

Dutchess County prepares to open new, modern Justice & Transition Center

Facility is \$20M under budget, has expanded space for rehabilitation

Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O'Neil joined Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati on Tuesday, Oct. 10 to recognize those involved in the development and construction of the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center (DCJTC), a modern, new facility serving as the cornerstone of Dutchess County's innovative restorative justice efforts, addressing the root causes of criminal activity to rehabilitate offenders for successful transition back to the community and prevention of future recidivism.

The more efficient, safer facility will open more than \$20 million under budget later this year and is expected to significantly reduce annual operational costs compared to the former facility.

Sheriff Imperati said, "This new facility enhances the safety and dignity of both those who are incarcerated and our correctional team who work here. It is the result of the hard work of many people coming together to address long-standing problems. I am grateful to my predecessor Sheriff Adrian 'Butch' Anderson, as well as former County Executive Marc Molinaro and so many others for making the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center a reality."

County Executive O'Neil said, "The Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center is a testament to persistence – a legacy project. Dutchess County Government has again demonstrated the exceptional collaboration, multi-faceted expertise and a fierce determination to overcome challenges and implement solutions. There are have so many aspects to this project - unique, progressive design; restorative justice strategy; careful budgeting and financial model-



Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O'Neil, left, and County Sheriff Kirk Imperati led the speakers on Oct. 10 to announce the completion of the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center. The 161,987 square foot facility features a larger state-of-the-art medical infirmary, including a women's medical unit with enhanced medical and mental health services, expansive classroom and programming areas, professional, industrial kitchen and laundry and improved staff areas. *Photos by Curtis Schmidt and courtesy photo*

ling and tracking; a highly complex construction plan and the ever-changing environment for criminal justice law; public engagement and the economic impacts on construction costs and material and labor availability – and now we stand at the finish line, ready to open this building and serve as a statewide leader for restorative justice."

The new DCJTC will meet the

County's needs for years to come. The 161,987 square foot facility features a larger state-of-the-art medical infirmary including a women's medical unit with enhanced medical and mental health services; expansive classroom and programming areas; professional, industrial kitchen and laundry; and improved staff areas. The design incorporates substantially more natural light than the current

facility and is fully climate-controlled, creating a better environment for both incarcerated individuals and the correctional officers charged with their care.

The contemporary design employs the innovative direct supervision strategy used nationally for inmate management, and housing unit design that minimizes

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Keep calm and carry yarn!

NYS Sheep & Wool Festival returns to Fairgrounds

By Stacey van den Thoorn

Get your knitting needles ready for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 21-22 October 22, when the much-anticipated New York State Sheep and Wool Festival returns to the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck.

From agriculture to artwork, the NYS Sheep and Wool Festival showcases the Northeast's thriving sheep industry (along with goats, llamas and alpacas) and provides an expansive opportunity

for the public to enjoy, appreciate, and learn about fiber arts and farming.

This family-friendly event is chock full of demonstrations, workshops, competitions and shows. Check out the chop-stick knitting competition or see who can spin the longest yarn from a spinning wheel. There will also be opportunities to witness first hand the entire textile process at the fleece-to-shawl competition.

"This is such a wonderful event. Every year it draws thousands of people from our own region, as well as from surrounding states, and opens people's eyes to the great variety of possibilities," said Mary Flad, a tapestry weaver from



Poughkeepsie and past festival demonstrator. "It is wonderful to see mastery of crafts, creative expression and the materials and equipment available; and of course, the sheep and other animals that are the source for a lot of the materials." Flad is one of several local textile artists and artisans that have worked on displays in an exhibit at the Morton Library in Rhinecliff, an annual event held in conjunction with the Sheep and Wool Festival.

The event, which dates back to the

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Healthy Lifestyles



Dutchess County prepares to open new, modern Justice & Transition Center

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From top, Transition Team members include Col. Gerry Lennon, Investigation Sgt. Will Moore, Corrections Officer Gina Toth, Corrections Officer Shafic Dhalla, Deputy Kate Holder, Corrections Officer Anthony Lewis, Corrections Officer Chion Scott, Deputy Jail Administrator Anthony Pica, Corrections Officer Tim Robinson, Jail Maintenance Supervisor Andrew Richard and his maintenance team, plus Sheriff Kirk Imperati, County Executive William F.X. O'Neil and County Public Works Commissioner Robert Balkind. The center photo shows the Male Housing Unit, and the Recreation Area and Meals Area within all housing units is shown at the bottom. *Courtesy photos*



From top, RESTART Program Housing Unit, Officials are given a tour of the Justice and Transition Center, Programming Classroom and Female Housing Unit including Female RESTART Program Housing. *Courtesy photos*



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Dutchess County prepares to open new, modern Justice & Transition Center

continued from cover

the need to move people from place-to-place within the facility, minimizing risk and reducing the number of required correctional officers. Compared to 12 housing units with a separate recreational area in the old building, the new 328-bed facility features six housing units, each with its own recreational area, including one female unit and units specifically designed for the RESTART program. Enhanced security features, additional cameras and improved sight lines also add to the facility’s efficiency and help provide a safer, more appropriate workplace for the County’s valued Corrections team. These staffing and operational efficiencies will result in lower annual operating costs compared to the old facility, in addition to the savings the County has already reaped from reducing housing out costs and staff attrition.

The construction of the DCJTC followed several years of analysis and research that began in 2012, when then-County Executive Molinaro directed the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council (CJC) to undertake a comprehensive needs assessment to address the County’s longstanding, costly issue of “housing-out” incarcerated individuals in other counties’ jails due to lack of capacity in the Dutchess County Jail. The existing jail’s capacity was limited to 250 inmates. With daily average population reaching as high as 550, the County was forced to house out hundreds of inmates daily. Housing out was costing taxpayers up to \$8 million annually and had serious, negative implications, including disruption of the judicial process, extended length-of-stay, increased risk for correctional officers, and limited access to critical programming and family visitation for incarcerated individuals.

U.S. Congressman Molinaro said, “Today, the goal we set 11 years ago has been met. Dutchess County now has a modern facility with the needed space to expand the County’s nationally renowned alternatives to incarceration and restorative justice programs, increasing public safety and delivering savings to taxpayers. This new Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center will serve as a criminal justice model that helps individuals get the support and services they need to successfully return to the community. I am proud to have been part of making this day a reality and offer my congratulations and thanks to the many people who it made it possible.”

The CJC’s Needs Assessment Report, validated by nationally recognized, industry expert Ricci Greene Associates in 2013, called for a two-pronged approach: enhance the County’s nationally recognized, innovative work with Alternatives to Incarceration programs to divert people away from the jail and drive down recidivism; and develop a larger jail facility, designed as a transition center campus to expand the County’s ability to institute additional evidence-based rehabilitative and re-entry programs.

Following years of developing the design, size and scope of the DCJTC, in partnership with leading experts in criminal justice and social work and with extensive community engagement, including evaluation of multiple site options, including the former Hudson River Psychiatric Center in the Town of Poughkeepsie; in March 2016, the Dutchess County Legislature, in a bipartisan vote, approved \$192.2 million for the design and construction of the new facility – planned, at the time, for a capacity of up to 569 beds. The project planned for the demolition of most of the existing jail facility, except for the section built in 1995, which would be renovated and incorporated within the new building design. The plan required the original Sheriff’s Office building be demolished to make room on site. The new 56,000-square-foot Law Enforcement Center, with enhanced design efficiency and greater public access, was built at the site of former Taylor Manufacturing building

on Parker Avenue and was opened in 2019.

As the project got under way, the County remained committed to expanding efforts to reduce jail population through its robust alternatives to incarceration programming; the introduction of multiple mental health intervention services, including the Mobile Crisis Intervention Team; and opening the 24/7 Stabilization Center, as well as the addition of the RESTART program.

These efforts, combined with the new Bail Reform laws enacted by New York State in 2020 that drastically decreased cashless bail and the need to remand defendants before trial; enabled the administration to reduce the size and capacity of the DCJTC and reduce the planned cost. Following the New York State Commission of Correction’s (COC) final approval of the DCJTC design, construction began in December 2020.

The project has been overseen by Dutchess County Public Works Commissioner Robert Balkind and County Public Works staff. Additionally, a transition team* was appointed by Sheriff Imperati to provide input and guidance throughout the design and construction process and plan for the successful transition between the old and new facility. Key project contractors included LaBella Associates, Architect; Pike Construction Companies, General Contractor; Turner Construction Company, Construction Manager; and Black Creek Integrated Systems Corporation, Security System and Controls Contractor. RicciGreene Associates served as Dutchess County’s owner representative throughout the project.

