

UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

Aymar-Blair
tops Truitt
for County
Comptroller

By Curtis Schmidt

Incumbent Democrat Dan Aymar-Blair withstood the challenge of current Republican Legislature Chairman Will Truitt in the race for Dutchess County Comptroller in last week's election.

In unofficial results from the Dutchess County Board of Elections, Aymar-Blair received 40,358 votes to 32,297 for Truitt.

"The voters of Dutchess County are hungry for transparency and information in these uncertain times and I'm honored that they chose me to provide that," said Aymar Blair. "By having the opportunity to show the voters what I'm about and how I do this work, I think the contrast between the two candidates was clear."

He added, "Next year, you'll see a continued focus on transparency and accountability from the Comptroller's office. And we'll be looking for new ways to center the people in our work, particularly our reporting."

Aymar-Blair defeated Gregg Pulver in the 2024 race for Dutchess County Comptroller and served the final year of the four-year term of Robin Lois, a Democrat who resigned to become the state's deputy comptroller for local government and school accountability.

In his Facebook post on the day after the election, Truitt said, "Serving Dutchess County over the last 10 years in the Legislature has been the utmost privilege and deepest honor of my life. I owe everything I've been able to accomplish to the people of Hyde Park & Poughkeepsie, who took a chance and believed in me as I knocked on their doors as a 20-year-old kid."

"I will have much more to say and

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Democrats take control of County
Legislature for first time since 2008

By Curtis Schmidt

In a win of historic proportions, Dutchess County Democrats flipped the County Legislature in unofficial results from the Dutchess County Board of Elections and now own a 15-10 majority of the county's 25 district seats.

The last time the Democratic Party held a majority in the County Legislature was in 2008 and prior to that was in 1977.

Yvette Valdes-Smith, current minority leader in the Legislature, commented, "We are thrilled to hold the majority in the Dutchess County legislature. We are ready to get to work on Day One for the people of Dutchess County. I have been the minority leader of the Democratic caucus of the Dutchess County Legislature for two terms, and I am honored to have been re-elected by my constituents in the town of Fishkill and the City of Beacon for a third term. Representing our community and making people's lives better is my priority."

She added, "We were able to flip the legislature with incredible candidates who have a wealth of experience and because we really listen to our neighbors. And we will deliver results to make their lives better. Issues of affordability, the housing and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) crisis and mental health have consistently been top of mind for Dutchess County residents."

Michael Dupree, chairman of Dutchess County Democratic Party said, "We won because we started reaching out to voters in July with an extensive field operation. Using past data on voting patterns, we selected different districts to try to flip and made sure we had volunteers to knock on doors, make phone calls and texts. The committee also raised more funds than we ever have in the past, so we were able to devote more resources to digital ads and sent volunteers into all the districts where we had candidates. By last Monday, we had hit 58,000 doors and made 55,000 phone calls."

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Democrats Dan Aymar-Blair, Kara Gerry and Yvette Valdes-Smith celebrate their victories last week. Aymar-Blair prevailed over Will Truitt in the County Comptroller race. Kara Gerry defeated Ned McLoughlin for County Court Judge and Valdes-Smith is the current minority leader in the County Legislature. She retained her position in District 16 by defeating opponent John Forman. *Courtesy photo*

Full County & Municipal unofficial
election results starting on page 3

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Incumbent town supervisors re-elected

By Kate Goldsmith

A majority of voters in the Northern Dutchess News readership area chose to keep their incumbent town supervisors. Re-elected were Michael Whitton (D-Clinton), Richard Yeno (R-Dover), Al Torreggiani (R-Hyde Park), Brian Walsh (R-Pine Plains), Mary Albrecht (R-

Pleasant Valley), Elizabeth Spinzia (D-Rhinebeck), Steven Frazier (R-Union Vale) and Gary Ciferri (R-Washington). Albrecht, Spinzia, Frazier and Ciferri ran unopposed.

In races where incumbent supervisors were not on the ballot, voters elected Republican Laureen Abbatantuono in Beekman, Republican Anthony Marinaro

in LaGrange, Democrat William Jeffway in Milan, and Democrat Julia Descoteaux in Stanford. Abbatantuono and Jeffway ran unopposed.

In Red Hook, the town supervisor position was not on the ballot this election cycle, nor was the mayor position in the Village of Millbrook.

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

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Raise funds, hear stories during annual Go Red for Women on Dec. 4

Ticket sales close Nov. 19

By Kristine Coulter

The 2025 Hudson Valley Go Red for Women Luncheon will be held on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 40 Civic Center Plaza, in Poughkeepsie. The Festival of Red will be from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and from noon to 1:30 p.m. a heart-healthy lunch and program will take place. Among the presenters will be 2025 Go Red for Women Chairperson Brenda Swatek, IBM; Survivor Speaker Cindi Mannese, from UnWrinkled Boutique; Winner of Impact Christine Pellegrino, Pellegrino Healing Center. The Mind-Body Connection speakers will include Lauren Grimshaw MBA, LMHC, CDPHP; Sheri Harrison, MD, Nuvance Health; Roufia Payman, DT, CDN, Nuvance Health; Michael Hahn, MD, Ellenville Regional Hospital.

One may register at www.heart.org/goredhv. Ticket sales close on Nov. 19.

Mannese will offer the viewpoint from a survivor. Mannese, who owns UnWrinkled Boutique in Milton, said she became involved with the Go Red for Women Luncheon after her friend and acupuncturist, Christine Pellegrino, nominated her to be one of this year's honorees, as the Survivor Speaker.

"Back in April 2023, I began seeing Christine for acupuncture because I was feeling completely out of balance — weight gain, bloating, swollen feet, and no energy. I was honestly afraid to go to a doctor, so I turned to acupuncture hoping it would help me feel better," Mannese recalled.

Mannese said, "Christine not only helped me physically, but she also intuitively sensed something deeper was wrong. With her compassion and persistence — along with the unwavering concern of my closest friends and family — she encouraged me to seek medical care. Their persistence ultimately saved my life.

"What we discovered was a serious heart condition I had no idea existed. Two years later, Christine called me with the incredible news that she had nominated me as this year's Heart Survivor Honoree. It was such a full-circle moment — from being afraid to face what was happening to now standing strong and grateful, sharing my story to help other women listen to their bodies and advocate for their heart health."

According to Mannese, two years ago she was diagnosed with several serious heart conditions, including aortic valve disease, a thoracic aortic aneurysm, and complications that required both a tricus-



Cindi Mannese will be the 2025 Hudson Valley Go Red for Women Luncheon Survivor Speaker on Dec. 4 in Poughkeepsie. Courtesy photo

pid valve repair and an aortic valve replacement. "It was a lot to face, but with an incredible medical team, the love and persistence of my family and friends, and a deep faith that kept me grounded, I made it through," she said.

As for her health now, Mannese said, "Today, I feel better than ever. My entire life has changed for the better — I'm doing what I love, surrounded by people who I love and who love me unconditionally. I even made my dream come true by opening my very own boutique, UnWrinkled. I feel better than I ever have! Every day truly feels like a gift, and most importantly, I don't take a single one for granted."

The Go Red for Women Luncheon saves lives, remarked Mannese.

"The funds raised through Go Red support life-saving research, education, and advancements in care that most people don't even realize are happening quietly in the background. When I finally found the courage to go to the doctor, I received the most incredible care imaginable — care that was made possible by the awareness and funding from events just like this one," said Mannese.

She noted, "By attending, you're not just showing up for an afternoon; you're helping countless women — especially those who are scared or hesitant, like I once was — get the early detection, information, and support they need. Every ticket, every table, every donation brings hope, resources, and life-saving care to someone's mother, daughter, sister, or friend. This event changes lives, and I'm living proof of that."

Democrats take control of County Legislature for first time since 2008

continued from cover



Dutchess County Democratic Party candidates celebrate victories in last week's local elections. Dan Aymar-Blair, center, prevailed over Will Truitt for County Comptroller. Kara Gerry defeated Ned McLoughlin for County Court Judge and Democratic candidates gained control of the County Legislature. Courtesy photo

He added, "That's the mechanics that enabled us to take advantage of the dissatisfaction across our county with the actions of the Republicans at the national level to post such large wins in our county-wide races and to pick up the five seats in the legislature. But more importantly, we had great candidates. Smart and all willing to go to the voters we targeted as potential supporters, as well as an understanding of the top issues facing our county: housing and affordability crisis, lag times for EMS in the eastern, rural portions of Dutchess and insufficient mental health resources, especially for younger people. They walked the walk and talked the talk which can be a winning formula."

With the victory, the Democrats will be welcoming six new legislators: Trevor Redl (District 1), Emma Arnoff (District 2), Anna Shah (District 5), Alix Winsby (District 14), Molly Rhodes (District 18) and Eric Alexander (District 25). They will join incumbents Brendan Lawler (District 4), Lisa Kaul (District 6), Craig Brendli (District 8), Barrington Atkins (District 9), Randy Johnson (District 10), Brennan Kearney (District 11), Valdes-Smith (District 16), Chris Drago (District 19) and Kristofer Munn (District 20).

Current Legislature Chairman Will Truitt commented, "Our Republican

Majority Caucus has a strong record leading Dutchess County Government that we are all proud of. Our team ran a great race focused on our accomplishments, it was just a tough political environment to run in unfortunately. I wish all of those elected to serve next year in the County Legislature the best of success."

The 10 Republicans who won seats include Mike Polasek (District 3), Lew Darrow (District 7), John Metzger (District 12), Kevin Giles (District 13), Robert Faust (District 15), Douglas McHoul (District 17), Stephen Caswell (District 21), Joseph Tresca (District 22), Chris Rolison (District 23) and Andrew House (District 24).

County Executive Sue Serino commented, "Congratulations to all who were elected this week to serve the people of Dutchess County. The work we do each and every day in Dutchess County Government is done through cooperation and collaboration.

"And as we welcome new members to the County Legislature, we will work together with all of the Legislature to keep moving Dutchess County forward. The work we do is not about politics, it is about serving the people of Dutchess County with smart fiscal leadership, while continuing to enhance the quality of life for all of our neighbors."

Aymar-Blair tops Truitt for County Comptroller

continued from cover



Will Truitt

many thanks to give in the coming days and weeks, but I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your belief in me, your support for our campaign and your trust that I would have served our County well as Comptroller.

"We did not prevail yesterday evening, and I would like to congratulate my opponent Dan, and wish him all the best in the term ahead. I pray for Dutchess County's success, and for the health and well-being of all of our people who call our community home.

"I will always stand strong and proud in my convictions - I would not change a single thing about this past year on the campaign trail and I certainly will never cave on my values. We truly gave it our all.

"God bless you all, I am eternally grateful for your support throughout this journey."

County Executive Sue Serino commented, "We have worked collaboratively with Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair over this past year and will continue to do as he begins his new term. Throughout my career, I have worked with people on both sides of the aisle to get things done and that is what we will continue to do."



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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.

Standing with survivors beyond Domestic Violence Awareness Month

To the editor:
Domestic Violence Awareness Month may have come to a close, but it’s important to remember that protecting survivors doesn’t stop in October. For too many New Yorkers, domestic violence is not a statistic—it is a daily reality.
In the State Senate, I’ve worked to strengthen laws so survivors are fully protected and abusers are held accountable. Melanie’s Law, which I co-sponsored, allows courts to issue orders of protection for immediate family or household members of victims, regardless of age, but there is more work to do.
Senate Bill S.6835 increases penalties for violations of court-ordered supervision, including absconding while under electronic monitoring. Senate Bill S.6836 ensures repeat violations of aggravated criminal contempt carry real consequences. Protective orders are only as strong as the system enforcing them.
The Lethality Assessment Program, used in only a few counties, helps first responders identify victims in immediate danger and connect them with lifesaving services. Expanding it statewide could save countless lives.
As a former police officer, I know public safety is more than enforcement—it’s the security every person deserves at home. Strengthening protections for survivors strengthens our communities.
Even though Domestic Violence Awareness Month has ended, our work must continue. Every bill I support represents a person who deserves safety, dignity, and peace—and that fight doesn’t stop with the calendar.

Rob Rolison
New York State Senator, District 39

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS

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

Bridge replacement complete
on Noxon Road in LaGrange



The Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced work to replace a bridge over the Jackson Creek, near Rymph Road, is complete and Noxon Road in LaGrange is reopened to traffic.
Project work included replacing the existing structure with a new, wider bridge to incorporate 4-foot shoulders and the installation of new guide rails. The project was completed on time and within budget. This section of Noxon Road averages approximately 4,600 vehicles per day.
For more information, please contact the Dutchess County Department of Public Works’ Engineering Division at (845) 486-2925.

Project work on the bridge over Jackson Creek included replacing the existing structure with a new, wider bridge to incorporate 4-foot shoulders and the installation of new guide rails. This section of Noxon Road averages approximately 4,600 vehicles per day. Courtesy photo

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

The first nationwide three-digit mental health crisis hotline is up and running. It is designed to be as easy to remember as 911, but when you dial 988, a dispatcher will connect callers with trained mental health counselors.
Dialing 988:
• 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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Hinchey among those urging Hochul to sign bill expanding access to mental health courts

ALBANY – Sen. Michelle Hinchey, Assemblymember John T. McDonald III, RPh, and District Attorneys from the Hudson Valley and Capital Region are urging Gov. Kathy Hochul to sign their legislation to expand access to mental health courts. The bill (S.8312/A.7563), which passed the Senate unanimously in the 2025 session, following its passage in the Assembly, would allow people with mental illness who have been arrested and are going through the criminal court system to have their cases heard in a nearby mental health court if one isn’t available in their county and all parties agree. The measure awaits the Governor’s action before the Dec. 31, 2025, deadline.

