

Services set for
NYS Police Sgt.
killed in E. Fishkill
motorcycle crash

By Kristine Coulter



Courtesy photo NYS Police

The wake and funeral service for New York State Sergeant Nigel Barnett Jr., who died as a result of a motorcycle accident, will be held this week. The wake is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 24, from 4 to 8 p.m., at McHoul Funeral Home, 895 Route 82, in East Fishkill. The funeral service will be held on Thursday, Sept. 25, at 11 a.m. at Faith Assembly of God, 25 Golf Club Lane, in Poughkeepsie.

“Today (Sept. 16), New York State Police Troop K tragically lost Sergeant and Station Commander Nigel K. Barnett. A 19-year veteran, Sergeant Barnett devoted his career to protecting others and serving his community with selfless dedication. I extend my deepest condolences to his loved ones and colleagues, and join them in honoring his life and service during this time of profound loss,” Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a statement.

It was on Sept. 16, that members of the New York State Police assigned to the Stormville barracks responded to a report of a single-vehicle motorcycle collision near mile marker 36.1 southbound on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town

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Family fun to top Milan’s
Community Day on Saturday

By Kate Goldsmith

The Town of Milan will hold its annual Community Day on Saturday, Sept. 27, at Milan Recreation Park on Matecki Road. Bring the kids and enjoy a wide range of free family fun from noon to 4 p.m. Activities include a car show, pumpkin decorating, games, demonstrations, Bee Bee the Clown, Rocky the Candy Man, an ice cream social, Touch A Truck and more.

Victoria LoBrutto, clerk to Town Supervisor Alfred LoBrutto (who is her husband), organizes Community Day. She’s also the Town Historian, a member of the Pine Plains Garden Club and the Pine Plains Central School District’s Archive Committee, and is active in other organizations.

“I’m like a bad penny, I just show up everywhere,” she said with a laugh.

One of the afternoon’s highlights is the popular Touch A Truck presented by the town’s Highway Department. It features “all the big equipment the kids love to climb on,” said LoBrutto.

The Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office will present a police dog demonstration, and NYS Troopers will offer a crash demonstration. LoBrutto explained, “The

troopers have a piece of equipment that shows what happens during a crash, what happens if you’re not wearing a seat belt, if a child isn’t in a restraint [i.e. car seat].”

The Fire Department & Rescue Squad will present a demonstration, and will also sell hot dogs, hamburgers, and sausage and peppers, according to LoBrutto.

Dutchess County’s Office of Veterans Affairs will be on hand with outreach information. The Incredible Pups Pet Rescue and therapeutic riding facility Hidden Hollow Farms will also be in attendance.

David Nordstrom will provide musical entertainment.

Historical exhibits are on display within the town hall, located on Route 199. Created by LoBrutto in her role as Town Historian, the themes are “American

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Bee Bee the Clown (a.k.a. Jackie Reynolds), 2025 Clown of the Year for Clowns of America International, is a perennial favorite at Milan’s Community Day, set for Saturday, Sept. 27. Courtesy photo

Millbrook Community Partnership
to unveil Bennett Park Oct. 5

By Morgan E. Maier



An opening in a stone wall offers a scenic view of the landscape in the Village of Millbrook’s new Bennett Park. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

Three hundred women forged their paths at Bennett College at its peak, each with a dream of artistry, performing, teaching, or any of the school’s dozen major options. In Millbrook’s recent memory, the campus became a pile of ruins, structures abandoned after the school was shuttered in 1977. The first Sunday in October will mark a new life for the old college property, as Bennett Park is set to be unveiled to the public.

All are welcome on Sunday, Oct. 5, from 2 to 5 p.m. Opening remarks will be given by Oakleigh Thorne, CEO of Millbrook

Community Partnership (MCP). The official ribbon-cutting will follow at 2:30 to celebrate the new beginning at the former college site. It calls to Millbrook’s new vision of modernization and revitalization.

Bennett Park is the latest of a two-part plan to invigorate the Village. The Thorne Building at the top of Franklin Avenue, now owned by MCP, will undergo a similar renovation, one that honors the past while staying committed to future growth. With the exterior unchanged from the Thorne Building’s past, it remains a marker of history. The structure’s place in the Millbrook

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Household Hazardous Waste Disposal & Electronics Recycling event set Oct. 18

The Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management will host the County’s final Household Hazardous Waste Disposal & Electronics Recycling Event of the year on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Dutchess County Public Works Facility, located at 626 Dutchess Turnpike in Poughkeepsie. Registration is required. The fee is \$10 per household.

The popular recycling event is open to Dutchess County residents. Registration is limited to the first 400 households; interested residents are encouraged to sign up promptly to ensure their spot. Residents can register online via www.dutchessny.gov, using a credit card to pay the registration fee; or register and

pay by check by calling (845) 463-6020. Checks should be made payable to “Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance” and mailed to or dropped off to the Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management at 96 Sand Dock Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

Once registered, residents can access the event on Oct. 18 by taking Route 44 East to Burnett Boulevard and follow the directional signage. Please plan for wait times upon arrival, particularly when the event first opens at 8 a.m.

A complete list of accepted items is included below. Hazardous waste in containers larger than 10 gallons will not be accepted.

For information about how to safely

dispose of a wide array of items throughout the year, check out the Division of Solid Waste Management’s online Recycling Encyclopedia. To learn more about the Division’s various programs to reduce waste, including the upcoming Home Composting Workshop on Sept. 30, visit www.dutchessny.gov/solid-waste.

Acceptable Items:

Product Containers Marked: “Warning,” “Hazardous,” “Flammable,” “Poisonous,” “Corrosive”

Lead based paints (NO latex or oil based!), stains, varnishes, photo chemicals, non-latex driveway sealer, pool chemicals, creosote, kerosene, flammable liquids, metal polish, turpentine, strippers, thinners, gasoline/oil mixture, brake

fluid, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, chemical fertilizers, adhesives, resins, solvents, fluorescent tubes (tape together or put in box to prevent breakage), propane tanks, mercury containing devices, computer monitors, CPU’s, fax machines, printers, TV’s, stereos, telephones, lithium & sealed lead acid batteries (no automotive!).

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Latex or oil based paints, ammunition or explosives, asbestos products, latex driveway sealer &, building or construction debris, tires, furniture, medical waste, pharmaceuticals, air conditioners, radioactive materials, scrap metal, metal drums or empty containers, motor oil, car batteries, alkaline or rechargeable batteries.

Anderson Center Gala set Nov. 1 Family fun to top Milan’s Community Day on Saturday

Anderson Foundation for Autism’s Annual Gala promises to be a night packed with fun, fabulous food, exciting auction items — all in support of a truly meaningful cause. The date is Saturday, Nov. 1, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., at The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie. Attire: Black Tie Optional

The Gala will begin with a cocktail reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The event includes a silent auction; dinner, presentations and dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

The recipients of the 2025 VV Anderson Community Service Award are Kevin and Katy Kollar. Also being recognized are two outstanding team members with the 2025 Above and Beyond Award, celebrating their exceptional dedication and impact within the Anderson community.

Tickets are available at <https://trellis.org/2025andersongala>. Email events@andersoncares.org to pay by check or for more information about the event.

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Revolution Soldiers of Milan” and “Historic Homes of Milan.”

In celebration of Rev 250 – commemorations for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution coming up next year – many related events have already been held in Dutchess County, with many more planned. Dutchess County Government has partnered with local historical societies to engage residents and visitors with stories of how the Revolution impacted Dutchess County.

Through extensive research, LoBrutto created a map of Milan that includes an updated list of soldiers from the town who served in the Revolutionary War (expanded from the existing list of names on Veterans Memorial at Town Hall). She also created a bibliography of American Revolution books.

Another display catalogs historic homes in Milan, some dating back to the mid-1800s.

“One of the topics [discussed at the Rev 250 meetings] was preserving the old homes that we all have in our towns,” LoBrutto said. “A lot of towns do not have a historic preservation law, Milan included, but everyone in town works hard to preserve the homes we have.”

Delving deep into Parcel Access, which includes information from a survey done in the 1980s, LoBrutto found some 120 homes that were historic.

“I looked at that [survey], and it had a lot of good information about when the homes were built and by whom,” she said. “When somebody asks me questions about the history of their home, that’s the No. 1 place I go to.”

There will also be a display by the Rowe Methodist Church, a church founded by original Rowe (Palatine) settlers.

It wouldn’t be Community Day without Bee Bee the Clown, a.k.a. Jackie Reynolds. A fixture not only at Milan’s Community Day but many others throughout the county and beyond, Bee Bee will delight all ages with her magic, balloons and face painting throughout the afternoon.

“I am honored to be the 2025 Clown of the Year for Clowns of America International in recognition for the volume of my work as an entertainer and the diversity of my skills,” said Reynolds.

What is Reynolds’ formula for success?

“I think part of it is when I’m either Bee Bee or Jackie the Magician, I’m showing the best stuff that I have, that I really like,” she said.

Joking that she’s “fairly skilled” as a clown, Reynolds added, “My humor plays to both the kids and the grownups, and [ages] in between.”

Reynolds has been deeply involved in Milan’s community since she moved there in the early 1990s. She served on the Recreation Committee before the park had been developed: “At that point they had like a gravel pit and railroad ties; they’d have summer camps there,” she said.

When she became the chairman of the Rec Committee in the late 1990s, Reynolds sought to raise funds for a baseball field. She mailed requests for donations to businesses in Milan and the surrounding towns, raising \$10,000 through those efforts.

“We still had the rustic playground,” she recalled. “We raised another \$10,000 to build the concession stand and the announcement booth” with the help of community members. Later, money was allocated to modernize the playground.

Reynolds said the LoBruttos “have been so supportive” of Community Day, along with Rocky Mancini and family. Rocky is renowned for hosting the Community Day Car Show along with wife Ann and, now, their daughter Eileen. He also delights the children as Rocky the Candy Man.

“Rocky has such dedication to the young people in our community, he wants them to be more involved,” Reynolds said. “He’s perpetually aware of community.”

Each Community Day, Milan announces its Citizen of the Year. In 2025, that award goes to Peggy Coons, a longtime member and past captain of the Rescue Squad. Coons is also a volunteer firefighter.

The Beautification Award is given to a homeowner who has recently renovated a home or preserved or conserved a historic home. Ben Hoen and Tricia Paffendorf will be honored this year for refurbishing their 1858 home on Sawmill Road. LoBrutto noted the home is near the Rock City Sawmill.

An eventful day will conclude with a cake and ice cream.

“Stewart’s has been very generous in donating the ice cream and toppings,” LoBrutto said.

The rain date is Sept. 28. Visit <https://milan-ny.gov/> for updates.

LoBrutto thanked the Pine Plains Federation of Educators, which made a generous donation toward the event.



Free Family Fun—Bring the Kids

Milan Community Day

Saturday, Sep. 27th
Rain date: Sunday Sep. 28th
Noon to 4:00pm

Milan Recreation Park—Matecki Road

Bee Bee’s Balloons, Magic & Paints
Bounce House, Car Show
Pumpkin Decorating, Games & Prizes
Ice Cream Social, Touch A Truck
Police Dog Demo, Exhibits
Fire Department & Rescue Squad Demos
Candy Man, Chicken BBQ

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD
BEAUTIFICATION AWARD



Milan Community Day

Saturday, Sep. 27th

Noon to 4pm

Rain Date: Sunday, Sep. 28th • Milan Recreation Park on Matecki Road

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The barricades are gone

To the editor:
We find ourselves much closer to a runaway fascist regime than we ever thought was possible. It is Dick Nixon without any respect for the law or the Constitution. “Tricky” Dick was certainly a liar, but all the while he seemed to know the difference between what was false and what was true. Trump, with a gusto shared by war criminals throughout the world, doesn’t accept the need to hide the facts. For the facts are only what the dictator says they are.
The barricades to fascism that we all thought would save us seemed to disappear overnight. Trump threatened the nation’s colleges, and they capitulated. Run by billionaires, these institutions were thoroughly corrupted already. They were little corporations, always ready to trade academic freedom for millions in Federal aid. And they were willing to fire or expel any teachers or students who disagreed.
Another surprising failure was the national media. Again, most of it was purchased by the billionaire class and already corrupted. Reporters, commentators, actors and comedians were all shown the door unless they learned to love the dictator.
Since there was no limit to how much money the ruling class could give politicians, there were no “checks and balances” to be found. Congress had long ago given up serving the common people. Now, like other protections against tyranny, there was nothing left to save us.
In fact, a billionaire class almost always leads to the end of democracy. In its place we fund war crimes and genocide.

