

Understanding
the Even Year
Election Law

Compiled By Kate Goldsmith

We've been hearing about the Even Year Election Law for some time now, but 2026 will be the first year we'll be seeing the results of the legislation.

On Dec. 22, 2023, Gov. Kathy Hochul signed Chapter 741 of the Laws of 2023, which moved elections for a number of local offices outside of New York City to even-numbered years. The legislation went into effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

The law primarily impacts town offices (including Town Supervisor, Town Board Member, Town Clerk, and Highway Superintendent), as well as certain county offices (including County Executive, County Comptroller, and County Legislator). However, it does not affect any of the aforementioned offices should they have a three-year term.

All elected officials serving at the time the legislation went into effect will fulfill the entirety of their term. Should an office be impacted by this legislation, that election will fall into one of three categories. The process to be followed is laid out below.

• Two-year term:

Those elected in November 2025 are serving a one-year term.

Victorious candidates this November and thereafter will serve a regular two-year term.

• Four-year term (those elected in 2025):

Those elected in November 2025 are serving a three-year term.

Victorious candidates in 2028 and thereafter will serve a regular four-year term.

• Four-year term (to be elected in 2027):

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Handcrafted vendors set stage
for Octoberfest at Fairgrounds

An unforgettable fall weekend awaits visitors as Handcrafted Octoberfest: A Family Harvest Celebration returns to the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 10-11.

This one-of-a-kind festival blends the best of Oktoberfest traditions with the charm of a juried craft show, perfect for art lovers, families, and everyone in between. Promoted by Quail Hollow Events, a nationally recognized craft promotion company with decades of experience, Handcrafted Octoberfest is a two-day event held in Rhinebeck, a historically significant and hip destination in the heart of the Hudson Valley, known for its classic fairgrounds, picturesque Market Street, and vibrant creative community. The festival re-imagines the traditional Oktoberfest through an artistic lens, celebrating the spirit of the season by highlighting all things handmade.

Launched in 2019, the event quickly earned a reputation as a fall favorite, drawing thousands of visitors and becoming a seasonal highlight in the Hudson Valley, now widely recognized as an artistic hotspot. With over 100 juried exhibitors showcasing work across ten media categories, the festival brings together the handcrafted, the artisanal, and the agricultural, from fine art and crafts to regional beers, wines and spirits, specialty foods, and abundant harvest fun.

Visitors can sip, eat and unwind in the beer garden and entertainment tent while enjoying live music throughout the week-



Clockwise from top left, giant pumpkins, carriage rides, handcraft vendors and farm animals will attract visitors to this weekend's Handcrafted Octoberfest: A Family Harvest Celebration at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck. *Courtesy photos*

end. On Saturday, Blue Hill takes the stage. A collaboration of longtime friends and musicians from throughout the Hudson Valley, Blue Hill brings together decades of musical experience for a wide-ranging mix of classic and recent rock, blues, country, and jazz. Their repertoire spans more than 50 years of music, including plenty of favorites not often heard from other bands.

Sunday begins with Hudson Valley singer-songwriter Eric Erickson, per-

forming from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Later in the day, Coconut Telegraph brings the sounds of Jimmy Buffett to Rhinebeck with a tribute celebrating the laid-back, tropical music that made Buffett an American favorite.

Families will love the dedicated kids' craft tent, where children can paint pumpkins, engage in artistic free play, or complete a seasonal art project. Parents

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Village of Rhinebeck considers LOSAP
for volunteer firefighters, EMS members

By Kate Goldsmith

In his latest newsletter to residents, Village of Rhinebeck Mayor Gary Bassett said the village is looking into a New York State program called LOSAP, which stands for Length of Service Award Program. The plan is a deferred, retirement-style benefit for volunteer firefighters and EMS members.

Bassett noted, "The Village of Rhinebeck is one of many municipalities facing challenges in recruitment of volunteer firefighters and EMS workers. We are investigating ... LOSAP ... to recruit,

retain, and reward active volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers."

LOSAP was created under New York law and a 1996 federal tax rule written specifically for volunteer emergency responders. It is not a salary; it works like an IRA, not a traditional pension. The Village would contribute up to \$1,200 a year into each qualifying volunteer's account. Funds are paid out at age 65, with beneficiaries paid \$1,200 for each year of qualifying service plus any interest accumulated.

"A volunteer department costs residents far less than a career, paid depart-

ment," Bassett said. "A modest deferred benefit rewards the residents already showing up for Rhinebeck."

State law requires the Village Board to adopt a resolution and then put the program to a mandatory public referendum. A public notice will be issued by mid-November. Residents will vote on the proposition no later than week of Dec. 14.

If approved, the program would become effective on Jan. 1, 2027.

For more information on the program, visit LOSAP.com.

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INSIDE:
Adams Fairacre Farms

CL Fair shines with shopping,



The fall version of the Country Living Fair at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck entertained thousands of visitors over three days last weekend. Clockwise from top left, the pumpkin display traveled from Arthur, Illinois. A visitor from Connecticut shows off her new cowboy boots. A visitor takes part in an Embroidery Workshop. Hats of all kinds and men's ties were among the displays from over 200 vendors.

All photos by Curtis Schmidt

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speakers, workshops & music

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Clockwise from top left, the Main Stage hosted a variety speakers and panels. "Making A Country Living: A Ground-Up Guide to Building a Brand" featured the panel of Audrey Gelman, Josh Kilmer-Purcell, Brent Ridge and Heather Taylor. The Thomas Odak Horticulture Center featured a large array of vendors on the bottom floor. Two visitors from Cleveland, Ohio check out pictures and frames at the Great Maier Mercantile booth. Taylor Ashton and his band perform at the music stage for "Folk at the Fair." Instructor Eliza Crater Harris helps a visitor in the Designer Decoupage workshop.

send us your news cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

Cary Institute to present program on 'Afterlife of Elephants' Oct. 16

On Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m., join Cary Institute for "When Giants Die: The Ecological Afterlife of Elephants," a public event exploring how Earth's largest land animals contribute to ecosystems not only in life, but in death. Elephants are important ecosystem engineers, transforming landscapes as they forage. But did you know they also leave a legacy when they die? Learn how megacarcasses shape savanna ecosystems in Kruger National Park, South Africa. The event will feature an early screening of a 22-minute documentary shot on location and a Q&A with Cary ecologist Jane Lucas and Princeton Postdoctoral Scholar Courtney Reed. Lucas and Reed will share their field experiences and research results.

By investigating soil and plant samples on and near elephant carcasses, Reed, Lucas and colleagues have found that they provide immense nutrient pulses that shape biodiversity and important ecosystem processes. Lucas notes, "As humans drive terrestrial megafauna towards extinction, we risk losing not only their ecosystem engineering abilities while they are alive but also the ecological legacies their carcasses create after death." This event will be offered in-person at Cary's Lovejoy Auditorium in Millbrook and via live stream. It is free and open to all; registration is required at www.caryinstitute.org. During registration, you are welcome to add questions for Lucas and Reed to inform the Q&A. Cary Institute Auditorium is at 2801 Sharon Turnpike (Route 44), Millbrook.

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**Hudson Valley**
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Kaul will support legislation to make energy more affordable

To the editor:

I am writing in support of Lisa Kaul for New York State Senator. For too long, our leadership in Albany has failed to work on legislation to help New York residents afford to heat and electrify their homes.

For many, it has become a choice of heating their homes or paying for their medicine and groceries. We need better.

Lisa Kaul will support legislation such as the Hudson Valley Power Authority and the HEAT Act to make energy more affordable for New York residents.

If you're fed up with high utility bills and with our current representatives in Albany not doing anything to deal with this problem, the choice is clear, vote for Lisa Kaul for New York State Senate-or better yet, come knock doors to help her get elected. It's going to take all of us for her to win.

Nicholas Kalogris
Poughkeepsie

A year of listening, serving and looking ahead in Hyde Park

To the editor:

Last year, I had the privilege of being elected to the Hyde Park Town Board. As a high school history and government teacher for more than two decades, I have spent countless lessons teaching young people about the importance of civic participation. Serving on the Town Board, however, has allowed me to experience government from a very different perspective. During my first year in office, I have learned that effective local government begins with listening.

The issues that matter most to residents are often straightforward. They are things people experience daily, such as road conditions, neighborhood safety, flooding concerns, parks, recreational opportunities, and simply getting a clear response when they have a problem.

As the Town Board liaison to the police department, I have worked with our officers to address one concern I hear repeatedly: speeding. Portable speed

trailers have been deployed in areas where residents have raised concerns. These trailers remind drivers to slow down while collecting information that can help identify areas where additional enforcement may be needed. The department is also working to hire an officer dedicated to traffic safety and enforcement, providing another important resource for addressing these concerns.

Infrastructure is another area where I want to remain focused. Roosevelt Road is one example. After speaking with residents who use the road every day, I believe repaving it should be a priority. I look forward to continuing to work with our Highway Department to address road conditions and make improvements where they are needed most.

I also want to create more opportunities for families to enjoy our community. The town owned property where the old Roosevelt Fire Department once stood has been vacant for years. I believe we should explore transforming the site into a playground and community recreation space by pursuing grants and other funding opportunities.

My first year on the Town Board has reinforced something I have long believed: government can be a force for good when people listen, collaborate, and follow through. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Hyde Park and remain committed to improving our roads, expanding recreational opportunities, and providing responsive constituent services. There is still work to do, and I look forward to continuing that work for our community.

Paul Donnelly
Hyde Park Town Board member

Anne Burger brings experience, collaboration and independent judgment

To the editor:

I am announcing my candidacy for Dutchess County Legislator in District 2. As a lifelong resident of Dutchess, I am invested in the future of our county. I also bring four years of local government experience with the Town of Poughkeepsie.

As a former Town Board member, advocating for residents was my top priority always. Getting to know my immediate and distant neighbors was an absolute joy because we always discovered we had more in common than in difference.

While on the town board in Poughkeepsie I voted on issues like proposed short-term rental legislation, large-scale battery energy storage systems, dispensaries, good cause eviction, and affordable housing zoning laws. In each case, I worked to make sure constituent voices were heard, but moreover I did extensive research on each issue to really understand the return on investment. That is what a true public servant means to me.

I'd like to work on legislation to help lower utility bills, develop legislation around data centers, preserve green space and tackle our emergency response management issues in the county.

I pride myself on being an independent, pragmatic, objective thinker, and I will not put a partisan agenda ahead of the people I represent. I will work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle and judge proposals by whether they serve our communities and use public resources responsibly.

I am a mom to two beautiful teenage sons, I work in corporate sales, and I share the practice of yoga by teaching at two studios in the county. I am running to bring local government experience, independent judgment, and a collaborative approach to Legislature. I hope to earn your support, and I'd love to connect with you.

Anne Burger
Candidate for Dutchess County
Legislator, District 2

Stefanie Hubert focuses on affordability

To the editor:

Dutchess County is more than where I live. It's where I raised my three sons, built a family business, served my community, and put down roots. I'm running for County Legislature because I want future generations to be able to afford to do the same.

I'm Stefanie Hubert, and I'm running for Dutchess County Legislature, District 25, representing Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley, and Millbrook.

For more than 20 years, my career has centered on leadership, fiscal responsibility, and community service. As an Executive Director and small business owner, I know how to balance budgets, manage resources, make difficult decisions, and be accountable for every dollar spent.

Affordability is at the heart of why I'm running. Families are paying more for groceries, utilities, housing, insurance, and nearly everything else. Seniors on fixed incomes are feeling squeezed. Young families are questioning whether they can afford to stay here, and small businesses are struggling with rising costs.

County government cannot control every expense, but it can control how it spends your tax dollars. I will scrutinize spending, oppose unnecessary new taxes and costly programs, and ask a simple question before supporting any proposal: Can our taxpayers afford it?

I will also support our law enforcement and first responders, farmers and small businesses, and protect the rural character that makes our communities special.

I'm not running for a title. I'm running to protect your hard-earned dollars, listen to you, and be your voice in county government.

On November 3, I respectfully ask for your vote.

Your Friend. Your Neighbor. Your Voice.

Stefanie Hubert
Town of Amenia
Candidate for Dutchess County
Legislature, District 25

Supporting Meghan Borland for Pleasant Valley Supervisor

To the editor:

I am pleased to write this letter regarding Meghan Borland and her campaign for Town Supervisor of Pleasant Valley.

I first met Meghan when I was volunteering with the Town's Beautification Committee, before she was a Town Board Member. She proved to be an informed and prepared Committee Chair and now acts as the Board Liaison.

Her proven commitment to public service, thoughtful judgment, and genuine respect for the people in our community make her exceptionally well suited for this position. Meghan approaches all issues with care, preparation, and an open mind. She asks practical questions and remains focused on solutions. She communicates her positions clearly and respectfully, even when opinions differ. These qualities are essential for effective local government, where decisions require both careful analysis and strong collaboration with all interested parties.

Meghan conducts herself with integrity, professionalism, and accountability. She understands that public trust is earned through transparency, consistency, and responsiveness. The Town's Residents can rely on her to take their concerns seriously, follow through on commitments, and weigh decisions according to their long-term impact on our town.

Meghan is attentive to community priorities and very mindful of limited public

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DC Board of Elections offers guidance to absentee and vote-by-mail voters

The Dutchess County Board of Elections is emphasizing, for absentee or vote-by-mail voters, alternative methods for delivering completed ballots, beyond the United States Postal Service, such as using drop boxes at early voting sites and poll sites on Election Day and over-the-counter absentee voting at the Board of Elections.

“Nothing has changed in New York State election law or at the post office with respect to voting by mail in New York State, but we do want to encourage those who can, to use other methods of returning their ballots,” said Lisa Jessup, Democratic Commissioner. “Postal delays have been an ongoing concern and we want to make sure that voters understand the alternatives. Voters who must mail back their ballot should do as soon as possible and do so at a post office where they can obtain a postmark.”

Republican Elections Commissioner Erik Haight added, “I’ve always encouraged voters to show up in person either during Early Voting or on Election Day. Once the voter’s ballot is inside the voting machine it is 100 percent secure.”

On Sept. 18, the Board of Elections issued ballots to military and overseas voters as well as any voter who has already requested an absentee ballot for 2026.

