. Audiences will come into contact with his life and work in the context of the politics and thought of the 18th century in



Wolfgang Amadé Mozart. *From "Mozart at the Piano" by Joseph Lange*

the Habsburg Empire under Maria Theresa and Joseph II, in Salzburg, where he and his father Leopold worked, and in Vienna, where Mozart spent the last decade of his life.

Visit fishercenter.bard.edu for program details and to purchase tickets.

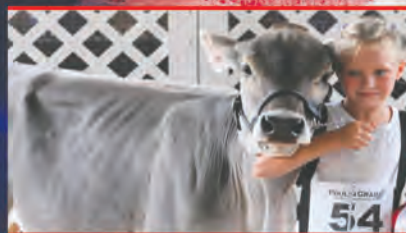
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A banner with a blue background and yellow fireworks. The text is in large, bold, red letters with a white outline.

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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: CAMPING

- VACROSS

1. Soapy enemy

5. Architect's software, acr.

8. Professional number cruncher, acr.

11. Through, to a poet

12. Z, NATO phonetic alphabet

13. Garden pest

15. Chinese monetary unit

16. Sportscaster Andrews

17. Certain water birds

18. *Luxury camping

20. Scratch's target

21. Same as coho

22. DNA transmitter

23. Explanation backed by evidence

26. Gottfried ____, calculus co-creator

30. R in rpm

31. Er on Periodic table

34. Bowling ball path

35. Arabic VIPs

37. .0000001 joule

38. Financial woes

39. Cecum, pl.

40. "Et tu, Brute?" speaker

42. Food morsel

43. Siren, e.g.

45. * __ camping, or camping without shelter

47. Siesta

48. "There it is," à Paris

50. Gold or frankincense or myrrh, e.g.

52. *Fire starter

55. American chameleon

56. Antioxidant-rich berry

57. New Mexico art colony

59. Nymph chaser

60. Nonclerical

61. Poet Pound

62. High school parent org.

63. Be off base

64. Ready for picking
- DOWN

1. Eye infection

2. College party chant

3. Russia's ____ Mountains

4. Western European city-state

5. Collectible in a cabinet

6. Skirt shape

7. Animal waste

8. Chocolate candy, to a Brit

9. Essence

10. Marketing creations

12. Gentle breeze

13. Raspberry drupelets

14. *Like drinking water

19. Customs and conventions

22. "Losing My Religion" band

23. *Leave no ____

24. Egyptian falcon god

25. Put out on a curb

26. Totes or tugs

27. Orient's bigwig

28. Preface, e.g.

29. Piquant

32. * ____ bag or ____ canister

33. Rage

36. *Waterproof cover (2 words)

38. Funny

40. Large edible mushroom

41. Of low pH

44. Serve food at events

46. Restaurant staff member

48. "The ____ of Wakefield"

49. On the radio (2 words)

50. *Annoying biting fly

51. Tiny quantity

52. Leafy green

53. Like Hitler's Germany

54. *Good Ol' Raisins and Peanuts

55. Venomous snake

58. Greek letters on campus

CROSSWORD													
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The solutions to both the Sudoko & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 19



School uniforms

Embarrassment in the Husky section of M. Schwartz.

Growing up with two foreign parents was like living in a sitcom written by people who didn't know it was supposed to be a sitcom. Other kids got Star Wars action figures; I got socks thick enough to stop a bullet. Other kids got grilled cheese; I got Rigatoni Bolognese that could feed a small village. And shopping with my mother? That wasn't shopping. That was a military operation with yelling.

One year, Mom announced it was time to get our parochial school uniforms: blue pants, white shirts, and the tie that felt like it was woven from recycled sandpaper and Catholic guilt. My little brother Vinny was 3 or 4, I was 7 or 8, and together we were a two-man circus act of fidgeting, poking, slapping, whining and general chaos. We couldn't stand still for more than three seconds without starting a small war.

We headed to M. Schwartz on the Main Mall in Poughkeepsie, which for kids was basically Times Square meets Willy Wonka's factory. There were fountains you could throw pennies into, giant stores with escalators that felt like amusement park rides, and – best of all – our uncle's restaurant next door, where we might score a soda if we didn't get ourselves banned from the mall first.

Into Schwartz we marched: Mom in front like a general, Vinny and I behind her like two malfunctioning shopping carts with one bad wheel each. Through the jewelry, past the furs, around the fake plants, up the glass staircase – Vinny and I elbowing each other the whole way, whisper-fighting in that "I'm not touching you" tone that drives parents insane.

Then came the moment of doom: the children's department.

Two sections: Normal Kids and Husky Kids

Guess where we went.

I'm not saying we were fat. I'm just saying our legs were still in negotiations with the rest of our bodies. The Husky section was for boys too big for kid clothes but too small for adult clothes, and everything was designed for tall Husky kids, which we were not. So the crotch always hung somewhere around mid-thigh, and the pants could double as emergency tents.

Mom started holding up blue uniform pants to us, barking orders in Italian like she was directing airport traffic. Vinny and I were swatting at each other, stepping on each other's feet, and getting smacked in return. She kept going up in sizes like she was bidding at an auction.

Finally, she picked a pair for each of us.

Then came the humiliation.

The fitting rooms were across the store, and Mom was in a hurry. So naturally, she told us to try on the pants right there in the aisle. In the Husky section. In front of strangers. In front of other children who would definitely tell their friends.

We protested. She ignored us. We fought. She ignored us harder.

Off came our pants. On went the new ones. There we stood – two Husky boys in our underwear, fidgeting, fighting, whining and getting yelled at in Italian while Mom poked, prodded, tugged and made us bend over to "check the seams." Other shoppers walked by pretending not to stare, which somehow made it worse. We were the Husky Exhibit.

Once Mom was satisfied that the pants fit "well enough," we had to go see the tailor downstairs. Logic would suggest we could change back into our normal clothes. Logic, however, was not Italian.

So down the glass stairs we went, still

wearing our too-long blue uniform pants, stiff white shirts and parochial school ties, shuffling in our stocking feet because the pants were dragging behind us like denim wedding trains. Vinny and I were still fighting, of course – because why stop now? We were committed to the bit.

The tailor was an old Italian man who appeared out of thin air holding chalk like a magician. He spoke no English but plenty of Italian, and the only word I clearly remember him saying was "Husky," which he repeated with the enthusiasm of someone announcing a lottery winner. He marked us up like two blueprints, muttering in rapid-fire Italian while Vinny and I fidgeted like we were being attacked by invisible bees.

Finally, he let us change back into our clothes. Mom paid for our uniforms, and we were released from captivity.