Fred Nagel
Rhinebeck

Urges Ancram officials to reconsider solar array application

To the editor:
I am deeply concerned about the application for a community solar array at 3333 Route 82 in Ancram. Sited in the center of a 90+ acre farm field within a historic agricultural landscape, the project would negatively impact both visitors and neighbors within the viewshed of this industrial project. If approved, the rural character of our “Historic Farming Community” will be permanently changed.
I learned of this application from a letter announcing an April 3, 2025 Public Hearing. My assumption was that a neighbor was seeking to install a small ground mounted array to support their home’s energy needs - quite reasonable, as alternative energy solutions can make both good economic and environmental sense. However, the notice omitted key facts: the project’s ~10 acre scale, and that a foreign developer, RIC Energy, planned to

build the array to sell power to Central Hudson Gas and Electric.
This industrial project would occupy productive farmland, and introduce acres of solar panels stretching 12 feet high. Seasonal foliage and mature crops provide screening for only a few months, so it will be visible 2/3 of the year. The farm’s rolling terrain limits landscape mitigation, so it will be on public view from Route 82, Pat’s Road, and Cottontail Road, a Town-designated scenic area.
Despite mounting public concern, the Town has failed to articulate any potential public benefits - such as tax revenue, a PILOT agreement, or reductions in energy costs. Additionally, residents regard RIC Energy’s application as incomplete or inaccurate, including a questionable Visual Impact Assessment and insufficient end of life panel disposition plans. Recently, residents engaged an independent expert who concluded the application conflicts with Ancram’s Comprehensive Plan, Solar and Zoning Laws - documents that emphasize protecting community character and scenic resources, balancing the benefits of solar development with potential adverse impacts, and encouraging sensible siting.
Although the Town has posted information about this project since June 2024, residents have documented lapses in communication and transparency. Some meetings were not announced, were canceled without notice, or did not appear on the Town calendar. Agendas, minutes, recordings, and resident correspondence have frequently been posted late or not at all. Residents waited hours to speak at public hearings and were held to very limited time slots. A virtual participant was muted by the Board while expressing her views, and only public outcry that she be heard prompted her return to the meeting forum. The Board has attributed many procedural lapses to a vacant clerk position, yet it has not arranged temporary assistance or accepted volunteer offers to address recordkeeping and outreach gaps.
This application raises important questions about transparency, accountability, and long-term planning. Its approval could set a dangerous precedent, opening the door to additional projects, allowing an industrial blight that would permanently alter Ancram’s rural character and undermine its proud agricultural heritage.
I urge the Town to step back and consider all the feedback they have received on this watershed project and to carefully consider their responsibilities to residents. I also urge the community to learn about this project on the Town’s Commercial Projects website, and participate in upcoming Planning Board meetings.

Andrea Bell-Gaschke
Ancramdale

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- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The Northern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

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Scenes from Millbrook Community Day



Millbrook held its Community Day on Saturday, Sept. 20. In the photos, clockwise from top left: Members of the Millbrook Hunt Club parade down Franklin Avenue with their hounds. Members of the community enjoy the Bubble Bus on the lawn outside the Millbrook Library. Young entrepreneur Izzy (center) sells her pom-pom creations at the market for the first time. Students from Alden Elementary School perform "Three Little Birds." Below: Antique cars and tractors were on view at the car show. *Photos by Alexander Tsalalis*



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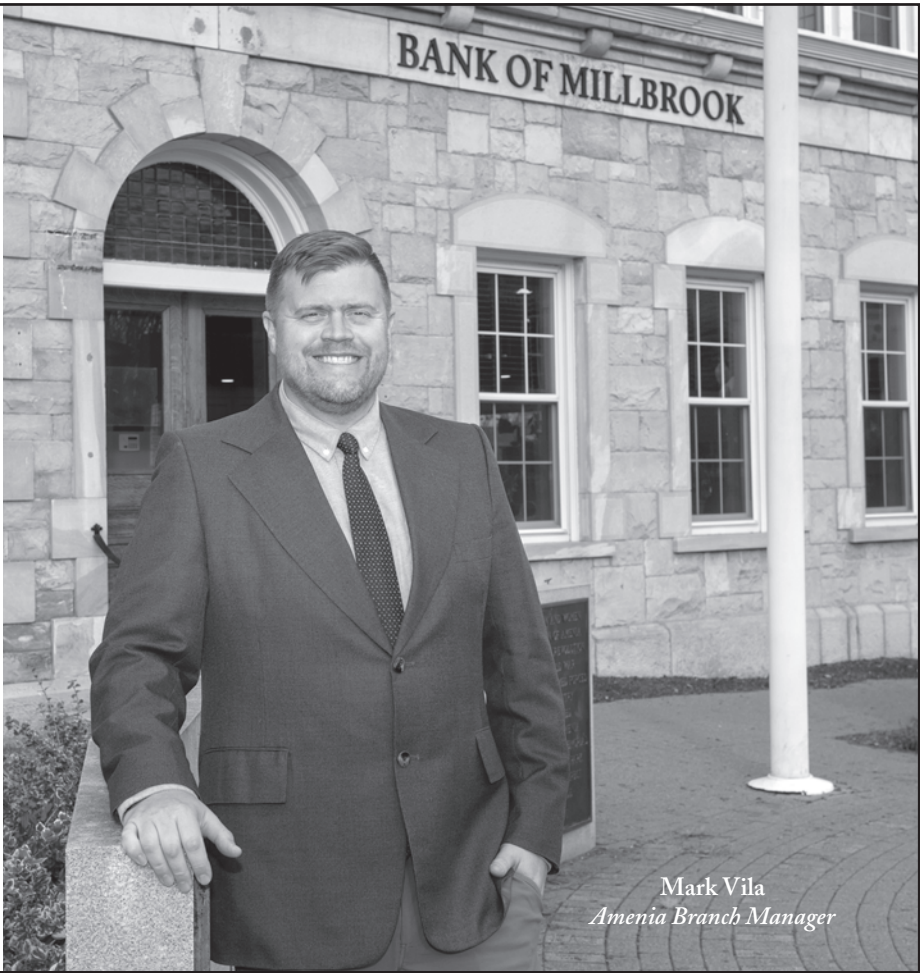
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continued from cover



The demolition of school buildings, at last released from their defunct campus watch, marked a clean slate. The

For the grand opening event, parking can be found off Carroll Boulevard. Lawn chairs and picnic blankets are encouraged. Live music and refreshments will to be provided for the enjoyment of all community members. These can be taken in alongside Millbrook's expanse of natural spots and ingrained history that Bennett Park boasts.



Pictured, left: The former Bennett College in Millbrook was razed to make way for Bennett Park. *Archive photos by Curtis Schmidt*. From the ruins of the abandoned campus comes a beautiful and vibrant landscape featuring stone walls and benches. *Photos by Curtis Schmidt*



Skilled Trades Fair set Oct. 23 at Red Hook HS

Hinchey said, "We're excited to bring the Skilled Trades & Jobs Fair back to Dutchess County—a great service that's sparked interest in careers in the trades and connected our neighbors with job opportunities. Whether you're looking for your next job or want to learn more about career paths offered by Hudson Valley businesses and unions, this fair is

For questions or more information, contact the Dutchess County Executive's Office at (845) 486-2000 or CountyExecutive@dutchessny.gov.

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Register now for ‘Don’t Mess with Stress’ workshops

With cardiovascular disease remaining the leading cause of death worldwide, affecting 1 in 20 adults over the age of 20, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino is partnering with the American Heart Association (AHA) to host two, free “Don’t Mess with Stress” workshops in October. These workshops will give residents practical tools to better manage daily stress and support their health.

“Stress is something we all experience, and too often we brush it aside,” said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, “These workshops are more than sharing information – they’re a chance to slow down, connect, and learn simple, practical ways to manage stress. Sometimes taking a moment for yourself is the best thing you can do – and it can end up making a difference not just for you, but for the people who count on you too.”

Each workshop will be led by Shelley Tatelbaum, M.S., C.G.T., a grief and stress reduction therapist and Ronald Tatelbaum, M.D., a retired cardiologist. Each session will explore what stress is, the mind-body connection, the impact of

untreated stress, and practical tools that empower you to overcome your stress.

Residents are invited to attend either of the free workshops. Registration is required and is available online at www.dutchessny.gov/StressEvent

Workshop Schedule:

- Thursday Oct. 9, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., FDR Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Educational Center, 4079 Albany Post Rd, Hyde Park
- Tuesday Oct. 21, 5:30- 7:30 p.m., Wappinger Town Hall 20. Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls

Dutchess County remains committed to supporting residents’ health and well-being by raising awareness about the risks associated with heart disease and practical strategies to protect heart health. Serino first launched the Don’t Mess with Stress initiative during her time in the New York State Senate to empower individuals to better handle the stress of everyday life.

For more information or questions, contact Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino’s office at 845-486- 2000.

Harmful algal bloom being monitored in Hudson River

Drinking water remains safe

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH) is advising the public about a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) currently being monitored in the Hudson River. Residents and visitors should take safety precautions to avoid direct contact with water containing blue-green algal blooms because of adverse health effects for humans and pets.

Drinking water continues to be safe for consumption as local water systems that draw from the Hudson River provide treatment to ensure drinking water meets all safety standards.

While most algae are safe and help keep water ecosystems healthy, some make toxins that can harm humans. When these harmful algae grow too fast, they cause a harmful algal bloom (HAB). Swimming in or touching untreated water with a HAB can sometimes make humans and pets sick, irritate skin or eyes, or cause breathing problems.

The following safety precautions are recommended by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to protect you and your pets if you see water

with blue-green algal blooms:

- Stay away from the water.
- Don’t swim, fish, boat, or wade in the water.
- Don’t eat fish caught from the water.
- If you come in contact with the water, rinse with clean water and consult with your medical professional if you have symptoms.

NYSDOH has collected water samples, and its testing confirmed the HAB. NYSDOH will continue monitoring samples from the river and sharing its testing results with DCDOH, which will share those results to local water system operators.

Local water system operators, in conjunction with DCDOH, are also carefully monitoring water sampling to be able to adjust operational and treatment procedures as needed to maintain drinking water safety. Residents who have questions regarding their drinking water can reach out to their local water system operator.

To learn about blue-green algal blooms, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (<https://dec.ny.gov/>) provides information about what causes them, how to detect them, avoid them, as well as how to report them.

Services set for NYS Police Sgt. killed in E. Fishkill motorcycle crash

continued from cover

of East Fishkill.

According to the state troopers, “a preliminary investigation determined that a 2025 Ducati motorcycle was traveling southbound when the operator lost control.” The operator, who was identified as 49-year-old Barnett, of Poughkeepsie, “was ejected from the motorcycle and struck the guardrail on the western shoulder,” stated the release from state police. “Despite immediate life-saving measures, Sergeant Barnett was pronounced deceased at the scene.”

The collision remains under investigation, it was stated.

On social media, New York State Police stated it was with “profound sadness” that they share the loss of Barnett. In the statement, state police noted, “[Sergeant Barnett’s] commitment to public safety, his leadership, and his steady presence will be deeply missed by the members of our Division and the communities he served.”The statement concluded, “We extend our heartfelt condolences to Sergeant Barnett’s family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time. Please keep them in your thoughts as we honor his service and sacrifice.”

Town of Hyde Park Police Department posted on social media, “Sgt. Barnett dedicated his life to serving and protecting our community with integrity, courage, and compassion. His leadership and commitment to duty left a lasting mark on those who served alongside him, and his memory will forever remain in the hearts of his family, friends, and fellow officers.” The post continued, “We extend our deepest condolences to his loved ones, friends, and extended family at the NYSP as they mourn this great loss.

“Rest easy, Sgt. Barnett. Thank you for your service.”

In a post on social media, the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office posted, in part, “During his time as a trooper, Sergeant Barnett worked in various locations throughout Dutchess County and worked closely alongside Dutchess County Deputy Sheriffs on patrol, forging strong working relationships before his promotion to Station Commander.

“Sergeant Barnett was not only a respected member of the New York State Police, but also a trusted partner and friend to many within the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office. We are heartbroken by his passing and extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and the members of the State Police. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.”

Rep. Mike Lawler stated, in part, on social media, “Sgt. Barnett serves with dedication and a commitment to public safety. My sincere condolences to the Barnett family and friends.”

NYS Senator Rob Rolison stated on social media, “Sergeant Nigel K. Barnett dedicated his life to serving others through both his military service and nearly two decades with the New York State Police. His commitment to protecting our community reflects the very best of public service, and his loss is deeply felt here in Poughkeepsie and across Troop K.

My heartfelt condolences go out to his family, loved ones, and colleagues during this difficult time.”

Rep. Pat Ryan, said on social media, in part, “He was a true hero who will be greatly missed by us all.”

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino posted, in part, on social media, “Behind every uniform is someone’s son, friend, and neighbor, and Sgt. Barnett’s passing is a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who dedicate their lives to protecting us. My heart is with his loved ones and his New York State Police family as they navigate this tremendous loss.”

On the Our Lady of Lourdes High School Facebook page, it was posted that Barnett was “...a beloved member of the Class of 1993. We hold his family and loved ones in our prayers as they navigate this heartbreaking loss.” The school’s Facebook page also had posted his senior year picture and quote. The quote read: “When I was first put in place, I felt as meaningless as one star in the sky. But if that one star is missing the sky wouldn’t seem the same.” Then it states: “Smile God loves you.”



