

Musician Matt Finley & the joy of jazz

By Kate Goldsmith

Matt Finley has worn many proverbial hats – from college dean and instructor to tech wiz, from multi-instrumental jazz musician to band-leader and composer. The part-time Pine Plains resident took a break last week to speak with this writer as he prepares for an October concert, titled “Intimate Brazilian Jazz,” set at The Smithfield Church in Amenia.

Some of our readers may recall the annual free concerts Matt and his long-time band, Rio JAZZ, performed for more than 30 years at Dutchess Community College, many of those in honor of Jazz Appreciation Month in April. While Rio JAZZ is no longer an active unit, a version of the band will perform at The Smithfield Church on Oct. 11.

These days, Matt is focused on composition, but he also plays with two big band jazz outfits, one in Kingston and one upstate in Glens Falls; and is active in youth music education in the region.

Matt is a retired professor of computer information systems and dean of academic affairs emeritus at Dutchess Community College, where he also directed the DCC Jazz Ensemble and Brass Choir as an adjunct professor of music. He’s perhaps best known for his expertise on several brass instruments, including trumpet and flugelhorn; but he also plays soprano sax, vibes and flute. His compositions have been performed by the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra and The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra, among others.

It all started with a flutophone

Matt took up his first instrument, the flutophone, in third grade. Similar to a recorder, the flutophone was a common way to get grade-school children interested in music.

“It worked. I enjoyed the instrument,” Matt says. “They gave me a trumpet in fourth grade. I had an older brother who was a trumpet player. He wanted to play a sax, but they gave him a trumpet.”

Matt learned how to play tenor sax himself 40 years later, when he was

involved with the DCC Jazz Ensemble.

Brazilian jazz was an early and lasting love. Prior to that, Matt was influenced by the Cuban music records his father would bring home.

“He was in advertising for Philco Corporation; they made record players, among other things,” says Matt. “Even before I started playing. I had that sound in my head, so I’ve always been receptive to Latin music.”

When the Bossa Nova craze hit the world in 1962-1963, Matt was right there. Composers like Antonio Carlos Jobim and João Gilberto created a new style of music (Bossa Nova translates to “new beat”) fusing samba and jazz. Matt says Brazilian jazz is defined by “a combination of sophisticated Latin rhythms with



Matt Finley. Photo by Duane Beyer

very intricate chord changes. So it’s European melodies combined with African rhythms.”

Matt studied composition with Edgar Curtis, director of the Albany Symphony, for three years.

“I learned how to conduct, how to analyze scores,” he says. “The textbook was

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DCAS Volunteer of the Year Mollie Pulver loves ‘being at the Fair’

By Curtis Schmidt

For Mollie Pulver, it’s all about the thrill she gets when she renews great friendships every year at the Dutchess County Fair.

She’s had a long-time love affair with the Fair, but she doubts she will ever catch her dad, the late Jack Pulver.

This year’s winner of the Volunteer of the Year award from the Dutchess

County Agricultural Society (DCAS) has been exhibiting and volunteering at the Fair for about 60 years. Her dad, who passed in 2019, was a DCAS member for 66 years, with 40 as member of the Board

of Directors. Mollie has been a member of DCAS for 20 years.

“I was completely surprised. I just love being at the Fair and the people I work with,” she said. “There are so many great memories. This (volunteering) is like a tribute to my dad. He joined the Ag Society when he was 18.”

Working at the Fair is an annual vacation, said Mollie “and I’ve been taking a vacation at the Fair ever since I was a kid in high school – getting carpal tunnel scooping that hard ice cream in the milkshake booth.”

Andy Imperati, DCAS President and CEO said, “Mollie has been an integral part of Livestock Hill for a long time. She is one of our unsung heroes who has given countless hours over the years and it has not gone unnoticed. We appreciate all that she does.”

For many in the agricultural community, Mollie is the voice they hear every year at the youth and open dairy shows. But it’s much more than just announcing and making sure participants are in the show ring on time.

“It’s also entering results in the system, a lot of organizational elements and procuring about 55 trophies,” she noted. That added up to about 41 hours this year, plus another 15 hours at home packing trophies and driving two hours each way

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In the center, Andy Imperati, DCAS President and CEO, presents the Volunteer of the Year award to Mollie Pulver. *Courtesy photo*

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Meadows at Brookmeade celebrates honors for leadership and service

The Meadows at Brookmeade has announced that two of its distinguished leaders have been honored with statewide recognition from LeadingAge New York, an organization representing not-for-profit, mission-driven providers of senior housing, services, and care.

Brian Zeidan, LNHA, SPHR-Administrator of The Meadows at Brookmeade, has been awarded the Carl S. Young Advocacy Award, recognizing his outstanding leadership in advancing advocacy efforts that improve the lives of older adults and those who care for them. Zeidan's dedication, forward-thinking approach, and tireless commitment to both residents and staff have made a lasting impact not only within the Brookmeade community but also across the greater aging services field.

In addition, Dr. John Hoey, MD, Trustee of The Brookmeade Community Board, has been named Trustee of the Year by LeadingAge New York. This honor recognizes trustees who demonstrate exceptional service, vision, and leadership in guiding their organizations. Dr. Hoey's unwavering commitment to Brookmeade's mission, along with his decades of professional expertise and compassionate leadership, have helped shape the organization into a premier provider of senior care and services in the Hudson Valley.

The awards were presented by Diane

Darbyshire, LCSW, Vice President of Advocacy and Public Policy with LeadingAge New York, along with proclamations from Johanna Contreras, Deputy District Director from the Office of Congressman Pat Ryan, and Alyssa Kogan, Community Engagement Specialist for Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino.

"These honors are a testament to the extraordinary dedication of Brian and Dr. Hoey," said Karen Zeidan, CEO/President of The Brookmeade Community. "Their leadership, advocacy, and vision inspire us daily and ensure that Brookmeade remains a place where quality, dignity, and compassion are at the center of everything we do."

LeadingAge New York's awards highlight individuals and organizations that exemplify excellence, innovation, and advocacy in the field of aging services. The recognition of both Zeidan and Hoey underscores Brookmeade's commitment to advancing senior care and supporting those who dedicate their lives to serving older adults.

For more than 150 years, The Brookmeade Community has been a trusted provider of senior living and healthcare services in the Hudson Valley, offering a full continuum of care, including independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and memory care.



Brian Zeidan, Administrator of The Meadows at Brookmeade and Dr. John Hoey, MD, Trustee of The Brookmeade Community Board (in front) were recognized with honors from LeadingAge New York last week. In back are from left, Johanna Contreras, District Director and Deputy Chief of Staff for Congressman Patrick Ryan, Diane Darbyshire, Vice President of Advocacy and Public Policy from LeadingAge New York, Karen Zeidan, CEO/President of The Brookmeade Community and Alyssa Kogan, Community Engagement Specialist for Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. Photo by Melissa Lasher

United Way provides school supplies for local children

United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region (UWDOR) successfully hosted its annual School Supply Distribution on Wednesday, Aug. 27. For many families in the community, the cost of back-to-school supplies is a significant burden. Pencils, notebooks, backpacks and art supplies – these essential items can quickly add up, leaving some children feeling unprepared and left behind before the first bell even rings.

United Way believes every child deserves the chance to succeed, regardless of their family's income. That's why they launched the annual "Back to School Supply Drive."

The event provided school supplies to 22 non-profit organizations and local schools in Dutchess and Orange counties can in turn distribute to the families that

they serve. Agencies are still reaching out for school supplies. UWDOR will be working to assist them as well.

Volunteers from Hudson Valley Credit Union helped to organize the supplies. Then, Central Hudson volunteers arrived early to set up all the supplies on the distribution day.

According to Rebecca Lull, Director of Community Impact for UWDOR, several businesses and organizations were instrumental in providing school supplies to local children.

"We are incredibly grateful to businesses who ran collection drives," Lull said. "Thanks to their support, we were able to provide much-needed school supplies to school-age children in our community."

The organizations thanked for their

contributions are: Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp, Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Inc, Club Pilates-Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County Government, Geodis, Hudson Valley Credit Union, James L. Taylor/Main Printing/Veith Electric, LaGrange Association Library, Millbrook Library, Petro Home Services, PKF O'Connor Davies, Pleasant Valley Library, RBT CPAs, LLP, Rhinebeck Bank, TEG Federal Credit Union, TD Bank.

In addition to receiving school supplies, non-profits were given the opportunity to shop in the United Way's Essential

Needs Supply Hub, located in the basement of the United Way's building. The Hub features new personal care products, clothing for children and adults, children's toys, and household items - all donated by stores like Walmart and Target and other generous individuals in our community.

Beyond the initial school supply drive, the United Way also holds Days of Sharing events throughout the year, allowing registered non-profits to shop for their clients.

To volunteer or learn more, visit uwdor.org.

DCAS Volunteer of the Year Mollie Pulver loves 'being at the Fair'

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to and from the Fair for six days from her home in Little Falls.

But she's happy to do whatever she can to help at the Fair. Her mentor was Dave Teter, the late County Agricultural Agent who passed away on the first day of the 2024 Fair. Known as "Mr. Agriculture," Teter was the voice of youth and open shows at the Fair for many years.

"Dave was an excellent mentor and had a great personality," said Mollie. "He was the source of all agricultural knowledge, regardless of what people asked. He also excelled at color commentary and knew just about everyone. He would even look across the stands and call out people with funny stories – all

impromptu."

She had a long history working with Teter, working as his summer assistant at Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County for 2 years, then working together at shows for 15-plus years.

And this year, Teter's daughter-in-law, Lida Teter, was present on the first day of the Fair to pass out cards remembering Dave. "It was like having Dave with us every day," said Mollie.

Another of her great memories is time spent with Andy Imperati, Sr. "I loved him and that Rattlesnake Hat. Our families grew up together and we all spent great times together at the Fair. The memories – that's why this award means so much," she said.



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Musician Matt Finley & the joy of jazz

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something called ‘The Norton Scores,’ it’s a survey of all of Western music. I particularly loved the French composers, [but] I get musical ideas from all over.”

In 2013, Matt was a guest soloist with the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra, performing four of his compositions and orchestrations. His CD with Rio JAZZ, “Brazilian Wish,” has garnered international recognition, and two of his Brazilian jazz compositions were finalists at the 2009 Los Angeles Music Awards. The CD is featured online including Spotify, Pandora, and Apple Music.

Love notes

Matt and his wife, singer-songwriter and record producer Denise Jordan Finley, have been married 51 years, and split their time between Pine Plains and Diamond Point, on the western shore of Lake George in upstate Warren County.

Unsurprisingly, music was the initial force that drew them together ... even before they set eyes on each other.

“We met while I was studying at Albany Law School,” Matt says. “I was playing in the jazz clubs in Albany but had no place to practice, so I asked The College of Saint Rose if they would let me practice. Denise was a music major there and we first ‘met’ by hearing each other play in closed practice rooms. She thought none of the music majors could play like I did, and I loved hearing her original songwriting. Although it was love at first hearing, we soon met, and I proposed within a few months.”

The couple has three children, two living in Los Angeles and one in Cleveland; and two granddaughters, ages 6 and 11.

“All are musically talented in some form, but like me decided on another career,” Matt says. “The 11-year-old, Joey, recently started playing trumpet – I just gave her a better mouthpiece – and is already a phenomenal graphic artist like her father.”

Denise and Matt share a musical connection to The Smithfield Church in Amenia, where Denise is the longtime choir director.

“Denise started 20 years ago, and I just kind of came along to help when I could. This is our 20th Christmas concert coming up; she started to bring in all these tremendous musicians to perform solos for this concert. I said we should all be playing together. That was the genesis of the church’s orchestra,” Matt says. “In 2021, I formed the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra and took over producing the annual Christmas concerts. We are both amazed and delighted with the level of support for music we have found at Smithfield.”

The Bang Family Concert Series has allowed Matt to produce quality concerts at the historic church. The series, endowed by late musician Bill Bang on behalf of his daughter, Smithfield parishioner Susan Bang, “was created to encourage area residents to hear an eclectic line-up of top regional and international artists and discover a warm community of music lovers in the church’s beautiful Greek Revival building,” according to the church’s website.

Admission to the concerts is by suggested donation. Although Matt offers his services at no charge, the proceeds help the church keep the series going.

This will be Matt’s last season as director of the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra. One of the orchestra’s flutists, Michelle Demko, will assume the leadership mantle at the end of this year. Demko is the retired head of the music department at the Allen-Stevenson School in NYC.

“She’s been at my right hand for all the events for a very good reason: she’s terrific,” Matt says.

Reflecting on his work with The Smithfield Church concerts, he says “I have accomplished much more than I ever thought possible. ... My philosophy is to get things started and running well, and then step aside and let someone else take over while I begin another challenge.”

The beat goes on

“I’m very busy writing primarily, and I go where my music can be played,” Matt



Matt Finley records a vibraphone part in a studio at Woodstock for one of his arrangements as a backup musician on a CD by his wife, Denise Jordan Finley. *Photo by Denise Jordan Finley*

says. In addition to performing as a guest artist with two big bands, Matt also works with Bridge Arts and Education, “a non-profit dedicated to promoting education and collaboration as a means to grow a more diverse and innovative music community,” according to its website.

“Dan Shaut has put together a community band for all ages. It’s first-class, some of us who are pros and others who are students, and we try to help them [students] along. I think it’s wonderful.”

Another of the Bridge Arts bands, comprised of top area high school stu-

dents, recently played along with the community band at the Falcon in Marlboro, Ulster County, Matt adds.

October will be here before we know it, but Matt will be ready for the “Intimate Brazilian Jazz” quintet concert set Oct. 11 at The Smithfield Church. Right now, he’s composing arrangements for the Smithfield Chamber Orchestra’s 15 players at their Dec. 6 “Jazzy” Christmas concert.

“That takes a lot of time!” he says.

Visit <https://thesmithfieldchurch.org/> for more information about the concerts.

County officials encourage respect & kindness as new school year starts

With a new school year beginning next week, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Sheriff Kirk Imperati ask the community to please put kindness, respect and safety first, in schools and on the roads. The leaders encourage parents, teachers, classmates and drivers alike to do their part in creating safe spaces for children, whether inside classrooms or traveling to and from school.

Serino said, “Beginning a new school year is always filled with excitement and possibility. By leading with kindness, we can help create classrooms where every student feel respected, appreciated and prepared to learn. When we show care for one another, we give students the confidence to learn, grow, and reach their full potential.”

Serino said respect is the foundation of a healthy learning environment. She stated when parents, teachers, staff and fellow students treat each other with compassion and dignity, schools become communities that foster growth, achievement and positive experiences for all.

Imperati encourages drivers to carry that same respect onto the roadways. With schools reopening, he reminded motorists that slowing down and using extra caution is critical, especially during drop-off and dismissal times.

“As children are walking, biking and boarding/unboarding buses to get to and from school, all drivers need to stay alert and follow the rules of the road,” Imperati said. “Please slow down in school zones, listen to crossing guards

and never pass a school bus with its red lights flashing. Protecting students’ safety is a responsibility we all share.”

Drivers are asked to build extra time into their commutes so they can safely stop for buses. New York State law requires all vehicles to stop for school buses that have flashing red lights, including on divided highways such as Routes 9, 44 and 55 in Poughkeepsie. Those who ignore school bus stop signs and flashing red lights risk tickets and fines as buses throughout the County are now equipped with stop-arm cameras to catch violators through a partnership with BusPatrol LLC; 11 of the 13 school districts within Dutchess County are participating in the program.

Beyond road safety, the County Executive and Sheriff reaffirmed their dedication to maintaining safe and supportive environments in partnership with local school districts.

Imperati said, “Nothing is more important than the safety of our students. Our School Resource Officers, who are trained in prevention, de-escalation and intervention, are once again returning to local schools this year to provide guidance and protection.”

Serino said, “Success in the classroom depends on strong partnership between families, educators and the community. Dutchess County is proud to support that collaboration and wishes every student a year filled with learning, growth and opportunity. May this school year give each of you the chance to shine!”