We went next door for our soda, where Vinny and I consoled each other over Uptown cola—still fidgeting, still fighting, still shooting spitballs like two tiny mobsters settling a score. Mom chatted with our uncle, and when she was done, she told us it was time to go home.

That night she made Baked Spaghetti. I guess that's why we were shopping in the Husky section

BAKED SPAGHETTI

Ingredients

- 1 pound dried spaghetti
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 pound mild or spicy Italian sausage, casings removed
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced (about 1½ cups)
- 1 cup thinly sliced sun-dried tomatoes (around 3 ounces)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1½ teaspoons kosher salt, plus extra for salting the pasta water
- 1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 cups whole or 2% milk
- 5 ounces baby spinach (roughly 5 packed cups)
- 3 ounces shredded low-moisture mozzarella (about ¾ cup)

Directions:

Heat your oven to 375°F. Bring a big pot of well-salted water to a boil over medium-high heat.

Drop in 1 pound of spaghetti and cook it until it's just shy of al dente – about a minute less than what the box says. While it cooks, start building the sauce.

Melt 2 tablespoons of butter in a deep skillet over medium-high heat. Add 1 pound of Italian sausage (casings removed) and break it apart with a wooden spoon. Cook until it's no longer pink, about 5–7 minutes.

Stir in the diced onion, sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, 1½ teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning, and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Let everything cook together until the onion softens – roughly 4 minutes.

Sprinkle 3 tablespoons of flour over the mixture and stir constantly for a minute to cook off the raw flour taste. Slowly pour in 4 cups of milk, whisking as you go. Bring it to a gentle boil, then lower the heat and let it simmer until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes. Add the spinach in handfuls, stirring until it wilts.

Drain the spaghetti and return it to its pot. Pour the sauce over it and toss until everything is coated. Taste and adjust the seasoning if needed.

Transfer the pasta to a 9×9-inch (at least 2 inches deep) or 9×13-inch baking dish. Spread it out evenly and top with the shredded mozzarella.

Bake until the edges are bubbling and the cheese is melted – about 18–20 minutes. Let it rest for 5 minutes before cutting it into squares, lasagna-style. Add fresh parsley.

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

MID-HUDSON QUAKERS ON THE WALKWAY ADVOCATE FOR PEACE, JUSTICE



Submitted By Richard Mattocks

"Heard about you." "Didn't know you were still around."

These are a couple of the many comments Mid-Hudson Quakers heard on a recent sunny Saturday morning stroll across the Walkway Over the Hudson advocating for peace and justice by connecting with a few of the annual 700,000 visitors.

A banner was carried which read "Practicing Peace Through the Power of Love." Since their 1600s inception, Quakers (officially known as The Religious Society of Friends) have supported the incarcerated, the less fortunate, refugees, homeless, nutrition programs, clothing drives, college scholarships for minorities, environmental cleanup, violence prevention and more, nationally and internationally.

Mid-Hudson Quakers recently strolled across the Walkway Over the Hudson advocating for peace and justice. Along the way, the connected with some of visitors to the Walkway, the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge. *Courtesy photo*

Mid-Hudson Quakers is an organization of local Quaker meetings in the Mid-Hudson region: Cornwall, New Paltz, Poughkeepsie, Bulls Head/Oswego, Hudson and Nine Partners Meeting from Millbrook.

The quiet and spirit-focused Quakers meet for silent unprogrammed worship each Sunday morning. Find more information about a Quaker Meeting near you at <https://www.poughkeepsiequakers.org/>. You can also email PoughkeepsieQuakerComms@gmail.com or call (845) 293-2301.

Living and worshipping up and down the Hudson River since the 1720s, Quakers promote peace and, guided by Spirit, quietly serve the needs of the community. All are welcome.

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Atom X

Audien Hearing

Conversation on ‘FDR and Churchill at War,’ set Aug. 8 at Wallace Center

To commemorate both the 85th anniversary of the Atlantic Charter and America’s semiquincentennial, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the International Churchill Society (ICS) present “FDR and Churchill at War with director Malcolm Venville” on Saturday, Aug. 8, at 1 p.m. In discussion with ICS executive director Adam Howard, FDR (History Channel) and “Churchill at War” (Netflix) director Malcolm Venville will

present video selections and discuss the significance of Anglo-American relations since World War II. The event will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. This is a free public event, but registration is required to attend in-person. Visit fdrlibrary.org to register.

Malcolm Venville is a renowned photographer and filmmaker whose career spans advertising, narrative film, and documentary. He earned a degree in Film,

Video, and Photographic Arts from the Polytechnic of Central London. Venville rose to prominence through award-winning commercial photography and advertising campaigns before moving into filmmaking, where his work has been recognized for its emotional depth and striking visual style. His feature films include “44 Inch Chest” (2009) and “Henry’s Crime” (2010).

In recent years, Venville has directed acclaimed historical documentaries such

as “Grant” (2020), “Abraham Lincoln” (2022), “Theodore Roosevelt” (2022), “FDR” (2023) and “Churchill at War” (2024), bringing the drama of leadership under pressure vividly to life. He has also published photographic books including Layers, Lucha Loco, and The Women of Casa X, which explore identity, culture, and memory through portraiture.

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

what’s happening? send your arts events to

creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

A & E CALENDAR

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: **Aug. 7-9, 13-16:** “Mozart and His World,” The 36th Bard Music Festival, revisiting the life, times and work of one of the greatest classical composers. Weekend One: “The Perils of Genius,” Aug. 7-9. Weekend Two: “The Universal Musician,” Aug. 13-16. **Through Aug. 15:** The return of the festival’s majestic hand-made mirrored pavilion, the Spiegeltent, with live music, performance, and dancing curated by Jason Collins, emceed by Spiegeltent darling Adrienne Truscott, with Andy Monk hosting the After Hours series. Tickets & more info at fishercenter.bard.edu or (845) 758-7900

Aug. 6: Rhinebeck’s Movies Under the Starrs, Thompson-Mazzarella Town Park, Rhinebeck. Free movie series; films start at sunset. This week: “Night at the Museum,” sponsored by Starr Library, 8:07 p.m. More info on Facebook; or contact Frank Intervallo at (914) 329-8615 or frank-intervallo@gmail.com weather permitting.

Aug. 6-8: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Aug. 6: Get On The Good Foot With DJs Rhoda & Al, 7 p.m. Tickets \$15. Aug. 7: Steamroller – The James Taylor Tribute, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. Aug. 8: Peach & Love, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Aug. 7: 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: The Rhythm and Brews Band. Bring a chair or blanket,

some food and enjoy an evening of local bands performing live. Lineup subject to change.