**Find us on Facebook:
Southern Dutchess
News Group**

Meet the LaGrange Democratic Candidates!

All are welcome!

★ ★ ★

Freedom Park September 28 1-4 pm

Food! Live music!

★ ★ ★

Free!

Be an informed voter!



Emma Arnoff
Dutchess County
Legislature - District 2



David Siegel
Dutchess County
Legislature - District 3



Peter Turoff
LaGrange Town Council



Michael Maher
LaGrange Town Council

Honoring roots of giving across the Hudson Valley



The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) hosted its annual Garden Party this recently at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison. This signature fundraising event of the region grossed over \$210,000 to support CFHV’s mission of awarding grants that address some of the region’s most pressing needs, including housing, mental health, childcare, food security and more. This year, CFHV recognized five remarkable Hudson Valley residents for their philanthropic giving. From left are Garden Party honorees George Whipple III, Garry Kvistad, Diane Kvistad, Michael Dupree and Michael Fleischer. *Photo by Alejandro Duran Sanchez of Volna Unalign, LLC.*

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS
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County holding online auction for surplus vehicles and equipment

Surplus county vehicles and equipment items are now available for bid during Dutchess County’s Surplus Vehicle and Equipment Auction, being conducted online through Tuesday, Oct. 7, at dutchessny.gov/OnlineAuction. Various vehicles and equipment items are included in the auction, including cars, vans, trucks, trailers, boat and boat parts, buses, and more.

Absolute Auctions & Realty, Inc. is conducting the online auction on behalf of the County’s Office of Central & Information Services’ Central Services Division. All bidders must register online at <https://aarauctions.com/register.html> and select “Dutchess County Surplus

Vehicle & Equipment Auction.” All items are sold “as-is.” All lots must be paid in full before picking up. Vehicles must be paid by cash, bank check, or money order only. Payment must be made by Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Absolute Auctions Center in Pleasant Valley, but pick-up location for the items may vary.

For more information about the Dutchess County Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auctions, including photos and specific details about each of the auction items, viewing and pickup locations, visit the auction website or call Absolute Auctions & Realty, Inc. at (845) 635-3169.

Town of Hyde Park now accepts credit card payments

At its Board meeting held Monday, Sept. 8, the Hyde Park Town Board unanimously voted to enter into an agreement with TD Bank for the payment of taxes, fees and other charges the departments of the Town collect.

The Town will now accept Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover Card. There will be a 3-percent convenience fee added to all credit card transactions.

“It is our hope that this additional payment option will make it more convenient for those who wish to use it,” said Supervisor Al Torreggiani. “Personnel in departments who will be accepting this form of payment will be trained on the

merchant services dashboard, in time for the School Tax collection period. We are exploring the option of online payments as well, and hope to have that active before the end of the year.”

He added, “The Town Board has also enlisted the TD Bank Digital Express services, providing check scanning services, which will improve the efficiency and timing of Town deposits processed by personnel each week. These new banking services will assist the Town of Hyde Park with moving towards the digital age and modernizing operations.”

Torreggiani thanked the town’s Senior Account Clerk Danielle Motter for her efforts overseeing the process.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Historic Red Hook’s Cemetery Crawl under way

Part scavenger hunt, part self-guided tour, Historic Red Hook’s Cemetery Crawl takes you through six Red Hook cemeteries to uncover the stories of fascinating local residents and their memorials. With just your smartphone in hand, you can enjoy a crisp fall day exploring history in an engaging, family-friendly way, or you can read the biographies from home at www.historicred-hook.org. Visit the website for more information.

Surf and Turf Dinner

set Sept. 25 at East Clinton Firehouse

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

Historical program set Sept. 26 at Starr Library.

The Rhinebeck Historical Society will present a program on Friday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m., at the Starr Library, 68 West Market St., Rhinebeck. The event will be held in the library’s Local History Room, entrance in the rear. Tom Mayer will speak on “The Astors’ Impact on the Village of Rhinebeck.” Call (845) 876-4030 or visit www.starlibrary.org for more information.

Unlike the other “robber barons” of The Gilded Age, who used the Hudson Valley as a respite from the trials of New York City, the Astors were often born here, raised their families here, and were buried here. The Astor families were devoted to Rhinebeck and its surrounding lands and helped to shape its history and growth.

Plant & Bake Sale

to benefit Rhinebeck Garden Club

Rhinebeck Garden Club’s annual plant and bake sale, Saturday, September 27, 2025. 10am-2pm. Rhinebeck Reformed Church at the corner of South Street and Mill Street (Route 9.) Rain or shine. For information contact Hannah at (914) 263-5298 or Brenda at (845) 309-3181.

Events to benefit Hudson Valley chapter of Special Olympics

B4 The Polar Plunge Kick Off Party: Celebrate the opening of Special Olympics Polar Plunge season with a delicious BBQ dinner and Bingo down near the Hudson River. Bingo prizes include local craft beverage and high-end designer handbags. Date: Saturday, Sept. 27, 5-9 p.m. Location: Pirate Canoe Club, 140 Rivercrest Road, Poughkeepsie. Cost: Half table (five people) is \$300, includes dinner, bingo & appetizers. Full table (10 people) is \$550, includes dinner, bingo & appetizers. \$40 BBQ dinner only. Purchase tickets: <https://e.givesmart.com/events/Kyu/> or contact Patricia Deangelis at patriadeangelis30@gmail.com. All proceeds directly support Special Olympics New York – Hudson Valley Region.

Special Olympics Super Regional Fall Sports Festival: Volunteers needed. Date: Sunday, Oct. 5, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Beacon Memorial Park, 97 Robert Cahill Drive, Beacon. To inquire about volunteering, email Mercedes Vincent at: mvincent@nyso.org

Law and Order Night at Texas Roadhouse, 2323 South Road Poughkeepsie. Wednesday, Oct. 22, 5-8 p.m. Order out or dine in. Special Olympics NY – Hudson Valley will receive 10% of the proceeds during the 5-8 p.m. time frame for all who show event flyer. Flyer can be found on Special Olympics event calendar under the date. <https://www.specialolympics-ny.org/hudson-valley-region-calendar/>

DC Sheep & Wool Growers to hold Food Truck Social

Dutchess County Sheep and Wool Growers Association will hold a Food Truck Social on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Wilcox Park Pavilion C in Stanfordville. Food will be available from The Grille Wagon, plus tacos, and ice cream. Soda and water provided. Free entry. Each member may bring one guest. RSVP to Heidi Simmons at hsimmons@bard.edu. Limited to 50 people.

Red Hook Community Center Gala set Sept. 27

The Red Hook Community Center, at 59 Fisk St. in Red Hook, will hold a Gala fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m. The evening includes a social hour with beer, wine, cider and hors d’oeuvres; a three-course meal with local ingredients prepared by Misto; live music with violinist, singer and entertainer Edmund Bagnell; raffle packages; and after-party at 9 p.m. featuring music and dancing with DJ Jeszack.

Gala tickets are \$150/person (includes admission to the after-party). Tickets for the after-party alone are \$25/person. Purchase at <https://red-hookcommunitycenter.org/>.

All proceeds benefit Red Hook Community Center, a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Fifty percent of one’s total ticket purchase is eligible for tax deduction.

REV 250 program in Amenia

The Amenia Historical Society invites the public to its first Rev250 program, to hear author and historian Jay A. Campbell present “The Plight of a Loyalist,” as revealed in The Journal of Cadwallader Colden, Jr., 1777-1779.

This event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. at the Smithfield Presbyterian Church, 656 Smithfield Valley Road, Amenia in the downstairs church hall.

Documentary to screen Sept. 28

Sunday, September 28, from 2:00 - 5:00 PM at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston, NY. Showing of the international, award winning film “The Teacher,” a story about a Palestinian educator who struggles to reconcile his commitment to political resistance with the chance for a new relationship. Free admission and community reflection/discussion after the film. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis Response mideastcrisis.org, Mid Hudson Valley DSA, Rally Middletown, JVP Hudson Valley, Peace Education Center, and Veterans For Peace, Women In Black - New Paltz. Contact: mecr@mideastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Congregation Shir Chadash Yom Kippur schedule

Congregation Shir Chadash in Lagrangeville will hold its Yom Kippur schedule of Services 2025/5786, led by Rabbi Glenn Jacob and including choir and musical accompaniment on piano and cello. All are welcome; donations greatly appreciated. For security reasons, registration is required or streaming link at (845) 232-1029 or info@shir-chadash.org. Congregation Shir Chadash is located at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Route 55 (enter on Stringham Road), Lagrangeville.

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

Thursday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m. Yom Kippur Morning Service; 2 p.m. Family Service; 4 p.m. Afternoon Service; 5 p.m. Yizkor/Memorial Service; 5:30 p.m. N’ilah/Concluding Service

Community break fast following Yom Kippur concluding services—all welcome! For more information: (845) 232-1029 or info@shir-chadash.org

Yard & Bake Sale to benefit Hyde Park Food Pantry

The Hyde Park Food Pantry will hold a Benefit Yard and Bake Sale on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Chapel, 10 East Market St., Hyde Park (across from Hyde Park Post Office). Proceeds will benefit the Food Pantry.

Friends Cemetery Association to meet Oct. 4

A special meeting will be held for lot owners and members of the Friends Cemetery Association for the purpose of electing directors and preventing abandonment. Without directors to manage the cemetery, the cemetery may become abandoned. The meeting date is Saturday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m., at the Creek Meeting House, 2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners. Contact Arthur Weiland, secretary, with questions at (845) 797-8822.

Music Festival benefit

for Clinton Corners equine rescue

13 Hands Equine Rescue (50 Tuscan Way, Clinton Corners) will host a Music Festival fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 2 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$20; youth age 10 and younger admitted free. There will be bands, a bar car, raffle, vendors, food and sweets truck. Please leave pets at home. Purchase tickets at www.13handsequine.org

Miles of Hope sets Community Walk

The Miles of Hope Community Walk for Breast Cancer will take place on Sunday, Oct. 5, at James Baird State Park. The opening ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the walk following at 10 a.m. Funds raised through the Miles of Hope Community Walk directly benefit breast cancer patients and families by offering education, services, and financial relief. Over the past two decades, Miles of Hope has donated more than \$4 million to those in the Hudson Valley.

Advance registration is required at <https://milesofhope.org/>. James Baird State Park is at 14 Maintenance Lane in Pleasant Valley.

Clinton Historical Society celebrates golden anniversary on Oct. 18

Clinton Historical Society will hold a gala History Hoedown evening on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 6 to 10 p.m., at the Primrose Hill Farm in Clinton. The event will include a barbecue, live music, country dancing, silent auction and more. The fundraiser will cap off Primrose Hill Farm’s premier Heritage Harvest Festival from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., hosted by farm owner and Historical Society trustee Bob Schoch, whose farm at 203 Fiddlers Bridge Road has been in Bob’s family for eight generations. Reservations are required by Oct. 14 and can be made via www.clintonhistoricalsociety.org. For more information, visit www.clintonhistoricalsociety.org or email Craig Marshall at craigmarshall266@aol.com.

‘Each piece of artwork tells so many stories’

Annual Haitian Art Auction & Sale set Sept. 26-28

By Kristine Coulter

The 25th annual Haitian Art Auction & Sale at Vassar College will take place from September 26-28. The Haiti Project will host the annual art auction and sale, which includes hundreds of original pieces of art by Haitian artists. According to organizers, all purchases are 50% tax-deductible. Proceeds from the sale will benefit 250 students in primary, secondary schools and as adult education.

Andrew and Lila Meade co-founded The Haiti Project more than two decades ago. Lila serves as Executive Director of The Haiti Project. Andrew is the Director of International Services and Assistant Dean of Student Growth and Engagement at Vassar College.

Andrew noted, “Each piece of artwork tells so many stories. They paint the hopes and dreams of a people. They spread joy and help to transform a narrative of who Haiti, and Haitians, really are. And through their purchase, they support an artist and their family.”

The sale will take place at in the multi-purpose room of the College Center on the Vassar College campus. During the three-day sale, there will be hundreds of pieces of artwork, from paintings to paper mâché, as well as iron sculptures and wood and metal handcrafts available. The in-person sale begins on Sept. 26, from 3-6 p.m. The Saturday hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The last day of the sale, in-person hours are 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The auction is 24/7 and began on Sept. 19.

Organizers noted that on Saturday, Sept. 27, Sabrina Marzouka, Commissioner of Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services and Haiti Project Board Member, will present, “The Role of Art in Time of Conflict.”

Asked via email if they were surprised how much has been accomplished with the Haitian Art Auction & Sale over the years, the Meades replied, “When we started the project almost 25 years ago, we

had one simple goal: provide 125 children lunch at a newly built school (a bare-earthed one room structure), which might be their one hot meal that day. As we learned, many parents sent their children to school specifically for that one good meal a day. Over the years, with the great energy, passion and ideas of students at Vassar College, dedicated community members, physicians on our Medical Advisory Board, and partners such as Rotary Clubs, we’ve been able to bring hope to over 45 villages in NW Haiti.”

