

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWIN TOWERS TERRORIST ATTACKS

Stanford 9/11 Memorial
comes to life for 25th remembrance

By Jim Donick

For the 25th anniversary of the tragic attacks on the World Trade Center, the Town of Stanford is going all out to prepare their annual memorial to that national nightmare. Very importantly, they have also included the young people of the community to play a major role, both in preparing the memorial and also in competing in a special essay contest.

On the hillside in front of the town hall will be 2,955 flags to recall each person who died that day. Additionally, and special to this year, there will be ribbons attached to round cork name tags on the fence. Those tags will each have the name of one of the victims. This is an addition for this year, and co-chairman Ed Zick notes that it is particularly meaningful. For the 25th anniversary the organizing committee decided to focus efforts heavily on local children.

“We want to make this very real for them as well. This way the memory will stay alive,” said Zick.

Each of the classes in the Pine Plains Central School District took some of the names and students hand-wrote them, one at a time, until all 2,955 names had been written. Zick noted, “none of these kids had even been alive when the towers fell, and this exercise gives them a sense of the reality and the size of the event. This was accomplished by all of the grades, first through 12th, so some of them look like they were written by very young children and some beautifully done by some of the older ones. Everyone took part.” The names will be attached to ribbons and then hung on the fence in alphabetical order.

Julie Roberts, principal at Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center, said that her school did 1,400 of the name tags.



Above: Red Hook artist Richard Wambach created this composite image for the Town of Stanford Fire Department and their special 9/11 project. *Courtesy of Richard Wambach.* Right: A previous year's display shows how the sky will be lit up nightly with two searchlights pointing straight up as a reminder of the two towers that are no more. *Courtesy photo*

“At first,” she said, “this was just a project to make sure it was done right ... but then the enormity hit. These were all ‘somebody’s somebody’ and they became real people.”

Kirsten Fischetti, the principal of Cold Spring Early Learning Center, has the youngest students to have taken part. Students and teachers placed a great deal of importance on this program. They “wanted to do it right.” Her students

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Memorial for Hyde Park 9/11 hero set Friday

By Jim Donick



The Paul Tegtmeier Memorial is located at Hackett Hill Park in Hyde Park. *Photo by Jim Donick*

On Friday, Sept. 11, at 6:30 p.m., the Paul Tegtmeier Memorial Committee will host a 25th anniversary commemoration of the World Trade Center attacks at the Tegtmeier Memorial at Hackett Hill Park in Hyde Park.

A long-time volunteer in Hyde Park's fire department, Paul Tegtmeier had only 18 months prior to the attack realized his dream to become a New York City firefighter. In New York he was a member of

Ladder Company 46. On the morning of September 11, 2001, Firefighter Tegtmeier was detailed to work a day tour with Engine 26. When the call came in, Engine 26 responded directly to the World Trade Center site. Tegtmeier and the crew entered Tower 2 (the South Tower) to ascend and operate on the fire floors. He perished when the South Tower collapsed. He was 41 years old.

This annual ceremony is held in memory of Paul A. Tegtmeier and all those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001.



Writing helps Beacon resident recall special times with son

By Kristine Coulter

Elaine Leinung will be holding a book signing for her book, “I Am Still Your Mother: Love Does Not End at Goodbye,” and a conversation about grief, healing and hope on Thursday, Sept. 17, at Grinnell Library, 2642 East Main St. in Wappingers Falls from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

First, though, Leinung must get through the remaining days in early September.

Leinung and her husband moved to Beacon several years ago. Leinung saw the Patriot Garden with the 9/11 Memorial off Verplanck Avenue at Matteawan Road, when she and her husband were looking at possibly buying a house in Beacon.

“I was very moved and very touched, even in Beacon they have a memorial. I was very happy about that,” shared Leinung.

This Friday, Sept. 11, it will be 25 years ago that Leinung’s eldest child. Her son, Paul James Battaglia, 22, was on the 100th floor of the North Tower on 9/11 when the World Trade Center was hit by terrorist attacks.

Leinung said Battaglia had a “knack for numbers.”

Paul worked for Marsh & McLennan. He interned with the company while attending Regis High School in Manhattan during his senior year. He attended and graduated from the State University of New York Binghamton. After graduation, his internship became a full-time position with the company. He was a risk consultant, she stated. While with the company, he kept a website, Battaglia.org of photos he took.

Leinung said her eldest child “was just a lot of fun.” She noted, “Paul was like born at 40.”

She recalled at that point in his life in 2001, “He was really in a good place. We had a lot of fun the night before. I have a lot of happy memories,” she said. Leinung said sometimes she was Battaglia’s “partner in crime.”

“He had a wicked sense of humor,” she said.

Battaglia’s mentor was Harry Taback, Leinung’s cousin, who was also lost in the World Tade Center attacks. He was 56 years old.

On that early morning in September 25 years ago, Leinung was at a conference. One of her colleagues said a plane hit the World Trade Center.

Leinung knew her oldest son was gone, she said. He had a meeting that day, Leinung recalled, and she knew Battaglia liked to be early for his meetings.

She was walking toward the World Trade Center covered with ash. Police

officers were trying to turn people around. She made her way down to St. Vincent’s Hospital. Eventually she would make her way to the family’s Brooklyn home.

Grief, said Leinung, is cyclical. It comes at different times. Leinung noted that people, Americans especially, want everything finished and tied up in a nice bow.

Grief “is very rough but you learn to live with it,” she said.

Leinung compiled all the messages and condolences she and her family received from people about Paul in the book “The Guest Book: In Memory of Paul James Battaglia.”

A description of the book states, “This book is a collection of messages, reflections, and memories shared on a website Paul created shortly before his death. In the days, months, and years following September 11, 2001, friends, family, and loved ones returned to that space to write—to grieve, to remember, and to stay connected. The entries appear as they were originally written, preserving the voices, language, and immediacy of that time. Together, they form a living record of love, loss, and the enduring impact of one life. This book is offered in remembrance of Paul and in gratitude to all who took the time to share their words.”

Her younger son is putting on a reading in Manhattan on Sept. 10th about what he wrote regarding 9/11. Leinung is not sure if she will be in Manhattan on Sept. 11th though, she said. She has been writing things down for a while. It was three years ago, she remarked, when she realized, “I lost Paul longer than I had him. I had been writing things down a long time.”

In “I am Still Your Mother: Love Does Not End at Goodbye,” Leinung writes: “I was putting on mascara when I heard the front gate click. I thought, ‘If I’d been five minutes earlier, I could have ridden the train with him.’ I loved the feel of his suit against my shoulder, the scent of his cologne. But he walked too fast; I wouldn’t have caught him. Another train would have come, but that wasn’t the point. I just missed one last ordinary moment.”

“America was supposed to be protected,” she said. Battaglia, and all the others that were lost and have since been lost, “were victims of war. They were civilian casualties of the war,” Leinung stated.

“Loss of life is forever ... it’s permanent. It’s not that I don’t love my life, ’cause I do.” She added she has her husband, her two other children, has been blessed with grandchildren and had a great career as a nurse. \

“But there’s this empty space. That’s just the way it is,” Leinung said.



Beacon resident Elaine Leinung stands next to the monument and salvaged portion of Tower Two of the World Trade Center at American Patriot Park in the City of Beacon. Leinung’s 22-year-old son, Paul James Battaglia, was on the 100th floor of the North Tower on 9/11. A plaque at Patriot Garden in Beacon, which states: “New York American Patriot Gardens Paying Tribute to those Victims and Heroes of the September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attack.” The pin with a photo of Paul James Battaglia worn by his mother. Photos by Kristine Coulter



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continued from cover

came to understand the importance of writing these names on the tags. They came to understand that the more we say these names, the more these people's memories will live on. Fischetti notes that they, too, came to understand that each one, like themselves and their own friends, was "somebody's somebody."

Chris Boyd, principal at Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, reports that his students handled 1,500 of the name tags and, like the other schools, did it in the May time frame before school let out for the summer.

"Doing it in the spring," he recalled, "gave them time to really process this memory and make it real."

The now-annual event has special significance for the co-chair, Ed Zick. He's a Stanford firefighter.

"Twelve hundred of our brother fire fighters died, and many are still dying now from the poisons they absorbed there," he said. "We keep their memories alive."

One local firefighter, a long time volunteer in Hyde Park, Paul Tegtmeier, had only recently joined the FDNY (Fire Department of the City of New York). He died in Tower 2.

The display is now in place. Flags are on the hillside, and name tags on the fence. At night, each of the nearly 3,000 flags will be lit by small tea-light candles that will shine through the night. Additionally, each night, the sky will be

lit up with two searchlights pointing straight up as a reminder of the two towers that are no more.

The other major activity for the Pine Plains School District students was the essay contest. The Stanford Fire Company invited local students to submit essays reflecting on the events and aftermath of the 9/11 tragedy. The underlying theme was to be focused on the famous Mr. Rogers' advice in times of trouble: "Look for the helpers." In other words, who tried to make things better? The students' entries were divided into three groups based on grade.

The winners for each division were:

- Grades 1 to 4 - Juliana Medick - Grade 3
- Grades 5 to 8 - Juliet Morgan Shields - Grade 8
- Grades 9 to 12 - Darren J. Morrey - Grade 12.

Each group was given an assignment on the topic of helpers after the tragedy of 9/11. The topics were of an increasing level of sophistication. The winner in each group will read their essay and receive a \$250 honorarium at the memorial service on the 11th of September.

On September 11th the memorial will begin early in the morning with members of the community reading aloud the names of each of the victims. At 7 p.m. there will be a memorial ceremony hosted by the Stanford Fire Department. All are welcome.



The entire community is coming out to be a part of Stanford's 9/11 Memorial. Last week, more than 40 people worked in a drizzly rain, hanging ribbons and name plates on the fence around Town Hall. *Photos by Jim Donick*



County to host Patriot Day Memorial Ceremony on Sept. 11th marking 25th anniversary

Dutchess County Family Court Judge Tracy C. MacKenzie will host Dutchess County's annual Patriot Day Memorial Ceremony on Friday, Sept. 11, at 8:30 a.m., on the steps of the Dutchess County Family Court building, 50 Market St., Poughkeepsie, as the nation marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The service's keynote speaker will be Retired FDNY Battalion Commander Keith E. Cartica and will include as a ceremonial flag lowering and a moment of silence to remember and

honor those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. All are invited to attend.

This ceremony has been annual tradition that began in 2002, on the first anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The event is hosted each year by Dutchess County Family Court Judges and includes remembrance of the Court Officers who lost their lives. The annual event is always well-attended by Dutchess County Government employees and local residents.

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE AT NEW HACKENSACK

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center in NYC, the Pentagon in Virginia and the downing of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania there will be a 9/11 Memorial Service Ceremony honoring the lives lost September 11, 2001, including the first responders who paid the ultimate sacrifice and those who continue to face health challenges from that day.

The ceremony will begin on Friday, Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. at the New Hackensack Fire District/Company Memorial, 217 Myers Corners Road, Wappingers Falls (rain or shine).

The ceremony is open to all. Refreshments will be served following the service. Please stay and meet the Firefighters.



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Rhinebeck Village clerk alerts residents of suspicious email
Rhinebeck Village Clerk Martina McClinton is warning residents about a suspicious email claiming to be from the Village of Rhinebeck.
“This was a scammer’s attempt to collect payment using public information submitted for a permit request,” McClinton said via email. “Though it contains some correct identification information and may look authentic, please be aware, the Village would never request payment in the form of wire transfers or gift cards.”
Anyone receiving a suspicious email should verify the sender information, she added.
“Any legitimate correspondence from an official Village representative should be from an email address that includes: ‘@villageofrhinebeck.gov’ ‘@nycourts.gov’ or ‘@rhinebeckpd.com’,” she stated.
If you are ever in doubt of an email, letter or bill from the Village of Rhinebeck, you can call the Village Hall at (845) 876-7015 or the Village Police Department at (845) 876-8181 to determine if it is scam.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Rolison comments on restoration of funding for victims services organizations

To the editor:
Following multiple calls for restoration efforts, Senator Rob Rolison released the following statement on the recently announced restoration of domestic violence services, rape crisis and child advocacy center funding:
“I am glad our voices were heard and that Governor Hochul is restoring funding for New York’s victim services organizations and child advocacy centers. From the moment these devastating cuts were announced, we made it clear they were unacceptable by writing to the Governor, while continuing to push for action at the State and County level.
These organizations are lifelines for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, and they should never have been put in a position where critical services were at risk. This restoration is an important step and proof that speaking up matters. I will continue working to ensure our local providers are made whole and have the stable, reliable funding they need to continue their lifesaving work.”
Rob Rolison (R-39th district)
New York State Senate

Heroes of 9/11

To the editor:
They will come to the rescue in engines of red,
Not knowing of the danger that lies straight ahead.
Straight to the towers as fast as they might,
These brave men and women were first at the site.
Into the Towers with hoses in hand,
They rush up the stairways to save whoever they can.
Buildings afire with smoke everywhere,
Determined to go forward, they dare.
In so many minutes since they arrived,
Most of these men and women will not be alive.
The first Tower will crumble, the second one falls,
The bravest of the brave have made their last call.
So many have died who rushed to ground zero,
Magnificent they were, so many fallen heroes.
Forever, they will remain as a symbol of giving,
The ultimate sacrifice they made for us living.
The country today was awakened by terror,
It will live in our hearts, but we shall endeavor.
Death and destruction have come to us all,
They have threatened our freedom, but we will stand tall.
As the day goes on and the smoke starts to clear,
Our country will witness terror and fear.
The evil has come; they have struck the first blow,
You have threatened America, “You will reap what you sow.”
Leslie Pisaturo 11/23/01
Town of Poughkeepsie