Aug. 7: Will Lawrence, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. NY-based songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who also works as a support player in The Felice Brothers, Ryan Davis and the Roadhouse Band, John Early and the Lemon Squares, and many more. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Aug. 7-9, 12-16: “I’m Almost There,” Ancram Center for the Arts, 1330 Co. Rte. 7, Ancram. Written and performed by Todd Almond (“Girl from the North Country,” “Gossip Girl”) and directed by Tony Award winner David Cromer (“Good Night, and Good Luck”; “The Band’s Visit”), “I’m Almost There” is a rueful, hilarious, and poignant modern love story in song about a man crossing a sea of doubts to find happiness ... and good coffee. Performances: Wed.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., at 3 p.m. (518) 329-0114 or www.ancramcenter.org

Aug. 7, 15, 22: Staatsburg Village Walking Tour. Staatsburgh State Historic Site offers a 2-hour walk in the village of Staatsburg, exploring the estate’s close relationship with the nearby village and its connection to the Mills family, 10 a.m. A guide will discuss historic buildings and highlight hidden locations in the village that demonstrate Staatsburg’s vibrant past and the lasting legacy of Ruth and Ogden Mills beyond the estate walls. Free, but reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

Aug. 8: Children’s Series, “Persephone,” Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. The myth of Persephone offers children a

chance not just to watch the show, but to be in it. The morning begins with a workshop and rehearsal at 10 a.m., where young participants will learn songs, movements, and the role of the Greek chorus. Then, at 11 a.m., they’ll join Grumbling Gryphon’s lively presentation of this classic myth. Through masks, music, and storytelling, children help rescue Persephone while discovering the ancient story behind the changing seasons - a celebration of creativity, environmental awareness, and the joy of performance. Free, or pay-what-you-can. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Aug. 8: Colonial Crafts Day, East Fishkill Historical Society, 68 Kensington Dr., Hopewell Junction. Join the East Fishkill Historical Society for a day of colonial-era craft demonstrations, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. See skilled artisans demonstrate the skills that made life possible in 18th-century Dutchess County: blacksmithing, woodcarving, gunsmithing, cooking in the beehive bake oven and more. The centerpiece to this day will be a special demonstration of colonial iron smelting in a bloom furnace, the first public presentation of its kind in Dutchess County. Free. www.destinationdutchess.com/rev250

Aug. 8: Music on the Portico: Elaine Rachlin, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. Evoking the penchant of well-to-do Gilded Age patrons for European and French culture, singer Elaine Rachlin serenades with her repertoire of songs sung in their original language, 4-5 p.m. Free. Guests are also welcome to bring a blanket or chair for lawn seating; no reservations required. Check social media or call (845) 889-8851 for weather cancellations. Rain date Aug. 9, 4 p.m.

Aug. 8: “Opera Uncorked,” Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Lively evening of wine and music, 7:30 p.m. Expect drama, romance, and a curated wine list from Italy, France, Germany, and the U.S. Each musical selection is paired with wine chosen to enhance the mood, flavor, and drama of the music. Tickets \$75. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Aug. 8: Summer Concert Series, Red Hook Library, 7444 S. Broadway, Red Hook. Music on the library’s front lawn, 1 p.m. This month: Lannie Bolde & Karl Allweier. www.redhooklibrary.org

Aug. 8: Summer Series, Opus 40, Saugerties. Sally Baby’s Silver Dollars, blend of Creole, New Orleans, jazz & more, 8-10 p.m. Tickets & more info at opus40.org

August 8 & 15: “A Closer Look: A Curator-Guided Exploration of the Hidden & Hard-to-See,” In this special 90-minute tour, Staatsburgh’s curator will focus on a selection of objects that are not easily seen on tour or which tell a special story, 2 p.m. This version of the tour will focus on all things France including the French objects, furniture, and architecture in the house. Note: The Aug. 8 tour will be

followed by a free concert of French music on the grand portico; see separate listing on this page for details. Cost: \$12/adults, \$10/seniors & students, children 12 & under free. Reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

Aug. 9: Quaker Meeting House Tours, Clinton Corners, Millbrook & LaGrange. Learn about the incredible stories and experiences of the Quaker community in Dutchess County at three meeting houses: The Creek Meeting House in Clinton Corners, the Nine Partners Meeting House in Millbrook, and the Little Red Schoolhouse in Lagrangeville, 1-4 p.m. Free. www.meetinghousetour.com

August 9, 16, 23 & 30: 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 2-hour guided hike will lead visitors through the 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. 10 a.m. The hike is approximately 1.5 miles of uneven terrain, requiring study footwear. Free. Reservations required: <https://Bookeo.com/StaatsburghSHS>

Aug. 12: “America250 Film Series,” Henry A. Wallace Center, FDR Library & Museum, Hyde Park. Screening of “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” (1939), 2 p.m. Upon the death of his state’s junior senator, Jefferson Smith (James Stewart) is appointed to serve alongside Joseph Paine, a Washington D.C. legend who leads a corrupt political machine. Placing a lieutenant, Saunders (Jean Arthur), as Jeff’s watchful secretary, Paine hopes to gain quick approval for an unnecessary -- but profitable -- dam by keeping Smith focused on a bill to build a boys’ camp. After Saunders falls in love with her new boss, Jeff threatens to expose the scam, but is undermined when Paine claims that Smith owns the camp’s land. But, when Jeff fights back with a heroic, and exhausting, filibuster, it sparks Paine’s heartfelt confession, making Smith a national hero - - and Saunders’ new husband. Free, but registration is required at fdrlibrary.org. Questions: Cliff Laube, (845) 486-7745

Aug. 12: Music in the Parks, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. Outdoor concert series featuring, 6:30 p.m. This week: West Point Military Band. Rain location: Taconic Reginal OFC-NY Parks, 9 Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. For any cancellations or changes, check the Hyde Park Recreation Facebook page.

Aug. 12: 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. This week: Dylan Doyle, rock. www.walkway.org

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An artful pairing of opera, wine and local cheese at Stissing Center

On Saturday, Aug. 8, at 7:30 p.m, Stissing Center proudly presents “Opera Uncorked,” a wine tasting event that brings together bold voices, beautiful pours, and local partnership.

“Opera Uncorked” pairs arias from beloved operas with wines from Italy, France, Germany, and the United States. Each musical selection is matched with a wine chosen to enhance the mood, flavor and drama of the musical piece, offering audiences a distinctive sensory experience. Guests will sip and swirl their way through a thoughtfully curated wine list while experiencing the classically trained operatic artistry of Emily Gallagher, Brian James Myer, Peter Lake, Devony Smith, and Caleb Yanez Glickman.

Presented in partnership with Fulton and Forbes Wine and Spirits in Ancram,

the event is designed to be an immersive experience of wine and song. Cheese and crackers will be provided courtesy of farm sponsor Chaseholm Farm, adding another meaningful local connection to the evening.

