

County officials withdraw support of Flock technology

By Curtis Schmidt

Led by District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati, Dutchess County officials announced on Friday, Sept. 25, that they are withdrawing their support for the county’s continued use of Flock Safety Technology.

Parisi and Imperati said the announcements came following lengthy discussions with each other and careful consideration of the comments and concerns raised by residents at recent community forums, including the most recent one in Pleasant Valley organized by County Legislator and Public Safety Chair Eric Alexander (D-Town of Washington).

According to the Flock Safety website, “Flock is a connected public safety platform that helps authorized users find information relevant to an incident. Flock LPR (License Plate Reader) is one part of that platform, providing vehicle data for investigations.” The information at the site further states that the technology records vehicle sightings at a specific place and time, captures license plates and vehicle characteristics, helps authorized users find relevant vehicle evidence and provides leads for investigators to assess alongside other evidence.

“Sheriff Imperati and I met following several community forums and spent considerable time discussing what we heard from residents. We listened to the questions that were asked and the concerns that were raised. After those discussions, we agreed that the appropriate response is to listen to our community and change course,” said Parisi.

Imperati said the decision reflects both officials’ obligation to respond to the people they serve.

“The District Attorney and I supported this technology because we believed it could help law enforcement protect people

‘Protecting people was the reason we supported this initiative (Flock Safety Technology). Listening to the people of this county is the reason we are changing course.’

Anthony Parisi,
Dutchess County District Attorney

ple and investigate serious crimes,” Imperati said. “We still care deeply about giving our officers and deputies the tools they need to do that work. But we also heard the concerns residents raised about Flock technology. We asked for their views, and we have a responsibility to act on what we heard. I am joining the District Attorney in withdrawing support for Dutchess County’s continued use of Flock technology.”

Also withdrawing support for Flock technology are County Executive Sue Serino, both caucuses of the Dutchess County Legislature and various town and city officials across the county.

Serino said, “My goal has always been to support our local law enforcement with the tools they recommend to protect our



Flock LPR (License Plate Reader) is one part of a platform to provide vehicle data for investigations, according to the Flock Safety Technology website. *Flock Safety Technology image*

community. If the District Attorney and the Sheriff no longer believe that Flock Safety technology is a tool that they need, I stand by them in that decision. As the Sheriff and the District Attorney begin the process of rescinding the Flock contracts and dismantling the network, I commend them for being responsive to community concerns and being willing to change course.”

She added, “As we continue to face a

difficult budget ahead for 2027, we will be able to divert the approximate \$500,000 in Flock contract costs that are currently in District Attorney’s 2027 budget submission and utilize those dollars help protect many other critical programs and services that our neighbors depend on, including EMS services, veterans, seniors and youth programming.”

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Country Living Fair back at DC Fairgrounds Oct. 2, 3, 4

3 days of shopping,
music, speakers
and workshops



Over 200 vendors from Upstate NY and as far away as Texas and California will be at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds as the Country Living Fair returns for a three-day weekend. *Courtesy photo*

The Country Living Fair is back with a three-day shopping event at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck Oct. 2, 3 and 4, featuring over 200 vendors, including antiques dealers, artisans and small boutique brands, hands-on workshops, high-profile guest speakers, kid-friendly fun and a new music collaboration with “The Bluegrass Situation.”

The Fair is open from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Visit

clfair@countryliving.com for tickets and listings of performers, guest speakers and workshops.

Local upstate vendors will be treating the crowds, including food trucks serving vegan, dairy-free and gluten-free fare, apple cider donuts, beer and wine, as well as Samuel’s Sweet Shop, Cooper’s Daughter Spirits and more.

Vetted by Country Living editors, the vendors will be traveling from as far as Texas, California and Mississippi to sell a range of thoughtfully crafted and curated goods. Here’s just a sampling of the vendors you’ll find across different categories:

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DUTCHESS COUNTY CONSERVATIVE PARTY BRUNCH
TO FEATURE RADIO HOST DOMINIC CARTER OCT. 4



The Dutchess County Conservative Party brunch will feature WABC radio host and author of “No Momma’s Boy” Dominic Carter on Sunday, Oct. 4. The brunch is from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Villa Borghese, 70 Widmer Road, Wappingers Falls. Advanced payment is \$125 per person or \$225 per couple. Reservations are encouraged. For more information, text and phone 845-464-6748 or email trex73@frontier-net.net. Sponsorships are available. Right: Dutchess County NYS Conservative Party Chairman Don Minichino, left, and radio personality Dominic Carter.

- Courtesy photo

Country Living Fair back at DC
Fairgrounds Oct. 2, 3, 4

continued from cover

- **Antique & Vintage Dealers:** Bluegrass Market, Hudson Quality Goods Co., Foundry Interiors, The Parson’s Nose Antiques, South Porch Antiques, and The Stylish Sloane.
 - **Artisans & Makers:** Hibiscus Linens, Woolgrass Farm, Denyse Schmidt Quilts, Shapeau, and Caroline Gray Art.
 - **Boutique Brands:** The Six Bells, Trudie, and Immodest Cotton.
- Music will be alive as “The Bluegrass Situation” will program three days of folk, bluegrass and Americana on the new Americana Music Stage. The BGS, as it’s come to be known, is the world’s largest community for American roots music, culture and lifestyle. Co-founded by lifelong music fan Ed Helms (The Office; The Hangover) and Executive Director Amy Reitnauer Jacobs in 2012, BGS proudly represents a unique gathering place: Supporting and uplifting the rich, diverse, and varied history of the music (as well as the artists and fans who

- keep them alive), while looking ahead with a progressive vision to transform these folkways and traditions into a carefully curated, 21st century lifestyle open to all.
- **Guest Speakers:** Mosey on over to The Country Living Fair Main Stage to bask in the brilliance of some of the brightest stars in country design and entertaining, including Amy and Sarah Blessing, Mike Wolfe, Marian Parsons, Annie Sloan, Alfredo Paredes, Paula Sutton, Elizabeth and Ethan Finkelstein, Stephen and David St. Russell, Josh Kilmer-Purcell and Brent Ridge, and more. Book signings and meet-and-greets will follow main stage panels.
 - **Workshops:** Analog hobbies are having a serious moment, and now’s your chance to try your hand at everything from needlepoint to botanical art in hands-on workshops hosted by some of the most in-demand instructors from around the country.



Three days of shopping, music, speakers and workshops are on the agenda as the Country Living Fair returns to the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck. *Courtesy photos*

STISSING CENTER

Friday, October 2 in The Grace Note

THE LIMELITERS

ROOTS 7:30PM \$25

Saturday, October 3 in Banning Hall

PUMPKIN PATCH DANCE PARTY

COMMUNITY EVENT 7:30PM \$10

Sunday, October 4 in The Grace Note

WRITERS & READERS SERIES: SINGLE GIRLS

COMMUNITY EVENT 3:00PM FREE

Thursday, October 8 in The Grace Note

AN EVENING WITH MURRAY HILL

COMMUNITY EVENT 7:30PM \$32.50

Saturday, October 10 in Banning Hall

SKYE CONSORT AND EMMA BJÖRLING

WORLD MUSIC/ROOTS 7:30PM \$30-40

Friday, October 16 in The Grace Note

AN EVENING WITH THE GRACE SMITH HOUSE

COMMUNITY EVENT 6:30PM \$100+

Saturday, October 17 in Banning Hall

BRAZILIAN RHYTHMS

WORLD MUSIC 7:30PM \$35

Sunday, October 18 in Banning Hall

SELECTED SHORTS: A TOUCH OF MAGIC

THEATER 3:00PM \$45-55

Saturday, October 24 in Banning Hall

RACHEL SUMNER & TRAVELING LIGHT

ROOTS 7:30PM \$30-40

Friday, October 30 in The Grace Note

DIANA HICKMAN

JAZZ, SINGER/SONGWRITER 7:30PM \$20

STISSING CENTER, PINE PLAINS NY
thetissingcenter.org

FRANKLIN AVENUE SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION BEGINS OCT. 2

The Village of Millbrook sidewalk project is scheduled to begin Friday, Oct. 2, on the north side of Franklin Avenue between Front Street and Friendly Lane. Construction is expected to take approximately 3-4 weeks.

During construction, parking on Franklin Avenue will be limited. Sidewalk access will remain open, but pedestrians may be rerouted as work progresses.

Motorists should expect significant delays on Franklin Avenue.

Residents and businesses are asked for their patience during this time.

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HVCU Gives Backpacks, Donates to United Way's 'Back-to-School' Drive

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See story, page 8

Tivoli Fire Dept. receives \$1M grant through V-FIRE program

On Sept. 16, New York State Sen. Michelle Hinchey joined the NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (DSHES) Commissioner Terence O’Leary and members of the Tivoli Fire Department to announce the second round of capital funding through the Volunteer Fire Infrastructure & Response Equipment (V-FIRE) Grant Program. Hinchey established V-FIRE as a State Budget initiative in 2023; it is the first-ever capital fund dedicated to helping New York’s volunteer fire departments afford essential equipment and infrastructure upgrades that improve facilities and emergency response capabilities.

Tivoli was among ten volunteer departments across the state that received the maximum award of \$1 million.

The following departments received V-FIRE grants in the 41st Senate District counties:

- Tivoli Fire Department (Dutchess County): \$1,000,000
- Kerhonkson Fire District (Ulster County): \$388,050
- Lebanon Valley Protective Association (Columbia County): \$96,554
- Village of Catskill Fire Department (Greene County): \$90,669
- Stuyvesant Falls Fire District (Columbia County): \$58,000

These investments build on the \$25 million previously awarded in October 2024 to 88 volunteer fire departments, including Big Indian-Oliveria Fire Company and Shawangunk Fire in Ulster County and Leeds Hose in Greene



Sen. Michelle Hinchey (center) was joined on Wednesday, Sept. 16, by NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services Commissioner Terence O’Leary, NYS Fire Administrator James Cable, Tivoli Mayor Emily Majer, Dutchess County Deputy Commissioner of Emergency Response Glenn Scofield, and Tivoli Fire Chief Marc Hildenbrand, along with members of Tivoli Firehouse, for the V-FIRE announcement. *Photo provided by the Office of NYS Sen. Michelle Hinchey*

County. An additional \$25 million was secured for V-FIRE through the FY27 Enacted Budget and will be awarded in 2027 through Round 3 of the program. Hinchey said, “We developed the V-FIRE program because our volunteer firefighters put their lives on the line to serve our communities, and they need safe and modern equipment in order to do this important work. ... Congratulations to Tivoli Fire on receiving this year’s high-

est award, and to all of the departments selected in this second round.” Tivoli Fire Chief Marc Hildenbrand said, “We’re incredibly grateful to Governor Hochul, Senator Hinchey, and the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the vital support this V-FIRE grant represents. For volunteer firehouses, it’s a real struggle to keep up with the rising costs for infrastructure and equipment; Tivoli has also endured

the added challenge of having to build back after a fire in their firehouse. As one of the larger volunteer fire departments in our region, this funding enables us to have the facilities and tools we need to respond to emergencies and provide mutual aid safely and effectively. Most importantly, it allows us to serve and protect our local community 365 days a year with an expanded facility.”

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Letters must be e-mailed to be considered for publication. We cannot accept handwritten or faxed letters.

(Published weekly)
Northern Dutchess News & Creative Living is a division of the Southern Dutchess News, produced and printed in Dutchess County since 1959. The Southern Dutchess News is an official newspaper of Dutchess County, as voted by the Dutchess County Legislature. The Northern Dutchess News is the official newspaper of the Towns of Amenia, Millbrook, Union Vale, Stanford and Rhinebeck. Submit all legal notices to sdnlegals@aol.com.

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Advertising deadline: Friday, noon

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Deadline is Thursday at 3 p.m.

To submit arts-related news
and calendar events:
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Creative Living deadline is Thursday
at 3 p.m. for publication the following week.