Mental health courts focus on treatment to address underlying causes of behavior, breaking cycles of repeat offenses and improving long-term public safety – outcomes rarely achieved through incarceration alone. Under the bill, cases can be transferred to a neighboring county’s mental health court when all parties agree – the defense, district attorneys from both counties, and the receiving court. This will help ensure that individuals in counties without a mental health court still have access to a process that meets their needs and can reduce the risk of future harm.

Hinchey said, “Not every county in New York has a mental health court, and that gap means people with severe mental illness who are arrested can’t access the kind of intervention that stops repeat offenses and gets them on a path to recovery. Our bill fixes that by allowing eligible cases to be heard in a neighboring county’s mental health court when all parties agree. Our bill passed the Senate unanimously, and now we need the Governor to sign it into law. This is a smart, practical measure that would make our justice system more effective in keeping our communities safe and helping people get the treatment they need to turn their lives around.”

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi said, “This legislation represents a thoughtful and compassionate advancement in how we address

mental health within our criminal justice system. By empowering my office to transfer cases involving individuals with mental health challenges to counties that offer specialized mental health courts, we are prioritizing treatment and recognizing that recovery and accountability can go hand in hand. With strong safeguards in place, this bill ensures that those in need receive the appropriate support while maintaining the integrity of our legal system. I commend Senator Hinchey for her leadership and vision, and I fully support Governor Hochul in signing this important measure into law.”

District Attorneys Association President, Mary Pat Donnelly, said, “This legislation grants District Attorneys within the state the discretion to transfer eligible cases to a mental health court. By providing an alternative pathway focused on treatment and support for individuals with mental health conditions, this initiative promotes rehabilitation while alleviating pressure on the criminal justice system. This can be viewed as a collaborative approach that has the potential to reduce recidivism within our counties.”

Susan Bryant, Executive Director, New York State Defenders Association, said, “NYSDA urges Governor Hochul to sign into law this common sense and fair bill that will enable criminal cases to be transferred to mental health courts in adjoining counties from counties that do not have mental health courts. Since many counties do not have their own mental health courts, this law will help bridge that gap and allow individuals access to the services and supports that mental health courts can offer. New Yorkers should have equitable access to mental health courts, and it should never be limited based on geographic location. NYSDA thanks Senator Hinchey and Assemblymember McDonald for working together to pass this bill, and we look forward to continued support in making sure that all individuals charged in the criminal legal system have appropriate treatment and care that will enable successful outcomes.”

Barrett announces \$119K to promote traffic safety in Town of Poughkeepsie

Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Dutchess/Columbia) announced that she has secured \$119,000 for the Town of Poughkeepsie for traffic safety measures, including portable speed radars and trailers, flashing stop signs, and other equipment identified by the Town Police as high-priority needs.

“Speeding is a problem across the state and I was pleased to work with Poughkeepsie Town Supervisor Rebecca Edwards and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police to secure this funding for our biggest town,” said Assemblymember Didi Barrett.

“This new equipment will protect drivers and pedestrians alike, reminding people to slow down, when necessary, and be more careful. Safe communities require safe streets and public safety is critical for our communities to thrive.”

“Speeding is the number one concern Town residents call my office about,” said Poughkeepsie Town Supervisor Rebecca Edwards. “With more tools like trailers and speed display signs, the Town of Poughkeepsie Police will have more resources to address unsafe driving all

over town. I’m so appreciative of Assemblymember Didi Barrett for securing funds for these resources. I’m grateful to the Town Police for all they do to protect our community and glad we can deliver this equipment to keep our streets safe.”

“On behalf of myself and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department, please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for the funding from New York State that Assemblymember Barrett was able to secure for us,” said Town of Poughkeepsie Police Chief Joseph Cavaliere. “Traffic offenses on our roads today are a significant concern for our public, our communities and law enforcement. These funds will help us purchase much-needed Traffic Enforcement and Control Equipment. This new equipment will be a huge force multiplier for us and will allow us to monitor more roadways, as well as allow us to more clearly notify the public of intersections and speed limits.”

The Town of Poughkeepsie encompasses 28.5 square miles, and has a population of over 45,000.

send us your news
cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

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STANFORD TOWN COUNCIL

(Vote for 2)

Theodore E. Secor (DEM, WOR) 748
Charles Cunningham (DEM) 737
Durga G. Taylor (REP) 589
Frank Marcin (REP) 620
Write-in 1

STANFORD TOWN JUSTICE

Dennis E. Smith (DEM, REP) 1,318
No write-in votes

Town of Stanford Proposition

Requesting the town’s annual contribution for the operating budget of the Stanford Free Library be at \$200,400
Yes 1,053 No 283

UNION VALE

UNION VALE TOWN SUPERVISOR

Steven Frazier (REP, CON) 927 - Incumbent
Write-in 39

UNION VALE TOWN CLERK

Andrea Casey (REP, CON) 1,035
Write-in 12

UNION VALE SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

Edward Kading (REP, CON) 996
Write-in 15

UNION VALE TAX COLLECTOR

Kaye Saglibene (REP, CON) 73
Write-in 13

UNION VALE TOWN COUNCIL

(Vote for 2)

Angela Sheldon (DEM) 598
Kevin T. Harrington (REP, CON) 824
Joshua M. Redinger (REP, CON) 806
Write-in 10

UNION VALE TOWN JUSTICE

Stephen Diamond (REP, CON) 933
Write-in 14

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON TOWN SUPERVISOR

Gary Ciferri (REP) 909 - Incumbent
Write-in 17

WASHINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

(Vote for 2)

Susan Mancuso (DEM) 795
Maxine Verne (DEM) 766
Nicholas Galente (REP) 700
Douglas Giles (REP) 692

VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK

VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK TRUSTEE

Theodore Briggs (REP) 323
Write-in 8

STATEWIDE PROPOSAL

Amendment to Allow Olympic Sports Complex in Essex County on State Forest Preserve Land

The proposal amends the State Constitution. It permits new Nordic ski and biathlon trails in the forest preserve. Development there requires Constitutional permission. That is because the facility is in the Adirondack forest preserve. It is part of an Olympic Sports Complex in North Elba. North Elba is in Essex County, New York. The project touches up to 323 acres. The facility covers 1,039 acres. This use is offset. 2,500 new acres are added to the forest preserve. The New York Legislature must approve the offset. If not, the project will not happen.

In Dutchess County, there were 39,340 “Yes” votes and 31,628 “No” votes. Statewide, the proposition passed narrowly, 45.7% (1,923,809) to 42.05% (1,770,086), with 12.22% (514,550) of voters leaving the choice blank.

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Community at Brookmeade honors Chelsea Moore, Philip Seymour at 13th Annual Green and Gold Gala

The Community at Brookmeade hosted its 13th Annual Green and Gold Gala at The Pavilion at Brookmeade in late October. This signature event brought together supporters, staff, residents, and community partners to celebrate excellence in leadership, compassion, and service to the Brookmeade community.

This year's honorees were Chelsea Moore, RN, Director of Nursing, and Philip Seymour, Brookmeade Board Member, both recognized for their outstanding dedication and contributions to the organization.

Moore was honored for her exceptional leadership, commitment to quality care, and her ability to inspire and support the nursing team at The Community at Brookmeade. Through her compassionate approach and professional excellence, Chelsea continues to elevate the standard of resident-centered care. With 22 years of dedicated service, Chelsea began her career at Brookmeade as a Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.), later advancing to Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), and having received her RN degree in 2022 she has been the Director of Nursing since April 2024.

Seymour was recognized for his years

of service and steadfast commitment as a member of Brookmeade's Board of Directors. His guidance, advocacy, and support have been instrumental in advancing Brookmeade's mission and ensuring continued excellence in senior living and healthcare services.

"The Green and Gold Gala is an opportunity to celebrate the heart of Brookmeade—our staff, residents and community," said Karen Stritt, President and CEO of The Community at Brookmeade. "Chelsea and Philip exemplify the values we hold dear: compassion, integrity, and dedication. Their leadership continues to make a lasting impact on our residents, staff, and the entire community."

The evening featured elegant dining, music and dancing, raffle prizes, and an outpouring of community spirit, with proceeds supporting Brookmeade's mission to provide exceptional care and enriching lifestyles for seniors in the Hudson Valley.

For more information about The Community at Brookmeade or to learn how you can support future events, please contact info@brookmeadecommunity.org.



From left, Administrator of Meadows Brian Zeidan, Brookmeade Board of Directors President Mike Green, Honoree Award winners Phil Seymour and Chelsea Moore, President and CEO of The Community at Brookmeade Karen Stritt and President of the Brookmeade Community Foundation Carolyn Bernitt. *Courtesy photo*



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Five area urban farms, gardens gain awards from State Agriculture Dept.

Five urban farms and community gardens in the Mid-Hudson region were among 51 organizations across the state that were recently awarded a total of \$2.5 million by the NY State Agriculture Department.

Local organizations and the amounts of their awards include the following:

- Community Based Services Inc - \$49,780
- Common Ground Farm Inc - \$50,000
- Ecological Citizens Project Inc - \$50,000
- NatureConnect New York Inc - \$50,000
- Poughkeepsie Farm Project - \$50,000

Awards will help the organizations managing these spaces to expand gardens, build structures, purchase equipment, and establish educational programs.

The program is designed to support community growing spaces and recognize their impact on local food resiliency and food security for New Yorkers.

Funding for the program was included in the Fiscal Year 2025 and 2026 Enacted Budgets and builds on Governor Hochul's commitment to increasing affordability and food access for all New Yorkers. The program is just one example of the many ways that New York State prioritizes reducing food insecurity and supporting food producers, in contrast to the federal government's reckless cuts to critical nutrition programs.

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "The Urban Farms and Community Gardens program continues to grow year over year, demonstrating the significance of these growing spaces that are integral to a strong, reliable food supply. These projects span across the entirety of our state, helping to meet the needs of our communities, which is more important now than ever before. I congratulate all the awardees and applaud their vision for expanded growing spaces and enhanced educational programming, helping to directly connect our communities to agriculture."

Hudson Valley Fresh gains award from NYS Dept. of Agriculture

Hudson Valley Fresh Dairy LLC was among 20 farm and food businesses to gain awards from the New York State Department of Agriculture to help them purchase equipment to expand and strengthen the middle of the food supply chain in New York State.

Funded through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Program, the awards will support processing, packing, aggregating, storing, and distributing of New York grown or produced food products. The grants build on New York State's efforts to create a more resilient food system in New York State.

Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "The ability to purchase critical new equipment will be a game

changer for so many farm and food businesses and will allow them to get more fresh, local foods to New Yorkers. I congratulate all of the awardees and look forward to seeing the impact these projects have on our communities."

Farm and Food Growth Fund President and CEO Todd Erling said, "The strategic combination of both the infrastructure and equipment-only rounds of the RFSI program will greatly impact the State's middle-of-the-supply chain, providing more market access opportunities for our dairy, fruit, and vegetable farmers, as well as value-added producers. By supporting processing and aggregation, we can also enhance distribution by moving food more efficiently and to wider markets and institutional purchasing."

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Cary Institute scientist co-authors study on forests and acid rain

In the White Mountains of New Hampshire, the streams are telling us a story about forest recovery following acid rain and logging. According to a new study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, long-term watershed chemistry reveals that recovering forests are mining rocks for nutrients. While this leads to improved pH in nearby streams, it further depletes soils, leaving forests less resilient to future pollution.

The study is the first to show that ecosystem disturbances like acid rain and logging can enhance below-ground weathering over a sustained period, with transformational impacts to the health of soils and adjacent streams.

“The role of vegetation in releasing nutrients from rocks is well-known,” says Chris Solomon of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, a co-author of the study. “But it’s unusual to have a data record long enough to observe these processes in action.”

The study team analyzed more than 60 years of data from the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, established by the US Forest Service in the 1950s for ecological and hydrologic research. Like much of the Northeast, the forest was heavily impacted by acid rain until the passage of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. The three watersheds investigated included a watershed clear-cut in 1983 and then allowed to regrow, a watershed treated with calcium silicate in 1999 in an attempt to reverse the effects of acid rain, and a control watershed that only experienced the impacts of acid rain.

While reviewing data on the chemistry of the streams in these watersheds, the researchers discovered an unexpected result: Since 1987, the stream in the clear-cut watershed had been far less acidic than the neighboring control watersheds – despite having received identical inputs of acid rain.

“The stream in the clear-cut watershed was exporting much more silica and calcium out of its watershed than either of its neighbors. To put it in perspective, these re-growing forests released more calcium and silica over time than the watershed that had been treated with more than 100,000 pounds of pelletized calcium silicate. It was impressive to see this contrast in our data,” explains lead author Emily Bernhardt of Duke University.

Enhanced mineral mining: good for streams, bad for soils

Forests regrowing in the nutrient-depleted logged watershed were using their roots to mine minerals at an unexpected rate.

“Both timber harvest and acid rain have removed large amounts of nutrients from ecosystems,” says Bernhardt. “In places where both occurred, like the clear-cut watershed, regrowing trees are starved for the nutrients they need to grow, and they invest growth below

ground to build roots and fuel microbes that can extract nutrients they need from underlying bedrock.”

Enhanced mineral weathering by the roots of trees like American beech sustains forests. When tree roots ‘mine’ apatite minerals for phosphorus, they also unlock less limiting nutrients like calcium and silicate, which are washed into nearby streams. Streams have improvements in pH, while soils experience decreasing fertility.

Loss of calcium and other nutrients from soils as a by-product of nutrient mining by trees compounds long-term losses of those nutrients from acid rain and deforestation, and may make these forests less resilient to future inputs of acid pollution from the atmosphere.

“Base cations like calcium help the forest soil to buffer inputs of acid precipitation,” says co-author Charles Driscoll of Syracuse University. “The loss of these nutrients means that these ecosystems are extremely vulnerable to any renewed input of acid from the burning of fossil fuels or other sources, or future harvesting.”

Maples replaced by beech - Since being logged in the 1980s, the clear-cut watershed has seen a major shift in tree species, with a steep decline in sugar maple and dominance of American beech, a species adept at mining minerals.