According to the Meades, “We built a new 7-room primary school, continuing to pay teachers’ salaries as well as provide a breakfast and lunch program for the children. We have provided scholarships for students to attend secondary school, have given adults education in the 3 R’s, and have also built an art school for a young artist to teach children and teens the craft of painting. The medical clinic we’ve built serves over 3,000 patients a year, giving patients essential medicine and healing. We’ve planted over 50,000 trees in the area, providing nutritional sustenance for the people once the trees have matured. We’ve started a microfinance program to help women to grow their businesses. Finally, we’ve brought purified water to the area with access to water fountains up and down the mountain. So, yes, we are surprised! Lots of detours along the way never stopped us, and our extraordinary partners in Haiti, from continuing our efforts.”

Eden Ragsdale, Class of 2028 at Vassar College, is a member of the Haiti Project. Eden said, “So far, this year, I think planning has been very exciting for everyone involved, especially for me as a new member. It has been so refreshing to be part of a group that is so wholeheartedly committed to a cause and I think that is really shown in the way everyone is coming together to make the event a success!”

Asked if there is there one piece of work that stands out, Eden responded via email, “On the online auction site there is



Artwork by a Haitian artist, part of the 25th annual Haitian Art Auction & Sale taking place Sept. 26-28 in Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy image*

a piece called “Center of Attention” that features a brightly colored bird in the middle of the painting which made me do a double take when scrolling through the page. It really stood out to me because of how vibrant the colors were and how it seemed like some parts of the painting were glowing. The bird and trees surrounding it look so full of life and are truly beautiful.”

According to Eden, “One of the biggest reasons why people should attend the Art Sale is so they can fully understand what our cause is about. For me, actually seeing the art made such a difference in recognizing why we do what we do and why Lila and Andrew have dedicated so much of their lives to this cause; it really puts things into perspective. My hope is that people who come to the sale

leave feeling inspired by the beauty Haiti has to offer like I have come to be!”

If one wants to buy artwork online, go to <https://store.thehaitproject.org>.

“So many of our loyal customers and donors continue to support our work, year after year. People buy artwork and generously donate to support our various initiatives. We say “loyal” because they know that if we promise to do something, it will happen. We try to the best of our ability to ‘walk the talk.’ We’re very lucky to be in this situation and will strive to make the lives of the people of this region in Haiti a little bit easier,” said the Meades.

For more information about the Haiti Project and its work, including the art for sale, visit <http://thehaitproject.org>.

The Haiti Project is a 501©3 nonprofit organization.

Tivoli Street Painting Festival set Sept. 27



The annual Tivoli Street Painting Festival will take place on Sept. 27 along Broadway, the Village’s main thoroughfare. *Courtesy photos*

what’s happening?

— creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

Tivoli Village, along with Tivoli Free Library, Tivoli Fire Department, The Harris Smith Post of the American Legion and Tivoli Merchants + Artists, present the 2025 annual Street Painting Festival - a beloved community event that sparks creativity, artistic talents and spirited artwork from all ages; all are welcome. The Festival will be held Saturday Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., along Tivoli’s main Broadway thoroughfare (rain date is Sunday, Sept. 28).

Advance registration is encouraged to reserve a spot; blank painted squares and materials (colorful street chalk) are free of charge. Local arts enthusiast and longtime Tivoli resident Felicia Keesing spearheads the efforts. The simple registration form can be found on the TM+A website @ tivolinow.com.

In its 24th year, the Tivoli Street Painting Festival is an iconic event the draws kids, families and neighbors from the Northern Dutchess and outlying region in a unifying event that encourages artistic expression. All levels of skill will be on view, from children doodling to established fine artists who create awe-inspiring works.

According to Tivoli Mayor Emily Majer, “Tivoli is a leader in the Hudson Valley arts scene and a driver in gathering the community together to experi-

ence many forms of art. This festival lets you literally get your hands dirty and your pride full as you make a colorful mark in our village.” She adds “The artwork usually lasts for several days and brings smiles and awe to everyone! Let’s hope the rain stays away so we can enjoy these little masterpieces for a while.”

The festival is a collaboration with the village, its library and the local services who help the day run smoothly. Tivoli businesses open during the day will welcome neighbors, visitors and revelers to their shops, restaurants, galleries and more. Look for fun treats and specials along the Broadway stretch. Music will also be featured to round out the day of celebration.





Fall flowers for pollinators

Help pollinators prepare for winter with these autumnal blooms.

Pollinators are stocking up for the winter. Monarch butterflies are gorging on tithonia nectar for their 2,500-mile journey south. Hummingbirds seek out cuphea blossoms. And honeybees happily swarm on invasive species, thumbing their noses (do bees have noses?) at the native plant purists.

You can help the pollinators by filling your garden with fall blooming flowers, so they can get the energy they need to make it though the winter. For example:

• **Asters** – Native, perennial, drought tolerant, deer resistant, a magnet for pollinators, asters check all the boxes. In the wild, the native New England aster, New York aster and the white wood aster with its tiny blossoms often confused with daisy fleabane, all grow tall and flop over if they're not staked or tied up. Native cultivars like "Showmakers" or "Magic Pink" are more manageable. All are winter hardy in the Hudson Valley.

• **Goldenrod** – Look carefully at the goldenrod blossom and you'll find a whole little world in there. Soldier beetles, crab spiders, locust borers, ambush bugs are all vying for a place in the sun. Of all the bees and butterflies that visit native goldenrods, paper wasps are the most common, in my experience. Goldenrod gets a bad rap during allergy season, but its pollen is sticky so it doesn't get into the air. The common ragweed is the real culprit for allergies. By the way, ragweed is an important food source for birds when it goes to seed.

• **Salvia** – Blue salvia (salvia fari-

naceae) blooms right up until a very heavy frost in November, providing a critical food source for pollinators, especially bumblebees, which remain active in cool weather. New varieties of annual salvia like "Visional Fuchsia" or "Candle Midnight" are giving pollinators a late season thrill.

• **Tithonia** – Also called Mexican Sunflower, it is a special favorite of Monarch butterflies, even though it is not a native annual. The monarch caterpillars, as almost everyone knows by now, feed on the native milkweed.

• **Purple Loosestrife** – Am I recommending an invasive species? Of course not, but purple loosestrife is an important late season nectar source for honeybees, which are not native, either. Chuck Kutik, on a podcast from the American Honey Producers Association, explains that the effort to eradicate purple loosestrife by introducing a voracious beetle has had the unintended consequence of returning the wetlands, not to native cattails, but to giant reed grass. Better to leave the loosestrife alone. At least it's pretty.

• **Japanese Knotweed** – Now I'm really going to get in trouble. But let me quote Artificial Intelligence: "Japanese knotweed flowers are a valuable and often crucial source of nectar for various pollinators, especially honeybees, during late summer and early fall, when other wildflowers are fading. Although the plant's aggressive invasive nature out competes native vegetation, its abundant blooms provide a critical lifeline and food



Pollinators love asters. Photo by Mark Adams

source, supporting beekeeping operations and helping bee colonies prepare for winter." AI calls this a "paradox," going on to explain that eventually, a dense thicket of Japanese knotweed will choke out the native flowering plants, leaving the pollinators with nothing to eat in the spring and summer.

• **Leaf peeping** – For my money (and it's free!), the best spot to enjoy fall

foliage is Huckleberry Point, near West Saugerties. It's a short hike from the parking lot on Platte Clove Road, not too steep, with lots of flat rocks for resting and snacking.

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



MORTON LIBRARY, OBLONG BOOKS PARTNER FOR LOCAL AUTHOR BOOK LAUNCH

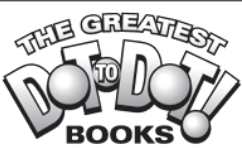
Award-winning Hudson Valley author Roselee Blooston (pictured) has written a collection of personal essays on change, perspective, and renewal entitled "Including the Periphery," to be published at the end of this month by Apprentice House Press. The book launch reading and signing will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at the Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff, at 6:30 p.m. Oblong Books partners with Morton to host the event.

The book is a companion piece to Blooston's first memoir, "Dying in Dubai," and begins with her adolescence and early fifties – before her husband's death – and extends into later life on her own. The essays explore the inner and outer landscape of her move to the Hudson Valley, mining the author's evolving priorities and self-awareness.

Blooston lives and teaches in Red Hook. For more information, visit <https://roseleeblooston.com>. Courtesy photo

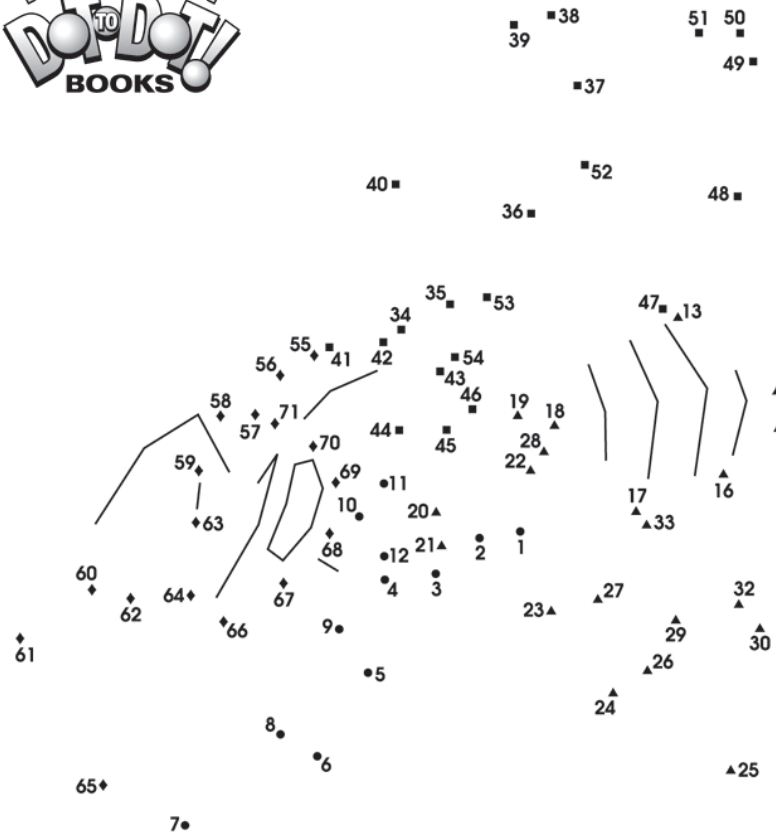
DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 17 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



Sets

Stop your line after completing each set, then skip to the next set and start your line again.
□ • 1 thru 12
□ ▲ 13 thru 33
□ ■ 34 thru 54
□ ♦ 55 thru 71



By David Kalvitis

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Mama’s Birthday Manicotti

A perfect day to celebrate a special lady

September is a month of transition – still some of summer’s warmth but with the coolness of fall making its debut. It’s a wonderful time of year to be outside, enjoying nature’s many gifts. We’re fortunate to live near the beautiful Hudson River, which never fails to soothe my soul. From the time I was little, my family made the most of it, walking the many trails at its edge, picnicking on its shores, collecting rocks, driftwood and river glass, taking in its many breathtaking views, all things I still do now with as much awe and wonder as when I was a child. It is and will forever be Home.

And speaking of Home ... My love and appreciation of nature come from my parents, who made sure we respected it. We spent many happy hours outside, and the river was a big part of that. I have many fond memories of family walks at various estates and trails. As I got older, it was often just me and my mother, stealing away to Eleanor’s Val-Kill or the Vanderbilt, Mills, Livingston (Clermont) and Roosevelt estates, always making our way down to the Hudsonudson. For the last few years I’ve whisked her away for a birthday picnic lunch by the river, but this year I wanted to do something a little more special; so, with my family’s help, we surprised her with dinner and a view.

It’s been a long time since I did off-site catering, something I really enjoy but takes a lot of planning to make sure you and your guests have everything needed for a satisfying experience. I’m a little rusty but I was looking forward to it.

First came choosing the spot. My nephew suggested Norrie Point, and I knew just where in that sprawling property would be perfect. Next, a simple, easy-to-pack menu (salad, entree, dessert) and all the dishes and special touches to make it feel like a celebration. The plan was to have everything set up when she arrived; and I was smiled upon that day, because it all worked out very well and we had a lovely, relaxing time.

Caesar salad was a good choice to start. I made ahead and assembled it tableside. For the main dish I decided on manicotti – recipe follows – which went directly from oven to pre-warmed cooler to car. It worked like a dream! It was still hot when I served it an hour later, an experiment that paid off. For dessert, ganache-topped bars that were pre-cut and spent time in the freezer before packing so they were the right temperature when it came time to serve. And the weather? Perfect. A few raindrops while setting up, but it cleared up beautifully and we were treated to a glorious sunset before we had to leave. Dinner and a show!