Experience opera in a whole new way and enjoy an unforgettable night of international wines, timeless music and human connection.

The Stissing Center is at 2950 Church St. in Pine Plains. Tickets: \$75, available at stissingcenter.org or by calling (518) 771-3339.

Stissing Center is a nonprofit arts space that partners with artists, organizations, and audiences to curate diverse, high-quality programming that inspires, entertains, and connects people of all ages.



The Stissing Center will present “Opera Uncorked” on Saturday, Aug. 8. Featured singers include (from left) Brian James Myer, Caleb Yanez Glickman, Peter Lake, Devony Smith and Emily Gallagher and . *Courtesy photos*

EXHIBITIONS

Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through Sept. 27:** “Tensions & Triumph: Art Born from Resilience and Renewal,” a group exhibition featuring the work of Arts Mid-Hudson member artists exploring themes of resilience, transformation, and hope through a diverse collection of artistic perspectives. **Closing Reception Artist Talk:** Sun., Sept. 27, 1-3 p.m. The afternoon will also feature a special performance by Zelda, aka Judith Z. Miller, beginning at 1:10 p.m. www.artsmidhudson.org or (845) 454-3222

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.

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Aug. 30:** “Atelier 17: Myths in Motion,” part of “The Atelier 17 Project,” a series of exhibitions and programs commemorating the centennial of one of the 20th century’s most influential printmaking workshops, which was founded by Stanley William Hayter in Paris in 1927 and was renowned for its spirit of collaboration, experimentation, and technical innovation. **Through Sept. 20:** “A Living Legacy: Gifts from Lynn Gross Straus,” The exhibition celebrates the life and generosity of Lynn Gross Straus (1925–2023), Vassar Class of 1946, a philanthropist, adventurer, avid art collector, and champion of early childhood education. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **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

Hessel Museum of Art, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College (CCS Bard), Annandale-on-Hudson. **Through Nov. 29:** “Uman: In Between,” a solo exhibition exploring over two decades of creative practice by the painter Uman, marking the pathbreaking artist’s most comprehensive survey to date. Featuring more than 100 works, the exhibition will trace the evolution of Uman’s prolific painting practice from the intimate portraits

she made in the 2000s to the commanding images she creates today, including two new murals developed for the exhibition. <https://ccs.bard.edu/>

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

Millbrook Vineyards & Winery, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook. **Through Nov. 15:** Arts Mid-Hudson and Millbrook Vineyards & Winery Present 2026 Art in the Loft, a juried exhibition and sale of fine art featuring 16 AMH member artists. Wine Label Competition: Visitors are invited to vote for their favorite piece to be featured on an exclusive wine label. www.artsmidhudson.org/art-in-the-loft

Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Aug. 7-Sept. 4:** “Photos of Rhinecliff,” photographs by Bruce Murphy. **Art Opening:** Fri., Aug. 7, 6-8 p.m. Free admission. Art purchases and donations for the library are welcome. Refreshments will be available at opening.

Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St., Catskill. **Through December:** “Circles of Influence: Thomas Cole and the American Landscape Movement,” In Thomas Cole’s Library Gallery. New exhibition explores the rapid influence that Thomas Cole and his work had on other 19th-century artists, including Susie M. Barstow, Albert Bierstadt, Ralph Albert Blakelock, Frederic Edwin Church, Mary B. Cole, Thomas Cole, Sarah Cole, Jasper Francis Cropsey, Asher B. Durand, John Frederick Kensett, Mary Josephine Walters, and Worthington Whittredge. **Through December:** “Emily Cole & Valerie Hegarty: LIFE CYCLES” presents a visual dialogue of two craft-based women artists across three centuries: 19th-century artist Emily Cole, daughter of Thomas Cole, and 21st-century artist Valerie Hegarty. The spotlight exhibition juxtaposes more than 30 works of painted porcelain and works on paper by Emily Cole (1843–1913) with a mixed-media installation by Hegarty. The work by Valerie Hegarty was made specifically for the Thomas Cole Site in 2025 and explores the connection between Thomas Cole and Emily Cole and their fascination with cycles of life, while considering Hegarty’s own relationship with her mother. www.thomascole.org

Tyte Gallery, 3280 Franklin Ave., 2nd floor, Millbrook. **Aug. 8-26:** “Architecture of Awareness,” a solo exhibition by New York-based artist and architect Seth Howe, curated by Sharon Bates. **Reception:** Aug. 5, 5-7 p.m.

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through Aug. 30:** “The Five Freedoms,” a national juried group exhibition highlighting the five freedoms outlined in the First Amendment: Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, Freedom of the Press, Freedom to Assemble, and Freedom to Petition the Government. **Artists Talk:** Sun., Aug. 30, 1-3 p.m. www.womenswork.art

COUNTY PLAYERS HOLDING AUDITIONS FOR ‘PETER AND THE STARCATCHER’ AUG. 9-10

Auditions will be held for County Players’ November production of “Peter and the Starcatcher” on Aug 9 and 10 at 7 p.m. Based on the novel by Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson, with a Book by Rick Elice and Music by Wayne Barker, the play is directed by Christine Crawfis, with music direction by Karen Dalmer-Sheehy & Holden Mairona. Choreography and Movement by Carlos Gomez & Kaela Altman.

A grown up prequel to Peter Pan, this Tony Award®-winning adventure reimagines the Neverland you never knew. “Peter and the Starcatcher” transforms the classic tale with a wildly inventive origin story of how a nameless orphan became The Boy Who Wouldn’t Grow Up. An ensemble cast conjures more than a hundred characters through ingenious stagecraft and boundless imagination.

With music, mermaids, stardust treasure, a spirited heroine, unruly pirates, and a wickedly absurd Captain, Peter and the Starcatcher takes flight. Pirates included. Plenty of them.

Audition details and more information is available at <https://countyplayers.org/auditions-peter-starcatcher/>.

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS: 2026 HOME IMPROVEMENT FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA

Roof • Windows • Siding • Bathrooms • Heating & More

Is your home telling you it's time?

- ✓ Roof showing age, leaks, or storm damage
- ✓ Old, drafty windows driving up energy bills
- ✓ Outdated bathrooms or exterior issues
- ✓ Projects you "planned" to do-but put off because of cost

You may qualify for special home improvement funding programs not available to the general public.

- ✓ Lower out-of-pocket costs
- ✓ Spread payments over time
- ✓ Move forward without delaying needed work

Even homeowners who could pay cash are encouraged to check eligibility.

ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED

Programs, appointments, and installations are available on a first-come, first-served basis in your area. Programs change frequently and may close without notice.

