



# Adams makes hometown proud



A sign outside of Roy C. Ketcham Senior High School wishing USMNT Captain Tyler Adams good luck in the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Adams is a 2017 RCK graduate.

-Courtesy photo RCK webpage

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proud of all your accomplishments!"

The USMNT team lost 3-1 to the Netherlands on December 3 in Qatar.

"What a ride. So honored to be a part of such an amazing team, these boys are something special. Came up short, but the work continues to show the world what we are made of. Thank you everyone for the support in the past weeks it's meant everything to us. We'll be back," Adams tweeted on December 4 with red, white and blues hearts.

During a nationally televised interview after the game, Adams told the interviewer, "I'm super proud of the boys' performance today."

Adams also remarked about the team's future. "We're moving in the right direction. We're not there yet but were close. We're close."

Bank remarked on Adams' character – on and off the field.

"In addition to his phenomenal soccer skills, as he has demonstrated in his role as captain and in his numerous press conferences, Tyler is a person of high charac-

ter and integrity and serves as a role model for all!"

Adams, who plays for a Premier League club, recently helped give back to the local community in Dutchess County. He had two mini pitches installed in the city of Poughkeepsie. The City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County government and the U.S. Soccer Foundation each contributed financially to the project.

When Adams was picked as captain of the USMNT, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said in a statement, "Dutchess County is proud to have Tyler Adams represent us in the World Cup, leading the United States Men's National Team into the most-watched sporting event in the world as our nation's captain. Tyler is the epitome of the determination we in Dutchess County all share: He found his passion, worked hard to achieve his goal, and he's now one of the best in his field worldwide. Regardless of their own passion, every child in Dutchess County can learn from Tyler's example – there are no shortcuts to success, and only hard work and perseverance will help them achieve their dreams."

According to his bio on the USA Soccer website, <https://www.ussoccer.com>,

- Adams made 59 MLS Regular Season appearances for New York Red Bulls between 2016-2018, helping the club lift the 2018 MLS Supporters Shield

- Joined English Premier League club Leeds United on July 6, 2022

- Made his Leeds debut in a 2-1 win against Wolverhampton Wanderers on August 6, 2022.

- Spent three-and-a-half seasons with German side RB Leipzig, making 75 Bundesliga appearances and helping the club lift the 2021-22 DFB Pokal title.

- Joined RB Leipzig from sister club New York Red Bulls following the 2018 MLS season.

In the first game, the USA team and Adams played Wales, which resulted in a 1-1 score on November 21. It was a draw for the 23-year-old and his team against England on November 25 with a score of 0 – 0 in their second 2022 World Cup

game. During the game on November 29 against Iran, the U.S. won by a score of 1 – 0.

On the USA Soccer Facebook page, Adams is interviewed about his family. He grew up with his mother, Melissa Russo, who was a single mom. He called the day he met Darryl Sullivan, a former classmate of Adams' mother, whom she would later marry, and his future three stepbrothers, Darryl Jr., Dylan and Donovan, "the single best moment of my life."

Adams, a midfielder, was heralded for his response to an Iranian journalist during a press conference before the American team played Iran in the World Cup.

"You know there's discrimination everywhere you go. You know, one thing that I've learned, especially from living abroad in the past years and having to fit in different cultures and kind of assimilate into different cultures, is that in the U.S. we're continuing to make progress every single day." Adams responded to the Iranian journalist.

Adams continued, "Growing up for me, I grew up in a white family, and with obviously an African American heritage and background as well, so I had a little bit of different cultures. And I was very, very easily able to assimilate in different cultures," he said. He noted education is important and as long as one sees progress, that is the important thing.

Joseph Cavaccini, a member of the Dutchess County Legislature who represents Wappinger, graduated with Adams from RCK in 2017. They were neighbors and friends.

"We are proud of our own "Captain America," Tyler Adams! This couldn't have happened to a better person; since we were young, he has worked so hard for this very moment," said Cavaccini.

Molinaro said Adams "takes with him the faith and pride of Dutchess County into the World Cup" and that would delight soccer fans "throughout our country and within his home county."

Cavaccini noted, "On behalf of our hometown, we thank him for representing us with honor, humility, and respect. He truly is a class act."

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# Nurse, refugee from Ukraine arrives safely in Millbrook

Continued from page 1

Home for her was the town of Merefa, very close to the city of Kharkiv and, thus, very close to the Russian border. The Russians occupied much of the Kharkiv region (It's called an "Oblast") almost immediately after the invasion of Feb. 24. Merefa was not occupied, but, being close to the fighting, the shelling was brutal and, often, intense.

Ukrainian forces pushed back the invaders six months or so after the invasion. Those months were horrific for Tetiana. Her mother, living further to the east, had survived the Nazi onslaught of World War II. She didn't survive the Russian invasion.

Tetiana is a nurse. She worked at the local hospital on what were often 24-hour shifts.

"There was a curfew every evening," she says. "I had to have a special pass to get to work."