TRADITIONAL MANICOTTI

What makes it traditional is delicate crepes, or crespelle, rather than pasta. It takes a little time, but the result is lighter and more delicate, so it is **TOTALLY** worth it, and I’ll never make it any other way again. The filling can be made a day ahead, as can the crepes (with waxed paper or parchment between them), kept chilled until ready to assemble. They’re simply topped with marinara sauce and a generous sprinkling of Parmesan – no heavy mozzarella – which helps keep it light and makes for a nice presentation. It’s a combination that just works. I made my own marinara sauce, but you can certainly use jarred sauce if you prefer. (Oh, and I did have to double this recipe for the occasion).

FOR THE FILLING

- 2 cups ricotta cheese
- 8oz (1 cup) grated mozzarella cheese
- ½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 5oz frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix all together to blend well. Place in fridge until ready to use.

FOR THE CRÊPES

- 4 eggs
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 1/3 cups flour (I sifted it into the eggs to prevent lumps)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Vegetable oil for cooking

METHOD for crepes

In a large bowl, beat eggs and water together until frothy and yolks are fully incorporated (about 4 minutes). Sift in flour, add salt and beat until smooth (no lumps). Let it rest in the fridge for at least 30 minutes.

Lightly brush a skillet with cooking oil (I used a 9-inch pan to make slightly smaller crepes to fit my baking dish) and place over medium heat. When the pan is hot, place ¼-cup of batter in the center, lift pan off the heat and swirl quickly to get a thin, even coating of batter. If it’s uneven you can add a little more batter. If too thick in places you can spread it a bit with a spatula. (You’ll get the hang of it as you go). Return to heat and cook about 1 minute, then flip and cook until surface looks fairly dry, 1-2 minutes, no more. These will not brown. You may need to re-oil the pan. Transfer to a plate and continue with rest of the batter. (I was able to get eight ~8-inch crepes).

ASSEMBLY

- 5-6 cups marinara sauce
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish.

Ladle enough sauce into the baking



Dinner and a show: Enjoying manicotti on the banks of the Hudson River at sunset. Below: Filling and folding the crepes. *Photos by Vicki Frank Day*

dish to cover the bottom. Set aside.

Place crepes in a stack on a flat surface. Place a generous line of filling off-center, then roll crepe around it. Place seam-side down in baking dish. Repeat with remaining crepes and filling.

Pour remaining sauce down the middle of the crepes (it’s fine if the ends aren’t covered). Sprinkle generously with Parmesan. Cover with foil and bake for 30-35 minutes.

Serves 3-4 (2 crepes apiece).

Although my mother deserves so much more, I did my best. I know she understands and appreciates the effort, and that spending time with her family is a gift in itself. Those are just some of the things that make her so beautiful and special, a woman who does so much for everyone but rarely asks for anything in return. I am beyond fortunate to be on the receiving end of her love and support. We all are. It was a pleasure to celebrate her, the wind beneath my wings. Happy Birthday, Mama.

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.



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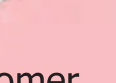
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Technology’s impact on the study of local history

by Bill Jeffway

I am not a technology expert. My goal here is to share my narrow, personal experience with emerging technologies as a local history researcher who began, in earnest, in the early 1970s. This was two decades before the proliferation of the world wide web. First, some definitions.

- **Virtual Reality** involves a headset which creates a total, immersive new audio visual experience.
- **Augmented Reality** involves overlaying dynamic images and other media through your phone or tablet, “augmenting” what you see/experience in your immediate view.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** can involve the creation and manipulation of media (images, video, audio) into new or “artificial” media. AI can also involve a dialogue or exchange of words – such as chatbots – and facilitate deeper and deeper research exercises and analysis.

Helping or hurting?

If we want to know if these technolo-

gies are helping or hurting – or some combination of both – we need to agree what the goal of the study of local history is.

If you do an online search for Vassar Professor Lucy Salmon and “Why is History Rewritten?” you will find that Salmon spoke and wrote over a century ago about what she said was a historian’s “most important job.” She argued that over time new ways (for example world-wide web) will bring out new information. She said different perspectives may emerge. New voices may be heard. She and DCHS founder Helen Wilkinson Reynolds were among the most articulate of local historians on the topic. That’s why DCHS’s annual award for excellence in history, in Reynolds name, is given for someone who excels in the “necessary and accurate pursuit of historical truth.”

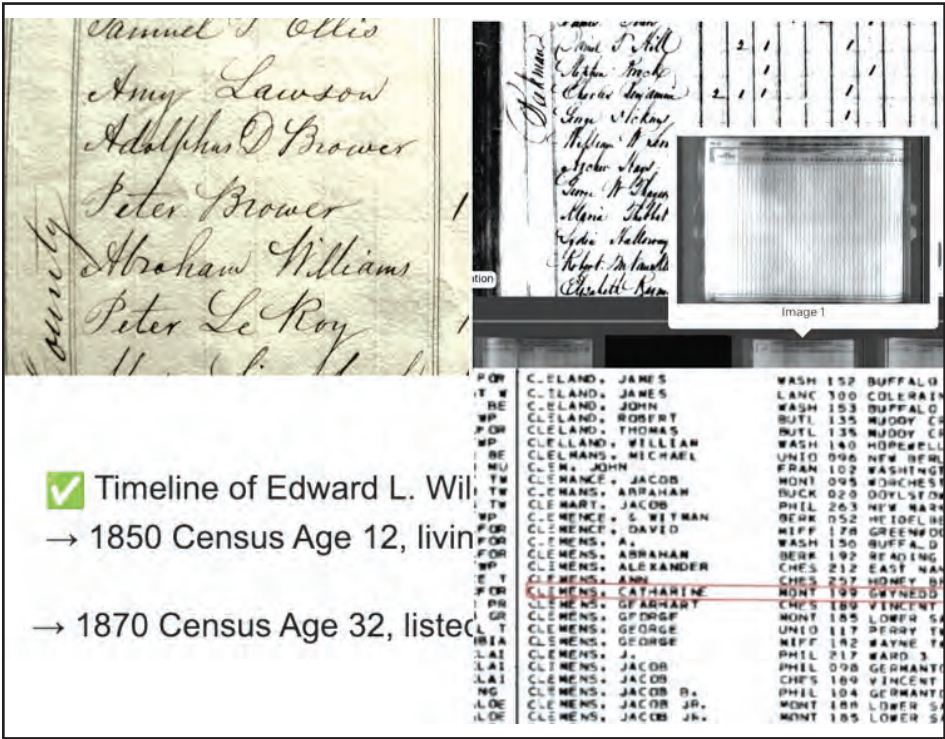
In addition to this, there has been a growing awareness that the old adage that “the victors write the history,” with its implication that there is only one history, one perspective, is limiting.

In both cases, the solution for historians remains the same. Salmon coined the iconic phrase, “go to the source,” to explain the importance of letting original source material speak. The rapid evolution of these technologies does not fundamentally change our need to “go to the source” to establish the closest truth. So the question becomes, do these technologies help us get to the source, and get to a closer, more complete truth?

Virtual Reality

I mentioned in an earlier article the work of Pawling Historical Society that uses Virtual Reality, to successfully, I believe, move to a closer truth. The experience involves a headset which creates a total, immersive new experience which allows us to, among other things, look out

Through a brief few words as a command, a picture of two men can be manipulated into a sense they are friends, or a sense they are combatants. In the realm of historical study and publication, any AI-generated images should be clearly indicated as such. *Courtesy images*



Above, top left then clockwise: Are we getting closer to the source? Closer to the truth? 1. An original handwritten 1840 census at DCHS you can hold in your hand. 2. A digital copy of the census through a paid online ancestry account. 3. A typed transcription that is freely available only. 4. A recent response from chatgpt. *Courtesy images*

the window of the Quaker meeting house and see the military encampment of soldiers that would have been the view during the Revolutionary War.

Augmented Reality

Augmented Reality involves using your iPhone, or tablet, in a situation to have the scene that you are looking at augmented with media and allowing for interactive experiences.

DCHS is partnering with the local Montrose 4 Studio to launch a pilot as early as this Halloween that would use images of real persons in Rhinebeck’s history at certain central locations where that person introduces us to their local experience when they lived locally, whether that as a generation, or century or few centuries ago.

AI-generated Research Dialogue

Researchers can now combine offering background information (like photos, maps, or other information) and ask in return to have certain questions answered. The positive experiences I have here involve being directed to source material that I did not know existed. In the same way that I advise Wikipedia readers to spend more time examining the footnotes and sources at the bottom of an article, rather than the narrative above it, I recommend the same focus: on the sources for further investigation.

The poor experiences I have had involve when AI generates an appropriately named “hallucination.” This is when it provides an answer that has literally no form that you can independently verify. This recently happened when a

name and occupation of a local resident in 1880 was declared by AI, in the most confident of voices, to exist. Further research found no such person existed at that time in the town, county or state of New York.

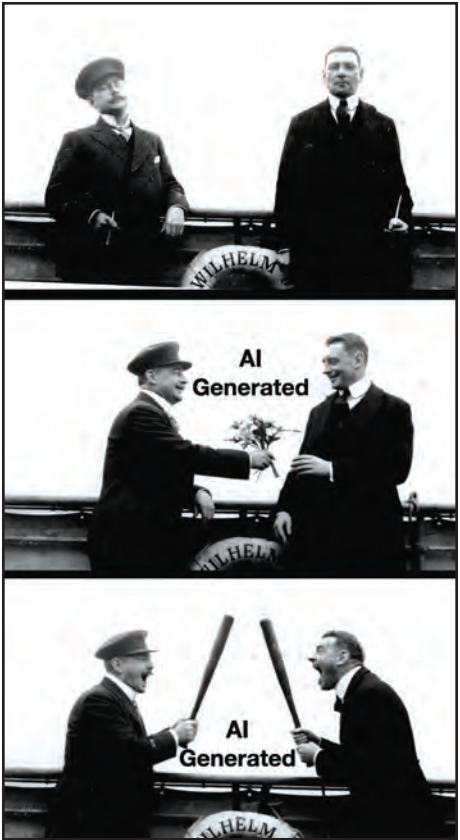
AI Image Manipulation

This to me, is the most challenging because we rely entirely on the publisher to flag what is real, and what is AI-generated. I was able to create alternate images that show two men as friends, or two as enemies through instruction of just a few words (see image of two men). It is both easy, and effective, to create misleading images. Even when flagged, I have a harder time seeing their role in the understanding of local, fact-based history. Although it is very tempting to want to put a face to a well-studied person, it can be misleading.

Implications:

It is important to support the preservation of original source material, the way DCHS does through its archives, through volunteering! Take the time to identify and interrogate only sources you have decided you can trust. Wherever you tread, whatever you read, whenever you are asked to believe something: Ask “what is the source?” Then go to the source! And decide if it takes me to a closer truth?

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.



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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

1

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2

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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: COMBO WORDS

- ACROSS

1. Wood file

5. Pick up a perpetrator

8. This and that

12. Title for Turkish leader

13. Tarantino's "_____ Bill: Vol.1"

14. Ten million, in India

15. Type of word

16. Kent State state

17. Oohed partner

18. *Sleeping in a very fancy tent

20. Board game of diplomacy

21. Canada's favorite tree?

22. Long time

23. Asian wild sheep

26. Galilei's first name

30. Ever, to a poet

31. Lease giver

34. Hokkaido native

35. Sends unwanted emails

37. Charlotte's creation

38. "Bravo! Bravo!"

39. Roughly (2 words)

40. Common spa treatment

42. Gobbled up

43. *Movie theater snack

45. Infer using data

47. Entrepreneur Mary Ash's middle name

48. Wiser

50. Decomposes

52. *Communication device

55. Veranda, in Honolulu

56. Rum-soaked cake

57. Shades of color

59. Those against

60. Tehran location

61. Small island

62. Violin's Renaissance predecessor

63. Cloud's domain

64. Left after deductions, in U.K.
- DOWN

1. Escaped

2. Bug-eyed

3. Synagogue

4. Wide-brimmed straw hat

5. Nothing, in Latin

6. Skirt shape

7. *Online journal

8. *Exceptionally intelligent one

9. Aahs' partners

10. Hiker's journey

11. He had

13. Small hill rising up from veld

14. Classic TV's "lovely lady"

19. Pall _____ and _____ of America

22. ENT's first concern?

23. "The Fox and the Grapes" storyteller

24. Copy, slangily

25. Get the picture

26. Desert in China and Mongolia

27. Jasmine's kin

28. Related on mother's side

29. Revealed

32. Zeus in disguise

33. Not min or hr

36. *Nonalcoholic drink

38. LDS missionary

40. Cook in a skillet

41. Sea in the Mediterranean

44. Desert mirage

46. Prickly marine invertebrate

48. *Scornful remark

49. Keep someone _____, or away from causing harm

50. Indian princess

51. On top of

52. Wading bird

53. Yorkshire river

54. Patty follower

55. Abbreviation on a bathroom door

58. Part of tennis match

CROSSWORD

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

‘A metaphor for human experience’: Cocoon Theatre sets multi-media performance Sept. 27

By Kate Goldsmith

Cocoon Theatre is renowned for presenting life’s “big questions” through a myriad of art forms. Its Soiree Series always offers mind-expanding opportunities (all perfectly legal!) in an intimate setting, with food (potluck) and post-performance discussion an integral part of any evening.