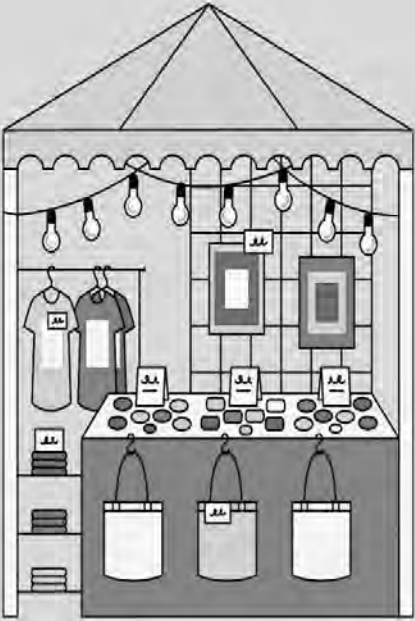
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Rolison obtains release of \$100K in state funding for City of Poughkeepsie Public Works equipment

Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) was joined by City of Poughkeepsie officials to announce \$100,000 in State and Municipal Facilities Program (SAM) funding for the City's Department of Public Works (DPW) last week.

The state funds, originally allocated in 2018, through the efforts of then-Senator Sue Serino and administered through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), were recently released and used to purchase new equipment that will help DPW staff maintain city parks and public spaces. The investment will strengthen the department's capability to keep Poughkeepsie's parks clean and green, improve efficiency, and support residents' access to safe, well-maintained community spaces.

"Maintaining clean and safe public spaces is a core responsibility of local government, and I am proud to help deliver state resources to the City of Poughkeepsie that will make this job easier," said Senator Rolison. "This funding will allow our hardworking DPW employees to do what they do best – support the quality of life of every resident by keeping our city's parks and green spaces beautiful and accessible."

"The City of Poughkeepsie is grateful to Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and NYS Senator Rob Rolison for securing this \$100,000 investment," said Mayor Yvonne D. Flowers of the City of Poughkeepsie. "These funds have



From left are State Senator Rob Rolison, City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers and Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. *Courtesy photo*

allowed our Department of Public Works to purchase equipment that helps keep our parks clean, safe and green for the entire community."

"I was proud to originally secure these funds during my time in the State Senate, and I'm even prouder to see them now being put to work for the City of Poughkeepsie," said Serino. "The City's DPW employees show up every day to

care for the spaces that bring neighbors together, and this investment helps give them the tools they need to keep our community safe, welcoming, and beautiful. I am grateful to Senator Rolison and Mayor Flowers for their partnership in making sure these resources are making a difference right here at home."

Senator Rolison presented a ceremonial check to city officials at the event.

Ryan secures \$15 million for community projects in HV

Last week, Congressman Pat Ryan announced that he has secured more than \$15 million for Hudson Valley community projects, including more than \$8.3 million for law enforcement and first responder agencies across Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties.

The funding was approved by the House Appropriations Committee, but will require Speaker Johnson to pass a full year budget to be allocated across the Hudson Valley.

"The federal government works best when it works directly on behalf of the communities that it serves," said Ryan. "These community funded projects are a great opportunity to deliver on the Hudson Valley's top priorities. This past year, our

community got screwed over when the Republican budget cut all \$17 million from remarkably deserving initiatives, including more than \$6 million from our law enforcement and first responders. But alongside our community leaders I kept pushing, and I'm incredibly proud of the projects we secured funding for this year, especially the \$8.3 million for law enforcement and first responders. I'll keep doing everything in my power to get these projects over the finish line."

"The Dutchess County Sheriff's office will use this critical funding to establish a two-way radio system, connecting and improving law enforcement response times countywide and saving lives," said Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati. "On behalf of the men and women at the Sheriff's Office I would like to thank Congressman Ryan for his dedication to bolstering public safety in Dutchess County. I look forward to continuing to work together as we make Dutchess County one of the safest places to live in all of New York State."

"We are incredibly optimistic about the potential for this federal funding to strengthen our new Analysis and Real-Time Crime Intelligence Center. This support will further empower Dutchess County with advanced analytics, faster investigative turnaround, and enhanced real-time response to protect our citizens," said Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi. "This investment would not only enhance public safety through cutting-edge technology, but would also strengthen collaboration, and deliver justice more effectively, ultimately making our community safer for all."

"This essential funding will ensure that radio communication system interoperability is consistent for all Dutchess County law

enforcement agencies," said Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response Commissioner William H. Beale. "Dutchess County greatly appreciates Congressman Ryan's partnership in supporting this critical component to public safety."

In March, when President Trump and House Republicans under Speaker Johnson's leadership cut more than \$6 million in funding from Hudson Valley law enforcement agencies, Congressman Ryan immediately rallied with local law enforcement in opposition. He is now imploring President Trump and Speaker Johnson to properly allocate the \$8.3 million Ryan secured for Hudson Valley law enforcement and first responders this year.

The projects Congressman Ryan secured funding for in Dutchess County include:

- \$1,000,000 for upgrades to the Arlington Fire District Fire Station 4, including renovations to the existing building structure include fire suppression systems, fire alarm systems, ADA compliance, on-duty firefighter quarters, decontamination showers, and facility upgrades.

- \$1,031,000 for Dutchess County Analysis & Real Time Crime, to elevate the county's policing efficiency and responsiveness through the procurement of cutting-edge intelligence gathering, analysis, and sharing equipment, in addition to communications equipment and technology-specific training.

- \$850,000 for renovations to Hooker Ave Fire Station, Poughkeepsie, including building envelope repairs and structural repairs to the main floor of the station and making improvements to the 100 year old slate roof and for the replacement of century-old windows to promote energy efficiency.

- \$1,031,000 for Dutchess County Consolidated Two-Way Radio System

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County awards \$239K in Youth Development Programming grants

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has announced \$239,782 in grant awards has been awarded to 26 municipalities and nonprofit, community-based organizations that provide free youth programming services to provide a variety of developmental opportunities to young people under the age of 21 through the New York State Youth Development Program (YDP). These grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$18,500, promote positive youth development by advancing the well-being of youth. Award recommendations were made by the Dutchess County's Youth Board and Coordinating Council, which is made up of community members, including youth, and representatives from various non-profit organizations.

Projects funded through the 2025-26 Youth Development Program include:

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Mid-Hudson Young Environmental Scientists, \$5,000 – Three-week paid summer research program that provides authentic research experience for youth who may not have access to robust science programming. Student teams work together to develop and implement a research project to understand local watershed ecology.

NAMI Mid-Hudson, Inc., Ending the Silence (ETS) Youth Mental Health Program, \$8,000 – A 40-50-minute presentation in middle and high school classrooms, delivered by a lead presenter, and a young adult presenter's mental health journey and story of recovery. ETS enhances mental health literacy, reduces stigma and promotes help-seeking behaviors, empowering youth with the tools to face mental health challenges while fostering resilience, awareness and a supportive community.

Dutchess Community College Foundation/DCC CARES, Surviving to Thriving, \$9,000 – Provide postsecondary education dropout prevention and increase the retention and graduation rates of Dutchess County students between 17 and 21 years old, who are housing insecure, lack material basics, and struggle with mental health issues.

Dover Plains Library Association, Building Brains: Dover Youth Enrichment, \$10,000 – Provides free support for Dover youth through an afterschool Homework Helpers program that pairs elementary and middle-school aged youth with high school students paid to work as their tutors. During the summer those relationships continue as the teens are paid to work as reading mentors for younger students.

Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, Traveling Science, \$5,000 – Bring interactive STEM education directly to communities, fostering 21st-century skills and academic growth among youth. Programs not only inspire curiosity and exploration but also encourage diverse participation, now with a renewed effort to include youth with disabilities.

Family Services, Inc., \$8,000 – Youth programming provides engaging activities that improve mental health outcomes and promote positive youth development. Through group activities and individual/family therapy, the program supports social emotional development, builds resilience, bolsters skills and protective factors and prevents youth violence using evidence-based interventions.

Land to Learn, SproutEd Beacon, \$8,000– Program brings garden-based education to four public elementary schools in Beacon throughout the school year, building food gardens and teaching lessons that educate students in gardening, environmental stewardship, nutrition, cooking, plant science, ecology and food systems.

North East Community Center, Inc., Youth Development Programs: CPSB Teen Jobs (Community Partnership with Schools and Business), \$16,000 – Workforce development program for high school youth at NECC; participants aged 14-20 become paid interns at local businesses where they are trained and mentored by adult employees.

Staatsburg Library, Youth Creative Collective, \$7,000 – Will provide programming to Staatsburg/Hyde Park middle school and high school youth ages 10-17, both after school and during summer break to encourage positive youth development through experiences in the arts and through leadership/mentoring activities.

The Art Effect, Spark Studios, \$14,000 – Spark Studios, a workforce development initiative by The Art Effect, offers a safe and dynamic learning environment for underserved youth aged 14-19; students develop valuable skills in film editing, sound, lighting, and video production, while also receiving immediate economic support.

Red Hook Community Center, Inc., RHCC Teen Group, \$5,000 – Provides afterschool programming to middle school and high school youth, typically 11-17 years old, thrice weekly on school days and once weekly during summer break. RHCC Teen Group is a teen-informed program guided and facilitated by RHCC staff to promote creative and pro-social community engagement.

Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corp Inc., Junior Corps Member Program, \$18,500 – Program fosters members' development into confident and capable leaders with the knowledge and skills to excel in emergency medical services. Members learn emergency medical procedures, patient care and communication skills and participate in team-building exercises and leadership workshops applicable in all life areas.

Town of East Fishkill, Too Good for Drugs, \$7,300 – School-based drug prevention program designed to reduce students intention to use alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs, while promoting pro-social attitudes, skills and behaviors. The program seems to build the self-confidence of students, so they are better prepared to make healthy choices and achieve success.

Child Abuse Prevention Center Inc., Personal Safety Program, \$18,000 –Provides free, evidence based abuse and bullying prevention lessons to students in their classrooms. Students receive tools and resources for identifying and reporting physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect, bullying and "digital dangers."

Vassar College, Exploring Science at the Vassar Preserve Youth Interns, \$8,000 – An environmental science program coordinated by the Environmental Cooperative at the Vassar Barns, which provides youth with opportunities to learn about nature in the Hudson Valley through a science lens. The program aims to teach children about local ecology and inspire an interest and comfort in the natural world.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County, Green Teen Workforce Development through Community Gardening, \$13,000 – Teens are employed by CCEDC, earning a wage and building a resume while learning the skills and behaviors employers seek and other life skills. Youth work up to 128 hours per season in the community garden, where they learn vocational skills and grow over 1,200 pounds of vegetables which they distribute to the community through a youth-run free farm stand.

Hudson River Housing, Inc., HRH Youth Enrichment Program, \$17,000 – Provides an array of year-round activities for runaway, homeless and other at-risk youth temporarily residing at HRH's River Haven Youth Shelter. These activities are designed to promote the physical and emotional health, curtail involvement in health-risk behaviors and build developmental assets among the youth to participate in 2025-26.

Astor Services, Equine Assisted Learning Program, \$7,500 – Will collaborate with Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue for an Equine Assisted Learning Workshop series to benefit youth ages 15-17 who are enrolled in mental health services at a Dutchess County Astor Counseling Center. Youth will go to Lucky Orphans for eight

sessions.

Chamber Foundation, Inc., Next-Gen Summer Academy, \$11,000 – A free three-week immersive program where youth between the ages of 14-21 learn about 21st century skills and computer literacy through 3D printing, virtual augmented reality (VR/AR), robotics, game design/development and coding.

Poughkeepsie Farm Project, Green Jobs for Youth, \$10,000 – Program prepares youth ages 14-20 for careers in farming, gardening, and food education; increases local economic and food security; and supports youth in job searches and placement by connecting them with potential employers.

Pine Plains Free Library, Kids Club, \$5,000 – Provides children ages 6-11 with a free afternoon program Monday through Thursday, offering a fun, safe environment, with healthy snacks and educational and creative activities; program is geared toward children of families who cannot afford formal afterschool programs, or those who need a more flexible environment due to special needs.

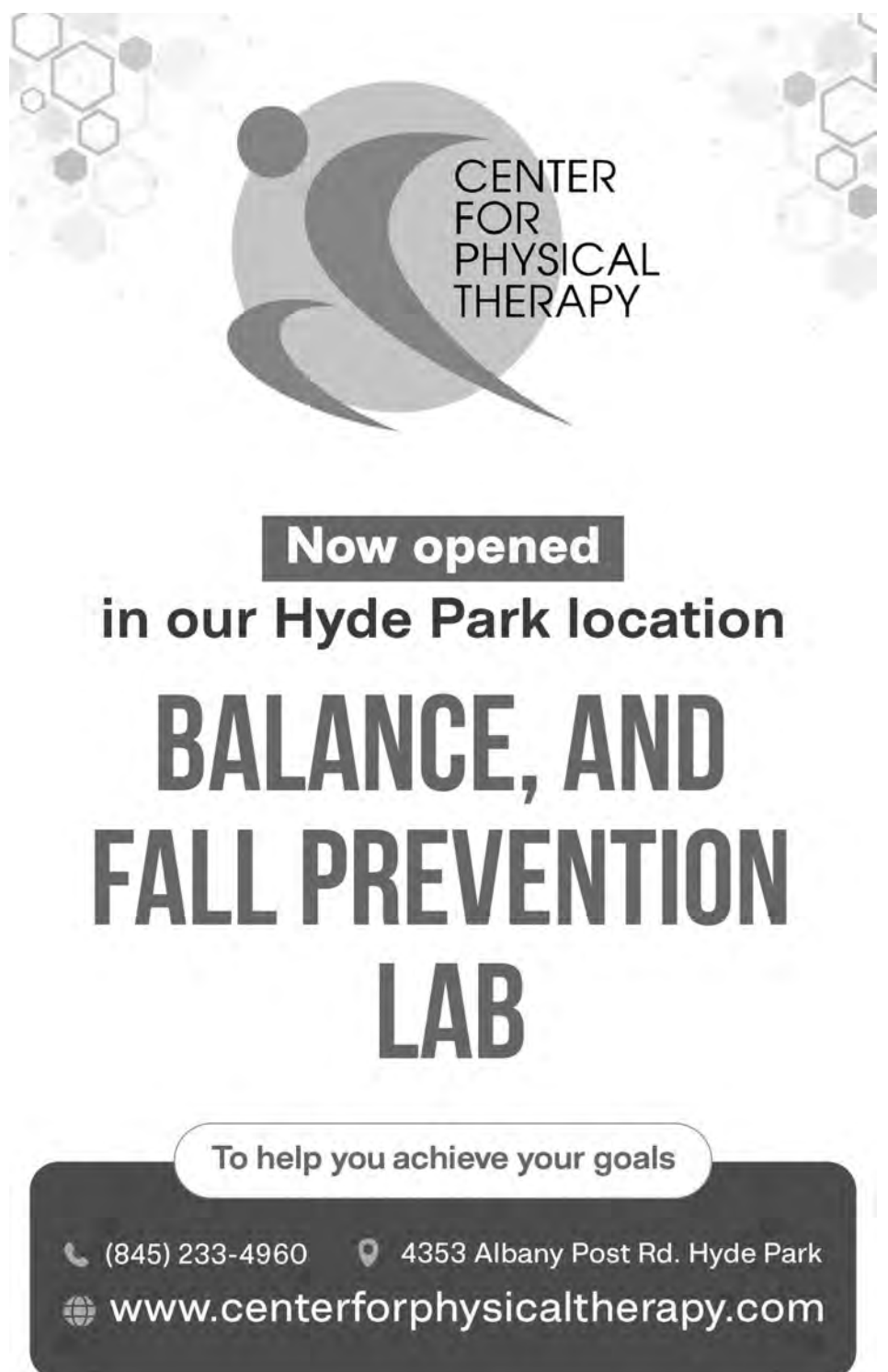
Dutchess County Pride Center, Intergenerational Get Togethers, \$5,000 – Monthly intergenerational get togethers between LGBTQ+ youth and their families and other LGBTQ+ adults in the community that include monthly events, such as meals, movie nights and panel discussions with the goal of teaching families how to be more supportive of their LGBTQ+ youth and how to be supportive to the LGBTQ+ community.