Voters may also request an absentee ballot over the counter at the Board of Elections during business hours, fill out the ballot, and return it over the counter. The Dutchess County Board of Elections is located at 112 Delafield Street, Poughkeepsie and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Absentee ballots may also be dropped at the Board of Elections or at any Dutchess County poll site during early voting or on election day and may be dropped by anyone.

Said Jessup, “There are no restrictions on who can drop off your sealed ballot, so if you are unable to get to a ballot drop location, it is fine for you to give your ballot to someone you trust to drop it for you.”

The list of candidates on the ballot in Dutchess County in 2026 and poll locations are on the Board of Elections website at elections.dutchessny.gov.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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resources. She is committed to balancing immediate needs with sustainable planning. Her collaborative approach would allow her to work effectively with fellow council members, town staff, residents, and community organizations. She would represent the town with diligence, civility, and a clear sense of purpose as Town Supervisor.

Her service as Town Supervisor would be an asset to the entire community, and I encourage town residents to consider Meghan’s candidacy.

I am confident that Meghan Borland will bring sound judgment, strong character, and a sincere dedication to the Town Supervisor position.

Anita Miller
Pleasant Valley

Congressman Josh Riley is great advocate for affordable rural housing
To the editor:

We face many issues in upstate New York, but one of the most significant is the lack of affordable housing. The housing crunch creates a whole range of problems for residents, as well as for the health of the local economy.

- Young people are leaving the area for other parts of the U.S because they can’t afford to rent or buy a house here. That is leading to a major brain drain of talented and often highly educated residents.

- An entire generation is missing out on building home ownership equity – a

key source of savings for all income groups.

- Local companies and other employers are having trouble luring prospective employees to work here, which makes it tougher for them to stay in business much less expand.

That’s why I was heartened to learn that our Congressman, Rep. Josh Riley, is a strong advocate of rural and affordable housing. He helped pass the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act in July, a bi-partisan law that promotes home construction by lowering costs, cutting red tape in housing programs, protecting housing in rural communities and restricting large institutional investors from buying up affordable single-family homes. The law also requires major federal agencies to coordinate environmental reviews regarding housing construction, increases housing density in government Opportunity Zones, and expands a rental-assistance program.

And more, Congressman Riley sponsored the Veterans Housing Promise Act, which remains pending.

While this isn’t going to end the housing crisis, it shows that Riley is fighting what to ease the crisis.

That is why I plan to vote to re-elect him on November 3.

Ellen G. Levy
Co-Chair, Hillsdale Housing Committee

EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

Dates & Times:

Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 26, noon-8 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 28, noon-8 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Locations:

Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive, Rhinebeck

Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
Cornell Cooperative Extension, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook
Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
Board of Elections Training Center, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls

Visit elections.dutchessny.gov for sample ballots and more information.

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Understanding the Even Year Election Law

continued from cover

Those elected in 2027 will serve a three-year term.

Victorious candidates in 2030 and thereafter will serve a regular four-year term.

This legislation does not apply to the following offices:

- Elected offices within the City of New York
- Any town or county office with a three-year term
- City offices
- Village offices
- School Boards
- Fire Districts
- County Sheriff
- County Clerk
- District Attorney
- County Court Judge
- Family Court Judge

- Surrogate’s Court Judge
- Town Justice

Why aren’t all local elections/all positions changed to even years?

According to the New York State Association of Towns (nytowns.org):

“Some positions, like town justices and county judges, have constitutional provisions that come into play and the New York State Constitution would need to be amended to switch those elections to even years. A constitutional amendment would also be required for city elections, and therefore they are not included in the legislation. Finally, villages are not included as they have a different election cycle and conduct their own elections.”

Sources: New York State Board of Elections, New York State Association of Towns



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Clinton Historical Society's fall events schedule

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.

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.

Screening of volunteer firefighter documentary set Oct. 15 at Morton Library
 Morton Memorial Library and The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company present "Odd Hours, No Pay, Cool Hat," a movie screening and Q&A with local firefighters, on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m., at Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. This documentary explores the lives of volunteer firefighters and emergency service workers.

The event is part of the library's Great Give Back. Call Morton at (845) 876-2903 for more information.

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. Soup is limited.

LaGrange Library to host pet adoption event for Great Give Back
 The Great Give Back 2026 Adoption Day with the ASPCA Recovery and Rehabilitation Center will take place on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at LaGrange Library, 1110 Route 55, Lagrangeville. Patrons can learn about the work done at the center and meet dogs available for adoption. For all ages. No registration required. Call (845) 452-3141 for more information.

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 will be held rain or shine, with activities moving inside the Parish Hall in case of rain.

Earlier that day, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Grace Church will host a Pop-Up Winter Wear Sale, featuring gently used coats, jackets, hoodies and sweatshirts, scarves, mittens, and more. Items will be priced affordably, with long coats \$20, short 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 at Brookmeade in Rhinebeck. Cocktail hour is from 5 to 6 p.m. Dinner and dancing from 6 to 10 p.m., 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.

Hyde Park Chamber to hold Meet the Candidates Oct. 22
 The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce will host a Meet the Candidates event on Thursday, Oct. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Coppola's Italian American Bistro on Route 9 in Hyde Park.

Join the Chamber for an opportunity to hear from the Town Supervisor candidates Al Torreggiani and Russell Urban-Mead, and learn more about their vision for the community. All are welcome.

Stanford Grange upcoming events
 Stanford Grange #808 will host its 25th Annual Meet the Candidates Night on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m., at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Candidates for local and regional office have been invited to attend. Candidates will introduce themselves, state their qualifications for office and goals if elected, and give closing statements. The audience will be able to ask questions to the candidates, but this is not a debate between candidates. The community is invited to attend. For more information, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

Stanford Grange #808 will host its Annual Harvest Turkey Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All dinners are take-out only with pick up at 5 p.m. The menu will include roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, home grown mashed butternut squash, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie for dessert. The donation for each dinner is \$17. Drive to the back of the Grange Hall, pay for and get your food through your car window, and take your dinners home to enjoy! For reservations, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Defensive Driving Course on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Cost is \$38 per person. This course allows New York drivers to receive a 10% discount off their collision and auto liability insurance and remove up to 4 points on your license for any violations incurred in the last 18 months. The class includes festive classroom participation as well as a delicious homemade lunch served by the Grange Dinner Committee with a free will offering asked. For more information or to request an application for the course, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

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.

Salt Point church to host ham dinner Oct. 24
 The Westminster Presbyterian Church, located

at 1872 Salt Point Turnpike in Salt Point, is hosting its annual ham dinner on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., for \$15 a person. Menu is spiral ham, homemade scalloped potatoes and applesauce, glazed carrots and a dessert. Please call Jeanne at 845-797-9621 for required reservations with a pick up time.

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

Reservations are required by Oct. 9. Email Events@andersoncares.org if you have any questions about the event.

Fall Pancake Breakfasts in Rhinecliff Nov. 1, Dec. 6
 Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad's Fall Pancake Breakfast will take place on Sundays, Nov. 1 & Dec. 6, 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.

Repair Cafe & Recycling Event set Jan. 3 in Hyde Park
 Sat, Jan 3, 2027, 10am- 2pm. Hyde Park Repair Café and Recycling Event. Bring in your beloved but broken items for free repairs and advice. Recycle Batteries, rechargeable devices, Air Conditioners and mini refrigerators. The United Methodist Church, 1 Church St, Hyde Park, NY. For more information: www.ClimateSmartHydePark.org

MILLBROOK PD LAUNCHES TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

The Village of Millbrook Police Department is once again partnering with the U.S. Marine Corps and Dutchess County Toys for Tots Program to help bring Christmas joy to children in need. The department is collecting new, unwrapped toys for this year's campaign. Every donation, big or small, can help make a child's Christmas wish come true and brighten the holiday season for families in the community.

Drop off a new, unwrapped toy in the lobby of Millbrook Village Hall, 35 Merritt Avenue, Millbrook. Drop-off hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., through Dec. 19.

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH) has confirmed that a raccoon found in Rhinebeck has tested positive for rabies.

On Oct. 1, the raccoon was brought to Rhinebeck Animal Hospital after being observed exhibiting unusual behavior on a local roadway. The individuals who transported the animal to the hospital left before providing contact information or specific information about where the animal was found.

DCDOH is asking the individuals who brought the raccoon to the animal hospital, or anyone who may know their identities, to contact the Department as soon as possible. Health officials are seeking to assess any potential exposure to rabies and provide appropriate guidance.

If any individual or any domestic animal has had recent direct contact with a raccoon in the Rhinebeck area, please call DCDOH as soon as possible at (845) 486-3404, Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or (845) 320-1656 on nights and weekends. Immediate treatment after potential exposure to rabies is crucial.

Rabies is a viral disease that can affect the central nervous system of humans and other mammals. It is almost always fatal once symptoms appear, making early intervention essential. The virus is typically transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal via bites or scratches. Immediate medical attention following potential exposure is crucial to prevent the onset of symptoms.

DCDOH reminds residents not to approach non-domesticated animals. If residents see an animal acting strangely, or if they, their pet or someone they know gets bitten by, or has an open wound exposed to the saliva or nervous tissue of a domestic or wild animal, call DCDOH immediately.

Premier Cares Foundation announces Dutchess Outreach as Care Fund Partner

Premier Cares Foundation has announced a new partnership with Poughkeepsie-based non profit organization, Dutchess Outreach.

Dutchess Outreach joins a list of several Hudson Valley agencies as a recipient of the Foundation's Care Fund. Through this partnership, eligible Dutchess County residents undergoing treatment for debilitating and chronic urological and digestive diseases will have access to financial assistance for essential expenses that may not be covered by insurance or other resources.

For individuals and families facing a serious or chronic illness, the financial burden can extend well beyond medical bills. The Premier Cares Foundation Care Fund was created to help alleviate some of that burden by providing grants for needs such as medications and medical equipment not covered by insurance, housing, transportation, utilities and other approved expenses. The program is designed to help patients address urgent financial challenges so they can focus on their health and treatment. The Foundation works to ensure that financial hardship does not become a barrier to diagnosis, treatment or the supportive services patients need.

"Receiving a diagnosis of a serious illness can affect every part of a person's life, including their ability to pay for basic necessities," said Gia McCormack, Executive Director of Premier Cares Foundation. "Our Care Fund was created to help ease some of that financial stress. Partnering with Dutchess Outreach allows us to reach more patients in Dutchess County through an organization that has deep roots in the community and a longstanding commitment to helping individuals and families during times of need."

For more than 50 years, Dutchess Outreach has worked to strengthen the community by providing healthy food, compassionate support and advocacy for food security and social equity. The organization serves thousands of community members through its programs and provides individualized assistance to individuals and families facing emergencies. Its Emergency Assistance Program offers case management, advocacy, referrals and one-time financial assistance to help address urgent needs.

"Dutchess Outreach is proud to partner with Premier Cares Foundation to help ensure that people in our community do not have to choose between managing their health and meeting their basic needs," said Renee Fillette-Miccio, PhD, Executive Director of Dutchess Outreach. "Our Emergency Assistance Program takes a holistic approach, working one-on-one with individuals to understand their circumstances, connect them with resources and provide assistance when other resources are unavailable or insufficient. This partnership will allow us to provide additional support to Dutchess County residents facing the financial challenges that can accompany serious illness."

Through the partnership, Dutchess Outreach will provide assistance to eligible individuals currently receiving treatment for qualifying urological and digestive diseases. Funding may be used for essential expenses associated with maintaining health and stability during treatment, including medication and medical equipment not covered by insurance, transportation and travel expenses, rent or mortgage payments, utilities and other approved personal expenses.

The partnership builds on the strengths of both organizations: Premier Cares Foundation brings a focused commitment to supporting patients with urologic and gastrointestinal diseases, while Dutchess Outreach brings more than five decades of experience providing direct assistance, case management and connections to community resources.

"Sometimes the most meaningful support is helping someone keep the lights on, get to an appointment, obtain medication or remain safely housed while they are going through treatment," McCormack said. "We are grateful to have Dutchess Outreach as a partner in making sure Care Fund resources reach people who need them."

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

Comedy show to benefit Millbrook Fire Department

Tickets must be purchased by Oct. 12

Get ready for "One Hot Night of Comedy" at the Millbrook Fire Department on Saturday, Oct. 17. This high-energy evening brings together great laughs, community spirit, and a lineup of comedians guaranteed to keep the firehouse buzzing.

Your \$50 ticket includes a buffet dinner, followed by a show featuring host John McDonald, opener Matt McIsaac, "Crazy" Gene Trifilo, and headliner Melvin George from HBO and Showtime.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner begins at 7 p.m., and the show kicks off at 8 p.m. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. Come out to 20 Front St. in Millbrook, support your local firefighters, and enjoy a night guaranteed to bring the heat.

This event is 18 and older only.

Purchase tickets at millbrookfirerescue.org. A minimum number of tickets must be sold for the event to take place. If ticket sales are too low, the event will be canceled.

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue to host Boots & Bourbon Speakeasy

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue (LOHR) will host its Boots & Bourbon Speakeasy on Friday, Nov. 20, at The Links at Union Vale in Lagrangeville, bringing together supporters from across the Hudson Valley for an evening of food, entertainment, fundraising and celebration in support of the nonprofit's rescued horses and community programs.

Guests are invited to trade the everyday for a little 1920s-inspired fun – feathers, fedoras and fancy shoes encouraged – while helping support an organization whose work reaches far beyond horse rescue.

The Links at Union Vale are at 153 North Parliman Road, Lagrangeville. Tickets, sponsorship opportunities and complete event information are available at www.luckyorphans.org.

Funds raised through the event will help Lucky Orphans provide daily lifelong care for its sanctuary horses while continuing and expanding equine-assisted programs, educational opportunities and community experiences.

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 wine-making, 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.

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

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 will be held rain or shine, with activities moving inside the Parish Hall in case of rain.

Earlier that day, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Grace Church will host a Pop-Up Winter Wear Sale, featuring gently used coats, jackets, hoodies and sweatshirts, scarves, mittens, and more. Items will be priced affordably, with long coats \$20, short 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.

Come Join Us For A Free Concert



Three Chords and the Truth
featuring Joe Murray and Caroline Dolfi
Acoustic arrangements of Country and Rock tunes
Saturday, October 10 at 5 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary
1576 Main Street, Pleasant Valley
Donations will be accepted for the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Classrooms to careers: HVCU awards college scholarships to student members



In an effort to equip students for collegiate growth and success, Hudson Valley Credit Union (HVCU), in collaboration with the New York Credit Union Association (NYCUA), awarded \$11,000 in scholarships to members who are 2026 high school graduates pursuing higher education.