She recalls one night around 2 a.m. "We would sleep a little in the night when things got quiet," she says. "One night there was a tremendous explosion right next to the hospital. The Russians had shelled the school next door. There were Ukrainian troops sleeping there. Collaborators must have told the Russians about them."

Soon there was another explosion. This time it was from a community center on the other side of the hospital.

"There were some troops there, too," she remembers.

"Less than an hour later we started getting some of the wounded boys," she recalls. "Limbs were blown off and the wounds were horrible. I remember one young man," she continues, "who had most of his arm and hand nearly gone. We couldn't save it. But, he had a wedding ring. I managed to save his ring and put it on a cord around his neck so he could still have it if he made it home to his family."

"Life was so hard for my mother," says Maryna. "I called her from here nearly every night and kept her talking. I could

hear the shelling in the background."

As the Russians got pushed back it became possible to extract Tetiana. Her sister and brother-in-law got her onto a bus near Kharkiv with only a backpack and her cat, "Bubbles," and nothing else. She began a 24-hour trip across the entire width of Ukraine to the Polish border. The journey was difficult.

In Poland papers were acquired to allow her to come to USA and rejoin her daughter. They are in Millbrook now with generous friends looking after them. Tetiana needs more stability here, though, and additional support. She would like to find work. She is learning English quickly. Her daughter speaks nearly perfect English, as she has been here some time.

Tetiana is one of now 85,000 of her countrymen who have been welcomed to the United States and to safety. That's a very important step, but only a first step. Much more help is needed to settle these refugees and to support their loved ones still in Ukraine.

Assistance opportunities are available to those wishing to help. Jobs and language training are important. So is economic support.

Some well established support organizations include:

- The Ukrainian Catholic Church's Metropolitan in Philadelphia.

The Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia (tel. 215-627-0143) has a Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine. One may mail a check to the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia and send it to the office at: 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia PA 19123

People are asked to write on the check "Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine."

It is also possible to donate on the Philadelphia Archdiocese's website [www.ukrarcheparchy.us](http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us), and click on "Donate through PAYPAL and select "WAR VICTIMS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN UKRAINE." According to Father Ivan Kaszczak of the local Ukrainian Catholic community, "They, like Catholic Relief Services (CRS), have



Tetiana Kysla's home is in the northeast, near to Kharkiv. When she was able to leave, she and her cat traveled by bus across the entire width of her country to arrive at the Polish border on the west more than 24 hours later.

-Courtesy image

very little overhead and most of the donations go directly to those in Ukraine or refugees, who have gotten out."

- United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc.

1206 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111

They can be found online at [www.uuarc.org](http://www.uuarc.org) 'Donate Now'

United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) is a non-profit organization recognized by the IRS under

Article 501(c)3, every gift is tax-deductible and the donor receives an acknowledgment for the donation.

- An organization with information and assistance on how to help refugees arriving in US as a sponsor, an employer, or other supporter is [ukraine.welcome.us](http://ukraine.welcome.us)

- Anyone wishing to offer help or support to Tetiana Kysla may reach her via this writer at the Northern Dutchess News: [jpd@sutchessnews.com](mailto:jpd@sutchessnews.com).

## Molinaro to give Farewell Address Dec. 16

The public is invited to Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro's Farewell Address on Friday, Dec. 16, at 11:30 a.m., in the Dutchess County Legislature Chambers in the County Office Building, 22 Market St., Poughkeepsie. An Open House celebration in the County Executive's Office will follow until 2 p.m.

RSVP is required by Dec. 13 at

[dutchessny.gov/RSVP](http://dutchessny.gov/RSVP) or (845) 486-2000.

Molinaro was elected to represent New York's 19th District in Congress.

William F.X. O'Neil, who currently serves as Deputy County Executive, will assume the County Executive position when Molinaro vacates the office as he is sworn in as Congressman, in accordance with the Dutchess County Charter.

O'Neil will serve until the expiration of the current term of the County Executive, which ends on Dec. 31, 2023. A general election for the next county executive will be held in the fall of 2023 for a new four-year term to begin January 2024.

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# Viewpoints

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be edited for legal considerations, reader interest and length. Please include a telephone number and address for verification purposes. **Deadline for letters is Friday at noon.** Letters must be submitted by e-mail to be considered for publication. Letters can be e-mailed to [newsplace@aol.com](mailto:newsplace@aol.com), and the phrase "Letter to the Editor" should be included in the subject line of the e-mail.

### 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 Southern 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 Southern Dutchess News.

### NOTICE OF EARLY DEADLINES

Due to a holiday press schedule, the Dec. 28 and Jan. 4 issues will have early deadlines.

The editorial deadline for the Dec. 28, 2022 paper is Thursday, Dec. 22, at noon. The ad deadline is Thursday, Dec. 22, at 5 p.m.