Northern Dutchess News serves the towns of Amenia, Beekman, Clinton, Dover, Hyde Park, LaGrange, Milan, Pine Plains, Pleasant Valley, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Stanford, Union Vale and Washington; the villages of Millbrook, Red Hook, Rhinebeck and Tivoli; and the hamlet of Salt Point

The Southern Dutchess News
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Meghan Borland: Culture of collaboration needed in Pleasant Valley

To the editor:
I first felt called to run for the Pleasant Valley Town Board because of the steady loss of businesses on Main Street in the hamlet of Pleasant Valley. As an entrepreneur and researcher, I believed I could help identify practical solutions to the challenges facing our town.
I was humbled to be elected in 2025 with the largest percent of the vote of the four candidates - meaning that people from all parties supported and trusted me to help lead our town.
Serving on the Town Board has given me a clear understanding of what Pleasant Valley needs to move forward. I've already begun working on many of these issues, but I also see how my experience, energy, and steady leadership can help our town accomplish even more.
I sometimes joke that these are the "most boring campaign promises ever," but they matter. We need clear rules that don't allow the town to collect taxpayer money only to have it sit in the bank - Every dollar of your money should work for you. We need modern technology and responsive services. We need more communication with residents and taxpayers.
We also need stronger partnerships with Dutchess County and New York State so we can bring resources into Pleasant Valley instead of relying solely on local taxpayers to carry the burden.
Most importantly, I believe we need a culture of collaboration. The party labels next to our names should stay at the ballot box. It will take all of us — working together as one community — to realize the full potential of Pleasant Valley.
I encourage you to vote on or before November 3, and beyond that, to stay involved and look for opportunities to help improve our town together.

Meghan Borland
2026 Candidate for Pleasant Valley Town Supervisor
Pleasant Valley Town Council Member

POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Deadlines for ads and letters are always the Friday prior to the Wednesday on which you want ther letter to run. All papers are published on Wednesdays.
Please note - We will NOT accept negative letters (criticizing opponents) on the final publication date prior to the election.
Letters must be 300 words or less and must include the phone number of the writer for verification purposes (we will not publish phone numbers).

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- 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.

County officials withdraw support of Flock technology

continued from cover

Democrats in the County Legislature on Friday called for the County to immediately suspend data collection from the Flock system and to cover the Flock cameras until they are removed. Public Safety Vice-Chair Chris Drago (D-Stanford) put forward a resolution to that effect and it will be introduced at the Legislature's October committee meetings.
Legislator Alexander said, "I organized the Flock Forum to allow members of the public to speak directly to our District Attorney and Sheriff about their concerns regarding the use of this surveillance technology. It worked. A packed room of citizens stood and spoke one after another about their deep concerns and anger about a loss of privacy and the unchecked collection and use of data collected by this system. The Legislature will now act to end Flock in Dutchess County."
Speaking on behalf of the Republican

caucus of the Legislature, Minority Leader Mike Polasek (R-LaGrange), said, "We support District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati in withdrawing their backing of Dutchess County's continued use of Flock Safety technology following concerns raised by residents. Public safety and public trust must go hand in hand. Good government means listening to the community, evaluating new information and being willing to change course when appropriate. We support an orderly transition away from Flock technology and will remain focused on public safety, privacy and the responsible use of taxpayer dollars."
Al Torreggiani, Supervisor, Town of Hyde Park, commented, "I have carefully read the results provided by District Attorney Anthony Parisi and Sheriff Kirk Imperati concerning the survey and the voices of our community. The Town of Hyde Park has spoken through social media, and I have heard your concerns. The Town will comply with the request from the District Attorney and Sheriff Imperati and remove all Flock camera systems from Town of Hyde Park property. I will work with Town Attorney Kyle Barnett to cancel any agreements the Town has with Flock Technology. We work for the people, and the people have spoken."
Public safety was plan
Parisi emphasized that the Analysis and Real Time Crime Intelligence Center, Flock technology and the broader use of license plate readers were pursued as public-safety initiatives. He said transparency and community participation were central to the initiative from the beginning.
"We explained the initiative publicly and to the press. We created a publicly accessible transparency website so residents could learn about the technology and how it was being used. We met with mayors, supervisors, town boards and community members throughout Dutchess County. We invited residents to question what we were doing. This was

designed as a community public-safety initiative. There was no secret agenda. The objective was to give law enforcement responsible tools to help prevent crime, solve serious offenses and make Dutchess County safer. But if we say community participation matters, we must be willing to change course when the community responds."
Imperati said the joint decision does not change his belief that properly regulated license plate reader technology can have legitimate investigative value.
"I continue to believe this technology can help law enforcement locate dangerous offenders, find missing people, recover stolen vehicles and investigate serious crimes. But believing a technology can be useful does not mean government should continue using it when the people it serves have raised serious concerns. Public safety depends on public trust. We cannot lose sight of that."
Parisi said his perspective comes from more than three decades working directly with crime victims and their families.
"It is easy to talk about public-safety technology as an abstract policy question. It becomes very different when you have sat across from a child who has been sexually assaulted, or with a family whose loved one has been taken from them by violence. The Sheriff and I have seen those victims and sat with those families. Protecting people was the reason we supported this initiative. Listening to the people of this county is the reason we are changing course."
Parisi and Imperati said they will work with the appropriate county officials to address the steps necessary to discontinue Dutchess County's use of Flock technology, including existing operational and contractual obligations.
According to tracking data reported in late August by the advocacy group Secure Justice, at least 214 cities and towns have dropped Flock technology since 2021, with 90 cities cutting ties in August 2026 alone.

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MARC Foundation honors champions of recovery at annual awards dinner

By Matthew Fetzer

It was a night that shone a light on recovery, hope, and healing as the MARC Foundation held its annual awards dinner last Tuesday night at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie. The event brought together community members, local leaders, and Major League Baseball legend Darryl Strawberry, to recognize those making a difference in the fight against substance use disorder.

The foundation is known to provide grants that expand and improve sober housing in the Hudson Valley.

MARC Foundation Board President Kristin Fountain highlighted the importance of the organization's work in a message to attendees.

"Tonight is an opportunity to come together in celebration, but more importantly, it is a reminder of what can be accomplished when a community unites around a shared purpose," said Fountain. "Your presence and generosity help the MARC Foundation continue its vital work supporting prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives and creating hope for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder."

The night featured a meal, raffle and silent auction. Special entertainment was performed by Garrett Gardner, a singer, multi-instrumentalist and producer who was a Top 12 finalist on "The Voice." Gardner began his recovery when he was 19 years old and has been alcohol-free for the past 11 years. Filomena Fanelli served as emcee, while Fountain and Vice President Kathryn Cousins were speakers at the event.

Three individuals received the Champion of Recovery Award: New York State Sen. Pete Harckham, MARC Foundation Board member Michael Carber, and four-time World Series champion Darryl Strawberry. The award was given to honorees who demonstrated a commitment to making a difference in the lives of others and to advancing the cause of recovery.

Sen. Harckham was elected to the New York state Senate in 2018, where he was re-elected in 2020, 2022 and 2024. He serves on the Alcoholism and Substance Use Disorders Standing Committee, and is a member of the Joint Senate Task Force on Opioids, Addiction,

and Overdose Prevention. During his tenure, he doubled minimum treatment times and reduced barriers to lifesaving opioid treatment.

Michael Carber was the second honoree. He joined the foundation's Board of Directors in 2017 and has served as treasurer since 2020. According to the event program, "he has helped provide financial stewardship and guidance while supporting the Foundation's continued growth and its mission to make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families affected by substance use disorder."

"It's humbling," said Carber. "It's nice to be recognized, but I'm only doing what the people before me did. I'm just glad that the event brought out so many people."

"The honor belongs to all of the organizations like the MARC Foundation," Carber added in his acceptance speech. "They remind us that no life should ever be considered beyond hope. It's my hope tonight that we will continue to reach out, continue to give back, and to remember that each of us, in whatever way we can, continue to make addiction recovery count."

The night ended with Darryl Strawberry accepting his award and delivering his keynote address. Years removed from his four World Series championships and eight All-Star selections, Strawberry has devoted his life to the recovery community and his ministry work. As a person who has been sober for two decades, he speaks 270 days a year with various organizations.

"There's a miracle waiting for that person who is still sick and suffering," said Strawberry in his speech. "The miracle comes from people like us, who have been through long-term recovery. The people who have recovered. The people who have seen that it actually works, and that you can accomplish it."

He wrapped up the event with, "I love you all who are here tonight, and all of you who are a big part of this night. You know what you do. I don't have to tell you, but you do it."

Additional information on ways to support the organization can be found on the MARC Foundation's official website, www.marc-foundation.org.



Three individuals received the Champion of Recovery Award, which is given to honorees who demonstrated a commitment to making a difference in the lives of others and to advancing the cause of recovery. From left are MARC Foundation Board member Michael Carber, four-time World Series champion Darryl Strawberry and New York State Sen. Pete Harckham. Below, from left: MARC Foundation President Kristin Fountain, MARC Foundation Board member and Champion of Recovery Award recipient Michael Carber, and MARC Foundation Vice President Kathryn Cousins. *Courtesy photos*



Veterans invited to upcoming events honoring their service

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs invite local veterans to upcoming events celebrating their service, sacrifice and contributions to their community. The County's annual "Red, White & You" veterans picnic and two pasta dinners will allow these heroes to connect with one another and meet the people and organizations available locally to support them and their families. These events are free, and reservations are required.

Dutchess County's annual Red, White & You Veterans Picnic will be held Saturday, Oct. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at James Baird State Park in Pleasant Valley. This free, rain-or-shine event will feature a barbecue provided by Tavern 23, live country music from local band StringMasters and an opportunity for veterans and their guests to spend an afternoon together enjoying the splendor of autumn in Dutchess County.

Continuing a tradition she started more than a decade ago, Serino will again partner with Mental Health America (MHA) of Dutchess County Veterans Programs to

host two free Veterans Pasta Dinners on the following dates:

Sunday, Oct. 25, Red Hook VFW Post 7765, 30 Elizabeth St., Red Hook. There will be one seating at 4 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 1, East Fishkill Community Center, 890 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. There will be two seatings, at 2 and 4 p.m.

Veterans may register themselves and one guest for the picnic and/or either pasta dinner by emailing countyexec@dutchessny.gov or calling (845) 486-2000.

Veterans Affairs is planning more events for November, including the new Veterans Appreciation Day event at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park on Saturday, Nov. 7; additional details will be available in the coming weeks.

Veterans and their families can contact the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs, year-round, at (845) 486-2060 or veterans@dutchessny.gov for information about available services and resources.

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Clinton Historical Society's fall events schedule

Oct. 2: October First Friday Talk: How Omega Became Omega

Oct. 11: Quaker Meeting House Tour at Creek Meeting House

Oct. 30-Nov 1 TENTATIVE: Tag Sale

Nov. 6: November First Friday Talk: "The Brave Montgomery"

Nov. 8: Quaker Meeting House Tour at Creek Meeting House

Visit clintonhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

Golf outing to support Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley

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

Rummage sale and flea market set Oct. 3 in Lagrangeville

The Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church Fall Rummage Sale and Flea Market will take place on Saturday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. We are located at 1168 Route 55, Lagrangeville. The Flea Market will be on the front lawn with over 45 vendors. Inside there will be a huge Rummage Sale. Breakfast, lunch and a bake sale, will also be inside. The Rummage Sale items will be gently used clothes, furniture, toys, books, household items, garage and attic finds. We accept cash or Venmo. There will be a \$5 Bag Sale at 1:30 for all Rummage items. The "Church Boutique" will feature New Items, jewelry and treasured antiques. At 1:30, the Boutique will have a Buy One/Get One Free sale. This is a rain or shine event.

For more information, visit www.fpuchurch.org or call (845) 452-0684.

Community Yard Sale set Oct. 3 to benefit The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck

The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck will hold its Big A\$\$ Yard Sale on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the Great Lawn at The Center, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck. Rain date is Saturday, Oct. 10.

The Big A\$\$ Yard Sale is your one-stop shop for community treasures and theatrical finds. The Center is doing another clear out of our inventory of costumes, props, and set pieces, and opening the lawn to community sellers from across the Hudson Valley.