The contributions to local students come on the heels of the HVCU Charitable Foundation's disbursement of \$550,000 in nonprofit grants, further cementing the credit union's commitment to the communities it serves.

Eight HVCU members were selected out of 61 applicants based on their academic achievements, after-school activity involvement and community service, as well as their leadership in their communities and a strong writing portfolio. This year's scholarship recipients include:

- KaiLANGiolillo of Highland, New York, is attending Binghamton University.
- Rachel Berliner of Princeton Junction, New Jersey, is attending the University of Pennsylvania.
- Jacob Cheung of Hopewell Junction, New York, is attending the University of Pennsylvania.
- Ved Kaderu of Fishkill, New York, is attending Cornell University.
- Karolina Mroczek of Wappingers Falls, New York, is attending Northeastern University.

- Connor O'Reilly of Brewster, New York, is attending Virginia Tech.
- Amanda Parker of Garrison, New York, is attending Stony Brook University.
- Lila Sinacori of Campbell Hall, New York, is attending the United States Military Academy at West Point.

"At HVCU, our mission extends beyond financial education. We're equally committed to expanding access to higher education," said HVCU's Community Impact Manager John DeAngelis. "By investing in student success through scholarships, we're empowering the next generation of leaders and providing the resources they need to flourish academically."

Beyond the scholarship program, HVCU also sponsors Marist University's Hudson Valley Scholars Program, an initiative where Hudson Valley organizations award scholarships to local high school graduates attending Marist. HVCU's \$4,000 annual contribution helps develop the region's future leaders, ensuring the Hudson Valley community grows and thrives for generations to come.

HVCU is offering the 2027 NYCUA Scholarship Program to members in late October. To learn more about HVCU and other scholarship opportunities, visit hvcu.org.

Renegades GM Tom Denlinger to leave HV, moving to Charlotte

Tom Denlinger, General Manager of the Hudson Valley Renegades, will be leaving the organization to become President of the Charlotte Knights, the Triple-A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox.

Denlinger joined the Renegades in 2025 following 10 seasons with the Augusta GreenJackets, where he served as General Manager from 2014-2017 before being elevated to Vice President. During his two seasons in Hudson Valley, Denlinger helped lead the organization through continued growth and community engagement at Heritage Financial Park.

The Renegades' 2026 season featured a robust slate of creative programming and community-focused experiences, including a unique theme for every home game. Highlights included "An Ode to Cream Cheese," celebrating the Hudson Valley origins of the popular food;

"Renegades: The Musical!"; a farewell weekend for the club's iconic Cider Donuts identity; an expanded five-game Bark in the Park giveaway series; Seinfeld Night; and the launch of the Silver 'Gades Club for fans 55 and older. The club also celebrated welcoming its five millionth fan to Heritage Financial Park during the season.

"I'm incredibly grateful for my time with the Renegades and for the opportunity to be part of the Hudson Valley community," said Denlinger. "I'm proud of what our staff has accomplished together and grateful to our fans, partners and community for making these two seasons so memorable. I'm excited for the opportunity ahead in Charlotte and will always appreciate my time with the Renegades."

The Renegades will announce plans for the club's next General Manager in the coming weeks.

Reserve by Oct. 9 for Anderson Foundation's 'An Evening in Paris' Gala

Anderson Foundation for Autism's Gala, "An Evening in Paris," is set Saturday, Oct. 24, at The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie. The cocktail reception is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner, presentations, silent auction and dancing will take place from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Attire is Black Tie Optional.

Purchase tickets by Friday, Oct. 9 at www.andersoncenterforautism.org/gala.

The V.V. Anderson Community Service Award will be presented to

Vanessa and Patrick Ryan, 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.

Email Events@andersoncares.org for questions about the event.

Handcrafted vendors set stage for Octoberfest at Fairgrounds

continued from cover

can create alongside their kids, or drop them off while they shop, eat, drink, and hang.

Around the fairgrounds, guests will enjoy ongoing demonstrations from woodworkers, fiber spinners, leather-smiths, jewelers, and even master pumpkin carver Hugh McMahon. For even more fall fun, visitors can hop on a horse-

drawn carriage ride and visit the petting zoo. Sunday afternoon brings the weigh-off of giant pumpkins, with one anticipated to approach 2,000 pounds.

For tickets, the exhibitor list, beer and food menus, the entertainment schedule, and more, visit quailhollow.com prior to the event. All tickets grant multi-day access to the event.

'YidLife Crisis' set Oct. 15 at the Bardavon

Get ready to laugh and kvell! Join "YidLife Crisis" comedy duo Eli Batalion and Jamie Elman, creators and stars of the award-winning Yiddish-ish web series "YidLife Crisis" - in the fleisch!

The boychiks from Montreal present an evening of comedy, film, and music reflecting their unique take on the modern Jewish experience. In English. Appropriate for ages 18* - 118. (*OK,

fine, anyone over Bar/Bat Mitzvah).

This is a free event; tickets are available at the Bardavon, the three Poughkeepsie Public Library District locations, and at Jewish Federation of Dutchess County events.

This event is produced in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County and funded by the Norman and Jeannie Greene Fund of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

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‘Fire and Freedom’ theme sparks PPLD’s Big Read

Join the Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) for their 2026 Poughkeepsie Big Read program, scheduled to run from Saturday, Oct. 17 – Tuesday, Nov. 24. The Big Read is an annual program intended to encourage the community to read, discuss, and participate in thematic events.

This year’s Big Read theme is Revolutionary New York. PPLD notes that the Big Read title is “Fire and Freedom” by Thomas Wermuth. There are additional Little and Middle Read titles with a focus on heroes, including Sybil Ludington and forgotten founders. A full list is available on the library website.

Thomas Wermuth is the Co-Founder and Director of the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist University. He is a researcher and teacher focusing on the social and economic history of the Hudson River Valley. He is also the editor of a number of books on New York State and the Hudson Valley.

The Big Read kicks off on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 2:30 p.m. with the Jewel Geissinger Ratzlaff Keynote Lecture, Fire and Freedom, with Wermuth at the Boardman Road Branch Library. The lecture will present lesser-known New York-centered Revolutionary War stories, from riots against colonial taxation and Washington’s time in the region to non-battle events like retreats, fires, and independence displays. It explores how state power reshaped loyalty, and how Indigenous and enslaved people influenced postwar New York.

• On Monday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host Benson Lossing: Preserving Stories of the Revolution. A Dutchess County native, Benson Lossing was a newspaper editor, engraver, and eventually the nation’s most popular writer and historian

during the mid-19th century. Shannon Butler tells the story of a fellow historian’s passion to save the stories of the American Revolution.

• The following day, Tuesday, Oct. 20, the library will host Alexander Hamilton: The Musical and the Duel. This program features a presentation of the Hamilton mix-tapes, an introduction to the characters of the musical, and the music from the Broadway production.

• On Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m., the library will virtually host Cato In the Revolution: Spies, Slavery, Church and Chocolate. Join historian Claire Bellerjeau as she shares her exciting new discoveries about Cato, an enslaved Black man who aided the patriot spy and tailor Hercules Mulligan during the Revolutionary War. Showing great bravery, agency, skill, and faith, Cato represents other unknown and often “invisible” people of color who helped shape the course of the Revolution—and the history of the US.

• On Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host Women and the Formation of the Nation: 1776 & Beyond. Presenter Lynn Saltonstall of the New York Historical Society will discuss the roles women played in the founding of the new United States and in shaping what the country would become. Engage with fascinating true-life stories, artifacts, and images that illuminate women’s critical roles in building a new nation.

• On Friday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m., the library hosts Tanisha Mitchell Presents Cotton: The Dream and Hope of the Slave at the Beulah Baptist Church, which honors the African-American experience during slavery through spirituals, art, and slave narratives. Ms. Mitchell, the soprano and librarian behind the popular Opera Talks, will

present her research and also perform two live spirituals.

• On Tuesday, Nov. 3, the Library will virtually host FDR Library: Declaration Deep Dive. Explore the philosophy that inspired it, the reasons it was written, the goals it hoped to accomplish, and ways it has influenced and inspired ours, and the whole world’s, history since.

• On Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host Remember Liss: A New American Founding Figure. Historian and author Claire Bellerjeau discusses the discovery of a new founding figure. Elizabeth, aka Liss, who was enslaved by the Townsend family of Oyster Bay, whose most famous member was Robert Townsend, George Washington’s lead spy in Manhattan. Liss’s complex struggle for freedom gives new insight into the country’s founding era, through the eyes of an enslaved Black woman seeking liberty.

• On Thursday, November 5 at 6:30 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host 18th Century Games Day. Educators from Clermont State Historic Site will teach families how to play three popular games from the 1700s. Recommended for families with children 5 and up.

• On Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host North of America: Revolution, British Provinces, and Creating the US. Jeffers Lennox of Wesleyan University explores how America’s founding can only be understood within a broader perspective, including British, Indigenous, and Canadian history. Join us to explore America’s formation from the Revolution to the War of 1812.

On Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., the library will virtually host The Constitution Speaks: Rules, Rights, and Responsibilities. Learn about some of the key rules, rights, and responsibilities necessary for the maintenance of a healthy and successful democracy.

• On Thursday, Nov. 12, Adriance Memorial Library will host Learning & Leisure In the 18th Century. Join Historic Huguenot Street in a journey back through time to discover the secrets of daily life during the colonial period. Explore the impacts of a diverse range of cultures on the Hudson Valley’s history, including Esopus peoples.

• On Saturday, Nov. 14 at 2:30 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host Cello, America: Songs of Patriotism, Praise, and Protest. Alex Prizginta pres-



Author Thomas Wermuth. *Courtesy photo*

ents Praise and Protest as part of the vital fabric that weaves our differences into our distinct strength. Key hymns, noble anthems of patriotism, and tunes of solidarity and resistance celebrate our union.

• On Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m., a Finale for the Big Read 2026 will be held at the Bardavon Opera House with a public performance of The Fateful Hour. The play is a drama in three acts depicting the ratification of the United States Constitution in Poughkeepsie in 1788. High schools will also be reading and studying the play’s timeline, and see a performance in the morning.

• On Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m., the library will virtually host FDR Library: Franklin and the Founders. Jeffrey Urbin, Education Specialist for the FDR Presidential Library & Museum, will discuss FDR and his keen understanding and great appreciation for the principles on which the country was founded. He explores how Roosevelt tapped the Founding Fathers for inspiration and guidance as he struggled to save America from economic collapse and the world from Nazi annihilation.

As part of the Poughkeepsie Big Read, PPLD partners each year with The Art Effect for professional development for schoolteachers who participate and want more background on the topic and expanded teaching resources. The 2026 workshop, held in August, was attended by 25 area teachers. Additionally, through the support of the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District (FPPLD), the library provides schools within the district a curated selection of books for teen, middle and elementary students, free of charge.

ALISON BROWN TO PLAY TOWNE CRIER ON OCT. 10



Banjo player Alison Brown returns to the Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 8 p.m. Brown is one of today’s most innovative five-string banjo players. She is the 2025 recipient of the Country Music Hall of Fame’s Louise Scruggs Memorial Forum honor recognizing outstanding women in the music industry and hosts a weekly radio show on SiriusXM’s Bluegrass Junction Channel called “Pick Like a Girl” which shines a light on women in bluegrass music. She is a current nominee for International Bluegrass Music Association’s banjo player of the year (and was the first woman to ever win this honor) and is also co-founder of Compass Records, one of the most respected labels in roots music. Brpwm is also a frequent collaborator with actor/comedian/banjoist Steve Martin. Last fall they released their first duet album “Safe Sensible and Sane,” which debuted at #1 on the Billboard Bluegrass Chart. Tickets for Brown’s Oct. 10 show can be purchased by calling (845) 855-1300 or visiting www.townecrier.com. *Photo by Neil Culbertson*



STEFANIE HUBERT
Dutchess County Legislature
District 25

Early Voting: Oct. 24– Nov. 1
Election Day: Nov. 3

Paid for by Stefanie Hubert for Dutchess County.

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Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra launches new season with seven decades of musical favorites

Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra (NDSO) will open its 2026-2027 concert season with “From Stage to Screen” on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 4 p.m., at the Marriott Pavilion at The Culinary Institute of America, 1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park. The concert marks the beginning of a new chapter for the orchestra under the leadership of new Music Director William Stevens, who succeeds founding Music Director Kathleen Beckmann following her 20-year tenure with NDSO.

“From Stage to Screen” celebrates more than 70 years of Broadway and movie musical favorites, from iconic classics such as “West Side Story” and “The Sound of Music” to modern favorites including “Wicked” and “Hamilton.” The program also features music from beloved productions such as “Chicago,” “A Chorus Line,” “Les Misérables” and “Beauty and the Beast,” offering audiences a musical journey through some of the most memorable music written for the stage and screen.

For William Stevens, the concert represents the beginning of his tenure as Music Director, although he is already a

familiar face to NDSO audiences. Stevens has served as a guest conductor with the orchestra since 2014 and brings more than a decade of experience with NDSO to his new role.

“I look forward to continuing the engaging programming NDSO audiences have come to enjoy while introducing new works and musical experiences,” says Stevens. “For each concert you will hear familiar favorites and new works that I hope will spark your interest. As always, guest soloists and visuals will enhance your musical experience.”

Tickets are \$42 for adults, \$35 for seniors, and \$10 for students. Family ticket packages are \$45 for one adult and two students. Season subscriptions are also available, offering admission to all five concerts in the 2026/2027 season with 15% savings. To learn more and purchase tickets, visit www.ndsorchestra.org or call (845) 445-9606.