Commissioner Balkind said, “This has been a lengthy project with complicated site design issues that required the project to be completed in multiple phases. It has been one of the most challenging times in history to build such a large-scale project as the construction industry has been intensely challenged by rapidly rising costs and delays due to inflation, supply chain disruptions and labor shortages. Despite these challenges, we reached this milestone of completing the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center with minimal delay and more than \$20 million less than the approved project funding. I am grateful to my Public Works team, the Transition Team and all our professional contractors who brought this new facility to fruition.”

The planning and construction of both the DCJTC and the Law Enforcement Center have been carefully monitored by Dutchess County Comptroller Robin Lois, who has issued multiple financial update reports over the past several years, all validating the project has remained significantly less than the originally approved funding.

The programs and services offered within the DCJTC make it an example for the future of criminal justice and include:

- **Immersive Rehabilitation and Emphasis on Community Reintegration** - The DCJTC places a strong emphasis on rehabilitation and therapeutic programs, providing incarcerated individuals with the necessary tools to address the underlying causes of their involvement in the criminal justice system, including the County’s successful RESTART - Re-Entry Stabilization Transition and Reintegration Track program.

An initiative of the CJC’s Special Populations Subcommittee, RESTART is a multi-agency partnership between the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office, Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections, Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Family Services and Project MORE that offers an intensive approach to treating the underlying causes of criminal behaviors. Nearly 1,000 have graduated from the program since it began in 2015. The new DCJTC will allow for further expansion of the program, with dedicated space for services

including large group areas, office space for staff, and an environment encouraging engagement in program offerings. The new RESTART units allow for deeply immersive programming, doubling the number of classes offered daily to at least six hours per day on topics such as Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT); counseling for grief, loss, or trauma; substance use recovery; the National Institute of Corrections’ “Ready, Set, Work!” program; interactive journaling; and anger management, among others.

Those graduating from RESTART are then eligible for comprehensive re-entry programs upon release, including the Re-Entry Community Housing and Resource Guided Empowerment (RECHARGE) program, which helps individuals after incarceration find and maintain safe housing, case management services, employment, education, and more.

- **Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Services** - Recognizing that many individuals in the criminal justice system require comprehensive care and support, the DCJTC offers specialized mental health and substance use treatment. Dutchess County led New York State with the introduction of Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT), which promotes recovery for those living with opioid use disorder and has been proven to reduce overdoses and future criminal activity. Among other services, recovery support, including Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous’ 12-step programs, is also available for those recovering from drug and/or alcohol addiction.

- **Education and Workforce Development Training** - Incarcerated individuals will have access to education and vocational training, equipping them with valuable skills that increase their chances of securing employment upon release. Threshold, for example, educates participants on life’s challenges and teaches them how to deal with these challenges appropriately. During this six- to eight-week program, which is run by trained civilian volunteers, incarcerated individuals learn to evaluate their way of thinking and decision-making skills. Dutchess County Community College also offers educational services at the DCJTC, providing Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) preparation, test administration and academic assessment, to assist participants in earning a High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma.

Other programming and services in the DCJTC include parenting skills, religious services, Bible study, and work opportunity programs, many offered in partnership with various community agencies, volunteers and faith-based organizations.

Once the DCJTC is occupied, work to demolish the 1985 portion of the old jail will begin. The existing temporary housing units, known as the PODS, must also be removed to complete site work. The full project is expected to be complete by August 2024.

The 1995 portion of the current Dutchess County Jail will remain and be repurposed for other uses such as transitional or affordable housing. In the short term, it is expected to be utilized as the temporary location for the County’s Emergency Housing Facility, currently located in the PODS, which will enable the County to safely house homeless individuals and most importantly, begin the critical programming that is not possible

to conduct in the current PODS location. The County will be able to offer critical wrap-around services, including mental health, substance use, housing case management and vocational assistance as work continues toward the development of a permanent location for the Emergency Housing Facility.

Moving forward with the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center has enabled the County to reduce costs and redirect dollars to a multitude of other critical endeavors, all while reducing the amount of property taxes collected from taxpayers. A sampling of the initiatives and expansion of services undertaken since the funding for the DCJTC was approved in 2016, include:

- Investment in and development of the countywide youth center, the Youth Opportunity Union (or the YOU), to be built on the site of the former YMCA building in the City of Poughkeepsie, to be the physical hub of Dutchess County’s innovative “Path to Promise” initiative and other expanded youth services. Dutchess County has committed \$25 million to invest in the YOU;

- New state-of-the-art Office for the Aging senior center in Poughkeepsie;

- Expansion of mental health and substance use disorder programs, including establishment of the County’s Empowerment Center at 230 North Road in Poughkeepsie, and a partnership with WMC Health to create a Behavioral Health Center of Excellence at MidHudson Regional Hospital;

- Growth of the Dutchess County Drug Task Force and School Resource Officer programs, embedding law-enforcement officers in the community to increase public safety;

- Expansion of award-winning Dutchess County Parks system, including the Northside Line urban trail connecting the city and town of Poughkeepsie, addition of Upper Landing Park, the acquisition of the Lake Walton Preserve, extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail and the installation of pickleball courts at Quiet Cove Riverside Park;

- Continued investment in countywide infrastructure, including County roads and bridges;

- The creation of Dutchess County’s Housing Trust Fund to aid implementation of affordable housing projects;

- Dutchess County’s Police Reform & Modernization Initiative, with funding for procedural justice, implicit bias and crisis intervention training for law-enforcement officers; body cameras for Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office deputies and initiatives to develop a more diverse candidate pool for police agency hiring.

- \$30 million investment in Coordinated Countywide Emergency Response Communications radio project

Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver concluded, “With the construction of the new Justice and Transition Center, we have been able to create a facility that will be a criminal justice model and help people get their lives back on track. I applaud the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office - in particular the transition team - and all those other partners who were involved in ensuring that this facility best serves both the population it houses, but also the officers who dedicate their careers to protecting our community.”

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Publisher
Albert Osten

Executive Editor/
General Manager
Curtis Schmidt
cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Editorial/Creative Director
Kate Goldsmith

Reporters
Kristine Coulter
Rich Thomaselli

Contributing Writers
Jim Donick
Stacey vanden Thoorn

Advertising Representative
Richard Wambach
845-417-5377
richardlw47@gmail.com

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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.

Anti-semitism in America must not continue

To the editor:

Over the past few years several of my friends and I have noticed an increase in anti-semitism. Individuals on college campuses, including Bard, falsely accuse Israel of “war crimes” and divestment. The cry to do anything to damage Israel has exploded.

These types of “Blood Libels” have been led by many groups such as The Democratic Socialists of America. This past weekend this group held a rally in New York City with verbal and written messages supporting a horrific attack. They even showed swastikas and claimed support for Nazis.

Innocent unarmed civilians were murdered at an outside music festival featuring peace as a message. Families were savagely annihilated at point blank range in front of their children. These are the worst actions that humanity can commit.

The world Jewish community and the State of Israel have a right to exist in peace and defend themselves. Being from a Jewish family whose grandfather had to run down the street when his parents were burned alive in their home as a teenager, I grew up with my father telling me of his war experiences with the Nazis in Europe. My mother-in-law hid in a chicken coup when her own mother was dragged away and killed in a concentration camp. I can’t believe these evil acts of terror are repeating themselves today.

I am calling for the resignation of any of our political leaders that support or are connected to the Democratic Socialists of America.

Mark Klein
Ulster County

Forgiveness as a path to peace

To the editor:

The movie “Emanuel” is about the power of forgiveness in the wake of the horrific shooting of nine people at the Emanuel A. M. E. Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

If ever that power was needed, surely it is and has been needed in Israel and Palestine. But that has seemed impossible, as both sides, in past efforts at mediation, started by recounting the wrongs done by the other side. Both will have new accusations, as Israel tears apart

Gaza to repay Hamas’ horrific surprise attack.

A key part of Jesus’ message was forgiveness, and its counterpart, repentance, where two parties separated by wrong are reunited, able to move forward instead of stuck in anger and dispute.

The church folks in Charleston looked to the future, putting aside the past, to the benefit of their families and community. Not too late for Israel and the Palestinians to do the same.

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

Latino Democrats endorse Parisi for DA

To the editor:

Latino Democrats of Dutchess Court are pleased to endorse Anthony Parisi for Dutchess County District Attorney. It is time for Dutchess County to elect a DA who truly represents the people of our County.

Our communities have seen significant change over the past few decades. We need someone who is responsive to these communities, which is why we need to elect Anthony Parisi. Having served as a public defender AND a prosecutor Anthony has seen both sides of the table enabling him to be an innovative thinker and the champion we need to bring fundamentally needed change to the office of the District Attorney.

He has overseen the dismantling of gang activity through intelligence driven prosecution, he knows how to stop illegal activity in our neighborhoods before it starts - without destroying livelihoods.

I am confident that Anthony Parisi will be a leader who will work every day to keep our communities safe and will become a powerful ally for equity, safety, and justice. It’s time to turn the page and elect Anthony as our next District Attorney.