Whether you are hunting for vintage bargains or selling your own goods, this is a day for thrifting, treasure hunting, and connecting with neighbors, all while supporting The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck.

Visit www.centerforperformingarts.org for more information.

Blessing of the Animals set Oct. 4 in Hyde Park

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, Oct. 4th, 1-2 pm (drop in) Drive through option for pets that don't play well with others 2-2:15 pm. St. James Episcopal Church, 4526 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park. Free digital photo, treats for pets and humans. Any and all animals, stuffed animals, and mementos of shy or depart-

ed pets are welcome. Donations of unopened pet food accepted for the DCSPCA.

Fall Pancake Breakfast in Rhinecliff Oct. 4

Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad's Fall Pancake Breakfast will return on Sunday, Oct. 4, from 8 to 11:30 a.m., as part of Fire Prevention Week. Enjoy a pile-high of "Rhinecliff's Best" pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. It's all-you-can-eat, so bring your appetite and your friends!

The cost is \$10 adults, \$4 children, free for children age 5 and younger.

Breakfast will be at the Rhinecliff Firehouse (corner of Shatzell & Orchard, Rhinecliff). Proceeds support the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company.

For more information, contact Cynthia?at (845) 489-1099 or csaniewski1@gmail.com.

Fall Pancake Breakfasts are also scheduled for Nov. 1 and Dec. 6 from 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Documentary screening set Oct. 4 in Kingston

Sunday, Oct. 4 from 2-5 p.m. at the Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston. Screening of "Gaza: Doctors Under Attack," an award-winning documentary that investigates Israeli military assaults on hospitals, doctors and healthcare workers. Free admission, refreshments, and community reflection. Cosponsored by: Middle East Crisis Response, African Roots Community Center, Columbia County for Palestine, JVP Hudson Valley, Mid Hudson Valley DSA, New Paltz Quaker Meeting, Peace Education Center, Rally Middletown, Mid-Hudson Valley Veterans For Peace, and Women In Black - New Paltz. Contact: mecr@middleeastcrisis.org or 845 876-7906

Apple Crisp Social set Oct. 4 at Staatsburg Library

Dig into a bowl of home-made apple crisp topped with ice-cream Sunday, Oct. 4, from 1 to 3 p.m., during the first Apple Crisp Social at the Staatsburg Library, 70 Old Post Road, Staatsburg. Hosted by the Friends of Staatsburg Library, this family-friendly event will also feature lawn games, live music, coffee and apple cider. Goodies are \$8 or less. All proceeds benefit the library. To see what else is coming up at the library, visit staatsburglibrary.org.

Miles of Hope Community Walk set Oct. 4

On Sunday, Oct. 4, Miles of Hope will hold its 23rd annual Community Walk for Breast Cancer at James Baird State Park. Registration opens at 9 a.m., opening ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m., and the walk begins at 10 a.m. Bring your family, friends, and pets and walk in honor, in memory, or in support of those affected by breast cancer.

Your participation helps support local individuals and families affected by breast cancer throughout the Hudson Valley. With more than \$4 million granted locally, Miles of Hope continues to provide financial assistance, education, and vital programs and services to those who need them most. Visit www.milesofhope.org to register and for more information.

Hyde Park Chamber sets Oct. 8 Breakfast

The Town of Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Breakfast is on Thursday, Oct. 8, from 7:30 to 9 a.m., at Coppola's Italian American Bistro in Hyde Park. Start your morning with delicious food, great networking, and important community conversations.

There will be an informative presentation from Dutchess County Emergency Management focused on Business Emergency Preparedness. Small businesses can be especially vulnerable when severe weather or other emergencies disrupt normal operations. This presentation will provide practical information to help businesses prepare for and respond to situations such as snowstorms and winter weather; power outages and extended utility disruptions; heavy rain, flooding and severe storms; emergency communications and alerts; and more.

Admission is \$25 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. Reserve your seat at hydeparkchamber.online.

Bartender Wars set Oct. 8

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce's Ninth Annual Bartender Wars is set Thursday, Oct. 8, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., at Terrapin Restaurant for an evening of friendly competition, creative cocktails, great food, and even better company.

Whether you are a local business owner, community member, or visitor, come cheer on our local bartenders as they go head-to-head for bragging rights and the title of Bartender Wars Champion!

Tickets are \$59 day of, \$65 at the door. Ticket includes admission plus delicious food.

Every ticket directly supports the work of the Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce and its partner non-profits.

Visit <https://rhinebeckchamber.com/> to purchase tickets and more information.

Yard/Bake Sale to benefit Hyde Park Food Pantry

The Hyde Park Food Pantry will be holding a yard/bake sale on Sat., Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The location is at the Saint James Chapel on 10 E Market Street, across from the Hyde Park Post Office. All money raised will go to the pantry to purchase food for pantry clients.

Oct. 10 concert to raise funds for PV food pantry

Concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street, Pleasant Valley on Saturday, October 10 at 5 p.m. featuring Caroline Dolfi and Joe Murray. Acoustic arrangements of country and rock tunes. Admission is free; donations will be accepted for the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Rhinecliff Soup Sales return

It's harvest time and soup's up in Rhinecliff! Sponsored by Rhinebeck Grange #896, Rhinecliff Soup Sales are on the third Thursday of the month: Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17. Soups are sold by the quart at \$10/quart. Take-out only. Pick-up location at Morton Library Community Room between 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Email: JoBaer2@gmail.com to get the soup choices for each month and pre-order on-line.

Grace Church to host Fall Festival and Pop-Up Winter Wear Sale on Oct. 17

Grace Church in Millbrook will celebrate the arrival of autumn with two community events on Saturday, Oct. 17, offering families an afternoon of food, fun, music, and an opportunity to find gently used winter clothing at affordable prices. The Grace Fall Festival will take place from noon to 3 p.m. and is a free event for the whole family. Festivities will include food, games, face painting, pumpkin decorating, and DJ music. The festival

coats \$10, and sweatshirts and hoodies \$5.

The Winter Wear Sale and Fall Festival provide an opportunity for members of the community to prepare for the colder months while enjoying a festive fall gathering at Grace Church.

Both events will take place at Grace Church, 3330 Franklin Avenue, Millbrook. For more information, call (845) 677-3064.

Brookmeade gala set Oct. 17

Brookmeade Community Foundation presents its 14th Annual 'Under the Sea' GALA. Event takes place on Oct. 17 at the Pavilion Brookmeade in Rhinebeck. Cocktail hour is from 5 to 6 pm. Dinner and dancing from 6 to 10pm, with awards presented to Kate Neils and Renee Albrecht for their outstanding contributions to Brookmeade. Raffles and Lucky 250 tickets available. Event tickets are \$195. This supports the programs for seniors at the Brookmeade Community. For more information, email us at info@brookmeadecommunity.org. For donations or tickets, go to www.brookmeadecommunity.org/ donate.

Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited events

Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited is conducting these upcoming events:

Free Fly Tying Event at Plan Bee Farm Brewery, 115 Underhill Road, Poughkeepsie, on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Mid-Hudson Trout Unlimited 45th Annual Stewardship Dinner will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 6 to 10 p.m., at Anthony's Catering, 799 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. Live auctions. Silent auctions. Raffle prizes! Tickets are \$70 online or \$80 at the door, if available.

Visit www.midhudsontroutunlimited.org to purchase tickets for the dinner and for more information about these events.

Trunk or Treat set Oct. 23 in Stanfordville

Stanford Recreation will hold a Trunk or Treat on Friday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., at Stanford Rec, 40 Creamery Road, Stanfordville. Visit www.stanfordrecreation.com or email recreation@stanfordny.gov for more information.

Anderson Foundation Gala has 'Evening in Paris' theme

The Anderson Foundation for Autism's Annual Gala, "Evening in Paris," is set Saturday, Oct. 24, at The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie. This year's honorees include Vanessa and Patrick Ryan, proud Anderson parents, for their unwavering commitment, advocacy, and generous support of Anderson's mission to optimize the Quality of Life for individuals with autism. Anderson will also recognize two outstanding team members with the 2026 Above and Beyond Awards, celebrating their exceptional dedication and impact within the Anderson community.

The gala event will include a Cocktail Reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; a silent auction; dinner, presentations, dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.; and the presentation of the V.V. Anderson Community Service Award and Above & Beyond Awards. Attire: Black Tie Optional

Email Events@andersoncares.org if you would like to pay by check or have any questions about the event.

Repair Cafe & Recycling Event set Jan. 3 in Hyde Park

Sat, Jan 3, 2027, 10am- 2pm. Hyde Park

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13—6:30pm-8:00pm—Village Meeting, Village of Red Hook, NY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9—10:00am-3:00pm—Veterans Memorial Building, Beacon, NY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15—5:00pm-7:00pm—Affordability Fair, Town of Poughkeepsie, NY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17—11:00am-2:00pm—DC Red, White and You Picnic, Baird Park, LaGrange, NY



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Email: richardlw47@gmail.com

HVCU gives backpacks, donates to United Way’s ‘Back-to-School’ drive



Pictured are HVCU's summer 2026 high school internship program participants packing backpacks with supplies ahead of the donation. *Courtesy photo*

Hudson Valley Credit Union has donated 200 backpacks filled with essential school supplies to United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region for the nonprofit’s annual back-to-school drive. The initiative, completed with the help of the credit union’s 2026 high school internship program participants, demonstrated not only the organization’s commitment to the communities it serves, but also its dedication to teaching the next generation the importance of giving back.

Approximately 20 nonprofits partnering with United Way this school season will distribute the supplies to dozens of students and families across Dutchess and Orange County.

“United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region’s school supply drive helps ensure that local students start the academic year

with the tools they need to learn and succeed,” said Jeannie Montano, President & CEO at United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. “By providing essential supplies, we ease the financial burden on families and help create a stronger, more equitable community where every child has the opportunity to thrive. We are grateful to Hudson Valley Credit Union, whose support makes this effort possible. Together, we are helping local children begin the school year prepared and confident.”

HVCU regularly contributes to the Hudson Valley community through meaningful hands-on experiences and the HVCU Charitable Foundation’s annual grant program, which has distributed \$1.1 million across New York since its inception in 2025.

Grace Church celebrates Season of Creation with Blessing of Animals

Grace Church Millbrook will celebrate the Season of Creation on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 10 a.m., with a special service.

Grace Church will welcome Dr. Joshua Ginsberg, President of the Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies, who will give the homily during the service. Dr. Ginsberg’s work at the Cary Institute focuses on ecology and conservation, making his presence especially meaningful as the church observes the Season of Creation.

Following the service, the community

is invited to gather for a Blessing of the Animals. Members of the community are welcome to bring their dogs, cats, and other pets to receive a blessing and to give thanks for the animals who bring joy, love, and companionship into our lives.

All pets must be leashed.

Everyone is welcome to join this special celebration, whether bringing a pet or simply coming to worship and enjoy the gathering.

EASTDALE FERRAGOSTO FESTIVAL RESCHEDULED OCT. 3



Eastdale Village Town Center’s first annual Ferragosto Festival has been rescheduled to Saturday, October 3, after last weekend’s uncertain forecast. From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Palladino Piazza will come alive with authentic Italian food, live music, wine and beverage tastings, a live mozzarella-making demonstration, a sauce-making competition, shopping from local artisans, family activities and more. The event is free and open to the public, so come spend the day at Eastdale and experience the sights, sounds and traditions of Italy right here in the Hudson Valley. *Courtesy image*

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Morgan E. Maier

Rhinebeck soccer teams undefeated through first 11

Rhinebeck holds the top spot of Section 9 soccer on both sides. The Hawks did not concede a goal in their last three boys’ soccer matches. The squad outscored opponents 13-0 over the stretch. It began against Millbrook with a 5-0 result. Rhinebeck scored five more unanswered goals against Pine Plains on Sept. 23, then took down Webutuck 2-0 to close the week of play. The girls soccer team is finding similar success, beginning their season with a 6-0 record and five straight conference wins.