Future programs include:
“Sounds of the Season: Santa Baby!”
Saturday, Dec. 5, at 4 p.m.
Joseph L. Phelan Auditorium,
Rhinebeck High School, Rhinebeck



William Stevens is the new Music Director of the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra, which launches its 2026-2027 season on Saturday, Oct. 17. *Courtesy photo*

“Out of this World”
Saturday, Jan. 16, 2027, at 4 p.m.
Marriott Pavilion, The Culinary
Institute of America, Hyde Park
“Let’s Dance”
Saturday, April 3, 2027, at 4 p.m.
Marriott Pavilion, The Culinary
Institute of America, Hyde Park

“And All that Jazz”
Saturday, June 19, 2027, at 4 p.m.
Marriott Pavilion, The Culinary

Institute of America, Hyde Park
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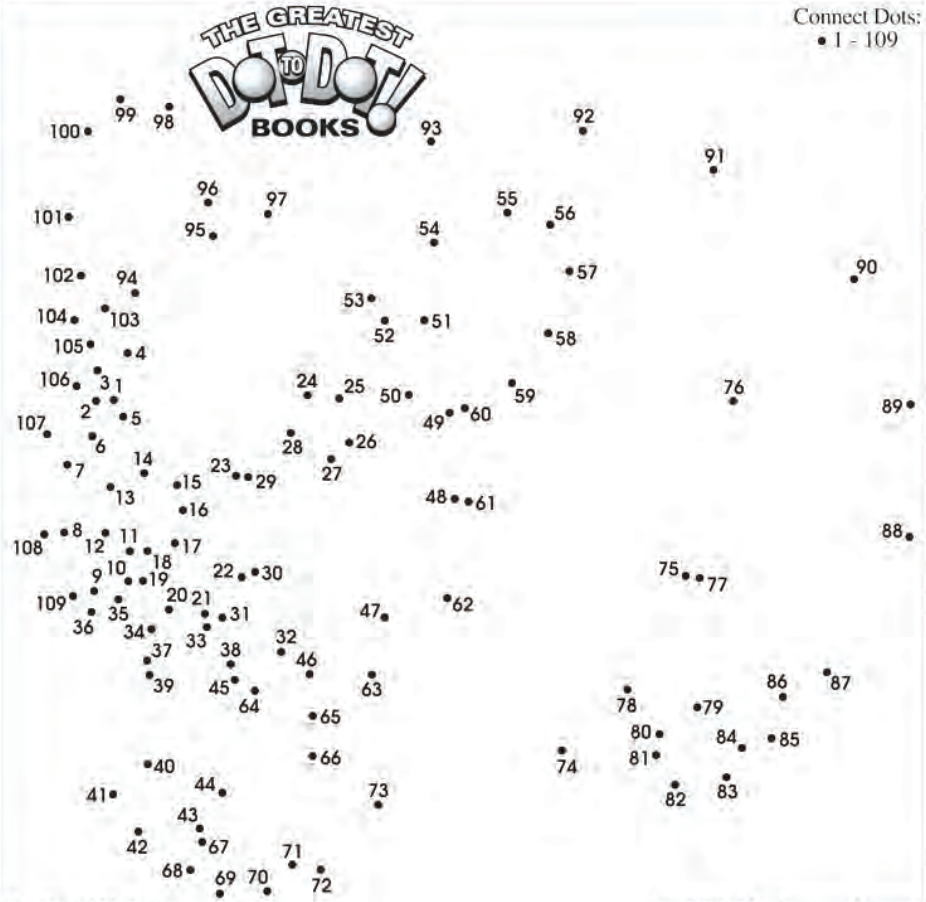
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DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)



By David Kalvitis

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East Fishkill Market and Matt Sabellico

Mark talks to a master forager and a soul gardener.

Robert Spaccarelli manages 27 honeybee hives along the edge of Peter Barton’s apple orchard in Poughquag, producing gobs of blonde apple blossom honey. He’s been making honey for almost 40 years, going back to when he was a little kid. I first met Robert a couple of weeks ago at his brother Mike’s winery, The Waterwheel, on Beekman-Poughquag Road. He had just rolled in with a truck load of wild hen-of-the-woods mushrooms he harvested at the base of his oak trees.

Robert is a master forager, author of “Simple Living in the 21st Century,” a guide to living off the land. Robert also manages the East Fishkill Market, an outdoor produce and artisan bazaar now in its second year at the junction of Route 52 and the Taconic Parkway. I stopped by to chat and asked for a couple of beekeeping tips. He says to treat the hives for varroa mites spring, summer and fall. Also, to keep the hives dry in the winter, install a “super” box on top of the hive, above the queen excluder, add a chunk of bee cake or sugar cake, cover the cake with a sheet of newspaper and then add cedar chips on top to soak up moisture, before covering with the lid.

Other vendors at the East Fishkill Market include Fino Farms, Heitman’s Gourmet Nuts, Butter Hill Artisan’s Candle Company and newcomer jeweler Mary Marzec. The market is open

Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., until Thanksgiving.

Matt Sabellico – Sabellico Greenhouses and Florist closed on September 30, after 76 years as one of the premier growers and retailers of garden plants in the Hudson Valley or anywhere, for that matter. Matt, who, with his father Ray Sabellico Jr., ran the operation since 2004, stepped away from the business last fall. He wrote a book – “Call Me on the Tree Phone,” described as “a testament to resilience, grief, and the luminous return to what matters most.” Then Matt sort of dropped out of sight.

After buying a copy of the book and reading phrases like “I made the mistake of looking in a mirror,” and “today is the first day of the new world,” I decided to give Matt a call. We spoke for half an hour. It turns out that Matt moved with his wife and daughters to Knoxville, Tennessee a few weeks ago. He’s starting life anew. The preface to his book provides a clue to the circumstances surrounding his decision to relocate:

“The story wasn’t written – it was remembered. It came one week after Easter, when the soil was still soft with resurrection and the wind carried something I hadn’t heard in years. A call, not loud. But clear. And when I answered it, I did not find comfort. I found truth.

“I wrote this with soil on my hands and salt in my eyes. Through broken

sleep and early light. Through memory and myth, grief and grace. It is not a memoir. It is not a manual. It is a garden from my soul, and you are invited in.

“If you’ve ever suffered in silence – this book is for you. If you’ve ever believed there must be something more – this book is for you. And if you have no idea why you’re here, but something stirred in your chest when you opened these pages – this book is especially for you.”

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

“Call Me on the Tree Phone” is a book by Matt Sabellico, formerly of Sabellico Greenhouses and Florist. Photo by Mark Adams



what’s happening? — creativeliving@s dutchessnews.com



Robert Spaccarelli, a master forager and manager of the East Fishkill Market. Photo by Mark Adams



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SPECIAL CONCERT SET AT PLEASANT VALLEY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OCT. 10



A concert featuring Caroline Dolfi and Joe Murray will be presented at the First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street, Pleasant Valley on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 5 p.m. The duo will perform a variety of acoustic arrangements of country and rock tunes. The event is free and donations will be accepted for the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry. Everyone is invited to attend. *Courtesy photo*

‘The Crucible’ to open Friday at The Center



Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible” opens this weekend at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. *Photo by Shavonne Farley*

CENTERstage Productions will present “The Crucible” by Arthur Miller from Oct. 9 to 25, at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. Set in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692, “The Crucible” captures a horrific chapter of New England history in its dramatization of the Salem Witch Trials. The plot focuses on the hysteria that develops in the intersection of rumors, fear and religion.

A group of girls are thought to practice witchcraft, alongside Tituba, an enslaved Indigenous-American, as they dance in the woods. In order to save themselves, they turn the accusations towards an ever-widening circle of adults in the community.

This play is Arthur Miller at his best, with compelling, raw dialogue and expertly crafted character relationships that prove the complexity of the human condition. Says the Los Angeles Times “Shattering... both massive and humane, as much a chiseled monument as a gut-bucket suspense story.”

The cast features Morgan McKinley as Abigail, Julianna Kopa as Mary, Vanessa Baer as Mercy, Coraline River Dell’Amore as Betty, Amelia Scheriff as Susanna, Angela Dixon as Tituba, Michael Risio as Parris, Erin Hebert as Elizabeth, Cora Colwell as Proctor, Paul Schubert as Cheever, Justin Doro as Hale, David Shakopi as Danforth, Philip Legare as Putnam, Corinne Walker as

Ann, Brian Matthews as Corey, Wendy-Urban Mead as Martha, Russ Austin as Nurse, Ann Davies as Rebecca, Isabelle McKeon as Sarah, Thomas Webb as Hathorne, Andrew Austin as Hopkins, and Jon Conroe as Willard.

Dot Luongo and Rena Gavigan direct the play, which will show at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$25 and available by calling (845) 876-3080 or visiting www.centerforperformingarts.org.

Content Warning: This production contains themes of religion, death, grief and guilt. It also contains references to and depictions of murder, manslaughter and witchcraft.

This production will feature on-stage seating presented in the round. Please note that the onstage seating is assigned, and the exact placement is a general representation and does not reflect the precise arrangement of chairs. The seating arrangement is also subject to change. All chairs are removable to accommodate accessibility needs.

A number of traditional house seats will also be available for purchase. If on-stage and house seats sell out, or if demand is high, additional house seats will be released.

If you have any questions about on-stage seating, contact the box office at boxoffice@centerforperformingarts.org.

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

Calvert Vaux Preservation Alliance to host ‘Talks and Tours’ program in Staatsburg on Saturday

Calvert Vaux Preservation Alliance (CVPA), the nonprofit friends group dedicated to saving, restoring and repurposing The Point in Staatsburg, will hold a “Talks and Tours” program on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 1 p.m.

The Point is the 1855 country seat designed by eminent 19th-century architect and landscape architect Calvert Vaux for the Lydig Hoyt family. The Hoyt family lived at the property for more than 100 years until 1963, when the site was incorporated into Mills Norrie State Park. The residence, known as Hoyt House, has remained unused since that time.

The “Talks and Tours” program is designed to raise awareness of CVPA’s efforts to preserve and find a new purpose for The Point. The fall schedule includes three presentations and discussions featuring noted historians and Vaux scholars and three onsite tours.

On Oct. 10, an illustrated presentation will be given onsite at the Hoyt House by William Krattinger, New York State Parks Historian, comparing and contrasting that structure with its neighbor, the mansion at Staatsburgh State Historic Site. A private reception for attendees will follow in the mansion at Staatsburgh. Proceeds from this fundraiser will support CVPA’s efforts to restore and repurpose The Point. Visit <https://www.calvertvaux.org/> for tickets.

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12 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - October 7-13, 2026

The enduring but changing value of forestry

By Bill Jeffway

On the wall of the Hyde Park Post Office, in a mural panel painted by Olin Dows, men are cutting down large trees. The caption reads: “Before 1741, Jacobus Stoutenburgh, his sons and slaves clear the land in Hyde Park Village.” When the post office was dedicated in November 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was in the room. He had involved himself in every detail of the design of his hometown federal show-piece. The scene on the wall is the first chapter in the story of European settlers’ encounters with Dutchess County’s forests. Roosevelt himself had spent nearly thirty years deeply engaged in the issue of forestry as a landowner and political figure.

In the 18th century, the forest was, in part, in the way. Farming meant clearing, and clearing meant years of axe work. Wheat was the prize. By the early years of the republic, more than a third of the grain shipped from New York State came from Dutchess County. Sheep and dairy cattle followed, needing open pasture of their own.

But it was more than an obstacle. It was also worth money, and worth stealing.

We find in DCHS Collections a letter written on September 23, 1741 (the period depicted in the mural) by Henry Beekman (1687–1775). He was one of the county’s great landholders, a longtime member of the colonial Assembly and the man for whom the Town of Beekman was named. Beekman was owed money that was to be paid from the sale of a tract held by a group of absentee partners, and he wrote to warn them that the land “is daily lessened in value, by the [removal of] wood.”

Two families, he explained, had been living on the tract “who do no other [thing] than cutting cord wood, staves, cooper’s bolts.” This describes firewood, the vertical slats that make up barrels, and wood blocks. They were in great demand locally in the transportation of flour. In less than ten years, Beekman reckoned, “upward of one hundred sloop & boat loads have been carried off. In one mile from the river not a stitch of good timber can be found.” Worse, a new sawmill had gone up nearby, and he feared the “pre-

tended tenants” would feed it whatever remained. Even a man of Beekman’s standing could not protect woods that stretched across thousands of acres.

The pressure grew in the 19th century as industry joined agriculture. In the Harlem Valley in particular, iron was smelted with charcoal, and charcoal meant wood in enormous quantities. A typical furnace consumed the timber from about 150 acres of woodland a year.

Meanwhile the fields kept spreading. The 1860 agricultural census counted 393,000 acres of farmland in Dutchess County, more than three quarters of its land area and more than three times the 113,000 acres farmed today.

Then coal, oil and gas replaced wood as fuel. The 1825 opening of the Erie Canal had meant that western farms started to outproduce stony Dutchess hill-sides. Farming locally started a long decline. By the start of the 1900s, only about 20 percent of New York State was forested. In March 1921, the Dutchess County Farm Bureau News estimated that “two hundred square miles of land in Dutchess County,” roughly a quarter of the county, were “better adapted to forestry than to farming.” “A pine forest in Dutchess County,” the paper added, “is almost unknown.”

The article held up one man as the exception. Frederick Peck Wilcox (1857–1942), heir to the Wilcox silver-plating fortune, began buying up six farms in the town of Milan in 1911, eventually assembling 615 acres. Much of it was “hillsides and more or less rolling stretches of poor soils that are full of stones and rock out-crops.” For tillage, the writer concluded, “its use is out of the question.”

Wilcox’s interest was forestry, not farming. In 1911 he began planting red, white and Scotch pine. In 1914 he added 10,000 more trees, including 4,000 black locusts. By 1921 more than 50,000 were in the ground, and the first pines already stood 12 to 15 feet tall. “The bare land on which I planted this stock was practically worthless,” Wilcox told the paper. “If the timber was mature today it would be worth three hundred dollars per acre.” He acknowledged that it was a “long term investment ... for the benefit of his children.” Wilcox died in 1942. He and his wife, Irene Kilmer Wilcox, had only child, Frederick Wilcox, Jr., who died in 1950. His widow later sold the land to the



Above: In the Hyde Park Post Office, dedicated in 1940, the artist Olin Dows wrote of this panel, “Before 1741, Jacobus Stoutenburgh, his sons and slave clear the land in Hyde Park.” Inset: excerpts from a 1741 letter in DCHS Collections from Henry Beekman lamenting the stealing of trees on his property such that, “In one mile from the river not a stick of good timber can be found.” DCHS Collections

county for a nominal sum. Today it is Wilcox Park, where those seedlings have become trees roughly 100 feet tall, for the benefit of the public.