Pleasant Valley Fire District, Braveheart: Girls in Emergency Services Academy, \$7,000 – A free, two-day program for youth under 18 years of age that introduces participants to careers in fire, EMS, dispatch, and law enforcement. Held at the Pleasant Valley Fire Station, the program offers hands-on training, leadership development and life-saving skills like CPR and Stop the Bleed.

Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church (PUMC), Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center, \$7,482 – Provides an after-school program and a summer program to at-risk children that live in or near the Tubman Apartment Complex in the City of Poughkeepsie. The mission of the program is to provide an after-school program that facilitates academic success, develops strong character and creates independent thinkers with a love of learning.

Beekman Library, Y.E.S. Youth Empowerment through Service, \$5,000 – High-school teens will contribute to their community and gain leadership skills by acting as library volunteers. Each participating teen will apply to the program and supply two references. Teens may apply to serve as volunteer shelveers, program leaders or academic mentors to younger children.

Town of Stanford Recreation, Recipes 4 Kids, \$5,000 – Program designed to give children age-appropriate and easy-to-follow recipes that they can recreate at home for snacks and meals; youth learn the basics of measuring, cutting, assembling, cooking and baking.



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Coaching staff leads with synergy for Renegades

By Morgan E. Maier

Strong teams shine when leaders shine as well. When Hudson Valley Renegades coaches, clubbies, and Heritage Financial Park staffers clock in every day, they're putting in as much work as the players. The Renegades have amassed quite a team highlight reel in 2025, following the lead of a majority first-year High-A coaching staff. With one week left in a season that saw milestones met by dozens of 'Gades players, James Cooper's bench has much to smile about. (Note: Stats are based on August 27 reporting)

James Cooper, Manager - Master of the double steal, Cooper has kept his Renegades in playoff contention in the second half. While high on the list of todos, flying the SAL pennant isn't the only goal of Renegades baseball. The team's 163 (and counting) stolen base total has surpassed last year's stolen base total (155). As Cooper said at the season's beginning, "The ultimate goal is to be doing this in New York, and that's what we're trying to do to get these guys prepared for it." Twenty-three of his Renegades have gotten promotions to AA-Somerset since April; Cooper has done just that in his first Hudson Valley season.

Demetre Kokoris, Pitching Coach - With four games left in August, the Renegades are the only South Atlantic League team with a sub-.200 batting average against (BAA). Kokoris' pitch-

ing staff is dealing a .187 BAA, from first pitch to bullpen. They have allowed the SAL's fewest in hits (680), runs (379) and earned runs (319), home runs (47). The 2.87 earned run average only scratches the surface. Two starters have hit double digits in strikeouts, with Xavier Rivas and Elmer Rodriguez-Cruz joining Drew Thorpe and Baron Stuart for the second most in franchise history. With the most shutouts in the SAL, Kokoris has developed the pitching staff in equal parts command and speed. The bullpen has been especially remarkable, with the fewest walks and hits per innings pitched.

Tom DeAngelis, Hitting Coach - The Renegades offense has slugged and set records all season, with the most grand slams in one season set with a Josh Moylan bomb on June 29. The Renegades' run differential peaked at +186 on Aug. 21, trailing only (who else?) Greensboro for the most in the SAL.

Caleb Hamilton & Teuris Olivares, Defensive Coaches - During a 14-game stretch from July 26 to August 10, the Renegades' defense performed without any errors. This marked the longest stretch of clean slates all season. Improvements on the defensive front have been clear as the dog days of sum-



mer turn to minor league baseball's last days. The Renegades' **Adaric Kelly, Athletic Trainer & Dylan Lidge, Strength and Conditioning** - The most seasoned members of this Hudson Valley staff lay the foundation for excellent performance. Each foul tip off a finger and painful hit by pitch is met immediately by trainer Adaric Kelly, out of the dugout in a flash. Dylan Lidge handles strength and conditioning, ensuring every Renegade is operating at top capacity, every day. The quality of their performance is shown in the performance, the effort. It's seen in RHP Bryce Cunningham's bounce back from injury. Hayden Merda's successful rebound from Tommy John surgery that got him

promoted in May, and Luis Durango going lightning fast despite a few weeks' sidelining. And especially, the liability for any Renegade position player to complete that aforementioned double steal when necessary.

A team that wants to win - to grow - works best with a staff that shows up for them every day. The winning formula requires a collective goal, synergy, and a dedication that runs deep in all members of this team. All credit to the ones in the dugout, on the bench, and in the clubhouse for a 5th straight entertaining season of Renegades baseball. Hudson Valley baseball may look best in pinstripes.



League Standings						
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Greensboro PIT	40	17	.702	-	6-4	W5
Hudson Valley NYY	35	21	.625	4.5	5-5	W1
Jersey Shore PHI	31	25	.554	8.5	5-5	W1
Aberdeen BAL	28	28	.500	11.5	6-4	L1
Brooklyn NYM *	24	33	.421	16.0	5-5	L1
Wilmington WSH	21	36	.368	19.0	1-9	L3
SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Hub City TEX	30	27	.526	-	6-4	W1
Bowling Green TB *	29	28	.509	1.0	5-5	W1
Greenville BOS	28	29	.491	2.0	4-6	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	27	29	.482	2.5	8-2	W3
Rome ATL	23	31	.426	5.5	6-4	L3
Asheville HOU	21	33	.389	7.5	4-6	L1



Home Schedule

September			
09/02/25	vs. Greensboro	06:05 PM	First Day Of School Baseball Bingo Presented By PeopleUSA
09/03/25	vs. Greensboro	06:05 PM	Football Night Wine Wednesday Presented By Benmarl Winery
09/04/25	vs. Greensboro	06:05 PM	Hudson Valley Big Apples Presented By Apples From New York Big Apples Replica Jersey Giveaway Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union
09/05/25	vs. Greensboro	07:05 PM	Copa De La Diversión: Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Presented By Cafe Con Leche Fireworks Friday Presented By D. Rohde Home Services
09/06/25	vs. Greensboro	05:05 PM	Rascal & Rosie's Anniversary Party Rascal & Rosie Bobblehead Giveaway Presented By WRWD
09/07/25	vs. Greensboro	02:05 PM	Fan Appreciation Day Sunday Family Funday





A Breath of Fresh Air: Yoga House Opens its Doors in Poughkeepsie





RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Renegades eye final season series vs. Greensboro

By Morgan E. Maier

Minor League Baseball has just one week of games left. Now, the Hudson Valley Renegades control their own destiny. The Renegades were 1-for-3 to start the penultimate series of 2025, but a dramatic victory on August 28 broke their five-game losing streak.

Aug. 26: 10-9, Brooklyn
Nick Roselli (2 - 3 HR, 2B, 2 BB, 4 RBI, 2 R) - As the Renegades clung to a two-run lead in the bottom of the ninth inning, Brooklyn lay one pitch away from losing the opening game. Two strikeouts, one out to go. A pair of Cyclones reached base, then a successful double steal shifted momentum in the home team's favor. From allowing six Renegades runs in the second inning to a mounting 10 run comeback, Brooklyn was within reach of victory in its final hour. Right fielder Nick Roselli, already with an RBI on the night, had one final twist for Hudson Valley's fate. With a 1-2 count, Roselli made the final strike. He took

Tyrone Yulie yard to end the game, a walkoff three-run shot, for his first High-A home run.

Luis Durango (3 - 3, 2 BB, 4 SB, 2 R) - Don't blink, catchers, because Luis Durango is already gone. The outfielder has been wheels since his return from injury on August 17. He has doubled his stolen base count (15) in just five games. To start the month of August, Durango is a perfect 8/8 on stealing bags. On August 26, Durango was the only player on either side with three hits. Durango also reached a career high with four stolen bases, the most of any Hudson Valley player in a game this season. It ties the franchise record set by current Milwaukee Brewer Anthony Siegler, who did it on July 6, 2021.

Aug. 27: 8-7, Brooklyn
Marco Vargas 2 SB (37), Boston Baro 2 SB (28), Diego Mosquera SB (6); Yohairo Cuevas SB (6), Chase Houck SB (3) - This game was won on the basepaths. With five Cyclones combining for seven stolen bags, Brooklyn's running game was the key to

nabbing this 8-7 win.

Kaeden Kent (5 - 5, 3 RBI, 2 R) - Though they fell short in another high-scoring contest, the Renegades fought hard for the victory. None more than Kaeden Kent. The shortstop went a perfect 5-for-5, including a home run and a two-run single to cut it close in the ninth inning. August 28 marked the first triple-RBI night of Kent's professional career. Given the blazing start to this 22-year-old's professional career, more will likely follow.

Aug. 28: 7-1, Hudson Valley
Ronald Hernandez (2B, RBI, 2 SB) - With Brooklyn in danger of being recipients of the Renegades' 18th shutout on the season, Ronald Hernandez finally ticked the scoreboard in the ninth. The Renegades had opened the scoring in the fourth inning, taking a 1-0 lead on an Engelth Urena sacrifice fly. Urena's second RBI, a single, made it 2-0 Renegades, then Luis Durango's first double of the year scored three more runs. With one out in the bottom of the ninth, Hernandez kept things interesting for

Brooklyn with his own RBI double. Though the home team began to mount a rally in its final frame, the contest ended with Hernandez stranded at third base.

Kyle Carr (6.0 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, 6 K) - Kyle Carr got support on Aug 28, and it came from the offense and bullpen alike. Seven on the board was more than enough to salvage Hudson Valley's first win of the series. Core Jackson kickstarted the four-run sixth inning in which eight Renegades took to the batter's box. Jackson finished 2 - 4 with two runs scored. The infielder was one of two Renegades, along with Durango, to give a multi-hit performance.

With the Brooklyn series complete, the Renegades look to make one final stand against the Greensboro Grasshoppers. Hudson Valley will look to make magic happen during the 2025 season's swan song. The Renegades' Fan Appreciation Week festivities will be underway as the team hosts the North Division leaders from Sept 2 - 7.

RENEGADES FEATURE

2nd-half highlights: Complete game, Walking tour and bullpen blast

By Morgan E. Maier

With just one homestand to go in the regular season, let's take a look back at the Hudson Valley Renegades and their home-field advantage in the second half.

Since the beginning of summer, Heritage Financial Park has seen no shortage of spectacles. Everything from walkoffs to professional debuts, even a no-hit performance by the Aberdeen IronBirds. On July 4, the fans rocketed through the gates, setting a single-game attendance record of 6,176 for the mega fireworks show. These are the brightest non-firework moments of the past 26 home games, live from the Hudson Valley.

1. Kyle Carr's Complete Game - With the Renegades gaining on the Brooklyn Cyclones for second place in the SAL and a scheduled doubleheader on July 3, Hudson Valley looked to Kyle Carr. Carr, with a stellar summer ahead of him, pitched 7.0 strong innings, allowing just three singles and three walks. The Renegades notched a 2-0 victory, as lefty Carr struck out seven to tie his season high. He is the owner of the Renegades' lone complete game of the season and, presently, the lowest earned run average among qualified South Atlantic League starters (2.06). And with that doubleheader sweep, the Renegades took second position in the SAL.

2. The July 11 Walking Tour - With the Asheville Tourists in town the following

week, the Renegades gave them a taste of Hudson Valley on July 11. The Renegades never led in the contest after falling behind in the second inning. Asheville saw the Renegades in the rearview all game, each run erased by the Renegades in the following frames. The equalizers came from Kiko Romero and Dylan Lewis, who each matched the Tourists' stride with one swing. With both offenses quiet from the 6th inning, Hudson Valley earned its 51st win on a walk-off moon shot from Tomas Frick. Frick's fourth home run of the season turned out to be his last in High-A, as he was promoted to the Somerset Patriots following the series finale.

3. Bullpen Blast - In Bryce Cunningham's first appearance off the injured list, the bullpen needed length against the IronBirds. On August 13, six Renegades pitchers combined for 10 innings, 11 strikeouts, and just one hit. Cunningham's inning restriction called for three strong frames from Ocean Gabonia, who combined with Sebastian Keane for six of the 11 Hudson Valley strikeouts. Keane's 2.2 innings of hitless work allowed for two more by Geoff Gilbert. Winning pitcher Hueston Morrill took to the top of the 10th, and in 14 pitches promptly sat Aberdeen down in order. With the offense primed for walkoff antics, Juan Matheus stepped to the plate. His third knock of the night scored Owen Cobb easily from third. Hudson Valley won the game on its lone



Kyke Carr pitched 7.0 strong innings, allowing just three singles and three walks on July 3. The Renegades notched a 2-0 victory, as lefty Carr struck out seven to tie his season high. Photo by Dave Janosz

RBI, its first of two 1-run victories in the series.

In the final week of the regular season, the Renegades look to defend home territory – and clinch a playoff spot – against the league-leading Greensboro Grasshoppers. The Renegades have not squared off against the Grasshoppers this season, besides the view from second-place spot in the SAL standings. September 2 - 7 could be the final glimpse of the 2025 'Gades, so fans should get to Heritage Financial Park while they can!

A breath of fresh air: Yoga House opens its doors in Poughkeepsie

After nearly a year of anticipation and ground-up construction, The Yoga House, an award-winning yoga studio owned and operated by Amy Reed and Joyce San Pedro, will open its third location – and first in Dutchess County – on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 2623 South Road (Route 9) in Poughkeepsie.

The Hudson Valley community is invited to celebrate the studio's new beginnings, meet founders Amy and Joyce and sample The Yoga House's inclusive and uplifting offerings during a weekend-long grand opening, including a ribbon cutting on Saturday 12:30 p.m.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, and Sunday, Sept. 7, guests will have a chance to explore The Yoga House's breadth of offerings through free 30-minute vignette classes. A glimpse into The Yoga House's approach to holistic wellness, these mini sessions will include various types of yoga, like Vinyasa and Restorative, plus TRX (total resistance exercise), Pilates, fusion classes and more.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to get to know other neighboring local businesses – like Foam & Wash Car Wash, Crumbl, Moonburger and Sweet Cheeks Aesthetics – and enter for a chance to win free one-on-one sessions, classes, membership passes, The Yoga House apparel, a yoga prop package and more. In addition, the public is invited to sign up for the studio's unlimited membership pass before Monday, September 8, to receive a highly discounted "Founding Member" rate of \$99 per

month for three months.

"Every corner of this location has been thoughtfully designed with our members' wellness journey in mind," said Amy. "The Yoga House's new home is more than a yoga studio – it's a gateway to wellness. We cannot wait to welcome this community into our sanctuary and grow in our practice together."

In addition to the disciplines being highlighted throughout the grand opening weekend, The Yoga House's Poughkeepsie studio will offer Barre, guided meditation, sound baths and Reiki. Demonstrating their inclusive approach, Amy and Joyce will offer many classes both in-person and virtually, through its sister studio in Kingston, ensuring all practitioners can participate – regardless of physical ability, schedule or location. The studio's on-site showers, in addition to its convenient location and ample parking, make it a user-oriented stop for locals and visitors alike, including commuters.

Notably, Amy and Joyce chose to omit mirrors from the Poughkeepsie studio's design. Recognizing that mirrors draw people's attention outward, the co-owners decided to leave the studio's walls bare, reinforcing its role as a wellness sanctuary and enabling visitors to practice introspection while focusing on their body, mind and spirit.

"We encourage those who practice with us to work in, rather than work out," said Joyce. "We believe that the key to living well is having harmony between the body, mind and spirit, and our goal is



The Yoga House, an award-winning yoga studio owned and operated by Amy Reed and Joyce San Pedro, will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its' Poughkeepsie location, 2623 South Road (Route 9) on Saturday, Sept. 6 at 12:30 p.m. *Courtesy photo*

to not only build strength and flexibility but establish mindfulness practices that prepare people to live and age well."