Recent news on victims services funding is just a ‘Band-Aid’

To the editor:
Governor Kathy Hochul’s August 28 announcement of an additional \$36 million in funding for crime victim services is welcome news for survivors and the organizations that serve them. Family Services applauds the Governor for responding to advocates’ concerns and taking action to address the severe funding reductions announced by the Office of Victim Services (OVS) in July.
The additional funding provides important relief, but it does not resolve the larger problem. Family Services, which initially faced a nearly 50% funding cut, has seen its tentative annual award increase from roughly \$440,000 to \$563,000. While that helps avoid some immediate service reductions, it still represents a 33% decrease from its current funding level of \$865,000.
Family Services’ crime victim services program is still not made whole. This is a Band-Aid, not a long-term solution. We still want our state government to address the underlying problems with the award process and explain how longstanding providers ended up facing cuts of this magnitude in the first place. This will have serious consequences for our organization, our victim services system, and the thousands of victims and survivors who rely on these services each year.
Across New York, victim service providers are being asked to meet increasing needs while navigating funding uncertainty and significant cuts. These organizations provide critical services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes. When funding becomes unstable, providers struggle to retain experienced staff, maintain programs, and ensure that survivors receive timely support.
Equally concerning are the unanswered questions surrounding the OVS procurement process. Family Services and other providers continue to seek transparency about how applications were evaluated and funding decisions were made. Despite Freedom of Information Law requests, key details about the methodology remain unclear.
For organizations that have served their communities for decades, this issue extends beyond a single funding cycle. Family Services has provided victim services for more than 30 years, building essential infrastructure in the local public safety system.
Survivors deserve more than temporary relief. New York must ensure a victim services system that is transparent, stable, and sustainable, with adequate resources to support trusted providers and guarantee meaningful access to services. We urge state leaders to continue pursuing transparency, reexamine the procurement process, and fully restore funding so survivors can count on the support they need when they need it most.
Leah Feldman
Chief Executive Officer
Family Services

County Executive, Sheriff promote positive school environments

As students across Dutchess County prepare to return to classrooms for the 2026-27 school year, County Executive Sue Serino and Sheriff Kirk Imperati remind the community that everyone plays a role in creating a safe, welcoming and respectful environment for children, both in schools and on the roads.
The County leaders are encouraging parents, educators, students and drivers to work together to help ensure every child feels supported, protected and ready to learn throughout the school year.
Serino said, “A new school year is a fresh start full of excitement and opportunity. When we choose kindness and respect, we help every student feel welcome, supported and ready to learn. Together, we can give our children the confidence to grow, succeed and shine.”
She emphasized that strong relationships between families, educators and students are key to building positive school communities. By treating one another with compassion and understanding, she said, we can create environments where all students have the opportunity to thrive.
Sheriff Imperati reminded drivers that keeping students safe extends beyond the classroom and into the community. As children walk, bike, ride buses and travel to and from school, motorists are urged to slow down, remain alert and follow traffic laws, especially during busy arrival and dismissal times.
Imperati said, “The safety of our students is a shared responsibility. Drivers must stay focused, follow the rules of the road and take extra precautions in school zones. Please slow down, watch for children crossing the street, follow the direction of crossing guards and never pass a school bus with its red lights flashing. A few extra seconds of caution can help prevent a tragedy.”
Drivers should plan ahead and allow additional time for their commutes so they can safely stop for school buses. Under New York State law, all vehicles must stop when a school bus has flashing red lights, including on divided highways such as Routes 9, 44 and 55.
Motorists who fail to stop for school buses may face tickets and fines. School buses throughout Dutchess County are

equipped with stop-arm cameras through a partnership with BusPatrol LLC to help identify violators. Eleven of the County’s 13 school districts participate in the program.
In addition to promoting roadway safety, Serino and Imperati reaffirmed their continued commitment to supporting safe and positive learning environments through ongoing partnerships with local school districts.
Imperati said, “Our School Resource Officers are an important part of our commitment to student safety. These trained professionals provide guidance, build relationships with students and staff, and help schools remain safe places where children can learn and succeed.”
Serino said, “Great things happen when families, schools and communities work together. Dutchess County is proud to stand beside our schools and support the students who make our communities so special. We wish every student, teacher and family a happy and successful school year filled with learning, growth and new opportunities.”

Germania of Poughkeepsie sets authentic Oktoberfest Sept. 11-13

A fun, festive and authentic Oktoberfest will be held at Germania Festival Grounds, 51 Old DeGarmo Road in Poughkeepsie - Friday Sept. 11, 5-10 p.m., Saturday Sept. 12, 1 -10 p.m. and Sunday Sept. 13, Noon-5 p.m.

The event features live German bands, German food, home baked German desserts, traditional German Beer, children's entertainment, Bavarian dancers, and singers. Adult entry ticket \$5 daily, \$4 Veterans and Active Military with valid ID, children under 16 with parent, no charge.

Performers this year include - Bernie's Orchestra, Alpine Squeeze, Dave Betz Band and The Bratwurst Boys.

This event will be held rain or shine under tents with free parking.

Germania of Poughkeepsie, founded 1850, is a benevolent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit and 509(a)(2) charitable organization committed to the education of German

heritage and culture. Germania hosts various authentic cultural events throughout the year including an annual Maifest, Oktoberfest, Christkindlmarkt, Heritage Day Bake Sale, Biergartens, authentic German Friday Night Dinner events, Wednesday Stammtisch, along with other events.

Over the past 176 years, Germania has hosted educational programs in music, sport, dance, and citizenship. Germania sponsors numerous "Sister Clubs" who also promote many educational and authentic cultural events. These include the Germania Singers, Germania Almrausch Schuhplattler Verein, Steuben Society of America Dr. Charles Gilbert Spross Unit #167, and the Germania Blue & White Soccer Club. Germania also sponsors German Language Classes, Ballroom Dancing Classes, and a Volkssport Club.

Throughout the year Germania holds



The "Stein-Holding Contest" is just one of the many fun and festive parts of the annual Oktoberfest at Germania of Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy photo*

clothing, food, toy drives, as well as grants annual scholarships to BOCES CTI Culinary program graduates. Since the pandemic, Germania has donated over seven hundred German Friday and Saturday Take Out Dinners to area First Responders.

Germania supports the community by procuring goods and services through locally owned Hudson Valley businesses. The organization remains a 100% volunteer, private club, and is actively looking to increase membership, along with Club Sponsorship and Event Vendors.

Membership is open to individuals of all faiths and backgrounds.

Please visit Oktoberfest 2026 – Germania for additional details, and Facebook <https://facebook.com/GermaniaofPoughkeepsie/>

Contact Germania directly for further information, president@germaniaPok.com or call 845-471-0609.

Only service animals with valid ID please. SEE YOU AT OKTOBERFEST 2026!

#germaniaofPoughkeepsie

GRANGE COMPETITION AT FAIR



The Grange organizations in Dutchess County conduct a competition annually for the Dutchess County Fair. This year's theme surrounded the 250th anniversary of our nation. The members of the Mount Hope Grange won the Blue Ribbon for their display this year. *Photo by Curtis Schmidt*

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Free 'Patriotic Park Jam' Concert set Sunday, Sept.13 at Bowdoin Park

County Executive Sue Serino and the Office of Veterans' Affairs, in partnership with Mental Health America of Dutchess County's (MHADC) Veterans Programs, will again show the County's appreciation to local veterans with a free Patriotic Park Jam concert on Sunday, September 13 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the bandshell at Bowdoin Park in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

The live music event will feature performances from The Funky Plantains and G.I. Jam, among others. The concert will be open to all, with no registration needed to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic, lawn chair, and blanket and enjoy some great live music.

County Executive Sue Serino said, "Our Parks and our veterans are part of what makes Dutchess County such an amazing place to live. We are excited to celebrate the service of our veterans with an afternoon of great free entertainment at beautiful Bowdoin Park! So, grab your lawn chair and pack a picnic to join us for

a wonderful day with friends, family, and fun."

Veterans' Affairs Director Adam Roche said, "I know from working with our local veterans, that these events mean a lot to them, and they feel the love. We are grateful to our community partners at MHA of Dutchess County for helping bring these two bands to Bowdoin Park to honor our local men and women. We can never thank our brave service members and veterans enough for all they have done for our nation."

The concert will feature the funk and rhythmic grooves of the Funky Plantains, a musical group supported by MHADC's Fox Program; classic rock, Motown, and R&B hits from the 1960s through the 1980s from G.I. Jam, a local band comprised of active or retired service members; and other local performances.

For more information on Dutchess County's Office of Veterans' Affairs, visit dutchessny.gov/veterans or call 845-486-2060.

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Annual Rhinecliff Chili Cook-Off celebrates its 15th Year on Sept. 12

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co. and Rescue Squad will host its 15th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Pie Baking Contest at Firemen's Field, on Valley Road, next to the Old Schoolhouse Condos in Rhinecliff on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 4 to 7 p.m.

"It is hard to believe this event has run for the last 15 years, minus a Covid year," said Chairperson Cynthia Baer. "This event has been the impetus behind efforts to improve Firemen's Field. What started out as an event in a muddy field under a tent now enjoys a permanent shelter, pollinator gardens, and a playable, grassy space."

As in the past, kids field games and a friendly Cornhole Tourney are 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, and, of course, a kickball game. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own balls and games as well.

At 5 p.m., the 15th annual Chili Cook-Off will take place. Registration ends at 4:50 p.m. Amateur cooks and bakers 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. Says Cynthia, "The pie-baking contest has really ramped up in the past few years. And the types of fruit pie combinations have gotten more complex each year. I am continually impressed with the time and effort that go into all the entries. There is both pride in the work, and happiness in the sharing of homemade food."

At 6 p.m., the day will wrap up the 3rd 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 2026. The winning region will be added to a trophy kept on the mantel at Morton Library.

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

For additional information, contact Cynthia Baer at (845) 876-5738.



Local judges from 2025 Rhinecliff Chili Cook-Off included (from left) Sandy Bartlett, director of the Morton Memorial Library; Rhinecliff resident Martin Kemp; and Town Board representative, Dana Colleen Peterson. As in the past, kids field games and a friendly Cornhole Tourney are planned for this year's event. *Courtesy photos*



'Pyrocene' author Stephen Pyne to speak at Cary Institute on new age of wildfire

Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies will host a science conversation featuring environmental historian Stephen Pyne, a leading authority on the relationship between people and fire, including the history of fire management, on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m.

He will be joined in conversation by Cary ecologist Winslow Hansen, who directs a national collaborative aimed at reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Guests can attend in-person at Cary's auditorium in Millbrook or via

live stream.

Fire is often seen as a force of destruction, but it has shaped life on Earth for over 400 million years and remains essential to many healthy ecosystems. Pyne and Hansen will discuss how our relationship with fire has changed, from ancient, mutual dependence to today's era of megafires — what Pyne has coined the "Pyrocene."

Drawing on historical insights and case studies from the Western U.S. to the Northeast, they will examine the rise of

"bad fire", why we have too little "good fire" on the landscape, and how climate, fossil fuel combustion, and land use decisions have reshaped fire behavior. They will also explore what it will take to restore a more balanced relationship with fire, and the role that communities, policy, and land stewardship can play.

Pyne is a professor emeritus at Arizona State University and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has written dozens of books on fire history, including *Between Two Fires: A Fire History of Contemporary America* and *The Pyrocene: How We Created an Age of Fire and What Happens Next*. His work is informed by 15 seasons as a wildland firefighter on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.

Hansen is a forest ecologist who has conducted research across western North

America, from New Mexico to interior Alaska, and is the founding director of the Western Fire and Forest Resilience Collaborative. The collaborative is working to advance fire science co-developed with practitioners and other decision-makers. Read more about Hansen's work in the recent New York Times article, "Bigger, Hotter Fires Are Slowly Erasing America's Great Forests."

This event is free and open to all. There will be time for audience Q&A following the presentation. Registration is required. There are separate signups for in-person seating in our Millbrook, NY auditorium and virtual access via live stream. Copies of Pyne's most recent book, *The Pyrocene: How We Created an Age of Fire, and What Happens Next*, will be available for purchase and signing from Merritt Bookstore.



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So close! Renegades fall just short of playoffs as Greensboro advances

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades entered the final week of the regular season on the cusp of postseason baseball. Yet as the Wilmington Blue Rocks started the series with two shutouts, it was soon clear that the season would be over after Sunday, Sept. 6.

The Greensboro Grasshoppers clinched the second spot of the North Division, while Hudson Valley and Wilmington battled for third place in the standings. Thanks to a five-game winning streak to boost their lead in the standings, Greensboro has dashed Hudson Valley's hopes once again.

The Renegades came up with a fight at the turn of the weekend, but their playoff hopes were dashed. The Labor Day celebration came early for the visiting team, who had their own shutout waiting for the Nationals' High-A affiliate. The

Renegades soared to a 7-0 shutout on Sept. 3, thanks to a few notable offensive performances. Willy Montero went 3-for-4 with an RBI single. Home runs came in threes in the seventh inning, leaving little doubt about the Renegades' redemptive win.