As always in solidarity and hope!
Anibal Garcia
Chair, Latino Democrats
of Dutchess County

Retired judge backs Parisi for DA

To the editor:

As Dutchess County District Attorney, Anthony Parisi will:

- Prioritize public safety and prevent crime through Intelligence Led Policing
- Improve office transparency

- Keep our children safe in their schools
- Address Domestic Violence
- Appoint a Hate Crimes Prosecutor
- Establish a Conviction Integrity Unit
- Reform policies on charging adolescents
- Demand the highest ethical standards for all prosecutors

Anthony will be independent-minded and keep politics out of the District Attorney’s Office. He values fairness and justice and has the experience needed to be an outstanding District Attorney.

I urge you to vote for Anthony Parisi to be our next District Attorney.

The Honorable David Steinberg
Retired Hyde Park Justice

Weishaupt will ‘keep our community’ safe if elected District Attorney

To the editor:

I served as a member of the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department for 40 years, including 13 years as Chief of Detectives, prior to my retirement. During my career, I often worked on cases with Chief Assistant District Attorney Matt Weishaupt. In my opinion, he is one of the best trial lawyers in the Dutchess County District Attorney’s office. He was always prepared and knew how to help juries understand complicated prosecutions.

In over 35 years in the courtroom, Matt obtained over 100 convictions after verdict. He led the efforts to shut down 3 dangerous street gangs: Mad Drama, Partners N’ Crime and the Latin Kings. His hard work, perseverance and attention to detail were instrumental in keeping our community safe during his tenure as a trial prosecutor.

Matt Weishaupt is now running to succeed Bill Grady as our next D.A. I know I speak for many in the law enforcement community who are supporting Matt’s candidacy. As the Republican/Conservative nominee, voters do not need to be concerned that Matt is a George Soros-backed prosecutor. He is a true law and order man, who will hold criminals accountable for their actions.

Vote for Matt Weishaupt for District Attorney!
William Siegrist
Pleasant Valley

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

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

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Poughkeepsie, Hyde Park soldiers recognized with promotion in National Guard

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general for the state of New York, announces the recent promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

Howard James from Poughkeepsie, assigned to the 206th Military Police Company, received a promotion September 25 to the rank of specialist.

Nicole Lanteri from Hyde Park, assigned to the Intelligence and Sustain

Company, 42nd Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, received a promotion August 2, to the rank of staff sergeant.

Army National Guard promotions are based on a Soldier's overall performance, demonstrated leadership abilities, professionalism and future development potential.

These promotions recognize the best qualified Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

Statewide propositions on ballot Nov. 7

By Kate Goldsmith

When you're voting in the General Election this year, don't forget to turn over the ballot. There are two statewide proposals for all New Yorkers to vote on, both amending the state's constitution; and some municipalities have propositions to increase the budget of their town's library.

The first proposal would create an amendment to remove small city school districts from a special constitutional debt limitation. The proposed amendment to Article 8, section 4 of the Constitution removes the special constitutional debt limitation now placed on small city school districts, so they will be treated the same as all other school districts.

A small city school district is one that includes at least part of a small city. A small city is a city with less than 125,000 people.

The State Constitution limits how much debt a small city school district can incur. Their debt cannot be more than five percent of the value of taxable real estate in the district. There are exceptions for certain expenses. Other school districts are not subject to a constitutional debt restriction, but have a different debt limit provided by state law. State law says their debts cannot be greater than 10 percent of the value of taxable real property.

If this Constitutional Amendment passes, small city school districts would be eligible to have the same debt limit as other school districts enacted via legislative action.

The second proposal would allow an extension to exclude sewage project debt

from the debt limit. The proposed amendment to Article 8, section 5 of the Constitution extends for 10 years the authority of counties, cities, towns, and villages to remove from their constitutional debt limits debt for the construction of sewage facilities.

The Constitution limits the debt counties, cities, towns and villages can incur. This debt limit does not include debt for sewage treatment and disposal construction projects. The sewer debt exception expires on January 1, 2024. This amendment extends the sewer debt exception for ten more years until January 1, 2034.

The full text for both proposals can be viewed at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/2023BallotProposals.html>.

Local propositions

Amenia: Voters will decide if the operating budget of the Amenia Free Library should be increased by \$50,000, to the sum of \$225,000 annually.

Beekman: Voters will decide if the annual operating budget for the Beekman Library should be at \$538,889.

Pine Plains: Voters will decide if the town's annual contribution for the operating budget of the Pine Plains Free Library will be increased to \$166,900.

Pleasant Valley: Voters will decide if the town's annual contribution for the operating budget of the Pleasant Valley Free Library will be \$525,000.

Rhinebeck: Voters will decide if the town's annual contribution for the operating budget of the Starr Library will be increased by \$70,000 to the sum of \$464,800.

Visit <https://elections.dutchessny.gov/> for sample ballots and more information.

Keep calm and carry yarn!

continued from cover



Basket-weaving is just one of many hands-on classes for those who attend the annual NYS Sheep and Wool Festival. Right: Textile fiber artist Mary Flad is part of a group that produced an exhibit at the Morton Library in Rhinecliff that held along with the Sheep and Wool Festival. *Courtesy photos*



1980s, is expected to draw thousands of visitors from across the country and offers a petting zoo, a maple sugaring shack, canine frisbee competitions, cooking demonstrations, wine tastings, artisan vendors, and on Sunday, there are plans for a llama parade and the leaping llama competition.

"I appreciate that those who come share a love for the fiber arts and have a desire to share their passion with others," said Mary Ann Williams, who began teaching basket making workshops in 2014 at the festival. "Having the festival at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds allows visitors from near and far to experience the beauty of our area and encourages repeat visits."

The festival is a true celebration of art

and agriculture and will run from 9 a.m - 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Ticket admission at the gate is \$15, or admission can be purchased in advance online at a discounted rate, parking is free.

For more information, go to <https://sheepandwool.com>.

Rhinebeck Bank Branches collecting pet supplies donations through Oct. 27

Rhinebeck Bank branches are collecting donations of pet supplies for Hudson Valley animal shelters through the month of October. Bank employees will also work at two shelters on National Make A Difference Day, Saturday, October 28.

"This year, our employees expressed a strong desire to support animal-related causes as part of our National Make A Difference Day participation," said Rhinebeck Bank SVP, Human Resources Jeanine Borko. "We're happy to lend support to our furry friends and are excited to partner with some great local nonprofit organizations to positively impact our community."

The pet drive, which will support the

Dutchess County SPCA, Ulster County SPCA, Animal Rescue Foundation and Take Me Home Pet Rescue, will be held through Friday, October 27. Donation collection bins are available at all 14 Rhinebeck Bank branches in Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties.

Bank employees will also assist with clean-up and animal care at the Ulster County SPCA in Kingston and the Animal Rescue Foundation in Beacon on October 28.

For details regarding the pet drive, visit www.rhinebeckbank.com/communitysupport or stop by any Rhinebeck Bank branch during regular business hours.

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Arlington, OLL football teams looking strong, aim at playoffs

By Rich Thomaselli

Arlington and Our Lady of Lourdes high schools are the only two high school football programs from Dutchess County that are currently state-ranked as we steam toward the playoffs at the end of the month.

Arlington is having a phenomenal season and is unbeaten through the first six games of the season. Included in that was a huge victory over their nemesis, Carmel, 55-18. Carmel is the two-time defending Section 1, Class AA champion and went undefeated en route to the state championship just two years ago.

Now, thanks in large part to that rout, Arlington is the odds-on favorite to win

the section.

The Admirals are currently ranked 11th in the state.

OLL won the section in Class A last year in its first season in Section IX. Entering the weekend with a huge matchup against Newburgh, the Warriors were 4-2 with their only two losses against larger schools in Monroe-Woodbury and Washingtonville.

OLL has already qualified for the playoffs and they took Washingtonville, which is still unbeaten, to overtime.

"We started out very good," Lourdes coach Sean Keenan said. "And the two games lost were to two very good schools. For as young as we are, I couldn't be more proud."

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Blood, platelets donors to receive \$10 gift card Oct. 21-Nov. 9

Since announcing a national blood and platelets shortage a month ago, thousands of donors across the country have rolled up a sleeve to help rebuild the American Red Cross blood and platelet supply. As that generosity continues, the Red Cross is working around-the-clock to ensure patients have access to lifesaving transfusions and must collect 10,000 additional blood and platelet donations – over and above expectations – each week over the next month to sufficiently meet hospital needs. Donors of all blood types are urged to book a time to give now, especially those with type O blood or those giving platelets. To make an appointment, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

To encourage more blood and platelet donations, the Red Cross is offering new incentives to donors over the next month. All who come to give Oct. 21-Nov. 9 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a restaurant merchant of their choice to enjoy lunch on the Red Cross. They'll also be automatically entered to win a \$5,000 gift card. There will be three lucky winners – one chosen at random each week. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Lunch.