"Whatever stage of your wellness journey you're in, we hope you'll join us to explore your body, quiet your mind and, most importantly, connect with your true self," added Amy.

To stay up to date on The Yoga House

– Chronogram's Best Yoga Studio of 2025 – and its new home in Poughkeepsie, visit www.theyogahouse-ny.com and follow @TheYogaHouseNY on Facebook and @yogahouseny on Instagram. Visitors can also receive the exclusive Founding Member rate of \$99 per month for the first three months by visiting The Yoga House's website.

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

September Book Club

Monday, September 8th, 1:00 pm-2:00pm

This month's selection is *North Woods* by Daniel Mason. This sweeping novel is about a single house in the woods of New England told through the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries.

Read to Therapy Dog Jambo

Tuesday, September 9th, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

He's a gentle giant who loves to make new friends. People of all ages are welcome to come and visit with him. Sign up for a 15 minute slot with Jambo.

No Greater Love - The Life & Legacy of

Charles R. Johnson, Medal of Honor Recipient

Wednesday, September 17, 7:00pm

Private First Class Charles R. Johnson received a Medal of Honor (Korean War). Join Stanford: A Caring Community here at the library to learn the story of Stanford's young neighbor who crossed racial barriers with character, selfless service, and brotherly love.

Yo-yo club

Friday, September 19th, 5-6pm

Open to students grades 4+

Join us at yo-yo club with Marc Smith. Have hands-on fun while learning about different types of yo-yo's including fixed axle, responsive, and unresponsive. Yo-yos will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Space is limited so register early.

Stanford Historical Society Presents ... Dillon

Striefeneder

Friday, September 19, 7:00pm

Looking Backward, Looking Forward: Change and Continuity in Stanford, NY from the Revolution to the Era of Good Feelings.

Teen Night

Friday, September 26th, 6pm-8pm

Come join other teens (13+) for a night of board games, card games and fun.

Ongoing Events

Qigong (classes resume 9/11/25)

Thursdays, 530pm-630pm

Why consider the practice of Qi Gong? E

Case Management Services

Tuesday 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Yoga with Mia

Saturdays, 10am-11am

Water Color Workshop (resumes 9/16/25)

First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners

Mondays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Knitting

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

Brain Games

Thursdays 10:30 – 12:00 pm

Mahjong for Intermediate Players

Fridays 10:00 am - noon

Now accepting students for the upcoming fall semester!

Giving back through life-changing experiences!

The Ridge School is a New York State Board of Regents Accredited School, Not-for-profit organization located in Dutchess County, New York dedicated to the creation of a rich and positive setting for students who are not succeeding in their current educational placements. The Ridge School is a day school for students who are diagnosed with High Functioning Autism.

845-505-5483

845-266-4283

The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org



NEW Children's Program at Congregation Shir Chadash!
Beginning Saturday Morning, Sept 6th & Continuing Bi-Monthly
For children 3 yrs. to 2nd grade
Join us for a fun morning of Jewish learning, crafts, stories, music and snacks!

Members & Non-members are Welcome!

Please RSVP & details will be provided
Contact: vp@shir-chadash.org or (845)232-1029

Hyde Park Repair Café expands services



Steve Wehr, Hyde Park Climate Smart Communities Energy Coach, and Local Resident Pat Lamanna remove a battery from a failed smoke detector. *Courtesy photo*

Event set Sept. 6

Lithium and other batteries can be recycled at the 7th Hyde Park Repair Café. Bring single-use batteries (AA, AAA, etc), rechargeable batteries, and battery powered devices to The United Methodist Church, 1 Church St., Hyde Park, on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Also, bring your old air conditioner or small refrigeration devices (sorry, no refrigerators or freezers) for recycling. Free.

This in addition to the “regular” repair Café activities.

“Don’t throw it out or leave it to clutter a closet. Fix it,” says Eric Weinstock, Town of Hyde Park Climate Smart Task Force Repair Café volunteer coordinator. Come get help fixing all those little things that are broken or torn or dull or squeaky.

Repair Cafes are free community events where you bring your broken but beloved items. Volunteer repair coaches help you FIX THEM! Be that item lamps • vacuums • clocks • chairs • electrical items • small appliances? • digital devices? • clothing & textiles • dolls •

stuffed animals • toys • tool sharpening? • jewelry • and more!?

Over 75% of items get fixed – “but even when they don’t, we have a good time trying!” says volunteer Steve Jones.

Communities interested in starting their own should contact Repair Cafe of the Hudson Valley & Catskills (<https://www.repaircafehv.org/about>) a consortium of program organizers who support the work of repair in their communities. All events take place under the umbrella of a host or sponsoring organization in each town. Repair Cafe of the Hudson Valley & Catskills has no independent legal or tax status.

The first Hyde Park Repair Café was held on August 19, 2023 at the United Methodist Church of Hyde Park and was a huge success! This is the seventh.

This free service is provided by combined effort of the Hyde Park United Methodist Church, DS Home Services, Sustainable Hudson Valley (our fiscal sponsor) and the Town of Hyde Park Climate Smart Communities Task Force.

For more information, email eweinstock65@gmail.com.

Congregation Shir Chadash High Holy Days schedule

Congregation Shir Chadash in Lagrangeville announced its High Holy Days schedule of Services 2025/5786, led by Rabbi Glenn Jacob and including choir and musical accompaniment on piano and cello. All are welcome; donations greatly appreciated.

For security reasons, registration is required or streaming link at (845) 232-1029 or info@shir-chadash.org. Congregation Shir Chadash is located at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Route 55 (enter on Stringham Road), Lagrangeville.

Rosh Hashanah
Monday, Sept. 22, 8 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Evening Service

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
2 p.m. Family Celebration Service

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, Oct. 1, 8 p.m. Kol Nidre Service with cello

Thursday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m. Yom Kippur Morning Service
2 p.m. Family Service
4 p.m. Afternoon Service
5 p.m. Yizkor/Memorial Service
5:30 p.m. N’ilah/Concluding Service
Community break fast following Yom Kippur concluding services—all welcome!

For more information: (845) 232-1029 or info@shir-chadash.org.

send us your news
cschmidt@s dutchessnews.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Scrabble tourney on Sept. 6 at Bangallworks

Bangallworks, at 97 Hunns Lake Road in Stanfordville, will host a Scrabble Tourney on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 11 a.m. sharp to mid-afternoon. Entry fee is \$15, and registration is required by Sept. 5. BBQ lunch included. Email info@bangallworks.com or call (917) 929-9221 for an entry form.

Poughkeepsie Elks Flea Market set Sept. 7

The Poughkeepsie Elks Lodge will hold their yearly Flea Market on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 29 Overocker Road in Poughkeepsie. There will be 27 vendors on hand. Breakfast and lunch will be available at reasonable prices. Call (845) 454-6660 for more information.

Hyde Park Library to host final

‘Know Your Local Government’ speaker event

The Hyde Park Library will conclude its speaker series entitled “Know Your Local Government” on Monday, Sept. 8. The speaker will be Hyde Park Town Supervisor Al Torreggiani. Registration is required; visit hydeparklibrary.org/events to sign up.

Stanford Supper Club to meet Sept. 10 at library

The Stanford Supper Club will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 6 to 7 p.m., at the Stanford Free Library, 6035 Route 82, Stanfordville. The theme is “brought to you by the Letter C”; bring a potluck dish to share that starts with “C,” or one that uses an ingredient starting with “C.” Recipe sharing and families welcome. Beverages, paper plates, paper bowls, plastic ware, name tags and food signage provided.

Indoor Yard Sale set Sept. 13

Indoor Yard Sale at the First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street (Route 44), Pleasant Valley, on Saturday, September 13 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Items for household, outdoors, sports, children. Enter through the side door or elevator on the parking lot side of the building and go downstairs.

Annual Chicken BBQ set Sept. 13 at PV church

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Pleasant Valley will host its 65th Annual Chicken BBQ on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$17. Take out only. (Over 90 and under 6 Free). Call Pam for reservations at (845) 635-9402.

Free Rabies Vaccine Clinic Sept. 13

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH) will once again partner with the Hudson Valley Animal Rescue & Sanctuary (HVARs) to offer a free rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 82 in Hopewell Junction. The

event is open to dogs, cats and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Advance registration is required at hvars.org.

The clinic is free for Dutchess County residents and \$15 per pet for non-residents. All dogs must be on a leash, and cats and domestic ferrets must be in carriers. Vaccinations will be good for three years with proof of prior vaccination. For those without proof, the vaccination will be good for one year.

Historic Red Hook Cemetery Crawl Sept. 20

Historic Red Hook’s Cemetery Crawl returns for its fifth season this fall. Part scavenger hunt, part self-guided tour, the Crawl takes you through six Red Hook cemeteries to uncover the stories of fascinating local residents and their memorials. With just your smartphone in hand, you can enjoy a crisp fall day exploring history in an engaging, family-friendly way.

Launch Date: Hardscrabble Day, Saturday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Village of Red Hook, at Historic Red Hook table in front of Bliss Juice. End Date & Awards: Sunday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m. at the Elmendorph Inn. More Info: www.historicredhook.org/cemeterycrawl

Vassar Temple High Holy Days services

Vassar Temple in Poughkeepsie, invites the community to worship on the upcoming High Holy Days. The congregation’s clergy Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh and Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann will officiate. Most of the High Holy Day programming will be hybrid (available both in person and on Zoom,) and there will be professional security present. Visit www.vassar temple.org for the complete service schedule. No fee is involved, but everyone wishing to attend must contact the Temple and register in advance, and donations to help defray our expenses are appreciated.

The congregation is accepting donations of non-perishable foods for its annual Yom Kippur Food Drive to benefit a local food pantry. Vassar Temple is a welcoming, inclusive congregation in Poughkeepsie, and is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism.

For further information, and to sign up to attend, contact office@vassar temple.org or (845) 454-2570.

Surf and Turf Dinner

set Sept. 25 at East Clinton Firehouse

The Clinton Volunteer Fire Department will hold its 44th Annual Surf and Turf Dinner on Saturday, Sept. 25, at the East Clinton Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners. Sit down 5 & 7 p.m. Take-out 6 p.m. only. Cost: \$22 regular or \$32 super-size. Reservations required; call (845) 266-5485.

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Creative Living

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‘Bullshot Crummond’ opens Sept. 5 at County Players

County Players, one of the longest-running community theatre companies in the area, presents the second Main Stage show in their current 68th Season: the irreverent comedy, “Bullshot Crummond” by Ron House, Diz White, Alan Shearman, John Neville-Andrews, and Derek Cunningham. Directed by Jeffery Battersby the show opens Friday, Sept. 5, at 8 p.m., with additional performances scheduled at 8 p.m. on Fridays & Saturdays, Sept. 6, 12, 13, 19, & 20, and matinees at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14, and Saturday, Sept. 20, at the County Players Falls Theatre located at 2681 W. Main Street, in the historic Village of Wappingers Falls.

The production features the local talents of Eric Grayson, Emily Holland, Keller Mickle, Dylan Parkin, and Amy Schaffer. Of this play director Battersby says: “‘Bullshot Crummond’ pays homage to the B-movies of the 1920s and 30s and, like any great comedic sendup (think ‘The Pink Panther’ or ‘Young Frankenstein’), delights in its self-serious namesake, extra-villainous villains, and also features illicit love, true romance,

and a tremendous amount of heart.” Individual tickets are \$26 for Adults, \$24 for Senior (60+), Military, & Students (with ID at the door), and are available online at countyplayers.org. The theatre box office is open for in-person ticket sales one hour before any performance. Groups Sales info is also available at countyplayers.org/group-sales/.

Hudson Valley Credit Union sponsors County Players’ 68th Season, and this production of “Bullshot Crummond” is supported by Gold Sponsor, Dutchess ProPrint, and by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals, on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. concordtheatricals.com.

Located in the historic Village of Wappingers Falls the all-volunteer theater company acquired the former Academy Theatre and renamed it the County Players Falls Theatre, its home since 1977.

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



The cast of the irreverent comedy “Bullshot Crummond.” Performances are set for September 5-20 at County Players in Wappingers Falls. *Courtesy photo by Louisa Vilardi Photography*

what’s happening? — creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

MORTON LIBRARY SEEKS FIBER ART FOR OCTOBER EXHIBITION

Morton Memorial Library, at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff, has issued a Call for Art for its Homage to Fiber Creators, an exhibition that will open on Oct. 10, the week before the Sheep and Wool Festival at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds (Oct. 18-19).

Morton is asking textile artists: knitters, quilters, rug hookers, embroiderers, crocheters, weavers, spinners, etc. to share their creations with the Morton community. Creations ranging from freshly carded wool, to colored skeins of yarn, to quilts, rugs, handbags, scarves, embroidery, and beyond are welcomed.

The exhibition is open to all ages. Submission deadline is Oct. 4. Contact Sandy at (845) 876-2903 for more information.

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 21 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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‘America: Songs of Patriotism, Protest, and Praise’ at the Beekman Library on Sept. 11

“America: Songs of Patriotism, Protest, and Praise” will take place at the Beekman Library, 11 Town Center Boulevard. This program presents patriotism, praise, and protest as part of the vital fabric that weaves our differences into our distinct strength. Key hymns, noble anthems of patriotism, and tunes of solidarity as well as resistance make this a worthy program celebrating our union. This unique sound, provided by Alex Prizgintas and his amplified cello, will be held on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m.

Those familiar with Alex’s work on the cello might be surprised to learn that he graduated summa cum laude in both an undergraduate degree from Marist College in regional history and a graduate

degree from Marist in public administration, in addition to serving as president of the Woodbury Historical Society and town historian of Woodbury in Orange County.

“I tend to have two audiences: those who know me as a cellist, and those who know me through my lectures on topics of regional history,” he said. “My bifurcated interests certainly keep me busy developing new stories to share about our Hudson River Valley as well as expanding my concert programs that strive to keep audiences engaged, enlightened and hopefully entertained.”

To learn more and see other video samples of his music and lectures, visit alexprizgintas.com.

Alex Prizgintas will present “America: Songs of Patriotism, Protest, and Praise” at the Beekman Library on Sept. 11. *Courtesy photo*



A & E CALENDAR

Through Sept. 7: Rhinebeck Theatre Society presents “Annie,” The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. This production features two powerhouse casts, each bringing their own unique energy and interpretation to the beloved characters. Performances: Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., 3 p.m. Evening show on Sat., Aug. 30, 8 p.m. Tickets \$29. Plus, before the show, receive a special behind-the-scenes experience including a cast member meet-and-greet, photo, and a special keepsake locket. Great for families; all for just \$7 per person (in addition to show tickets). (845) 876-3080 or www.cen-terforperformingarts.org

Through Sept. 26: Red Hook Eat & Go Free Summer Lawn Concert Series, Baright Associates, 7509 North Broadway, Red Hook. Purchase take-out from local eateries and bring it along to enjoy while a band performs. A tented area and tables with umbrellas are set up for comfortable dining. Concerts take place Fridays, 6-8 p.m. This week: TMcCannBand, an eclectic group of gentlemen musicians, are known for their lively stage shows. More info on the Facebook event page.