“The forest that is regrowing in the clear-cut watershed is not the same as the forest that was there previously, or the forests that still exist in nearby uncut watersheds,” says Bernhardt. “Sugar maple in particular has had difficulty regrowing in the nutrient-poor soils, and has been largely replaced by beech, which is vulnerable to beech leaf disease and beech bark disease.” Losses of sugar maple may be strongly felt in places like New Hampshire, where maple syrup production is an important part of the culture and economy.

Insights made possible by long-term monitoring - Long-term forest and watershed studies like Hubbard Brook are essential to understanding how environmental stressors — like acid rain, deforestation, and species shifts — play out over decades, and shape the health of forests and freshwaters. They also help us gauge the effectiveness of environmental policies and management practices.

Results of this unique long-term study suggest that throughout regions of the world affected by acid rain, the long-term legacy of deforestation is making regrowing forests increasingly vulnerable to future acidification.

Insights were made possible based on six decades of continuous measurements gathered by generations of scientists, with support from the National Science Foundation, the Andrew Mellon Foundation, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Learn more and explore the record at hbwater.org

Youth and family center to be ‘a space that’s alive with energy’

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino continues her passionate commitment to creating opportunities for the children and young people across Dutchess County, with her upcoming 2026 Executive Budget including nearly \$2.5 million for new and continuing youth initiatives. County Executive Serino also announced the County will move forward with the countywide Youth Opportunity Union (the YOU) facility, with a realistic and sustainable plan to build a vibrant, multi-use center in the City of Poughkeepsie that will offer safe spaces, enriching programs, and connections for residents of all ages.

New Path Forward for the Youth Opportunity Union

- The YOU design concept includes:
- Licensed Child Care Wing to expand affordable, quality care for working families
 - Youth Empowerment Center for mental health wellness, mentorship, and positive youth engagement
 - Teaching Kitchen for hands-on culinary and wellness education
 - Multi-Purpose Rooms for tutoring, workshops, and community events
 - Indoor Gymnasium with full-court basketball, as well as pickleball conversion, to promote active living
 - Outdoor Play & Gathering Zones for safe, inclusive recreation

This right-sized plan follows an in-depth project review that County Executive Serino began when she took office last year. Earlier proposals considered by the previous administration had construction costs ranging as high as \$150 million, and relied heavily on private or other public funding to cover a majority of construction costs. With the goal of a realistic and achievable plan; construction costs, funding options and ongoing operational costs were carefully evaluated and Serino engaged in open and honest conversations with City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers and other community stakeholders about how to deliver a project that is financially responsible and a valuable community resource.

The estimated total cost for the project is \$26.1 million. \$3.5 million in County funds remain available from the \$8.5 million originally committed by the Dutchess County Legislature, with an additional \$1.5 million set aside in the Community Benefit Fund and \$1 million in opioid settlement funds that would be appropriated by the County Legislature. Congressman Pat Ryan has also previously secured \$1 million grant for the project. The County is pursuing additional grants, including a \$15 million request submitted through the NY Bricks Grant program. Any remaining funding, not covered by grants or donations, will need to be approved by the Dutchess County Legislature.

The year-round use facility, will be operated by the County under the direction of a facility director who will work with community organizations to offer programming, including:

- Afterschool and weekend activities for youth, including sports and events
- Mental health and wellness workshops
- Culinary skills classes and healthy cooking demonstrations
- Career readiness and skill-building programs, including computer tech and vocational programs, such as medical arts
- Senior fitness, arts, and social events
- Community celebrations, cultural festivals, and holiday gatherings

With the new design focused on ensuring real community needs can be met, while also being operationally sustainable long-term, the County has formally declined the State’s \$10 million SWIMS

grant, originally awarded to support a portion of pool construction cost. Swimming facilities will not be part of the project, due to high annual operating costs. County Executive Serino has written in support of the City of Poughkeepsie’s current SWIMS grant application for improvements at Spratt Park and has encouraged the Governor to provide the \$10 million to the City, enabling local families to benefit from State investment in a sustainable way.

“This is all about getting the YOU built and making sure it’s here for generations to come,” Serino said. “It’s focused, it’s flexible, and it’s financially responsible. The YOU is more than a building – it’s a promise to our neighbors that Dutchess County will invest in its people, its neighborhoods, and its future. When we open the YOU, we’ll open the doors to possibility and pride that will last for decades.”

The plan has been intentionally designed to be scalable depending on actual grant awards, as well as fundraising interest and/or state and federal resources. The NY Bricks Grant award announcements are anticipated in November or December this year. If the County’s grant application is successful, construction could begin in 2027, with the YOU opening in late 2028. A Request for Proposal has already been issued for design, estimating and construction management services, so the Dutchess County Department of Public Works can get underway as quickly as possible, based on final funding availability and approval.

County Legislature Chairman Will Truitt said, “This plan keeps the focus where it belongs – on serving our residents in a way that’s responsible and sustainable. The Legislature is committed to seeing the YOU succeed, and we’re excited to see this new vision move forward.”

Youth Continue to be Priority in 2026 Executive Budget

As the design work and construction plans for the YOU are developed in 2026, multiple other youth-centered initiatives continue. County Executive Serino’s 2026 Executive Budget includes funding for childcare provider development, YOU mini grants, summer camp experiences for income-eligible youth at Camp Nooteeming, Youth Police Initiative and more.

Earlier this year, Serino expanded ‘YOU Without Walls’ initiative for programs and partnerships across Dutchess County with \$250,000 in Drop-In Center Grants awarded to 14 local libraries and youth-serving organizations. These investments are creating and enhancing additional safe, welcoming spaces where young people can connect with mentors, learn new skills, and access resources close to home.

The 2026 budget also includes more than \$2 million in youth investment, including the Youth and Summer Youth Employment Programs (YEP and SYEP), the Youth Development Program (YDP), Youth Sports and Education (YSE) Program, as well as Youth Team Sports (YTS). The Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services partners with community organizations through these New York State-funded programs to help young people develop important life, social and job readiness skills, gain work experience, promote physical and mental health, and academic success, as well as build strong community ties.

County Executive Serino presented her 2026 Executive Budget in the Dutchess County Legislature Chambers on Wednesday, Oct. 29. The Budget Address can be viewed on the County’s website at www.dutchessny.gov.



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4-H tribute to longtime leader Irene Decker

The Dutchess County 4-H community mourns the loss of Pleasant Valley resident Irene Decker, a long-time volunteer and 4-H leader, who passed away on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at the age of 87. 2026 would have marked 50 years of service in 4-H for Irene. Her dedication, strength, and unwavering commitment to youth development left a lasting mark on generations of 4-H members and leaders alike.

For many years, Irene served as a leader with the Kids for Kids 4-H Club, where she shared her knowledge and enthusiasm for animal care through the Goat Project and at the 4-H Goat Shows. Irene was also very well respected within the dairy goat industry, known for her beloved herd of LaMancha goats. She was very involved in organizing local and regional goat shows, and ran milk-out for the 4-H dairy goats during the Dutchess County Fair.

She was a member of the 4-H Goat Advisory Committee and the Dutchess County 4-H Fair Committee, and her support also extended to the Indoor Exhibit Hall, where she encouraged members to take pride in their hard work and creativity. Irene sponsored special awards each year that were given to 4-H members that exhibited projects at the Dutchess County Fair. She also sponsored the annual cover art contest for the 4-H fairbook. It was a big honor to receive any award with the Decker name on it! The current Dutchess 4-H Team were grateful and blessed to work with Irene in this capacity at the 2025 Dutchess County Fair.

Known for being "tough but fair," Irene's leadership style reflected her belief that 4-H should challenge and inspire youth to grow in character and confidence. Her steady guidance and genuine care helped countless members discover their strengths and succeed both in and out of the show ring.

Former 4-H member and now club leader Jen Deforest remembers Irene fondly:

"She was a tough cookie, but she always did what was best for the kids."

Long-time volunteer and club leader Debbie Scannell shared similar admiration:

"She was someone I had the utmost respect for. I'm massively appreciative of all the guidance and knowledge she was able to share with me, my daughter, and my granddaughter."

Dutchess County Fair CEO Andy Imperati stated, "Irene was involved with the Fair for 50-plus years and was a beloved member of our Fair family. Irene's commitment to both the Open and 4-H goat programs was part of their success, but it was her commitment to the kids, that is where her heart truly was."

Thank you, Irene, for your many years of service and for embodying the true spirit of 4-H.



Irene Decker, right, is joined by fellow 4-H leader Sally Graybill in presenting a 4-H award at the Dutchess County Fair. Courtesy photo

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Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra to open season with ‘Beethoven’s 4th & Sussmann’

The Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra opens its 2025-2026 season with “Beethoven’s 4th & Sussmann. Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor André Raphael leads the orchestra in music by Beethoven, Vaughan Williams, and Mozart for this charming and exuberant program. Now entering its second season since reorganization, the HVSO returns to Poughkeepsie. The concert will take place on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 3 p.m., at the Family Partnership Center, 29 North Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie.

Leah Feldman, CEO of Family Services, said, “Having the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra perform at the Family Partnership Center is a beautiful reminder that the arts belong to everyone. Access to music and the arts should be part of every community’s heartbeat. We are looking forward to this partnership which will bring joy and opportunity to families on the northside of Poughkeepsie.”

The HVSO welcomes Arnaud Sussmann to perform with the orchestra again. Sussmann was the 2007 winner of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition. Minnesota’s Pioneer Press said, “Sussmann has an old-school sound reminiscent of what you’ll hear on vintage recordings by Jascha Heifetz or Fritz Kreisler, a rare combination of sweet and smooth that can hypnotize a listener.”

The concert will begin with Mozart’s

Così fan tutte Overture and then the orchestra will be joined by Arnaud Sussmann performing Mozart’s brilliant Violin Concerto No. 5. The second half of the program features the lush and majestic folk melody Five Variants of ‘Dives and Lazarus’ for string orchestra and harp by Vaughan Williams. Beethoven’s 4th Symphony, full of lyricism and liveliness, concludes the opening concert.

Tickets are available at the door and at www.hudsonvalleysymphony.org. Reduced prices are offered for seniors and students, and children five and under are welcome free of charge.

Arnaud Sussmann, violin

Winner of a 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Arnaud Sussmann has distinguished himself with his unique sound, bravura, and profound musicianship. Minnesota’s Pioneer Press writes, “Sussmann has an old-school sound reminiscent of what you’ll hear on vintage recordings by Jascha Heifetz or Fritz Kreisler, a rare combination of sweet and smooth that can hypnotize a listener.” A thrilling musician capturing the attention of classical critics and audiences around the world, he has recently appeared as a soloist with the Mariinsky Orchestra under Valery Gergiev, the Vancouver Symphony, and the New World Symphony. As a chamber musician, he has performed at the Tel Aviv Museum in Israel, London’s Wigmore Hall, Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, the White Nights Festival in Saint Petersburg, the



The Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra will perform on Nov. 15 at the Family Partnership Center in Poughkeepsie. Right: Violinist Arnaud Sussmann is the guest artist. Courtesy photos



Dresden Music Festival in Germany, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC. He has been presented in recital in Omaha on the Tuesday Musical Club series, New Orleans by the Friends of Music and at the Louvre Museum in Paris. He has also given concerts at the OK Mozart, Moritzburg, Caramoor, Music@Menlo, La Jolla SummerFest, Mainly Mozart, Seattle Chamber Music,

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10 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - November 12-18, 2025



Chip off the old block

Boys will be boys.

My brother Vinny went away on vacation. He asked me to water his garden while he was away. Naturally, it triggered a memory of when we were kids. I think that my age group was the last of the imagination generation. What I mean by that is that when we were kids we would use our imagination to think up games to play with whatever we had around. Anything could be used for a game: sticks, rocks, old bikes, junk. Anything that was handy. Being boys, that usually ended up in a game of war and it usually ended up with Vinny getting hurt and me getting in trouble. During summers, Vinny and I would drive my mother crazy. We were rambunctious, easily bored, and always wrestling or fighting. My mother spent most of her day breaking us apart or patching Vinny up. Mom had one rule. At 1 p.m. she had to watch “Days of Our Lives” uninterrupted. The carrot for not bothering her was that at 2 p.m. we could go swimming. So every day at 1 p.m. she would tell us to go outside to play so we wouldn’t disturb her. It was during that hour of the “Days of Our Lives” that Vinny and I would get in the most trouble. I remember one time during the summer when he and I were bored, we went outside to play a game of dirt bomb war. It was a dry summer and the dirt in Pop’s garden was all clumped up. Pop asked us to go into the garden and break

apart the dirt around the basil plants so that when he watered it the water would get down into the roots. Well, once we broke apart the dirt, there were dirt bombs galore. Naturally Vinny and I decided we would collect a bunch and have a war while Mom was inside watching “Days of Our Lives.” We each collected around 10 and started throwing them at each other. Each time they hit us, they would explode into a cloud of dust. We would hide behind trees and any barrier we could find in order to avoid getting hit directly. Finally, we each had one left. Vinny threw his and it hit me below the belt. Angry at being hit in my nether region, I reared back with my last one and threw it at him as hard as I could. Unbeknownst to me, that last dirt bomb had a rock in the middle of it. Well, of course it hit him in the head, and of course it broke skin, and of course there was blood everywhere ... and of course I got into big trouble. Amazingly I watched history repeat itself with my kids. My son’s Marcanthony and Claudio were outside playing with their cousin Jack in the backyard on a hot summer day. The boys were bored and looking to find something fun to do. Claudio noticed that there were dirt clumps in the garden. He picked one up and threw it at his brother and it exploded into a cloud of dust. Marcanthony then picked one up and

threw it at Jack. Of course, it hit Jack in the head, and of course there was a rock in the clump, and of course he started to bleed like a stuck pig. I got a frantic call at the restaurant from Claudio telling me what had happened and that there was blood everywhere. I was instantly brought back to when I was a kid. I started to laugh. Claudio couldn’t believe I was laughing. I told him to apply pressure, and I would be home in a few minutes. I guess the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree. While you are deciding if it is better to patch up a few wounds or have your kids drive you crazy inside the house next summer, keep this tasty grill recipe on file.