The editorial deadline for the Jan. 4, 2023 paper is Thursday, Dec. 29, at noon. The ad deadline is Thursday, Dec. 29, at 5 p.m.

Email [cschmidt@southdutchessnews.com](mailto:cschmidt@southdutchessnews.com) for more information.

## Questions letters on educating children

### To the Editor:

Two letters appeared in the Nov. 30 - Dec. 6 issue ("Renounce messages of divisive groups" and "Trust teachers - not Moms for Liberty") attacking the group Moms For Liberty (MFL). Both used the favorite buzzword of the left, "hate" against MFL, and both were dripping with it.

The first letter writer claimed, "The truth is this. No one is denying their right to say what they want."

Then in the second letter, the writer said, "I am extremely disappointed, disturbed, insulted, and angry at the town board that did not stop this person from maligning our librarians and educators." That certainly sounds like trying to deny MFL's right to say what they want.

It was also stated, "People in our community need to know and do a little bit of research" on Moms for Liberty. I agree.

They might be surprised at how some (not all) "educators," whom parents are supposed to trust, are indoctrinating our children.

William Kriebel  
East Fishkill

## Parents should be able to choose education

### To the Editor:

This letter references the two letters appearing in the Nov. 30, 2022 issue of the SDN [Titled "Renounce messages of divisive groups" and "Trust teachers - not Moms for Liberty."]

From these referenced letters to the editor of the SDN, it is apparent that there are disagreements among parents about the quality and values of education being taught in the local school district. These disagreements among parents and government operated schools existed for a long time in many states in America.

There is a simple solution that will solve these disagreements. In America, Americans are free to choose any product or service --- including education. Why are parents not free to choose a school of their choice that would be best suited for their child?

The tuition for the school of choice can be disbursed according to the amount that is allocated per student in the government school. In other words, the school tax dollars follow the student to the school of choice.

Helmut Gartner  
East Fishkill

## Dr. Joseph Felice of Nuvance Health named NYS 'Unsung Hero'

Dr. Joseph Felice, Assistant Director, Ultrasound Division of Emergency Medicine, Nuvance Health Emergency Medicine Residency, has been named a New York State Emergency Medicine "Unsung Hero."

When asked about Dr. Felice, Marianna Karounos, DO, Emergency Department Director said, "Dr. Felice stands out as embodying the very nature of this award and what it takes to be an excellent emergency physician, an unsung hero. He is kind, caring, incredibly astute, but mostly, one of the most humble individuals I've had the pleasure of knowing."

Dr. Felice is a graduate from SUNY Downstate College of Medicine. He completed his residency training in Emergency Medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital. He is currently the Assistant Director of the Ultrasound Division of Emergency Medicine at the Nuvance Health Emergency Medicine Residency as well as the Medical Director of EMS for Vassar Brothers Medical Center. He is board certified in Emergency Medicine and is a Clinical

Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A New York State Emergency Medicine Unsung Hero goes beyond simply being the embodiment of what it means to be an emergency physician. They are a stalwart of the emergency department, who is deeply committed to the mission of the emergency department, their colleagues, co-workers and patients.

Emergency medicine encompasses planning, oversight and medical direction for community emergency medical response, medical control and disaster preparedness. Emergency physicians possess a unique body of knowledge including the initial evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, coordination of care among multiple providers and disposition of patients requiring expeditious medical, surgical or psychiatric care.

The New York American College of Emergency Physicians represents over 3,100 dedicated professionals committed to speaking out for broad access to quality health care, including and especially emergency health services for all citizens.

## Town of Wappinger Annual Christmas Tree Lighting rescheduled Dec. 9

The Town of Wappinger Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on December 9 starting at 6 p.m. at Schlathaus Park. The tree lighting was originally scheduled for Dec. 3 but was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

There will be cookies, hot cocoa, a craft

and game for the children, and a visit from Santa Claus. There will be gift bags available for the first 300 children who visit Santa!

For more information, call 845-297-4158.

## Southern Dutchess News

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# Go back in time during Mount Gulian Holiday Tours

By Kristine Coulter

Take time to relax and take in the beauty of the season at Mount Gulian Historic site, 145 Sterling St. in Beacon. Tours at the historic home, which once housed the Verplanck family, will be offered Saturday and Sunday, December 10, 11; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 14, 15, 16 and on Sunday, December 18. Each day the tours will be offered at Noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Reservations are required but prepayment is not necessary. To make a reservation call 845-831-8172 or email at info@mountgulian.org.

Elaine Hayes, executive director of Mount Gulian, said the site's historic rooms will be beautifully decorated in different styles. According to Hayes, the opulent Victorian style décor will adorn the dining room; rustic decor will highlight the study; and contemporary holiday displays will feature the home's main room.

"Folks who come and visit are impressed with the kitchen itself, even without the decorations," said Hayes. They are impressed with the size of the hearth, how people cooked. Kids are surprised at the lack of appliances and are surprised people had to get water from the well or the river."