Jackson Lovich knocked a home run to score Montero and Robbie Burnett. Emmanuel Tejeda extended the lead to three with a home run. To no surprise on the Renegades' side, David McCann also homered, a solo shot. Burnett, always accountable for getting on base, worked three walks.

Though 2026 ends in Wilmington, the Renegades have much to be proud of this season: a few record-setting home runs, fond farewells for the players promoted through the season, and a whole lotta fun, among many other notable moments.

See you next year!



David McCann was one of three Renegades to slug homers in a 7-0 win over Wilmington last week. Photo by Dave Janosz

Ex-Renegades playing key roles for Yankees

By Morgan E. Maier

Even if the Hudson Valley Renegades are out of the playoffs, they must be doing something right. Of the players who have taken the field for the New York Yankees in 2026, plenty of former Renegades are scattered across the field. Several High-A Hudson Valley alumni in particular have been key to the Bombers' playoff contention.

First up is Cam Schlittler. The accolades keep coming for the fireball-slinging pitcher, who has amassed 200+ strikeouts, an All-Star nominee, and more in his first full MLB season. Once the South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year, Schlittler has embraced his role as a top Yankee starter, and the team — and fans — are at ease when he takes the mound. If he finishes out the season as he's played all season, he is an easy favorite for the American League's top pitcher award.

Ben Rice is the undisputed MVP of the Yankees in the absence of Aaron Judge. Judge has been sidelined by injury

since May 31, but the Bombers have remained in playoff contention. The key is Rice, who sees time at first place and designated hitter. New York has been hit with a smattering of other injuries, and Rice remains a constant slugger. He cooled a bit in summer after a red-hot start, but Rice is still cooking in his career year.

The newest Yankees were teammates for a short time in Hudson Valley: Elmer Rodriguez (Cruz) and George Lombard Jr. In nine Triple-A appearances between big league starts, Rodriguez posted a 2.13 earned run average. He most recently appeared against the Houston Astros on August 26. The Yankees won 9-3 in a game that was knotted at three in the seventh inning.

Lombard sent shockwaves through baseball with a fiery debut series, including a home run and plenty of “did-you-see-that” plays at shortstop. Some say it's Derek Jeter reincarnated. I'd say he's just as fun of a

continued on page 8

Outfielder Spencer Jones (right) and pitcher Cam Schlittler (below) and are just two of the former Hudson Valley Renegades who are keeping the New York Yankees in the playoff hunt this season. Courtesy photos



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Brothers Paul and John Stefanopoulos at the Four Brothers Drive-In in Amenia, NY

Win the Region’s Best: HV Credit Union announces Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes



Hudson Valley Credit Union (HVCU) has announced a Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes as part of its participation in this year's Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival. The sweepstakes will run from September 12 through September 19, giving participants the opportunity to enter for a chance to win one of three experiences celebrating the best of the Hudson Valley and beyond. The sweepstakes is open to individuals who are 18 years of age or older.*

Participants may choose to enter one or more of the following prize drawings:

- Wildflower Farms Getaway Package featuring a two-night stay in a Bower Cabin, two 60-minute spa treatments, dinner for two at Clay (up to \$300), and applicable taxes.

- Culinary Institute of America Experience, including a \$500 gift card that may be used toward dining, classes, tours, and other eligible offerings.

- The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark Family Getaway, including a \$600 gift card that may be applied toward accommodations and eligible resort experiences.

Individuals may enter online at hvcu.org/HVWFF, at any HVCU branch location, or at either HVCU booth during the Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival. Entrants may submit one entry per prize

drawing. All entry methods are treated equally.

The sweepstakes is part of HVCU's larger initiative to bring the Hudson Valley to life at this year's festival. Attendees can enjoy a build-your-own bouquet experience featuring locally grown blooms from Ulster County-based Hudson Wildflower Co., as well as complimentary samples of alcohol-infused ice cream from Orange County-based Toppings.

"Our commitment to the Hudson Valley extends beyond financial services," said Tina Ludwig, senior vice president, head of experience activation at HVCU. "It's about investing in the people, businesses and experiences that make this region such a special place to live, work and visit. Through the Sip, Stay & Play Sweepstakes and our involvement with the Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival, we're proud to showcase local organizations and experiences that help make our region unique."

One winner will be selected for each prize drawing through a random drawing conducted on or about September 21, 2026. Winners do not need to be present to win.

For complete official rules or to learn more, visit hvcu.org/HVWFF.

NDH launches Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program



Representatives of The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program include, front from left Chaplain Jody Spiak, Manager Patient Experience Jennifer Sinnott and Manager Caregiver Program Allison Gould. In back are Assistant Manager Guest Services & Patient Experience Matthew Murray and NDH President Andy Wilson, MD. *Photo courtesy of Northwell Health*

Northwell Health's Northern Dutchess Hospital has launched a transformative new initiative - The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program, providing critical resources and support to caregivers across the Hudson Valley. The groundbreaking program is made possible by a generous \$300,000 gift from the Thomas Thompson Trust and additional philanthropic contributions, resulting in over \$500,000 raised to date to strengthen caregiver services at the hospital.

This endeavor directly addresses the emotional, physical and financial strain faced by an estimated 110,000 family caregivers in Dutchess, Columbia and Ulster counties. According to recent studies, nearly 60% of family caregivers find themselves in high-intensity situations. Northern Dutchess Hospital's own Center for Healthy Aging has seen demand for caregiver support increase, with roughly half of all mental health visits focused on caregiver concerns.

"Through my years of caring for patients and my own personal experience, I've witnessed just how much love, energy and sacrifice caregivers pour into supporting others," said Dr. Andy Wilson, president of Northern Dutchess Hospital. "Too often, caregivers carry that responsibility quietly and without enough support of their own. Seeing The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program take shape is incredibly meaningful because it recognizes the vital role caregivers play and reminds them that they are not alone."

Born into poverty and entering domestic service as a housekeeper at just 13 years old, Elizabeth Rowell Thompson never forgot her humble beginnings, even after marrying Boston businessman Thomas Thompson and later inheriting considerable wealth as a result of a trust her husband established. Elizabeth was an advocate for those facing hardship, particularly working women with children.

After Thomas' death, she gave generously to the communities of Rhinebeck, NY, and Brattleboro, VT. where she had homes. For more than a century, the Thomas Thompson Trust has carried that mission forward. Elizabeth's enduring legacy of recognizing and supporting those striving to care for themselves and their families serves as the direct inspiration for this new program.

Carrying that legacy forward and building on the proven success of Northern Dutchess Hospital's Center for Healthy Aging, which has offered

caregiver support since 2012, The Elizabeth Thompson Care for the Caregiver Program will significantly expand and integrate support across inpatient, outpatient and community settings. Led by Allison Gould, LCSW, the program will provide coordinated, comprehensive services including:

- Supportive counseling for caregivers and their families
- Support groups
- Educational workshops
- Volunteer caregiver coaches
- Resource referrals
- A quiet space for caregivers to decompress

"Caregiving is one of the most challenging experiences a person can face, and something that no one should have to go through alone," says Allison Gould. "We have seen the difference that caregiver support interventions make. Time and again, caregivers have shared that support groups, counseling, and resource navigation services have been invaluable as they traverse the caregiver's journey. We are thrilled to now be able to expand these essential services to reach caregivers across our hospital's service areas and throughout the community. Our program is for everyone, at every stage of the caregiving experience."

To ensure broad impact, the program will actively collaborate with a robust network of partners. Within Northern Dutchess Hospital, this includes spiritual care, patient experience, case management and various clinical departments like oncology and primary care. Beyond the hospital setting, key partnerships extend to county health departments across the region, including the Alzheimer's Association, County Offices for the Aging and local organizations such as Rhinebeck at Home and Red Hook Responds, ensuring integrated support and wide community reach.

The Northern Dutchess Hospital Foundation will continue fundraising efforts to expand the program's reach in the years ahead. Future goals include creating a dedicated center, where caregivers can gather, learn and connect as well as establishing an endowment to sustain the program's operating costs through current and legacy gifts. For more information or to support the program, contact the Northern Dutchess Hospital Foundation at (845) 871-3176.

For more information about caregiver support services, contact (845) 871-3392 or email ndhcaregivercenter@nuvancehealth.org

Torreggiani announces re-election campaign for Hyde Park Town Supervisor

In a recently released statement, Hyde Park Town Supervisor Alfred "Al" Torreggiani, announced he is running for re-election in the Nov. 3 general election. Torreggiani pointed to "a record of success that includes public-safety improvements, infrastructure initiatives, strong town finances and investment in Hyde Park's parks and quality of life."

"Serving as Town Supervisor has given me the opportunity to work every day on issues that directly affect the people who call Hyde Park home – and my record shows that I get the job done," Torreggiani said. "My focus has been on providing steady leadership and accountability, protecting taxpayers and making sure town government delivers results. We have tackled longstanding problems, and invested in public safety and infrastructure. I'm seeking another term because there is more work to do – and preserving Hyde Park residents' quality of life is so important to me."

Torreggiani was elected Town Supervisor in November 2021 and took office Jan. 1, 2022. He was re-elected in November 2025 and is seeking re-election

to a new two-year term as a result of changes affecting the election cycle of the Town Supervisor's term.

A United States Army veteran, Torreggiani served four years of active reserve duty and two years of inactive reserve duty. He has lived in Hyde Park with his family for more than 35 years. Before becoming Town Supervisor, Torreggiani served for 14 years on the Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency. He also owns and operates a construction business employing approximately 150 people; his private-sector expertise managing projects, employees, schedules and budgets informs his approach to town government.

Torreggiani will be scheduling events that invite residents to meet him, meet new candidates, share their thoughts and offer ideas about the future of Hyde Park. The first event is Sept. 15, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Eveready Diner, 4184 Albany Post Road/Route 9, Hyde Park. The event will provide residents with an opportunity to meet Torreggiani and new candidates, ask questions and discuss issues important to the community.

Ex-Renegades playing key roles for Yankees

continued from page 7

player to watch as he was in Hudson Valley a short time ago.

Spencer Jones can make a great play in the outfield one inning, and turns heads on the warning track the next. Another Renegade alumni known for his slugging, Jones has seen ample playing time in the absence of the Yankees outfield trio: Judge, Cody Bellinger, and Trent Grisham.

Trade rumors swirled around catcher Austin Wells all summer, but since July he has shown New York that he's exactly where he should be. On August 30, Wells

launched two home runs in the same inning, becoming the sixth Yankee to reach the unusual milestone.

All of these players are homegrown Yankee prospects, farmed by the eagle-eyed scouts of a perennially-contending professional franchise. Fans suspect that we may be seeing the assembly of the Yankees' Gen-Z Core Four. But who will be the Bronx's next household name - or names? Only time may tell, but many Hudson Valley fans already have their picks.

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Dutchess 4-H youth shine at 180th Dutchess County Fair

The 2026 Dutchess County Fair once again provided an incredible opportunity for 4-H youth to showcase the time, effort and dedication they have put into their projects throughout the year. More than 200 youth participated in 4-H shows, evaluations and activities during the 180th Fair, sharing everything from livestock and animal projects to demonstrations and other accomplishments. For many 4-H members, the Fair represents the culmination of an entire year of learning and hard work—and a chance to share what they have learned with thousands of fair-goers.

Several youth earned special recognition for their accomplishments. Grady Lyman had the opportunity to be interviewed alongside his dog, Tavin Pennock was named 4-H Elite Showman, and Maddie Sartori was recognized as the 2026 4-Her of the Year.

Beyond the shows and competitions, the Fair is about community. Throughout the week, the 4-H Team had the opportunity to meet countless families, answer questions and introduce new people to the opportunities available through 4-H.

The Dutchess 4-H Team would also like to recognize the countless hours and energy provided by dedicated club leaders, volunteers, and partners, including the Dutchess County Fair who help provide opportunities for Dutchess 4-H Youth. Plans are already in motion for the 2027 Dutchess County Fair; watch out for your favorite 4-Hers in NY to return next year!



4-H youth take part in a dairy goat show during the 180th Dutchess County Fair. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

Historical figures lead way at Crum Elbow Rural Cemetery tours

Guided walking tours offered Sept. 12-13

Crum Elbow Rural Cemetery at 490 North Quaker Lane in Hyde Park will offer graveyard tours on Saturday, Sept. 12 and Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. Guided daytime walking tours will last 30 minutes, with members and friends of the Cemetery Association offering costumed portrayals of six historical figures: John and Abigail Briggs, Revolutionary War patriot farmer and wife. Catherine Marshall, who with her husband Willet owned a lot at the New Guinea Community of freed Blacks in Hyde Park.

Elias Hicks, a traveling Quaker preacher who preached at Crum Elbow Meeting House. Visitors will be able to see him inside the building. A.T. Cook, aka A.T. Cookingham, Hyde Park businessman who sold seed packets and Temperance postcards. Lizzie DeGarmo, abolitionist and women's rights supporter. Otto Berg, Norwegian carpenter who worked for Eleanor Roosevelt. A \$10 donation for the Crum Elbow Rural Cemetery Association is recommended. Children are free. All donations are tax deductible. The Cemetery is a 501c13 and Meeting House is a 501c3 designation. Both are on the National and NYS Register of Historic Places.