GRILLED SAUSAGE BURGERS WITH BROCCOLI DI RABE

Ingredients

- 1 lb. Broccoli di Rabe
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for brushing
- 6 garlic cloves, minced
- ¼ cup of water
- Salt and pepper
- 1 pound sweet or hot Italian sausages meat (no casing)
- 4 slices of provolone cheese
- ¼ cup of pesto
- 4 tablespoons of mayonnaise
- 4 round ciabatta rolls, split and toasted

Method

- In a large skillet, add olive oil and minced garlic. Once the garlic is brown add the broccoli di Rabe, salt and pepper to taste as well as ¼ cup of water. Cover and let simmer for 15-20 minutes on low heat. Remove and place in a bowl covered in plastic wrap.
- Light a grill or preheat a grill pan. Using slightly moistened hands, form the sausage meat into four 4-inch patties, about ¾ inch thick. Brush the burgers with oil and grill over moderate heat until browned and crusty on the bottom, about 5 minutes. Carefully flip the burgers. Top with the cheese and grill until the burgers are cooked through and the cheese is melted, about 5 minutes longer.
- In a small bowl place the pesto and mayonnaise and stir till blended. Spread the pesto on the rolls. Place the burger on the roll. Top with broccoli di rabe and serve.

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.

A & E CALENDAR

Through Nov. 13: Poughkeepsie Big Read. The Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) presents its annual program intended to encourage the community to read, discuss and participate in thematic events. In recognition of the 2026 celebration of Rev250, this year's Big Read theme is Eve of the Revolution, and the Big Read title is "Rise to Rebellion" by Jeff Shaara. The Teen Read title is "Alexander Hamilton: The Graphic History of an American Founding Father" by Jonathan Hennessey and Justin Greenwood, and the Middle/Little Read titles are selections by Laurie Halse Anderson, including "Rebellion 1776," "Chains" (part of her "Seeds of America" trilogy) and "Independent Dames." Complete list of events at www.poklib.org

Through Nov. 16: "Pippin, The Musical." Theater at the Copake Grange Hall, 628 Empire Rd., Copake. Presented by The Two of Us Productions. There's magic to do when prince Pippin learns the true meaning of glory, love and war in Stephen Schwartz's iconic and unforgettable musical masterpiece. Young Pippin, heir to the Frankish throne, is in search of the secret to true happiness and fulfillment. He seeks it in the glories of the battlefield, the temptations of the flesh and the intrigues of political power (after disposing of his father, King Charlemagne the Great). In the end, though, Pippin finds that happiness lies not in extraordinary endeavors, but rather in the ordinary moments that happen every day. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors. For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 329-6293.

Through Nov. 22: "The Dining Room," County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. An American comedy by AR Gurney, directed by Christine Cawfis. Set in the dining room of a typical mid-20th century household, this brilliantly conceived and richly humorous theatrical tour de force showcases the now neglected room which was once the vital center of family life. In a mosaic of interrelated scenes—some funny, some touching—an ensemble of actors creates an in-depth portrait of a vanishing lifestyle. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; matinees on Sun., Nov. 16 & Sat., Nov. 22, 2 p.m. Tickets \$26 Adults, \$24 Senior 60+, Military, Students (with ID at the door) and Children Under 12. www.countyplayers.org

Through Nov. 23: "And Then There Were None," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents one of Agatha Christie's most chilling mysteries. Ten strangers are summoned to a remote island under mysterious circumstances. Each guest hides a terrible secret, and as they begin to die one by one, it becomes clear that a murderer is among them. Trapped by a storm and haunted by a sinister nursery rhyme, the survivors must uncover the killer before no one is left alive. Recommended for ages 13+. Performances: Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 15 & 22, 3 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Nov. 14: Carte Blanche: Tiny Glass Tavern, Morton Hall, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. An eclectic mix of vocal treats from Balkan, French, American and Early music traditions, 7

p.m. General admission \$25, Student/As needed \$15. (845) 876-2903

Nov. 14-15: Live Entertainment at the Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Nov. 14: Wish We Were Floyd, Pink Floyd tribute, 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. Nov. 15: November 15: The Dark Horses perform the Music of George Harrison, 8 p.m. Tickets \$30 advance, \$35 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Nov. 15: Duology + Warren Smith, VBI Theatre of Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. Longtime collaborators trumpeter Ted Daniel and multi-instrumentalist Michael Marcus join forces with the legendary nonagenarian drummer/percussionist Smith for this one-time historic concert, 8 p.m. Tickets \$20 advance, \$30 door. Advance tickets on sale at <https://duology.eventbrite.com>

Nov. 15: Film Premiere & Performance, Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. Director Will

Chase premieres his award-winning documentary "Coming Home: The Guggenheim Grotto Back in Ireland," 7:30 p.m. This local premiere captures a once-in-a-lifetime reunion of the beloved Irish folk-pop duo The Guggenheim Grotto (Mick Lynch & Kevin May) as they perform together for the first time in over a decade, and possibly for the last time ever. Following the screening, Mick Lynch will take the stage for an acoustic concert featuring fan favorites from The Guggenheim Grotto's catalog. Tickets at thestissingcenter.org

Nov. 15: Local History Talk on the Lenape Native Americans, Mount Gulian Historic Site, 145 Sterling St., Beacon. The talk, given by Harv Hilowitz, Contributing Scholar for the Maritime Museum in Kingston, will focus on Lenape life-ways before the contact period and delve into the Lenape diaspora, and current renaissance and return to the area, 1 p.m. For over 12,000 years, the ancestors of the Lenape culture lived and thrived in

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Geeks OnSite



Learning connections with food: Leaveners

There are many interesting connections to be made between biology and chemistry and a basic human need: Food. Lots of staple foods made from cereals and grains are leavened, meaning that a substance has been added – or a process has been performed – which incorporates gas to lighten and soften the dough or batter mixture. Commonly, that substance is a biological leavener. Yeast, a one-celled living organism (a fungus) is often added to recipes. Through fermentation, the yeasts make energy from sugar and release the carbon dioxide bubbles and alcohol that give the desired rise to baked goods.

In the culinary world, yeast and bacteria are considered biological leaveners, since they are organisms. But leaveners can come in other forms. They can also be chemical or physical.

Chemical leaveners

They may sound like something you wouldn't want in your kitchen, but chemical leaveners are ingredients that you are quite familiar with – baking powder or baking soda. They work through reactions. When baking soda comes into contact with an acid (such as yogurt or lemon juice) – or baking powder comes into contact with a liquid – they produce carbon dioxide. The gas creates small bubbles that aerate batter or dough, causing rise.

Physical leaveners

Steam is a physical leavening agent. It is used to make croissants, cheesecakes, custards, and pastries. Baked goods created with multiple tiers of butter and dough form puffed, flaky layers when the water within the butter turns into steam and increases the product's volume.

Other methods for introducing steam to baking include ovens which have built-in attachments for steam, setting a pan of water on the bottom of an oven during baking, adding a cover over what is being baked (such as a cloche, Dutch oven, or a metal mixing bowl). A water bath or double boiling pan can also be used to add moisture to an oven and surround the baking pan with uniform heat. Spraying the dough and the sides of the oven with water is yet another method of creating steam.

Air is another type of physical leavening created with a machine or a tool. This is also referred to as mechanical leavening. Mechanical leaveners are used to create light, fluffy baked goods such as soufflés, cakes such as sponge, angel food, and chiffon, mousse, frosting, meringue, biscuits, cookies, and marshmallows.

Mechanical leavening involves manipulating ingredients to create and trap tiny air bubbles which help baked goods rise. This form of leavening involves using a mixer, blender, or whisk. Ingredients which are used in mechanical leavening include cream, eggs, butter, and aquafaba. Kneading is another method of adding air through the folding and rolling of dough, causing it to rise.

A fun (and edible) investigation

As an alternative to the typical biological leavener (yeast) for making bread, use a mechanical and physical leavener for making soda bread and popovers. Recipes for both can be found online. Soda bread can be made with your favorite liquid (soda, milk, beer, etc.). Popovers rely on steam for leavening.

Baking becomes a scientific experi-



Some common types of leaveners used in cooking and baking. Photo by Francine Wizner

ment when observations are made. Which recipe results in the highest rise, the chewiest crust, and the most satisfying taste? An organized write-up with simple recipes and follow-up questions can be found here: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/CHEMICAL-PHYSICAL-LEAVENER-RECIPES-ENRICHMENT-CROSS-CURRICULAR-11720365>

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

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FRIENDS OF HYDE PARK LIBRARY
TO HOST JEWELRY SALE NOV. 14-15

The Friends of the Hyde Park Library will hosting their first Donated Jewelry Sale on Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15.

The Friends have spent months collecting and sorting jewelry, and have a large assortment of items, including costume, vintage, and sterling silver.

The sale will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday the 14th and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the 15th. Proceeds will benefit the library.

The Hyde Park Library is at 2 Main St. in Hyde Park.

Presentation on Harriman Incline Railway set Nov. 19 at LaGrange Library

Amid the Gilded Age, railroads played prominent roles in New York's Hudson Valley. Though the region's three incline railroads, including Dutchess County's Mount Beacon Incline Railway, are a fascinating aspect of this tale, one has largely evaded public attention. Built by railroad tycoon Edward Henry Harriman for his estate, Arden House, Harriman's Incline Railway is both a significant facet of local railroad history and served one of the Hudson Valley's largest industrial endeavors.

The Harriman Incline Railway has been researched for nearly ten years by historian, musician, and lecturer Alex Prizgintas, who focuses on neglected history of the Hudson Valley. Join him with the LaGrange Association Library on

Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. as he retraces the history of one of the Gilded Age's greatest railroad barons.

Harriman, leader of many American railroads including the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Lines, built Arden House as his personal estate in Orange County, between 1903 and 1911—two years after his passing. Using intricate collections of images showcasing some of the most detailed perspectives of construction in a Gilded-Age estate, Prizgintas re-traces this history for new audiences.

The LaGrange Association Library is at 1110 State Rte 55, Lagrangeville. Call (845) 452-3141 or visit <https://laglib.org/> to RSVP for the event.

‘Alice by Heart’ to feature talents of more than 60 Dutchess Community College students

Performances Nov. 13-16

Dutchess Community College (DCC) will present the fall mainstage production of “Alice by Heart” Nov. 13-16 in the James and Betty Hall Theatre. Directed by Theatre Instructor AnnChris Warren, the musical features the talents of more than 60 DCC students from across academic disciplines and is produced by the Performing Arts program and Masquers’ Guild Theatre Club.

Inspired by Lewis Carroll’s “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland,” the show reimagines the classic tale through the eyes of two teens sheltering during the London Blitz. Written by Steven Sater and Jessie Nelson with music by Duncan Sheik, the story explores love, loss and the courage to move forward.

In connection with the production’s themes of grief and resilience, DCC is using “Alice by Heart” as an opportunity to promote open conversations about mental health and highlight available resources for students. This effort builds on DCC’s ongoing work as a JED Campus, part of a national initiative led by The Jed Foundation (JED) — the nation’s leading nonprofit dedicated to protecting emotional health and preventing suicide among teens and young

adults. DCC joined the JED Campus network in spring 2023, committing to a multi-year partnership focused on strengthening mental health systems and creating lasting, positive change in campus culture.

“‘Alice by Heart’ has many themes, one of the more prominent ones being grief,” Warren said. “We’ve teamed up with JED to create open discussions with students and highlight resources for anyone who may be struggling. It’s an opportunity to connect what we explore on stage with the real experiences of our students.”

Informational displays and materials from JED and community partners will be available in the theater lobby during each performance. Artwork created by DCC Instructor Jesse Navarra’s drawing students, depicting cast members in character, will also be on display. Performances are at 7 p.m. Nov. 13-15 and 2 p.m. Nov. 16.

DCC students get in the shows for free. DCC faculty and staff, seniors over 60 and non-DCC students: \$10. General admission: \$15. Get tickets at ticketleap.events/tickets/suny-dutchess/alice-by-heart or purchase at the door.

Visitors can park in Lot D (GPS address: 90 Cottage Road, Poughkeepsie).



“Alice by Heart” performances will take place on the Dutchess Community College campus November 13-16 in Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy photo*

NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINE

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the deadline for the Nov. 26 issue of Northern Dutchess News is Thursday, Nov. 20. E-mail cschmidt@sutchessnews.com for more information.

Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra

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Chamber Music Northwest, and the Moab Music festivals. Mr. Sussmann has performed with many of today’s leading artists including Itzhak Perlman, Menahem Pressler, Gary Hoffman, Shmuel Ashkenasi, Wu Han, David Finckel and Jan Vogler.

Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1932 as the Dutchess County Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra has a long history of bringing musical inspiration to people of all ages throughout the Hudson Valley. Under various forms, the

orchestra has served the communities in Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, and surrounding counties. In 1959, Claude Monteux brought the musicians to prominence, organized as the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Society, Inc., a fully professional regional orchestra performing Classics and Pops concerts and bringing educational programs to area school children. In 2024, the orchestra reorganized once again and became self-managed as the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra, Inc. Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor André Raphael leads the HVSO as it begins this new chapter.