A live Christmas tree, from Sunny Garden Greenhouses on Route 9D in Wappingers Falls, will be decorated.

"How beautiful the rooms are and how



Holiday Tours will be offered at Mount Gulian Historic Site in Beacon. Above, one of the rooms in the historic home decorated for the holidays during a previous year.

Right, this year's tree before it is decorated. The tree was recently delivered to the homestead from Sunny Garden Greenhouses in Wappingers Falls on Route 9D.

-Courtesy photo and photo by Kristine Coulter



beautiful the decorations are puts people in a good mood," noted Hayes.

Admission is \$12 for adult; \$10 for seniors; \$6 children 6-18. Children under 6 and Mount Gulian members are free. The public may sign up for membership.

When the Verplancks lived there, said Hayes, they would host an open house and invite the community in. The Verplanck family had one of the first Christmas trees in the area. They would have the doors closed to the room where

the tree was located, and at the right time, the doors would be opened, and the tree unveiled – lit with candles, said Hayes.

The tree "would be beautifully decorated," said Hayes.

Tours will be between 15 and 20 people, though there is no minimum number for a tour.

Hayes thanked volunteers from the Verplanck Garden Club for their assistance in decorating the home. Antalek & Moore Insurance, LLC in Beacon is

underwriting the tours.

"Antalek & Moore is proud to sponsor (underwrite) the 2022 Mount Gulian Holiday tours. As a business in Beacon, we love tradition and supporting local events," commented Susan Pagonis, a partner with Antalek & Moore Insurance.

"We found that people need to get back to normal. When they come to Mount Gulian, the house is decorated beautifully, and they get to relax and enjoy. It's calm and not rushed. That's what we're striving for," remarked Hayes.

## Cary Institute launches 10th annual Hudson Data Jam competition for students in grades 4-12

The Hudson Data Jam competition is an opportunity for students in grades 4-12 to explore ecological datasets, creatively communicate the stories they tell, and win cash prizes. Write a song, record a video, create a book, paint a mural – your imagination is the limit!

The 2022-2023 Hudson Data Jam will be 100% virtual. Students can participate individually or in groups – from two children working together, up to a whole class. Projects will be judged by scientists, artists, and educators. Cash prizes will be awarded for the top elementary, middle school, and high school projects. Register by January 20, 2023 to participate.

### For Teachers

Cary educators are available to support students' Data Jam journey with virtual or in-person classroom visits. Teachers, please register by December 16 to secure a classroom session. Slots are limited.

### Junior Data Jam

For grades 4-5, they are offering 'Junior Data Jam'. With this modified program, students will create a single graph, provide a brief interpretation of the patterns they observe, and produce a creative project with a short explanation. Students can work individually or in groups.

### The Data

Scientists are collecting data around us all the time. Hidden in those numbers are stories that reveal how the world works. Are birds arriving earlier in the spring? How does salinity shape fish diversity in the Hudson River estuary? Students can access these and many more ecology datasets on Cary Institute's website. Datasets fall into three levels of complexity: 1 - easy, 2 - moderate, and 3 - challenging. Cary educators can help students select an appropriate dataset; email Ashley Alred at alreda@caryinstitute.org

for assistance.

### Webinar series

Whether one is new to Data Jam or a seasoned participant, check out the 'Data Jamming: Creatively Sharing Science Stories of the Hudson Valley' recorded webinar series for teachers, parents, caregivers, and interested students. These freely accessible webinars are available online to help participants learn more about the Hudson Data Jam competition, plus tips for engaging and supporting students as they develop questions, explore their local environment, and communicate what they find.

### Deadlines & Dates

December 16, 2022 – \*For educators: Early registration deadline to be considered for a classroom visit. (Sessions can be in person or virtual. Offered on a limited basis.)

January 20, 2023 – Competition regis-

tration deadline.

February 24, 2023 - Student consent forms due.

March 10, 2023 – Project submissions due online by 11:59 pm EST.

April 11, 2023 – Virtual Data Jam Awards Ceremony & Celebration. All prizes will be awarded during the virtual event.

All Data Jammers may visit The Hudson Data Jam Facebook page for updates: www.facebook.com/HudsonDataJam

If one has questions, email Ashley Alred at alreda@caryinstitute.org, or message through the Hudson Data Jam Facebook page.

Data Jam supporters are: M&T Bank, Price Chopper's Golub Foundation, Adams Fairacre Farms, Central Hudson, LaBella Associates, and Marshall & Sterling Insurance.

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www.ridgeschool.org



# Fishkill Recreation

By Lauren McMenamin

Little Rascals- We are excited to bring back our popular Little Rascals program! The gymnasium at the Recreation Center is turned into a giant playroom for our little ones to run free. There are pedal cars, parachutes, slides, bouncy houses, tunnels, and much more! Little Rascals is open on Thursday mornings from 10 - 11:30 a.m. The fee is \$5 per child and parents get to play for free! Remember that everyone must wear sneakers. Must Pre-Register at [www.fishkillrecreation.com](http://www.fishkillrecreation.com). Contact Lauren for more information, 845-831-3371.