Sept. 4: Eric Andersen, also Jon Pousette-Dart, The Falcon, 1348 Rte. 9W, Marlboro. 7:30 p.m. All ages. <https://www.liveatthefalcon.com/>

Sept. 4-10: Author Events, Oblong Rhinebeck, 6422 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Sept. 4:** Local author Elizabeth Cunningham, “Over the Edge of the World: A Fairytale Novel,” 6 p.m. **Sept. 6:** Zoe Dubno, “Happiness and Love: A Novel,” in conversation with Oblong’s David Fishkind, 6 p.m. **Sept. 7:** Local author Marker Snyder, “First Kiss with Fangs,” 2 p.m. For ages 10-14. **Sept. 9:** don Miguel Ruiz Jr., “The Posioned Arrow: A Toltec Guide to Overcoming Fear,” 6 p.m. (845) 876-0500 or events@oblongbooks.com. **Sept. 10 (at the Bardavon,** 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie): Elizabeth Gilbert, “All the Way to the River,” 7 p.m. Presented by Oblong Books in partnership with Bardavon. (845) 473.2072, <https://www.bardavon.org/>

Sept. 5 & 7: Doansburg Chamber Ensemble, Cold Spring & Brewster. Concert features string quartet with harp, clarinet and flute. The dsemble will perform works by Ravel, Rutter, Herbert, Faith and Mozetich. For audiences of all ages. Performances: Fri., 7 p.m. at St. Mary’s Church in the Highlands, 1 Chestnut St. (Rte. 9D & Rte. 301), Cold Spring. Sun, 3 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2103 Rte. 6, Brewster. Tickets available at the door: \$17 GA, \$14 seniors/students. <https://doansburgchamberensemble.org/>

Sept. 5-7: Germania Oktoberfest, Germania Fairgrounds, 51 Old Degarmo Rd., Poughkeepsie. German music and dance, authentic German food & beer. Hours: Fri., Sept. 5, 5-10 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 6, 1-10 p.m.; Sun., Sept. 7, noon-5 p.m. More info at <https://germaniapok.com/>

Sept. 6: Dead Serious 62, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Step into the world of adrenaline-pumping MMA action at Dead Serious 62, where fighters will ignite the octagon with fierce competition and jaw-dropping maneuvers. From intense matchups to electrifying knockouts, this event guarantees a night of non-stop excitement that will keep you at the edge of your seat. Tickets 845-454-5800, ext. 1201, or www.midhudsonciviccenter.org

Sept. 6: “Jam Side Up!” Tivoli Memorial Park, Pine St. & Katherine Lane, Tivoli. Free show by Montreal-based performance duo The Kif-Kif Sisters, 3-4 p.m. downtoeartfestival.org. For more on The Kif-Kif Sisters: kif-kif.ca; for more on the Village of Tivoli: tivolinow.com

Sept. 6-7: Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival, Dutchess County Fairgrounds, 6636 Rte. 9, Rhinebeck. Embark on a tantalizing journey at the Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival, boasting an impressive lineup of over 300 vendors offering a delightful variety of wineries, food trucks brimming with gourmet delights, exquisite fine arts and crafts, and an inviting beer tent experience. Enjoy demonstrations from professional chefs and mixologists, listen to live music, and enjoy the last days of summer in the Hudson Valley. Hours: Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets & more info at hudsonvalleywinefest.com

Sept. 6-7: Live Entertainment at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. **Sept. 5:** Bossa Blue presents James Taylor: ReIMAGINED, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 door. **Sept. 6:** The Prezence – Led Zeppelin Tribute, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance/ \$35 at the door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Sept. 6-7 2025 Annual Festival, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, Black Box Theater, Studio Complex, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Week Two of the annual festival features Nichole Canuso | Branching Paths: Lunar Retreat, an interactive, multi-sensory performative experience. Sat., 4 & 7 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m. Audiences will enter the interactive guided tour in small groups with timed entry points every 10 minutes. Tickets \$30 GA, \$15 ztudents w/ID. www.kaatsbaan.org

Sept. 7: Quaker Meeting House Tours, noon-4 p.m., at Nine Partners, Creek, Crum Elbow, Oblong (Clinton, Hyde Park, Millbrook, and Pawling HS). Info at <https://www.meetinghousetour.com/>

Sept. 10: “Hollywood Goes to War” Film Series, “Cry ‘Havoc,” Wallace Center, FDR Library, Rte. 9, Hyde Park. In the early days of World War II in the Philippines, Army nurse Lieutenant Mary “Smitty” Smith (Margaret Sullivan) battles inadequate supplies, Japanese air raids, petty jealousies and a serious bout of malaria, 2 p.m. Free, but registration is required to attend in-person. www.fdrlibrary.org

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News from the Rhinebeck Garden Club

Submitted By Brenda Klaproth

The year so far has been packed with learning opportunities and social activities: meetings with excellent speakers, tours of the gardens at Hollister House and of private ones. Off-site field trips or meetings usually include eating as a group at an area restaurant, helping us to become better acquainted. On site meeting refreshments, provided by two members, also provide a chance to socialize.

In addition to lectures and garden tours, The Rhinebeck Garden Club for over a decade has lovingly cared for the flower beds at The Dewitt Gurnell/“Doughboy” park. Visitors and residents alike often stop to compliment us while we are deadheading, watering, trimming, planting, and weeding the beds. The Club also maintains the spring border garden on Huntington Road.

Our yearly philanthropy goal of donating at least 25 percent of our income was met by paying for a raised bed planter for

a new pollinator garden in Rhinecliff.

Work has started on our annual plant sale to be held at The Rhinebeck Reformed church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 27. A limited number of house plants and hundreds of perennials from members’ gardens will be for sale, plus delicious home-baked goods.

Meetings are usually held at the Rhinebeck Village Hall at 10 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Topics in 2025 included a flower arranging demonstration; Biodiversity in Your Backyard; From Farms to Incubators: Woman Innovators; and Crafting a Kitchen Garden in a Small Space.

We are pleased to have Victoria Coyne from Victoria Gardens as our guest speaker in September. She will talk about how to add color and interest to fall gardens. Our membership in 2025 grew from 59 members to 65. For information about this meeting, or to become a member, call Sue at (845) 797-3226.



Clockwise from top: Rhinebeck Garden Club members tour gardens at Hollister House. Club Member Jay Bell presents a bouquet-making demonstration. Speaker Amy Wu holds her book “From Farms to Incubators: Women Innovators.” Club members lunch at PO Cafe after touring Hollister House. *Courtesy photos*



FARMERS MARKETS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roosters' Roadside Farmers Market, 669 County Rte. 2, Elizaville. Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Produce, meat, soap and other local items. [@roostersroadsidegrill](https://www.roostersroadsidegrill.com)

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

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Did you know that Sharon’s cousin is a marshmallow?

As an herbal tea drinker, one of the “To Dos” on my list once I moved here was to try making my own hibiscus tea from the blooms growing near my house. Commonly called Rose of Sharon, *Hibiscus syriacus* is a tropical-looking woody shrub that survives in our growing zone. Many of the homes I pass on my regular driving routes have the hardy hibiscus, with its pastel blooms, in their yards.

I did, in fact, make my own hibiscus tea. I made beverages using flowers that I harvested fresh from the trees, as well as some flowers that I dried. Summertime begs for Rose of Sharon Tea over ice.

Before tea time

The process of making the tea was illuminating. I tried steeping the flower petals in cold water first, but steeping in hot water was faster and more effective at releasing the volatile aromatics and flavorful compounds. The resultant liquid was not pretty in either circumstance. I expected it to be pink or purple, like the flowers.

I learned that hibiscus flowers contain anthocyanins, which are natural pigments responsible for the flower’s colors. Anthocyanins are sensitive to pH levels. They exhibit different colors depending on whether the solution is acidic, neutral, or basic.

When I steeped the hibiscus in hot water, the anthocyanins leached out, creating a gray liquid. When I added acidic lemon juice, the color was enhanced to a brighter pink. If I wasn’t interested in drinking the tea, I could have added a base (like baking soda) and made the liquid turn green or blue.

Another observation I couldn’t help but make, was that hibiscus flowers are slimy! Hibiscus are in the mallow family of plants. Among other commonalities, all mallows contain mucilage. Cotton and okra are two familiar mallows. Another

that comes to mind is marshmallow.

A S’more with a plant as the main ingredient?

The marshmallow (*Althaea officinalis*) is a perennial herb. The plant’s roots have historically been used in herbal medicine to treat coughs, sore throats, and digestive problems. According to the National Confectioners Association (NCA), Ancient Egyptian royalty also enjoyed *Althaea officinalis* sweetened with nuts and honey in 2000 BC.

Passed through time and across cultures, the candy’s ingredients shifted, replacing mallow root with gelatin. The change made producing the confection less laborious. But, since gelatin is an animal product, conventional marshmallows are neither vegan nor vegetarian. Plant-based options are available as specialty products derived from seaweed or red algae.

Marshmallows go with cocoa, not hibiscus tea

Cooler weather will soon be arriving, presenting the opportunity for some hot Rose of Sharon Tea. And, it is also possible to make marshmallows from *Althaea officinalis* because the plant will grow in our zone. But, I don’t think marshmallows would enhance the flavor of the tea. Marshmallows are better paired with cocoa, which comes from a tropical plant.

Easy to do

Making herbal tea is easy. I picked the fresh hibiscus flowers, removed the petals, and rinsed them so that they were free from bugs and any other debris. I poured boiling water over them and let them steep for about 10 minutes. Adding a little lemon juice will change the yellow-gray water to a more appetizing hue. Add sweetener or ice, if desired. (Of course, only ingest foods that you are certain are safe to eat. Edible plants have toxic look-alikes. Accurate identification is essential.)



Rose of Sharon Iced Tea. Below: Rose of Sharon flower petals steeping in hot water. Photos by Francine Wizner



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://www.gertrudekatzchronicles.com/> and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>

LOOK FOR LOVE TO COOK
IN NEXT WEEK’S ISSUE

Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.

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Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through Sept. 7:** "Beyond the Rainbow: Highlighting LGBTQIA+ Stories," group exhibition showcasing visual works across a variety of mediums that explore the diverse, complex, and deeply personal experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies. www.artsmidhudson.org or or (845) 454-3222

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Sept. 4, 2025-Feb. 1, 2026:** "Chronostasia: Select Acquisitions 2020–2025," an exhibition that brings together more than 60 works acquired over the past five years. **Opening reception:** Thurs., Sept. 4, 4:30 p.m. in the Loeb atrium, followed by a 5:30 p.m. conversation with artist Sky Hopinka, scholar Molly McGlennen, and curator Alyx Raz. **Additional Programs: Thurs., Sept. 18, 5:30–7 p.m.,** Screening of "Sky Woman Women," in the Vogelstein Center for Drama and Film. Co-sponsored by the Loeb and Vassar's Film Department. **Thurs., Nov. 13, 5:30 p.m.,** "Rothko in Conversation," in Taylor 102. Christopher Rothko in conversation with Loeb Director Bart Thurber, followed by a reception in the atrium. **Closing Program:** Thurs., Jan. 29, 5:30 p.m., in Taylor 102, artist talk with Cecilia Vicuña. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

applies to view the exhibit.
www.fdrlibrary.org

Millbrook Arts Project, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through Sept. 27:** "Four Paths to Abstraction," the sixth exhibition of the Millbrook Arts Project inaugural season. It invites viewers to engage with color, form, and gesture beyond the limits of representation and features four artists who explore abstraction through the tactile possibilities of fabric, paint, and found materials. **Public reception:** Fri., Sept. 5, 6-7:30 p.m. Jenny Kemp and Courtney Puckett **Artist Talk:** Fri., Sept. 5, 5 p.m. <https://millbrooklibrary.org/millbrook-arts-project/>

Millbrook Vineyards & Winery, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook. **Through Nov. 9:** "Art in the Loft," a juried exhibition and sale of fine art featuring the work 16 Arts Mid-Hudson member artists. On view daily, noon-5 p.m. Visitors are invited to vote for their favorite piece to be featured on an exclusive wine label. <https://www.artsmidhudson.org/art-in-the-loft>

Olana State Historic Site, Sharp Family Gallery, 5720 Rte. 9G, Hudson. **Through Nov. 2:** "What's Missing?" site-specific artworks in the Olana landscape by Ellen Harvey and Gabriela Salazar. (518) 751-6879 or www.olana.org

Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St., Catskill. Through Nov. 2: “EMILY COLE: Ceramics, Flora & Contemporary Responses,” placing the art of Emily Cole (1843-1913), a professional artist and daughter of Thomas Cole, into conversation with eight, internationally celebrated contemporary artists including Ann Agee, Jacqueline Bishop, Francesca DiMattio, Valerie Hegarty, Courtney M. Leonard, Jiha Moon, Michelle Sound, and Stephanie Syjuco. The exhibition is the largest display of original painted porcelain and works on paper by Emily Cole ever shown since the 19th century. **Through Dec. 14:** “ON TREES: Georgia O’Keeffe and Thomas Cole,” exhibition brings together two iconic American artists in the COLE 200 anniversary year (1825-2025). The presentation explores how Thomas Cole depicted trees in the year of his transformational first visit to Catskill, NY in 1825, and how Georgia O’Keeffe did so in her pivotal first visit to New Mexico a century later in 1929. www.thomascole.org

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli.
Through Sept. 14: "Works of Passion," exhibition features artworks in a wide range of mediums born from deep passion, showcasing surrealist dreams, captivating fantasy, and striking abstract landscapes. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

Cunneen-Hackett kicks off fall art exhibition season with opening reception on Sept. 5



"Main Street Hyde Park, NY" by Tatiana Rhinevault. *Courtesy image*

On Sept. 2, the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center kicked off its 2025 fall season of captivating art exhibitions in their Visual Arts Galleries with four new artists presenting their works through October. Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar Street in Poughkeepsie, will be painter Valerie Berner with her solo show, “Scenes and Scenery from Untold Stories.” At 12 Vassar Street in the Reception Gallery, Inna Ivanovskya and Tatiana Rhinevault will present their diverse and vibrant works of art, and Lisa Weinblatt brings her renowned “School Lunch” painting series to the Hancock Gallery.

Free Public Art Opening Receptions will be held in all three Art Galleries on Friday, Sept. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Valerie Berner, who hails from Rochester, is a painter whose style is characterized by bold colors, sharp edges, and settings that consist of dozens of overlapping layers of paint. Her paintings evoke dynamic moods, but they rarely reveal the entire storyline. Her aim for each show is for the imagery to “lead viewers to wonder and wander.”

Berner received her undergraduate degree from St. Lawrence University, where she double majored in Psychology and Fine Arts, with a specialization in painting. She earned a master's degree in Art Therapy from Nazareth College. Several years later, she received national board certification and state licensure as a Creative Arts Therapist.

Inna Ivanovskaya is an independent filmmaker and an analog photographer based in New York's Hudson Valley. Receiving her B.A. in Film Production from Brooklyn College, Inna is known as the director and editor of her poetic non-fiction film essays as well as analog photo series of *Alien Numbers* and *That is The Silence*. Her work explores human relationships, the notions of home and belonging, and cultural identity as well as the role of introspection in life. Inna's practice is informed by her upbringing in post Soviet Russia and the immigrant experience.

Her latest work *That is the Silence* is a short documentary and a series of analog photographs which take you on an intimate and immersive journey through the spirit forcing you to reflect alongside the film on your own inner desires and ask – “What does it mean to listen...”

Tatiana Rhinevault was born in Moscow and received her master's degree in art from the Moscow Institute. She works in several mediums including watercolor, acrylic and oil, and utilizes rich dark colors in combination with diffused window light to create a calming but magnetic space. She creates windows through which one can see the old streets and monuments of Europe and often includes paintings within her paintings.

As a studied cellist, Rhinevault's love of all the Renaissance Arts is reflected in her work with most of her paintings containing a musical instrument or score, paintbrushes or palette or literature of some kind. Her work is also influenced by her elder brother, a musician, who instilled in her a love for American Jazz and her many friends who are classical musicians. In addition to her illustrious career as a painter, she has also been a makeup artist at the famous Vakhtangov Theater in Moscow when she was 17 years of age, a specialist in restoring icons in Moscow's old churches as well as painting new ones, and in 1990 worked on The English Map of Moscow for the U.S. Embassy.

Lisa Weinblatt is a figurative painter who received her M.F.A. at the School of Visual Arts, NYC and earned her B.A., Magna Cum laude, Art Department Honors, at Queens College/CUNY. Her School Lunch exhibition at the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center is a visual essay of contemporary student life in real educational settings with the imagery informed through direct observation, memory and personal experience.