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Available Items, 64 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through Nov. 16:** “Above Ground,” sonic sculptures by ceramicist and musician Julia Elsas. [availableitems.com](#)

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through December:** Featured in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be accomplished landscape painter Arianne Wack. At 12 Vassar St., internationally known artist Elise Pittelman will present her collection of paintings in the Hancock Gallery, and in the Reception Gallery two artists share the space - award-winning documentary photographer Alfons Rodriguez presenting his exhibit “The Melting Age” and painter Maria Krasnopolsky whose plein air series, “Renditions,” will be showcased. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access. More info: [cunneen-hackett.org](#)

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 1, 2026:** “Chronostasia: Select Acquisitions 2020–2025,” an exhibition that brings together more than 60 works acquired over the past five years. **Related Programs:** **Thurs., Nov. 13,** 5:30 p.m., “Rothko in Conversation,” in Taylor 102. Christopher Rothko in conversation with Loeb Director Bart Thurber, followed by a reception in the atrium. **Closing Program:** Thurs., Jan. 29, 5:30 p.m., in Taylor 102, artist talk with Cecilia Vicuña. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

The Inn at Bellefield, 25 Old Vineyard Place, Hyde Park. **Through January 2026:** Arts Mid-Hudson presents an exhibition of alcohol ink paintings by Linda Lavin. Her semi-abstract images often echo impressionistic landscapes, alive with flow and movement. Working without brushes, she embraces the fluid, unpredictable techniques of alcohol ink on impervious surfaces such as tile, glass, and yupo paper, creating works that are both dynamic and distinctive. **Artist Talk:** Thurs., Nov. 13, 3-4 p.m. More info at artsmidhudson.org/art-at-the-bellefield.

LAND Gallery, 30 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling. **Through Nov. 23:** “Wild World,” photographs by Ann Shelbourne. (845) 490-2281 or www.landgalleryonline.com

Mildred I. Washington Gallery, Allyn J. Center for Science and Art, Dutchess Community College, 53 Pendell Rd., Poughkeepsie. **Through Dec. 12:** “Looking Through: 1997–2025 New York Series,” a solo exhibition of photographs by Jason Torres, that captures nearly three decades of street and documentary photography reflecting the vibrant character and cultural rhythm of New York. **Gallery talk with the artist:** Mon., Nov. 17, 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. (845) 431-8612

A & E CALENDAR

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Lenapehoking, the land of the Lenape, which included the Hudson Valley. Mount Gulian’s property was identified as the site of temporary Lenape encampments, and was also the site of the Rombout Patent of 1683, the Indian Deed selling much of Dutchess County to colonial settlers. Interaction with the Europeans forced the Lenape to develop survival strategies, resulting in a remnant leaving the area to live elsewhere. Reservations preferred but walk-ins will be accommodated if space allows. Admission: \$18/adults; \$15/seniors; \$12/children (5-15 years). Call 845-831-8172 or email info@mountgulian.org for reservations.

Nov. 15: Lost Leaders; also Ginger Winn, The Falcon, Rte. 9W, Marlboro. Lost Leaders (featuring members of The Lumineers and Lava Baby) shares the spotlight with singer-songwriter Ginger Winn, 7:30 p.m. Reservations: LiveAtTheFalcon.com

Nov. 15: Movies with Spirit, “The Samuel Project,” Woodstock Jewish Congregation, 1682 Glasco Tpke., Woodstock. A teenager thinks he’s just doing homework – until he uncovers a family secret, 7 p.m. Nov. 15 at. The heart-warming multigenerational comedy drama follows aimless high school student Eli (Ryan Ochoa), who is interested in nothing but drawing, much to the annoyance of his father (Michael B. Silver). Then a class project finally catches his attention. The assignment: “Tell a story that teaches a lesson from history – no matter how unknown – using a multimedia format we have studied in class.” The project unexpectedly leads him to his grandfather’s Holocaust survival story. The 2018 film runs 1 hour 32 minutes and is rated PG-13. The screening will be followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be served. Attendees over age 12 are asked to contribute \$10 a person. More info: Gerry Harrington, (845) 389-9201 or gerryharrington@mindspring.com

Nov. 15: Saturday Morning Family Series, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. “Goldilocks and the Three Bears,” presented by Eddie’s Fairytale Theatre, 11 a.m. In this colorful adaptation of the children’s story, Goldilocks learns the meaning of RESPECT from her new found friend, Baby Bear. Great for ages 4 thru adult. All seats \$10. www.centerforperformingarts.org

Nov. 15: Sugar Skull! A Día de los Muertos Musical Adventure, Stissing Center for Arts & Culture, 2950 Church St., Pine Plains. A vibrant, bilingual, family-friendly performance that brings the rich cultural traditions of Día de los Muertos to life through music, dance, and storytelling, 2 p.m. Ticket-holders are invited to stay after the performance for a free dance workshop. Tickets at thetissingcenter.org

Nov. 15: The Orchestra Now, “Jurassic Park” in Concert, Sosnoff Theater, Fisher Center, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson. The action-packed adventure pits man against prehistoric predators in the ultimate battle for survival. Featuring visually stunning imagery and groundbreaking special effects, this epic film is sheer movie magic 65 million years in the making. Now audiences can experience Jurassic Park as never before: projected in HD with The Orchestra Now performing John Williams’ iconic score live to picture. Tickets start at \$31.50. <https://ton.bard.edu/events/>

SEND EVENTS TO

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Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through Nov. 20:** Salon Hang Exhibit & Fundraiser, a joyful celebration of Millbrook and the surrounding communities. Community members of all ages, from professional to beginning artists, have been invited to share their artwork in this exhibit. www.millbrooklibrary.org

Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St., Catskill. **Through Dec. 14:** “ON TREES: Georgia O’Keeffe and Thomas Cole,” exhibition brings together two iconic American artists in the COLE 200 anniversary year (1825-2025). The presentation explores how Thomas Cole depicted trees in the year of his transformational first visit to Catskill, NY in 1825, and how Georgia O’Keeffe did so in her pivotal first visit to New Mexico a century later in 1929. www.thomascole.org

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through Nov. 16:** “FARM to TABLE: A Tribute to All Things Agricultural,” TAG members consider what about this great valley inspires them, be it the landscape, farming seasons, or the journey and the abundance of the harvest. The exhibition offers a range of styles and responses from printmakers, photographers, painters, sculptors and mixed media artists that continue to illuminate our relationship with nature. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through November:** “Bridging Cultures,” works by Vicki Arthur, Taylor Bielecki, and Corinne Hardy (Ritter). (845) 293-3660 or info@womenswork.art

ATTENTION ART GALLERIES

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

‘Looking Through: 1997–2025 New York Series’ at DCC’s Mildred I. Washington Gallery



This photo is part of an exhibition by Jason Torres on view at Dutchess Community College’s Mildred I. Washington Gallery. *Courtesy image*

Dutchess Community College’s (DCC) Mildred I. Washington Gallery will present “Looking Through: 1997–2025 New York Series,” a solo exhibition of photographs by Jason Torres, on view through Dec. 12. The show captures nearly three decades of street and documentary photography reflecting the vibrant character and cultural rhythm of New York.

A gallery talk with the artist will be held on Monday, Nov. 17, at 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

A professional photographer, street photographer and visual artist, Torres once taught photography at DCC and returns this fall with a collection that pays tribute to both the city that shaped his artistic lens and his cultural roots. His work celebrates the texture, energy and diversity of Latino and New York life—extending the College’s celebration of

Hispanic Heritage Month into November.

The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Docent-led tours are available on Saturdays by appointment. Visitors are advised to park in Lot D (GPS address: 97 Cottage Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601). Accessible parking is available at the top of the hill outside the gallery entrance.

The Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery hosts rotating exhibitions featuring regional, national and student artists. For more information about “Looking Through,” visit jtorresphoto.com or contact Gallery Director Dana Weidman at weidman@sunydutchess.edu or 845-431-8612. Details about upcoming exhibits are available on the gallery webpage, accessible via sunydutchess.edu.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Register for Pleasant Valley's Festival of Lights Parade

The Town of Pleasant Valley will hold its annual Festival of Lights Parade, Hot Cocoa, and a Visit from Santa on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 6:45 p.m., along Main Street in Pleasant Valley.

Want to join the Christmas parade? Decorate your car, truck, or even golf cart and register at www.pvrec.com. Call (845) 635-1111, ext. 203 or email pvrecreation@pleasantvalley-ny.gov for more information.

Holiday Toy Drive

The Town of Clinton is accepting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages, through Dec. 12, as part of the U.S. Marine Corps' Reserve Toys for Tots drive. Drop off your donation of new, unwrapped toys to the Supervisor's Office, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. daily. Toys for older youth are greatly needed.

Autumn Food Drive for Clinton Food Pantry

The Town of Clinton is holding an Autumn Food Drive to benefit Clinton's Food Pantry. Suggested items include: condiments, spices, cooking oil, shelf-stable milk or powdered milk, boxed cake and cookie mixes, sugar, flour, coffee, tea bags, hygiene products, kitchen utensils, plastic containers for food storage, can openers, cleaning supplies, sponges, paper towels, and liquid soap. Other donations welcome.

Drop items off at the Clinton Town Clerk's Office Mondays-Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rhinebeck American Legion seeks funds to rebuild after fire

Commander John Imperato of American Legion Post 429 in Rhinebeck recently sent out a call for support following what he called a "devastating fire" in the post's building. A GoFundMe campaign is under way, with a goal of \$25,000. The immediate goal is to reopen the canteen and ballroom so the post can begin generating revenue and covering ongoing expenses, Imperato said. Phase 2 involves completing the repairs that would allow the post to fully restore the building. To donate, visit GoFundMe.com and search for "Join Us In Rebuilding Rhinebeck American Legion After Fire."

Town of Pok Rev250 lecture series kicks off Nov. 13

The Town of Poughkeepsie Historic Preservation Commission is offering a Rev250 lecture series through July 2026. It begins on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m., with "Indigenous Americans During the American Revolution" presented by Noel Smyth, Associate Professor of History at Vassar College. The talk will be held at the Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center, 14 Abe's Way. There is free admission and no registration required.

This talk will give a broad overview of Native American involvement in the American Revolution. It will discuss several examples of Native groups in the northern and southern colonies and how they responded to the war and its aftermath, including how the war touched Natives living along the Hudson Valley. It will also examine the role of the smallpox epidemic that sprung up during the war and how it impacted Native peoples. The talk will also briefly discuss Native American history in the West during the Revolutionary Era.

Call (845) 485-3646 or email townhistorian@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov for more information.

Upcoming events at Stanford Grange

Stanford Grange #808 will host its Annual Roast Pork Dinner on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. All dinners are take out only at 5 p.m. The menu will consist of Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Carrots, Applesauce, and Baked Butterscotch Apples for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. Drive to the back door of the Grange Hall, pay for your dinner and get your food through your car window, and take it home to enjoy! For reservations, please call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 and leave a message.

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Defensive Driving Course on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 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 and informative movies 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.

Revolutionary War soldiers to be honored with marker

On Sunday, Nov. 16, at 11 a.m., the Amenia Historical Society and Sons of the American Revolution invite the public to attend a brief ceremony of dedication for the new Patriot Roadside Marker to honor Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the Smithfield Cemetery, 656 Smithfield Valley Road, Amenia. Refreshments will be served. Contact Tim Middlebrook at tmiddlephoto@gmail.com for more information.

Trivia Night & Auction Conclusion Nov. 16 at Elmendorph Inn

Wrap up Historic Red Hook's 2025 Online Benefit Auction with a night of trivia, food, and fun on Sunday, Nov. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Historic Elmendorph Inn, 7562 N Broadway, Red Hook. Enjoy an evening of local history questions, friendly competition, and last-minute bidding as the auction closes at 8 p.m. Visit www.historicredhook.org for more information.

Wellness Wednesday in Copake

Copake Grange #935 will host Wellness Wednesday: Low- and No-Cost Ways to Improve Your Mental and Physical Well-being, Nov. 19, from 5 - 7 p.m. Teens and adults are invited to come hear about proven everyday ways to feel better. Boost your mental and physical well-being for little to no cost. A buffet dinner will be served afterward. Presenters are Monique Rinere, PhD, LP, psychoanalyst, psychotherapist and personal coach, and Brittany Clarke, Behavioral Health Specialist at Columbia Memorial Health. Admission is free. Donations are welcome.

Rhinebeck Garden Club to meet Nov. 19

Rhinebeck Garden Club Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, November 19, 10am, Starr Library Community Room, 68 West Market Street. Program:

"Foraging for the Holidays". A demonstration by Jay Bell using materials gathered from your garden. Refreshments served. Most meeting are open to the public, but guests are asked to join after attending two meetings. For information about this meeting, or to become a member call Sue at 845-797-3226.

Railroad Bingo Night set Nov. 20

The non-profit Hudson Valley Railroad Society (HVRRS) will hold Railroad Bingo Night on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Hyde Park Railroad Station Museum, 34 River Road, Hyde Park. Enjoy railroad history and games in the historic Hyde Park Train Station. Submission is free to all ages. Contact Peter Canning, HVRRS President, at peter@petercanning.com, visit www.hydeparkstation.org, or call (845) 320-5270 for more information.

Rhinecliff Grange Soup Sales heating up

Rhinebeck Grange #896 will sponsor Rhinecliff Soup Sales on the third Thursday of the month: Nov. 20 and Dec. 18. Soup is \$10, sold by the quart. Take-out only. Pick-up location at Morton Library between 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m. Email: JoBaer2@gmail.com to get the soup choices for each month and pre-order on-line.

Christmas Craft Fair set Nov. 22 at Regina Coeli

Regina Coeli Parish will host its 51st Annual Christmas Craft Fair - Santa's Express - on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This craft fair features about 60 artisans from throughout the Hudson Valley. In addition, the parish will sponsor a Craft Boutique with handmade items, Bake Booth, a Basket Raffle, Promise Tree featuring gift certificates at discounted prices, Vendor item raffle and Santa's Closet featuring new/gently used merchandise.

Santa plans to make a guest appearance from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for your Christmas photos. Food/refreshments will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$2 for adults. Parking is in the front and the rear of the building. Regina Coeli is located on Route 9 in Hyde Park.