Arlington volleyball sweeps again

Arlington volleyball swept Spring Valley on Sept. 24, 25-3, 25-8, 25-14. Gabriella Egger led with 15 kills, 18 aces, and 7 digs. Aubrie Bednarski added 12 kills, and Ashley Kirschenheiter paired 6 kills with 2 digs. Setter Amelia Giorgi continues to collect accolades in her senior season, receiving an All-Tournament Team nod at the Clarkstown South tour-

namment the following weekend. Junior outside hitter Avery Cunningham also earned All-Team honors. Caroline Urso helped Arlington reach the championship bracket finals, and kept the Admirals in each match with “tough serves and big kills,” according to coach Jillian Cruz.

Football highs and lows

Poughkeepsie football dropped to 0-4 on Sept. 26, while the Red Hook Raiders stormed to a 40-0 win over Liberty the same evening. Millbrook/Webutuck remain undefeated in their first two contests. The crew exploded for a 34-point shutout over Fallsburg in the home opener, then a 46-12 triumph in Tri-Valley.

Spackenkill sweeps soccer week vs. Red Hook

Spackenkill and Red Hook squared off in girls soccer on Sept. 22. The Spartans prevailed 4-0 behind four first-half goals. The boys’ contest three days later saw another Spackenkill shutout on the pitch, earning a 3-0 victory over the Raiders.

BOWL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OCT. 9

Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County will hold a fundraising event at Spins Bowl, at 1677 Route 9 in Wappingers Falls in October and wants you to take part in the action. “Bowl for ACTION” will take place on Friday, October 9, and will feature team participants, raffle prizes, food and more. Check in for the event is 5:30 p.m. To find out more about sponsorship opportunities and to register for the event, go to www.BowlforACTION.org.

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Limelitters to play Grace Note Oct. 2



Last year, the Kingston Trio sold out Stissing Center's Banning Hall in an evening that felt less like a concert than a reunion – a reminder of why the music of the American folk revival still holds such a grip on us. On Friday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m., Stissing Center continues that tradition with another founding voice of the movement: The Limelitters – in the intimate venue The Grace Note.

Time Magazine once drew the distinction plainly: "If the Kingston Trio are undergraduates of big-time folk singing, The Limelitters are the faculty." Formed in 1959 by Lou Gottlieb, Alex Hassilev, and Glenn Yarbrough, The Limelitters helped define what folk music could be – rigorous and joyful, deeply felt and genuinely funny. More than six decades

later, that spirit carries forward with Andy Corwin, Steve Brooks, and C. Daniel Boling, who bring the same tight harmonies, the same warmth, and the same natural ease that made the group beloved from the start.

In the close quarters of The Grace Note, there's nowhere to hide – and no need to. The Limelitters have always thrived on real connection with an audience: a well-placed story between songs, a traditional melody that lands differently when you're twenty feet from the stage. This is exactly the kind of music The Grace Note was built for.

The Stissing Center is at 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Tickets are \$25, available at stissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339.

Folk group The Limelitters will perform at the Stissing Center in Pine Plains on Friday, Oct. 2. *Courtesy photo*

MORTON LIBRARY ISSUES CALL FOR ART FOR HOMAGE TO FIBER CREATORS

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

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

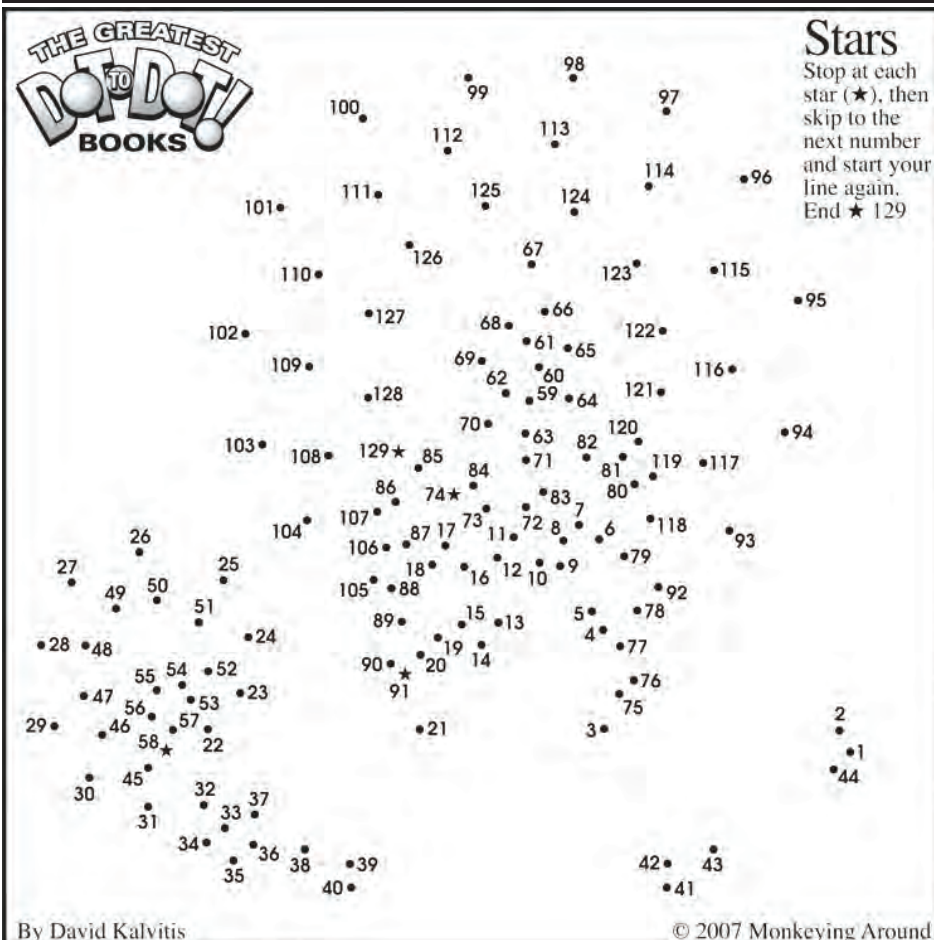
The deadline to submit work is Oct. 3. The opening will be Friday, Oct. 9.

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

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

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



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Neither butcher, candlestick maker, nor baker am I: Confessions of an aspiring sourdough scientist

I have long found bread to be multi-dimensionally fascinating, delicious, and addictive. It is undeniably yummy and crave-worthy. There is also a brilliant alchemy in how our bodies dismantle carbohydrates into sugar to fuel our daily adventures, thriftily tucking away unused glucose into glycogen and fat reserves. Hence, my deep love-hate relationship with the victual.

This fall, as the weather cools, I will don my toque for some kitchen alchemy. I investigate with intention: satisfying and healthy fare. My scientific objective? A crusty, yet soft and chewy sourdough bread. Neither butcher, candlestick maker, nor baker am I. As a minimalist, I do not possess professional chef-gear. I am a mere columnist with some recipes, an interest in science, and a desire to find out if “homemade” is worth the effort.

Dutchess Bread Box

Historically speaking, this region knows a thing or two about grain. The Old Mill House on Beekman Poughquag Road stands as a testament to those days of yore. In the late 1700s, it was the beat-

ing heart of local agriculture, milling flour that fed George Washington’s Continental Army. By the early 19th century, Dutchess County was the state’s largest flour producer.

With that legacy, it can’t be that hard to bake a simple country boule. I shall channel my inner pioneer and create a traditional free-form loaf.

Laboratory learning curve to manage microbes

Sourdough relies on biological leaveners living all around us – on surfaces, in the air, and within the flour itself. Flour contains 70-75% starch. When hydrated with water, natural enzymes activate and digest the starch into sugars. Then wild yeast consumes the sugars, releasing carbon dioxide and alcohol – hence the name alcoholic fermentation.

Simultaneously, healthy bacteria break down the sugars through lactic acid fermentation. The low pH environment produced by the bacteria kills off harmful molds and microbes, leaving the acid-tolerant wild yeast safe to thrive. As yeast cells naturally live and die, they provide



The Old Mill House on Beekman-Poughquag Road. Photo by Francine Wizner

nutrients for the bacteria.

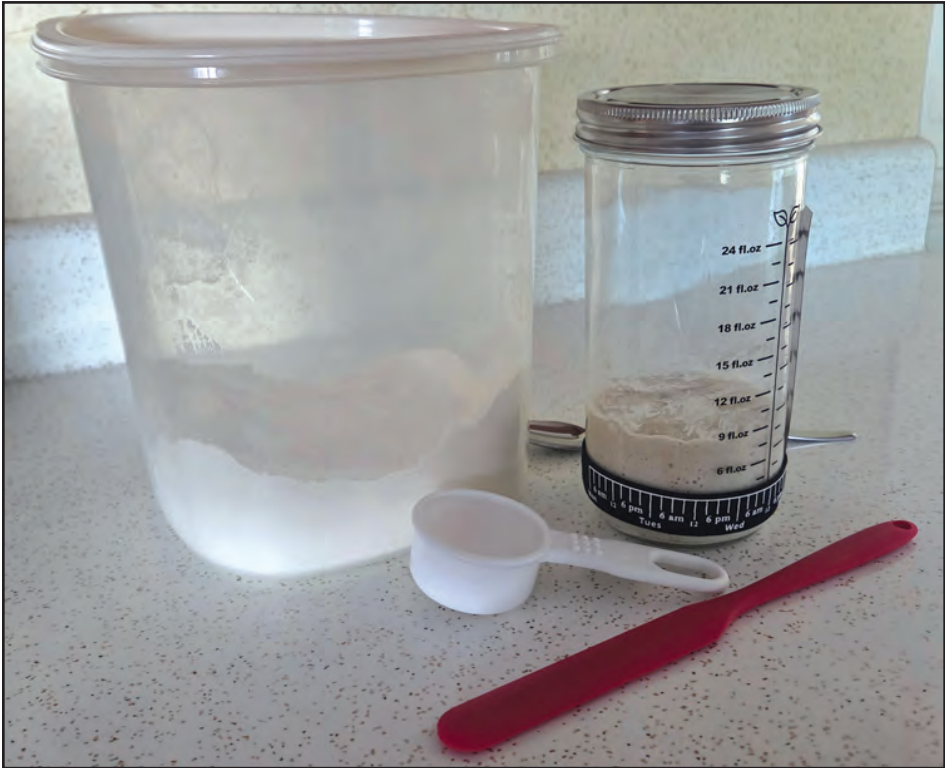
Homemade sourdough begins with cultivating a “Starter” – a microbial consortium where wild yeast and lactic acid bacteria live together in a stable, symbiotic paste of flour and water. In this community, the ratio of bacterial cells to yeast cells is about 100 to 1. The wild yeast provide the carbon dioxide gas needed for loft, while the bacteria ferment sugars into tangy acids that provide flavor and protect the colony from spoilage.

The yeast and bacteria, my “cultural collaborators,” have been collectively

named “Bready Krueger.” As their host, I must feed Bready Krueger flour daily to replenish carbohydrates for the hungry microbes. It takes about 7 to 10 days to build a healthy starter.

Observations are key. The colony gives off aromas – stinky-feet, malty, even of alcohol. A boozy bouquet accompanied by a brown liquid “hooch” is a sign it is starving. Stir that stuff in for tangier bread. If I keep Bready Krueger well fed and at a comfortable room temperature, I’ll wind up with a milder loaf.

continued on page 14



Flour on left; sourdough starter (flour and water) on right. Photo by Francine Wizner

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Cider Tasting event at Kimlin Cider Mill Oct. 3



The annual Cider Tasting will take place at the Kimlin Cider Mill in Poughkeepsie on Oct. 3. Courtesy photo

Celebrate Fall at its finest! Cider Mill Friends will host its 14th Annual Cider Tasting at the historic Kimlin Cider Mill on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sip our exclusive house-pressed sweet Kimlin Cider and sample a fantastic selection of Hudson Valley hard and sweet ciders. Enjoy live music as you browse impressive raffle baskets, bite into warm, freshly made apple fritters or dig in to savory food truck favorites. Bring the children for live animals, arts and crafts, scavenger hunt, and an adventure through the meadow maze – plus cider pressing demonstrations and free tours of the historic mill.