Clockwise from above left: John Briggs, portrayed by Aidan Beck (who is a direct descendant of John Briggs), and Amelia Ford as his wife, Abigail. Docent Denise Byrnes with Robert Byrnes, who portrays preacher Elias Hicks inside the authentic 1797 Meeting House. Susan Schaefer portrays Catherine Marshall and Johnny Byrnes portrays young Johnny Briggs. Bonnie Wood (right) portrays Lizzie DeGarmo with (from left) David Murray, Lawrence Laliberti, Robert Byrnes and Susan Schaefer. Photos by Denise Byrnes



what's happening? creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

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By David Kalvitis

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Bug-eyed nuisance

Spotted lanternflies have Mark singing the blues.

“Spotted Lanternfly Blues”
By Mark Adams

*I woke up this morning! And what did I see?
A strange sticky substance on my heavenly tree.
I stood at the window rubbing my eyes.
Oh, lordy, please don't tell me it's those spotted lanternflies.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
Oh, lordy please don't tell me,
I've got the spotted Lanternfly blues.
Went out to my vineyard with a bottle of wine.
Those colorful creatures were all over the vines.
I drank down the bottle and I started to dream --
A giant spotted Lanternfly was comin' after me.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
Oh, mama, don't you leave me.
I've got the spotted Lanternfly blues.
Now the summer has ended, they've all disappeared.
At first I was thinking I had nothing to fear.
But they laid their egg masses, little pellets of clay.
Those lanternflies are tellin' me they'll be back again some day.
I can't believe, I can't believe that it could be true.
I'm down and out in Poughkeepsie.
I've got the spotted Lanternfly blues.*

By now, I don't have to tell you what a spotted lanternfly is, unless you've been living under a rock, or anywhere west of the Mississippi River. The Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener booth at the Dutchess County Fair was swamped with questions about spotted lanternflies. In a nutshell – they don't bite, they won't cause much damage in the garden unless you are growing grapes, they are a nuisance on their favorite tree – ailanthus, or tree of heaven, which is a fast-growing junky invasive species, dripping honeydew (which they “excrete,” to put it politely) all over your car. And putting to rest a persistent rumor, no, they do not land on woodchucks and suck their blood.

Spotted lanternflies are actually giant leaf hoppers. According to Google's Gemini AI, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation has “mandated” that people kill spotted lanternflies on sight. I asked Gemini what they mean by “mandated.” It turns out that the mandate serves as an official civic directive rather than a law. Private citizens cannot be fined for failing to kill a spotted lanternfly on their property.

Whew. I was getting worried. I'm sure that various cameras and satellites have observed me not killing them. I fact, I think spotted lanternflies are kind of cute, although they do have a rather inscrutable visage. If I stomped on them, I would create a hazardous slippery mess on my front porch.

And our kitten would have one less

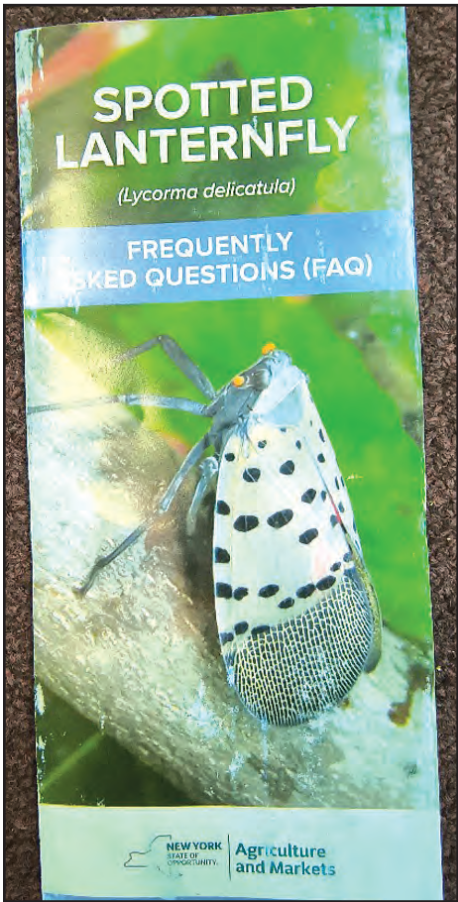
“toy” to chase.

If you are so inclined, you can buy Captain Jack's Spotted Lanternfly Eliminator, made from clove oil. Or Harris Spotted Lanternfly Killer, a powerful synthetic pyrethroid insecticide. Or you can just wait until our native birds learn to eat them. Meanwhile, enjoy the show, and buy some spotted lanternfly jewelry – earrings, necklaces and amulets.

And type in “Spotted Lanternfly Blues Mark Adams” on YouTube to hear my song, accompanied by Jeff Sherban and Vito Petrocitto, recorded at Tavern 23 in downtown Poughkeepsie.

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

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets publishes an informational brochure on the spotted lanternfly. Below: The spotted lanternfly's meal of choice is the ailanthus, or tree of heaven. Photos by Mark Adams



MORTON LIBRARY ISSUES CALL FOR ART FOR HOMAGE TO FIBER CREATORS

Morton Memorial Library & Community House in Rhinecliff is asking textile artists – knitters, quilters, rug hookers, embroiderers, crocheters, weavers, spinners, and others – to share their creations with the Morton community for an art opening and exhibition.

The opening will be the week before the Sheep and Wool Festival so there will not be a time conflict but will be an “appetizer” to the festival (which takes place Oct. 17-18).

The deadline to submit work is Oct. 3. The opening will be Friday, Oct. 9.

The Morton Fiber Show is open to everyone; kids' creations are welcome.

Email sandy@mortonrhinecliff.org or call (845) 876-2903 for more information.

Events for Hudson Valley Climate Solutions Week

- A Clean Power Expo at Red Hook's beautiful Rose Hill Farm, creating a space where people can learn how to upgrade their energy systems while maximizing their savings by talking to experts, for free; chat with contractors, interact with the tech, and check out cars;
 - An art exhibition at the Cunneen-Hackett Center in Poughkeepsie “What Comes Back: Renewal and Resilience,” explores sustainability through contemporary art; bringing together artists working across various mediums to examine how ecosystems, communities, and materials recover, adapt, and endure;
 - Learning how Vassar College is pushing forward sustainability through an outdoor walking tour that showcases building decarbonization, waste reduction, and regeneration of the campus ecosystem; a space to learn about the rewards and challenges of pushing forth sustainability.
- Highlighted on www.hvclimatesolutionsweek.org, events happening in Dutchess County also include:
- Innovative compost site tour in Rhinebeck showcasing a municipal and farm partnership and the use of hemp animal bedding as a compost feedstock;
 - Team leader training for hosting “The Coolest Recycling Drive,” a model for collecting and properly recycling appliances containing refrigerants, a climate super-pollutant that is often ignored;
 - A webinar on how to start a Repair Cafe, freeing communities from the energy waste of the throwaway economy;
 - A webinar on how to get a job in the expanding field of sustainability with Bard Graduate Programs in Sustainability Director Eban Goodstein;
 - A Lunch and Learn webinar on creating and implementing climate adaptation plans for communities, with Neil Bettez, Ph.D., Climate Adaptation Team Coordinator at the Hudson River Estuary Program;
 - Native plant sale at Vassar College;
 - Inspiring tour of one of the region's most innovative green building and regenerative design models, the Omega Center for Sustainable Living & Eco Machine in Rhinebeck.
- Learn more at www.hvclimatesolutionsweek.org.



Baked Cider Doughnuts

Are they technically doughnuts if they're baked? This could be a moot point!

It's September, and that means some of my favorite things are here or soon to be: pumpkins and hayrides and colorful leaves, stews, soups and crisp, fresh apples straight off the tree! It also means delectable cider doughnuts, which I adore; and that, my friends, is what today is all about, because I'm about to check something off my culinary bucket list.

I LOVE doughnuts (I like the original, old-fashioned spelling) and the cider variety are at the top of my list. I have always thought I would make them one day, but deep frying just isn't my thing. Not sure why. I think the idea of all that hot oil is daunting to me, although there's no denying the resulting doughnuts are spectacular – crisp on the outside and cakey within. I don't even mind the sugar and cinnamon crumbs on my lap after biting into one.

Many years ago, I found several recipes for baked doughnuts and knew I would give 'em a try one day. I got myself a doughnut pan last year and have been waiting for the right time, which just happens to be now.

I will admit anticipating a level of disappointment with doughnuts that are baked, not fried, but figured how bad could they be? I did a lot of research and consulted a lot of recipes (which were all basically the same) and finally got to it. Then I got to thinking, what if my dear readers don't have a doughnut pan? Would a muffin or cupcake pan work? If so, would they still be doughnuts? Well, no, I suppose not (then again, they aren't really doughnuts if they're baked, either), but I tried that, too, and it did the trick. I'll probably tweak this recipe next time I make it – because I definitely will make them again – but it works just fine if you want to give it a go.

BAKED CIDER DOUGHNUTS

I have never really been able to discern a strong cider flavor in any of the many doughnuts I've tried, and these are no exception. Still, cider imparts something special to the finished product and they just taste like fall. The key is to reduce the cider to concentrate the flavor, so don't skip that step. No doughnut pan? A muffin/cupcake pan works in a pinch. They just won't look like doughnuts.

- INGREDIENTS for doughnuts**
- 1.5 cups apple cider
 - 2 cups flour (I used all-purpose but cake flour would work too)
 - 1 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1.5 teaspoons cinnamon
 - ½ teaspoon nutmeg
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 1 egg
 - ½ cup milk (preferably room temperature)
 - 2 tablespoons salted butter, melted
 - ½ cup brown sugar, packed
 - ¼ cup granulated sugar
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
- INGREDIENTS for topping**
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted (I used salted)
 - 1 cup granulated sugar
 - 2 teaspoons cinnamon

METHOD

Reduce the apple cider by bringing it to a boil in a medium saucepan. Lower the heat and simmer until reduced to about ½ cup, about 20 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease (or spray) a doughnut pan (or muffin pan if using) and set aside.

In a large bowl, whisk or sift together flour, baking powder and soda, cinnamon and nutmeg. Stir in salt.

In a separate medium bowl, whisk the egg. Add milk, 2 tablespoons melted butter, sugars, vanilla and (1/2 cup) reduced cider and whisk just to combine. Pour into flour mixture and stir to combine. Batter will be fairly loose.

If using a doughnut pan, I find it easier to pour batter into a large zip-top bag and snip off a small corner (unless you have a proper piping bag). It's a little messy but it would be messier still if you tried to ladle the batter into the pan. Pipe batter into the pan about 2/3 full.

Bake until lightly golden brown around the edges, about 10 minutes. They should spring back when lightly touched. Let cool slightly and turn them out onto a baking rack.

Make the topping: Place (6 tablespoons) melted butter in a shallow dish. Mix sugar and cinnamon together in



If you don't have a doughnut pan to bake these delicious cider doughnuts, a muffin pan will yield delightful results, as well. Photo by Vicki Frank Day

another shallow dish. Dip each side of the doughnuts in the butter then in the cinnamon sugar and place on the rack to cool. (If you made dough-muffins, dip the tops and sides). Makes about 18 doughnuts.

So, now, a little about how they came out. These were not at all dry but moist and tender. True, the crisp crunch you get from frying wasn't there, but the sugar topping provided some. The verdict: they're quite lovely and my anticipated disappointment was for naught! The muffin experiment yielded similar results. Though not doughnuts, the flavor was obviously the same and rolling the sides in the cinnamon sugar was definitely the way to go, since without it they were a bit bland.

Are these really doughnuts? Technically, no. Are they a worthwhile taste of fall you can indulge in any time? You bet! Enjoy!

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

what's happening? —————
————— creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

Enjoy scenic sunset views, free tours on Sept. 17 at Hyde Park railroad museum

On Thursday, Sept. 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., the non-profit Hudson Valley Railroad Society (HVRRS) will host a Sunset at the Station Night. The Station Museum is right on the Hudson River, affording a wide-open view of the beautifully scenic river, busy boat traffic, Amtrak and CSX rail traffic, and the evening sky. Enjoy free museum tours.

Several model railroad layouts will also be running, including ones with hands-on operating features.

Admission is free to all attendees of all ages. Parking is free and the Museum's main floor is handicap accessible.

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

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

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

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The value of things we can see and touch

By Bill Jeffway

Addressing the topic, “The Value of Local History,” Lewis Mumford spoke to members of the Dutchess County Historical Society who gathered at Troutbeck in Amenia one hundred years ago, on September 15, 1926. They came to hear this thirty-year-old young man, already an emerging national writer, address what might seem a simple question to an audience that needed no convincing. But putting an answer into words is harder than it looks, and a century later we benefit from his having done so. We also see how Mumford’s advocacy of local history fit with larger philosophical discussions about history at the time, including George Santayana, the source of the famous quote in 1905, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

The recent discovery of one of Mumford’s books signed by Santayana in December of 1926 as he gave it to a friend, is an example of Mumford’s argument that the things that we can see and touch have a unique power to ignite the imagination.

In 1926, Mumford published what became one of his most significant books, “The Golden Day.” In it, he was amplifying Santayana’s thinking that an active engagement in learning about our past was the only way to have human progress. In “The Golden Day,” Mumford confirmed his alignment with Santayana saying about history, “When we are integrated [with our past] we grow like the tree; the solid trunk of the past and the cambium layer where life and growth take place.”

Mumford would go on to become one of the most influential American writers on cities, architecture, technology, and the relationship between people and the places they create. But on that September afternoon in Dutchess County, he turned his attention close to home.