Adult Art Series- In this mini-series, adults of all ages are invited to come explore the world of art. Current mediums will include watercolor and pastels. Register for the series or by the class. No

experience necessary. Classes will run from 10 - 11:30 a.m. December 12- Watercolor.

Register with The Artist's Corner [TheArtistsCornerNY.weebly.com](http://TheArtistsCornerNY.weebly.com)

Skyhawks Multi-Sport Tots- Introduce your little superstar to sports in our most popular program! This baseball and soccer class uses age-appropriate games and activities to explore balance, hand/eye coordination, fitness, sport skills and child development.

(Parent participations required for ages 2-3.5 years). The program will be held on Mondays at the Fishkill Rec Center. Visit our website for more information and to register! [www.fishkillrecreation.com](http://www.fishkillrecreation.com).

Visit [www.fishkillrecreation.com](http://www.fishkillrecreation.com) for more information.

# East Fishkill Recreation

By Bill Green

Starting in January 2023, we will be offering an East Fishkill Pee Wee Dribblers basketball clinic for first and second graders only. It will take place eight Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Fishkill Plains Elementary School starting January 5. The fee is \$75 for residents and \$85 for non-residents. The program will be limited to 20 youngsters. Each participant will receive a basketball. To register go to [Eastfishkillrecreation.com](http://Eastfishkillrecreation.com) or call 845 226-8395.

If you are going this Sunday, December 11, on our bus trip to NYC for the new Neil Diamond play "A Beautiful Noise" please be at the Community by 10:45 a.m.

A second trip has been scheduled for

Sunday, March 12, to "A Beautiful Noise." Everyone on the waiting list will be contacted first.

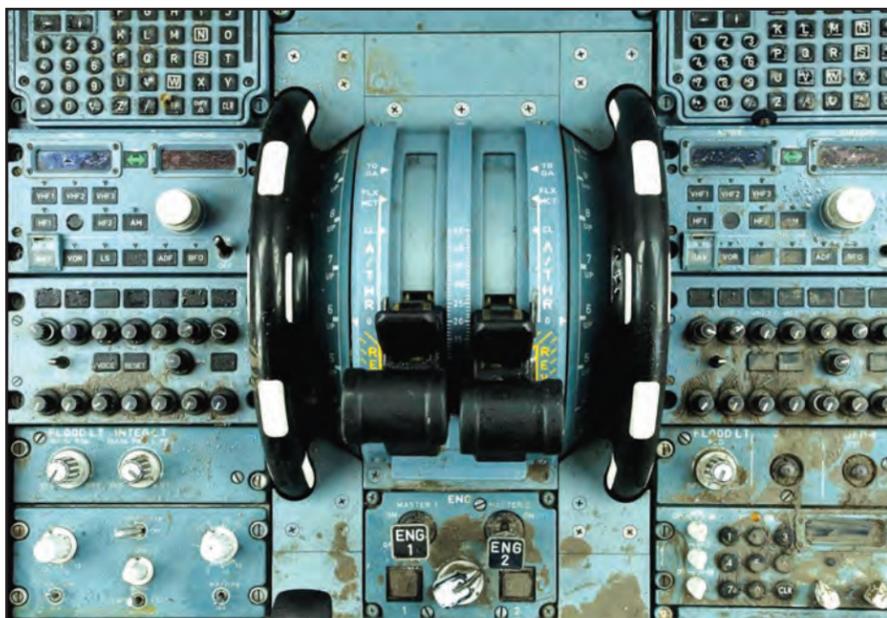
Thunder Ridge skiing and snowboarding for East Fishkill residents starts in January.

Games are under way in our Winter Youth Basketball League at Gayhead Elementary, Van Wyck Junior High and John Jay High School. Spectators are invited.

We are now working on our 2023 Rec Guide. If you or your business or your organization wishes to include an ad or information in the "guide" give us a call.

If you have any recreation questions or concerns go to [EastFishkillRecreation.com](http://EastFishkillRecreation.com) or [recreation1@eastfishkillny.gov](mailto:recreation1@eastfishkillny.gov) or give us a call at 845-226-8395.

# New exhibit at Rhinebeck Bank branch



Rhinebeck Bank will host an exhibit by Stephen Mallon through January 17, 2023 at its Beacon area branch.

-Courtesy image

Rhinebeck Bank welcomes Stephen Mallon to its Beacon Area branch to exhibit his collection of photographs.

This collection of Mallon's work will be on display at the Bank's branch at 1476 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls between Tuesday, November 22 and Tuesday, January 17th, 2023. Everyone is encouraged to visit the branch during regular business hours to enjoy this new art exhibit.