This event is rain or shine under the big tent. Entry is free. Tickets for tasting ciders are available in advance at the website, cidermillfriends.org, or by scanning the QR code (right). Tickets will also be available at the door.

A full tasting ticket of sweet and hard

ciders includes a commemorative 25th Anniversary tasting glass.

For more information, visit the website. All proceeds benefit restoration efforts of the Mill, a unique local landmark, located at 140 Cedar Avenue, Poughkeepsie.



St. James' Church in Hyde Park launches graveyard tours Oct. 9

St. James' Episcopal Church of Hyde Park will presents its Historic Graveyard Tours on Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 9-24.

As your tour guide leads you by lantern light through St. James' historic 200-year-old graveyard, you will meet some of the more interesting "residents" who, from time to time, make an appearance. Now in its 16th season, the Graveyard Tours change every year with new characters and new features, but always in the same spirit of learning and fun.

Shows are at 6:30, 7, 7:30 and 8 p.m. and last one hour. Tickets are \$25 per person (\$15 for children ages 12 and younger) and are non-refundable. Visit <https://stjameshydepark.org/graveyard-tours/> to purchase. All ages are welcome, but the tours are most suitable for ages 5 and over. Reservations are recommended, but walk-ins (payable by cash or check at the door) will be accommodated if there is room on the tour.

Parking is free and adjacent to the churchyard. A parking attendant will

direct you when you arrive. Tailgaters welcome.

Cameras (no flash photography) and flashlights are welcome. Please silence cell phones.

Strollers are not allowed on the tour. Young children will need to walk or be carried.

Dress appropriately for the weather and the terrain. In the event of severe weather, a cancellation notice will be posted on the website with a make-up date.

Note: These are historical tours, not haunted tours, and therefore are not meant to be scary.

The church has a golf cart for mobility challenged adults and children. Call the office for details.

No pets are allowed on the tours, service animals only.

Visit the parish website at www.stjameshydepark.org or email stjamesoffice@stjameshydepark.org for more information; or call the Parish Office at (845) 229-2820 (open Tues.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.).

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4:00 p.m., *The Culinary Institute
of America, Hyde Park, NY*



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2026/2027 SEASON

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Our concert season is made possible, in part, through funding from the County of Dutchess and Destination Dutchess (formerly Dutchess Tourism, Inc.) and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

A & E CALENDAR

Oct. 1: Live Coverage, Daryl's House Club, 130 Rte. 22, Pawling. New York City band performs favorite New Wave/Post-Punk anthems by The Violent Femmes, Blondie, Talking Heads, The Clash, The Cure, The Go-Gos, and much more, 8 p.m. www.darylshouseclub.com

Oct. 2: "Asia Today Through the Eyes of an Artist" by Nestor Madalengoitia, Arts Mid-Hudson Gallery, 696 Dutchess Turnpike, Suite F, Poughkeepsie. The presentation will explore Madalengoitia's recent travels to the People's Republic of China and South Korea through the perspective of an artist. Attendees will learn about the arts, culture, and technology he encountered during his travels, from traditional artistic practices such as porcelain, wood carving, and ink art to the contemporary art scenes thriving in both countries. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ages: 18+. RSVP: <https://www.artsmidhudson.org/eyes-of-an-artist>

Oct. 2: The Limeliters, The Grace Note, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. The Limeliter's helped define what folk music could be – rigorous and joyful, deeply felt and genuinely funny, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Oct. 2 & 4: Doansburg Chamber Ensemble, Cold Spring & Brewster. Performances by the Ensemble's Quartet of piano, oboe, clarinet and flute. The performing artists include pianist Christine Johannsen, oboist John Frisch, clarinetist

Alexander Negruta, and flutist Christine Smith. Works by Powning, Saint-Saens, Arnold, Damase and De Wally. Performances: Fri., Oct. 2, 7 p.m., St. Mary in the Highlands Church, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring. Sun., Oct. 4, 3 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2103 Rte. 6, Brewster. Tickets available at the door, \$17 for general admission. Tickets for students and seniors are \$14. More info at doansburgchamberensemble.org or call (845) 228-4167

Oct. 4: Cocoon Theatre's Sunday Soiree, Church-Hill Barn Theater, 283 Lapla Rd., Kingston. Local author, teacher, musician Miranda Haydn will perform a staged reading of selections from her original play entitled "Celeste's Journey," 4-6 p.m. The barn is neither heated nor cooled so all are asked to dress for the weather, with a \$20 suggested donation, by cash only (no WiFi available). Parking is limited, carpooling encouraged. www.cocoontheatre.org or (845) 758-0695

Oct. 5: Author Event, Reem Kayden Center, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. Bard Fiction Prize winner Eliza Barry Callahan will give a public reading on campus as part of her ongoing residency at Bard during the fall 2026 semester, 5:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. More info: (845) 758-7087.

Oct. 5: Play Reading, Village Hall, 86 Broadway, Tivoli. Tangent Theatre Company presents a play reading of "The Country Girl" by celebrated playwright

Clifford Odets, 6 p.m. A visionary young theater director aims to give one more chance to a once-acclaimed, now washed-up, alcoholic actor. His main obstacle? The actor's quiet and self-effacing wife. Go behind the scenes of the Broadway theater world and experience themes of celebrity, failure, addiction and complex relationships. Reading is two acts, performed with an intermission. Free; donations welcome. RSVP required; email info@tangent-arts.org

Oct. 6-11: Hudson Valley Plein Air Festival 2026 - Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary. Wallkill River Center for the Arts (WRCA) presents this multi-day event, where 30 artists are invited to paint on the grounds of selected Hudson Valley sites and capture these iconic vistas. In celebration of the nation's anniversary, this year's plein air festival will partner with area historic sites which include Goshen Historic Track, Hill-Hold & Brick House Museums, Brotherhood Winery, Greenwood Lake Farmers Market, and West Point. Invited artists will participate in

scheduled paint-outs, on-site displays, pop-up exhibits, quick draw, and demonstrations throughout the festival. As the culmination of this multi-day event, works created during the festival will be exhibited at WRCA Galleries from Oct. 11-Nov. 8. www.wallkill.art

Oct. 7: Fiber Artist: Un-A-Frayed (postponed from March), Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville - Local fiber artist, Karen Madden, will be presenting and discussing the techniques of felting fiber that she uses in her creations of fiber art. She will display finished pieces that show depth of this art form and explain how out-of-the-box creativity leads to this unique art form. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, presents this program beginning at 12:30pm. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10am or come for this program only beginning at 12:30. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillIGA or email to EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

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County Players to launch 2026 Readers Theatre Mini-Festival

Series opens Oct. 2

County Players, one of the longest running community theatre companies in the area, will present the Season 69 Mini-Festival #1 in the CP2 Readers Theatre Series from Oct. 2 to Oct. 4 at County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 West Main St., Wappingers Falls.

Reading #1- "Birds of North America" by Anna Ouyang Moench, an intimate and thrilling father and daughter drama directed by Jeffrey Battersby will be presented Friday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m., and Saturday Oct. 3 at 2 p.m. John and his daughter Caitlyn are birders. As they scan the skies over their backyard in suburban Maryland looking for elusive birds, years go by. Relationships begin and end. Children grow up and parents age. This lyrical and endearing family portrait unfolds in delicate, detailed layers like the scattered leaves of each passing year. This talented cast features Hailey Pinkington and Josh Way.

Reading #2- "Dead Man's Cell Phone" by Sarah Ruhl, a beguiling and surrealist comedy directed by Kit Colbourn will be presented Saturday, Oct. 3 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. A comedy about

how we remember the dead – and how that memorialization changes us. It is the journey of a woman forced to confront her presumptions about isolation in a technological society. Everything we thought we knew, everything we thought was dead, can be uncovered, re-discovered, and brought to life again. The reading features local actors Susan Bond, Karen Dalmer-Sheehy, Matthew DeHond, Ana Hein, Wendy Urban-Meade, and Erica Woolley.

CP2 Readers Theatre is a series at County Players which offers an opportunity for actors, directors, and audience members to experience theater in a fresh way: selected plays with full dramatic readings, no costumes, no sets, no props, and the actors perform with scripts in hand. These shows are an incredible opportunity to experience great theater stripped to its essence: the playwright's words.

Reserved seating is \$15 per reading, and \$25 for both readings on the same weekend. Visit countyplayers.org and at the top of the main page select Buy Tickets.

Contact the Box Office at (845) 298-1491 for information about wheelchair accessibility.



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Dutchess County Conservative Party
dcnycp.com

"Pre Election Day Brunch"
Sunday, October 4, 2026

Featured Speaker

Dominic Carter

77 WABC Radio Host and Author "No Momma's Boy"
Villa Borghese
70 Widmer Rd. Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590
11am - 2pm "check in 10:15am"
\$150. p/person \$250. p/couple
for more info: text or call 845-464-6748

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- Don Minichino chairman

"Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy." - Winston Churchill

"How do you tell a Communist? Well, it's someone who reads Marx and Lenin. And how do you tell an anti-Communist? It's someone who understands Marx and Lenin."
- Ronald Reagan



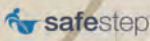


Dutchess County NY Conservative Party

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

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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

	4	3			
					1
	2		3		

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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: PHYSICS 101

ACROSS

- Mediterranean island country
- Not Miss or Ms
- Contributions to the poor
- *Physicist of apple-related revelation fame
- Bottle top
- Be of use
- Wilt "The ____" Chamberlain
- Sailor's assent
- Nincompoop
- *Electric current path
- *Like magnifying glass lens
- Unhappy
- Southern stew staple
- ____ Beta Kappa
- Harper and Bruce, e.g.
- Type of jacket
- Nevada city
- "The Road Runner" corporation
- Solemnly promised
- One twelfth of a foot
- What blacksmith did to a horse
- Ice dancer's jump
- Phishing and such
- Nobel Peace Prize home
- Either right or left
- Good guy
- Same as island
- Tierra ____ Fuego
- Third-person possessive pronoun
- Yoko's last name
- *Electric current unit
- *It pulls things down
- Doom's companion
- Thomas Paine's "The ____ of Reason"
- 10 percent to charity, e.g.
- Prevention measure
- Sir George Ivan Morrison's stage name
- Wife's dad, e.g.
- In a frenzy
- Three ahead of PST
- Picts and Gauls

DOWN

- Catchall abbr.
- ____ spumante
- Bear's den, e.g.
- Same as talcums
- Opposite of potential
- Med. sch. requirement
- *Path of light
- Heard by Horton
- Tel ____, city
- Bowling ball path
- Seductive one
- Like a fox
- Historical records
- Some are bright
- Ball-shaped object
- *Reverse one, in the kitchen
- *Rainbow-producing device
- From this time on
- Relating to Quechuan people
- *Sound reverberation
- Hole-punching tools
- Coral polyp, e.g.
- Eat away
- *What similar magnetic poles do
- *Electrical resistance units
- Mature elvers
- Sorrow
- "In the grand ____ of things"
- Having Everything Revealed singer-songwriter
- Related on mother's side
- Plunder
- Sheep-like
- Grad
- a.k.a. kissing disease
- Pox mark
- Gentleman, informally
- It will
- Not this
- Certain coniferous trees
- India's smallest state
- *Not liquid or solid

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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



My three mother hens

As Luigi and wife Lisa celebrate their anniversary, Luigi recalls the special ladies who helped set their relationship in motion.

This year my wife Lisa and I are celebrating our 28th wedding anniversary. I thought I would share with you how we met...

Growing up in the restaurant had its benefits. For one, there was always something to eat. For two, there was always something to do, and finally there was always someone watching out for you.

We had three older waitresses. Mary, Kay, and Annie. All three were widows whom my father took under his wing and watched over. They in turn became three mother hens to me.

Now, as I was the Italian version of Dennis the Menace, I would drive them crazy. I would play pranks on them, and they in turn would laugh at my hijinks. Mary was afraid of lobster, and I was forever hiding lobsters in spots so she would find them. Mary would always swat me on the behind in playful anger. Kay and Annie would always have their aprons untied at the worst possible moments. Always quick to turn around and yell at me for being a "scutch."