Also in 1911, Franklin Roosevelt bought the 194-acre Bennett farm in Hyde Park. The next year, while chairing the State Senate’s Forestry Committee, he bought his first seedlings from the state tree nursery. Guided by Nelson Brown of the State College of Forestry at Syracuse, he treated his woodlots as a crop, not as scenery. By the 1930s, 20,000 to 55,000 trees were going into his land each year, nearly half a million over 34 years.

What Roosevelt practiced at home, he pressed for in office. As governor he championed the 1931 Hewitt Amendment, allowing the state to buy abandoned farmland and replant it as forest. As president he created the Civilian Conservation Corps, “Roosevelt’s Tree Army,” which planted some three billion trees nationwide. When he voted, he gave his occupation as “tree farmer.”

These new forests were not the ones

Stoutenburgh cleared. They were plantations, often of a single kind of tree, set out in rows and managed like any other crop. Yet they answer Beekman’s letter across nearly two centuries. In 1741, Beekman measured a forest’s value in boatloads carried away. In 1921, Wilcox measured it in dollars per acre still to come. The resource was the same. What changed was who believed its trees were worth keeping, and why.

Today Dutchess County is more than half forested, largely because abandoned fields grew back on their own. But when Roosevelt stood in that post office in 1940, he was looking at the beginning of a story he had helped to turn around.

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



Above top: A deforested hill at the Milan/Pine Plains border c. 1915, part of the Frederick P. Wilcox farm. Bottom left to right: Wilcox planting trees in the 1920s. The trees a century later exceed 100 feet and are accessible to the public in Wilcox Memorial Park. DCHS Collections



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Spirits of Halloweens past

A fiendishly fun retrospective

If you’ve been kind enough to read my column for any length of time, then you may know how much I love this time of year. October is my favorite month and not least because it culminates in a special, magical, haunting night. Over the years I have entertained on my front porch on All Hallow’s Eve with friends, food and spirits. I try to come up with a new theme and backstory every year, which carries through the menu and costume choices (because of course I dress up) as well as which of my carefully curated props I choose to decorate with inside and out. I try to make the food casually elegant and easy to eat without utensils, and there’s always wine and a cocktail to fit the theme. Looking through photos had me thinking it might be fun to share some of those themes with you. So, with your kind indulgence, come with me on a journey to Halloweens Past and maybe pick up a little inspiration along the way.

A seat at the table

Normally my spooky soirees take place exclusively on the front porch, so my guests and I can both serve and be entertained by the little ghouls that come a-knockin’. There have been two exceptions to this. The first was a dead-themed dinner in the dining room, made possible because it was NOT held on Halloween, but the evening before. I served a roasted head of cauliflower “brain” and lentil squash soup. An extra place was set at the table in the ancient Samhain tradition: it’s said that at that time, the veil between the living and the dead is at its thinnest and that ancestors should be made welcome at the table. Wouldn’t you know it? One showed up!

The House of Nevermore

Classic inspiration from a classic enigmatic character. The theme was Poe’s “The Raven.” The mood was Gothic and romantic. The hostess, the tragic Lenore. Black birds and gravestones abounded, brandy flowed and charcuterie was served most drearily.

A Harry Potter Halloween

This is the other exception to the front porch tradition. It was the Year of Covid, so there were no trick-or-treaters. I wanted to make it extra special for my neighbor children who were huge Harry Potter

fans, so it was an easy theme choice. I decorated the entire backyard, had a Potterverse trivia treasure hunt with themed treat prizes and food from the books and movies. A fair few of us dressed as characters making it even more fun.

SAVORY PUMPKIN PASTIES (Hand pies)

When I made these for the party, I made them with 3” rounds of pastry, which I think was too small since each bite was mostly crust. For you I suggest 4, 5 or 6” rounds, which is still small enough to be eaten out of hand and big enough to showcase more filling. You can make your own pie crust or use a ready-made store-bought brand (like Pillsbury) that you just unroll, cut and bake.

INGREDIENTS

- 7.5oz (half a large can) of pumpkin puree
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder (or ½ clove fresh garlic, minced)
- ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Fresh sage or thyme, chopped
- 1 package refrigerated pie dough (2 crusts)
- 1 egg, slightly beaten, for wash
- Optional: fresh sage or thyme leaves for garnish

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

In a large bowl, combine pumpkin, butter, cheese and seasonings.

Dust surface with flour and unroll pie dough. It should be ¼” thick. Cut 4” (or larger) circles and transfer to prepared baking sheet.

Add filling to half of each circle, leaving about ¼” around edge for crimping.

Fold dough over to make half-moons and pinch edges together. Cut 2 small slits in the top of each. Brush with egg wash then press all around edges with the tip of a fork to seal well. Top each with a small sage leaf, if you like.

Bake until golden brown, about 15 minutes. Transfer to a rack to cool. May be eaten warm or at room temperature.

Assemble these ahead and place in freezer for up to a month. (probably longer but they won’t sit there that long!)

Lost at Sea

This was a fun one! The grieving widow of a sea captain went out in search of him after communing with spirits who said he was alive and out in the storm. Spoiler: he wasn’t. She fell into the dark water and haunted our front porch waiting to be reunited with him. Spoiler 2: she was me.

DARK AND STORMY COCKTAIL: Fill a tall (high-ball) glass with ice. Squeeze a bit of fresh lime juice over the ice. Pour in 4 oz ginger beer (NOT ginger ale – you want the spicy kick). Slowly pour 2 oz dark rum on top. The effect is to look like a dark storm cloud. Serve with a slice of lime (and a straw so guests can stir it before drinking).

I could go on and on, but the hour grows late, my dears. There is much planning to do and a yard yet to haunt. At this most beautiful, deliciously spooky time of year, I wish you scary fun, wicked-good things to eat and delightful spirits to make a celebration worthy of the most bewitching night of the year! Boo!

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



At her “House of Nevermore” party, Vicki portrayed the tragic Lenore from Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Raven.” Below: The hallmark of Vicki’s Halloween gatherings is food that can be eaten without utensils, such as Pumpkin Pasties and charcuterie. Photos courtesy of Vicki Frank Day



COMMUNITY CALENDAR on page 6

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14 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - October 7-13, 2026

Oct. 8: An Evening with Murray Hill in Conversation with Bridget Everett, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. The event celebrates Murray Hill's new memoir, "Showbiz! My Life as a Middle-Aged Man," presented in partnership with Oblong Books. A beloved fixture of New York's downtown comedy scene, Hill brings his signature mix of sharp humor, campy showmanship, storytelling, and heartfelt honesty to the stage, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$32.50. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Oct. 8: Badfish, Daryl's House Club, 130 Rte. 22, Pawling. Badfish performs acoustic tour with Ted Bowne, 8 p.m. Tickets \$40-\$50. All ages. www.darylshouseclub.com

Oct. 9: "What Inspires: Readings and Conversation with Jo Ann Beard and Mary-Beth Hughes," Black Box Theater, Kaatsbaan Cultural Center, 120 Broadway, Tivoli. Join celebrated writers Jo Ann Beard and Mary-Beth Hughes for an evening of readings and conversation exploring artistic inspiration and literary kinship, 7 p.m. Please join us for a reception in our Lobby Gallery following the conversation. Presented in partnership with A Public Space as part of the Weekend Writers' Retreat, an annual long weekend of writing, reading, and conversation hosted by

Kaatsbaan. Admission \$10 or \$15 Sliding Scale Admission. www.kaatsbaan.org

Oct. 9: Ninth Annual China Now Music Festival Program, Chapel of the Holy Innocents at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. The US-China Music Institute of the Bard College Conservatory presents singers from the Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing, performing Chinese and American folk songs, along with other contemporary works, 2 p.m. Free. www.barduschinamusic.org

Oct. 9-24: Historic Graveyard Tours, St. James' Episcopal Church, 4526 Albany Post Rd. (Rte. 9), Hyde Park. A tour guide leads you by lantern light through St. James' historic 200-year-old graveyard, where 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. Tours Fri. & Sat., 6:30, 7, 7:30 and 8 p.m. Tours last 1 hour. Tickets \$25 per person (\$15 for children ages 12-7 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. 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.).

Oct. 9-25: "The Crucible," Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Set in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692, Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" captures a horrific chapter of New England history in its dramatization of the Salem Witch Trials. The plot focuses on the hysteria that develops in the intersection of rumors, fear, and religion. A group of girls are thought to practice witchcraft, alongside Tituba, an enslaved Indigenous-American, as they dance in the woods. In order to save themselves, they turn the accusations towards an ever-widening circle of adults in the community. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$25. Content Warning: This production contains themes of religion, death, grief and guilt. It also contains references to and depictions of murder, manslaughter and witchcraft. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Oct. 9-30: Haunted Fortress of Stanford, 11 Creamery Rd., Stanfordville. Since 1997, the Haunted Fortress of Stanford has been scaring guests who are brave enough to walk the swamp walk. Come and join us for an evening of fun and creepiness. Fri. & Sat., 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Sun., 6:30-8:30 p.m. CLOSED on Halloween so our young actors can trick or treat. Sensory Friendly Show: Sun., Oct. 18, 2-4 p.m. This Sensory Friendly event allows guests to walk through the entire Haunted Fortress during the daytime. NO scary sounds, NO creepy actors, NO strobe lights. Admission: Adults \$15, children age 12 & younger \$10, seniors \$10. Cash only No open toed shoes. For foul weather cancellations: Call (845) 868-7782 or see the Facebook group.

Oct. 10: The Orchestra Now Celebrates America's 250th Anniversary Sosnoff Theater, Fisher Center at Bard College,

Annandale-on-Hudson. 3 p.m. Tickets \$15. fishercenter.bard.edu

Oct. 10: Concert, First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main St. (Rte. 44), Pleasant Valley. A concert featuring Caroline Dolfi and Joe Murray will be presented, 5 p.m. The duo will perform a variety of acoustic arrangements of country and rock tunes. The event is free and donations will be accepted for the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry. Everyone is invited to attend.

Oct. 10: Skye Consort and Emma Björling, Banning Hall, Stissing Center, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. The ensemble offers a richly textured musical experience that draws from the traditions of Scandinavia, Ireland, Britain, and French Canada. Combining voice with fiddle, nyckelharpa, cello, bouzouki, and percussion, the ensemble brings a wide-ranging repertoire to life, from lively polkas and driving reels to tender love songs, hymns, and original compositions, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30-\$40 advance, \$40-\$50 door. www.thestissingcenter.org or (518) 771-3339

Oct. 10-30: "Death Valley Beauty Pageant," various locations. Murder Cafe's spooktacular Halloween mystery dinner offers a fresh twist with eerie charm. Step out in your finest ghostly glamour and be part of the fun as a number of contestants fight to be crowned King or Queen of the Crypt, while another one will die trying. Whodunit? Grab your tickets if you dare, and prepare for a night of killer entertainment. All shows include a three-course dinner, cash bar, music, comedy and prizes. Shows: Sat., Oct. 10: Yianni's at the Chatham House, Chatham. Sat., Sun., Oct. 18: Curry Estate, Hopewell Junction. Wed., Oct. 21: The Beekman Arms, Rhinebeck. Sun., Oct. 25, Historic Hotel Broadalbin, Broadalbin. Wed., Oct. 28: The Phoenician Steakhouse, Phoenicia (a fundraiser for Safe Haven). Fri., Oct. 30: Hudson House Distillery, West Park. www.murdercafe.net

The Two Of Us Productions to present staged reading of 'Dracula' on Oct. 24

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Columbia County, will present the fourth installment of their 2026 Virtual Live-Staged Reading Series on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. This reading is a Halloween special production of "Dracula" by Bram Stoker, adopted by Orson Welles for the Mercury Theater Of The Air. The performance is being presented in collaboration with Roving Actors' Repertory Ensemble (RARE) Inc.

"Dracula" is an 1897 Gothic horror novel by Irish author Bram Stoker. It is presented with a combination of live action interspersed with a narrative, related in the form of letters, diary entries and newspaper articles. It has no single protagonist and opens with solicitor

Jonathan Harker taking a business trip to stay at the castle of a Transylvanian nobleman, Count Dracula. Harker escapes the castle after discovering that Dracula is a vampire, and the Count moves to England and plagues the seaside town of Whitby. A small group, led by Abraham Van Helsing, investigate and hunt down the cunning Dracula, finally cornering him in his last remaining hiding place and killing him in the last rays of the setting sun.

To learn the rest of this chilling story, R.S.V.P to www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org and then see this thrilling drama in the comfort of your own home. This performance is free to the public; donations are gratefully accepted.

Cary Institute to offer free screening of documentary Oct. 16

On Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m., join Cary Institute for "When Giants Die: The Ecological Afterlife of Elephants," a public event exploring how Earth's largest land animals contribute to ecosystems not only in life, but in death.