PV church to host Holiday Auction Nov. 22

The First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street, Pleasant Valley will have its Annual Holiday Auction on Saturday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. with Jeff Traver calling. Silent Auction bidding and Live Auction viewing will be from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Items include gifts from local businesses, homemade baked goods, children's toys and books, and themed baskets (Hudson Valley Fresh, homemade jams and jellies, and more). Free refreshments.

Christmas Market Nov. 29 in Pine Plains

Christmas Market - Nov. 29, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Pine Plains Community Center, 7775 South Main Street, 2nd Floor, Pine Plains. Join us in the heart of Pine Plains for a magical Christmas Market filled with festive cheer and one-of-a-kind treasures! Stroll through a wonderland of local vendors offering homemade baked goods, artisan jams, cosy clothing,

sparkling jewelry, stylish handbags, home decor and hand crafted gifts. Hosted by Just A Cook 845 justacook845@gmail.com 845-801-3482

Advent Organ Recital in Red Hook

Terry B. Earles, a renowned, accomplished organist will be performing a carefully selected program of music at an Advent organ recital on Sunday, November 30, @ 1 p.m. @ the Red Hook United Methodist Church - 4 Church St. There will be a free will offering.

Refreshments will be served following the recital. The public is invited. Email: redhookumc@umcchurches.org with questions.

PV Rec to host first Turkey Bowl Nov. 30

Pleasant Valley Rec's first-ever Turkey Bowl is set at Bower Park (142 North Avenue, Pleasant Valley) on Sunday, Nov. 30, at 9 a.m. Bring the whole family for coffee, donuts, and two hours of epic flag football fun. It's the perfect way to run off the stuffing and make some hilarious family memories. All ages welcome. Registration is free but required. Register at www.pvrec.com.

Conversation about Red Hook Town

Comprehensive Plan Dec. 4 at Elmendorph Inn

Kitchen Table Conversation -Red Hook Town Comprehensive Plan Update will take place on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Elmendorph Inn, 7562 N. Broadway, Red Hook. RSVP encouraged: www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/kitchentable-conversation. Survey available for those unable to attend.

What do we want our town to look and feel like now and in the future? Historic Red Hook invites town residents to a Kitchen Table Conversation on the Town of Red Hook's comprehensive plan update. Share your ideas about quality of life, the built environment, economic resiliency, and natural resource protection. Discussion facilitated by a member of the Community Engagement Subcommittee with findings submitted to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee.

St. Nicholas Bazaar set Dec. 13 at Grace Church in Millbrook

St. Nicholas Bazaar Fine Craft and Holiday Cookie Sale will take place on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Grace Church Millbrook, 3328 Franklin Avenue, Millbrook. Shop from a variety of handmade crafts, confections, and decorated homemade cookies. Two floors filled with gifts for your four-legged friends, your fashion-conscious family members and co-workers, and people with a sweet tooth. The cookies will be pre-boxed and will contain an assortment of festive cookies from the traditional to the decadent. The cost is \$15 per pound. To order cookies in advance (not required) call 914-456-1097 or email lboissey@aol.com. Handicap accessible. Free entry. www.gracemillbrook.org/st-nicholas-bazaar.html or (845) 677-3064.

CCEDC SETS ANNUAL MEETING NOV. 19 AT FARM AND HOME CENTER

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) will host its 112th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the Dutchess County Farm and Home Center in Millbrook. The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by the Annual Meeting at 8 a.m.

This year's theme, "Cultivating Resilience," highlights CCEDC's ongoing commitment to fostering community strength, sustainability, and innovation through education and collaboration. The morning gathering will celebrate the individuals, organizations, and partners whose work continues to grow a more resilient Dutchess County.

Executive Director Mary Lou Carolan said, "Resilience doesn't happen in isolation. It's cultivated through connection, shared effort, and a willingness to adapt together. This year, we've seen how our

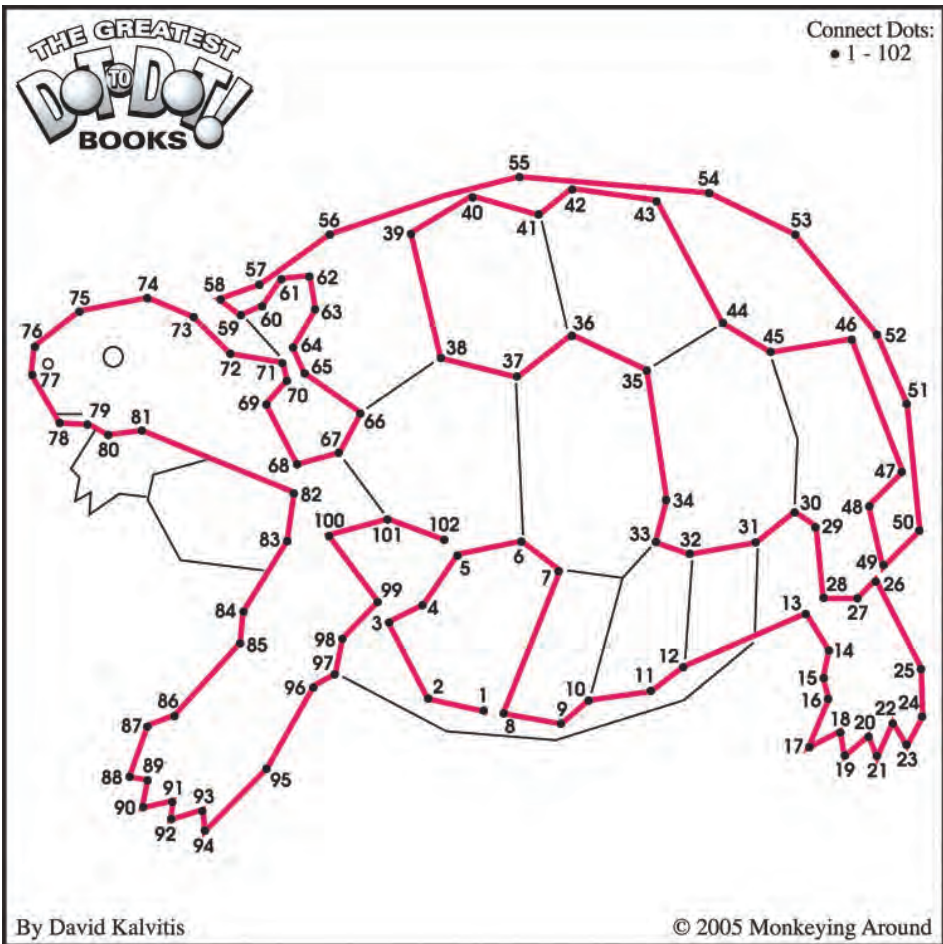
community rises to meet challenges with creativity and compassion, and that's exactly what we're celebrating at this year's meeting."

Attendees will join Board President Chris Shave and Executive Director Mary Lou Carolan in reviewing highlights from CCEDC's programming across agriculture, the environment, youth development, and community well-being. The meeting will also recognize volunteers, educators, and community leaders who have strengthened CCEDC's mission over the past year.

The breakfast is \$30 per person, and advance registration is required. All community members, partners, and supporters are invited to attend and participate in this annual gathering.

For more information, to register, please visit ccedutchess.org or contact the CCEDC office directly.

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



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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: IN THE WOODS

ACROSS

1. Flows' partners

5. "When Harry ____ Sally..."

8. Sound of laughter

12. "Hide" behind the bush

13. Bébé's mother

14. *Age units in the woods

15. Rum cake

16. Placido Domingo's solo, e.g.

17. Concluded

18. "Into the Woods" star Anna

20. Come clean, with up

21. Terra ____

22. Urge Spot to attack

23. One of seven gnomes

26. Prior to the present (3 words)

30. FEMA provisions, e.g.

31. Erratum, pl.

34. Int. org. in Brussels

35. Merge

37. Time frame

38. Right-hand page

39. 1920s art style

40. Cause of wheezing

42. Like The Hot Chili Peppers

43. ____ God we ____," on U.S. currency

45. Some vipers

47. Clairvoyant's gift

48. Source of chocolate

50. Form of payment

52. *Edible fungus

55. Multi-layered cake

56. Mélange

57. Utah's national park

59. Bake an egg

60. Plural of #22 Down

61. "____ the Woods" play and movie

62. Prefix for multiple

63. Japanese honorific

64. Barely got by

DOWN

1. Singular of #1 Across

2. *Woodpecker's pecker

3. *One lost in the woods

4. Posture

5. Boy Scout's badge

6. "Fear of Flying" author ____ Jong

7. *Furniture wood

8. *Conifer's dropping

9. Peters out

10. Def Leppard's "Rock of ____"

11. Psychedelic drug, acr.

13. St. Valentine, e.g.

14. Equip again

19. One of Seven Dwarfs

22. Rejuvenating spot

23. ____ Arabia

24. Wrinkle-prone fabric

25. Declaration of Independence, e.g.

26. 2002 Winter Olympics state

27. Mother-of-pearl

28. Weasel's cousin

29. *Golf's great

32. Catch one's breath

33. A in MOMA

36. *Scientific study in woodlands

38. Meteorologist's tool

40. Nile reptile

41. Masculine one and proud of it, pl.

44. Theater greeter

46. Something extraordinary

48. "Mea ____," or "my fault"

49. Hailing from the East

50. Type of salmon

51. *Seed covering

52. *Trunk growth

53. Sty cry

54. Speck

55. Recipe amt.

58. Go-ahead

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to both the Sudoko & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 21

16 NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS & Creative Living - November 12-18, 2025

Rhinebeck H.S. Drama Club presents 'Our Town' Nov. 14-16

A timeless tale about what it means to be human

By Cynthia Baer

The Rhinebeck H.S. Drama Club presents a hallmark of American drama, Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Our Town," directed by Tiffany McGehee this weekend, Nov. 14-16.

"Our Town," a three-act play, follows the lives of two families, the Gibbs and the Webbs, set in the fictional town of Grover's Corners, NH between 1901 and 1913.

Narrated by an omniscient Stage Manager (Lily D'ordine) the play explores everyday life, love, and death through 12 years of life changes; from the mundane in Act I, "Daily Life," to the romantic in Act II, "Love and Marriage," to the devastating in Act III, "Death and Eternity." The show runs about 150 minutes.

Through young lovers Emily Webb (McKinley Gentile) and George Gibbs (Dustin Page); their strong and loving parents, Dr Gibbs (Caswell LaRose) and Mr. & Mrs. Webb (Seamus Hagen & Joslan Carter); and a large cast of other Grover's Corners' locals, Wilder delivers universal truths about what it means to be human. The show is renowned for the use of minimal scenery and encourages the audience to focus on the universal, often overlooked, experiences of human existence.

A new-comer to the Rhinebeck CSD and the newly appointed RHS Drama Club Director, Tiffany McGehee draws on her energy from community and collaboration, but is no newcomer to the theater. She earned her bachelor's degree in theater from the City College of New York and received her master's degree in theater education from Mississippi University for Women. She recently moved with her family from Mississippi where McGehee started a teen drama program and served as artistic director of the Meridan Little Theatre. In 2024, the Mississippi Theatre Association presented McGehee with the Outstanding Contributions to Community Theatre award.

Says McGehee, "Moving to Rhinebeck and diving right into directing "Our Town" at Rhinebeck High has been such a meaningful way to get to know this community. Thornton Wilder's play has a way of reminding us that every town, no matter where it is, has its own familiar faces, rhythms, and stories. In getting to know these students and watching them bring those universal characters to life, I've started to feel more



The cast and crew of Rhinebeck High School's 2025 production of "Our Town," set this weekend in the school's auditorium. Below: Student Costumers Kayla Thai and Grace Fitzgerald at work. *Courtesy photos*

at home here myself. Their thoughtfulness and care for the work have made this experience really special."

In addition to the large cast, there are many students working along-side adult mentors behind the scenes in costuming, lighting, and stage crew. Says stage manager, Fernanda Garcia-Santiago, a Junior, regarding her experience working on this show, "I started out as a freshman working as part of the set and stage crews. As stage manager now, I have a lot more responsibility; more tasks to do and making sure the crew knows what needs to happen on stage every moment of the show."

Seasoned Costume designer, Melissa Coggeshall, has been working on RCSD shows and mentoring students for the past 5 years. For her, it's all about the kids. "I love interacting with the kids. I see all the differences they have and how they still make it all work. It's magical."

Nick Hawrylko is the lighting designer/mentor. The RHS Drama Club advisor is Laura Natalie.

With humor, wit, and powerful storytelling, "Our Town" offers a unique opportunity for audience members to make the realization that no matter who we are, or where we come from, we all have the certainties of life that connect us.

"Our Town" will be performed at the Joseph L. Phelan Auditorium at Rhinebeck H.S., 45 N. Park, Rhinebeck, NY, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 14 & 15 at 7 p.m. with a Sunday Matinee, Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. Reserved seating is available on-line at <https://our.show/rhsdramaourtown> or at the door. For more information email Laura Natalie at LNatalie@rhinebeckcsd.org.



Upstate Films hosts youth voting rights book launch and documentary screening on Nov. 18

On Tuesday, Nov. 18, at 5 p.m., Upstate Films at the Starr Theater in Rhinebeck is hosting a special multimedia presentation of a book and four short documentaries focusing on the fight for voting rights on U.S. college campuses. The event will feature a reading and conversation with book editors, Jonathan Becker and Yael Bromberg, and with documentary producer Seamus Hedy. It will be introduced by Bard College President Leon Botstein. The event is free

and open to the public. Tickets can be secured at <https://www.upstatefilms.org/>.

The book, "Youth Voting Rights: Civil Rights, the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, and the Fight for American Democracy on College Campuses," coedited by Becker and Bromberg, uses the history of the 26th Amendment and the ongoing fight to promote and defend youth voting rights as a prism through which to teach the history of the struggle for the fundamental right to vote in the United States.