Over the past twenty years, Mallon has amassed numerous awards on local, regional and national- level awards and has participate in over 75 solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States and Europe. His photography has been included in collections located Harvard

Business School, the Cleveland Museum of Art Library and the American Society of Media Photographers. Mallon has been featured in numerous TV, online and print media, including CBS, CNN, National Geographic, National Public Radio (NPR), Popular Science, Slate and Smithsonian Magazine.

Mallon holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Mallon lives in the Hudson Valley with his wife and daughter. For more information about him and his photography, please visit his website at [www.stephenmallon.com](http://www.stephenmallon.com). Stephen is represented by Frontroom Gallery in Hudson.

# Holiday Gift Guide all local

Continued from page 1

- Hackett Farm Supply & Country Store in Clinton Corners carries a full line of Christmas gift items, plus Christmas trees and wreaths. But there is so much more – from farm, pet and car/truck supplies to local ice cream and treats, coffee, pies and kitchen and household items. Hackett has it all.
- If you love honey, maple syrup, beeswax candles and jewelry, plus the absolute best selection of White Mountain puzzles –you have to visit Debbie and Rich at the Hummingbird Ranch store in Salt Point.
- The holidays are a great time to visit Corey, Abigail and Maranda Stratton at the Red Hook Diner. It is conveniently located just four miles north of the intersection of Rts 9 and 9G with accessible

- parking for all and is open 7 days a week.
- From a full line of snow-throwers snow-blowers and Ice B Gone to and toys and caps, Keil Equipment Company in Red Hook is ready to serve you.
- Accuprint Pack 'N' Ship in Beacon is your local ship shop & go-to resource for packing, shipping, printing, graphic design and business service needs.
- The staff at Dutchess Animal Clinic in Summerlin Plaza on Route 376 in Wappingers Falls is ready to serve you and your pets and offers great safety information for pets during the holidays.
- The Woodstock School of Art offers a wide array of online and in-person classes –that make great gifts.
- Check out Hop + Shop in Beacon for two great days of shopping with great holiday deals on Dec. 8-9.

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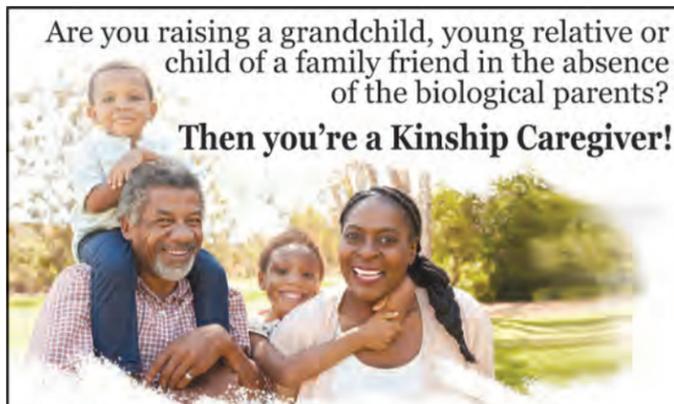
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7. Essential Oils & Incense
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## Howland Cultural center performance Dec. 9



James Keepenews and Billy Stein will perform on December 9 at 8 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon. Admission is \$20 at the door.

-Courtesy photo

## Serino, Hyatt House Fishkill, American Red Cross chapter partner for blood drive December 8

With blood supplies reaching critically low levels ahead of the holiday season, State Senator Sue Serino is once again partnering with the American Red Cross and the Hyatt House Fishkill to host a local blood drive on December 8.

“As the winter approaches, blood donations tend to decrease, which is why I am proud to be teaming up with the American Red Cross and the Hyatt House Fishkill again to host a community blood drive to make it easy and convenient for neighbors to make a life-saving donation,” said Serino. “Your donation can help save up

to 3 lives, and oftentimes will go right back to helping a neighbor in our own local community. I hope our neighbors will consider joining us at this event, or at another blood drive in our area to help fill this critical need.”

In most cases, there is no deferral time to donate if you recently received the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information or to learn more, call Senator Serino’s Hyde Park Office at 845-229-0106 or email serino@nysenate.gov.



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by mark adams



# Gifts for gardeners

Santa gave me a pound of butter for Christmas. I was a fussy kid, always refusing to eat my vegetables if mom put margarine on them. I also got an erector set and a 1959 diary (I was nine) in which I wrote a few months later, "planted peas and carrots in my garden."

Here are a few gift suggestions for your gardening friends and family:

• Garden Tools – Top of the line pruners, clippers and hand tools from Felco and A.M. Leonard can be found at the Phantom Gardener in Rhinebeck. In fact, everything at Phantom is top quality – gifts, unusual houseplants like alocasia jacklyn or anthurium radicans, and garden seeds from the Hudson Valley Seed Company. For big garden tools like shovels, rakes and even pitchforks, check out Hackett Farm Supply in Salt Point.

• Garden Themed Clothing – We found a treasure trove of gifts at the Locust Grove Estate gift shop, many from local crafters – hats, dish towels, purses from Poughkeepsie artist Manjo Papaya, glazed ceramics by Marilyn Price or Elena Goldman. And what gardener wouldn't love goat's milk or soy based hand cream from Hudson Valley Skin Care? Gardening books and a do-it-yourself flower press add to the excitement.