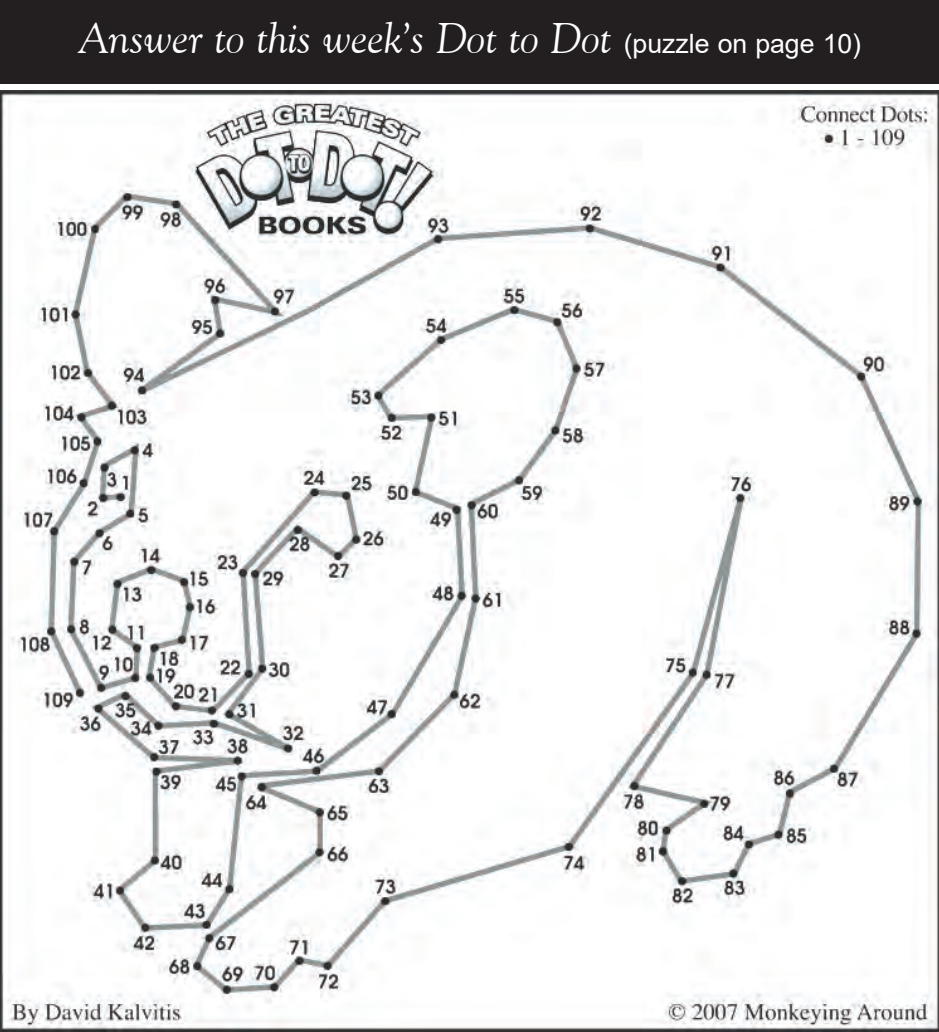
Elephants are important ecosystem engineers, transforming landscapes as they forage. But did you know they also leave a legacy when they die? Learn how megacarcasses shape savanna ecosystems in Kruger National Park, South Africa. The event will feature an early screening of a 22-minute documentary shot on location and a Q&A with Cary ecologist Jane Lucas and Princeton Postdoctoral Scholar Courtney Reed. Lucas and Reed will share their field experiences and research results.

By investigating soil and plant sam-

ples on and near elephant carcasses, Reed, Lucas and colleagues have found that they provide immense nutrient pulses that shape biodiversity and important ecosystem processes. Lucas notes, "As humans drive terrestrial megafauna towards extinction, we risk losing not only their ecosystem engineering abilities while they are alive but also the ecological legacies their carcasses create after death."

This event will be offered in-person at Cary's Lovejoy Auditorium in Millbrook and via live stream. It is free and open to all; registration is required at www.caryinstitute.org. During registration, you are welcome to add questions for Lucas and Reed to inform the Q&A.

Cary Institute Auditorium is at 2801 Sharon Turnpike (Route 44), Millbrook.



Creative Living

is the arts and entertainment section of

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Suguru

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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: THE 2010s

ACROSS

1. Convention freebie

5. *Tucker of TV's "Modern Family"

8. To the ____ degree

11. *Space Shuttle Program org.

12. Deal with it

13. Extra tire

15. Stead

16. Real estate land unit

17. Enter user name and password (2 words)

18. *Instagram's parent company

20. "Fine by me"

21. Strong virile man

22. Caviar alternative

23. *Bruno Mars' hat

26. Highest-reaching

30. Before of yore

31. Quill-dipping vessel

34. Popular aquarium show star

35. Schoolmarm's whip

37. Neither here ____ there

38. Opposite of cation

39. Hurry up, acr.

40. Blood infection

42. Not com or edu

43. Arranged in order

45. Inside info

47. Aye's opposite

48. B2C business

50. Hyperbolic tangent

52. *Katy Perry's 2010 hit

55. Battle royal

56. One R in R&R

57. Nightcrawler

59. *Hipsters' facial trend

60. Prima donnas' problems

61. Not in favor

62. Public promotions

63. Even, to a poet

64. CISC alternative

DOWN

1. *Pete Davidson's TV show

2. Ragamuffin

3. On a deck, perhaps

4. Cowboy, in South America

5. Popular warming drink

6. Chef's garb

7. Opposite of domineering and bold

8. Hindu serpent deity

9. Legendary King Priam's city

10. Chicken coop dweller

12. Taxi driver

13. Ship with a single mast

14. * ____ GO game

19. Spooky

22. Decay

23. Greek cheese, pl.

24. Remove from existence

25. ____'s, blended Scotch whisky

26. High rocky hills

27. Celestial hunter

28. Open disrespect

29. Sour-tasting

32. Capped joint

33. *Funko ____!

36. *Toy for the fidgety

38. Off kilter

40. Dirty dwelling

41. Specks in the sea

44. Oohed and ____

46. Atmospheric pressure line, on weather map

48. Military blockade

49. Fire-raising

50. ____ off on a golf course. past tense

51. Exclamation of sorrow

52. * ____ solo, Alex Honnold's feat

53. Raja's daughter

54. Baby fox and baby beaver

55. Business school degree, acr.

58. Habitual twitching

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	
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55						56					57			58
59						60					61			
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The solutions to both the Sudoko & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 23

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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.

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through January 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. **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. The exhibition will trace the evolution of Uman’s prolific painting practice from the intimate portraits she made in the 2000s to the commanding images she creates today. <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

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

Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Oct. 9-31:** Morton’s Homage to the Fiber Creators, join us to see the community’s fiber arts creations. We will have quilts, knitted animals, rugs, handmade garments, knitting, spun wool, felted pieces, and much, much more. **Opening:** Fri., Oct. 9, 5-7 p.m. Admission is free; art purchases and donations for the library are welcome. Refreshments will be available. Library open hours for exhibition.(845) 876-2903

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 spotlight exhibition juxtaposes more than 30 works of painted porcelain and works on paper by Emily Cole (1843–1913) with a mixed-media installation by Hegarty. The work by Valerie Hegarty was made specifically for the Thomas Cole Site in 2025 and explores the connection between Thomas Cole and Emily Cole and their fascination with cycles of life, while considering Hegarty’s own relationship with her mother. www.thomascole.org

Tyte Gallery, 3280 Franklin Ave., 2nd floor, Millbrook. **Through 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. (845) 677-6100 or www.tytegalleries.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through Oct. 25:** “Arcane Bodies.” www.womenswork.art

Giants Super Bowl MVP, Healey Ford employees volunteer at Regional Food Bank to help fight hunger



New York Football Giants two-time Super Bowl champion and Super Bowl XXV MVP Ottis Anderson volunteers at the Regional Food Bank’s Hudson Valley Distribution Center in Montgomery. *Courtesy photo*

New York Football Giants two-time Super Bowl champion and Super Bowl XXV MVP Ottis Anderson joined more than a dozen members of Healey Ford and officials of the Giants organization last week to take part in a Volunteer Shift at the Regional Food Bank’s Hudson Valley Distribution Center in Montgomery to support the Food Bank’s mission to raise awareness of food insecurity and reinforce the importance to give back to communities.

“I just want to be a part of trying to change lives and make lives better,” said Anderson, who with the other volunteers helped to sort and pack items, including local grown fresh produce, for distribution throughout the Food Bank’s 23-county service area. “We don’t worry about accolades or anything like that, because food connect us all. We’re going to make sure that people who are in need get a chance to have fresh fruit and fresh vegetables or whatever.”

The two-hour Volunteer Shift brought together Ford Motor Company, Healey Ford, and the New York Giants organization in support of the Regional Food Bank, as part of the Ford Building Together campaign that focuses on partnering with dealerships and nonprofit organizations across the country to maximize the collective positive impact in local communities.

“The Food Bank has tremendous gratitude to Healey Brothers and the New York Giants for joining us today and

helping give back to our community,” said Susan Lintner, Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer for the Regional Food Bank. “Their support helps us expand awareness to the critical need to fight hunger in the Hudson Valley.”

More than 355,000 people, 12.2% of the population in the Regional Food Bank’s 23-county service area, are food insecure, meaning that they don’t always know where they will find their next meal. A staggering 15.4% of children in the region experience food insecurity. The data shows that food insecurity continues to grow with an additional 23,210 individuals in the Regional Food Bank’s service area.

“We’re very, very proud of the partnership that Healey Brothers has with the Regional Food Bank and what we are able to donate and accomplish together,” said Dwight Healey, owner of Healey Brothers.

“The New York Giants believe that being part of this community extends far beyond the football field,” said Allison Stangeby, Vice President of Community & Corporate Relations New York Giants. “Working alongside Healey Ford and the Regional Food Bank gives our organization an opportunity to roll up our sleeves and help families in this community. We are proud to be part of an effort that brings people together to address an important local need.”

Dutchess County Surplus Vehicles & Equipment

Online Only Auction Ending
Wednesday October 14 at 8PM

Items include 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee; 2015 & 2017 Ford Explorers; 2016 Chevrolet Traverse; 2007 International PayStar 5600i; 2008 & 2011 Ford F-250 Super Duty pickup trucks; 2019 Dodge Durango Police Pursuit SUVs; 2003 Oshkosh P Series truck; 2004 GMC TopKick C8500; 2000 Interstate flatbed trailer; John Deere 5320 tractor; 1999 John Deere 5310 4WD utility tractor; 2007 John Deere Gator 6x4 utility vehicle; CAT BA25 broom attachments; Toro Front Line diesel mower, computers; and more! Items are located in Poughkeepsie, NY & Millbrook, NY.



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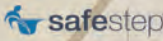
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Community Action Partnership sets 'Bowl for ACTION' Oct. 9

Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County (CAPDC) will hold a fundraising event at Spins Bowl in Wappingers Falls in October and wants you to take part in the action.

"Bowl for ACTION" will take place on Friday, Oct. 9, and will feature team participants, raffle prizes, food and more.

To find out more about sponsorship opportunities and to register for the event, go to BowlforACTION.org.

"We know our local residents are aware that Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County helps individuals who struggle with strained resources or experience difficult financial circumstances," said Dr. Linda Haas Manley, CEO. "Our solemn mission is to partner with individuals and families to eliminate poverty and identify resources and opportunities to enhance their self-sufficiency."

Manley noted CAPDC helps residents through food, rent and utility assistance for those income-eligible, plus other essential programs such as Dress for Success Dutchess County employment empowerment, free tax preparation and weatherization assistance.

CAPDC is pleased to announce that Fisch Solutions, which provides high-quality web and IT services to its customers and is based in the Hudson Valley, has agreed to be the "Kingpin Sponsor" of the event.

Jason Fisch, founder and President of

Fisch Solutions, said, "It's our pleasure to partner with Community Action Partnership on such a worthwhile endeavor. Fisch Solutions recognizes many families in our community will benefit from the support we and others give to the Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County. This promises to be a fun night with a great purpose."

Bob Maslosky, general manager of Spins Bowl Wappingers Falls, said, "We are grateful to have the opportunity to host this community-minded event. Spins Bowl is a great space with more than two dozen bowling lanes and other fun activities, and we are confident attendees at this event will have a joyous evening."

WALL Radio has agreed to be the event's media partner, and Michelle Taylor, on-air personality and programming specialist of WALL Radio said, "As someone who loves being part of this community, I'm proud that WALL Radio is able to support Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County. I truly believe strong communities are built by all of us helping each other in any way we can. Their commitment to support individuals and families reflects the values we share at WALL Radio. We are pleased to give their mission a supportive voice."

At the event, participants will get the chance to bowl two games, partake in a 50-50 raffle, prizes and surprises plus enjoy good food and drinks. Bowl for ACTION is a non-competitive event,



From left in back are Michelle Taylor, on-air personality and programming specialist of WALL Radio; Bob Maslosky, general manager of Spins Bowl Wappingers Falls; Sean Sarnecky, lead technician and project engineer; Michael Parrella, technical operations manager; Brandi Knox, vice president of operations; Sarah Rogan, executive and marketing assistant; Toby Lee, Office Assistant of Fisch Solutions; Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County CEO Dr. Linda Haas Manley is front and center. *Courtesy photo*

open to all levels of bowlers, including beginners.

Check in for the event is 5:30 p.m. October 9 at Spins Bowl located at 1677 Route 9, Wappingers Falls.

CAPDC has Family Development Centers in the City of Poughkeepsie, Dover Plains, Red Hook and Wappingers Falls. You can learn more at dutchess-cap.org.

Morton Library's October events

Morton Library is at 82 Kelly St. in Rhinecliff. Call (845) 876-2903 for more information on these events.

Rockin' Rooks Youth Chess at Morton Mondays @ 5:30 pm

Join the award-winning Rockin' Rooks every Monday with D. Suris and Cathy Young! Students in grades K - 12 are welcome to join for fun, learning, and tournament competition. To sign your child up, for more information, or to volunteer contact: D. Suris 845-416-3287 or email racersplace@hotmail.com

Fire Prevention Week Event
"Forging Firefighters" Sizzle
Thursday, Oct. 8 @ 6:30 pm

Rhinecliff's own Patricia Wind will show the sizzle for her new documentary "Forging Firefighter" and do a Q&A about the importance of the volunteer fire service, along with the struggles the system is facing and how people can help or just be more aware. Patricia will be joined by her DP Peter Nelson and at least one of the fire instructors from the program.

The full length feature film documentary follows a month-long fire academy where ordinary people endure extraordinary challenges to join the front lines of public service - guided by tough, inspiring instructors who help forge their courage, resilience and teamwork.

For more information about the film please check out forgingfirefighters.com. All are welcome.

Morton's Homage to the Fiber Creators

Opening: Friday, Oct. 9, 5-7 pm
Exhibition: Oct. 9 -31

Join us to see the community's fiber arts creations. We will have quilts, knitted

animals, rugs, handmade garments, knitting, spun wool, felted pieces, and much, much more. Admission is free; art purchases and donations for the library are welcome. Refreshments will be available. Library open hours for exhibition.

Great Give Back Screening
"Odd Hours, No Pay, Cool Hat"
Thursday, Oct. 15 @ 6:30 pm

We are thrilled to partner with the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company to bring you this amazing film. "Odd Hours, No Pay, Cool Hat" follows the inspiring journey of the most remarkable neighbors whose help you hope you never need - volunteer firefighters - as they encounter heart-breaking challenges and exhilarating triumphs to fulfill a single mission: serving their community. Heart-warming, humorous, and thrilling, this sweeping portrait of bravery will capture your heart and inspire.

There will be a Q&A after the film with members of the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company.

The mission of The Great Give Back is to provide a day of opportunities for the patrons of the Public Libraries of New York State to participate in meaningful, service-oriented experiences.

Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show
Friday, Oct. 16 @ 8 pm
Featuring: Tim Kapeluck, Dave Feroe, Hudson Crossing.