**CALL NOW TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY
888-849-9991
or visit NyProgramFunding.com**

APPROVED APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE THE WORK COMPLETED BY A QUALITY REPAIR CREW PROVIDED BY HOMEOWNER FUNDING. NOT AFFILIATED WITH STATE OR GOV PROGRAMS. LICENSE NY-RC-H-21274

'A Day of Music & Nature' for children set Aug. 22 at Beatrix Farrand Garden
On Saturday, Aug. 22, the Beatrix Farrand Garden Association will present a one-day program that will immerse children (ages 9 to 12) into the wonder of African drumming and nature exploration activities. "Rhythm & Nature: A Day of Music & Nature," will be held at the Beatrix Farrand Garden, part of the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, located at 4097 Albany Post Road in Hyde Park. Children may register for the morning session, which is the African drumming session, or the afternoon session, which is the nature activities session, or enjoy the full day of discovery.

Families should register at https://www.viewcy.com/event/rhythm_nature_afri. Tuition is free due in part to the grant provided by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Reservations must be made by Aug. 15, and permission forms (required by Aug. 20) will be provided by emailing ExecDir@bfgahydepark.org.

Parents or guardians are encouraged to remain on site. Children attending both sessions must be accompanied by an adult and should bring a lunch to enjoy together during the break from noon to 1 p.m. in the lunch pavilion. Children should wear comfortable clothing suitable for outdoor activities. Children should bring a water bottle, sunscreen, and a hat.

Rain or shine (covered space available if needed).

Clinton Food Pantry seeks donations
School's out! Your donations help local families feed their kids nutritious food all summer long. The Clinton Food Pantry, located at the Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church at the corner of Hollow Road and Fiddlers Bridge Road, is open every other Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m., opening again on August 5. Drop off your donations to the Town Clerk's office. If you have any questions, email Carol Mackin: townclerk@clintondcnyc.gov.

Open House set Saturdays at Gen. Montgomery House Museum
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

Rhinebeck Repair Cafe set Aug. 8
The Rhinebeck Repair Café will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at The Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive.

People bring all sorts of things to the Repair Cafe to be mended: lamps, clocks, vacuum cleaners, small electrical appliances; digital devices and computers; jewelry and clothing; wooden items, ceramic, plastic, metal, and leather items, toys, and so much more! Knife and tool sharpening and zipper repair will also be available. The event is free; donations to purchase parts and supplies are welcome.

For questions or more information, email elaine.rhinebeckrepaircafe@gmail.com.

WKZE sets day of music at Hardeman Orchards
On Saturday, August 8, WKZE 98.1 FM will present a day of music and family fun at Hardeman Orchards in Red Hook. Featured performers include Joel Cummins (Umpfhey's McGee), Dennis Chambers (P-Funk), Joe Marcinek, Big Sam (Big Sam's Funky Nation), Brad Walker (Sturgill Simpson), Nate Edgar (The Nth Power) and Cliff Porter (Karl Denson's Tiny Universe), Billy Keane and The Waking Dream, Bluestone Quarry, Shannon Tehya, The Orangutwins and more. The Red Hook Community Center will feature face painting and a variety of community art activities.

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.

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 lessons, 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.

Dutchess County to host second Older Adults Skills Fair on Aug. 13
Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the County's Office for the Aging announce the return of the second annual "Putting Your Skills Back to Work" Older Adults Skills Fair. This dynamic, free event is designed for older adults, ages 55 and older, who are looking to stay active and are interested in meaningful volunteer opportunities or part-time employment. This year's fair will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., at John Jay High School's gymnasium in East Fishkill.

There is no RSVP required for guest attendance. Businesses and nonprofit organizations interested in hosting a table can call the County Executive's Office at 845-486-2000 or visit dutchessny.gov/senior-skills to reserve a spot.

Repair Cafe set Aug. 15 in Pleasant Valley
On Saturday, Aug. 15, the Pleasant Valley Repair Cafe will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the OLD Town Hall on Main Street. If an item is broken, don't toss it. Fixers will make it new again and while you wait grab a treat. A sharpener on hand all day. Bicycle repairs in the afternoon.

LaGrange Library Fill-A-Bag Book Sale starts Aug. 15
The LaGrange Association Library will have a Fill-A-Bag Book Sale from Aug. 15 to 29 during our regular library hours. Come fill a bag full of goodies from the library's Book Nook for a donation of \$5 to the library.

Paper bags will be provided, or bring your own.

The library is at 1110 Route 55 in Lagrangeville. Call (845) 452-3141 or visit <https://laglib.org> for more information.

ERVK to present 'Skills for Disagreeing Better' on Aug. 15
The Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill (ERVK) will host "Skills for Disagreeing Better," a workshop by Braver Angels, on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 12:30 to 3 p.m., at The Playhouse at the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, 106 Valkill Park Road, Hyde Park. The event is free, but registration is required at <https://ervk.org>.

This free workshop in collaboration with Braver Angels, a volunteer-led, cross-partisan movement that brings together Americans to bridge the political divide, reduce stereotypes, and practice civil dialogue. The "Skills for Disagreeing Better" workshop

helps participants understand the values and concerns of those who differ from them politically, and teaches essential skills for communicating across differences and finding common ground.

Flag Changing Ceremony on Walkway Aug. 16
The American Legion Post 739 will present its monthly Flag Changing Ceremony on the Walkway Over the Hudson on Sunday, Aug. 16, from noon to 12:30 p.m. The ceremony honors our region's veterans and their service to our country. These events are open to all who wish to attend.

'Amenia's Spycatcher' set Aug. 21-23
The Amenia Historical Society presents "Amenia's Spycatcher," a new historical drama by local resident George Bistransin set during the American Revolution in Amenia, on Aug. 21 and 22 at 8 p.m., and Aug. 23 at 2 p.m., at the Amenia Town Hall Theater, 4988 Route 22, Amenia. The play takes inspiration from "Grandmother's Spy" by Judge Ephraim Paine's descendant, which tells how his wife Mary Paine caught a man who she believed was a British Spy. Admission is free. Reservations recommended at <https://ameniaspycatcher.eventbrite.com>

Grace Church Golf & Dinner benefit set Sept. 14 at Millbrook Golf & Tennis Club
On Monday, Sept. 14, Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook will host its annual golf tournament and dinner benefit. Each year, two noteworthy individuals are honored for their outstanding service to Grace Church (Pillar of Grace) and the community at large (Pillar of the Community). This year's honorees are Cathy Shanks and Skip Ciferri.

The event, which takes place at the Millbrook Golf & Tennis Club in Millbrook, includes 18 holes of golf, with tee times at either 8 a.m. or 1 p.m. Golf includes breakfast and lunch, on-course refreshments, golf cart, raffle, a 50/50 cash drawing, and valuable prizes. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. with a cocktail hour, silent auction, and an excellent meal.