Mumford and his wife were at the Amenia estate of Joel and Amy Spingarn, the progressive reformers who would become the Mumfords’ own neighbors once the couple bought a house nearby. Troutbeck was no ordinary country retreat: it was the site of the Amenia Conferences of 1916 and 1933, pivotal gatherings at which the NAACP’s early leadership shaped the strategy of the emerging civil rights movement (See Julia Hotton, DCHS 2022 Yearbook). Mumford’s message to the historical society that day is no less relevant now.

“The things that we can see and touch are those that awaken our imagination,” Mumford told his audience, contrasting them with “scenes and incidents one has taken solely out of books and secondhand accounts.” That distinction may be the simplest explanation of why local history matters. History can easily become abstract. We memorize dates, wars, presidents, legislation, great national movements.

Then, suddenly, the distance between past and present begins to collapse. The person was here. The road was traveled. The words were written by an actual hand. You feel a connection not possible in any other way.

That was not an argument against books or scholarship – Mumford was himself a formidable scholar. But he argued that the physical evidence around us gives history an immediacy that books alone cannot. He saw this clearly at Troutbeck, where the surrounding landscape of Amenia offered evidence of successive generations: family names, houses, roads, architectural styles, traditions, and stories. A historian, he suggested, could use fragments like these much as a naturalist uses a handful of bones to reconstruct a much larger creature.

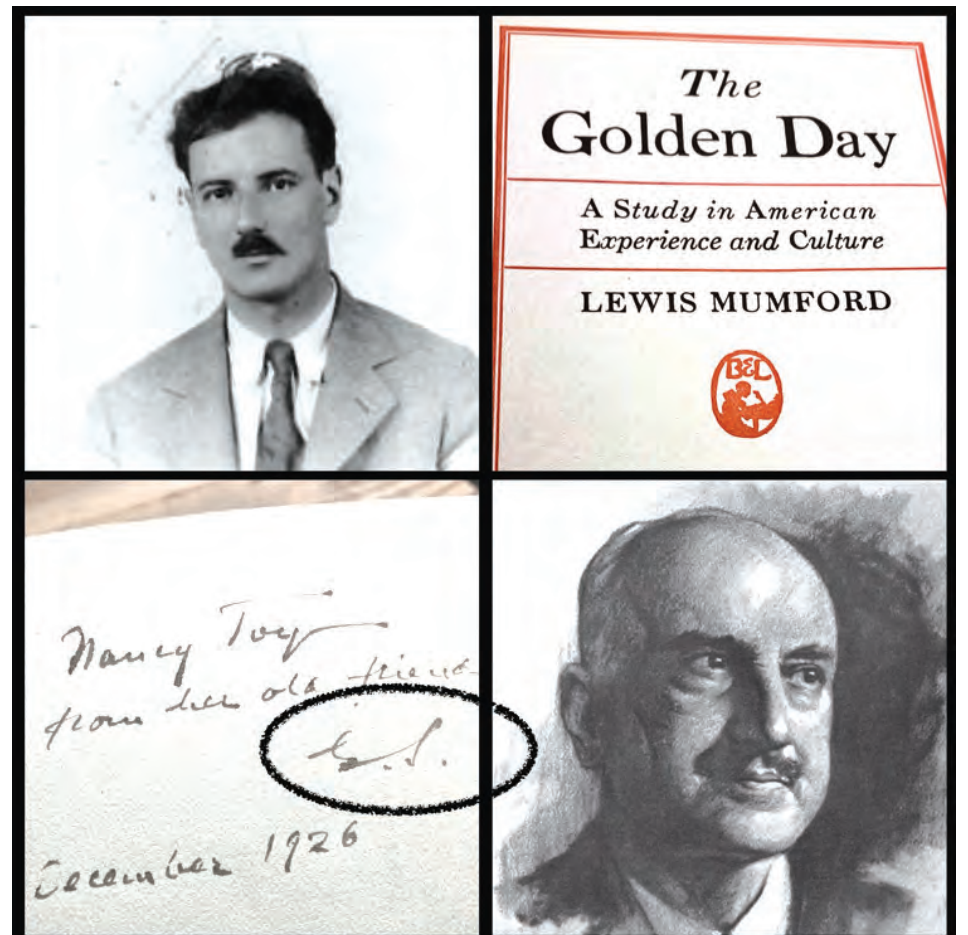
That leads to his second important idea: local history is not “less” than national history. Quite the opposite.

Mumford argued that when we examine a particular community carefully, its history inevitably leads outward. War, slavery, emancipation, industrialization, and changing ideas about government all eventually leave their traces somewhere. National history happens locally.

A law may be passed in Albany or Washington, but its consequences arrive at somebody’s doorstep. A war discussed in histories of presidents and generals eventually means a particular young man leaves a particular farm.

Mumford described great events as waves moving across the country and leaving something behind in individual communities. That metaphor remains useful today. The American Revolution left its deposit here. So did slavery and abolition, immigration, and the shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy. The struggle for women’s rights, the arrival of the railroad and the automobile, two world wars, and the civil rights movement can all be found in Dutchess County, if we take the time to look.

Local history, then, does something more important than provide colorful anecdotes to decorate the national story. It



Above top left to right: Photo of Lewis Mumford around the time of his September 1926 Troutbeck address and the title page of his book *The Golden Day* published the same year. In his book Mumford expressly refers to the historian George Santayana who famously wrote in 1905, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Above lower left to right: In December 1926 Santayana inscribed a copy of Mumford’s book and gave it to a friend [DCHS Collections]. Also, in December 1926 Santayana wrote to Mumford making several critical points about this writing. Archives at Indiana University, Indianapolis

changes our understanding of that story.

There is another part of Mumford’s argument that feels especially apt on its hundredth anniversary. He treated remembering the past and imagining the future as inseparable acts, not opposite ones. A community with a sense of its own past has a sense of continuity. It understands that people came before, made choices, succeeded, failed, built things, destroyed things, solved problems and created new ones, and that we are doing precisely the same thing for the generations that will follow. We are not standing outside history. We are somewhere in the middle of it.

That idea may have even greater relevance in 2026 than it did in 1926. We live increasingly in a world that is instantaneous, digital, and geographically unmoored such that we had to create a new word: the “deep fake.” Artificial intelligence can search, reconstruct, and interpret enormous bodies of material, and millions of historical documents can be consulted without leaving home. Those are remarkable opportunities. But they also make Mumford’s distinction more important, not less. A digital image of an eighteenth-century document is useful; it is still different from standing before the document itself. A photograph of an old house conveys information. Walking through its doorway conveys something else. Reading that an event happened at a particular place gives us knowledge. Standing there can awaken imagination – and imagination is essential to historical understanding, because history gets understood through the eyes and ears we have developed from our own unique, personal experience. This is how different people can take different lessons looking at the “same” history.

Perhaps that is part of why Mumford’s address has endured. The Dutchess County Historical Society published “The Value of Local History” in its 1927 Yearbook, and it has been reprinted and

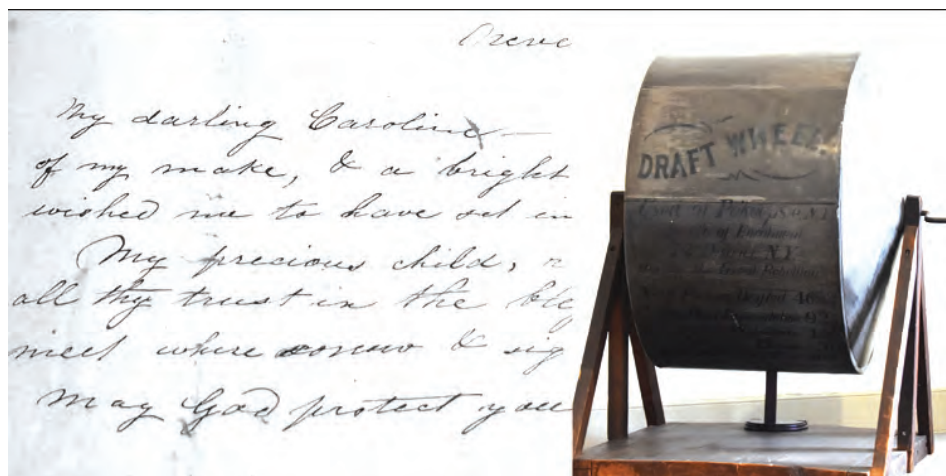
cited ever since. Its message was never simply that communities should celebrate themselves or collect charming stories about earlier days – Mumford explicitly warned against that kind of narrow local pride. The deeper purpose of local history was self-knowledge.

“The Golden Day” made much the same argument about the country as a whole and it found real readers among the very people it examined. A first edition of Mumford’s book survives, inscribed by “G.S.” (Santayana himself), to Nancy Toy, a friend from his Harvard years, and dated December 1926 – the same month Santayana wrote to Mumford directly to discuss the book. The item offers a small, tangible thread connecting the philosopher who diagnosed America’s divided culture and need to embrace history, the book that answered him, and the valley where Mumford first tried the argument out on his neighbors.

By understanding one place deeply, we begin to understand larger places. By understanding people who lived before us, we become better equipped to understand people whose experiences differ from our own. And by recognizing that the landscape around us is filled with evidence of earlier lives, the seemingly remote past becomes personal.

A century after that gathering at Troutbeck, Mumford’s most enduring lesson may also be his simplest: history is not somewhere else. It happened here and it is vitally important if we want to improve generation to generation. The local things we can still see and touch can help us imagine it.

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



Above left to right: Among the powerful things we can “see and touch” in DCHS Collections is the December 21, 1840 letter to two-year old Caroline Clowes (who would go on to be the famous painter) from her mother who died three days later on Christmas Day. In the letter, Elizabeth Clowes tells her daughter to “trust in the Lord.” The draft wheel used in Poughkeepsie in 1863 during the Civil War when the volunteer effort was no longer adequate to carry on what became America’s deadliest war. Names on cards were pulled from a small door in the back. DCHS Archives

A & E CALENDAR

Sept. 11: PG-13 by David Simpatico, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Seven comic pieces ranging in length from one minute to 20 minutes. A Young Man comes out to his Father—12 different ways. A beleaguered daughter brushes up her euthanasia skills, just in case. A mismatched dance team prepares for a nationally televised talent competition. Two high school girls discover the perfect diet—vampirism! And against all odds, a man and a woman find their perfect mate in the jungle of contemporary dating. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Sept. 11: Red Hook Summer Lawn Concert Series at "Eat-N-Go," 7509 N. Broadway, Red Hook. Free live summer concert series at Eat-N-Go every Friday night, 6-8 p.m. This week: Sass and Brass. Bring a chair or blanket, some food and enjoy an evening of local bands performing live. Lineup may be subject to change.

Sept. 11-12: Annual Festival, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Activities and arts performances. See www.kaatsbaan.org for complete schedule.

Sept. 11-12: Live Music at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Sept. 11: Story Songs of the 70s: Gordon Lightfoot, Harry Chapin, Cat Stevens, 8 p.m. Tickets \$35 advance, \$40 door. Sept. 12: Total Mass Retain YES Tribute Band, 8 p.m. Tickets \$35 advance, \$40 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Sept. 11-13: "How Did I Get Here?" Two One-Act Plays, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents "The Dumb Waiter" by Harold Pinter and "Nine" by Jane Shepard. Directed by Lisa Lynds. What choice do we have when life hands us one raw deal after another through no fault of our own? Can we be forever stripped of that small luxury? Two one-acts that work together to expose how quickly lives collapse under pressure. A sharp look at confinement, blame, and the brutality of circumstance. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Sept. 11-26: "The Language Archive," County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. Julia Cho's

fable about the limits of language in matters of the heart. Directed by Kit Colbourn. Will a man who speaks nine languages ever learn to communicate with his wife? Will the last two speakers of a soon-to-be dead language break their vow of silence? The lives of five people are imaginatively woven together as they discover that no matter how many words they can speak, it's the heart's language that matters most. Performances: Evenings at 8 p.m. on Fri. 9/11, Sat. 9/12, Fri. 9/18, Sat. 9/19, Fri. 9/25, Sat. 9/26. Matinee at 2 p.m. on Sun 9/20 & Sat. 9/26. Tickets: \$29 adult, \$26 for military, seniors age 60+, students w/ID at the door, and children under age 12. www.countyplayers.org

Sept. 12: Raiders of the Lost Greenhouse, Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Old Post Rd., Staatsburg. Outdoor discovery program for children and their families, 2:30 p.m. Explore and discover the traces of Staatsburgh's once-thriving greenhouse complex, garden beds, and paths. Child participants can complete their visit by making a miniature garden in a Gilded Age-style glass. Appropriate for ages 5 and up. Advanced tickets are required. The cost is an \$8 materials fee per child, plus Eventbrite fee by visiting: <https://FOMAS.eventbrite.com>.

Sept. 12: SADONNA, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Evening concert on the outdoor Mountain Stage, 6 p.m. Multi-disciplinary dance and music artist Miguel Gutierrez is SADONNA, providing the bow at the end of the festival. SADONNA is exactly what it sounds like: sad versions of Madonna songs. Tickets \$40 GA, \$30 Student Admission. www.kaatsbaan.org

Sept. 16 & 30: White Glove Tour, Mount Gulian Historic Site, 145 Sterling St., Beacon. This special tour highlights items from the collection that are rarely on display. Following a tour of the house and grounds, visitors will have the opportunity to wear the trademark curatorial white gloves to examine artifacts up close and out from the collection storage rooms, giving a seldom found perspective of the past. 1 p.m. Admission \$20 adults; \$18 seniors; \$10 children; free for children under 6. Registration is strongly suggested by calling (845) 831-8172 or emailing info@mountgulian.org. www.mountgulian.org

Rhinebeck Garden Club prepares for Sept. 19 plant & bake sale



Rhinebeck Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, at Rhinebeck Reformed Church. *Courtesy photos*

Submitted By Brenda Klaproth

With cooler temperatures and shorter days, many gardeners are focusing on putting their gardens to bed, yet fall is widely considered the best time to plant trees, shrubs and perennials. Cool temperatures and warm soil encourage root development, and provide a head start for the following spring.