After school, my little brother Vinny and I would be in the office at the restaurant doing homework. During our studies, our mother hens would sneak us soda

and snacks. Always encouraging us to go to school and college. Always pushing us to be better. Always with love.

I remember the day I noticed a cute little waitress. I was away at college at the time and came home on Christmas break. I was in the kitchen cooking on the line. Lisa was a cute, bubbly waitress, my age. Well, the mother hens realized that I had eyes for her, figured we'd make a nice couple and decided to check out the match to make sure we were good for each other.

They stealthily asked Lisa questions about who she was and what her likes and dislikes were. When they deemed us a good match, they started to push me to ask her out. During their interrogation of Lisa, they also pumped me up to her, telling her all about me. I had no idea they were doing any of this.

The mother hens started dropping hints to me about her. Nothing overt, nothing that I noticed. After a couple of days, the bait was set, and neither Lisa nor I knew what was going on. All I knew was that I was going to ask her out, which I did, and which she said yes.

The following Christmas, almost a year after our first date, the three mother

hens asked me what I was going to buy Lisa for Christmas. Somehow they knew exactly what I should buy. In fact, Mary went so far as to go buy the perfume for me to make sure I got it right. Again, never overt, and always with love.

Two years later, the three mother hens started hinting that I should ask Lisa to marry me. Finally figuring out what they had done for years, I wanted to trump them. I called them into the office and pulled a small box out of my pocket with the ring. I told them that I had graduated and didn't need their hints any longer. They each gave me a kiss and a hug and told me how happy they were for me.

Two years after that day, as I stood at the altar watching my beautiful bride Lisa walking down the aisle, I thought for a moment of Mary, Kay, and Annie. They were there watching us get married, three mother hens.

CREAMY SHELLS WITH ARTICHOKE HEARTS AND SAUSAGE

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. small shell pasta
- 1 lb. crumbled Italian sausage
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 3 artichoke hearts quartered
- 1 cup heavy cream

2 egg yolks
1 stick butter
½ cup grated Pecorino Romano
1 pinch pepper

Method:

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil for pasta. Cook according to package instruction. Drain pasta.

In a large saucepan, brown sausage with 2 tablespoon of olive oil. Sauté on a medium-high heat until cooked through, breaking apart with a wooden spoon. Add artichoke hearts and pepper.

Add heavy cream, butter, egg yolks and cheese to the saucepan. Once sauce is warmed and beginning to thicken, Add pasta and cook for two more minutes.

Serves 4 to 6

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

Hudson Valley Naturalist

continued from page 10



Yeast. Photo by Francine Wizner

Bare bones baker forsakes convenience

Most people who bake "from scratch" are familiar with the beige granules of commercial yeast. It lies dormant until it hits warm water, then quickly ferments, feeding on sugars and releasing carbon dioxide to make bread in as little as an hour. It is convenient, though the flavor may lack complexity.

To bake a loaf of naturally fermented sourdough, you combine a portion of starter with flour, water, and salt. Building protein chains so carbon dioxide gets trapped inside requires active, periodic intervention: pulling the dough and folding it back over itself every thirty minutes for two hours. After shaping it into a loaf and granting it an overnight rest in the fridge, it's finally ready to bake!

Authentic pioneers had "bake kettles"; connoisseurs and professionals own Dutch ovens. But who needs extra kitchen paraphernalia when a roasting pan filled with boiling water on the bottom oven shelf serves well enough? Steam keeps the exterior soft so the gases inside expand rapidly, before removing the water to finish with a "dry-bake" to caramelize the crust.

With so many steps, there are plenty of

opportunities for failure. My result might be a dense orb that Washington's army could shoot from a cannon. But science is trial and error. As long as there is butter to slather on my "practice loaves," there will be no waste!

I'm not a candlestick maker, butcher, nor baker—just a "sciencey gal" with a grand plan for feeding wild microbes and living up to our region's milling history, one loaf at a time.

(If you would like to learn about flour, gluten, or the variables involved with baking bread, check out these educational activities: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/FLOUR-GLUTEN-BREAD-ACTIVITIES-BUNDLE-11341362>.)

Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over 3 decades teaching in Ulster County. She creates science-themed instructional materials and books, as well as being a Citizen Scientist in the management of her current home in an enchanted woodland of Dutchess County. Find her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.youtube.com/@PVMapleLodge>.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

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New black belt students at Traditional Okinawan Karate



Traditional Okinawan Karate held its semi-annual Shiai on Saturday, Sept. 12, at Lenape Elementary School in New Paltz. Among the promotions were several new black belts from Traditional Okinawan Karate dojos in Pleasant Valley and East Fishkill. Standing are, from left, Maurey Levitz, Deena Levitz, Meghan Borland, Steve Borland, Sean McClafferty, Ellen O'Neill-Nuccio, Madison Nuccio, Jason Donovan, Christine Touw, Christopher Miller, Makomi Miller. Kneeling (L-R): Kevin Lyons, Daniel Cola, Elizabeth Bair, Tuyen Hargrove, Nicholas Manno, Sam Schor, Mac Craven, Kevin McClintock, Gavin Wassung, James Franzetti. Sitting (L-R): Nehemiah Jolicoeur (CQ), George Edattel, Aiden Kocotos. Courtesy photo

Christ Church invites the community to a Blessing of the Animals Oct. 4

Christ Church Poughkeepsie will hold a community Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 12:30 p.m., under the tent at 20 Carroll Street.

The gathering is held in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, whose love for animals and creation has made this one of the most beloved traditions in churches around the world.

People are invited to bring dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, guinea pigs — really, all creatures great and small. Each animal will receive an individual blessing, a blessing certificate, and a St. Francis medal to take home.

“Animals have a way of becoming part of our families,” said the Rev. Tommy Dillon, Interim Rector of Christ Church. “They bring us joy, comfort, companion-

ship, and sometimes a little chaos too. This is just a joyful way to give thanks for them.”

Those who cannot bring an animal are welcome to bring a photograph. There will also be an opportunity to remember pets who have died.

And you do not have to be a member of Christ Church — or even much of a church person — to come.

“Just come as you are and bring the creature you love,” Dillon said.

The event is free and open to everyone. For safety, animals should be leashed, harnessed, or brought in carriers.

For more information contact Fr. Tommy Dillon at tommydillon@mac.com.

send us your news ————— cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

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

EXHIBITIONS

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 &12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through Oct. 30:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be painter and illustrator Liliana Washburn. Through Oct. 20: At 12 Vassar St. there will be a group exhibition curated by artist Barbara Todd on sustainability entitled “What Comes Back: Renewal and Resilience” in the Reception and Hancock Galleries. The Hancock Gallery and Reception Gallery are open Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. but visitors should stop by 9 Vassar St. first or call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. The 12 Vassar St. Galleries are also open during events at the VBI Theatre. More info about the artists at cunneen-hackett.org.

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Oct. 3-Jan. 31, 2027:** “Photo-Design: Persuasion, Critique, Fantasy,” exhibition will show visitors how experimental photography techniques have helped envision new possibilities and picture new futures. While photography is often associated with truth and documenting the world as it is, it is arguably more powerful and ubiquitous as a medium of persuasion, critique, and imagination. This exhibition looks at the role of photography throughout the 20th and 21st centuries as a valuable tool for creating, and sometimes selling, a vision of tomorrow. **Opening Celebration with Artist Sarah Elawad:** Sat., Oct. 3, 2 p.m., Taylor Hall 102. Family Day at the Loeb: Sun., Oct. 11, 1-3 p.m., Loeb Galleries. Free drop-in family programs on select Sundays. Enjoy a unique hands-on art activity inspired by art on view. Activities can be modified for all ages, but are best suited for children 5 and up. (845) 437-5632 or vassar.edu/theloeb(845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

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

Hessel Museum of Art, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College (CCS Bard), Annandale-on-Hudson. **Through Nov. 29:** “Uman: In Between,” a solo exhibition exploring over two decades of creative practice by the painter Uman, marking the pathbreaking artist’s most comprehensive survey to date. <https://ccs.bard.edu/>

The Inn at Bellefield, 25 Old Vineyard Place, Hyde Park. **Through February 2027:** An exhibition of acrylic on canvas and framed giclée prints by Jim Bennett, an award-winning visual artist, author, and educator with BFA and MFA degrees and a long record of grants and honors, including the 2022 Millbrook Vineyards and Winery Art in the Loft Winner. More info at www.artsmidhudson.org

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through Oct. 17:** “The State We’re In,” exhibition by Brian Cirimo, June Glasson, Jeff Wigman & Yu Yan. www.millbrooklibrary.org

Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St., Catskill. **Through December:** “Circles of Influence: Thomas Cole and the American Landscape Movement,” In Thomas Cole’s Library Gallery. New exhibition explores the rapid influence that Thomas Cole and his work had on other 19th-century artists. **Through December:** “Emily Cole & Valerie Hegarty: LIFE CYCLES” presents a visual dialogue of two craft-based women artists across three centuries: 19th-century artist Emily Cole, daughter of Thomas Cole, and 21st-century artist Valerie Hegarty. The work by Hegarty was made specifically for the Thomas Cole Site in 2025 and explores the connection between Thomas Cole and Emily Cole and their fascination with cycles of life, while considering Hegarty’s own relationship with her mother. www.thomascole.org

Tyte Gallery, 3280 Franklin Ave., 2nd floor, Millbrook. **Oct. 3-Nov. 15:** “Julia Whitney Barnes: Cyanopaintings and the Botanical World,” lush botanical paintings, inspired by the 19th-century cyanotype photographic process. Beginning with unique cyanotype prints on watercolor paper, the artist builds richly layered compositions using watercolor, gouache, acrylic, and ink, often incorporating plant species gathered from her Hudson Valley garden. **Public reception:** Sat., Oct. 3, 5-7 p.m. (845) 677-6100 or www.tyte-gallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Oct. 2-25:** “Arcane Bodies.” **Opening Reception:** Sat., Oct. 2, 1-3 p.m. **Artists’ Talk:** Sun., Oct. 25, 4-6 p.m. www.womenswork.art

ATTENTION ART GALLERIES

E-mail exhibition listings to:
creativeliving@sdutchessnews.com

OBITUARIES

Margaret Fitzmaurice

RED HOOK – Margaret Ellen Fitzmaurice, 98, of Red Hook, NY, reunited with her beloved family in heaven on Saturday, September 19, passing away peacefully in the home she loved, with those she loved most.

Margaret (Peggy) was born on April 16, 1928, in Oswego, New York, the elder daughter of the late Archibald F. and Agnes (Covell) Batchelor. She grew up in Syracuse, NY and graduated from Onondaga Valley Academy in 1946 before earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in teaching from Oswego State Teachers College, the institution that would later become SUNY Oswego. It was at the university that Margaret met the love of her life, William (Bill) Fitzmaurice, a “city kid” from Staten Island. They tied the knot on July 12, 1952 at St. James Church in Syracuse and were married for 71 years until Bill passed away in 2024.

Bill’s service in the Navy led the newlyweds to Aberdeen, Maryland, near the Bainbridge Naval Base before they landed back in New York a few years later to teach in Maybrook. The couple eventually settled in the sleepy Dutchess County town of Red Hook where Margaret taught 1st Grade at Red Hook Elementary. She worked until the birth of their son, Michael, and, later, became a substitute teacher and continued teaching at Red Hook Elementary until her retirement.

In 1957, Margaret and her husband finished building their home in Red Hook, where they would spend the rest of their years together. Blessed with loving family and caring neighbors, Margaret and her husband enjoyed traveling and cruising the world, including many memorable trips to their ancestral home of Ireland. They spent many happy hours at Tim and Kelly’s camp at Augur Lake and at Margaret’s family home-stead in North Bay, NY. Many a weekend was spent whiling away the hours on the Hudson River or on Oneida Lake with the “grand dogs” on their boat, comically called the “Misfitz.”