Weinblatt's School Lunch painting series has been exhibited in over 40 solo exhibitions. Most notably, her School Lunch #4 painting was awarded 'Best In Show' at the Flinn Gallery (Greenwich, CT) in August 2023 by Claire Davies who is the Assistant Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

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Sunday church bells

Luigi sweats it out at Mass.

As I write this latest installment, it is almost 100 degrees. In the restaurant kitchen the temp near 120 degrees. I have no air conditioning in the office, which is where I am. The sweat is pouring off my body. For some reason, I find myself thinking of church in the summer.

I must have been 4 or 5 years old at the time. We always went to St. Peter's Church in Hyde Park, which was a chapel with the school gymnasium behind it that was opened up for Sunday services. The gymnasium also doubled as the cafeteria when school was in session, but that is another story for another day. Anyway, it was hot. Damn hot. As always, my four brothers and I were dressed in a jacket and pants for church. Never short-sleeve shirts. Always long pants, never shorts. Always socks and shoes. Mom's rule, period.

We always sat to the left of the altar and had a perfect view of the priest and the altar servers. My brother, John, was an altar server at the time and Fr. Cody was the priest. I can still see John standing on the altar facing us in his black and white robes, hands devoutly clasped in front of him trying to look pious. Sweat pouring off his face with the flicker of the alter candles accenting the beads rolling down his nose. I, on the other hand, was busy making faces at him, trying to make him laugh.

I would really get carried away, sticking my tongue out, waving, and pushing up my nose like a pig. It always stopped abruptly when my father would reach behind me and smack the back of my head. After he smacked me, I would stop for a fair amount of time waiting for my father to forget I was there then start the game again, making faces until my father would spy me out of the corner of his eye and smack the back of my head again to

make me stop again. I never gave my father a break.

When Fr. Cody would start his sermon I would nap, or try to. I honestly tried to stay awake, but I couldn't. I always fell asleep. Fr. Cody would start his sermon and automatically my eyes would get heavy and start to close. I would fight it for a few minutes but before I knew it, my head was bobbing, my mouth was open, drool was coming out of my mouth and I would start to snore. When Pop noticed, he would reach behind me and yank my hair to wake me up. I remember waking up in a pool of sweat and drool. The humidity in the church was so bad, that the pews would get wet from our sweat and we would stick to the wood. My poor father. He never had a moment's peace with me.

My favorite part of the mass is when the bells would be rung. When the altar server would ring the bells, they would always get carried away and make enough noise to wake the dead. I was told before church there would be full scale arguments about who got to ring the bells. It was the best job. Sometimes they would fight over the bells right on the altar. Each altar server would have their hands on the bells and try to ring it for themselves. You could see them leaning into each other, fighting for position. The church would be silent at the most solemn moment of the mass. Everybody's head would be down, the bells would ring and of course, I would say out loud "Hello? Hello?" Like it was a telephone. Every time, I would get smacked. Every time my brothers would crack up as well as the parishioners around us, and I would be rubbing the back of my head.

So there would be the altar servers fighting over the bells, shaking the hell

out of them and there I would be calling out "Hello? Hello?", every time those bells would ring. People around us got quite used to it and even started to look forward to the brief comedy in the middle of Sunday mass. I remember one time Fr. Cody looking over to me and laughing.

Poor Fr. Cody. He was up on the altar, all those robes on, sweat pouring off his face. The altar servers were up there with sweat pouring off their faces. The parishioners are in the pews with sweat pouring off their faces sticking to the pews, and there I was saying "Hello? Hello?"

Finally the Mass was over. Fr. Cody gave the final blessing and I would bolt out of church. We would then all pile into our Oldsmobile Station Wagon to go home.

The one good thing about Sunday was Sunday dinner. Mom always made something special if we were home instead of at our grandmother's house. When it was a special Sunday she would make ricotta gnocchi. Because the gnocchi were light, she would make a quick tomato sauce to go with it. With some chunks of mozzarella mixed in to beef it up.

I remember coming home from church, getting out of our church clothes and watching Abbot and Costello and the Bowery boys as mom put together dinner. If the phone rang I would jump up to answer it saying "Hello. Hello?"

RICOTTA GNOCCHI

Ingredients

- Gnocchi:
- 1 (8 ounce) container ricotta cheese
 - 2 eggs
 - ½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon pepper
 - 1 teaspoon fresh minced garlic
 - 1 cup all-purpose flour, or as needed

Sauce:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 jar Coppola's Tuscan Sauce
- ½ lb. meatloaf mix
- 8 ounces fresh mozzarella cheese, cut into small chunks

Directions

Whip together the ricotta, eggs, Parmesan Cheese, salt, pepper, and garlic in a large bowl. Mix in 1 cup of flour. The dough should be soft but semi-firm. Add a teaspoon of flour at a time till you reach the proper consistency.

Divide the dough into 3 or 4 pieces. Roll the dough into long ½ inch tubular pieces. Cut each piece into bite sized pieces, and place on a lightly floured baking sheet. Place in the refrigerator to firm up until ready to use.

Heat olive oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir in meatloaf mix and brown. Drain liquid and add Tuscan Sauce. Stir and let simmer for 10 minutes.

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil over high heat. Drop the gnocchi in the water and let them cook until they float to the surface, 1 to 2 minutes, then drain.

To assemble the dish, stir the cubed mozzarella cheese into the sauce and allow the heat of the sauce to soften, but not melt the cheese. Place the gnocchi in the pot and toss lightly careful not to damage the gnocchi.

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.

BOSSA BLUE TO RE-IMAGINE JAMES TAYLOR AT THE TOWNE CRIER



Brad Cole (standing) and Bossa Blue return to Towne Crier Cafe Sept. 5 with James Taylor: ReIMAGINED. *Courtesy photo*

Award-winning singer-songwriter Brad Cole and his band Bossa Blue will perform James Taylor: ReIMAGINED at The Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon on Friday, Sept. 5 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

"The James Taylor Songbook is a treasure chest of melody, delicate structure and intimate storytelling," noted Cole. "The fun and challenge here is to update each composition and performance in a compelling way with this extraordinary group of musicians. Every tune has found its own unique blend of Bossa Nova, Samba, Jazz, Rock, Soul, and Blues, all rich with harmony."

Bossa Blue is a critically acclaimed musical collective that has built a reputation for delivering unforgettable live performances.

Visit bradcolemusic.com for more information and townecrier.com for tickets.

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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: FOOTBALL

ACROSS

1. *The Coaches ____ or The AP Top 25 ____

5. *Super Bowl halftime performer Kendrick Lamar's genre

8. 1/168th of a week

12. Purse to match a gown

13. Karl of politics

14. Model builder's wood choice

15. *YDS, TD or INT

16. Black like certain tree

17. *Last season's NFL MVP

18. *Worth 6 points

20. Way, way off

21. Owl cries

22. Come and ____ it

23. Ape

26. Stucco or aluminum on a house wall, pl.

30. "Wheel of Fortune" request

31. Bette Green's "Summer of my ____ Soldier"

34. Stag, not doe

35. Like an uncomfortable mattress

37. European Economic Community

38. *NFL Hall of Famer Greene or comedian Hart

39. Seed coat

40. Cylindrical flower cluster

42. Stir or fuss

43. City in Illinois

45. #10 Down's counterpart

47. Small dog's bark

48. Adams of "Summer Of '69" fame

50. *Point value of a safety in foot-ball, pl.

52. *Worth 3 points in football (2 words)

56. Behind a stern

57. Raise the roof

58. Classroom parasites

59. Bloop

60. Actor and singer Kristofferson

61. Some are slippery

62. Scraps

63. Ballpark fig.

64. Dark loaves

DOWN

1. Bothersome one

2. *Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Graham

3. Molokai party

4. Leeches, alt. sp.

5. R2-D2, e.g.

6. Declares to be true

7. *College, home to football's Nittany Lions

8. *Football intermission

9. Paella pot

10. Addict

11. *What the NFL's Jim Brown famously did

13. Fixed up

14. Bleated

19. Hoagie, alt. sp.

22. Bathtub hooch

23. Green side

24. Accustom

25. Imitate

26. *Quarterback's downfall

27. The N of U.S.N.A.

28. Move smoothly

29. Mister in Madrid

32. ____-view mirror

33. What Harry and Sally did

36. *Pre-championship games

38. Work the dough

40. High tea vessel

41. Bucolics

44. Gustatory sensation

46. Hook, line and sinker person

48. Coffin holders

49. Rekindled

50. Type of ski lift

51. Drift like aroma

52. Type of fish net

53. Like acne-prone skin

54. Climber's destination

55. It's more, to some

56. Don McLean: "A long, long time ____..."

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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62						63				64		

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

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Annual Chili Cook-Off in Rhinecliff set Sept. 6

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company will host its Annual Chili Cook-Off at Firemen’s Field, on Valley Road, next to the Old Schoolhouse Condos in Rhinecliff on a new date: Saturday, Sept. 6, from 4 to 7 p.m.

“Mid-September has become a time overflowing with activities, so the Chili committee decided we would try a new date this year,” stated chair person, Cynthia Baer.

Field games and a friendly Cornhole Tourney is planned to begin at 4 p.m. Teams of two are encouraged to sign up for this single elimination contest. An entrance fee of \$10. per team is required with the winning team receiving half the pot. The rest will go to fund the maintenance of Firemen’s Field. Kids games will include a spoon race, ring toss, scavenger hunt and, of course, kickball. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own balls and games as well.

At 5pm, the 14th annual chili cook off will take place. Registration ends at 4:50 p.m. Anyone can participate; bring a pot of chili, hot and ready to serve. Chilis can be any type from vegetarian to chicken to traditional beef. First place prize is \$100 and a trophy. Runner up prize is \$50. A People’s Choice Award will also be awarded with a prize of \$100. After the contest, everyone is invited to test taste the chili selections. Hot dogs and beverages will be supplied for free by the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co.

The Pie Baking Contest will follow the chili contest. Bring your favorite fruit pie

to compete in this amateur contest for a winning prize of \$100.00 and the title of “Rhinecliff’s Pie-Making Champion.” A second place prize of \$50. will also be awarded.

At 6 p.m., the day will wrap up the 2nd Annual Tug-O-War contest between North and South Rhinecliff (determined by where you live in proximity to Shatzell Avenue in Rhinecliff). Winners of the best of 3 tugs will be named Hamlet Champions of 2024. The south won last year in a very animated contest. The winning region gets added to a trophy that is kept on the mantel at Moron Library. Be prepared to get dirty as the field is wet in areas.

Says Baer, “This is one of my favorite times of the year. It’s just a blast of good old, free, old-fashioned fun. Everyone has a laugh and there is always plenty of food to go around. This is the third year the pollinator gardens have been in place. It is a lot of work but they are establishing themselves well and the shelter provides a shady place to hang out.

Whether you bring a Chili dish or a pie to compete or just come to try out the variety of homemade food, you will enjoy the warmth offered at this event.

The rain date for the Chili Cook-Off is Sunday, Sept. 7, 4-7 p.m.. at the Picnic Shelter at Firemen’s Field, located on Valley Way Road and Loftus Rd, just past the intersection, in Rhinecliff. For additional information contact Cynthia Baer at (845) 876-5738.



Rhinecliff’s 14th Annual Chili Cook-Off is early this year, Saturday, Sept. 6, at Firemen’s Field. The event is hosted by the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad. In the photos, clockwise from above: Sandy Bartlett will be among the judges again this year, shown here at a previous Cook-Off with Paul Butler and Ivan Mentzke. The Fruit Pie Contest has become an event favorite. The Tug-o-War is a friendly competition. *Courtesy photos*



Historic Red Hook launches Rev250 Speaker Series Sept. 6

As Historic Red Hook commemorates the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the organization will host five programs on the Revolution’s impact in Dutchess County and the evolving cultural landscape of the Hudson Valley. The Rev250 Speaker Series will take place on Saturdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Elmendorph Inn and on Zoom.

The events are free to attend, but registration is required (except for the Sept. 20 Open House). Refreshments will be provided.

Sept. 6: BJ Lillis
“A Valley Between Worlds: Indigenous Land, Colonial Property, and Resistance to Capitalism in the Colonial

Hudson Valley”

Lillis will speak to Indigenous survival and resistance to colonialism on Hudson Valley manors from the early 18th century to the 1760s, when an unlikely alliance between tenant farmers and Native people organized tenant uprisings, rent strikes, and coordinated legal action against Hudson Valley landlords.

Sept. 20: Sara Evenson, “Harvesting Hudson Valley: 18th Century Foodways at the Historic Elmendorph Inn”

An all-day cooking demonstration from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and part of Historic Red Hook’s Hardscrabble Day Open House. Registration not required for this event.

Oct. 4 – Dillon Streifeneder, “Red Hook, Rhinebeck, and the Revolution”

Oct. 18 – Hadrien Coumans and Joe Baker, “Lenape Perspectives on the American Revolution”

Nov. 22 – Kirsten E. Wood, “Accommodating the Republic: How Taverns Encouraged Travel, Innovation, and Civic Engagement in the New United States”

These programs are paid for in part by Dutchess County.

Save the date for these other historic programs:

Sept. 12 - Historic Tavern Trail, Lasting Joy Brewery

Sept. 20 - Cemetery Crawl Kick Off, In-person and Online

Oct. 9 – 2025 Annual Meeting, Elmendorph Inn and Zoom

Oct. 22 – Halloween Tavern Trail, Foster’s Coach House

Oct. 26 – Cemetery Crawl Award Ceremony, Elmendorph Inn

Nov. 1–16 – Online Benefit Auction

Nov. 16 – Annual Auction Conclusion, Elmendorph Inn

Dec. 7 – Holiday Open House, Elmendorph Inn

Visit www.historicredhook.org to learn more about these programs and to register.

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PROTECT YOUNGER FAMILY MEMBERS FROM SCAMS

Older adults are often perceived as uniquely vulnerable to scams. That's only partially accurate. While older adults may see the most scam warnings, it might surprise you to know this from the Federal Trade Commission: When it comes to reporting having lost money to fraud, people in the 18-59 age group were 34% more likely victims than adults over 60.

Measuring scam losses is an inexact science, considering that skillful scammers will do their best to go undetected, thus unreported. Additionally, many scammers aren't targeting older individuals themselves, but rather their health insurers, including Medicare and Medicaid.

Still, according to the 2023 Better Business Bureau Scam Tracker Risk Report, 35- to 44-year-olds were most likely to lose money in scams, and median monetary losses were highest for 18- to 24-year-olds, at \$155 per scam.

Although older adults are never going to be fully off the hook when it comes to vulnerability, the start of another school year is your opportunity to be the wise elder of your family and neighborhood. Here are a few scams to watch out for on behalf of your adult children and grandkids. The scammers' methods are largely the same as when they target you: try to induce panic or euphoria, in hopes that their victims' emotions get ahead of their logic.

Fast money scams: If it sounds too good to be true...you know the rest of that sentence, but do the younger people in your life know it? It's good to know they want to be successful, but you know better than anybody that there are no shortcuts to success.

Unpaid tuition scam: The scammer contacts the student or the parents, claiming that a tuition bill has been unpaid and that payment needs to be made immediately. This is a great example of a scammer's use of "false urgency" to trick people into parting with money. It's the same kind of scam attempt that you've faced many times before; only the target is different. Just as governments will not use the phone to or internet contact you about unpaid bills or fines, neither will colleges use the phone or internet to contact younger family members about unpaid tuition.

Cheap designer goods: Splashy clothing brands may not impress you any more, but there may have been a time in your youth when you had to have whatever that era's fashion fad was.

Knockoff designer products are everywhere these days, preying on people's endless thirst for offers that are too good to be true. There are still deals to be had; but help the young ones in your life look for stores and auction sites with good reviews and ratings from real people. When in doubt, shop local.