With that in mind, come shop and buy at Rhinebeck Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale on Saturday, Sept. 19. Once again, we'll be in Cordes Hall at the Rhinebeck Reformed Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. The church is located at the corner of South Street and Mill Street (Route 9).

A huge selection of divided perennials will be available for sale, including shrubs in 10-gallon pots. Most are from members' gardens, in all sizes and types,

clearly marked to assist with correct planting, along with house plants, garden books, yard and gardening items. Pricing is competitive. Expert guidance and advice offered by club members is free!

The bake sale will include muffins, quick breads, cakes, pies, and cookies. Donated plants from non-member or area nurseries are always welcomed. Cash or check only. Proceeds enable the Club to remain a viable organization to educate community members interested in gardening, foster an appreciation of gardening, and maintain selected local civic sites and projects including the gardens at "Doughboy" Village Park and on Huntington Road.

For information about this sale, or to become a member, contact president Sue Carlson at (845) 797-3226, or email her at scarlsonrgc@gmail.com.



SEND US YOUR EVENTS

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

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS

Stars

Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 110

By David Kalvitis

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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: EMMYS

ACROSS

1. Cut off

6. "Be quiet!"

9. Yellowjacket

13. Brunch offering

14. Lawyers' org.

15. Capital of Vietnam

16. Without illumination

17. Harland David Sanders' title, abbr.

18. Abhorrence

19. *_____ Theater, Emmys venue

21. *2026 Emmy Awards host

23. Fah follower

24. Like a certain eagle

25. Grill master's acronym

28. Aussie's neighbor

30. Kick the bucket

35. Look angry

37. Opposite of riches

39. Holiday spirit spreader

40. Soprano's song

41. Introduction

43. Flocculant, for short

44. Queen Elizabeth's favorite dog breed

46. Dog command

47. *_____ show, like nominated "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"

48. Works dough

50. Highest volcano in Europe

52. "I agree"

53. Winter woe

55. Publisher's revenue source, pl.

57. *"Euphoria" Lead Actress nominee

61. *Most nominated series for 2026 Emmys (2 words)

65. Love, in Paris

66. Don't waste

68. Ottoman Empire VIP

69. Carried a torch

70. Biochemistry acr.

71. Scrabble pieces

72. Editor's "let it stand"

73. "_____ or nothing"

74. Kind of peak

DOWN

1. Fish a.k.a. porgy

2. European sea eagle

3. Velum, pl.

4. "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey," e.g.

5. Did the test again

6. Quarterback's downfall

7. *Network/streamer with most nominations for 2026 Emmys

8. Chinese Checkers predecessor

9. Dry riverbed

10. Type of cuckoos

11. Middle Eastern market

12. Type of cotton fiber

15. Vast multitudes

20. Bird sound

22. Matterhorn, e.g.

24. Biased

25. *Nominee Jason Bateman's "_____ Rabbit"

26. B on Mendeleev's table

27. One-twentieth of a ream

29. W in VFW.

31. Huck Finn's escape

32. Embedded design

33. Fur shawl

34. *Jean Smart's nominated comedy

36. Sitar music

38. *Assigned spot in #19 Across

42. Myna, alt. sp.

45. Driver's license alternative (2 words)

49. Sushi sauce

51. Experts

54. "Little House on the Prairie" protagonist

56. "The rain in _____ falls mainly on the plain"

57. Nukes

58. What exhaust pipes do

59. Opposite of all

60. Simon and Gurfunkel, e.g.

61. Bluish green

62. Robinson Crusoe's turf

63. Short for Theodora

64. *Nominated Mark Ruffalo's drama series

67. *Connor Storrie's nominated show, acr.

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

Constitution Day film screening set Sept. 17 at Wallace Center

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will present the next program in its yearlong “America250 Film Series” with a Constitution Day film screening of “A More Perfect Union” (1989) on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 2 p.m. The program will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home in Hyde Park. This is a free public event, but registration is required. Visit www.fdrlibrary.org to register.

The Roosevelt Library’s “America250 Film Series” is part of its ongoing special programming to commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026. Films in the series explore the American Revolution and broader themes relating to American civics.

Synopsis: America, 1786. Ten years have passed since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. But America’s hopes for a united country are dangerously threatened. England wages a

new war of unfair trade and tariffs. Fragmented states continually bicker over currencies, trade, taxations. America is a powder keg ready to explode. But a handful of courageous men, James Madison, George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin, lead a three-year diplomatic battle that culminates in Philadelphia. There they created a new form of government ... one that has since become the standard of freedom and democracy for the rest of the world. The United States Constitution (completed and ratified) launched the United States on its voyage.

“A More Perfect Union” – the first comprehensive film enactment of the birth of the Constitution – was shot on location at Independence Hall and other historic locations in Virginia. It features a distinguished staff and has been carefully crafted by a seasoned cast of motion picture professionals.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Vendors sought for Freedom Plains rummage sale
Flea Market Vendors wanted for the Freedom Plains Fall Rummage Sale and Flea Market, Oct 3 2026, from 9am-3pm. For \$25, you can reserve a generous space on our front lawn. To fill out an application and pay the \$25 fee online, go to our website www.fpuchurch.org or call the church office weekdays from 9am-3pm (845-452-0684).

Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited events
Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited is conducting three upcoming events:
Fly Fishing 101 Class on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1 to 5 p.m., at Freedom Park, LaGrange. Class room instruction includes “Bug” Identification, “Reading” a stream, Knots, Choosing a fly, Ethical fishing. On the Water instruction includes How/ Why a Fly Rod works, Preparing to fish, Waders and Safety, What to bring. Gear storage, basic casting.
Free Fly Tying Event at Plan Bee Farm Brewery, 115 Underhill Road, Poughkeepsie, on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 1 to 4 p.m.
Mid-Hudson Trout Unlimited 45th Annual Stewardship Dinner will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 6 to 10 p.m., at Anthony's Catering, 799 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. Live auctions. Silent auctions. Raffle prizes! Tickets are \$70 online or \$80 at the door, if available.
Visit www.midhudsontroutunlimited.org to purchase tickets for the dinner and for more information about these events.

Clinton Historical Society fall events schedule
Sept. 13: Quaker Meeting House Tour at Creek Meeting House
Sept. 26: Wine & Cheese Fundraiser
Oct. 2: October First Friday Talk: How Omega Became Omega
Oct. 11: Quaker Meeting House Tour at Creek Meeting House
Oct. 30-Nov 1 TENTATIVE: Tag Sale
Nov. 6: November First Friday Talk: “The Brave Montgomery”
Nov. 8: Quaker Meeting House Tour at Creek Meeting House
Visit clintonhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

Agritourism Answered Workshop set Sept. 9
Interested in Agritourism? Looking to expand your business? Join Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County for an in-person workshop led by Colleen Dorney, CTA, CGSP, and Senior Director of Operations and an Interactive Panel & Q&A Session with local Agritourism operators including Andrea Parent-Tibbetts from Clover Brooke Farm, Amanda Dykeman from Dykeman Farm, Mindy Yang from Silverbrook Manor, Amanda Bergin the Dutchess County Agricultural Navigator, and more!The workshop will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 6 to 7 p.m. Register at <https://ccdutchess.org/>

Vassar Temple High Holy Day Services
Vassar Temple, Poughkeepsie, invites the community to worship on the upcoming High Holy Days. Rosh Hashana begins the evening of Sept. 11, and Yom Kippur begins the evening of Sept. 20. 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.

Please visit the website www.vassartemple.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 also accepting donations of nonperishable foods for its annual Yom Kippur Food Drive to benefit a local food pantry. Vassar Temple is a welcoming, inclusive congregation located in Poughkeepsie and is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism.

For further information, and to sign up to attend, please contact office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570.

Flea Market Sept. 12
at Rhinebeck Masonic Lodge
Saturday, September 12, 2026. Rain date Sunday September 13. 9am-4pm. Flea Market. Rhinebeck Masonic Lodge, 6472 Montgomery Street (Route 9), Rhinebeck.

Documentary screening in New Paltz Sept. 13
Sunday September 13 from 1-3 PM at the Elting Memorial library in New Paltz. Screening of “Earth’s

Greatest Enemy,” a no holds barred look at the hidden truths rarely questioned in mainstream reporting. Abbie Martin, the renowned journalist and media personality, exposes the U.S. military as the world's largest institutional polluter, tracing the link between war, empire, and ecological destruction. Free admission but limited to the first 60 audience members. Presented by New Paltz Women in Black and cosponsored by Veterans for Peace Sojourner Truth Chapter, New Paltz Climate Action Coalition, Middle East Crisis Response, and Party for Socialism & liberation. Contact: mecr@mideastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Morton Library to host National Voter Registration Day event Sept. 15
Voter registration is a crucial aspect of a healthy democracy, and Morton Memorial Library in Rhinecliff wants to play a part in getting the people in the community ready to participate. On Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Morton will join a nationwide effort to register more folks to vote. This is completely non-partisan and also allows you to vote when library issues are on the ballot.
For those unable to register on Sept. 15, Morton will have registration forms prior to the event. Morton Library is at 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff.

Affordability Fair set Sept. 17 in Amenia
County Legislator Eric Alexander is organizing an Affordability Fair at the Amenia Town Hall on Thursday, Sept. 17, from 5 to 7 p.m. Free home delivery of hot meals, assistance reducing utility bills, and other free services/programs will be highlighted at this event.

Representatives from the offices of the Dutchess County Legislature, State Senator Michelle Hinchey, Assemblyman Anil Beephan, the Dutchess County Office of the Aging, the Cornell Cooperative Exchange, the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs, and various local businesses are expected to join that day.

Rhinebeck Garden Club to host Plant & Bake Sale Sept. 19

Mark Your Calendar: Rhinebeck Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale Saturday, September 19, 10am-2pm. Rain or shine. The Rhinebeck Reformed Church is located at the corner of South Street and Mill Street (Route 9.) A huge selection of divided perennials, including shrubs in 10-gallon pots, mostly from members' gardens, will be for sale, along with house plants, garden books, yard and gardening items. Expert guidance from members. The bake sale includes muffins, quick breads, cakes, pies, and cookies. Donated plants from non-member or area nurseries are always welcomed. Cash or check only. Proceeds benefit the community. For information about this sale, or to become a member, contact president Sue Carlson at (845) 797-3226, or email her at scarlsonrgc@gmail.com.

Millbrook Community Day set Sept. 19
Millbrook Community Day is returning on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the heart of Millbrook. This annual event brings together residents, local businesses, community organizations, and visitors for a celebration filled with family-friendly activities, live entertainment, delicious food, shopping, and much more.

Highlights will include live musical performances, The Bubble Bus, bounce house, food trucks, sidewalk sales, a Scarecrow Contest, The Great Millbrook Bake Off, and a Farmers & Makers Market featuring local vendors and artisans.

For more information, visit www.millbrooknewyork.com/community-day-2026

Introduction to Small Fruits Workshop set Sept. 21

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County will host an Introduction to Small Fruits Workshop on Monday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 7 p.m., at Dutchess County Farm and Home Center, 2715 US-44, Millbrook. Heather Kase, Berry Specialist with Cornell Cooperative Extension Eastern New York Horticulture, will discuss small fruit establishment, production, and management. Any questions should be directed to Agriculture/Horticulture Program Leader Dr. Isabella Yannuzzi at imy3@cornell.edu.

Presentation Partner: Cornell Cooperative Extension Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture (<https://enych.cce.cornell.edu>)

The cost is \$15 per person. Register at ccdutchess.org.

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Application for Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Competitive Grant Program open through Oct. 9

Applications for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant program are now being accepted through Oct. 9.

The PROTECT program provides federal funding to support projects that strengthen transportation resilience against current and future weather events, natural disasters, and changing conditions (such as severe storms, flooding, and extreme weather).

The program has two funding categories: Planning Grants (0% match) and Resilience Grants (20% match). Projects

identified in Resilient Ways Forward, DCTC’s Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan, are eligible for a reduced minimum cost-share of 10% and do not need to perform a cost-benefit analysis.

There is no minimum or maximum award size but Planning Grant awards are typically \$100,000 to \$10 million and Resilience Grant awards are typically \$500,000 to \$60 million.

States, local governments and public transportation agencies are eligible to apply. Contact dctc@dutchessny.gov if one is considering an application.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Old Dutch Village Garden Club a champion at the Fair

By Felice Gelman

Anyone who stopped in at the Horticultural Building during the Dutchess County Fair could see the tremendous creativity and effort that goes into the themed landscaping exhibits on the first floor. The Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC) of Red Hook was a first-time exhibitor in that space, a daunting undertaking since the exhibition floor is mainly professional landscapers and florists. So ODVGC members were thrilled when their exhibit won a championship ribbon.