• Books – Walter Effron, iconic bibliophile and owner of The Three Arts bookstore in Arlington, recommends "Romantic Gardens – Nature, Art, and

Landscape Design" by Elizabeth Rogers, which details the rise of the naturalistic or sublime landscapes made famous in the Hudson Valley. And how about Sue Adams' brand new book, "What Do Your Flowers Say Today?" Available on Amazon or at a local garden center that shall remain nameless. Sue says "Use this book to unlock the meaning of flowers that catch your eye and as a tool to provide inner guidance and wisdom."

• Toys – I found a pile of toys for young gardeners and farmers at Hackett Farm Supply. Owner Ed Hackett tells me he sells "tons" of the little Melissa and Doug peg puzzles. I also found "Paint Your Own Garden Decor," 1,000-piece farm and garden jigsaw puzzles and John Deere matchbox tractors. Hackett's stocks everything you could possible need for gardening, farming, beekeeping, canning or caring for dogs, cats, horses, goats and camels.

• Jewelry – This holiday season, the perfect stocking stuffer is a pair of earrings or a necklace made from dead spotted lanternflies. I think they're only available online, from Etsy. On a recent trip to Zimmer Brothers jewelry store in Arlington, we saw some nice garden-themed earrings and brooches, but none made out of lanternflies.

• Membership – The New York Botanical Garden is just an hour south of Dutchess County. Anyone who visits more than once a year could save with a \$95 membership. The only trouble with buying a membership for a friend – they require an email address. Check with the friend first. The NYBG holiday train show is show-



Pictured are (above) purses at Locust Grove and (left) Doctoroff's Cookies. - Photos by Sue and Mark Adams

cased until January 16.

• Cookies – Mark Doctoroff, famous for his handmade sourdough bread, creates holiday cookie platters that he personally delivers. Contact him at theeducatedchef3@gmail.com.

• Mouse Traps – Gardeners beware – I caught mice eating my pepper and salvia seeds right after I sowed them in seed starting trays. Bait your traps with peanut butter. Hackett Farm sells all kinds of mouse traps, including tiny Hav-a-Hart mouse-traps. These allow you to catch the mice

and then let them go in, say, Port Jervis. Hackett's also sells larger Hav-a-Hart traps for squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, and woodchucks (I have three of the largest size). In the works –Hav-a-Hart Bear Traps. Sure to make everyone's holiday wish list.

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

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# Theatre on the Road to present 'A Christmas Carol' at Beekman Arms



Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the other Dickens characters will interact with guests at The Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck on Dec. 14, when Theatre on the Road brings its interactive dinner performance of "A Christmas Carol."

-Courtesy photo

Theatre on the Road presents its 23rd annual interactive, dinner theater version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at the Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck.

Hudson Valley residents have seen Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the Ghosts of Christmas from a theatre seat. This season Theatre on the Road, a local production company, is inviting local residents to dine with them. This is an opportunity to kick-off the Christmas holiday season with song, laughter and nostalgia as actors and carolers bring scenes from Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol to life. The historic Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck, New York will present this unique dinner show and they are offering a three-course dinner with entrée choice, the show, which includes Victorian carolers at table-side, for \$75 per person.

Schedule dates and times for A Christmas Carol at the Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck are Wednesday, December 7th at 7 pm and Wednesday, December 14th at 7 pm. Reservations for either dinner show can be secured by visiting calling 845-876-7077 ext. 361. For information visit [www.murder-](http://www.murder-)

cafe.net and the December calendar page.

The dinner show will include Victorian carolers at table-side, before the show and during the dinner break, and the performance will be preceded by a reception where guests will meet Ebenezer Scrooge, the Ghosts of Christmas, the Cratchit family including Tiny Tim and Nephew Fred

"Frank and Kristen's show continues to gain critical praise for every detail including authentic costumes, musical interludes and in depth characterizations", says Nancy Marcellus, marketing manager of Lawry's Prime Rib Restaurant.

This production is a tribute to the spirit of a traditional holiday. Audience members are encouraged to interact with the Dickens' characters, as they settle in for a fine dinner and evening of celebration. Adapted from Charles Dickens' classic, the script was written by Frank and Kristen Marquette, and she is also providing her handmade costumes.

This is the 23rd season the Marquette's version of "A Christmas Carol" is being produced.

# Dutchess Tourism announces Awards of Distinction winners

Dutchess Tourism, Inc. (DTI) announced the recipients of the 2022 Dutchess Tourism Awards of Distinction, on November 17 at The Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home in Hyde Park. Twenty-four finalists in each of eight categories and the Mary Kay Vrba Spirit Award were highlighted for demonstrating industry excellence, with remarks from Dutchess Tourism President & CEO Melaine Rottkamp, Assistant Dutchess County Executive Ron Hicks and DTI Board Chair David Bova.