Flu and COVID-19 vaccines don't affect donor eligibility

As cold and flu season quickly approaches, the Red Cross is reminding

donors that they can still give blood or platlets after receiving a flu vaccine, so long as they are feeling healthy and well on the day of their donation. Likewise, there is no deferral or wait time for those receiving the updated COVID-19 vaccine.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Dutchess County:

Clinton Corners, October 21: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., East Clinton Fire District, 9 Firehouse Lane;

Poughkeepsie, October 30: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., The Atrium at MidHudson Regional Hospital, 1 Webster Avenue;

Poughkeepsie, October 30: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Elks Lodge 275, 29 Overocker Road;

Poughkeepsie, November 7: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Poughkeepsie Galleria, 2001 South Road;

Rhinebeck, October 26: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Third Evangelical Lutheran Church, 31 Livingston St.;

Rhinebeck, November 1: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., The Pavilion, 34 Brookmeade Drive;

Tivoli, October 26: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Masonic Lodge in Tivoli, 7 North Road;

Wappingers Falls, November 6: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Grace Bible Church, 158 Myers Corners Road;

Wappingers Falls, November 7: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., New Hackensack Reformed Church, 1580 Route 376.



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Red Hook girls tie New Paltz in soccer

By Rich Thomaselli

Ani Safaryan scored an unassisted goal early in the second half to bring the Red Hook High School girls soccer team back to a 1-1 draw with New Paltz in a Mid-Hudson Athletic League game.

Sophie Brassard had the lone goal for the Huguenots.

New Paltz outshot the Raiders, 15-8.

Isabella Faraldi of Red Hook made five saves in the tie and her counterpart

on the Huguenots, Annika Walsh, turned back one of only two shots on goal she faced.

Red Hook is now 7-5-2 overall while New Paltz is 4-6-3.

The tie clinched the Division II title for Red Hook and a berth in the MHAL semifinal at Our Lady of Lourdes.

"New Paltz had the better of the play but we were able to do just enough to get the equalizer and hold on for the tie," Red Hook coach Jason Pavlich said.

Renegades, HFCU set Veterans Day Food Drive

By Rich Thomaselli

It's all about giving back to those who have protected us.

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and Heritage Financial Credit Union (HFCU), a local Credit Union serving communities in and around the Hudson Valley for over 80 years, are proud to partner on a Veterans Day Food Drive to benefit the Castle Point VA Medical Center.

Those wishing to donate to the food drive are asked to bring non-perishable food items to the drop-off locations at HFCU branches, including the Financial Development Center in Poughkeepsie, or Heritage Financial Park. Items will be collected through Friday, November 3.

Representatives from the Renegades and HFCU will deliver the donated goods to the Castle Point VA on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 9 a.m. ahead of the celebration of Veterans Day on the following Saturday.

"We are so appreciative of our veterans and all they have done to defend our freedoms at home and abroad, and are committed to giving back to them in

every way possible," said Zach Betkowski, new General Manager of the Renegades, in a statement. "We are thrilled to be doing this food drive in conjunction with our community partnership with Heritage Financial Credit Union to give back to those who have done so much for us."

The Castle Point VA lists the following items as among the most-needed: Coffee/Tea, Progresso/Chunky Soup, Vegetable Oil, Ketchup/Mustard/Mayonnaise and other condiments, Juice, Cranberry Sauce, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Cereal and Oatmeal, Pickles or Vinegar, Canned Tuna or Chicken, Broths/Gravy, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Grape Jelly and Jam, Stew/Chili/Hash, Canned and Baked Beans, Cake/Muffin/Brownie Mix, Salad Dressing, Canned Potato/Yams, Sugar/Flour, Pasta/Rice Side Mixes, Peanut Butter, Stuffing Mix, Canned Meat (Spam), Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Ravioli/Spaghetti-O's, Ramen Noodle/Noodle Mixes, White/Brown Rice, Jell-O/Pudding/Cookies/Crackers, Hamburger Helper, Canned Fruits, Crushed/Diced/Whole Tomatoes, Canned Vegetables.



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Rhinebeck Bank, Betsy Jacaruso Gallery partner to support Grace Smith’s Clothesline Project

Rhinebeck Bank and the Betsy Jacaruso Gallery are partnering in support of Grace Smith House’s 2023 Clothesline Project, a powerful visual display of t-shirts decorated by survivors of domestic violence or their loved ones. A nationwide movement, The Clothesline Project aims to increase awareness about domestic and sexual violence, something particularly impactful during October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. For 42 years, Grace Smith House has provided victims of domestic violence with several critical

services, including crisis intervention and information, 24/7 emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling, support groups and much more. Grace Smith House will host a Clothesline Project exhibition at the Betsy Jacaruso Gallery, Rhinebeck Courtyard, 43 East Market Street #2, Rhinebeck, from October 20th – 22nd with an opening reception and donation collection on Saturday, October 21st, 5-7 p.m. Rhinebeck Bank will continue to collect monetary donations (cash or check) and personal hygiene products in support of Grace Smith House between

Monday, October 23rd and Friday, November 3rd at its 6414 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck branch. (Please visit Grace Smith House’s website at <https://www.gracesmithhouse.org/how-to-help/donate-items.html> for a comprehensive list of items they need for their in-house pantry.) "We’re so grateful to have this opportunity to support our friends at Grace Smith House," said Sharon Whiteley, assistant vice president and branch manager at the Bank’s Rhinebeck location and Grace Smith House board member. "The Clothesline

Project is a truly powerful display – one that helps those impacted in their healing process, while also educating and making our community more aware of the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence problems happening around us." For details regarding donations to Grace Smith House, please see Sharon Whiteley at the Bank’s Rhinebeck branch during regular business hours. Additional information about the Clothesline Project is available on the Grace Smith House website at <https://www.gracesmithhouse.org/news-events/clothesline-project.html>.



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The new 40,000-square-foot building will provide increased capacity to obtain, sort, store, and distribute food donations in the region. The capital campaign, named “Growing to Feed Our Community,” seeks to raise \$6.5 million over the next several months. These funds will be utilized to construct a state-of-the-art distribution center that will revolutionize the way the Regional Food Bank leads the effort to alleviate hunger and bring a positive impact to the lives of

To make a donation or learn more about the campaign, interested parties can visit <https://regionalfoodbank.net/hudsonvalleyproject/> or contact the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley at capitalcampaign@regionalfoodbank.net 845-534-5344.

"I encourage all older New Yorkers, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers to take the Master Plan for Aging Survey, as input from the public is essential to ensuring the implementation of Governor Kathy Hochul's visionary roadmap to guide us in addressing the challenges we all face as we age," State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said. "This survey will help ensure we continue to address the most pressing needs of older and disabled New Yorkers while we build a better system of supports to help overcome obstacles and empower every New Yorker to live healthy, dignified lives." Master Plan for Aging Chair and Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health's Office of Aging and Long-term Care Adam Herbst, Esq., said, "Public input plays a crucial role in shaping the Master Plan for Aging, guaranteeing it meets the current and future needs of all New Yorkers. This survey serves as a vital instrument to actively involve older New Yorkers, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers in crafting the plan. Their input will help us create an MPA that effectively tackles the top concerns of our community." New York State Office for the Aging Director

and Vice Chair of the Master Plan for Aging Greg Olsen said, “The Office for the Aging and Department of Health have been traveling to communities throughout New York State and hearing directly from people voicing their hopes for New York’s Master Plan for Aging. We are inspired by the ideas and energy brought to this dialogue and encourage all older adults to be a part of the conversation by completing this survey. Your responses will provide a comprehensive assessment of the issue areas where New Yorkers want us to devote our strongest focus when it comes to making New York the most age-friendly state in the nation.” Under the direction of Governor Hochul, in Executive Order No. 23, the MPA is working to establish a blueprint of strategies to ensure that all New Yorkers can live fulfilling lives, in good health, with freedom, dignity, and independence, regardless of age. The MPA, overseen by NYSDOH and NYSOFA, will culminate in a document that coordinates policies and programs for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers, while also addressing challenges – with the overarching aim of ensuring all New Yorkers can age with dignity and independence. The MPA involves the collective effort of over 350 public and private stakeholders, including representatives from over 20 government agencies serving on the MPA Council, an MPA Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and experts from a variety of disciplines who are now serving on various MPA subcommittees. Public input is central to this process. In addition to the public survey announced today, NYSDOH and NYSOFA are holding public engagement sessions throughout the state. To learn about recent and upcoming public engagement sessions in a community near you, please visit <https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-states-master-plan-aging>. A Draft MPA Stakeholder Advisory Report is expected in mid-2024. A Final MPA Report is expected in early 2025. General information is on the MPA website at <https://www.ny.gov/mpa>.