Margaret was a parishioner of St. Christopher’s parish in Red Hook, a member of the Rosary Altar Society and the, now, defunct Homemaker’s Club.

After retiring, Margaret’s talents shined equally outside the classroom, and she spent much of her free time painting in oils, creating masterpieces for family and friends. For many years, she painted weekly with her core group of artist friends: Amelia Barringer, Fran Rall and Bev Campisi. An avid gardener, Margaret was proud of her home and tended to the flowers and gardens surrounding her abode in the same way she cared for her loved ones—with great patience and unconditional love.

Margaret is survived by her sons, Michael Fitzmaurice of Poughkeepsie and Timothy Fitzmaurice and wife, Kelly McMullen, of Germantown, NY. Margaret also leaves behind her sister, Sally Fitzpatrick, of Clinton, NY as well as many adoring nieces and nephews, friends and acquaintances, including her devoted caregiver, Bernice Boateng, who faithfully tended to Margaret in her final days.

Margaret is pre-deceased by her husband Bill of 71 years, her sister-in-law, Joan and her husband Grant Manning, her brother-in-law, Robert Fitzpatrick, as well as by her son Michael’s partner, Mark Tallardy.

Margaret was a woman of great faith, a devoted wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend—a calm, kind and caring soul who was as delicate and refined as her penmanship and as sweet and comforting as her homemade apple pies.

Friends will be received at the Burnett & White Funeral Home in Red Hook on Wednesday, September 30, 2026 from 4 to 7 p.m.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, October 1, at 11 am. at St. Christopher’s Church in Red Hook.

Interment will be held at St. Mary’s Cemetery in Cleveland, NY, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Margaret’s memory to Hudson Valley Hospice at HVHospice.org or to the Dutchess County SPCA at DCSPCA.org.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Burnett & White Funeral Homes, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571.

Joyce Edna Heaton



We are saddened to announce the passing of Joyce Edna Heaton on September 6, 2026, at her home in Westbrook, Maine, after a short illness. Joyce was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sibling, friend, and devoted member of many communities.

Joyce was born on June 2, 1956, in Poughkeepsie, NY. She lived a life marked by compassion, purpose, faith, and an unwavering commitment to other people. For 40 years she was the cherished wife of Steve Ouellette, creating a home filled with love, laughter, generosity, and welcome.

Joyce was the loving mother of Madeleine (husband Immad Khan) and Isabelle, and the proud grandmother of Zayaan, Zara, and Zaiden. Her family will remember her warm embraces, encouraging words, thoughtful advice, and how she made every birthday, holiday, school event, and visit so special. She took great joy in the accomplishments of her family and was their most faithful supporter.

Joyce was President of her Poughkeepsie High School graduating class and a Fordham University graduate. She was an IBM manager, a private water company owner and manager, and the owner and operator of her special joy, the J.E. Heaton Jewelers in Millbrook, NY.

Joyce dedicated countless hours to many organizations and causes, including leadership roles in the Poughkeepsie Junior League, Millbrook Rotary Club, New Year’s Eve Millbrook, and her Portland coffee club.

Joyce was a devoted participant at State Street Church in Portland and Lyall

Community Church in Millbrook. She found great comfort and fellowship with her Church families, and her kindness, presence, and concern for others touched many lives.

Joyce was admired for her grace, creativity, hard work, and ability to bring people together. Whether organizing an event, mentoring new members, volunteering, or helping someone in need, she gave generously of her time and heart. She was a thoughtful listener, a loyal friend, and a source of comfort in difficult times. Joyce had a gift for making people feel valued and loved, and her warmth, humor, strength, and generous spirit will remain in the hearts of all who were fortunate to know her.

Joyce was predeceased by her parents, Lawrence Adna and Jane Davis Heaton. She is survived by her siblings (Joanna Selim, Hooker Heaton, and Virginia Keller), many in-laws, nieces, and nephews, and a wide circle of friends, church families, colleagues, and community members, all of whom will miss her deeply.

A Celebration of Joyce’s Life will be held at 11:00 AM on October 3, 2026, at Lyall Community Church, 30 Maple Ave., Millbrook, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, State Street Church, Lyall Community Church, or Millbrook Rotary.

Her absence leaves an immeasurable void, but her love will continue to guide those she left behind. Joyce made the world shine brighter through her faith, service, and care for others.

Stephen Montemorra

PINE PLAINS – Stephen Montemorra, “Steve” 78, of Pine Plains, passed away peacefully at home on September 11 with his wife and cats by his side.

Born on April 20,1948 in Poughkeepsie NY, Steve was the son of the late Michael Montemorra and Mildred Cahill.

After receiving his associates from Dutchess County Community College, Steve spent his career working for Central Hudson, taking on various positions throughout his 35 years with them, before retiring in 2008.

An avid golfer and fisherman, Steve spent much time either on the course or by the water. He enjoyed spending his time outdoors and would make it a point to be out as much as possible.

Above all, Steve was a loving husband and father and a cherished friend to many who knew him. He also held a close bond with his cats and parrot.

Steve is survived by his wife Nancy Proper; his children Cathleen Montemorra (Chris Johnson) and Christine Woodin; his grandchildren Abigail, Eli, Coty, Jessica, Sara and Dalton; his great-grandchildren Jayson, Molly, Zoe and Lyric; his siblings Jim Montemorra, Anna Rothvoss and Wayne McBeth, as well as many other friends and family.

In addition to his parents, Stephen is predeceased by his sister Patricia.

Friends and family were received at Burnett & White Funeral Homes in Red Hook, NY, on Friday, September 25, 2026.

Donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice at 374 Violet Avenue Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, or online at hvhospice.org.

The family would like to thank his caregiver Melissa and his Hospice team Schcola, Cheri, Kathy, Gina and Allison for their superb care during his journey with Parkinson’s.

Steve will be deeply missed and forever remembered by many good friends and family who loved him.

Arrangements under the care of Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY.

Carol Ann Reilly

LAGRANGE – Carol Ann Reilly, a resident of LaGrange and formerly of Stanfordville, entered into rest Saturday, September 19, 2026 at The Baptist Home at Brookmeade in Rhinebeck. She was 80. A survivor of breast cancer, she passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with Lewy Body Dementia.

Daughter of the late Anthony A. and Gloria (Panzanaro) DeMeo, Sr., she was born July 30, 1946 in Peekskill. She married William J. Reilly, Sr. on August 19, 1967 at St. Mary’s Church in Wappingers Falls. Bill preceded her in death on May 2, 2017.

Carol was a devout Catholic with a deep faith in God and the Blessed Mother. She traveled on several pilgrimages with friends in Europe including to Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Vatican City where she met Pope John Paul II. She also enjoyed many religious retreats in the United States. Carol was also a Eucharistic Minister. She volunteered delivering Meals on Wheels and sponsored families in need at the holidays. In her younger years she bowled in leagues at Holiday Bowl in Wappingers Falls. Most importantly, she will be remembered for her loving and caring spirit which will be treasured by her family and friends.

Survivors include her son, Bill and his wife Danielle (McManus) Reilly, Jr. of LaGrange and their children, Chelsea (Reilly) Pellegrini and husband, Chris, Jennifer (Lane) Dolfinger and husband, Matt, Laurie Lane and fiancé Shawn Morse, Ashley Hays and longtime boyfriend, Josh Chapman, Matthew McManus and Erin McManus; her son, Rob and his wife, Molly (DeSousa) Reilly of Wappingers Falls, NY and their children, Nicole Reilly and fiancé Jordy Hernandez, Alexis Reilly, Shannon Reilly, Kayla (Mata) Travis and husband, Zach and Alicia Mata; her twin daughter, Lori (Reilly) and her husband, Greg Sheldon, Sr. of Greenville, Michigan and their children, Courtney Reilly and fiancé Will Babb, Ryan and wife, Leanna (VanWassenhove) Cimorelli, Greg Sheldon, Jr., Chris and wife, Freda (Turner) Sheldon, Amanda (Sheldon) and husband, Jimmy Wright ; her twin daughter, Lisa (Reilly) and her husband, John Petrus of Mansfield Center, Connecticut and their children, Johnnie Petrus and Reilly Petrus; her bonus daughter, Diana (Carbonaro) and husband, Steve Andreini of Poughkeepsie, NY; her brother Anthony and his wife, Sally (Riley) DeMeo Sr. of Wappingers Falls, NY; her sister, Pattie (DeMeo) Darragh of Shelton, Connecticut; her sister-in-law, Nancy (Reilly) Pampalone and her husband, Tony, Wappingers Falls, NY; 14 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family and friends will gather on Friday, October 9, 2026 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 10 at St. Mary’s Church, 11 Clinton Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. Interment will follow in St. Mary’s Cemetery in Wappingers Falls, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Carol’s name to either the Dementia Society of America (www.dementiasociety.org/donate) or Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation (www.milesofhope.org).

For directions or to send a personal condolence, please visit www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

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TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 5 OF THE YEAR 2026 AMENDING CHAPTER 86 (TAXATION) TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VII ENTITLED: "PILOT PROGRAM FOR COMMERCIAL SOLAR INSTALLATION"
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Pleasant Valley will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 1903 Route 44, Pleasant Valley, New York on October 5, 2026 at 7:05 o'clock, p.m., on Local Law 5 of 2026, "A Local Law Amending Chapter 86 (Taxation) of the Town Code to Provide for a PILOT Program for Commercial Solar Installations".
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at the Town Hall, 1903 Route 44, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and

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place aforesaid. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.
Dated: September 9, 2026
Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk
TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF THE YEAR 2026 A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 86 (TAXATION) OF THE TOWN CODE WITH REGARD TO THE REQUIREMENT OF A PILOT PROGRAM FOR COMMERCIAL SOLAR INSTALLATIONS
BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:
SECTION 1. TITLE.
This Local Law shall be entitled: "A Local Law Amending Chapter 86 (Taxation) of the Town Code with regard to the Requirement of a PILOT Program for Commercial Solar Installations".
SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND INTENT. §86-24
A. The Town of Pleasant Valley enacted Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2017 entitled: "A Local Law Amending Certain Portions of the Town Code with regard to the Regulation of Solar Installations", which has been codified in Chapter 98, Article IV §98-54.1 Solar Energy Systems of

Legal Notices

the Town Code.
B. Section 487(2) of the Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) provides, in relevant part, that real property which includes a solar energy system in accordance with the provisions of said section, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of any increase in the value thereof by reason of the inclusion of such solar system for a period of fifteen (15) years. RPTL §487(6) provides, in relevant part, that such exemption shall be granted only upon the written application by the owner of real property on a form prescribed and made available by the Commissioner in cooperation with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.
C. RPTL §487(9)(a) provides, in relevant part, that a Town which has not acted to remove the exemption under RPTL §487(8)(a) may require the owner of a property which includes a solar system which meets the requirement of RPTL §487 to enter into a Contract for Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). Said section also provides, in relevant part, that such contract may require payment of annual amounts in amounts not to exceed the amounts which would otherwise be payable but for the exemption under this section. In addition, RPTL §487(9)(a) provides that if the owner or de-

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veloper of such a system provides written notification to the taxing jurisdiction of its intent to construct such a system, then in order to require the owner or developer of such system to enter into a contract for Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), such taxing jurisdiction must notify such owner or developer of its intent to require contract for payment in lieu of taxes within sixty (60) days of receiving the written notification.
D. The Town Board has determined that it would be in the best interests of the Town and its citizens to require the owner of a property which includes a "commercial solar installation", as that term is defined in the Town Code, to enter into such a PILOT Agreement.
§235-2 PILOT AGREEMENT PROCEDURE
The Town of Pleasant Valley, and its Assessor, upon receipt of a notification to the Town Assessor of a property owner's or developer's intent to construct a tier 3 large-scale solar installation pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 98, Article IV, §98-54.1 of the Town Code shall be required to enter into a contract for Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) would have been paid had the property not been entitled to an exemption pursuant to the provisions of RPTL §487. The Assessor shall notify the property owner of its intent to re-

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quire a contract for payment in lieu of taxes within sixty (60) days of receiving such written notification. The terms of such PILOT agreement shall be determined by the Town and its Assessor in the exercise of their sound discretion and in accordance with the provisions of RPTL §487(2) and shall require annual payments in an amount not to exceed the amounts which would otherwise be payable but for the exemption provided pursuant to RPTL §487 for a period of not more than fifteen (15) years commencing from the date on which the benefits of such exemption first becomes available and effective. The Town Board shall have the authority to promulgate, by Resolution, more detailed standards and criteria for negotiating and approving PILOT programs.
SECTION 3. SUPERSESSON
This local law is hereby adopted pursuant to the provisions of the RPTL §487; §10 of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law and §10 of the New York State Statute of Local Governments. It is the intent of the Town Board to supersede any provisions of the New York State Law to the extent that they may be inconsistent with the provisions of this article.
SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.
The invalidity of any word, section,

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clause, paragraph, sentence, part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Local Law, which shall be given effect without such part or parts.
SECTION 5. STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY.
This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority of Article IX of the New York State Constitution §2(c)(8); New York Statute of Local Governments §10(5); New York Municipal Home Rule Law §10(1)(i) and (ii) and §10(1)(a)(8); and New York Real Property Tax Law §487(9).
SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.
This local law shall take effect immediately and retroactive to January 1, 2024 upon filing in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.
REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid #RFB-DCP-100-26
Calendars
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 7th day of October 2026 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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call 845-486-3613.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-105-26
Mobile Crisis Intervention Team
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNetDirect) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., October 19, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-104-26
Incarcerated Individual Healthcare Services for the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNetDirect) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., November 6, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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.