"FOMO" Scams: "FOMO" is short for "fear of missing out" on a supposedly great deal or interesting social experience, and young adults tend to be vulnerable to such scams in ways that older adults aren't.

According to a recent engineering/psychology study from Aachen University in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, frequent social-media use by

younger people leads to making quick, instinctive decisions instead of systematically evaluating risks. The sender of a suspicious link may appear familiar, even if the link itself is untrustworthy. The advice here is the same as it is for you: slow down, and don't engage. Easier said than done, because social media encourages people to click first and think later. Find more tips for yourself and younger friends and family at: dutchessny.gov/scamprevention

LIMITED AIR CONDITIONING ASSISTANCE STILL AVAILABLE

A limited amount of assistance is still available to provide free window air conditioning units for qualifying Dutchess County older adults and medically eligible residents. This program, new for 2025, is coordinated jointly by the

Dutchess County Office for the Aging and the Department of Community & Family Services. Distribution and installation of the air conditioning units will be handled through the County's existing contract with Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County.

An air conditioner is available to Dutchess County residents who meet the following requirements:

- Are 65 years of age or older or have a medical condition worsened by heat
- Meet income eligibility requirements
- Do not currently have a working air conditioner in their home

Those who have already received an air conditioner funded by the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) in the last five years will not be eligible.

Applications will be accepted until funding is exhausted.

Eligible individuals can contact the Dutchess County Office for the Aging at 845-486-2555 for more information or to request an application. You can also download the application form (.pdf) online. Please DO NOT MAIL applications. Applications, with all required documents, may be submitted in person at Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601; by fax at 845-486-2599, or by email to Zoe.Levy-Serrano@dfa.state.ny.us.

For more information, visit Dutchessny.gov/aging. For questions, including requests for an application, call the Dutchess County Office for the Aging at 845-486-2555.

THANKS, PICNIC SEASON GUESTS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Another wonderful season of OFA Summer Picnics is in the books! Many thanks to The Pines at Poughkeepsie, Central Hudson, AccentCare and Hudson Valley Medicare Group for their support of this picnic season.

A recap of the 2025 season, including links to pictures of each picnic is available at dutchessny.gov/ofapicnics.

The 2026 picnic schedule will be available next April/May.

Many thanks as well to the countless OFA volunteers who helped picnic season operate smoothly, including day-of-event picnic volunteers and clerical volunteers who prepared 4,000 goodie bags for picnic guests.

Besides picnic-season volunteering options, we also offer year-round volunteering opportunities in our Home Delivered Meals (HDM), Friendly Calls,

Senior Exercise, A Matter of Balance, Friendship Center, and Health Insurance Counseling (HIICAP) programs. We provide all training.

Mileage reimbursement for HDM deliveries is available for drivers who use their own vehicles for deliveries. Areas of greatest current need for HDM drivers include the Poughkeepsie area, on Fridays.

For information on becoming an OFA volunteer, visit www.dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer or email bjones@dutchessny.gov.

OFA EXERCISE CLASS STARTING THIS MONTH IN LaGRANGE

Looking to join an Office for the Aging Senior Exercise class? We have a session beginning this month in LaGrange. Contact OFA at ofa@dutchessny.gov or 845-486-2555 for registration information, along with venue location and class times.

We're always looking for volunteer exercise and "A Matter of Balance" instructors – we provide all training. The more instructors we have, the more classes we can schedule. Contact OFA to learn more.

For general information about OFA Senior Exercise, visit www.dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise.

GOLDEN GATHERING RETURNS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The scenario: you've got one day to gather as much information as you can about aging services in Dutchess County. That one day is coming up on Saturday, September 27th, from 10 am to 1 pm. It's the annual Golden Gathering for older adults, and it's happening at Arlington High School at 1157 NY 55 in LaGrangeville. No RSVP is required.

It's presented by County Executive Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, along with New York State Senators Michelle Hinchey and Rob Rolison, with support from the James J. McCann Charitable Trust.

The Golden Gathering is the single largest annual event of its kind in Dutchess County, and it's continuing to grow. More than 70 exhibitors from various organizations and service providers will offer information on topics ranging from health care and financial services to housing options, legal advice and more.

Representatives from OFA and other Dutchess County Government and New York State departments and divisions will also be on hand to inform residents about how they serve the community every day.

The Golden Gathering includes health screenings, entertainment, refreshments, door prizes and dozens of informational tables geared toward the interests and needs of area older adults, their families and caregivers.

Flu shots will be available at the Golden Gathering while supplies last. If you plan on getting a flu shot, bring your insurance card.

Contact OFA if you are available to volunteer at the Golden Gathering.

IS IT TAX SEASON ALREADY?

It is for the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program, now in its 35th year of

operation and counting. This year, Tax-Aide's over 200 volunteers working at 33 tax sites in the Hudson Valley prepared 6,763 returns in Dutchess, Putnam, and Orange Counties, resulting in refunds and credits totaling over \$3.2 million. The program assists low-income filers of all ages, including older adults throughout Dutchess County.

For those interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities during the 2026 filing season with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program, contact Linda Eddy, Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, at 845-475-7500. While tax training takes place in the fall, recruitment is year-round with different volunteer opportunities available.

POSTPONED: SEPTEMBER 10TH ALZHEIMER'S CONFERENCE IN MILLBROOK

A mini-conference featuring the Alzheimer's Association and Office for the Aging in Millbrook on Wednesday, September 10th at the Millbrook Library (3 Friendly Lane) has been postponed.

We'll let you know once a new date/venue is announced.

STILL HAPPENING – SEPTEMBER 12TH OFA MEDICARE CLASS IN MILLBROOK

OFA's "Navigating Medicare" class at the Millbrook Library is still on as scheduled, 3-4pm. Register here. Visit dutchessny.gov/calendar for the listing of all county events.

We hold monthly "Navigating Medicare" classes at the Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room on the third Wednesday of every month at 10 am, at the Starr Library in Rhinebeck on the fourth Monday of every month at 4 pm, and additional classes throughout Dutchess County, especially during Medicare Open Enrollment season. Contact OFA for more information.

2025 OFA PUBLIC COMMENT FORUMS IN POUGHKEEPSIE, WAPPINGER

You can contact the Office for the Aging at any time with questions and concerns, and in October there's an additional opportunity to advocate for your needs, at the annual OFA Public Comment Forums. The forums are unique opportunities to speak directly, in person, to OFA leadership and members of the OFA Advisory Board, at the following dates and locations:

Tuesday 10/7, 10:30 am
Wappinger Town Hall
20 Middlebush Rd., Wappinger
Thursday 10/9, 10:30 am

OFA Poughkeepsie Friendship Center
114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie

Each forum lasts about one hour. If you are unable to attend a Public Comment Forum, you can mail written comments to the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. You can also email comments to ofa@dutchessny.gov

All Public Comment Forum locations are handicapped accessible. Persons requiring special accommodations to take part in a Public Comment Forum should contact OFA during business hours by close of business Monday, September 15.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Legal Notices

* Legal cont. from previous page

tor, or agent who is also an employee of The Town of Pleasant Valley. All Contractors must also disclose in writing with their proposal the name of any employee of The Town of Pleasant Valley who owns, directly or indirectly, an interest of five percent (5%) or more in the Contractor's firm or any of its branches or subsidiaries. By submitting a proposal, the Contractor certifies that there is no relationship between the Contractor and any person or entity which is or gives the appearance of a conflict of interest related to this RFP.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS: The Contractor shall not take advantage of any errors or omissions in this RFP. The Contractor shall promptly notify the Town of Pleasant Valley of any omissions or errors found in this document.

INSURANCE COVERAGE: During the term of the contract, the Contractor at their sole cost and expense shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with such terms and limits as may be reasonably associated with the contract. At a minimum, the Contractor shall provide and maintain the coverage detailed in Exhibit C.

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2025

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

PART 1. TITLE.

This local law shall be known as the "Town of Pleasant Valley Property Maintenance Law".

PART 2. AMENDMENT TO TOWN CODE

Part II of the Town of Pleasant Valley Code is hereby amended to add a new Part II, Chapter 97 entitled: "Property Maintenance":

§ 97-1 AUTHORITY; FINDINGS; PURPOSE AND INTENT.

A. This Local Law is enacted pursuant to §10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law to provide for the health, safety, appearance and general welfare of the public, the residents of the Town of Pleasant Valley, and the owners of real property located within the Town of Pleasant Valley.

B. The Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley hereby finds that properties which are not properly maintained and repaired

Legal Notices

constitute a public nuisance since they may serve as an attractive nuisance, may result in injuries therein, may be a point of congregation by vagrants and transients, may attract rodents or insects and may also attract illegal drug activity. The Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley further finds that properties which are not adequately maintained and repaired tend to diminish or lessen the appearance thereof or detract from the appearance of adjoining properties, which may lead to the progressive deterioration of a neighborhood. It is further found and declared that if the same are not curtailed and removed, the aforesaid conditions will grow and spread and will necessitate in time the expenditure of large amounts of public funds to correct and eliminate the same, and that by reason of the regulations and restrictions as herein contained, the growth of blight may be prevented, the desirability and amenities of neighborhoods enhanced and the public health, safety and welfare protected and fostered.

C. The purpose and intent of this Local Law is to provide a method whereby properties within the Town are properly maintained and landscaped, properly repaired, kept clean, and kept free from vermin, nuisances, hazards, debris and litter which negatively impact their appearance.

§ 97-2 APPLICABILITY.

A. This Local Law applies to the following properties:

(1) All lots, plots or parcels of land on which residential, nonresidential or mixed-use buildings are located, regardless of whether they are vacant, unoccupied or abandoned.

(2) Principal and accessory buildings and structures used for or intended to be used for residential, nonresidential or mixed uses or occupancies, regardless of whether they are vacant, unoccupied or abandoned.

B. Every building, structure or use, and the premises on which it is situated located in the Town of Pleasant Valley, which is used or developed for intended use for residential, nonresidential or mixed-use occupancy shall be maintained in compliance with the provisions of this Local Law. Whether or not it shall have been established, constructed, altered or re-

Legal Notices

paired before or after the enactment of this Local Law, and irrespective of any permits or licenses which shall have been issued for the use or occupancy of the buildings structures or premises, or for the installation or equipment or facilities, or for the installation or repair of accessory structures and improvements, prior to the effective date of this Local Law.

C. This Local Law establishes minimum standards for the initial and continued occupancy and use and for the maintenance of all such buildings, structures or uses, and the premises on which they are situated, and does not replace or modify standards otherwise established for their construction, repair, alteration or use for the equipment or facilities contained therein.

D. The provisions of this Local Law shall supplement the Zoning Law, the local laws, codes and regulations of the Town of Pleasant Valley and the Property and Maintenance Code of New York State. When a provision of this Local Law is found to be inconsistent with any provision of any other local law, code or regulation of the Town or State, the provision or requirement which is the more restrictive or which establishes the higher standard shall prevail. A greater penalty shall not be considered as more restrictive or a higher standard.

E. After the date of enactment hereof, all licenses, permits, and approvals of any agency or board of the Town shall be issued conditionally upon compliance with this Local Law as well as compliance with the local law, code or regulation under which such license, permit or approval is granted.

F. No license, permit, approval, or other certification of compliance with this local law shall constitute a defense against any violation of any other local law, code or regulation of the Town of Pleasant Valley applicable to any structure or premises, nor shall any provision herein relieve any owner or operator from complying with any such other provision or with the order of any official of the Town.

§ 97-3. DEFINITIONS

As used in this local law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

DEBRIS — All materials resulting from the construction, excavation, renovation,

Legal Notices

equipping, remodeling, repair or demolition of structures, property or roads, or resulting from the preparation thereof (including unenclosed storage on a residential property of construction materials for which no building permit has been issued), as well as materials consisting of vegetation resulting from land clearing and grubbing, utility line maintenance and seasonal and storm related cleanup, except when such materials are organized in piles or structures for purposes of composting. Such materials include, but are not limited to, bricks, concrete, and other masonry material, soil, rock, wood, wall coverings, plaster, drywall, plumbing fixtures, nonasbestos insulation, roofing shingles, asphaltic pavement, glass, window frames, electrical wiring and components, plastics, carpeting, foam padding, linoleum, metals, or any combination thereof which are incidental to construction, excavation, renovation, equipping, remodeling, repair, or demolition.

GARBAGE — All putrescible animal and vegetable wastes resulting from growing, processing, marketing, and preparation of food items, including the containers in which they are packaged, except when such wastes are organized in piles or structures for purposes of composting.

JUNKED VEHICLE — Any motor vehicle which is either unregistered, uninspected, dismantled (in whole or in part), in a wrecked condition, or in such condition or state of disrepair that such vehicle cannot be registered immediately without extensive repair or for which the cost of repair exceeds the book value of the motor vehicle. Lack of a license plate or the incorrect license plate affixed to a motor vehicle shall be presumptive evidence that the vehicle is unregistered.

P R O P E R T Y OWNER — Any person, individual, business, partnership, firm, corporation whose name is listed as grantee on the last deed of record for the property recorded with the Dutchess County Clerk.

RUBBISH — All discarded or worthless nonputrescible solid wastes consisting of both combustible and noncombustible wastes, including but not limited to paper and paper products,

Legal Notices

rags, wrappings, cardboard, tin cans, wood, glass, metals, plastics, tires, bedding, cloth, crockery, furniture, appliances, and similar items.

TENANT — An individual who leases, uses or occupies a rental property.

§ 97-4. STANDARDS.

No property owner, tenant, or agent thereof, shall cause, permit, or allow any of the following standards to be violated:

A. All landscaping shall be maintained so that lawns, hedges, bushes and trees are not overgrown, constituting an unsafe condition or blight.

B. All properties shall be maintained free and clear of all garbage, rubbish, and debris. Such refuse shall be kept inside the building or buildings on the property, inside a structure screening the refuse from neighbors and the public, or in a container complying with Chapter 57-6 of this Code, and shall be regularly collected and removed from the property.

C. A junked vehicle shall not be parked or stored in the open, but shall only be parked or stored inside a building or inside a structure screening the vehicle from neighbors and the public, unless the vehicle is permitted to be in an unenclosed area pursuant to a special use permit and site plan approval issued by the Planning Board.

§ 97-5. EXCEPTIONS.

Section 97-4(c) of this chapter shall not apply to a property licensed as a auto salvage yard, junkyard or motor vehicle repair shop pursuant to Articles 62, 98-34 or 98-38 of the Code.

§ 97-6. PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES.

A violation of this chapter is hereby declared to be a violation punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not to exceed 15 days, or both. Each week's continued violation shall constitute a separate additional violation.

§ 97-7. ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDY

A. Authority to remove. In the event that the property owner, tenant, or the person in control of a property shall fail to comply with the standards enumerated in § 97-4, the Town shall have the authority to enter upon such property to bring the property into conformance with those standards, to assess the cost and expense of such action against the property and to establish a lien pursuant to § 97-7(H) herein.

Legal Notices

B. Inspection and report. The Building Inspector, or such other official of the Town as may be designated by the Town Board, upon notification by any official or employee of the Town that a property appears to be in violation of any standard enumerated in § 97-4, shall make an inspection thereof and report his or her findings to the Town Board.

C. Notice. If the report required under § 97-7(B) substantiates that a standard has in fact been violated, the Town Board may adopt a resolution requiring that notice be served on the property owner and also requiring that the notice be conspicuously posted on the property.

D. Contents of notice. The notice shall contain the address and Dutchess County Tax Map number of the property, a statement of the condition of the property and the standard(s) which have been violated, and an order requiring that the property be brought into full compliance with the standards enumerated in § 97-4. The notice shall further state the time and place of a public hearing to be held to determine whether the property is in compliance with the standards enumerated in § 97-4. The notice shall further state that, after the public hearing, if the property is determined by the Town Board not to be in compliance with the standards enumerated in § 97-4 the Town Board may undertake to enter upon the property, bring the property into compliance with standards enunciated in § 97-4, and assess the cost of such remediation against the property.