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

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



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XX



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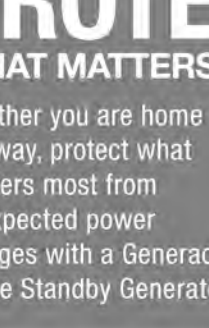
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Fisher Center to host public groundbreaking of new performing arts studio Oct. 21

The Fisher Center at Bard concludes its 20th Anniversary Season, “Breaking Ground,” with a public groundbreaking celebration for its new 25,000-square-foot performing arts studio building designed by Maya Lin.

The event will feature a special concert, at 5 p.m. in the Sosnoff Theater, with longtime Fisher Center collaborator Lisa Fischer and her band Grand Baton, alongside Bard’s own The Orchestra Now conducted by James Bagwell, and a rare performance of Béla Bartók’s “The Wooden Prince” conducted by Leon Botstein.

Tickets to the concert start at \$25. Admission to the groundbreaking ceremony at 3 p.m. is free. Proceeds

from the event will support the Fisher Center’s work.

Tickets can be purchased at fishercenter.bard.edu

Over the course of its first 20 years, the Fisher Center has become a leading incubator of major performing arts productions, such as Daniel Fish’s Tony Award-winning production of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Oklahoma!”; Pam Tanowitz’s “Four Quartets”; and, most recently, as part of Bard SummerScape 2023, Justin Peck’s “Illinoise.”

The institution gives precedence to artistic research and education, and the new building will offer artists at all stages of their careers vastly expanded room to explore as they build works from the

ground up. It will function as a laboratory for the performing arts, where students and professional artists work side by side, informing each other’s practices and sharing their discoveries and works-in-progress with audiences from the Bard community and the public

The building will contain four state-of-the-art studios for artist residencies, rehearsals, informal performances, and dance and theater classes, connected by

gathering hubs. These spaces will provide a home for Fisher Center LAB, the center’s acclaimed residency and commissioning program for professional artists.

Covered by a sloping, grass-covered roof and responding to the Hudson Valley landscape, the spiral-shaped construction—designed by Lin in collaboration with architects Bialosky and Partners and

continued on page 13



Rendering of new performing arts studio building for the Fisher Center at Bard. Photo credit: Maya Lin Studio with Bialosky New York. Courtesy of Maya Lin Studio © 2022

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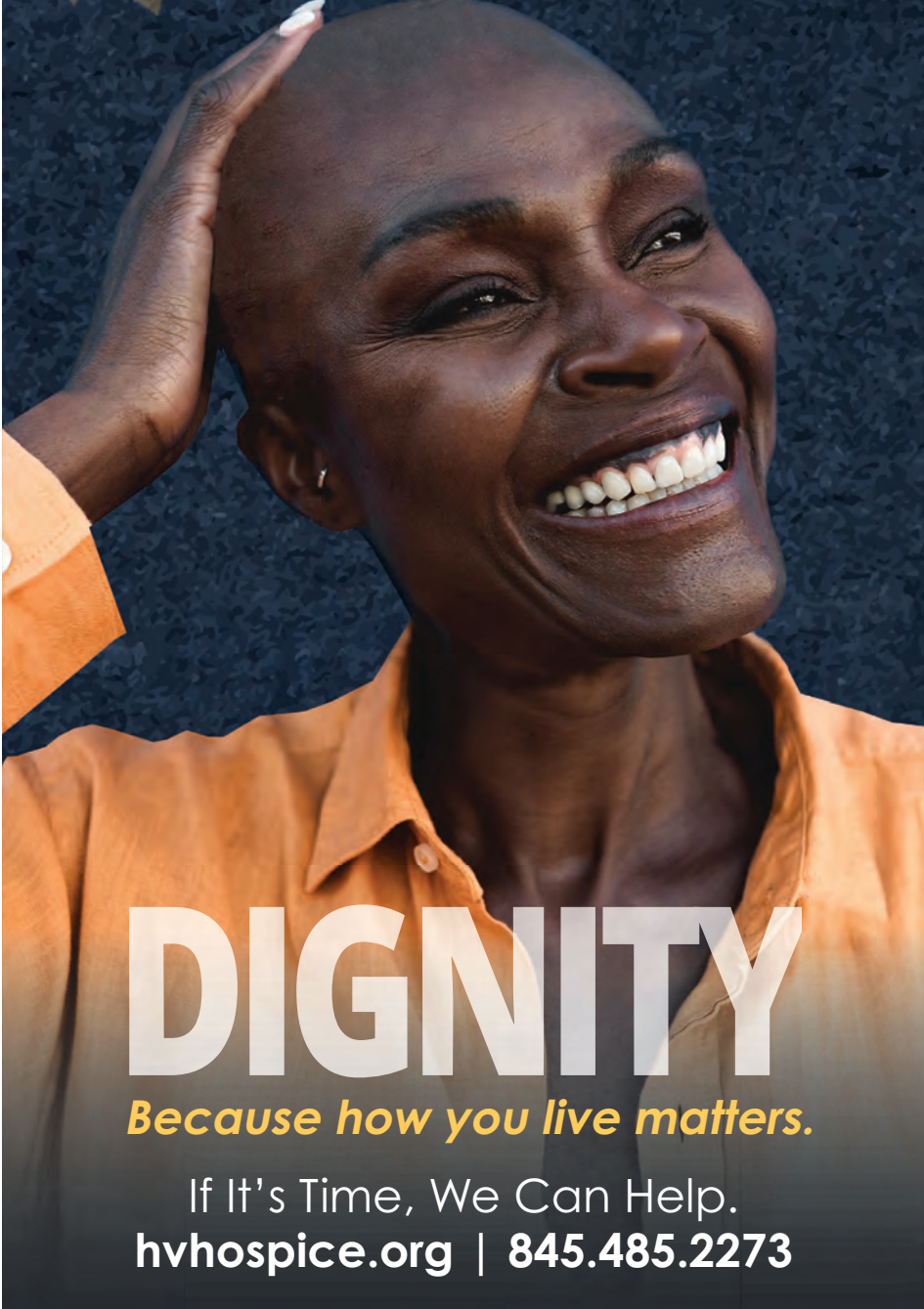
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Pop goes to the DMV

A trip to re-register the car turns out to be quite the adventure.

A couple of weeks ago, my father told me he had to go to the DMV to re-register his car.

Pop: Luigi listen, I gotta geta the car registered.

Me: That's easy Pop, you can just mail it in.

Pop: No, Ia waited too long and itsa gotta be done in two days.

Me: You want me to go do it for you?

Pop: No. Ima gonna go. Is it ina the same place.

Me: Yeah Pop right on Market Street. But Pop you've got to make an appointment now.

Pop: Nonja you worry. Ima gonna be fine.

Me: Pop you gotta make an appointment.

Pop: Yeah. Yeah. Whatta you thin, Ima the olda man?

Two hours later he walks back into the restaurant.

Me: Wow! That was fast! How did you do it so fast?

Pop: I noa getta done. I waited a half hour just for a the parking space. Ia tried to get go inside and the girla shea yella at me. I tolda her, Ima old. Shea tells me I

have to make an appointment.

Me: Oh God. Then what happened.

Pop: She let me inside and there were no a lotta people there. So I tried to walka up to the desk and they yelled at me to get a ticket and waita my turn. I said ima old. They no care. I wenta to taka the ticket and I push all kinds ofa buttons and I get 5 tickets. The guard hea yellsa ata me. I askda hima for help. I tolda him Ima old man and he told me I hava to waita my turn.

Me: So what did you do.

Pop: I saida some things in Italian and hea understood me. He yella at me, so Ia left.

Me: That lasted two hours?

Pop: No. I lefta the parking lot and I mada the right. Did you know itsa one way?

Me: Oh God.

Pop: The police hea stopsa me. I said Ima sorry. Ima old. So he yellsa at me. I turna the car around with all the other cars yelling and push their horns.

Me: That lasted two hours.

Pop: No I wenta up Main Street and Ia maka the right downa a Liberty Street. You know that ita no a street? Ita only a

continued on page 13

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Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.

The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.

Each row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

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

Suguru

	4				
			5		
				3	
			1	5	

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.