The book and the documentaries focus on case studies of four institutions – Tuskegee University, Prairie View A&M University, North Carolina A&T State University, and Bard College. These cases, which emerged from a joint course that united faculty and students from all four institutions, offer unique insights into the role of college communities in the fight for suffrage, and their contributions to the evolution of the right to vote.

The book is coedited and includes

chapters by Jonathan Becker, professor of political studies, vice president for academic affairs and director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Bard College, and Yael Bromberg, Esq., a constitutional rights litigator, leading legal scholar of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, and election law professor at American University Washington College of Law.

Books will be for sale courtesy of Oblong Books.

AHS students unveil two markers



Students from Arlington High School unveiled two Pomeroy historical markers recently. Left: A historic marker unveiling took place on Friday, Oct. 24 honoring artist Caroline Clowes. Thanks to the Davis Family for allowing it to be installed and the County Highway Department for doing the work. Arlington High School students include from left, Jacob Lasso Sanchez, Sierra Bischoff, Emma Suozzo and Kate O'Connell. Right: AHS students unveiled a marker at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery on Nov. 5 honoring Smith Thompson, Secretary of the Navy and Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. The students who worked on the grant application to the Pomeroy Foundation, are, from left, Makayla McShane, Olivia Waldbillig and Ava Waldbillig. At left is instructor Robert McHugh. Courtesy photos



HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Rhinebeck boys are Class C soccer champs

By Morgan E. Maier

A zero-zero deadlock in a championship game - the stakes couldn't be higher for the Rhinebeck boys soccer team. The Hawks were squaring off for the title against a gritty Burke Catholic squad. Each minute off the clock was another reason not to let the Eagles score. They took the goose eggs into halftime, each daring the other to break the tie. It was Rhinebeck to land the first - and only - punch, scoring the game's only goal 16 minutes into the second half. The Hawks held on to the one-nil lead through the final whistle, and claimed the Class C victory.

Three Pine Plains runners to represent at state tournament - Section 9's cross country athletes met in the winding hills

of Warwick, each vying for a spot in the upcoming state meet. The first 10 to finish in each of the eight races punched their ticket to Queensbury High School, and three Bombers were among the victors in Class D. Violet Bliss, Dan McPherson, and Michelle Blackburn will represent Pine Plains at states. Bliss and Blackburn claimed two spots in the division with their respective second and fourth place finishes. McPherson was first overall in the boys' race, propelling the Bombers to a fourth place team finish.

More cross country achievements - Millbrook took third in team rankings, powered by Dylan Vasquez's fourth-place time of 18:14.90. Teammate Lucas Ciferri finished 10th. Rhinebeck's Augustus Lamm swiped ninth place to lead the Hawks. And Roosevelt eighth grader Julia Turner stuck with the pack in

Class A, posting a remarkable 12th place finish among a field laden with juniors and seniors. Also representing the Presidents in the top-15 was sophomore Madeline Tester, on her teammate's heels at 20:42.90.

Spackenkill, Millbrook reach volleyball finals - Newburgh's Mount Saint Mary College hosted the Section 9 volleyball finals, where Spackenkill and Millbrook each were slated to take on their class's one-seed. The Spartans sized up undefeated James I. O'Neill, while the Blazers took on the mighty Mount Academy. Each underdog faced an uphill battle. Neither contest disappointed. To reach the Class A title game, Spackenkill had a tremendous win over a tough Highland Huskies team, taking the win in four sets. Spackenkill fell in three to the Raiders

16-25, 16-25, and 13-25. Spackenkill forced three rallies at set point in the first two sets. Never to be deterred, the Spartans were able to cut into the deficit before O'Neill could earn the winning point. Millbrook had two straight sets with a 25-6 score. They were on the better half of such a result in the clinching set of the semifinal. Millbrook won that match against John S. Burke, 25-15, 25-18, then 25-6. Millbrook sent the Eagles away with ease to punch their ticket to the finals. Mount Academy gave a taste of its own dominance to start the title match, holding Millbrook to six points. It only fueled the Blazers' fire. With each point they scored on Mount Academy, Millbrook was tighter, more aligned. They charged Mount for 20 points in the third and final match.

Town of Poughkeepsie receives design grant for trail at Sunnyside Park

The Town of Poughkeepsie has received a \$27,500 grant from the Greenway Conservancy Trail Program of the Hudson River Valley Greenway, for the design phase of a woodland trail at Sunnyside Park. The proposed trail, crossing through Town-owned woods and wetlands adjacent to the park, would provide residents with a safe place to walk their dogs and enjoy peaceful woodlands. The trail would connect through to Malmros Terrace, allowing many more residents to access the park on foot rather

than by car on Vassar Road.

Town Board member Barbara Laird, representative of Ward 2, said, "I am thrilled that the Town was able to get this grant! Building this trail and boardwalk over the stream at the end of Malmros Terrace will allow us to complete the walking trail behind Sunnyside Park and link two beautiful neighborhoods through the natural landscape. It adds to our overall goal of creating a more walkable town."

"We are so pleased to have received this grant," said Town of Poughkeepsie

Parks and Recreation Director Nate Smith. "Hopefully the design will help us expand the boundaries of the park to give the community greater pedestrian access to this beautiful park."

"This town-owned parcel of land has long been ignored and neglected," said Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards. "Thanks to the Hudson River Valley Greenway, we can begin a long-term process of expanding park amenities, giving residents access to more green space, and restoring wetland

habitat."

The Hudson River Valley Greenway [<https://hudsongreenway.ny.gov/overview-mission>] provides grants with the goal of continuing and advancing New York State's commitment to the preservation, enhancement, and development of the scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources of the Hudson River Valley while continuing to emphasize economic development activities and remaining consistent with the tradition of municipal home rule.

Partnership creates collaborative effort with new family day care in Poughkeepsie

A groundbreaking collaboration between a hospital, housing group, bank, and nonprofit is tackling the region's child care crisis head-on. Last week, these four partners gathered with elected officials and community members to celebrate the completion of renovations at The NEST on Young Street in Poughkeepsie.

(Nurturing Early Success Together), marking a major milestone for a new, fully renovated home that will serve local families while creating a path to business ownership and homeownership for a local early educator. The innovative partnership between Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Hudson River Housing, DAY ONE Early Learning Community, and NBT Bank, is creating Dutchess County's first 24-hour child care model.

During the ribbon cutting, the partners announced a \$100,000 grant from the Dutchess County-Poughkeepsie Land Bank that will fund the renovation of an adjacent property, making round-the-clock care a reality. The NEST will help hospital workers and other essential employees whose shifts don't fit tradi-

tional care hours, while also serving families throughout the community.

At the heart of this project is Day One, a local nonprofit that helps community members become high quality early childhood educators and business owners through its paid Teacher Apprenticeship Pathway (TAP). TAP participants earn while they learn, gaining hands-on classroom experience and graduating with the credentials and confidence to lead their own programs. Day One TAP graduate Danielle McClinton will own and operate the licensed Group Family Day Care at 2 Young Street, live on-site in the renovated home, run her own business, and work toward eventual homeownership. "I never imagined owning my own business was possible in early education. Day One believed in me and gave me the tools to do this. Now I get to welcome families into this beautiful space and give their children the joy and learning they need during the most important years of their lives. I'm so proud to be doing this work right here in my community," said Danielle McClinton, DAY ONE TAP Graduate and Business Owner Day One brought the



Danielle McClinton, center, cuts the ribbon to open The NEST, a licensed Group Family Day Care at 2 Young Street in Poughkeepsie. *Courtesy photo*

partners to the table, and each one played a critical role. Vassar Brothers Medical Center owns the property and is leasing it to Hudson River Housing, which renovated the vacant home. NBT Bank and loan funding by the Leviticus Fund provided

seed funding for the work completed by Hudson River Housing, and their general contractor, Gutierrez Building Corp. The newly announced \$100,000 grant will now allow the partners to renovate the adjacent property at 6 Young Street.

Central Hudson shareholders donate \$55K to CAP

In response to growing concerns over federal assistance program funding, Central Hudson shareholders recently donated \$55,000 to Community Action Partnership organizations in every county the utility serves. These contributions aim to help residents access food and pay their utility bills during a time of heightened need. Pictured, from left to right: Central Hudson Chief Financial Officer Lora Gescheidle, Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County Family Resource Coordinator Tamesha Garvey, and Central Hudson Regional Affairs Liaison Linda Selcanin. *Courtesy photo*



Stanford Free Library upcoming events

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please register via the online calendar at www.stanfordlibrary.org or call (845) 868-1341

Participate in Dutchess Libraries Care Through November
Stanford Grange and Stanford Free Library are partnering on a Coat Drive to benefit the community of Stanford. New or gently used coats can be dropped off at the library.

Food Drive Through December
Stanford Free Library is partnering with Willow Roots to collect Non-perishable goods to the library. Collected goods will benefit families in the Pine Plains CSD

Yo-yo club with Marc Smith
Saturday, November 15, 1pm-2pm
Open to students grades 4+
Have hands-on fun while learning about different types of yo-yo's including fixed axle, responsive, and unresponsive. Yo-yos will be provided but feel free to bring your own.

Navigating Medicare: A Free Medicare Class

Wednesday, November 19th, 2PM
Join the Office for the Aging as they assist with navigating and understanding your Medicare Benefits. Important for first time enrollees

Stanford Historical Society Presents The Wild and Crazy Erie Canal

Friday, November 21st, 7PM
Jack Kelly will discuss the opening of the Erie Canal as part of the Bicentennial Celebration. This stupendous feat of imagination changed America Forever by opening up the West.

ONGOING EVENTS

Qigong Thursdays, 530pm-630pm
Why consider the practice of Qi Gong? Empower yourself, improve your physical and mental health. Create a state of balance/strengthen your will power

Story time at the Library
Tuesday Mornings through 12/9
Toddlers (18mos-2 years), 1030am-1115am; Preschoolers (3-4 years)

1130am-1215

Home School Stories and STEAM
Students in Grade K-3:Thursdays, 1245pm -145pm
Students Grade 4-6 (STEAM only) Thursdays, 2pm-3pm

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

Yoga with Mia Saturdays, 10am-11am
Bring your own mat and blanket. One time waiver must be signed prior to first class.

Water Color Workshop
First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Using the Basic Watercolor Techniques:A Flat Wash, Graded Wash, Wet-In-Wet or Drybrush
We will be happy to provide guidance

but this is a Watercolor Workshop not a Watercolor Class. Supplies are not provided, a list of needed materials is available at the library.

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners
Mondays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
All levels are welcome.

Knitting - First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. Come for knitting, tea and conversation.All levels are welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games Thursdays 10:30 – noon
Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

Mahjong for Intermediate Players
Fridays 10:00 am - noon
Come and play Mahjong with this fun, friendly group. Are you a beginner or want to learn the game?Ask at the library for more information.

Legal Notices

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW N OF THE YEAR 2025, “A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 98 OF THE TOWN CODE WITH REGARD TO PERMITTED USES IN THE OFFICE/INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICT”

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Pleasant Valley will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York on November 17, 2025 at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., on Local Law N of 2025, “A Local Law Amending Chapter 98 of the Town Code with Regard to Permitted Uses in the Office/Industrial Zoning District”.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at the Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid. Time limitations may be imposed for each oral statement, if necessary.

Dated: Pleasant Valley, New York
October 21, 2025

Mary Beth Muir, Town Clerk

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
INDEX NO. 2025-52977
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS
Plaintiff designates DUTCHESS as the place of trial situs of the real property

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS
Mortgaged Premises:
3200 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MILLBROOK, NY 12545
Section: 6764, Block: 1, Lot: 352946
FAREVERSE LLC IL/T/N FINANCE OF AMERICA REVERSE LLC, Plaintiff, vs.
EMILY DAMELIO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS DAMELIO; DANA

Legal Notices

LIMITONE, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS DAMELIO, if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or whomayclaimtohave an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS DAMELIO, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE-DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY; UNITED

Legal Notices

STATES OF AMERICA ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; JOHN DOE, "JOHN DOE #2" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last eleven names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants.