This Saturday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m., Cocoon Theatre will present “REFRACTORY and other songs,” an evening of film with original music and poetry created by Fred Levine, with vocals by Penelope Hyde Levine and dance choreographed and performed by Marguerite San Millan. The performance will take place in the Church-Hill Barn, located at 283 Lapla Road in Kingston.

“This is our actual first public ‘Let’s just make posters and fliers and see if this space is gonna work,’” said San Millan in a recent phone interview. Cocoon Theatre has had many homes in the area, and this latest is a “beautiful unheated barn,” she noted.

For San Millan, the creative process weaves together the personal and universal, awareness and subconscious, the obvious and the elusive. The driving force behind Cocoon Theatre for nearly four decades, San Millan has found artistic allies in musician/poet/filmmaker Fred Levine and his wife, poet/artist Penelope Hyde Levine. “REFRACTORY and other songs” follows up on Levine’s earlier film collection, “FORM WITHOUT MATTER and other songs,” which was shown last summer as part of Cocoon’s 2024 Soiree Series. Fred Levine’s film work is a cinematic patchwork quilt, using found footage, words and self-composed soundtracks to effect a dreamlike atmosphere, narrated, in a sense, by Penelope.

Saturday’s event takes its name from the eponymous final piece of the program. In a recent phone interview with this writer, Levine said he became intrigued with the word “refractory,” which doesn’t have anything to do with light refracting. Merriam-Webster lists multiple definitions, most notably “resisting control or authority” and “resistant to treatment or cure.”

“I’d actually been looking at some films and looking up the meaning of that word to use it in relationship to prisms, but it’s more like a diagnosis from a physician, not getting any worse or any better, as with some kind of infection,” Levine said, “so that got me thinking about [the word as] a metaphor for human experience, situations in life that we all go through where we feel like we’re not moving.”

Levine’s films have been selected for screenings or recognition in a variety of film festivals, including the WMHT TvFILM Festival; the Helios Sun Poetry Film Festival; the Stockholm City Film Festival; and the FPO Philosophical Short Film Contest.

San Millan choreographed a dance to one of the evening’s multi-media pieces, “Where Are You Going.” It is performed in front of footage of a car traveling in a city, her shadow interacting with the film. Calling the dance piece “Ghost,” San Millan describes it as “Very meditative, very personal, which I think is something I believe in; [the interpretation is up to] each person experiencing it. It’s not about me trying to say something to them.”



Marguerite San Millan performs “Ghost,” a dance she choreographed to a multi-media work by Fred Levine that she will perform this Saturday, Sept. 27, during Cocoon Theatre’s Soiree in Kingston. *Courtesy photos*

refractory

[ri-frak-tuh-ree]

adjective: resistant to treatment or cure

Creating and performing “Ghost” offers San Millan the chance to exorcise traumas from long ago and others more recent.

“The creation of art is the sharing of experience. It’s almost like I was being shut down [by not being able to discuss those traumas].”

Art is something that’s easier to feel than to define, she said.

“I try to talk about art, but it’s almost impossible to find words,” she said. “It’s almost like magic, because you can’t grasp it. I could talk about my dance for an hour, but I can’t explain why ... it’s a search for meaning.”

Levine was very supportive of “Ghost,” she said.

“Fred is so easy. He said, ‘Just allow it to inform you.’ [The choreography] changes his piece. It becomes a whole different thing,” she said. “What it means to me is very different than what it means to Fred, even though there are moments when the pieces fully align.”

San Millan said working with Levine energizes her, “because working alone, writing is a lonely thing. This allows me to definitely have a springboard.”

Levine said “Where Are You Going” was written a couple of months before his and Penelope’s son went away to college. He recites one of the phrases:

“As I am waking I can see the outline
Where you used to be...”

He said, “It was just a sense of impending loss. He’s my one and only child, so I’d never experienced that before,” adding that now he knows exactly what other people were talking about when their children made this life transition.

“As a parent, you train yourself to nurture your child, and you’re kind of

expected to turn off that switch when they’re 18 years old and they go to college,” said Levine. “It’s not easy. Flip that switch and turn it off.”

In the poem, the person is just waking up, so Levine wanted to “convey a dreamlike aura” aided by the film’s grainy quality and obvious splicing.

“The video I use is someone in a car traveling through a residential area, a town; I actually used three videos from the same artist,” he said. “He’s in the passenger seat, filming the car going through the town, and then on the highway. In California. Very recognizable. In the third film, he’s going into a tunnel and crossing the bridge.”

Of San Millan’s choreography, Levine says “It’s very cool, because she is processing her experience that the poem engages with, and vice versa. I believe it’s helpful for her.”

As of our conversation two weeks ago, Levine said his wife had already recorded the poetry.

“She’s got a beautiful voice and is patient with me, working countless hours,” he said. “And I worked countless hours with my recording software. I use Logic Pro and record through an audio interface. I have a modest little synthesizer, and use a lot of digital sounds. I tell people, 30 years ago I couldn’t have done this. There’s a lot of dark things about computers, but technology allows artists who can’t access a professional studio to record and edit their own music at home.”

After watching the entire program the night before we spoke, San Millan said, “I just thought, ‘God, art is so crucial and so beautiful!’ It just hit me how profound and so ephemeral [it is].”

She praises Levine for “compiling all these elements, and he composed the music and played it all himself. He



recorded it with his wife who is reading his poetry. That’s a lot, that’s an incredible thing for an artist to do.”

She added, “We don’t know what’s inside of people; it’s beautiful.”

There is no admission charge to the Soiree, but a donation of \$20 is suggested. Pay at the door by cash/check. Seating is limited; RSVP is encouraged by calling Cocoon Theatre Artistic Director Marguerite San Millan at (845) 758-0695. If possible, bring an outdoor dish/dessert to share. The space is an unheated barn, so dress for weather. A simple bathroom is available. For more information, call San Millan or visit Cocoon Theatre’s Facebook page.

SEND US YOUR EVENTS

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Through Sept. 28: “Penelope,” Ancram Center for the Arts, 1330 County Rte. 7, Ancram. Cabaret-style musical retelling of Homer’s “The Odyssey” told from the point of view of Penelope, Odysseus’s long-suffering wife. Music & lyrics by Alex Bechtel, book by Bechtel, Grace McLean and Eva Steinmetz, who also directs. Performances: Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. www.ancramcenter.org

Through Sept. 28: Teens on Stage presents “Footloose,” The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, they are prepared for an adjustment period, but not for the town’s strict ban on dancing, imposed by a local preacher determined to control the youth. As Ren challenges the status quo, he faces small-town prejudice, navigates new relationships, and inspires the community to find joy again. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$19. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Sept. 25: Sawyer Fredericks (Duo Show), Daryl’s House, 130 Rte. 22, Pawling. Folk-rocker Sawyer Fredericks, winner of the Voice Season 8, is touring in support of his latest album, “No Need To Wonder,” 8 p.m. All ages. Tix \$28.69 - \$45.17. <https://darylshouseclub.com/>

Sept. 25-27: Live Entertainment at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Sept. 25: Latin Dance with Beacon Dance Beat, 7 p.m. All seats \$15. Sept. 26: Story Songs of the 70s: Gordon Lightfoot, Harry Chapin, Cat Stevens, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$35 advance, \$40 door. Sept. 27: Chris Trapper & Ari Hest, 7 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Sept. 26: Gabriel Iglesias: The 1976 Tour, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Gabriel “Fluffy” Iglesias is one of the world’s most successful stand-up comedians, 8 p.m. www.midhudsonciviccenter.org

Sept. 26: Red Hook Eat & Go Free Summer Lawn Concert Series, Baright Associates, 7509 North Broadway, Red Hook. Purchase take-out from local eateries and bring it along to enjoy while a band performs. A tented area and tables with umbrellas are set up for comfortable dining. The series concludes with Local Jam, harmony based ’60s, ’70s, and ’80s pop/rock, 6-8 p.m. More info on the Facebook event page.

Sept. 26-27: Annual Festival, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Lineup for **Week Five: Sept. 26,** Black Box Theater, Studio Complex: Sound, Light, Movement: Solo Cello + Handmade Film, an evening of live music by experimental composer and cellist Lori Goldston, scoring a program of silent films curated by Interbay Cinema Society (ICS) in Seattle, 7 p.m. Tickets \$25 GA, \$15 students w/ID. 70 minutes. **Sept. 27,** Meadow Stage (outdoors): Feedback Sonata: A String Trio Concert with Melanie Dyer, Lori Goldston, and Gwen Laster, 7 p.m. Feedback Sonata is the newest work by composer/cellist Lori Goldston for string trio, written to be performed with violist Melanie Dyer and violinist Gwen Laster. Performing together for the first time for this bespoke concert, these three powerhouse musicians combine to embody the essential convergence of jazz, classical, folk, and experimental music. Tickets \$25 GA, \$15 students w/ID. 60 minutes. www.kaatsbaan.org

Sept. 27: Bellefield Garden Talk Series, Beatrix Farrand Garden, 4097 Albany Post Rd., Hyde Park. “Top Flower Picks for 2026,” 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sue Adams, vice president of Adams Greenhouses, will share her favorite new flower introductions for 2026. Each year, Sue visits trial gardens across the Northeast to evaluate upcoming varieties. Her presentation will highlight the most exciting blooms that will soon make their way into gardens and greenhouses. Expect vibrant photos, expert insights, and plenty of inspiration for your own plantings. Free. Park at the Wallace Center, then enter through the Beatrix Farrand garden gate. Talk will take place in the Morgan Room. Reservations recommended via www.BeatrixFarrandGardenHydePark.org

Sept. 27: Hudson Valley Gospel Festival, Family Partnership Center, 29 N. Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie. Free, family-friendly event brings together choirs, praise teams, and dancers from across the

mid-Hudson region for an afternoon of uplifting music, worship, and community celebration, 2 p.m. Featured performers include the Hudson Valley Gospel Festival Choir, the Ulster County Community Gospel Choir, the Baptist Temple Church Praise Team from Orange County, and the Hudson Lily of the Valley Praise Dance Team. Sliding-scale tickets are available at the door - no one will be turned away. www.artsmidhudson.org/hv-gospel-fest

Sept. 27: Miss Lindy’s Dance Hall Swing Dance Party, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Partner Dance; beginning lesson and practice space for all. Also known as Social Dancing, with origins in swing dance, these steps and moves can be used with many musical genres, 2-3:30 p.m. No partner needed for class. Beginners and all levels of experience welcome. (845) 876-2903

Sept. 27: Square Dance and Ice Cream Social, Copake Grange #935, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Food, music, dancing and ice cream, 5-8 p.m. Lance Olds, square dance caller and longtime singer/performer with New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players, will teach all dances. Live music will be provided by The BadCats—Vicky Boulay, Mike Fleck, Deb Tankard and Laura Murawski, an old time string band playing southern traditional fiddle music. Admission \$25/person, \$10 for kids under 12 and includes two tacos, music, dancing, and all the ice cream you can eat. Buy tickets at the door. More info: copakegrange@gmail.com

Sept. 27: Tangent Theatre Company Play Reading, The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton. One of the highest and “Annapurna” by Sharr White, 7 p.m. One of the highest and most treacherous peaks in the world, the title serves as a metaphor. Difficult and challenging, yet majestic and peaceful. After years apart, an estranged couple reunites. What unfolds is a visceral, profound meditation on life, and a breathtaking story about the longevity of love. Tickets \$10. <https://www.the-moviehouse.net/>

Sept. 27: The Orchestra Now Performs Three Generations of Composers from China, Sosnoff Theater, Fisher Center at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Part of the eighth annual China Now Music Festival, presented by the US—China Music Institute at Bard College, 3 p.m. Tickets: \$15-\$55. fishercenter.bard.edu

Sept. 27: Tom Segura Come Together, MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Actor/Comedian/Writer Tom Segura recently kicked off his highly-anticipated new hour of comedy, 8 p.m. www.midhudsonciviccenter.org

Sept. 27 & Oct. 12: Walking tours of Millbrook. Led by the Millbrook Historical Society tours will focus on the Village’s history and evolution, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Topics covered will include early settlers; the impact of the railroad; prominent businesses; Italian immigration; and Timothy Leary. The tours will begin at the top on the stairs in the Tribute Garden and end by the firehouse on Front St. and cover a little more than 1 mile. The tours will be limited to 20 participants each For more info, go to millbrookhistoricalsociety.org. To reserve a spot, email millbrookhistoricalsociety@gmail.com with all relevant information.