ACROSS

- Beverage container
- Room in Acapulco
- Preposition
- Electronic servant
- Not up
- Fruit holder
- Sports ____
- Awe
- Still
- Ring
- Spinning
- Pearl Buck heroine
- Glove
- ____ compartment items
- Series of light, quick taps
- Prefix for skilled or circle
- Animal enclosure
- He was: Lat.
- Bitter
- Excessively
- "____, all covered with..."
- Never, in Nuremberg
- Think the world of
- Blue Bonnet, for one
- "Certainly!"
- Ending for love or for
- Poplar trees
- Song subject that "ain't what she used to be"
- French dairy export
- Traditional peasant's shoe
- Orange-red jewelry
- Tumor: suff.
- Grover, for one
- County in Texas
- Italian town
- Away from the wind
- Leave out a syllable
- Iowa's state flower
- Form of "to be"
- Places

DOWN

- Hair color
- Learning
- Help a burglar
- Family member
- Metal fastener
- Transparent covering
- Early murder victim
- Third biblical book: abbr.
- Beverage
- Declares formally
- Utensil part
- Formerly
- Part of an apple
- Section of a river
- Kernel holder
- Director Preminger
- Late actress Oberon
- Surrounded by
- Showy flower
- ____ Palmer
- Late actress Sharon and others
- Contempt
- Shoplifted
- Symbol
- Things that go up & down
- Prefix for mentioned
- Taste
- Garlic's giveaway
- Feel sorry for oneself
- Departure's opp.
- Moves in a stealthy way
- Flick
- Half of a German city?
- Operation memento
- Additionally
- Risky transactions
- Large knife
- Neglect
- Manufactured
- Greek deity
- Science student's milieu
- Foamy liquid
- Heavyweight

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
20				21	22					23				
			24					25	26					
27	28	29				30					31	32	33	
34						35					36			
37				38	39						40			
41				42							43			
44				45					46	47				
			48					49						
50	51	52				53					54	55	56	
57						58	59				60	61		
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 17

As the colors of fall begin to paint the Preserve, take a break from one's busy schedules and immerse in the beauty of autumn. Go for a delightful autumn stroll, hosted by the Environmental Cooperative and the Preserve at Vassar on October 27 from 4-5 p.m. at Vassar Barn, 50 Vassar Farm Lane, in Poughkeepsie.

What to Expect: Guided Nature Walk: Explore the breathtaking fall colors of the Preserve. Tree Identification: Learn about the diverse trees in our area. Cozy Season

Vibes: Embrace the spirit of autumn with fellow community members and Vassar students.

This event is free and open to all. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another, unwind in the great outdoors, and deepen your appreciation for the natural world. Please come dressed comfortably for the walk and bring curiosity and enthusiasm for the season.

RSVP is requested. Visit <https://www.farmproject.org/>.

The Train & Hobby Show of the Hudson Valley is coming to Poughkeepsie on Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the MJN Convention Center, 14 Civic Center Plaza. The re-imagined show will feature model trains and vendors, kids ride-on railroad, operating layouts, raffles, free holiday character photo-op and free parking at the City of Poughkeepsie Financial Deck.

The Train & Hobby Show promises to be fun for all ages.

theater and acoustic consultants Charcoalblue—will appear to emerge from the meadow, encircling a grassy courtyard for outdoor convenings. Once completed, the new building will expand the Fisher Center's footprint beyond the walls of Frank Gehry's stunning landmark to become a cultural campus that comprises both the Gehry and Lin buildings.

Maya Lin's practice, encompassing art, architecture, and landscape, has made her one of the world's most sought-after artists. Her recent commissions include the Neilson Library at Smith College, the

Museum of Chinese in America in Manhattan, and the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama. She was recently chosen to design a public art installation for the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago. In 1981, Lin, then a 21-year-old architecture student, won the design competition for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, which remains one of the most visited public memorials in the world. She is also well known to Hudson Valley residents for Wavefield, her spectacular earthwork at Storm King Art Center.

sidewalk now?
 Me: Oh God. So what happened?
 Pop: The sama policeman he come over and hea starta yelling ata me again. I tella him Ima old. He giva me a ticketa.
 Me: So then you came here?
 Pop: Yeah. Hersa the registration anda the ticketa. Cana you do it for me?
 Me: Yeah Pop no problem. (I look at the registration) Hey Pop? What month is it now?
 Pop: June why?
 Me: This registration isn't due till July.
 Pop: Somnagum!

and add the olive oil. Add the mushrooms and season with salt and pepper and cook until golden browned, about 10-12 minutes.

Stir the garlic into mushrooms and cook for 1 minute; pour in white wine and cook until wine is nearly evaporated. Mix chicken stock into mushroom mixture; season with salt and pepper. Bring to a simmer, reduce heat, and cook until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes.

Pour the heavy cream into mushroom mixture and stir to combine. Simmer for 5 minutes until the mixture starts to foam.

While the mushrooms are finishing cooking, fill a large pot with water and bring to a rolling boil. Stir in the pasta and cook until al dente, about 8 minutes. Drain but do not rinse pasta; transfer to a large serving bowl and keep warm.

Stir thyme and chives into mushroom sauce and turn off heat; mix 1/2 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese into sauce until cheese has melted.

Pour all the mushroom sauce and half the mushrooms over pasta, reserving about half the mushrooms in the skillet. Toss pasta in sauce until coated; top with remaining mushrooms and remaining Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese for garnish.

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

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 1 pound crimini mushrooms, sliced
- 1/4 pound fresh shiitake mushrooms, sliced
- 1/4 pound fresh morel mushrooms, sliced
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 ounces white wine
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 8 ounces of your favorite pasta
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped fresh chives
- 3/4 cup freshly shredded Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- Salt and ground black pepper to taste

Heat a large skillet over medium heat

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A black and white portrait of Brad Kendall, an older man with light hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The portrait is framed by a thin, curved line that forms a semi-circle at the top. The background of the portrait shows out-of-focus trees and foliage.



www.DCHSNY.org/ddip



Dutchess County
Historical Society

Encounters with the Passed: A Grave Matter

By Melody Moore

In a few days children of all ages, robed as everything from pirates to witches, will take to the streets, feverishly striving to fill their sacks with candy. The “holiday” has become so cherished in America that according to the National Retail Federation more than \$10 billion was spent last year on costumes, decoration and huge bags of chocolates of all kinds.

Halloween or Hallowe’en is celebrated in many countries on October 31, the eve of the western Christian festival of All Saint’s Day, a day dedicated to remembering the dead. Authorities claim the celebration originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain when people lit bonfires and wore costumes to ward off ghosts. One of the more recent traditions associated with Halloween is the cemetery tours that are held throughout the county in the last few weeks of October. Where better to find a ghost that will earnestly conjure up the past. A booklet recently rediscovered in the collections of the Historical Society may just be the earliest “cemetery crawl.”

In 1906, 18 years before the Dutchess County Historical Society published *Old Gravestones of Dutchess County, New York*, Laura Roosa of Fishkill wrote a paper entitled “A Grave Matter” that was later published in book form for the Melzingah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She undertook this task to improve upon the work previously undertaken by Elias Van Voorhis to record tombstone inscriptions from the churchyard of the First Reformed Church of Fishkill.

As Van Voorhis’ compilation was for private distribution only, Roosa felt

motivated to familiarize herself personally with those whose last resting place was in the churchyard. To do so she determined to study the epitaphs but her work was constantly interrupted by amiable neighbors and “trolley visitors from Newburgh or Poughkeepsie” straying into the yard and asking questions.

While she pronounced the encounters pleasant, they delayed her work. The solution suddenly came to her - “I was pondering over the matter, late one night, as I sat on the porch, with the moonlight streaming through the trees, and the thought came to me: Why not go up now? It is very light, and no one is ever disturbed in a graveyard at midnight, by human beings at any rate. I resolved to go. Now all my lifelong I have been afraid of ghosts; but these fore-fathers had come to seem like real flesh and blood, and not at all like departed spirits.” With that revelation Laura set off alone up the silent street. Finding a comfortable seat on the chapel steps with the tombstones nearby she wrote that “the past came visibly before me.”

Throughout the night she made her way through all the tombstones and entered into conversations with many of the deceased. One of her encounters was with Domine Benjamin Meenema and his wife. She described him as “clerical looking” and she as “fair.” Upon Laura’s request the Domine told her he has been born in Holland and educated there. He shared that he found life very different here from what it was in the Netherlands. She would have liked to have learned more from the Domine but while they were conversing she observed Colonel John Brinckerhoff had arrived at her



The 1906 publication by Laura Roosa for the Melzingah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution she called *A Grave Matter*. Inset: title page. Background: handmade cover. *Image courtesy of DCHS Collections*

back. He shared stories of his times with General Washington.

Wishing to have “tarried longer with this courtly old soldier and his warm-hearted wife” she was beckoned on by other “friends for her to see.” Her next encounter was with Jacobus Swartwout. “Are you General Jacobus Swartwout?” she questioned. “No, no, my child, I am his father. He lies buried in a family vault at Swartwoutville, and was a greater man than I.”