Registration is open for sponsorships, golf, and dinner. Attendance costs \$175 for golf, \$175 for dinner, and \$250 for golf and all meals. To register, contact the church office (845) 677-3064 or office@gracemillbrook.org or co-chair James Prudden (914-482-3525 or james.prudden@gmail.com). Registration can also be completed online at www.gracemillbrook.org. Registrations required by August 31.

Teeth Wisdom
How many of your natural teeth do you still have?
On average, according to the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, American adults age 65 and up still have 21 of their 32 natural teeth as of 2020, the most recent year for which we have complete data. Meanwhile, 15 percent of that group no longer have any natural teeth. Those who currently smoke or previously smoked cigarettes or used chewing tobacco, and those with lower levels of income and education have statistically significantly fewer remaining teeth.
While 21 remaining teeth is an improvement over the US average of just under 19 teeth during the 1999-2004 measurement period, it's still less than the 22 recommended by the Centers for Disease Control as the minimum needed to properly chew food without dentures.

Although better than in years past, the typical aging patient's oral health can be complicated conditions like hypertension and diabetes, along with physiological changes associated with aging.
Adults who've had all their wisdom teeth pulled are operating with 28 natural teeth. How can we stay as close to 28 as possible?
The CDC's recommendations for improved oral health include continued careful daily brushing and flossing. For caregivers, it's important to reinforce the daily oral hygiene routines of older adults who are unable to brush and floss independently. Regular visits to a dentist are also important, even for those who have lost their teeth. Regular exams can help catch oral cancers and pre-cancerous lesions in their early stages.
As for which type of toothbrush – electric or manual – works best, the American Dental Association says both

types work equally well, although electric models may be more suitable for people with arthritis and other conditions that limit movement and dexterity.

Do a Med Check
Dental experts also point out the medications commonly taken by older adults often come with side effects like “dry mouth,” a reduction in saliva production which contributes to tooth decay and gum disease if not counteracted with good oral self-care, including regular brushing. The CDC reports that there are over 400 common medications which list dry mouth as a side effect, but that dry mouth can be counteracted by drinking plenty of water, chewing sugarless gum, and avoiding both alcohol and tobacco.

A surprising factor to watch for
If you or a loved one will be undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment involving the head and neck, the CDC strongly recommends a dentist visit

Thursday, August 13th at John Jay High School, 2012 NY 52 in Hopewell Junction. This event will include opportunities to:

- Meet local employers offering flexible, part-time positions;
- Connect with nonprofit organizations;
- Socialization with fellow older adults; and
- Enjoy complimentary light refreshments.

No advance guest registration is required. Employers and other prospective vendors looking for a tabling opportunity can contact the county executive's office at 845-486-2000 or visit dutchess-ny.gov/senior-skills to sign up while space lasts, or before August 6th, whichever comes first.

Transportation Council Meeting on Transportation Plan (Thu 8/6)
The Dutchess County Transportation



Legal Notices

PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Milan will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 17, 2026 at the Town of Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, Milan, New York 12571 at 6:55 pm concerning proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2026, entitled, "Local Law Amending Town Code Section § 200-36. Short-Term Residential Rental" pursuant to Article 16 of the N.Y. Town Law and Municipal Home Rule Law § 10. This Local Law will take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State. Complete copies of the proposed Local Law are available at the Town of Milan Town Clerk's Office for inspection during regular business hours. All interested persons and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the date, time and place aforesaid. By order of the Milan Town Board, Ingrid Kulick, Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on July 13, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with

Legal Notices

as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice. Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, July 28, 2026. /s/Julie Shiroishi Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2026096
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES FOR VARIOUS PROPOSED COUNTY BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$1,186,750, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,186,750 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.
Class of objects or purposes: Preliminary design and environmental studies for various proposed County building improvements
Period of probable usefulness: 5 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$1,186,750
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,186,750 bonds

LEGAL NOTICE OF

Legal Notices

ESTOPPEL
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on July 13, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice. Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, July 28, 2026. /s/Julie Shiroishi Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2026097
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,020,000 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A CARD SWIPE ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM AT COUNTY BUILDINGS, IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.
Class of objects or purposes: Purchase/installation of

Legal Notices

a cardswipe access system at County buildings
Period of probable usefulness: 10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,020,000
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$2,020,000 bonds
SEQRA status: Type II Action
LEGAL NOTICE
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on July 13, 2026, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice. Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, July 28, 2026. /s/Julie Shiroishi Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2026098
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF AN ADDITIONAL \$489,749 BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF

Legal Notices

DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST OF THE CULVERT REPLACEMENT ON COUNTY ROUTE 49 (TITUSVILLE ROAD), IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.
Specific object or purpose: Culvert replacement on County Route 49 (Titusville Road) over Wappinger Creek Tributary (Town of LaGrange)
Period of probable usefulness: 20 years
Revised maximum estimated cost: \$3,156,400
Previously authorized: \$1,166,651 bonds (12/18/25 bond resolution)
Other monies: \$1,500,000 State grants-in-aid
Additional amount of obligations to be issued: \$489,749 bonds
SEQRA Status: Type II Action

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFQu-DCP-79-26
Planning/Architectural/Engineering Consulting Services for Hudson Valley Regional Airport
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., August 31, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call

Legal Notices

tional information, call 845-486-3613.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-86-26
Operator for Scattered Site Code Blue Warming Centers
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., August 31, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-90-26
Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS)
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., September 1, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call

Legal Notices

845-486-3613.
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Legislature of the County of Dutchess at a meeting held on July 13, 2026, adopted a local law entitled: LOCAL LAW No. 5 of 2026, A LOCAL LAW ADOPTING A REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE CREATION OF ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS PURSUANT TO §421-p OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW AND EXCLUDING SHORT-TERM RENTALS
The purpose of this Local Law is to encourage the creation of accessory dwelling units for long-term residential occupancy to increase housing supply within Dutchess County by adopting the exemption authorized by §421-p of the Real Property Tax Law for qualifying accessory dwelling unit projects, while ensuring that public tax incentives are not utilized to subsidize short-term rental activity.
A copy of the local law is available at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature where it may be inspected during regular office hours.
JULIE SHIROISHI Clerk
Dutchess County Legislature
Dated: July 31, 2026