Sept. 28: Community Day Celebration, Indian Rock School House, 25 Mygatt Rd., Amenia. Food, arts & crafts, local vendors, music, pumpkin decorating, Touch a Truck, 4-H activities, Amenia Garden Club, raffles, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. More info: Ann, amsartori76@aol.com

Sept. 28: Silent Movie with Live Organ, Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd., Rhinebeck. The Clinton Community Library, the New York Theatre Organ Society, and the Clinton Historical Society present “Sherlock, Jr,” a laugh-out-loud silent film starring the legendary Buster Keaton, 4 p.m. The movie is a fast-paced silent comedy where a daydreaming projectionist imagines himself as a daring detective to solve a real-life mystery. Live organ accompaniment by Dave Kopp, who will bring the film to life in real time on the NYTOS touring organ. Free admission, but registration appreciated. www.clintonhistoricalsociety.org

Sept. 30: Author Event, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Local author Roselee Blooston (“Including the Periphery: Personal Essays”), 6:30 p.m. Presented by Oblong Books in partnership with Morton Library. RSVP to (845) 876-

0500 or events@oblongbooks.com

Sept. 30: Author Event with James Patterson, Lateef Islam Auditorium, Family Partnership Center, 29 N. Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie. Patterson, author of over 200 novels, has expanded into non-fiction, including the recent best-selling book “The Idaho Four: An American Tragedy.” On Sept. 30 at 7 p.m., Patterson will discuss his writings and his newest book, “Disrupt Everything—And Win: The Proven and Effective Way to Harness Change Into a Force for Success.” The event is a presentation of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. Register at www.poklib.org via “Calendar & Events” under the Events tab for simple and quick registration with no wait. Patrons can also call (845) 485-3445, ext. 3707, or

register at any circulation desk. There will be free copies of the book available at the event for the first 500 patrons on a first-come, first-served basis.

Oct. 1: Embroiderers Guild Talk & Event, Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Lindsay Spring from Craft With Me Today will share her talents, tips and tricks in creating the simple art of Hand-Stitched Cards. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer’s Guild of America presents this program beginning at 12:30 p.m. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10 a.m. or come for this program. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillIGA or email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery 71, 71 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through Oct. 5:** “Shattered Realities,” featured artist Heather Schwegler presents a series of photographs on canvas. A wide range of work by 22 other local artists is also on display. www.artgallery71.com

Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. **Through Oct. 19:** “Sound and Vision,” this exhibition aims to highlight how sound shapes what one sees, and how visuals inform the way one hears or feels music. Through abstract imagery, bold design, and storytelling, the pieces highlight unique artistic voices and reflect on how these two forms influence, echo, or inspire one another. www.artsmidhudson.org or or (845) 454-3222

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 &12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through October:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar Street in Poughkeepsie, will be painter Valerie Berner with her solo show Scenes and Scenery from Untold Stories. At 12 Vassar Street in the Reception Gallery, Inna Ivanovskya and Tatiana Rhinevault will present their diverse and vibrant works of art, and Lisa Weinblatt brings her renowned School Lunch painting series to the Hancock Gallery. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: cunneen-hackett.org

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 1, 2026:** “Chronostasia: Select Acquisitions 2020–2025,” an exhibition that brings together more than s60 works acquired over the past five years. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, William J. vanden Heuvel Gallery, 4097 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. **Through July 7, 2026:** Special exhibition, “Signature Moments: Letters from the Famous, the Infamous, and Everyday Americans,” During their extraordinary public careers, the Roosevelts interacted with a “who’s who” of the 20th century. “Signature Moments” opens the FDR Library’s archives and museum for an insider’s view of the remarkable – and sometimes surprising – variety of personal exchanges with an amazing array of famous (and a few infamous) people, including golden age movie stars, queens and kings, scientists, and legendary military heroes. Visitors will see signatures of literary giants, celebrated artists, world leaders, and, of course, prominent politicians and political activists – including seven American presidents. Regular Library and Museum admission applies to view the exhibit. www.fdrlibrary.org

Millbrook Arts Project, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through Sept. 27:** “Four Paths to Abstraction,” the sixth exhibition of the Millbrook Arts Project inaugural season. It invites viewers to engage with color, form, and gesture beyond the limits of representation and features four artists who explore abstraction through the tactile possibilities of fabric, paint, and found materials. <https://millbrooklibrary.org/millbrook-arts-project/>

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

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

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through Oct. 11:** The Anita Fina Kiewra International Printmaking Show. “The Hudson River School” gets new meaning in Anita Fina Kiewra’s artwork – you are in the middle of the Hudson and you are rowing. Whereas the Hudson River School looked at the river from the shore, Anita finds her images in the middle of the river. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

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PV Garden Club is ‘growing food and community’

By Paulette Thomas
PVCG Volunteer

If you spy a tomato, pea pod, carrot and corn stalk marching down Route 44, you are encountering the enthusiastic volunteers from the Pleasant Valley Community Gardens (PVCG).

Garden volunteers carried their banner in the Pleasant Valley Days parade the weekend of Sept. 20. They also manned a booth at the event, sharing their vegetable knowledge.

“We have an energetic group of volunteers, and we want to bring attention to how great our work has been at our community garden,” says Janice Novet, co-president of the PVCG.

With its motto of “growing food and community,” PVCG is bolstering Pleasant Valley’s identity as a conservation-minded town. Already this season, the PVCG had donated more than 1,500 pounds of organic vegetables to the PV Food Pantry, on track to surpass last year’s total of 1,700 pounds.

In addition to its food mission, the garden is also a lively workshop of sorts, with volunteers experimenting and sharing best practices with others. PVCG hosted local garden group Hens and Chicks for a tour earlier this month, collecting their feedback.

“We want this to be an interactive space for learning and participation,” says Ms. Novet. “We are learning while we grow.”

In its third year, the garden has added to its collection of “cattle panels,” fencing and other climbing structures, much of it donated. This creates green walls of climbing beans and tomatoes throughout the garden, yielding more vegetables within the same square footage.

Volunteers are also trying more companion planting this season – tomatoes alongside basil, for instance – as natural deterrents to pests. Succession planting is also a focus, with spring crops like spinach harvested early, creating room for summer and fall vegetables, and garlic sowed last in late October. Volunteers maintain maps of what grows where,

rotating vegetable locations for replenishing soil nitrogen.

No experience is necessary to join, Ms. Novet says, and everyone contributes their particular talents. Volunteer David Talbot, an audio engineer, put his engineering experience to good use in designing the garden’s new watering system. A small solar panel on the garden shed charges a battery that provides power to a pump connected to the soaker hoses criss-crossing the 100 x 110 foot space.

“It’s working great,” he says. Those tanks are filled by town firefighters trucking in water. The town also provides the land, the shed, and wood bark mulch for paths between garden beds.

Most of the vegetables start as seedlings under grow lights in volunteers’ homes – another opportunity for sharing garden knowledge. Janice Novet and the PVCG will hold a seed saving workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. at the PV Library on Thursday Sept. 25. Volunteers will have seeds to share. (Registration is required through the library.)

Last year, the PVCG raised money for a new fence, which allowed some garden expansion. Native perennial plants like Joe Pye and rudbekia – important to local pollinators – will be added to new rows. Local residents will be welcome to share these for their own yards and gardens.

Volunteers are raising money this fall to cover costs of mulch, compost, seeds, and parts for the watering system. Sponsors in previous years include Adams Fairacre Farms, Albrecht’s Auto Repair, Ballentine Communications, Baroni Recycling, Bonded Concrete, Brookside Meadows LLC, Champion Gaming, Crown Energy, Dermasave Labs, Hudson Valley Skin Care, Four Brothers Pizza Inns, Kirchoff Companies, Lovenger Farm, Mill House Brewing Co, Murphy’s Auto Center, Peckham Industries, Peony Design Studio, Plan Bee Farm Brewery, Pomodoro Pizza Cafe, Players Club 845, Prime Pring Shop, Publick House, Pleasant Valley Department Store, Pleasant Valley Insurance Agency, Small



Clockwise from above: Gwen Davis delivers a week's donation to the Pleasant Valley Food Pantry. Dave Talbot demonstrates the new watering system. Sara Peargan harvests parsley at the Pleasant Valley Community Gardens. *Courtesy photos*



Valley Insurance Agency, Small Family Companies, Stewart’s Shops, Up in Smoke, Williams Lumber.

“Come visit us and see what is happening in the garden!” says Ms. Novet. Gardeners work on Wednesday and

Saturday mornings at the garden located in Helen Aldrich Park on Salt Point Turnpike. A monthly planning meeting is held the first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Library. All are welcome.

TOUCH A TRUCK SET SEPT. 27 IN HYDE PARK

Hyde Park Rotary Club will present a Touch A Truck event on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 4390 Route 9 in Hyde Park. There will be big trucks, little trucks, food trucks, fire trucks, police trucks, electric trucks, oil trucks and pick-up trucks, along with Paul’s Hyde Park Farmers Market & The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce.

Contact Dot Chenevert at (914) 447-8764 or oakgreen@optonline.net for more information.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

The first nationwide three-digit mental health crisis hotline is up and running. It is designed to be as easy to remember as 911, but when you dial 988, a dispatcher will connect callers with trained mental health counselors.

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Legal Notices

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF DUTCHESS FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SEASONED CREDIT RISK TRANSFER TRUST, SERIES 2018-2, Plaintiff - against - VOLKER RUESSELER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 1, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the rear lobby of the Dutchess County Courthouse, 10 Market Street, City of Poughkeepsie,

Legal Notices

Dutchess County, New York on the 17th day of October, 2025 at 2:30 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Town of Clinton, County of Dutchess and State of New York. Premises known as 26 West Cookingham, Staatsburg, (Town of Clinton) NY 12580. (SBL#: 6267-00-450621) Approximate amount of lien \$167,840.65 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 2023-50971. Anthony C. Carlini, Jr., Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP

Legal Notices

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 400 Meridian Centre Blvd, Ste 200 Rochester, NY 14618 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: August 12, 2025 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

Legal Notices

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.

Special District Library Vote Please take notice that the Board of Trustees of the Hyde Park Library District in the Town of Hyde Park, County of Dutchess, upon receipt of a petition of registered voters of that portion of the Town excluding the Staatsburg and Hillside Fire Districts, does hereby give notice that a public election will be held on Thursday, October 9, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. in

Legal Notices

the Hyde Park Library, 2 Main St., Hyde Park, NY. The issues to be presented in this election are as follows: a. Whether the budget proposed by the Board of Trustees shall be approved. Copies of the budget are available upon request at the Hyde Park Library. b. Election of two Trustees to the Board.

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY 2026 BUDGET MEETING DATES

The Pleasant Valley Town Board will hold their 2026 budget meetings at Town Hall 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, NY on the following dates:

Legal Notices

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING -Monday, September 29, 2025 at 5:00 PM. PURPOSE: Department heads will present their proposed 2026 budgets to the Town Board for review. SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING -Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 5:00 PM PURPOSE: Town Board will go through the 2026 budget in detail, reviewing each line item individually. Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk Town of Pleasant Valley

LEGAL NOTICE – BUDGET HEARING EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT

Legal Notices

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners will hold a Budget Hearing for Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm on the 2026 Preliminary Budget with a special meeting to follow immediately to adopt the 2026 Budget. The meeting will be held at the East Clinton Fire District Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY. Dated: September 12, 2025 East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners Carol Mackin, Secretary

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

Sergeant Nigel Keith Barnett, Jr.



Sergeant Nigel Keith Barnett, Jr., a 49-year-old Poughkeepsie native, passed away on September 16, 2025, due to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident on his way to work. Born on November 26, 1975, he was the cherished son of Nigel Keith Barnett Sr. and Esmie (McNeil) Barnett.

Nigel's academic journey began at Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie, where he excelled in football. He later pursued his associate's degree at Dutchess Community College in 1999.

With over 19 years of service, Sergeant Barnett served as the Cortlandt Station Commander for Troop K within the New York State Police. In 2023, he was recognized as the supervisor of the year for Troop F, Zone 3.

Beyond his professional achievements, Sergeant Barnett was an active member of The Gathering at Faith Assembly in Poughkeepsie. He found joy in various activities, including motorcycling, dirt bike riding, hiking, reading, mountain biking, video gaming, and working out. However, his greatest passion lay in spending quality time with his family.

In addition to his parents, Sergeant Barnett is survived by his son, Nigel Barnett III, his sisters, Katisha Barnett and Marcia Barnett, his brother-in-law, Ainsley Wheeler, his partner, Kristin Denu, and her daughters, Giavanna and Londyn White. He also has nieces and nephews, including Alasia Wheeler, Annmarie Wheeler, Ainsley Wheeler Jr., Denzel Wheeler, Zion Moore,

and Jasaan Wheeler-Ward. Additionally, he is accompanied by his stepson, Esteban "Pookie" Martinez, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, September 24th, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., located at 895 Route 82 in Hopewell Junction. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, September 25th, at 11 a.m. at The Gathering at Faith Assembly, situated at 25 Golf Club Lane in Poughkeepsie.

Memorial donations may be made to assist his son with his college education. Please make checks payable to Nigel Barnett, III, and mail c/o McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533.

Please visit Nigel's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Gloria Ann Covert

Gloria Ann Covert, 84, a longtime area resident, passed away at her home in Millerton, NY on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. Mrs. Covert had a lengthy career in the casino and gaming industry as a pit manager for over twenty years, having worked in Las Vegas, Nevada, Atlantic City, New Jersey and Gulfport, Mississippi prior to her retirement.