Her encounter with William Walmsley, measurer of grain in the city of New York, proved enlightening. He died at Fishkill on August 24, 1803 and was laid to rest beneath an imposing tomb-table. The epitaph carved into the gravestone was lengthy but Laura commented “Mr. Walmsley, it looks as if there might have been another verse here.” “Yes,” he said, quite indignantly, “there was. When I died I left a small sum of money to the church to keep my stone in repair; the yard became very much run down and my tomb was broken and defaced. When the church people came to their senses, they ordered it repaired; but between neglect and the repairer the last stanza was somehow lost. I will tell it to you, however, so that you in your turn may repeat it to others. She included it in her paper.

As she continued through the graveyard she encountered Major William Roe Van Voorhis, a man of fine appearance, nearly six feet in height, his whole bearing showing him to be a man of genial disposition. Pausing before the stone of Jacob Du Bois she let him tell his own story and then next saw some children – four from the same family. One calm, moonlight night Grandmother Shear appeared before her and told her that she was married to her first husband, Francis Hasbrouck, when she was only thirteen. John N. Bailey recalled that when he was a boy about ten years old he caught smallpox from soldiers in the nearby encampment. His father prevailed upon health officers to allow John to be cared for at

home “with the assistance of a negro slave named Caesar.” John recovered and lived to be seventy-nine years old. She found the Van Wyck family genealogy to be confusing so upon nearing their gravestones pleaded with them “Will you please help me get your family straightened out in my mind, for I can never remember which of you built the “Wharton House?”

As the night grew to a close Laura looked to the east and “fancied I saw the first faint streaks of dawn.” She saw the rooster on the church steeple “spreading his wings and making vigorous preparations for his early proclamation.” Knowing that no spirits would be stirring in the daylight she ended her tour.

Her paper concludes with the following: “My friends, you may think I have dreamed all this; but I am enough of a spiritualist to believe that I held direct communication with the departed; but if you doubt it, come and visit the churchyards some night with me. Perhaps you will hear stranger stories than any I have told, and you may be able to win wonderful words from some who refused to unseal their lips when I questioned.”

Laura died on February 8, 1938 at the age of 75. At her death she had \$5,000 of personal property and \$5,000 of real estate. Among the bequests in her will was \$1,000 for the Endowment Fund of the First Reformed Dutch Church of Fishkill. Perhaps she was thinking of all her friends in the graveyard when she made out her will. I wonder where she is buried.

Happy Halloween. May all your ghostly encounters be as friendly as those of Laura.

Melody Moore is a long-standing Board member of DCHS, Chair of its Collections Committee, regular contributor to the DCHS Yearbook, and develops a wide range of programs. More information at www.DCHSNY.org.

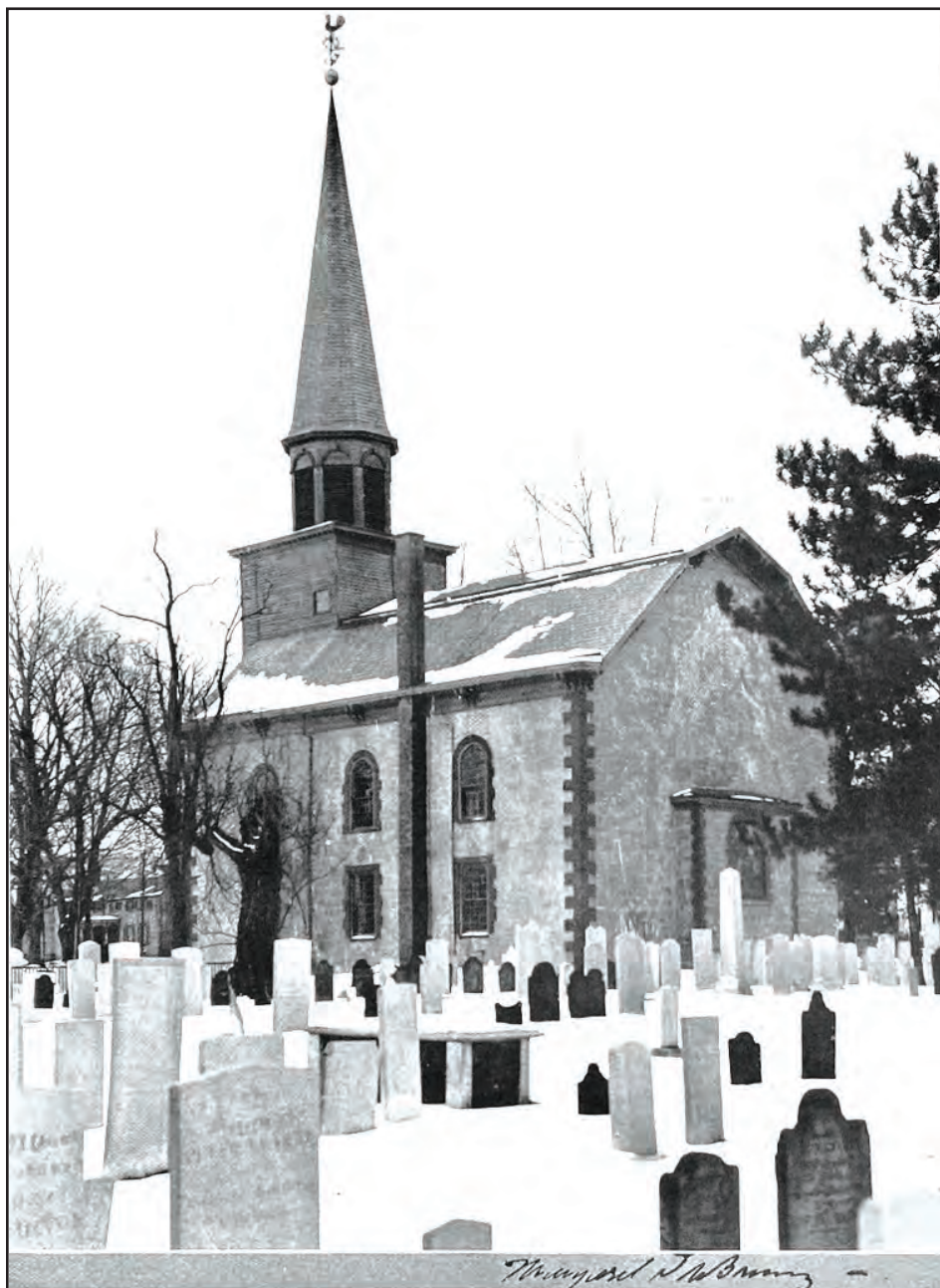


Photo of the Fishkill Graveyard by Margaret DeMott Brown in 1924. *Image courtesy of DCHS Collections*

TINTYPES AT WILDERSTEIN NOV. 4

Tintypes at Wilderstein will take place on November 4 at 2 p.m. This lecture and demonstration will showcase the art, history, and alchemical process of the unmatched beauty of tintype photographs.

Tom DeLooza, a historical photographer, will delve into Wilderstein’s collection of tintypes and is available for a limited number of portrait sessions that day using his equipment and antiquarian and techniques. The audience will be encouraged to stay for the first portrait session and witness the ethereal appear out of the darkness.

Tickets for the lecture are \$15 and portraits may be booked for an additional \$60 per session. For more information, call 845-876-4818.



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REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF DUTCHESS RHINEBECK SAVINGSBANK, Plaintiff - against - VERVA PARKER A/K/A VERVA AHDERS, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on August 28, 2023. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the rear lobby of the Dutchess County Courthouse, 10 Market Street, City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York on the 3rd day of November, 2023 at 2:30 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town

Legal Notices

of North East, County of Dutchess and State of New York. Premises known as 4608 Route 199, Millerton, NY 12546. (SBL#: 7170-00-740940 & 719998) Approximate amount of lien \$30,477.63 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 2021-54208. Raymond A. Cote, Esq., Referee. Stein, Wiener & Roth LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 1400 Old Country Road, Suite 315 Westbury, NY 11590 Tel. 516-742-1212 PARKER AKA AHDERS-80355 Dated: September 11, 2023 During the COVID-19 health emergency,

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bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale. NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF QUESTION TO THE VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY AT THE NEXT GEN-

Legal Notices

ERAL ELECTION Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to NYS Education Law §259(1)(13), and in accordance with the provisions of the NYS Election Law, the following question will be submitted to the qualified voters of the Town of Pleasant Valley at the General Election to be held on the 7th day of November, 2023: SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE PLEASANT VALLEY FREE LIBRARY BE AT FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000) ANNUALLY? Further notice is hereby given that the

Legal Notices

said election shall be held at the following locations in the Town of Pleasant Valley: Traver Road School West Road School Salt Point Fire House on the 7th day of November 2023, and that the polls will be open on that day between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. Mary Beth Muir Town Clerk, Town of Pleasant Valley EXTENDING LOCAL ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 5/2023 EXTENSION TO DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDERS DECLARED BY DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Please take notice that on October 10, 2023 at 12:00 a.m., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting Dutchess County Executive William F. X. O'Neil