Hudson Valley Naturalist

continued from page 10

Ancient Greek and Roman societies knew it as a single-rowed, pale-pink blossom. During the Middle Ages and Renaissance, European monks and cottage gardeners noticed the striking, but rare, extra petals that resulted from natural genetic mutations. Wanting to duplicate the voluminous look of those multi-petaled mutants, breeders saved and selectively crossed the unique flowers over generations. By the 19th and 20th centuries, French and American cultivators had created thick, ball-like ruffled carnations that dominate the global floral market today. Selecting for extreme petal density is a trade-off between natural survival and commercial longevity. In the garden, single carnations excel because their exposed reproductive organs attract pollinators and produce abundant seeds, though their delicate petals wither quickly. But for a striking visual "pop," double and highly double varieties are spectacular. Furthermore, they are bred to resist moisture loss and mechanical damage, granting them an exceptionally long vase

life. The cost of long-lasting beauty is that their reproductive parts are ineffective or absent. They have largely lost their signature wild, clove-like fragrance, leaving them entirely dependent on human propagation via stem cuttings to survive. If you are interested in investigating selective breeding using carnations, check out this educational product: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Water-Movement-Artificial-Selection-Carnation-Celery-Ecology-Enrichment-16968215>
Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over 3 decades teaching in Ulster County. She creates science-themed instructional materials and books, as well as being a Citizen Scientist in the management of her current home in an enchanted woodland of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com>.

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

Sets
Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.
□ • 1 thru 4
□ ▲ 5 thru 15
□ ■ 16 thru 30
□ ◆ 31 thru 54
□ ● 55 thru 75
□ ▲ 76 thru 114
□ ■ 115 thru 134

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

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SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

*Answers to this
week's diversions*

(puzzles on page 12)

OBITUARIES

Bruce Baright

LAGRANGE – Bruce Harold Baright, 85, died on July 22, 2026 at the Taconic at Hopewell Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Born in Poughkeepsie on June 8, 1941, he was the son of the late Harry and Mae (Jones) Baright. Bruce graduated from Arlington High School and proudly served our country in the US Army. He was the owner and operator of Jim Ross Trailer Sales in Poughkeepsie. He had also been employed by IBM in Poughkeepsie and Camper’s Barn in Kingston.

Bruce dedicated much time as a volunteer with the LaGrange Fire Department, serving as Captain of Station 2 and with the LaGrange Rescue and Ambulance Squad. He was a member of the Exempt Firemen’s Association and a Charter Member of the Dutchess County Ambulance Association. He was also a 47 year member of American Legion Post #1302 in Poughkeepsie. Following his retirement to Homosassa, FL, he also was a volunteer crime watch officer with the Citrus County Sheriff’s Office.

Bruce was an avid boater from the Hudson River to the shores of Florida. He enjoyed owning many types of boats, including his beloved house boat. He truly loved being on the water.

Bruce is survived by his daughter, Mary Gehrlein and her husband Jeffrey; his grandchildren, Devan and his fiancé Jenna, Danielle and Sarah; his sister, Beverly O’Hara; his nephew, Robert Baright; and his niece, June Bo. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his life partner, Carol VanderLaan; his sisters, Ethel Pecchia and her husband Joe, and Shirley Roth and her husband Al; his brothers, Stewart Baright and his wife Anna, and Kenneth Baright and his wife Nancy; and his brother-in-law, Bob O’Hara.

A graveside service was held on Wednesday, July 29 at the LaGrange Rural Cemetery, Poughkeepsie with military and firematic honors.

Memorial donations may be made to the LaGrange Fire Department, Station #2, 504 Freedom Plains Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 or American Legion Post #1302, 55 Overlook Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

Daniel Joseph Butler

HYDE PARK – Daniel J. “Dan” Butler, 51, of Hyde Park, NY, died on July 25, 2026.

Born in Lima, Ohio, on May 11, 1975, he was the son of Dolores (Schmitt) Butler and Robert Butler. As the first grandchild on the maternal side, he was the apple of everyone’s eye. Dan attended Holy Trinity School in Poughkeepsie before graduating from Roosevelt High School. He later attended SUNY New Paltz, where he studied English.

Dan’s professional life was devoted in large measure to teaching, mentoring, and supporting others. From August 2004 through February 2015, he lived in Long Beach, California. He loved living in California and always spoke fondly of his experiences there. Dan worked as a teacher for SIATech and in that role, he designed and implemented state

exit examination curriculum to support graduation requirements, coordinated school-wide literacy initiatives, and team-taught interdisciplinary courses blending technology, mathematics, history, and creative learning. He also supported at-risk students through academic intervention and job-readiness instruction, assisted school leadership with accreditation, scheduling, staff training, and peer coaching, and developed community partnerships with organizations including the Grammy Museum and Homeboy Industries. In addition, he coordinated large-scale events such as graduations and live performances. What mattered most to Dan throughout his time there was his students- Dan spoke often with a deep respect and admiration for the students he worked with and their determination to succeed.

After returning to New York, Dan worked for the Anderson Center for Autism as a Direct Support Specialist. There, he supported adults with autism in developing daily living skills to promote independence and improve quality of life. He implemented individualized care and behavior-support plans, facilitated community-based social and recreational activities, documented progress, communicated with interdisciplinary teams, and used crisis-intervention and de-escalation techniques to help maintain a safe and supportive environment.

Dan later joined Family Services in Poughkeepsie, where he designed and led the largest youth program in the City of Poughkeepsie, serving a diverse student population. He established partnerships with more than 20 community organizations to expand educational, artistic, and athletic programming. He also developed marketing strategies and materials that increased program awareness and registration, created student-centered programming based on surveys, interests, and community needs, and supervised after-school programming to ensure a safe, structured, and engaging environment. Dan volunteered his time on the weekend to supervise and coach youth basketball, a sport he loved since childhood.

An animal lover and entrepreneur, Dan owned and operated Dan’s Dogs, a pet-sitting business in Hyde Park through which he cared for beloved pets and built lasting relationships with their families.

Creativity was central to Dan’s life. Under the name Pappa Ghost, he worked as a writer, DJ, and music producer. He was the author of Jump, I’ll Catch You, a deeply personal work shaped by music, memory, resilience, and his experiences coming of age during the grunge and hip-hop era. Music was more than an interest for Dan. It was a language through which he expressed himself, connected with others, and made sense of the world.

Dan will be remembered most especially for his gentleness, his extraordinary kindness, and his sincere concern for others. He possessed a quiet compassion that was evident in the way he cared for people and animals alike, and he had a remarkable ability to make others feel seen, valued, and supported. His

patience, empathy, and generous spirit shaped both his work and his relationships, leaving a lasting impression on all who knew him.

Dan cherished his role as uncle and made a special impact in that way. Spoiling with gifts and experiences in addition to long talks on the phone were his specialty!

In addition to his parents, Dan is survived by his brother, Peter (Matthew); his sister, Bridget; two nieces; two nephews; step father, Robert Kristofik; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family received friends and visitors on Saturday, August 1st at Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, Poughkeepsie, NY. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mental Health America of Dutchess County at: <https://www.tmcfund.org.com/funds/honoring-the-life-of-dan-butler/16726/>. To leave a message of remembrance, please visit: www.doylefuneralhome.com.