Donations to benefit Morton are suggested.

"Digging into Longevity"
Breast Cancer Awareness with Dr. Deborah Axelrod

Thursday, Oct. 22 @ 6:30 pm
"Breast cancer covers a vast spectrum, ranging from highly manageable condi-

tions to incredibly aggressive diseases. Surprisingly, identifiable genetic mutations account for only about 20% of cases. While another portion is clearly linked to family history, the vast majority of cases are driven by environmental and lifestyle factors. We can't pick our parents, but we can pick our habits. Since environment and daily choices are heavily driving the bus, how do we hijack it to lower our risk and keep cancer from making an unwanted comeback?

"After surviving breast cancer and spending the last decade in Rhinebeck, an accidental gardening enthusiast, falling in love with soil, I've realized the secret to fighting disease might just start in the yard. Let's talk dirt, diet, and digging our way to a longer life."

Deborah Axelrod, M.D. is Director of Clinical Breast Programs and Services and Medical Director of Community Cancer Education and Outreach at NYU Clinical Cancer Center in New York City and a board certified surgeon who specializes in breast diseases and breast cancer. She co-authored the book *Bosom Buddies: Lessons and Laughter about Breast Health and Cancer* with Rosie O'Donnell and Tracy Chuterian-Semler, that uses humor to help cope with breast cancer. ALL proceeds for the book were donated to various non-profit breast cancer organizations to help fund ongoing outreach, support, education and research programs. Dr. Axelrod founded www.breastdoc.com, an educational website. Free and open to the public

Children's Halloween Party
Tuesday, Oct. 27 @ 4 pm

We will read fun Halloween stories and continue our Morton tradition of decorating Halloween cookies! Costumes are encouraged! Please call 845-876-2903 to RSVP.

"Ho Ho, OH NO!: Twelve True Stories of Tinsel, Bedlam & Unconditional Love" with author Danny Lettieri

Thursday, Oct. 29 @ 6:30 pm

A warm, irreverent Christmas memoir for everyone who's ever survived a family holiday and lived to laugh about it. "Ho Ho, Oh No!: Twelve True Stories of Tinsel, Bedlam & Unconditional Love" is a madcap and heartfelt celebration of the holidays, where Hallmark dreams collide with real life. This collection of Yuletide tales revisits the gloriously imperfect Christmases of author Danny Lettieri's youth. While capturing the festivity, absurdity, and occasional profanity of the season, Danny recognizes that the best memories aren't the polished ones—they're the ones that go sideways and still manage to sparkle.

A beautiful gift book with charming illustrations throughout, Ho Ho, OH NO! is for anyone who has felt like the odd ornament on the tree, for the queer kids who grew up performing joy while quietly figuring themselves out, and for anyone who knows you can't spell "dysfunction" without "FUN"!

Danny Lettieri is a storyteller, illustrator, and unapologetic Christmas maximalist. Raised in a loud, loving Italian American family in upstate New York, he learned early that the best holiday memories usually involve a little chaos and a lot of heart. Now based in San Francisco with his husband Vance and a garage full of Yuletide décor, Danny turns real-life misadventures into stories that are as funny as they are tender. His debut collection, "Ho Ho, OH NO!," is a love letter to perfectly imperfect holidays and the families who make them unforgettable. www.dannylettieri.com

Registration requested. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

Note: Dutchess County Government offices, including the Office for the Aging, are closed on October 12th in observance of Columbus Day. Clients of the OFA Home Delivered Meals program receive shelf-stable meals in advance of the holiday.

2027 Social Security 'COLA' Announcement Coming Soon

Over 75 million Americans are waiting for Oct. 14. That's when the federal government releases the official Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2027.

Largest bump since '23? Possibly

The adjustment is announced right after the federal government releases a key inflation report. The information in that report is used to calculate the COLA.

Predictions for the 2027 COLA from advocacy groups like AARP and the Senior Citizens League have been in a close range around 3.5%. For an older adult with a \$2,000 monthly Social Security payment, a 3.5% bump would bring their 2027 monthly payment to \$2,070.

But the COLA is just one part of the calculation older adults need to make.

The COLA and inflation

While the annual bump in Social Security benefits is designed to match the inflation rate, the increase is based on changes for July, August and September to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, compared to the same months in 2025.

And you may be thinking "but I'm retired!" We noticed that, too. Advocacy groups have noted the disconnect between inflation measurement and your reality as an older adult. Most Social Security recipients are retired rather than working, after all. Retirees have different spending patterns than wage-earners, and often an effectively higher inflation rate.

The Senior Citizens League says Social Security benefits have fallen short of inflation by over 13 percent from 2016 to 2026.

If you have an online "my Social Security" account, the specifics of the 2027 COLA applying to your benefits will appear in your Message Center in late November, according to Social Security. ssa.gov/myaccount will have the details. It's also where you can sign

up for an online account if you don't already have one.

About Social Security and Medicare premiums

Many Social Security beneficiaries who have Medicare Part B premiums deducted from their benefits could see a different change in their deposited amount after Medicare costs are taken into account.

For example, if Social Security benefits rise by 3.5% but the standard Medicare Part B premium also increases, the additional Medicare deduction could offset part of the Social Security increase.

The 2027 Medicare Part B premium is not included in the COLA estimate. Medicare generally announces its upcoming premiums in the late autumn.

Beneficiaries can check official Medicare information through [Medicare.gov](https://medicare.gov).

2026-27 'Medicare Spotlight' now available

Published every October, OFA's annual Medicare Spotlight condenses each year's most critical Medicare information into eight pages, while localizing it to Dutchess County. We are emailing a copy of the Spotlight to everyone on the OFA email list, and it's also available at dutchessny.gov/medicarehighlight.

Paper copies of the newsletter are being delivered this month to public libraries throughout Dutchess County. Older adults who are not online can subscribe to future mailed newsletters by calling OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555.

Last week to sign up and join OFA at the Senior Prom (Mon 10/19)

Registration for the OFA "Hawaiian Luau" Senior Prom closes on Friday, Oct. 9, or whenever the event reaches capacity, whichever comes first – and over 400 Dutchess County older adults have already made plans to be at the prom. Registration and payment info is available here. Admission is \$25 (prepaid), which includes lunch, while seating is available. Guests must be Dutchess County residents over age 60.

The Senior Prom happens on Monday, Oct. 19, noon-4 p.m., at The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Blvd. in Poughkeepsie, and is co-hosted by The Pines at Poughkeepsie.

ices, and access to the Special Education Department.

Hyde Park Elementary welcomes a steady stream of community members daily, from Abilities First pre-K students to families visiting the district registration office and Family Resource Center. The incoming playground will remain accessible to Hyde Park children during non-school hours and weekends.

"This is an exciting time for Hyde Park, as we await this brand-new playground built from the ground up through collaboration and student-focused work. We look forward to providing a new Community School's Family Resource Center, a central hub with resources and supports that welcomes all families and students in our community," said Superintendent Dr. Pedro Roman.

The district aims to design the playground to preserve the historical feel of Hyde Park Elementary. The district's Future Focus Facilities Forum is working to finalize recommendations for the playground's layout and vendor contractors to fulfill the scope of the project.

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, Oct. 5 or 26, 10 a.m.

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

Lots more upcoming

OFA events – Sign up!

To register for any of the events below, contact OFA during business hours at (845) 486-2555 unless a different contact method is indicated.

October:

(Wednesday) 14th – Navigating Medicare, Starr Library, Rhinebeck, 4 pm

(Thursday) 15th – Navigating Medicare, Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Rd., Poughkeepsie (call 845-485-3440 x3380, 9:30am

(Tuesday) 20th – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Admiral Halsey Senior Village,

135 Main St., Poughkeepsie, 1-3 pm

(Wednesday) 21st – Navigating Medicare, Poughkeepsie Galleria Community Room, 10 am

(Thursday) 22nd – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Beacon OFA Friendship Center, 1 Forrestal Heights, 9:30a-noon

(Thursday) 22nd – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Wappingers Town Hall, 1-4p

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

(Monday) 26th – OFA Mobile Office Hours, East Fishkill OFA Friendship Center, 890 NY 82, Hopewell Junction, 9-11 am

(Thursday) 29th – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Amenia Library, 3309 NY 343, Amenia, 12-3 pm

November:

(Monday) 9th – Navigating Medicare, Adriaance Library, 93 Market St., Poughkeepsie (parking on Noxon St.) – 845-485-3445 x3380

(Tuesday) 10th – OFA Mobile Office Hours, Clinton Library, 1215 Centre Rd., Rhinebeck, 10a – 2p

(Thursday) 12th – Caregiving Workshop, with AARP New York and Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, East Fishkill OFA Friendship Center, 890 NY 82, Hopewell Junction, 10:30am. Use this link to sign up, or call AARP at 518-447-6711.

The Bad Joke!

What's orange and sounds like a parrot?

A carrot.

Millbrook Library events

Visit www.millbrooklibrary.org to register for events and for more information. The library is at 3 Friendly Lane in Millbrook.

Millbrook Film Club: "9 to 5" (1980) Thursday, Oct. 8, 6-8 p.m.

Celebrate Dolly Parton with the Millbrook Film Club! Jane Fonda, Dolly Parton, and Lily Tomlin star as three secretaries who turn the tables on their boss. (Rated PG)

Mask Making with Deborah Coconis for Teens and Adults

Tuesdays, Oct. 13 & 20, 4-5:30 p.m.

Come and learn mask construction basics with artist Deborah Coconis! This two-day workshop is for teens and adults and is brought to you in partnership with the Millbrook Arts Group.

Millbrook Silent Book Club

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 6-8 p.m.

Join the Millbrook Silent Book Club by the Millbrook Library fireplace for a quiet evening of reading in good company. There's no assigned book, and you can bring whatever you're currently reading or borrow from a provided selection of books.

Great Give Back: Halloween Costume Swap

Saturday, Oct. 17, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

The Costume Swap is a win for both budgets and the environment. Participants can refresh their Halloween looks without the expense of purchasing new costumes, declutter their closets for a good cause, keep textiles out of landfills, and foster a culture of reuse within our community.

Starting October 10th, community members can bring gently used costumes and accessories of all sizes during regular library hours and get a ticket for each costume donated. The collection period runs through the start of the Costume Swap at 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 17 - an afternoon of costume browsing and selection, completely free for all participants.

Costumes for all ages are welcome. Please ensure donated items are clean and in good repair. Any leftover costumes will be donated to local charities.

Death Café

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 6-8 p.m.

Death Café is part of a worldwide movement (over 24,000 death cafés have been held worldwide since the idea's inception in 2011) to promote open discussion of death, dying, and mourning in a welcoming, communal environment. This is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counseling session, meant to "increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives". In keeping with Death Café tradition, light refreshments will be served.

"Patterns of Life" Artist Talk & Opening Reception

Friday, Oct. 23

Artist Talk, 4:30 p.m.

Reception, 6-8 p.m.

Millbrook Arts Project presents "Patterns of Life," an exhibition of work by Shari Diamond, Rich Garrison, Paul Lewandowski, and Jim Morris, four artists who explore the ways patterns shape how we experience and remember the world around us. The exhibit runs through Nov. 28.

A Dark and Stormy Halloween Storytime for Adults

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2-4 p.m.

Storytime isn't just for kids! Get ready for Halloween with an afternoon of terrifying tales brought to life by local talent. Light refreshments will be served.

Community Supper & Cookbook Club Reads Ina Garten

Monday, Oct. 26, 6-7 p.m.

Join Chef Lenny for a potluck supper and cookbook club at the Millbrook Library. Everyone is welcome! Bring something to share, or just bring yourself

continued on page 21

Hyde Park CSD awarded NY PLAYS grant for new HP Elementary playground

Hyde Park Central School District (CSD) is one of the Mid-Hudson Region's 20 organizations receiving an NY PLAYS grant in 2026. As part of Gov. Kathy Hochul's statewide initiative to help communities create, expand and improve public outdoor spaces, the district received \$439,178.80 to fully replace the Fun Forest playground at Hyde Park Elementary School.

Built through a collaborative partnership between the Hyde Park Central School District and Abilities First, the award paves the way for a new era of play in Hyde Park. Replacing the former, non-ADA-compliant playground at Hyde Park Elementary that was condemned, the new facility will provide a fully accessible, inclusive space where children of all abilities can play together.

The Oct. 22 groundbreaking at 4327 Albany Post Road will coincide with the ribbon-cutting of the Community Schools Family Resource Center. Serving as a one-stop location for Hyde Park CSD families, the center provides student registration, food and clothing pantries, enriching educational and wellness serv-

OBITUARIES

John Burk

MILLBROOK – John Leslie Burk, age 88 of Millbrook, NY, passed away peacefully on September 21, 2026.

John was born on February 24, 1938, to the late Leslie J. Burk and Ruth E. Burk in Coldwater, Michigan. He grew up with a passion for both academics and community, graduating from Athens Agricultural Schools in 1956 as an honor student. During his high school years, he was a true well-rounded leader- playing football and basketball, playing in the school band, and singing in the glee club. His hard work earned him a scholarship for academics, leadership and character to Michigan State University. While at MSU, he became a proud member of the Triangle Fraternity and graduated in 1960 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

Following graduation, John began what would become a distinguished 33-year career as an electrical engineer at IBM in Poughkeepsie, NY. Known for his technical brilliance and dedication, he received several awards of excellence and achievement before retiring in 1993.

In 1962, John married Elizabeth Ann Rozelle. They shared 17 years of marriage and had three children together. In 1980, John married his lifelong partner, Kristin Hansen Burk, whom he loved deeply. Together they built a beautiful home on Upton Lake in Clinton Corners, New York, where they lived for 40 years. In his early retirement years, John and Kristin operated a welcoming bed and breakfast out of their home and John worked part-time providing tours and tastings at Millbrook Winery. He and Kristin later moved to The Fountains in Millbrook, NY, where he resided until his passing. John was a man of quiet passions and great creativity. He loved spending his time woodcarving, painting, working on puzzles, gardening and taking meticulous care of his home and yard. He and Kristin loved to explore New England and stay in historical inns and cozy bed and breakfasts, though he was just as content to sit by the fire, the lake or on the back patio with a glass of wine holding Kristin's hand. He cherished their regular dinner group and playing cribbage with close friends.