To the above named Defendants
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT
THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$637,500.00 and interest, recorded on August 10, 2017, in Document Number 01-2017-5330, of the Public Records of DUTCHESS County, New York., covering premises known as 3200 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MILLBROOK, NY 12545.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

DUTCHESS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE
YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME
If you do not respond

Legal Notices

to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: October 15th, 2025
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Matthew Rothstein, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675

SUMMONS
Supreme Court of New York, Dutchess County. MCLP ASSET COMPANY, INC., Plaintiff - against- UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF NELSON C. BOWNE A/K/A NELSON CHRISTIAN BOWNE; SHERRY BOWNE A/K/A SHERRY LYNN BOWNE, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF NELSON C. BOWNE A/K/A NELSON CHRISTIAN BOWNE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT); COUNTY OF DUTCHESS; "JOHN DOE" AND "JANE DOE" said names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein, Defendants Index No. 2025-54221. Mortgaged Premises: 28 Meusel Road Pine Plains, NY 12567
Section: 6872 Block: 10 Lot: 342554 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above captioned action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, ex-

Legal Notices

clusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECTIVE of the above captioned action is to foreclose on a mortgage to secure \$203,245.00 and interest, recorded in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office on January 4, 2010, in Document Number 01201014, covering the premises known as 28 Meusel Road, Pine Plains, NY 12567. The relief sought herein is a final judgment directing sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the reverse mortgage described above. Plaintiff designates Dutchess County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises is located. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO, LLP
1325 Franklin Avenue, Suite 160
Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids will be received by the Town Clerk, Mary Beth Muir, of the Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York for Highway Materials

Legal Notices

and Supplies for the year 2026.
1) Stone, Gravel
2) Sand
3) Latex Bituminous Mix Hot
4) Bituminous Mix Hot
5) Plow Blades
6) Guide Rails
7) Street Sweeping
All Bid packets are available at the Town Clerk's office. Bids will be received until Friday, December 12, 2025 by 12 Noon at the Town Clerk's office, 1554 Main Street Pleasant Valley, New York at which time bids will be opened and read aloud.
If there are any questions please call the Town Clerk's office at (845) 635-1111 Ext. 201.
The Pleasant Valley Town Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. The Pleasant Valley Town Board will consider bids as soon as possible thereafter.
ALL BIDS MUST INCLUDE AN NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATE.
By order of the Pleasant Valley Town Board
Mary Beth Muir
Town Clerk

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-30-25
Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Corrections Division
Incarcerated Individual Commissary Services and Food Service for Incarcerated Individuals
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNet Direct) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., December 12, 2025. 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 OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF MILAN ZONING BOARD
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Zoning Board of the Town of Milan will hold a public hearing in accordance with Town Law for a special use permit for property located at 430 East Kerley Corners Road, tax grid number 6474-00-011549 located in the A3A zoning district. AS AID HEARING will

Legal Notices

be held at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at which time all interested people shall be given the opportunity to be heard. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. and this application will be heard in the order in which it appears on the agenda.
Dated: November 6, 2025
By Order of Town of Milan Zoning Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF MILAN ZONING BOARD
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Zoning Board of the Town of Milan will hold a public hearing in accordance with Town Law for a Variance for Ground Mount Solar for property located at 461 Enterprise Road, tax grid number 6370-00-740035 located in the A5A zoning district. AS AID HEARING will be held at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at which time all interested people shall be given the opportunity to be heard. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. and this application will be heard in the order in which it appears on the agenda.
Dated: November 6, 2025
By Order of Town of Milan Zoning Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF MILAN ZONING BOARD
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Zoning Board of the Town of Milan will hold a public hearing in accordance with Town Law for a Variance for a Pole barn for property located at 984 Willowbrook Road, tax grid number 6570-00-591394 located in the A5A zoning district. AS AID HEARING will be held at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at which time all interested people shall be given the opportunity to be heard. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. and this application will be heard in the order in which it appears on the agenda.
Dated: November 6, 2025
By Order of Town of Milan Zoning Board



GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE

Who needs blood?

Under normal circumstances, every two seconds someone in America will need a blood transfusion. Blood transfusions are used for trauma victims - due to accidents and burns - heart surgery, organ transplants, women with complications during childbirth, newborns and premature babies, and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or other diseases, such as sickle cell disease and thalassemia.

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-36-25 Substance Abuse Assessment, Referral & Treatment Monitoring Services for Applicants and Recipients of Public Assistance
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 21, 2025. 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,

Legal Notices

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-55-25 In-Jail and Transitional Treatment Program 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 24, 2025. 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,

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS- RFB-DCB-19-25
NAME OF PROJECT: Hudson Valley Regional Airport Marquis Sign. Project Description: Removal and disposal of existing, post mounted roadside signage structures, and the construction of a frost-protected, reinforced concrete slab-supported, back-lit roadway sign structure. 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.bidnet-direct.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.bidnet-direct.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 dpcwcontracts@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**

Legal Notices

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
Due on or before 11:00AM **Thursday, November 20, 2025**, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All calls will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 737 124 86#. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Thursday November 13, 2025 and emailed to Diane McKenna at dpcwcontracts@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 Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2025012806. Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements. View Bid Specifications regarding APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, if applicable, and NYSDOL Contractor Registry requirements. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

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

OBITUARIES

Irene Decker



Irene Decker, 87, of Salt Point NY died suddenly at Vassar Brothers Medical Center on Thursday October 30, 2025. Her daughter Alicia Swartz was with her. Irene was born 6/17/1938 to Jim and Irene Scalli. Her parents and brother Jim have predeceased her. Irene was a loving sister to Rosemary Losee who resides in Mesa, Arizona. Irene married her best friend John C. Decker on July 11, 1965 and they were never apart. They shared a long happy and loving marriage until January 18, 2022 when John passed away. Irene was friends with many and loved by all. Irene and John owned Decker's Miss Lamanchas goats and they were known throughout the NY and New England area. Irene was in the Dutchess County 4H organization for 50 years. She was a goat judge, regional organizer of goat shows, secretary and 4H leader for many years. She served in every capacity and did so with love, compassion, fairness, and professionalism. Irene was also big on making cards with all of her friends. She was a person with a big heart to do and help others. She had a heart of gold and was a rock for her family. Irene's life was about her husband John, her daughter

ter Alicia Swartz and husband Jeff and her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Irene was loved by her nieces and nephews who live in Tennessee, NY, and Florida. Her biggest affection was her puppy Jay – C. Irene will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. She is now back with her true love John.

Visitation took place Thursday, November 6 at Allen Funeral Home, Pleasant Valley. A funeral service was held on Friday, November 7 at 11 am from the funeral home. Interment followed in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com for directions and condolences.

Thomas Francis 'Tim' Nuhn

Thomas Francis Nuhn, 63, died unexpectedly on October 26, 2025, at his home in Rhinebeck, NY. Tim was laid to rest at William G. Miller & Son Funeral Home in Poughkeepsie, NY. Cremation took place at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of gifts to the family, please make contributions to World Central Kitchen. <https://wck.org>

To read the full obituary or to leave an online condolence, please visit www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

Gerald W. Roth

Gerald W. Roth, 86, a lifelong resident of Pleasant Valley, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at Vassar Brothers Hospital. He was born in Poughkeepsie on May 18, 1939, to the

late William and Rita (Horton) Roth.

A proud graduate of Arlington High School's Class of 1957, Gerald went on to serve his country in the United States Army from 1957 to 1959, and then in the Army Reserves until 1963. On January 15, 1961, he married the love of his life, Sandra Volnick. Their marriage of nearly 65 years was a testament to enduring love and devotion.

Gerald lived his life with a big heart and unwavering faith. On March 26, 2016, he converted to Catholicism at St. Stanislaus Church in Pleasant Valley, ensuring that he and Sandra would forever be united.

He worked as a Project Manager for IBM in East Fishkill for more than 30 years before retiring in 1993. After retirement, he enjoyed spending time working alongside his son Darrin at Roth Woodworking, a true reflection of his dedication to family and craftsmanship.

Gerald loved life's simple joys — a strong cup of black coffee, the morning news, and old TV shows in his recliner. He was a proud American who flew both his American and Army flags with pride, and he rarely missed a Yankees or Giants game or a chance to enjoy wings during the Super Bowl.

Above all, Gerald loved his family fiercely. He never missed a birthday, celebration, or milestone — always showing up with a smile and genuine support. He adored his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, cherishing every moment spent with them. His greatest joy was

time with his family, and his love for them, especially for Sandra, was unwavering. Gerald will be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father, proud grandfather and great-grandfather, and a kind, dependable man who always put his loved ones first.

Gerald is survived by his beloved wife, Sandra; his daughters Kelly Chermak and Shannon & Michael Linnane, his son Darrin Roth, his grandchildren Amber & Kayleigh Chermak, Austin & Kaelin Roth, Sierra Roth and her fiancé, Filip Cacino, Sydney Roth and her fiancé, Thomas Cornell, Katie Linnane, Nikolas & Haleigh Linnane, and Garrett & Hannah Linnane; and his cherished great-grandchildren Dean, Quinn, Cameron, Zachary, and Landon. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother Roger, daughter-in-law Suzanne Roth, and mother-in-law Ellen Volnick.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10 Am from St. Stanislaus Church in Pleasant Valley, on Friday, November 14, 2025 with burial to follow in St. Peter's Cemetery in Poughkeepsie with Military Honors.

Memorial donations may be made in Gerald's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at stjude.org.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Allen Funeral Home, 1605 Main St., Pleasant Valley, NY 12569.

To leave an online condolence and for directions please visit www.HudsonValleyFuneralHomes.com

Suguru solution

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SUDOKU
This week's answer

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Answers to this week's diversions

(puzzles on page 16)

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105 Employment Opportunity
106 Business Opportunity
107 Situations Wanted
120 Schools
121 Special Instruction
122 Musical Instruction
140 Nursery Schools
141 Child Care
142 Day Care
143 Baby-sitting
145 Adult Care
150 Announcements
151 Adoption
152 Novenas
154 Lost & Found
155 Personal Services

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901 Vans/SUV's
902 Trucks
903 Motorcycles
904 Auto Parts & Tires
905 Autos Wanted

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How to apply: Bring a Dutchess County Employment Application (available for download online), your resume, and MPTC Police Officer Certification directly to:

Wappingers Falls Police Department
2628 South Avenue Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

200 Services

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OLDER ADULT WINTER
PREPAREDNESS & FIRE SAFETY

Ever been out on the roads in the hours before a snowstorm arrives? It can be an adventure, and not the fun kind.

For older adults, being ready for winter includes making sure you’re set with safety basics:

Smoke / carbon monoxide (CO) detectors. New York State law requires all new or replacement smoke alarms sold here to be powered by a 10-year, sealed, non-removable battery, or be hardwired to the home. Newer detectors can also be tested without needing to risk a fall by climbing a step stool. Still, if you think your detector might have reached the end of its lifespan, it’s going to need changing. Detectors have a date of manufacture printed on the back or side of the unit. If that date reads 2015 or earlier, it’s time for a new unit. Find a friend, family member or caregiver to help you with the installation process.

What to do with the old detector? According to the Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management, a photoelectric type detector can be disposed of in regular trash; but if you have an ionization type detector, reach out to the manufacturer for disposal instructions. Contact information is printed on the unit.

A fire extinguisher. When it comes to fire fatalities, adults over age 65 are twice as likely to die - and people over 85 are four times as likely, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Modern fire extinguishers are designed to be easily operated. Some are specific to rooms where many home fires originate, like the kitchen. Most extinguishers contain between 30 and 60 seconds of fire-fighting material, according to the New York State Office of General Services.

A first-rate first aid kit. It’s rare to find a senior-specific first aid kit at most merchants. You’ll want to add items that are specific to the risks that come with being older:

- ice packs, to reduce swelling;
- Ace-type and nonstick gauze bandages for injured limbs;
- over-the-counter pain relievers - and be sure that the type you get is compatible with other medications you may take.

A “File of Life.” OFA has a limited number of “File of Life” packets available. In emergencies, time is of the essence, and a File of Life can help first responders quickly obtain your current medical and contact information, especially if you are unable to communicate.

Contact OFA if you or another Dutchess County older adult needs a File of Life. We cannot mail the File of Life, but they can be picked up during business hours at our main office in Poughkeepsie at 114 Delafield St., or by appointment at an OFA Friendship Center near you.

OFA FRIENDSHIP CENTERS

Beacon - 1 Forrestal Heights, Beacon, 845-838-4871
East Fishkill - 890 NY 82, Hopewell

Junction, 845-226-3605
Millerton - 28 Century Blvd., Millerton, 518-789-3081
Pawling - 154 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, 845-855-9308
Red Hook - 59 Fisk St., Red Hook, 845-475-1129
South Amenia - 229 South Amenia Rd., Wassaic, 845-373-4305
Tri-Town - 1576 Main St., Pleasant Valley, 845-275-8565

UPDATED ‘SNAP’ NEWS
& DUTCHESS FOOD PANTRY LIST

As of Friday, November 7th, when this issue of “Aging News” was delivered, the federal government shutdown had not yet been resolved. The most recent available list of food pantries in Dutchess County is available at <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Business/Food-Pantry-Meal-Program-Resources.htm>

Upcoming Dutchess Outreach food distributions at the Family Partnership Center, 29 N. Hamilton Street, Poughkeepsie:

Friday, November 7, 9–11:30 AM

Monday, November 10, 9–11:30 AM
Please bring your EBT card and a reusable bag.

If you’re unable to make it to the Family Partnership Center, please check with your local food pantry — food is being distributed countywide. On Facebook, follow www.facebook.com/DutchessCoGov and www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA for updates.

OFA HOMEBOUND FLU/COVID
VACCINATIONS, AVAILABLE
THROUGH EARLY DECEMBER

The Office for the Aging’s annual Homebound Vaccination program for homebound Dutchess County residents over age 60 is now under way, available until mid-December while supplies last. Influenza is generally seasonal, but COVID-19 is year-round. Homebound individuals can contact OFA at ofa@dutchessny.gov or 845-486-2555, and our staff will arrange for in-home vaccinations for COVID-19 and/or influenza.

send us your news
cschmidt@sutchessnews.com

DCC Foundation to host
historian on Nov. 20

The Dutchess Community College Foundation (DCCF) will host a lecture by John Schmitz, Ph.D., professor of history at Northern Virginia Community College, on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m. in the James & Betty Hall Theatre on the College's main campus.

Part of the Distinguished Lecture Series to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, the talk, titled “Enemies Among Us: Civility and Civil Rights During the Second World War,” will explore how fear, prejudice and national security concerns during World War II tested Americans’ commitment to civility and civil rights at home. The son and grandson of World War II internees, Schmitz brings both personal perspective and scholarly expertise to the subject.

While the internment of Japanese Americans is well documented, he sheds light on the lesser known stories of German and Italian Americans who were also relocated, interned or repatriated—often in greater numbers. His research examines how these policies arose, the conditions faced by those affected, and

the long-term consequences for individuals and families. Schmitz is the author of “Enemies Among Us: The Relocation, Internment, and Repatriation of German, Italian, and Japanese Americans during the Second World War” and coauthor of “A Crisis of Identity: Good Aliens, Bad Americans, or Bargaining Chips?”

The lecture will be facilitated by Andrew Rieser, Ph.D., DCC professor of history and recipient of the Handel Family Endowed Faculty Chair to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

This free community event will be held in the James and Betty Hall Theatre. Visitors are advised to park in Lot D (GPS address: 90 Cottage Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601). For more information, call the DCC Foundation at 845-431-8407.

Please request sign language interpreting services or other special accommodations at least two weeks before the event by contacting Linda Bertolozzi at 845-431-8058 or bertoloz@sunyidutchess.edu.

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