The theme for the 2026 Horticultural Hall exhibition was Celebrating America. ODVGC's exhibit, "Gardening for Freedom," was inspired by the colonial era garden. The exhibit noted that many of the founding fathers were passionate gardeners who believed that agriculture and horticulture were essential to the success of the new nation. Self sufficiency

was an important element in achieving independence from England. The re-creation of a typical colonial garden was centered on an assortment of herbs (for medicine, dyeing, and cooking) and the "three sisters" (corn, beans, and squash), the heart of indigenous people's agriculture. Apple trees, raspberry bushes, blueberry bushes and a bee skep rounded out the depiction of a typical 1700s-era garden. Those plants were surrounded by red, white, and blue flowers in a star quilt pattern – all plants common in 21st-century gardens, reminding us of our gardening connections over the past 250 years.

The exhibit was the work of many ODVGC members. The team was led by Cathy Michaels, who came up with the design and organized a team to acquire the plants and build the exhibit. Thanks to Sandy Betlach, Linda Keeling, Mona Matthies, Deb Tuttle, Linda Lawson who provided plants and props. Phantom Gardener loaned trees and fruit bushes and donated the mulch. Dave Moore and George Michael built the arbor and fence. Linda Lawson and her brother Dennis designed the wall posters. Linda DiGasper created the plant ID labels. Ciska Hard, Carol Annas, Theresa Burke, Kayla Bell, Sandy Betlach and Cathy Michael manned the booth during fair week.

The Old Dutch Village Garden Club, which exists both to educate its members and to perform civic projects, meets most months on the second Thursday at 12:30 p.m. at St. Johns Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. September's program, on September 10, will be "Putting Your Garden To Bed" with a speaker from the Cornell Cooperative Extension. The meetings are open to the public. For information on future meetings, check the Old Dutch Village Garden Club on Facebook.



The Old Dutch Village Garden Club of Red Hook earned top honors for the exhibit in Horticulture Hall. This year's theme was "Gardening for Freedom," and members re-created a typical colonial garden. *Courtesy photos*



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Local baton twirler Leyla Addor earns spot on Team USA

By Matthew Fetzer

For 13-year-old Leyla Addor, representing Team USA at the 2027 World Federation of National Baton Twirling Associations (WFNBTA) Inspiration Cup could only be described as “an amazing feeling.”

“It makes me extremely happy that I was able to make Team USA,” said Leyla. “I think that it’s an amazing feeling, and I love that I get to go with some of my friends.”

The Poughquag native will travel to Italy in March 2027, where she will compete in the Inspiration Cup Preteen Two Baton event. She was also named to the Inspiration Cup 19–24 Alternate Duet Team, along with Giuliana Weglinski of Millbrook. Both athletes are members of the Silver Starlites baton twirling team, a Hudson Valley-based competitive organization.

“I’m excited because I also get a trip to Italy,” Leyla added. “I’m a part of a team where all of my friends are like my family. It helps because I’m close to my teammates.”

In order to make the national team, Leyla had to compete in a qualifier and meet a lengthy list of criteria. At the qualifier, she competed in three of the four possible events: strut, duet, and two baton. Leyla placed fourth in strut and second in duet, which made her team the alternate. She also placed top three in two baton, earning her a spot on Team USA.

“Going to the Inspiration Cup is just another opportunity to bring what she has

been doing to another level,” said her mother, Catherine Addor. “She has the opportunity to see a lot of the international competitors. She’s obviously really excited for the event, and she’s worked really hard to get to where she is now.”

The mission goal for the Inspiration Cup is clear, according to the WFNBTA website, which states, “To inspire the next generation of twirlers to dream big, work hard, and believe that one day they can stand among the very best at the World Championships. Here, confidence is built, motivation is ignited, and dreams take flight. Because today’s inspired beginner is tomorrow’s world-class champion.”

Competitive baton twirling combines athleticism, dance, flexibility, coordination, strength, and precision. It’s no easy feat. Over the next few months, Leyla will continue training for her routine at the Inspiration Cup while also training with Giuliana, her duet partner, for their event. Preparation has always been a focal point in Leyla’s twirling career thus far. Catherine even recalled one moment that highlighted Leyla’s dedication to the sport from a young age.

“She was at a contest once and her coach was doing her hair,” said Catherine. “Leyla was probably eight or nine at the time, but her coach said, ‘You know I was talking to my mom about you, and I told her that I think I have the next world competitor on my hands.’ Since the time she started, she’s been hyper-focused. Her dedication is the thing that impresses me the most.”



Leyla Addor, a resident of Poughquag, holds the American flag. The 13-year-old will compete in the Inspiration Cup Preteen Two Baton event in March 2027 in Italy. Leyla Addor will represent Team USA at the 2027 World Federation of National Baton Twirling Associations (WFNBTA) Inspiration Cup. *Courtesy photos*

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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LaGrange Fall Senior Social set Sept. 23

The LaGrange Fall Senior Social will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Main Pavilion at Freedom Park, 212 Skidmore Road. The event is for LaGrange residents ages 55+. The cost is \$10/person (registration required).

Sponsored by Sheriff Kirk Imperati and Landmark Grill, register for this fun-filled afternoon featuring a delicious buffet prepared by Landmark Grill, music, raffles and giveaways.

Register at www.lagrangeparksandrec.com or in person in the Recreation Office at LaGrange Town Hall, 120 Stringham Road, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Registration is NOT available at the Senior Drop-In Center. Proof of residency through a property tax or utility bill is required if not already supplied for 2026. Contact the Recreation Office at 845-452-1972 or recreation@lagrangeny.gov with questions.

Rhinebeck Garden Club presentation set Sept. 23

September 23, 10am. Rhinebeck Garden Club, Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market Street. Program: “Planting and Caring for Spring Bulbs”, presented by Master Gardener and Member Linda DiGaspar. Autumn is all about planting spring-blooming bulbs like daffodils, tulips and hyacinths, but the beauty of bulbs is that there are so many more species that store up delightful displays for year-round enjoyment. Proper siting in the garden and tips on selection, installation, repelling unwanted critters and coaxing bulbs to bloom indoors will be discussed. The meeting is open to the public but guests are asked to join after attending two meetings. For more information about this program, the RBGC, or upcoming programs, please contact Sue, 845-797-3226 or Hannah, 914-263-5298

In Flight, inc. announces 5th annual

Cornhole for a Cause & Community Festival

In Flight, Inc. will hold the 5th Annual Cornhole for a Cause, presented by Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy, on Saturday, Sept. 26 from noon-8 p.m., at Dutchman’s Landing Park in Catskill. This free event has become a full community festival, drawing hundreds of families, friends, and supporters for a day of fun while raising essential funds to empower individuals with intellectual and developmental dis-

abilities throughout the Hudson Valley.

This year’s celebration is surrounded in magic as the community is invited to step into a world of wizardry. With walkabout magician Sean Doolan, enchanting wares from local vendors, food trucks with their very own potions, and more spellbinding activities, every aspect is tailored to transport you into a world of magic. Closing out the evening with a dazzling, sensory-friendly drone show featuring magical characters above the Hudson River, the show promises to be an unforgettable finale for guests of all ages and abilities.

Additional activities include a pay-to-play cornhole tournament, live music by Big Empty, face painting, a magical appearance by the Witches Along the Hudson, live chainsaw cutting demonstrations by the Catskill Carver, and photobooth by Test Tone AV. Silent auction, raffles and a 50/50 drawing will also be held throughout the day.

Surf and Turf Dinner

The Clinton Volunteer Fire Department will hold its 45th annual Surf and Turf Dinner on Saturday, Sept. 26. Sit down is set for 5 and 7 p.m. Take out is at 6 p.m. Cost is \$22 regular or \$35 super size. Reservations only. Call 845-266-5485.

Golf outing to support

Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley

Chip In To Rebuild will be held on Oct. 2 at the Apple Greens Golf Course in Highland. The 34th annual outing will benefit Rebuilding Together. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. A day of fun, fundraising, and friendly competition? One’s participation helps to ensure safe and healthy homes for people in need. For more information, visit <https://rthudsonvalley.org/event/>.

Miles of Hope Community Walk set Oct. 4

On Sunday, Oct. 4, Miles of Hope will hold its 23rd annual Community Walk for Breast Cancer at James Baird State Park. Registration opens at 9 a.m., opening ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m., and the walk begins at 10 a.m. Bring your family, friends, and pets and walk in honor, in memory, or in support of those affected by breast cancer. Your participation helps support local individuals and families affected by breast cancer throughout the Hudson Valley. Visit www.milesofhope.org to register and for more information.



Free Fall Concert (Wed 9/30) – Registration Open and Filling Up Fast
OFA and County Executive Sue Serino once again present the annual free “Swingin’ into Fall” concert at the Grandview (176 Rinaldi Blvd., Poughkeepsie), on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 1 p.m. This time the band will play Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin’s hits, adding a horn section, plus additional “Frank and Dean” stage banter with special guest “Marilyn,” as in Monroe.

Registration is under way while space is available, and open to Dutchess County adults age 60 and up. Light refreshments will be available. Call 845-486-2555 during business hours to register – it’s filling up fast!

OFA Public Comment Forums in September

Our two annual Public Comment Forums offer a unique opportunity for older adults and caregivers to speak directly to OFA leaders and members of the OFA Advisory Board, about issues that matter the most to you, whether it’s housing, transportation, OFA services or another concern on your mind.

Tuesday, September 22nd, 10:30am
OFA Friendship Center - Poughkeepsie
114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie
Thursday, September 24th, 10:30am
OFA Friendship Center - East Fishkill
890 NY 82, Hopewell Junction
If you are unable to attend a Public Comment Forum, you can email your comments to ofa@dutchessny.gov, or mail written comments to the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

All Public Comment Forum locations are handicapped accessible. Persons requiring special accommodation to take part in a Public Comment Forum should contact OFA during business hours by close of business Monday, September 14th.

‘Friendly Calls’ Orientations

Interested in becoming an OFA “Friendly Calls” volunteer caller? We have a volunteer orientation opportunity available at the OFA main office at 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie: Monday, September 14th, 21st or 28th

– 10am
To reserve your seat, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.
Upcoming OFA Events
To register for any of the events below, contact OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555 unless noted otherwise.
September:
(Wednesday) 9th – Navigating Medicare, Starr Library, Rhinebeck, 4 pm
(Wednesday) 16th – Navigating Medicare, Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room, 10 am
(Wednesday) 16th – The Importance of Physical Activity, Stanford Library, 6035 NY 82, Stanfordville, 2 pm – call 845-868-1341
(Monday) 21st – Navigating Mediare, Tivoli Library, 86 Broadway, 1pm – call 845-757-3371
(Monday) 22nd – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Town of Wappinger Senior Center, 20 Middlebush Rd., 1-4 pm
(Wednesday) 23rd- OFA Mobile Office Hours, Hyde Park Library, 2 Main St., 11 am-1 pm
(Thursday) 24th - Scam Prevention with OFA Outreach Coordinator Brian

Jones, Tivoli Library, 86 Broadway, 5 pm (845-757-3371)
(Monday) 28th – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center, 14 Abe’s Way, 9 am-1 pm
October:
(Wednesday) 14th – Navigating Medicare, Starr Library, Rhinebeck, 4:00pm
(Wednesday) 21st – Navigating Medicare, Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room, 10:00am
And what about the Senior Prom?
Save the date: Monday, October 19th, noon-4pm at Villa Borghese in Wappinger (70 Widmer Rd.) Registration will open soon! If you’re on the OFA email list, a registration form will be emailed to you as well.
The theme this year is “Hawaiian Luau.” Many thanks to the Pines at Poughkeepsie for their continued support.

But of course, a Bad Joke to wrap up this week’s edition:
What do sprinters eat before they race? Nothing. They fast!

Cary Institute Researchers reveal findings in Lyme Disease Ecology

For more than 35 years, researchers at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, New York have been studying how interactions between acorns, rodents, ticks, predators, and climate shape Lyme-disease risk in people. A new paper, published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, details nine of the research project’s most surprising findings to date. Several are outlined below.
“On balance, these surprises have enriched our knowledge of this system, helping us to inform management of tick-borne disease risk,” said lead author Richard Ostfeld, a Cary Institute disease ecologist who co-directs the research program with Shannon LaDeau. Ostfeld added that many of the findings would not have been possible without the decades of data the project has collected so far, which helps the team to statistically distinguish real trends and drivers from random events and correlations.
“Studies of this depth and length are incredibly rare,” said LaDeau. “This research has followed an ecological community — including oak trees, mammals, and microorganisms — examining how

interactions like predation, parasitism, and competition shape the system over time. The evolution of understanding summarized in this paper is something you simply cannot get without such a long-term and system-focused study.”
White-tailed deer are less important than previously thought - When Lyme disease was first recognized in the United States in the 1980s, some researchers assumed white-tailed deer played an important role in spreading the disease, because deer killed by hunters in the fall often carry large numbers of adult ticks. Although deer do not infect ticks with the Borrelia pathogen, the logic was that more abundant deer might feed more adult female ticks, which would then be able to lay more eggs and produce more immature ticks.
However, after several decades of intensive research, the long-term study on the Cary Institute’s campus — a forested ecosystem spanning 2,000 acres in New York’s Dutchess County — has not found a statistical relationship between deer abundance and the density of nymphal ticks, the life stage of ticks that is most likely to spread Lyme disease to people.