E. Service of notice. The notice shall be served on the property owner by certified mail to the address as appears on the most recent Town of Pleasant Valley tax rolls and by posting of the notice on the property.

F. Public hearing. The public hearing shall be scheduled for a regularly scheduled or special Town Board meeting after the thirty-day period stated in the notice is set to expire.

G. Failure to comply. After the public hearing is closed and the property owner fails to

Legal Notices

bring the property into compliance with the standards enumerated in § 97-4, the Town Board may adopt a resolution authorizing entrance upon the property in order to bring the property into compliance with the standards of this chapter and provide for the costs incurred.

H. Assessment of costs and expenses. All costs and expenses incurred by the Town in connection with bringing a property into compliance with the standards enumerated in § 97-4 shall be assessed against the property. The total costs and expenses shall be determined by the Town Board and shall be reported to the Assessor of the Town as an amount to be levied and assessed against the property, and the expense so assessed shall constitute a lien and charge on the property on which it is levied until paid or otherwise satisfied or discharged and shall be collected in the same manner and at the same time as other Town charges.

PART 3. EMERGENCIES

Whenever the Building Inspector or Zoning Enforcement Officer, at any state of the proceedings instituted under the provisions of this local law, finds that a violation exists which, in his or her opinion, requires immediate action to abate a direct hazard or immediate danger to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of a building or the public, he or she may, without prior notice or hearing, issue an order citing the violation and directing that such action be taken as necessary to immediately remove or abate the hazard or danger. Such order may include an order to vacate. Notwithstanding any other provision of this local law, such an order shall be effective immediately upon service and shall be complied with immediately or as otherwise provided.

PART 4. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this local law is held invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this local law.

PART 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall become effective immediately upon its filing in the Office of the New York State Department of State.

Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices
Supplemental Summons and Notice of Object of Action SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DUTCHESS ACTION TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE INDEX #: 2025-51502 U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAFACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, vs JAMIE ALFARO, CHRISTIE ALFARO, STATE FARM BANK, F.S.B., FREMONT INVESTMENT & LOAN, DUTCHESS COUNTY CLERK, UNIFUND CCR, LLC JOHN DOE (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or	corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming an interest in the mortgaged premises.) Defendant(s). MORTGAGED PREMISES: 27 Gretna Woods Road Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 To the Above named Defendant: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Supplemental Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or	within 30 days after the service is complete if this Supplemental Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie. Trial to be held in the County of Dutchess. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. TO Fremont Investment & Loan Defendant In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON.	Maria G. Rosa of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Twenty-Sixth day of June, 2025 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Dutchess, in the City of Poughkeepsie. The object of this action is to foreclosure a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by Jamie Alfaro and Christie Alfaro dated the November 3, 2006, to secure the sum of \$340,000.00 and recorded at Instrument No. 01 2006 18383 in the Office of the Dutchess County Clerk on November 8, 2006. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed October 14, 2010 and	recorded on October 28, 2010, in the Office of the Dutchess County Clerk at Instrument Number 01 2010 2331A. Said Mortgage was subsequently modified by a Loan Modification Agreement executed by Jamie Alfaro and Christie Alfaro on August 26, 2017 and recorded September 18, 2017 in Instrument Number 01-2017-6459 in the Office of the Dutchess County Clerk. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed February 4, 2025 and recorded on February 7, 2025, in the Office of the Dutchess County Clerk at Instrument Number 01-2025-50123A. The property in question is described as follows: 27	Gretna Woods Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this Foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU	MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: July 29, 2025 Gross Polowy LLC Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s) 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 The law firm of Gross Polowy LLC and the attorneys whom it employs are debt collectors who are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained by them will be used for that purpose. 86819

OBITUARIES

William Asher

William E Asher passed away peacefully at home on August 23rd at the age of 91. Born in Rhinebeck on June 12, 1934, he was the son of Louis R Asher and Helen (Wetzler) Asher. He is predeceased by his brother, Robert L Asher of Clayton, NC, and survived by his sister, Marilou Asher of Plainville, CT.

He is also survived by his wife of 69 years, Patricia Hamm Asher and their five children. Robin P Santoroski (Stephen), Ann-Marie Asher, William E Asher II (Karyn), Kevin J Asher (Rebecca), and Daniel L Asher (Tara). Nine grandchildren, Travis Proper (Marissa), Kelly Smith (Brent), Shannon Quinn (Patrick), Haley Asher, Ryan Asher, Ryan Cirrincione, Jacob Asher, Amanda Jochum, and Alexandra Mead as well as six great-grandchildren.

William was a 1951 graduate of Rhinebeck Central School after which he worked as a Carpenter until he entered the United States Army on Election Day in 1956. Shortly after, he and Patricia got married and moved to Alabama where he attended Helicopter Flight School at Ft. Rucker and graduated top of his class. Soon after he attained the rank of E-5 while serving with the 8th Transportation Battalion of the 7th Army. During this time while stationed in Oberschleißheim, Germany as a Helicopter Crew Chief, he played on the US Army basketball team traveling all over army bases in Europe.

William was a Master Carpenter with Wolcott Builders for 42 years and a 71-year member of the Rhinebeck Fire Department. Within the department, he served on the board of directors and was Assistant Chief for six years. He later received the Commissioners Award for service.

He was a fourth-degree member of Hyde Park Knights of Columbus and a lifelong dedicated member of The Church of Good Shepherd in Rhinebeck, NY.

He loved hunting, fishing, cruising, and traveling, but most of all he loved spending time with his wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to especially thank William's caregivers at Hudson Valley Hospice who were patient, kind, compassionate and just an overall bright light in the room every time visited.

In place of flowers, donations can be made in Memory of William Asher to your local Fire Department or to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Avue, Poughkeepsie,

NY 12601.

Mass was held at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Rhinebeck on Friday August 29, 2025, followed by a celebration of life at the Red Hook VFW in Red Hook, NY 12571.

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

Douglas Dieckman

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Douglas Dieckman on August 22, 2025. A deeply caring and compassionate man, Douglas spent his life placing the needs of others above his own. A quiet strength and selflessness that touched the lives of everyone who knew him.

Douglas was the kind of person who led by example showing love, kindness and generosity throughout his life. Whether offering a helping hand or words of encouragement he made sure that those around him felt seen., supported and valued. His gentle spirit and warm heart will be missed beyond measure.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Terrill Lynn Dieckman. He is survived by his wife, Joy Martin-Dieckman. He leaves behind his daughters Michelle Gullo (Trevor Gullo), Jennifer Gibson (Ryan Gibson), and his sister Carolyn Bekoff (Ronnie Bekoff). He was a proud grandfather of Timmy Flanagan (Emily Flanagan), Ryan Gorman, Megan Gorman, Erin Gorman, Michael Gorman and Oz Cohen, who will carry on his legacy of compassion and strength.

He also leaves behind his cherished dog "Princess" who brought him immense joy and companionship in his later years.

A memorial service will be held in honor of Douglas at a later date.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that acts of kindness be performed in Doug's memory, just as he so often did for others.

He will be deeply missed.

Arrangements under the direction of the Dapson Chestney Funeral Home, Rhinebeck, NY.

Joseph Nicholas Palumbo

Joseph Nicholas Palumbo, 28, passed away on August 21, 2025. A devoted father, loving son, cherished grandson, nephew, and friend, Joseph's greatest joy was being a father to his children, Ava and Nicholas Palumbo with their mother, Lindsay McCarty.

He is survived by his mother, Jennifer Powers; father, Joe Palumbo (Lindsay Schultz); grandparents, Joe and Rosemary Palumbo; siblings, Brittany Dobson (Joey

Martino) and their son, Christopher Joseph, Christopher Palumbo (Kyleigh Coon), Franky and Cami Palumbo; his girlfriend, Erica Walsh; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Joseph will be remembered for his big heart, his love for family, and the laughter and joy he shared with those around him. The memories he leaves behind will never fade.

To honor his memory, the family kindly asks that, instead of flowers, donations be made directly to benefit his children, Ava and Nicholas Palumbo. Donations will be accepted at Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY, payable to Ava Palumbo or Nicholas Palumbo.

Friends and family called on Thursday. August 28th at Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook.

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

Jeffrey M. Renner

Jeffrey M. Renner, 85, a 20-year resident of Verbank, NY, formerly of Baldwin, Long Island, NY. Mr. Renner passed away on

Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, NY. Mr. Renner was an Executive Sales Manager for the Xerox Corporation until he retired in 1998.

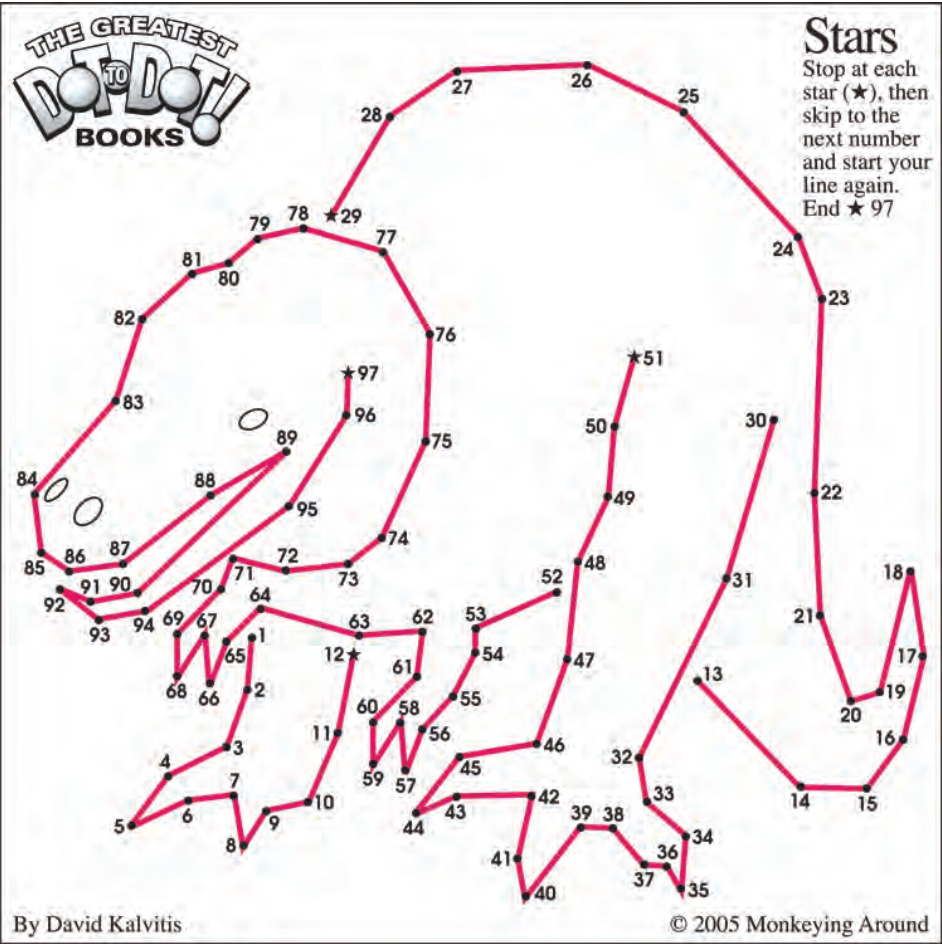
Born on October 10, 1939 in New Brunswick, NJ, he was the son of the late Arthur and Genevieve (Herrman) Renner. He married Betty on February 21, 1981 in Nassau County, NY.

Mr. Renner was an avid sportsman and member of the National Rifle Association, the Crum Elbow Sportsmen Association, and the Pleasant Valley Trout and Game Club.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his son, Paul Renner and his wife, Christine, of Eugene, OR and his daughter, Lauren Cunniffe, and her husband, Nigel, of England; two brothers, Gregory Renner of Vermont and Robert Renner of New Mexico and a sister, Maryanne Maresca of Long Island, NY. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Jonathan Renner and Alex and Ryan Cunniffe.

To send the family an online condolence, please www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

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



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SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

Answers to this
week's diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

Cary Institute ecologist part of collaborative responding to LA fires, air quality information

When several wildfires ignited in Los Angeles in early January of 2025, Miriam Marlier’s friends and neighbors came to her with questions about how to find reliable air quality information.

Marlier is a UCLA scientist and a member of the Western Fire and Forest Resilience Collaborative (WFFRC), a program of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies led by Cary forest ecologist Winslow Hansen. Guided by decision makers, the collaborative conducts research to inform solutions to the Western US fire crisis.

During the January fires, “people were urgently trying to find out whether the air was safe to breathe, where to find information about air quality, and whether the information was comprehensive enough for them to make decisions to protect themselves and their families,” explained WFFRC postdoctoral associate Claire Schollaert.

In response to these urgent questions, Schollaert, Marlier, and colleagues quickly launched a study to assess whether publicly available data sources captured an increase in air pollution during the fires, how air quality changed over space and time, and how the trends differed between data sets. The findings were published in Environmental Science and Technology Letters in July, and provide insights into how these tools can better support public health response during smoke events.

“This study is the first to my knowledge that quantifies how the LA Fires affected air quality at very fine spatial and temporal resolutions,” said Hansen. “It serves as a valuable baseline from an extraordinary event.” The study analyzed hourly data from nearly 750 low-cost and regulatory air pollution air pollution sensors throughout LA. During large wildfires, government agencies generally recommend that residents check the Environmental Protection Agency’s air quality index, which is fed by data from regulatory monitors. The AirNow Fire and Smoke Map, another commonly recommended tool, relies on data from EPA monitors, low-cost PurpleAir sensors, and satellite data. But these tools utilize different data sources and often consider different time periods, potentially leaving residents confused.

“Smoke exposure is the main way that

most people are impacted by fires,” said Schollaert. “Providing the public with understandable and accurate air quality information is crucial to reducing risk.”

For the study, the researchers compared Los Angeles air quality data from EPA regulatory monitors, low-cost PurpleAir sensors, and satellites. “We wanted to understand the smoke plume dynamics from the perspective of multiple, often complementary, air quality data sources,” explains Marlier.

Findings confirmed that the fire events did degrade air quality in the city, particularly on January 8 and 9. But air quality varied markedly from hour to hour and day to day during the course of the fires, and “the Santa Ana winds, which played a role in spreading the fires, also did a decent job of pushing smoke from the Palisades fire offshore pretty quickly,” said Schollaert. Those same winds, however, spread smoke from the Eaton fire across the most populated parts of the county before pushing the plume out over the Pacific.

The team found that while regulatory monitors are essential, they often miss local variability due to limited spatial coverage. Integrating low-cost sensors and satellite data on public risk communication platforms can help fill critical gaps. This growing network of sensors can work with regulatory systems, to strengthen them, offering more responsive public health strategies and better community protection. Satellite observations capture broader patterns of smoke movement through the atmosphere and could help to further fill in gaps between on-the-ground monitors, but the data are not as accessible to the public.

Smoke impacts were largely consistent across these different data sources, the team found, but differences in spatial distribution and averaging times could lead to discrepancies in air quality readings, which could be confusing to users. Based on their findings, the authors call for more ground-based sensors to improve air pollution monitoring, and for the improved integration of satellite data into user-friendly air quality platforms. Preferably, these additional sensors and data sources would be integrated into the most commonly used air quality index resources, said Schollaert. “People want one number that lets them know whether it’s safe to go running outside or take their kid to the playground,” said Schollaert. “It’s our job as researchers to try to figure out how to make that information as reliable as possible.”

“We live in an era of data saturation,” said Hansen. “Often these datasets tell us slightly different things at different resolutions of space and time. Now more than ever, effective actionable science is about harmonizing and synthesizing these diverse datasets to provide consistent, robust, and digestible insights to the public, managers, and policy makers.”

Responsiveness to real-world needs is baked into the WFFRC approach, and the new study provides one example of how this strategy can lead to meaningful impacts and important scientific insights.

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