Stanford Free Library upcoming events

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please register via the online calendar at www.stanfordlibrary.org or call 845-868-1341
Senior Exercise Class
Mondays 3pm-4pm and Thursdays 9am-10am, through Oct. 29
Please bring your own weights. Registration is required. Please note that once registered you are registered for all 14 sessions of the class.
Repair Cafe
Saturday, October 3rd, 10am-2pm
The Repair Cafe is open for business. Bring clothes, furniture, appliances, toys, bicycle, etc to our talented volunteers. Get professional advice, personal encounters and inspiration. Enjoy refreshments, handicap access, easy parking.
October Book Club
Monday, October 5th, 1:00 pm-2:00pm
This month's selection is How to Read a Book by Monica Wood. A charming,

deeply moving novel. about second chances. unlikely friendships. and the life-changing power of sharing stories.
Stanford Supper Club
Wednesday, October 14th, 6-7pm
Theme: Pickle Sharing/Tasting. Bring your favorite pickle or food with pickle as an ingredient. Beverages, paper plates, paper bowls, plastic ware, nametags and food signage signs will be provided.
ONGOING EVENTS
Story time at the Library
Tuesday Mornings through June 8th
Stories, Songs, Free Play
Toddlers (18mos-2 years), 10am - 10:45am
Preschoolers (3-4 years) 11am-11:45am
Qigong
Thursdays, 5:30-6:30pm
Why consider the practice of Qi Gong? Empower yourself, improve your physical and mental health. Create a state of balance/strengthen your will power

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

Yoga with Mia
Saturdays, 10am-11am
Bring your own mat and blanket. One time waiver must be signed prior to first class.
Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners
Mondays 5pm- 630pm
All levels are welcome.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

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• Is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress.
• Provides support: People may dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.
• Help for VETERANS: Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 and be connected directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline.

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

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

M	A	L	T	A	M	R	S	A	L	M	S
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P	H	I		L	E	E	S	B	L	A	Z
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Answers to this
week's diversions

(puzzles on page 13)

Oct. 3 is World Romance Scam Prevention Day

A major technology summit in San Francisco recently began with an ingenious demonstration of why scams can work - on anybody.

More than 1,200 participants in this conference received an email from conference organizers, discussing the importance of computer security. Included in the email was an offer of free WiFi to conference participants. Just click here, it said.

Of the 1,200+ emails that were sent, over 700 opened the email.

418 clicked the link.

54 started submitting personal data.

9 entered their credit card info.

The email was a trick: a phishing attempt, designed to scoop up users' personal and financial information. And it worked.

The name of the organization that held the conference, whose participants were duped, is: The Global Anti-Scam Alliance.

Some of the world's top professionals in scam and fraud prevention, banking, and telecoms ... were fooled by this practical joke.

Stories like this are why we need to lead with empathy for ourselves and others when it comes to being victimized by scams - especially romance and companionship scams.

For our older adults, the prospect of loneliness and social isolation can make them prime targets for scammers.

Why do scams work?

Scammers don't possess any special knowledge, except for the knowledge of human nature. However the scam shows itself to us, it appears to offer us things that are universally desired, like:

- Financial security
- Safety for family members and pets
- Companionship and/or romance
- Protection from legal trouble
- Excitement and fun

Chances are you're safe from scammers while you're reading articles like this one, because the prospect is top-of-mind; but what happens if you've had a rough day or your brain is on autopilot. What if you're distracted, tired, or feeling lonesome?

We can all be had.

Two things to do when you're not stressed

Protect your savings: Get in touch with your banks and credit card companies, and learn how to put limits on transactions like wire transfers and purchases.

Freeze your credit: A credit freeze can benefit you long before your identity is stolen or misused. The credit freeze stops lenders from getting into your credit report. What this means is that it becomes

highly unlikely that a lender will extend credit to somebody claiming to be you. A credit freeze is free to place and lift, and they don't affect your credit score. You'll need to lift and re-place the freeze any time you apply for a new credit card or a loan. You can also add a trusted adult child to accounts, to add a layer of oversight.

How romance scammers manipulate us

While many scammers use immediacy and false urgency to trick people, romance scammers take their time to build a relationship with their victim.

Ever received a "wrong number" call or text message, perhaps accompanied by a photo of an attractive younger person? Those are often a scammer's way of introducing themselves, in a way designed to avoid the immediate suspicions that arise with other scammers' attempts to reach you.

Don't try to memorize scammers' methods

Those can change every day. Instead, follow these guidelines that can work in any scam scenario.

Filter the unknown: Newer mobile devices use artificial intelligence to flag messages from unknown senders - and send them straight to the junk folder. You can do much the same with your email filters.

Pause, don't react: Whatever the nature of the "urgent" message, remember your training. Hang up on the call, and call back using a number you already know, like the one on the back of your bank or credit card.

Caregivers, watch for signs: If the person you take care of has a new "friend" and is secretive about who this person is, that's a solid signal they're being scammed - but remember, the scammer will have coached their victim not to listen to you.

Two common romance scam red flags

- Asking for money. The scammer has a sudden "emergency" and needs you to send money now. Or they've got a great investment opportunity, but you have to act quickly? Nope.

- The scammer "lives far away." And that's why they can't meet you in person. Or a last-minute crisis came up, so the meetup has to wait, again. There may be another ask for money.

Cut off contact and report the scammer to local law enforcement and the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov. You can help investigators spot, and maybe catch, a scammer.

Join OFA at the Senior Prom (Mon 10/19)

Hundreds of Dutchess County older adults attend each year's Office for the Aging "Senior Prom" - it's four hours of fun, taking place on Monday, Oct. 19, at

The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Blvd. in Poughkeepsie, and co-hosted by The Pines at Poughkeepsie.

The event begins with lunch at 12 noon, followed by dancing to the music of the full Bob Martinson Band. This year's theme is "Hawaiian Luau," if you're thinking of dressing up.

Admission is \$25 (prepaid), which includes lunch, while seating is available. Guests must be Dutchess County residents over age 60.

Please note that this year's prom venue has changed. If you've already sent in your payment for the prom, you don't need to change anything other than note the new destination - The Grandview.

Registration closes on Friday, Oct. 9, or whenever the event reaches capacity, whichever comes first - and over 360 Dutchess County older adults have already made plans to be at the prom.

Registration and payment info is available via www.dutchessny.gov. Carpooling is strongly suggested.

2027 Tax-Aide volunteers wanted

The Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, and Hudson Valley CASH Coalition are getting ready for next year's income tax filing season, and looking for volunteers to fill the roles of:

- Tax Counselors
- Client Facilitators
- Appointment Specialists
- Marketing and Communications
- Administrative Support

For more information, call (845) 475-7500 or email leddy@DutchessCAP.org.

'Friendly Calls' Orientations

Interested in becoming an OFA "Friendly Calls" volunteer caller? We have a volunteer orientation opportunity available at the OFA main office at 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie:

Monday, October 5th or 26th - 10am

To reserve your seat, call OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.

Sign Up for OFA events this fall

To register for any of the events below, contact OFA during business hours at (845) 486-2555 unless noted otherwise.

October:

(Wednesday) 14th - Navigating Medicare, Starr Library, Rhinebeck, 4:00pm

(Thursday) 15th - Navigating Medicare, Boardman Road Library, 141

Boardman Rd., Poughkeepsie (call 845-485-3440 x3380)

(Wednesday) 21st - Navigating Medicare, Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room, 10:00am

(Friday) 23rd - Navigating Medicare, Millbrook Library (3 Friendly Ln.), 3:00pm (845-677-3611)

November:

(Monday) 9th - Navigating Medicare, Adirance Library, Poughkeepsie (parking on Noxon St.) - 845-485-3445 x3380

'Rebuilding Day' application deadline is Wednesday 9/30

Rebuilding Together Hudson Valley (www.rthudsonvalley.org, 845-454-7310) is accepting applications until Wednesday, Sept. 30, for the 2027 Rebuilding Day critical home repair and accessibility modification program, provided at no cost to qualified homeowners in Dutchess or Ulster County.

Visit the Rebuilding Together website or call RTHV for more information, or email info@rthudsonvalley.org.

New OFA volunteering opportunities

OFA is looking for a volunteer bingo caller who's available to come to our Poughkeepsie Friendship Center (114 Delafield St.) to call bingo games for our older adults, from 10:30-11:30am on Fridays.

The OFA Tri-Town Friendship Center in Pleasant Valley (1576 Main St., in the downstairs of the First Presbyterian Church) is looking for weekday morning volunteer kitchen help.

A printable OFA volunteering form is available at www.dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer.

Another Bingo-calling volunteer opportunity

Older-adult residents of the Admiral Halsey, Interfaith Towers, and Poughkeepsie Village senior housing developments in the City of Poughkeepsie are looking for a volunteer bingo-caller for their regular games.

If you're interested, reach out to First Ward alderman Ernest Henry at ehenry@cityofpoughkeepsie.gov.

This week's Bad Joke comes from Down Under:

I was watching an Australian cooking show and was surprised to see the audience applaud the chef's meringue. They usually boo meringue down there.

We're on the web!
www.sdutchessnews.com

Hudson Valley beverage makers unite for Greystone Programs benefit

Greystone Programs will host its 34th Annual Wine Tasting and Auctions on Sunday, Oct. 11, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Milea Estate Vineyard in Staatsburg. The fundraiser will bring together leading Hudson Valley wineries, cideries, breweries and distilleries in support of children and adults with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Guests will have the opportunity to sample local wines, craft beers, ciders and spirits while enjoying an autumn afternoon overlooking the grounds of Milea Estate Vineyard. This year's participating beverage makers include Milea Estate Vineyard, Brotherhood Winery, Benmarl Winery, Whitecliff Vineyard and Winery, Fjord Vineyards, City Winery, Orchard Hill Cider Mill, Shady Knoll Orchards and Distillery, and Newburgh Brewing Company.

Together, the participating businesses reflect generations of Hudson Valley

winemaking, farming and craft beverage traditions, as well as the region's continuing innovation. Their participation gives guests the chance to experience a wide range of local offerings in one setting while supporting Greystone Programs and the people it serves.

Proceeds will benefit Greystone's expressive arts and enrichment programs, which help children and adults with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities build creativity, communication, confidence and connection.

The event will also feature food, live music, artwork, and Greystone Programs' signature silent and live auctions. After 34 years, its purpose remains unchanged: bringing local communities, businesses and supporters together to make a meaningful difference for their neighbors.

Tickets are available at www.greystoneprograms.org.