Harry ‘Butch’ Butler

HYDE PARK – Harry “Butch” Butler of Hyde Park was a true family man - a devoted husband, dad, pop-pop, brother, son, uncle, cousin, colleague, and irreplaceable friend. While our hearts are filled with immense and profound grief, we are deeply grateful for the gift of his life, the fierce love he gave us all, and the comfort of knowing he is now free.

The impact Butch made on the lives of many cannot be overstated. He was the warmest, kindest, funniest, most generous, dedicated, supportive, loving and protective family man and friend. Per his wishes, there will be no calling hours or services. Instead, because a life this beautifully lived deserves a true gathering of remembrance, all are welcome to join the family at his Celebration of Life on Sunday, August 23, 2026, at Vassar College’s Alumnae House, 161 College Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. Drop by anytime between 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM to toast Butch and share stories, music, and memories.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in his name to Hudson Valley Hospice or the Dutchess County SPCA

Condolences may be made to the family at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

Gary E. Cady

PLEASANT VALLEY – Gary E. Cady, 78, lost his 3 yr. battle with cancer on July 30, 2026, with his family at his bedside.

Born in Pleasant Valley, NY to George (Mike) Cady and Ruth Kilmer on August 31, 1947. He attended Arlington High School and graduated in 1966. Gary enlisted in the US Navy and served two tours in Vietnam. Upon returning to Pleasant Valley, he met and married Susan L. Prince on February 12, 1971 at the Presbyterian Church. They had 55 wonderful years together.

In January of 1971, Gary joined the City of Poughkeepsie Fire Dept. and retired in 2003. He had a green thumb and his yard always bloomed with baskets of flowers and he was able to maintain his yard until a year before his death.

Gary played softball on many teams but will always remember his time with the Diamond Horseshoe team. He was also an avid bowler and bowled in numerous leagues.

He is survived by his wife Sue, his three sons Jason & Rebecca Cady, Ryan Cady and Daniel Cady. His beloved grandchildren Courtney Reilly and her fiancée Will Babb, Corrine Cady, and Jason (JJ) Cady. He is also survived by his sister, Barbara Donegan. He is survived by numerous extended family members, nieces & nephews, cousins. He was predeceased by his sister Karleen Daley.

The family would like to thank Hospice, especially Corrina Kelley and Isabel for the car they showed him.

Many thanks go out to the family and friends who helped with meals, just sitting with him and phone calls and texts.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 from 6PM-8PM at the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Hospice, any Veteran’s Association and Tunnels to Towers.

Catherine A. Schrader

HYDE PARK – Catherine A. Schrader, 90, of Hyde Park, NY, passed away on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck. She was born on November 23, 1935, in Kingston, NY, the daughter of Andrew and Margaret Long Juhl.

Catherine married the love of her life, Daniel Schrader, on February 4, 1956 at St. Joseph’s Church in Kingston. He predeceased her in 2011.

She worked as a Teacher’s Assistant for the Wappinger’s Central School District for 20 years before retiring and moving with Dan to Florida. Catherine and Dan spent many hours together on the golf course during their years in Florida.

Catherine was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She enjoyed cooking, sewing and going to the casino with her family and friends. She belonged to the Ladies Guild at St. Martin de Porres Church Poughkeepsie, NY.

Catherine was predeceased by her brothers Andrew and Donald Juhl. She is survived by her sister Berenice Keller, Bloomington, NY. Surviving also are her loving children; Linda Senchak of Hyde Park, Diane Schrader of Porter Corners, NY, Dan Schrader (Renee) of Orient, OH, Gayle Gebing (Jim) of Larue, TX and Karen Hamel (Chris) of Fuquay-Varina, NC.

Also surviving are her 13 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held on Sunday, August 2, 2026 at the Wm. G. Miller & Son Funeral Home, Inc., Poughkeepsie, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, August 3, 2026 at St. Martin de Porres Church, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Inurnment followed in the Community Mausoleum at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the CHF Team at the Heart Center in Poughkeepsie, NY for the wonderful care for their mother.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Catherine’s name to the Dutchess County American Heart Association, www.dccroc.org

If you wish to send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

Kathryn Windley

MILAN – Kathryn Louise Windley, 63, passed away peacefully on August 24, 2025 at her home in Milan, NY. She was surrounded by those she loved best: her husband Gary and her siblings, Judy, Cheryl, and Greg.

Kathryn moved through the world with rare grace, bringing beauty, sensitivity, and keen intelligence to every aspect of her life. She was happiest when she was making something—growing a garden, designing a kitchen, painting a portrait, assembling a collage.

The youngest child of Laurel and Vivian Windley, she was born in Torrance, CA on June 9, 1962 and raised in Salt Lake City, UT. After graduating from Utah State University, she began a successful career as an advertising art director and creative director, producing award-winning campaigns for major agencies in Los Angeles and New York City.

In 1998, yearning for a more peaceful life, Kathryn left Manhattan for the Hudson Valley, purchasing Over Look Farm, an 1830s farmhouse on twenty acres that was in need of some love—little realizing that she would find a deep and abiding love of her own with Gary DiMauro, the Realtor who sold her the property. She designed her dream garden and began a faithful period renovation of the house. Gary moved in four years later, and Kathryn became the creative director for his company, Gary DiMauro Real Estate. They wed in 2005 in a simple, beautiful ceremony at Over Look.

Meanwhile, Kathryn rediscovered a passion for art and taught herself to paint. She and Gary were in the midst of building an art studio for her when she was diagnosed with the cancer that would eventually take her life. She met the challenges of her recurring illness with the fierce optimism and courage that were so much a part of her character, pouring her energy into her home, her garden, her travels with Gary, the cause of women’s rights, and her art. In 2012-13, Over Look Farm was featured in Country Living and Upstate House magazines.

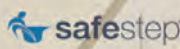
After her diagnosis in 2009, Kathryn began doing the exquisite collage work that would become the main focus of her artistic practice. A descendant of Swedish and Danish pioneers as well as Mormon leader Brigham Young, she used her collages to explore her ancestry as well as the scientific properties of her disease, linking them in the indelible, deeply personal mixed-media works that are her crowning artistic achievement.

In addition to Gary, Kathryn is survived by her sisters, Judy Bottalla of Longmont, CO and Cheryl Fitzgerald of Wasilla, AK; her brother, Greg Windley of Salt Lake City; a niece, Megan, and nephews Evan, Nathan, Joe, and Kevin; and a few longtime friends. Her life was a tremendous gift to us all.

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