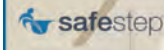
“We had detected a weak positive relationship between deer and subsequent nymph abundance over short subsets of the data,” said Ostfeld, “but the whole data set in its entirety shows no such thing.”
Mice matter more - While deer abundance wasn’t associated with the number of nymphal ticks, mouse abundance was. The long-term study has shown that a strong mouse year boosted the next year’s number of nymphs by about 40%. White-footed mice are a high-quality food source for blacklegged tick larvae, and also happen to be very good at passing Borrelia burgdorferi bacteria to them.
Ticks that acquire Borrelia as larvae can transmit the bacteria when they feed as nymphs. This is the life stage that is most likely to infect people.
The acorn effect - The project has revealed that acorn masting — when a large number of oak trees drop their acorns at the same time — creates a food bonanza for mice, boosting their populations the following year, and nymphal ticks the year after that. Thus, a large acorn crop reliably predicts higher numbers of nymphal ticks two years later.
Mouse numbers don’t predict the proportion of Lyme-infected ticks - The researchers expected that, just as a large mouse population boosts the number of nymphal ticks, it would also boost the percentage of nymphal ticks that are infected, since mice are so good at transmitting Borrelia burgdorferi. And in the early days of the monitoring program, the scientists observed this trend. But as the years wore on, the relationship disappeared.
“It kept me up at night,” said Ostfeld, “because it meant that my understanding of how the system works was incomplete or wrong.”
Eventually, the data suggested an explanation. Even though mice might be more abundant in some years, other hosts — such as skunks, squirrels, and opossums — might be more abundant as well. Most of those hosts are not very good at spreading Borrelia burgdorferi to ticks, and thus reduce the prevalence of Lyme bacteria in nymphal ticks.
So the infection prevalence in the nymphs really depends on how all the larval tick meals are distributed across all

the hosts,” explained Ostfeld. “It would have been convenient if one host predicted that for us, but that has not been the case.”
Extreme temperatures don’t kill ticks in the wild - Lab work had previously suggested that blacklegged ticks are killed by extreme heat and extreme cold events, but Cary’s field studies found that in natural environments, the ticks beat the heat and cold presumably by sheltering deeper into soil and leaf litter. The team has, however, found a trend: years that are warmer overall predict lower-than-normal numbers of nymphal ticks. In contrast, warmer years are good for mouse populations, so this mix of effects will be important to continue monitoring.
Continuing the legacy - The big takeaways from the long-term monitoring program are that the ecological dynamics governing Lyme disease risk are complex but predictable. Knowing that mouse abundance, but not deer abundance, is linked to higher numbers of nymphal ticks — and that severe winter weather may not substantially reduce tick populations — can help public-health officials anticipate periods of elevated Lyme disease risk and guide prevention efforts.
There is still much to learn about ticks and the ecological variables that impact their chances of spreading diseases to people. In particular, one big research frontier will be sorting out how climate change is influencing ticks, their hosts, and oak trees.
“You would expect that a warming climate, which makes life better for the mice, would eventually make life better for the ticks, but we have not seen that so far,” said Ostfeld. “We need to know what to expect from the different manifestations of climate change, which are sometimes warmer and drier, and sometimes warmer and wetter. The time of year when it’s very warm also matters to ticks, oaks, and acorn production.”
Since the project began in 1991, the Dutchess County, New York study site has experienced climate change, landscape change, invasive species, and more. The authors plan to continue studying how ticks and their hosts respond to these evolving conditions, and how human health may be affected in the future.

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Legal Notices

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE - SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF DUTCHESS - RHINEBECK BANK, Plaintiff - against - F R A N C O I S WEIGEL, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on July 22, 2026. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the rear lobby of the Dutchess County Courthouse, 10 Market Street, City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York on the 30th day of September, 2026 at 3:30 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Red Hook, County of Dutchess and State of New York. Premises known as 300 W. Market Street, Red Hook, NY 12571. (Section: 6172, Block: 00, Lot: 682869) Approximate amount of lien \$567,071.79 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 2024-52999. Mark A. Siesel, Esq., Referee. Stein, Wiener & Roth LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 1400 Old Country Road, Suite 315 Westbury, NY 11590 Tel. 516-742-1212 WEIGEL-81219 Dated: July 27, 2026 During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale. Auction Locations are subject to change.

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-88-26 Processed or Natural Material Sand - Winter Abrasives Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 24th day of September 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-90-26 Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Services (MHOTRS) Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid

Legal Notices

Notification System (BidNetDirect) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., September 14, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - RFB - DCH - 2026 - 15 NAME OF PROJECT: Traffic Signal Installation CR 93 at Spook Hill Road Project Description: Traffic Signal Installation CR 93 at Spook Hill Road. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by

Legal Notices

visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Matthew Quilty, Contract Specialist Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before 11:00AM Friday, October 02, 2026, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 990 606 382# Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business September 24, 2026 and emailed to Matthew

Legal Notices

Quilty at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov & ccmquilty@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is November 09, 2026; the anticipated substantial completion date is September 3, 2027 and final completion date is September 17, 2027. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2026024693 Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - RFB - DCB - 15 - 26 - NAME OF PROJECT: Roof Replacement Project for the Dutchess County Public Defender's Office, 45 Market Street, Poughkeepsie. Project Description: Complete Roof Replacement at 45 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County Public Defender's Office. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidder to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link

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provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids are due on or before 11:00 AM, Wednesday, October 7, 2026, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. Bids for the above project will be received by: Caroline A. Miller, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike, 1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 324 046 710# Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash

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drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Wednesday, September 30, 2026, and emailed to Caroline Miller at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The Walk Through is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2026, at 11:00 am at the Public Defender's Office, 45 Market Street, Poughkeepsie. All Bidders are encouraged to attend the Walk-Thru in order to submit Bids for this RFB. Pre-Registration preferred but not required. Pre-Register by 4:00 PM, Thursday, September 17, 2026. This RFB may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #2026025893. IMPORTANT: Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor Registry Requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding the APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

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

OBITUARIES

Albert Crum

RHINEBECK – Albert Byrd Crum passed away on the evening of August 15th, 2026, surrounded by loved ones in his Rhinebeck, New York home. Born on November 17, 1931 in Omaha, Nebraska to Alberta Crum, Albert was the devoted husband of Rosa Maria Hennessy for 67 years until her passing in 2022. A graduate of Nebraska's Central High ('49), California's University of Redlands (B.S., '53), Harvard Medical School (M.D., '57), and New York University (M.S., '87), he completed his Psychiatric Residency at Columbia University. Proud and appreciative of his education he remained a loyal alumnus of his alma maters, sponsoring scholarships and acting as a lifelong class agent for his medical school cohort. He was an Eagle and Ranger Scout, a state and Midwest regional wrestling champion, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and Mensa honor societies. After graduating from Harvard, he

served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force, working as Chief of the Neuropsychiatric Service at Continental Air Command Headquarters, and spent over four decades in private practice before pursuing a longstanding interest in the role of stress and immune health, leading to his development of a revolutionary antioxidant supplement. In his final years he was working on a book about the evolution of the immune system. He is survived by his three daughters Rosa, Elsie, and Alberta, his grandchildren Mathew, Erin, Eugene, Peter, Katherine, and Elizabeth, and his close companion Naomi Christman. He was a friend and mentor to many. He held a deep love of animals and kindled an equally deep belief in human potential. He was a man of faith and a man of science; a man of tremendous passion and deep devotion to his goals. May we remember him as he was: someone who lived relentlessly, who tried, who erred, who never ceased in trying. Who, at his best, did soar on eagles' wings. May his memory be a blessing.

Carol Ferris

VERBANK – Carol Heady Ferris, cherished mother, grandmother and friend, passed away on August 29, 2026, at the age of 90. Born on February 18, 1936, Carol was welcomed into the world by her loving parents, William Heady and Anna Mae Butts Heady. Her journey through life was marked by her hard working spirit, her deep love for family and animals and an enormous heart that touched all who knew her. Carol's life was a testament to dedication and love. She was predeceased by her husband Percy Ferris Jr. and her beloved son Percy T (Ted) Ferris. Despite these profound losses, Carol's strength and resilience shone through as she continued to nurture and support her family. She is survived by her devoted sons Leonard (Lou) Ferris and Jay Ferris and her beloved daughter Sandra Vandewater

(Lance), as well as James Intrieri who she always referred to as "one of her boys". Carol's legacy also lives on through her treasured grandchildren, Chelsea Carole, Teresa Baker, and Zachery Ferris, each of whom carries forward her spirit and love. In her final years, Carol faced life challenges with grace and courage. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Hudson Valley Hospice for their compassionate care and guidance during her final months. Carol's memory will forever be cherished, her love and kindness remembered by all who were fortunate to know her. She leaves behind a legacy of love and resilience, a testament to a life well lived. For condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley.

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(puzzles on page 16)

Anderson Center appoints new chief program officer, chief administrative officer

The Board of Trustees of Anderson Center for Autism recently announced that two members of the organization’s executive team have been promoted.

Longtime Chief Development Officer Eliza Bozenski, LMSW (resident of Rhinebeck NY) has been named Chief Program Officer, and Athena Angelucci, MBA, (resident of Wappingers Falls NY) who has been working as Chief Human Resource Officer, is now Chief Administrative Officer.

The leadership transition, which takes effect immediately, comes on the heels of news that Patrick D. Paul, CPA, ERMP, CEO and Executive Director since 2017, is retiring at the end of 2026, and that Dr. Tina Marie Covington, Chief Operating Officer (COO), is set to transition to the role of CEO and Executive Director in January of 2027.

Dr. Tina Marie Covington, incoming CEO/Executive Director, said “Our agency has made succession planning a priority in recent years, and we are very excited to make these appointments official. Both Eliza Bozenski and Athena Angelucci are steadfastly devoted to our mission and extremely deserving of their respective advancement opportunities. In recent years, they’ve each been instrumental to our success as we’ve grown our workforce, navigated challenges, expanded programs, launched new initiatives, become thought leaders in our field, and clarified our vision for the future. Athena and Eliza embody all of the qualities that make leaders exceptional; both lead with integrity, empathy, a growth mindset, and



Eliza Bozenski, LMSW

a genuine love of what they do. I am really looking forward to our continued collaboration as we move into this next chapter in our agency’s history; we are so lucky to have them as part of our executive team at Anderson.”

Bozenski, LMSW, who holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology (Miami University of Ohio) and a Master’s Degree in Clinical Social Work (Columbia University), first joined Anderson Center for Autism in 2006 as the Supervisor of Community and Education Supports. Since then, she has served in a variety of clinical, administrative, and leadership roles. Most recently, as Chief Development Officer, Bozenski led the development department while also overseeing the Case Management



Athena Angelucci, MBA

team. She is the host of 1 in 31: Autism Today, a weekly podcast covering all things autism, and serves on the boards of RUPCO and The Mead School.

As Chief Program Officer, Bozenski will provide executive leadership for Anderson Center for Autism’s Children’s Campus, Adult Services, Early Childhood Program, and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Program, while also retaining executive oversight of the development and case management departments.

Angelucci, MBA, who just assumed the role of Chief Administration Officer, joined Anderson Center for Autism 10 years ago as an intern and has over the past decade served in the roles of HR Specialist, Benefits Coordinator,

Assistant Director of Human Resources, Director of Human Resources, and most recently, as Chief Human Resources Officer.

Angelucci holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management (Marist College) and Master’s of Business Administration (Mount Saint Mary’s College). She is also a graduate of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce Executive Leadership Program.

In her new position, Angelucci will provide executive oversight of Anderson Center International and the Corporate Compliance and Human Resources departments.

Philip J. Bronzi, Chair of the Boards of Anderson Center for Autism and Anderson Center Services, Inc., said “Eliza Bozenski and Athena Angelucci have both demonstrated that nonprofit leadership works best when one balances strategic thinking with an authentic desire to serve humanity. Through the years, I have seen each of them engage, inspire, and connect with Anderson team members, families, volunteers, and stakeholders while doing everything possible to bring our mission to life. On behalf of all of our trustees, I want to congratulate the two of them on their new roles, and acknowledge how profoundly grateful we are for their ongoing efforts to enrich life for all who are impacted by autism, here and around the world.”

Learn more about Anderson Center for Autism’s executive leadership team by visiting andersoncenterforautism.org.

Serino, Rolison team up to fight cuts to victims’ services

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has announced that Dutchess County will step up to support Family Services, Inc. in the wake of pending State funding reductions for victims’ services. The County Executive is working together with State Senator Rob Rolison to ensure critical services remain available for victims and survivors in Dutchess County.

Across New York State, changes in how programs are funded by the Office of Victims Services (OVS) have caused

unprecedented instability for providers. Statewide reductions total \$5.2 million for rape crisis programs, \$6.9 million for child abuse prevention services, and \$19 million in domestic violence programming.

In Dutchess County, this State funding uncertainty is impacting local non-profits, including a nearly 50% reduction in OVS funding to Family Services, Inc., with a hit of over \$400,000 annually. These potential cuts would be devastating to services, gutting funding for lethality

assessments, client advocates, community outreach and programming.

Immediately upon learning of the funding reductions, Serino and Rolison began working together to identify the potential impact on local providers and explore ways to protect services in Dutchess County.

Building on their longstanding partnership serving Dutchess County residents, Serino is working at the county level to identify funding necessary to help

address the impact to Family Services, Inc., while Rolison is pressing state leaders to immediately restore the funding. Serino has also spearheaded an effort through the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) to send a letter to the Governor from County Executives across New York State advocating for the restoration of this critical funding.

Residents are encouraged to contact their state representatives to advocate for the restoration of this critical funding.

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