Born July 15, 1941 in Poughkeepsie, NY, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Millicent (Brinkerhoff) Flood. Gloria was a graduate of Webutuck High School where she served as captain of the cheerleading squad. In 1966 in Las Vegas, NV, she married James Bennett "Bounce" Covert, Sr. Mr. Covert passed away on July 31, 2016. Gloria loved to grow roses and tend her rose garden in her spare time. She was an avid reader and worked as a professional model while living in Nevada. Gloria enjoyed spending time with her family and will be dearly missed by all.

Gloria is survived by her son, Edward Covert and his wife Kay of Millerton, her brother, Joseph Flood and his wife Jean of Hillsdale, NY, her sister, Doris Reeves of Florida, her daughter-in-law, Jeanette Covert of Cherry Hill, NJ, her sister-in-law, Patricia Flood of Millerton, her sister-in-law, Janel Barnhill of Texas, her brother-in-law, Robert Fuller and his wife Natha of Texas; her grandchildren, Fawna, Robert, Josephine, Colleen,

Lauren, LeNita, Carina (Amanda); great grandchildren, Zoe, Mia, Asher, Tealin, Amelia, Madeline, Charlotte, Kennedy, Emmett and Elliott and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, Gloria was predeceased by a son, James B. Covert, Jr., a grandson, Clark Covert, a niece, Melissa Fuller Cahill and her brother, Thomas J. "Tom" Flood.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 10am to 12pm at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. A funeral service will take place at 12pm at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 2649 South Road # 101, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Gladys Love Estony

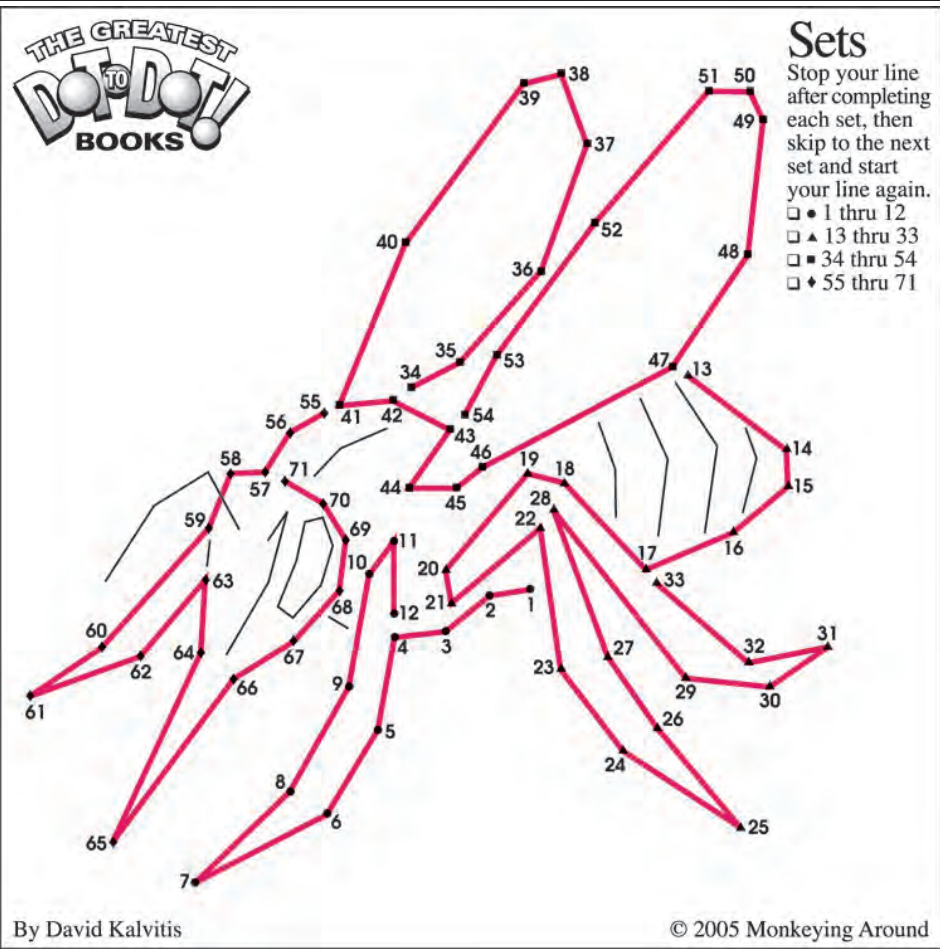
Gladys Love (Ingraham) Estony of Clinton Corners, NY passed away peacefully and surrounded by family on September 6, 2025, at age 95. She was born on February 4, 1930 to Arthur and Jean Ingraham in Queens, NY.

Gladys started her career at Combustion Engineering in NY before moving to Clinton Corners and working for the Hyde Park School District where she touched the lives of many students. Gladys lived a life of service from being a founding member of the East Clinton Rescue Squad, to serving on the Millbrook School Board to starting a local girls' softball team. She provided a loving home for two foster children (Billy and Ann) and was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. Gladys was a proud member of the Dutchess County Scottish Society, Thistle Club, and United Church of Christ in Stanfordville. Besides her devoted love to her family, Gladys liked to travel, read, garden, cook, and take in any stray animals that needed a home.

Gladys is survived by her children Elizabeth Schmalung (Karl), Frank Estony (Kathy), and Lorna Goldfarb (Peter), as well as her beloved grandchildren Kari, Kourtney, Kristen, Carlos, Arianna, William and Elizabeth.

At Gladys's request, her burial will be private, and the family will gather to celebrate her long and rich life. The family appreciates the thoughts, prayers, and condolences received upon hearing of her passing.

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



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SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

Answers to this
week's diversions

(puzzles on page 13)

GOLDEN LIVING

*News for Older Adults,
Their Families and Caregivers*
Todd N. Tancredi, Director
Dutchess County
Office for the Aging

Note: The 2025 OFA "Senior Prom" is sold out! Many thanks for your interest, and to The Pines at Poughkeepsie for their support of this annual event.

FALL PREVENTION WEEK

Sept. 22-26 is Fall Prevention Week, which coincides every year with the first day of fall. It's a nationwide effort to raise awareness that for older adults, many falls can be prevented.

Unusual findings in falls research

In an article this month, the New York Times cited a study authored by former New York City and Philadelphia Health Commissioner Dr. Thomas A. Farley, that death rates from falls among Americans older than 65 had more than tripled over the past 30 years, even as lifespans largely increased over the same time. That's more than deaths from breast and prostate cancer, and more than deaths from car crashes, drug overdoses, and all other unintentional injuries combined. Dr. Farley's study also noted that there hasn't been a similar trend in fall deaths among older adults in Japan and Europe over the same time.

Experts disagree as to the reasons. Dr. Farley pointed to more Americans being prescribed medications that affect the central nervous system and thus our balance. On the other hand, fall deaths in the U.S. were classified differently then

versus now. In the Times, Dr. Thomas Gill of Yale University notes that many fall deaths of the 1980s and 1990s were attributed to heart failure rather than falls. Dr. Gill also noted that people are being kept alive longer, with conditions that used to be fatal - but now they're vulnerable to falls. Regardless of the reasons, we can all make choices that reduce the likelihood of falls.

The following is excerpted from OFA's Fall Prevention Checklist, available in full at dutchessny.gov/fall-prevention:

- Keep all floors, stairs and steps clutter-free
 - Have sufficient lighting available in all walking areas, with bright lighting in the kitchen and bathrooms
 - Locate pet beds and feeding/drinking areas away from walking paths
 - Remove throw rugs, or use a non-slip backing so that rugs don't move when stepped on
 - Keep cords and wires next to walls, not across floors
 - Thresholds between rooms should be level, or beveled
 - Furniture should be able to support your weight, if needed for help with balance
 - Minimize the need to use a step stool by storing things used most often at waist level
 - If you still need a step stool, get one with a bar to hold on to
 - NEVER use a chair as a step stool.
- In the bathroom:*
- Use non-slip rubber mats or self-stick strips on the tub/shower floor

- Have grab bars installed next to and inside the tub, and alongside the toilet
 - Use a shower chair and raised toilet seat when necessary
- In the kitchen:*
- Wear skid-free footwear
 - "Clean as you go" when preparing meals

- Clean up spills promptly, especially if oily or greasy
- Cut ingredients when seated, if possible

And finally: Sign up for an OFA Exercise, Tai Chi and/or "A Matter of Balance" class. For details, see dutchessny.gov/seniorexercise or call OFA at 845-486-2555. If you'd like to volunteer as a class leader, reach out to OFA as well. OFA provides all training.

'YOUR SMARTPHONE AND YOU' CLASS AT OFA (Tue 10/7)

Find out about new developments in mobile device technology, along with the basics of smartphone ownership, at the upcoming "You and Your Smartphone" event co-hosted by OFA and AARP, on Tuesday, October 7th at 3:00pm at the OFA Poughkeepsie Friendship Center, 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie.

Space is limited; register in advance by calling OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.

BEACON-AREA HOME DELIVERED MEALS DRIVERS WANTED

The OFA Friendship Center in Beacon at 1 Forrestal Heights needs volunteer drivers for our Home Delivered Meals Program (HDM) clients in Beacon and southwestern Dutchess County.

Typical HDM driving hours are 9:30am-12:30pm weekdays. Mileage can be reimbursed for drivers who use their own vehicles for deliveries.

For more information and a printable volunteering form, see dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer.

CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER (AND A PET FIRST AID TRAINING EVENT)

Are you and your caregivers prepared for emergencies? It's okay if you think...maybe, maybe not. There are

opportunities coming up to build on your knowledge, thanks to Dutchess County Emergency Response and Medical Reserve Corps as well as the Office for the Aging, plus the county's Animal Response Team.

Participants will learn how to prepare for a disaster or emergency of any kind and recover as quickly as possible. Each family attending will receive a free Citizens Preparedness Response Starter Kit, while supplies last.

Monday, Sept. 29: Pine Plains Library, 7775 South Main St., Pine Plains. With Dutchess County OFA. Class begins at 1pm in the community room upstairs from the library. Registration required; visit dutchessny.gov/citizenpreparedness or call 845-486-2555.

Tuesday, Oct. 14: Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Rd, Wappinger. Doors open at 6:30pm, class begins at 7pm. Registration required, visit dutchessny.gov/citizenpreparedness. View the event flyer (.pdf).

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Stanford Library, 6035 Route 82, Stanford. With Dutchess County OFA. Class begins at 6pm. Registration required, visit the Stanford Library calendar or call 845-868-1341. View the event flyer (.pdf).

Pet First Aid Training

The County's Animal Response Team (DCART) will teach participants life-saving skills for pets, including CPR; recognizing signs of heat stroke and hypothermia; identifying gastrointestinal issues, allergies, and poisoning; and treating injuries such as burns and eye issues.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: John Jay High School, 2012 State Route 52, Hopewell Junction. Class starts at 7pm. Registration required, visit dutchessny.gov/PetFirstAid.

Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, phone 845-486-2555, email: ofa@dutchessny.gov website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging Social media: www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA

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County sets veterans appreciation events

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Office of Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche invite local veterans to enjoy good food and camaraderie this fall at three appreciation events held across the county, the popular Red, White and You! Picnic and two Veterans Pasta Dinners. All three events are FREE and open to local veterans and one guest. Registration is required, as seating is limited. Email CountyExec@dutchessny.gov or call 845-486-2000 to register.

"Showing appreciation for our local veterans is at the heart of these events and gives us a chance to thank them for their service," said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. "Our Red, White and You! Picnic and Veterans Appreciation Pasta Dinners are about more than just sharing a meal - they're about building connections, celebrating service, and making sure every veteran knows the resources and support available to them through our Office of Veterans Affairs and Mental Health America of Dutchess County Veterans Programs. I look forward to welcoming our local heroes to these events this fall!"

The schedule of upcoming veterans' appreciation events is as follows:

- Saturday, Oct. 18: Fourth annual Red, White, and You! Veterans Appreciation Picnic, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., James Baird State Park in Pleasant Valley. Open to all veterans and one guest. Join us for an afternoon of delicious food from Tavern 23 and live music from local country band, The StringMasters. View the event flyer.

- Sunday, October 26th: Veterans Appreciation Pasta Dinner, 4 p.m. seating, Lions Community Pavilion, Stissing Lake Road, Pine Plains.

- Sunday, November 2nd: Veterans Appreciation Pasta Dinner, 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. seating, American Legion Post 1302, 55 Overlook Road, Poughkeepsie.

Roche said, "In Dutchess County, we remain dedicated to serving, supporting and celebrating our local veterans. These men and women deserve every ounce of gratitude for all they have done to serve and protect our freedoms. We are grateful to County Executive Sue Serino for her continued commitment to bringing this great line-up of events to Dutchess County veterans and their guests."

For further information, please contact the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs at 845-486-2060 or visit www.dutchessny.gov/Veterans.

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