Legal Notices

extended Local Emergency Order #1, Local Emergency Order #2, and Local Emergency Order #3 in furtherance of Executive Order No. 5 of 2023, dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency orders is available at www.dutchessny.gov EXTENDING EMERGENCY ORDER 5/2023 EXTENSION TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5 OF 2023 DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY ORDER DECLARED BY DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Please take notice that on October 16, 2023 at 12:00 a.m., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting Dutchess County Executive William F. X. O'Neil extended Executive Order 5 of 2023 dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency

Legal Notices

orders is available at www.dutchessny.gov. EXTENDING LOCAL ORDERS 1, 2 & 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 5/2023 EXTENSION TO DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDERS DECLARED BY DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Please take notice that on October 15, 2023 at 12:00 a.m., pursuant to Article 2B of the New York State Executive Law, Article III of the Dutchess County Charter and Administrative Code Section 3.05, Acting Dutchess County Executive William F. X. O'Neil extended Local Emergency Order #1, Local Emergency Order #2, and Local Emergency Order #3 in furtherance of Executive Order No. 5 of 2023, dated May 18, 2023. The text of the declaration of state of emergency and local emergency orders is available at www.dutchessny.gov

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

OBITUARIES

Marion Cooper

PINE PLAINS - Marion Cooper passed away peacefully in her home in Sarasota, Florida. She was surrounded by her three children. Born February 7, 1930 in Passaic Park, New Jersey, Marion Ada Cooper, of Pine Plains, New York and Sarasota, Florida. Predeceased by her brother, Clifford Morris Cooper, in 1948, and her mother, Dorothy Stone Cooper, and father, Walter George Cooper. Marion was co-owner with her mother of two Fins and Feathers Pet Shops in Kingston, New York, 1952-1956. From 1972-1992 she was a well-respected Supreme Court Reporter in Dutchess County, New York. Marion's interests were watercolor painting, trips to Great Britain, traveling throughout New York State studying the genealogy of her Cooper and Shults' families from the Revolutionary War in the Mohawk Valley to the 1800s Steuben County, New York.

One of her greatest pleasures was her lake cottage in the village of Pine Plains, New York, and the people and town of Pine Plains. Marion is survived by three children Laura Flock Barrett of Port Charlotte, Florida, Nancy Flock, and Frank Flock of Sarasota, Florida. Her grandchildren Christine Barrett O'Keefe (Michael O'Keefe) of Floral Park, New York, Andrew Barrett of Westchester, New York, and her great grandchildren, Keira O'Keefe and Arthur O'Keefe of Floral Park, New York. Catherine M. Miller DOVER PLAINS - Catherine M. "Katie" Miller, 84, a lifelong area resident passed away on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at her home in Dover Plains surrounded by her loving family. Katie was an EEG/EKG Technician at the Wassaic Developmental Center and Sharon Hospital. She also worked as a server and hostess at Tony's Restaurant and Ye Old Dover Tavern in Dover Plains. Born on October 10, 1938 in Sharon, CT,

she was the daughter of the late Michael F. and Catherine (Sullivan) Stapleton. Katie graduated from Amenia Schools class of 1957. She was a member of the Irish Heritage Club in Poughkeepsie, the Knitting and Quilting Club in New Milford, CT and also a member of the Metropolitan EEG/EKG Society. Katie was also a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. Katie is survived by two sons, Michael Miller and his wife, Sherry, of Chandler, AZ and Martin Miller of Amenia and two daughters, Maureen Castro and her husband, John, of Pasadena, MD and Meghan Miller and her companion, Timothy McEnroe of Millbrook. She is also survived by five grandchildren, Kaitlin Prugger, Emma Kate and Nicholas Lomangino, Sarah Castro and Madeline Miller; three great-grandchildren, Grace, Carter and Emerson Prugger and her longtime companion, Richard C. Wheeler of Dover Plains. In addition to her parents, Katie is predeceased by a son, Thomas Miller; a brother, Michael Edward Stapleton and two sisters, Maureen Stapleton and Margaret Murray. Calling hours were held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at the Hufcut Funeral Home, Dover Plains, NY. Graveside services and burial took place on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Route 22, Amenia, NY with Rev. R. Kent Wilson. Memorial contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Marjorie Irene Pecorella PINE PLAINS- Marjorie "Cookie" Irene Pecorella of Pine Plains, NY left this world too soon on October 3, 2023, at the age of 71 at Vassar Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY. During her final moments she was surrounded by family and her husband of 50 years was by her side. She was born to Raymond and Joan Pearsall on May 23, 1952, in Oceanside, NY and was a graduate of Lynbrook High School. In the spring of 1967, she met her future husband, Bruce, and on August 18, 1973, they

were married in Valley Stream, NY. Shortly after that they started a family and relocated to Pine Plains, NY where they raised three children. She was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. Cookie loved spending time in the kitchen, creating delicious meals for her family and friends and was especially known for her NY Cheesecakes. People would gather around her kitchen table for coffee and desserts while sharing the latest stories and laughs. She was always there for her kids as they were involved in many activities growing up. She retired from Pine Plains Central School where she loved working and developed lasting friendships. For years she ran the Pine Plains Ski Club at Catamount and worked at the Dutchess County Fair up on Livestock Hill. She was passionate about the Pine Plains FFA and was involved as an Ag Advisory Board Member up until her call home to heaven. She is survived by her loving husband of 50 years, Bruce; children: Bruce (Christina) of Scriba, NY, Mike (Maureen) of Lambertville, MI, and Jaclyn (TJ) of Pine Plains, NY; grandchildren: Savannah, Brucie, Brandon, Evan, Daniel, Greyson, and Caroline along with two sisters: Shirley and Frances and was a beloved aunt to Amy and Robert. Additionally, she leaves behind her two cherished fur baby Pugs: Roscoe and Daisy. She was preceded in death by her father Raymond, her mother Joan, her sister Diane, and brothers Raymond and John. A time for sharing memories and offering condolences was held on Wednesday October 11, 2023 at Peck & Peck Funeral Homes, 7749 S. Main Street, Pine Plains, New York. A prayer service was held with Pastor William Mayhew. Private graveside services for Cookie will be conducted at St. Charles Resurrection Cemetery in Farmingdale. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association. www.heart.org To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit www.peckandpeck.net.

Answers to this week's diversions (puzzles on page 12)

Suguru solution

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

SUDOKU This week's answer

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

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700 Pets For Adoption ARF Beacon, NY

MARLEY is a Senior Male Large Tabby (Gray/Blue/Silver). He's Friendly, Affectionate, Gentle, Quiet, Couch potato and Curious. His coat length is short and he's house-trained. Vaccinations are up to date, spayed/neutered. Good in a home with other cats. Marley was born in 2013 and he is quiet, kind and ready for loving home. He loves pets from humans he knows. He loves spending time with other cats, so he would be the perfect addition to a home that already has a cat. Marley is shy about meeting new people which makes it hard when potential adopters visit. ARF volunteers are happy to talk to you about him and can even share videos of affectionate behavior you may not see when you visit. For this boy to thrive, he will need a patient and thoughtful introduction to your home, but it will be worth it.

Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

‘The Murderous Monster Mash-up’ by Murder Café set Oct. 18 in Rhinebeck

-Courtesy photo



Register for free tickets to 'Lived Experience' Oct. 26

Bardavon and UPAC box offices - Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Bardavon 845-473-5288, UPAC 845-339-6088 or email at boxoffice@bardavon.org. To purchase tickets online 24 hours a day go to <http://www.ticketmaster.com> (fees will apply).

Pine Plains Evergreen Cemetery Lantern Tour set Oct. 27-28

Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students over 10 years old (free for children under 10). Tickets are available at the library or at Eventbrite.

Inaugural ‘Put the Beds to Bed’ in Pleasant Valley Oct. 25

for gardeners – it reduces weed populations and disease, minimizes plant insect pests, prevents rodent infestation, and eases the workload for next year's spring planting. Registration is required and free. Spots are limited. For more information, call 845-635-1111 ext. 203 or email nsantos@pleasantvalley-nv.gov.

**NORTHERN
DUTCHESS
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

2023/2024 SEASON

KATHLEEN BECKMANN
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Featuring
Pianist Yalin Chi

Latin Itinerary

Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

The Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, NY

A musical journey starting in Veracruz, Mexico with *Huapango* which features folk and dance music of the area and continues with piano concerto *Nights in the Gardens of Spain*. The second half features the majestic Andes Mountains in Peru with *Elegia Andina*, the charming Brazilian work *Little Train of the Caipira* and ends with *Danzon No. 2*.

Learn more and purchase tickets at www.ndsorchestra.org

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