Above all, John was a man of great integrity, kindness and devotion. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved nothing more than making others smile and laugh. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who was always entirely present for his family, celebrating every wedding, graduation, birthday and milestone with pride and joy.

John is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Kristin Hansen Burk. He is survived by his devoted children, Bonnie Katherine Allen, John Edwin Burk (and his wife Michelle) and his stepdaughters, Karen Muller, Linda Muller, Michelle Muller, Susan Muller and Ann Muller who he had strong, positive connections with. John was sadly preceded in death by his beloved son, Dennis Scott Burk, as well as his parents and his two sisters Helen Louise and Anna Corinne. His legacy lives on

through his cherished grandchildren, Katherine Elizabeth Diggle (and her husband Bill Diggle), Nicole Elizabeth O'Byrne (and her husband Michael O'Byrne), Gregory Michael Allen (and his wife Rachel Allen). He was also the proud great-grandfather of Emersyn Catherine Diggle and Sean Michael O'Byrne.

A celebration of life will be planned and held in the next few months. Memorial donations may be made to the Dementia Society of America or to Hudson Valley Hospice.

Donald DeLorenzo

HYDE PARK – Donald D. DeLorenzo, longtime resident of Hyde Park, and beloved teacher and coach for thousands of local youths, passed away Friday, October 2, 2026, after a long illness. He was 89.

Born in Schenectady, NY on September 21, 1937, to the late Anthony DeLorenzo and Theresa DeMartino, he graduated from Mont Pleasant High School in Schenectady, attended Springfield College (Mass), served four years in the US Coast Guard, and then completed his graduate work in 1964 at Springfield, where he met his future wife, Sue Fitzpatrick. They were married in Schenectady the following year.

Don taught physical education in the Spackenkill School District in Poughkeepsie and started and coached the highly successful soccer program there. When he retired from Spackenkill in 1994 as teacher, coach and athletic director, he continued to coach soccer, as Assistant Coach at Marist College for two years, and then started another successful program at Dover High School. Additionally, he coached two more years at FDR High School in Hyde Park. More than all his awards and recognitions, including being elected to the National Soccer Hall of Fame, he was most proud of the players he coached over the years and the opportunity that coaching gave him to make a positive influence in their lives.

He deeply loved his faith, family, and friends.

In retirement he also enjoyed reading, traveling, cartooning, and writing poetry, illustrating his poems with his original cartoons.

Survivors include his wife Sue of 61 years, and his daughters Denise DeLorenzo of Fairfield, PA and Dana Scanlon (Terence) of Plantation, FL, and grandson Andrew Scanlon. He was predeceased by his son Todd in 1990.

He is also survived by his sister Rosemary Caswell and brothers David DeLorenzo (Kathleen) and James DeLorenzo (Janet), and several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, at Sweet's Funeral Home, 4365 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY. A Celebration of Don's Life will begin at 3:00 pm. A Mass and Burial will be private at the family's request.

Special appreciation for the compassionate care from Hudson Valley Hospice and Don's longtime aide Walter McKinney for guiding him through this last earthly journey.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Don's memory to Hudson Valley

Hospice, 374 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Dominick Schiano

MILLBROOK – Dominick Schiano, a devoted father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and man of deep faith, passed away surrounded by the love of his family on September 30, 2026.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Dominick spent much of his life in Brooklyn and Staten Island. In 2016, he moved to the Hudson Valley to be closer to his two children, Jason and Erin, and their families. Being close to the people he loved meant everything to him.

Faith was at the center of Dominick's life. He loved going to church and had a strong and unwavering belief in God that guided the way he lived. He was a loving and caring man who consistently put the needs of others before his own. Whether it was family, a friend, or someone who simply needed a helping hand, Dominick was always willing to be there.

Above all, Dominick treasured his family. He was immensely proud of his children and found tremendous joy in being a grandfather and great-grandfather.

Dominick is survived by his children, Jason and his spouse, Leticia, and Erin and her spouse, Vincent; their mother, Patricia; his beloved grandchildren, Briana, Aidan, Daniel, and Charlotte; and his great-grandchildren, Leah and Kai.

Dominick was also a lifelong sports fan and a diehard New York Yankees fan. He loved following his teams, talking sports, and sharing that passion with the people around him.

Those who knew Dominick will remember his kindness, his selflessness, his devotion to his faith, and the love he showed his family throughout his life. His legacy lives on through his family and all those whose lives were made better simply by knowing him.

He will be deeply missed and forever loved. His family takes comfort in knowing that the faith that sustained Dominick throughout his life now brings him home to God.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church, LaGrangeville. Interment followed in St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale.

Laurence Stoneham

VERBANK – Laurence (Larry) Stoneham Jr. died peacefully on the 28th of September, 2026. He was 88 years old.

Larry was foremost a dedicated family man committed to the success of his family and to his wife of 65 years, the former Kathy Wheeler. He was also a lifelong rifleman, hunter, and outdoorsman who introduced his sons, Patrick, Michael, Peter and daughter Anne alike to the joys of hiking, climbing, shooting, hunting, skiing, and canoeing.

Son of Laurence and Alice Stoneham, brother of Jack, Bob, and Tuck, Larry grew up in Millbrook, NY where he attended high school and met Kathy Wheeler. After a year of prep school in New York City, Larry attended the United States Military Academy at West Point (where he was a proud member of the Class of '61). After graduating and marrying Kathy, the newly commissioned 2LT found a home in various Army assignments at Ft Monmouth and Ft Lewis before spending a year in Vietnam, where he commanded units responsible for providing telephone communications in NE Thailand and Vietnam.

After returning from Vietnam, he was assigned to Tobyhanna Army Depot where he prepared an Army Signal Supply & Maintenance Battalion for their first rotation overseas. After resigning his commission, Larry took advantage of his West Point education and entered civilian life working as a

Mechanical Engineer with De Lavall, a Civil Engineer with the Forest Service, an Industrial Engineer and Financial Analyst with IBM, a Business Manager for the Indian Mountain School, and finally—in retirement—as a Shooting Instructor at Orvis Sandanona in Millbrook (which was his favorite job).

Devoted to his family, Larry taught his children to devote themselves to honesty, discipline, and and forthrightness—and to the virtue of hard work, and each of them knows the virtue that can only come from commitment to high—and sometimes exacting—standards and is better for it. He sought the same virtues in his many long-standing and deep relationships with lifelong friends, sharing his time, his interests, and his expertise with them and enjoying their perspectives as much as he enjoyed their laughter. Each of his children has a lasting memory of him, and each of us remember him standing wet in his heavy, Woolrich coat, shotgun in hand, smiling beside a tall oak after it had become way too cold and wet to remain on deer stand—and revealing that he'd seen a buck but decided to wait to see if the season would bring him something bigger.

He was a good man—one whom we'll miss very much—especially on cold November mornings when the prospect of a big deer is in the air. Hunt well, Larry, where you next travel; we'll lift a glass to you and imagine your ready smile, enthusiastic conversation, and eager willingness to join us on our next adventure.

Larry will be interred at West Point at a future date.

Carolyn Marie Fuchek Vitolo

PLEASANT VALLEY – Carolyn Marie Fuchek Vitolo died September 30, 2026, at age 57, peacefully with her family after a battle with cancer. She was born October 22, 1968, in Sleepy Hollow, NY, to John Fuchek and Virginia B. Markle. She attended Walter Panas High School and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology at Western Connecticut State University.

In Mississippi, Carolyn worked as a symphony manager and a violinist. She loved music and writing, and she worked as an independent journalist.

Her work also took her to a nursing home as an aide, the cafeteria at Our Lady of Lourdes High School and the reception desk at Vassar Hospital. She also spent many years volunteering at Holy Trinity School.

On June 11, 2009, she married Antonio Vitolo. She lived in Poughkeepsie, NY, with her husband and daughter. She loved being a mother and wife and loved collecting antiques. Carolyn had the kindest heart, was an incredibly giving person, and an extremely devoted mother.

She is survived by her daughter, Gabriella Vitolo; her husband, Antonio Vitolo; her mother, Virginia B. Markle; her step father, Art Markle; her father, John Fuchek; her step mother, Cathy Fuchek; her sister, Denise Fuchek Kurmann and her brother-in-law, Rete Kurmann; and her niece and nephew, Helena and Jan Kurmann. The family thanks Hudson Valley Hospice and the Dyson Center at Vassar Hospital for the care and comfort they provided Carolyn. Carolyn had the kindest heart, was an incredibly giving person, and an extremely devoted mother.

A service will be held Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 231 Church Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. An event will be held after in Carolyn's memory at American Legion, 55 Overlook Road, Poughkeepsie, NY. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley, NY.

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LEGAL NOTICE – BUDGET HEARING EAST CLINTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners will hold a Budget Hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 7:00 pm concerning the 2027 Preliminary Budget with a special meeting to follow immediately to adopt the 2027 Budget. The meeting will be held at the East Clinton Fire District Firehouse, 9 Firehouse Lane, Clinton Corners, NY. Dated: September 16, 2026 East Clinton Fire District Board of Commissioners Carol Mackin, Secretary The 2027 Preliminary budget is available to review on the Town of Clinton website: **Clintondcny.gov** **THANK YOU.** Carol Mackin ECFD Secretary

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-107-26
Staffing Services for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (Lead) Initiative
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 9, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, select-

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ing "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-112-26
Uniform Rental and Facility Services for Dutchess County Public Transit
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 29th 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.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-101-26
Non-Residential Domestic Violence Core Services
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 5, 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

Legal Notices

York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-102-26
Non-Residential Domestic Violence Optional Services
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 5, 2026. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
RFB-DCB-17-26 On-Call Commercial/Industrial Fencing and Automatic & Non-Automatic Gate Contractor for Construction, Renovation, Rental and Repair. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4

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pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Diane McKenna, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Bids due on or before 11:00am Thursday October 29, 2026, and at that time opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in a few minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 391 338 515#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic copy and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business October 22, 2026 and emailed to Diane McKenna at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov and cc'dmckenna@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. This project may be subject to NYS Depart-

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ment of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2026027946. Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS- RFB-DCB-15-26: AMENDED: PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BID OPENING HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026, TO WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026, AT 11:00 AM and QUESTIONS WILL BE TAKEN UNTIL THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, 4:00 PM WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026. NAME OF PROJECT: Roof Replacement Project for the Dutchess County Public Defender's Office, 45 Market Street, Poughkeepsie. **Project Description:** Complete Roof Replacement at 45 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County Public Defender's Office. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding

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documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids are due on or before 11:00 AM, Wednesday, October 14, 2026,** and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. **Bids for the above project will be received by:** Caroline A. Miller, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike, 1st Floor Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All call-ins will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) **Conference ID: 324 046 710#** Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Con-

Legal Notices

tractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. **Questions will be accepted by the Close of Business 4:00 pm Wednesday, October 7, 2026,** and emailed to Caroline Miller at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. This RFB may be subject to NYS Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #2026025893. **IMPORTANT: Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor Registry Requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding the APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable.** The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-97-26
Motor Oils, Lubricants, and Engine Fluids
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 22nd 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.

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.**

Millbrook Library events

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and enjoy a meal in the company of friends and neighbors. This month we're cooking and sharing recipes from chef Ina Garten's cookbooks. Copies will be available for check out from the library's circulation desk starting October 1.

A Story to Die For: Murder Mystery Game Night
Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Join us at Millbrook Library for a family-friendly game night for all ages. This month's game is A Story to Die For - a Library Murder Mystery, created by in-house board game expert, Chris McMillion.

Prolific local author Stefan King was found mysteriously murdered at his book signing event at the Millbrook Library. Will you be able to determine whodunnit? Join us for a night of puzzle-solving and role-playing, as patrons try to determine which of 5 suspects, played by library staff and patrons, is responsible for King's death.

Millbrook Film Club: "Practical Magic" (1998)
Thursday, Oct. 29, 6-8 p.m.
"Featuring a strong ensemble cast who promote sisterhood, a nostalgic '90s soundtrack, and the concept that love can overcome anything (with a little help from magic of course), Practical Magic remains as enchanting as ever." - Rotten Tomatoes (Rated PG-13)

Library Jam & Community Sing-along
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6:30-8 p.m.
Join Millbrook's musical community for Library Jam! Bring an instrument, or just your voice for singing, hands for clapping, or ears for listening. Eric Marshall will lead you through a myriad of memorable tunes. This group is perfect for beginner and advanced musicians. All ages and abilities are welcome! This group meets outside on the library porch or in the Fiction room, depending on the weather.

Millbrook Repair Cafe?
Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Keep your beloved and broken stuff out of landfills and get to know your neighbors at the Millbrook Repair Cafe?! Bring your broken lamps and small appliances, jewelry, mending, and darning, etc. to the Millbrook Repair Cafe? and local repair coaches will help you fix them or provide advice on additional repair resources. Please limit repairs to two per person. Also available: knife sharpening and plastic bag and battery recycling.

"This Is a True War Story" | Author Robert K. Brigham
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30-8 p.m.

send us your news
cschmidt@sduchessnews.com

Please join author Robert K. Brigham for a reading and signing of his latest book "This is a True War Story: My Improbable History with Vietnam."
Robert K. Brigham has had a substantial career as a historian of the Vietnam War, with a hand in nine books, a documentary, public history projects, and more. While many a historian has felt compelled at some point to write about a subject close to them personally, Brigham did not think he was doing that. But, at age fifty-eight, Brigham, who had long known he was adopted, discovered that he'd improbably and unknowingly been studying and talking about his biological father Bruce Atwell, a famous Marine combat photographer in Vietnam.

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Suguru solution

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

S	W	A	G			C	A	M			N	T	H					
N	A	S	A			C	O	P	E		S	P	A	R	E			
L	I	E	U			A	C	R	E		L	O	G	O	N			
	F	A	C	E	B	O	O	K			O	K	A	Y				
					H	E	M	A	N		R	O	E					
F	E	D	O	R	A					T	O	P	M	O	S	T		
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T	A	W	S	E		N	O	R			A	N	I	O	N			
A	S	A	P			S	E	P	S	I	S		O	R	G			
S	E	R	I	A	T	E				S	K	I	N	N	Y			
					N	A	Y			S	A	L	E	S				
					T	A	N	H			F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K
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B	E	A	R	D				E	G	O	S		A	N	T	I		
A	D	S						E	E	N			R	I	S	C		

SUDOKU

This week's answer

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

Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

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