"Hospitality and tourism can sometimes be a thankless business and we wanted to demonstrate our deep appreciation for these finalists and winners who make our community such a robust destination for visitors and residents to enjoy," said Rottkamp. "Dutchess Tourism is a proud champion of our county but no organization is successful without help. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and strong support we receive from our elected officials, civic and community leaders and our partners that allow us to do the work we are so passionate about."

### WINNERS

The Dutchess County Executive's Award for Overall Distinction Winner: Adams Fairacre Farms

Finalists included: Kaatsbaan Cultural Park and Winnakee Land Trust

The Hospitality Service Award of Distinction Winner: Paige Flori, Boutique Wines, Spirits and Cider

Finalists included: Casey Jurutka, Shadows on the Hudson and Indira Naidu, Hyatt Place

The Accessible Hospitality Award of Distinction Winner: Walkway Over the Hudson and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Finalists included: Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and Stony Kill Farm

Arts Award of Distinction Winner: Tivoli Artists Gallery

Finalists included: Hessel Museum of Art at Bard College and Howland Cultural Center

Culinary Award of Distinction Winner: Sotano Food & Wine

Finalists included: Café Les Baux and Vinny's Deli & Pasta

Family Entertainment Award of Distinction Winner: Barton Orchards and Tree Top Adventures

Finalists included: Gravity Vault Poughkeepsie and Sinterklaas

History Award of Distinction Winner: Beekman Arms and Delamater Inn

Finalists included: Hopewell Depot Museum and Mesier Homestead and Museum/Wappingers Historical Society

Outdoors Award of Distinction Winner: Wethersfield Estate & Garden

Finalists included: Quiet Cove Riverfront Park and Millbrook Tribute Garden

Mary Kay Vrba Spirit Award Honoree: Cliff Laube, Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

Mary Kay Vrba, former president & CEO of Dutchess Tourism, was on hand to present

Laube the award bearing her name. He is the public programs and communications manager at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, a part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Laube was recognized for his dedication and leadership in creating more inclusive and welcoming experiences for people of all abilities so that visitors can form their own personal connections to the Roosevelts' legacy.

"Dutchess County is the jewel in the crown of the beautiful Hudson Valley. We've long had the historic sites, recreational destinations and cultural resources around us that pique the interest of the visiting public, but it takes work for tourism to flourish," said Laube. "Helping organizations like Dutchess Tourism do what they do has been a thrill for me, and I have high hopes for the future of travel to our community because I know the amazing team at Dutchess Tourism will continue to work for those of us who live and work in the county. I couldn't be more pleased -- and honored -- to receive an award named for a dear friend and mentor like Mary Kay Vrba."

Attendees enjoyed a morning of networking and locally sourced breakfast catered by Main Street Hospitality featuring local products generously donated from Soukup Farms, The Poughkeepsie Grind, Hamey & Sons Fine Teas and Hudson Valley Fresh. The Awards of Distinction event was supported by Platinum Sponsors Adams Fairacre Farms, Central Hudson, Global Foundries, IBM, the Hudson Valley Renegades, Millbrook Vineyards & Winery, Nuvance Health and The Poughkeepsie Grand.

Rottkamp noted during the program that, despite concerns for the economy, travel remains a priority for individuals. According to Destination Analysts' Traveler Sentiment Index Report from November 7, 2022, more than 82% of American travelers say they already have existing trip plans in the next three months. Dutchess County has seen the tourism industry rebound with a record-setting \$3.5 million in hotel occupancy taxes collected in 2021. Tourism Economics' (an Oxford Economics company) annual report provided an optimistic outlook showing that visitors spent \$632 million in Dutchess County, 93.7% of the record total reached in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Dutchess County's tourism industry consists of almost 1,200 businesses and organizations employing more than 9,000 of our friends and neighbors. It's an important driver of our economy, and the County's investment in Dutchess Tourism is an investment in our community's economic growth and success, helping to enhance the quality of life for those who live and work here," said Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro.

DTI premiered a new video during the awards program that featured the promotional and business support efforts accomplished. It also highlighted new initiatives including the Dutchess Tourism Ambassador Program, a workforce training certification program and the Dutchess Finder mobile passport program with curated itineraries. The video is available on Dutchess Tourism's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/dutchesstourism>).

Dutchess Tourism kicked off its holiday ad campaign, inspiring people to travel to Dutchess during the winter months, a time when travel is typically slower. Visitors can find information on first-time visitor tips, holiday happenings and "Stay in Dutchess" hotel deals at [www.dutchesstourism.com/winter](http://www.dutchesstourism.com/winter).

# 'The Nutcracker' returns to the Bardavon Dec. 10-11



Following a two-year absence due to Covid, New Paltz Ballet Theatre (NPBT) will return to the Bardavon for its 23rd season to present "The Nutcracker" Dec. 10 and 11. Performances are scheduled Saturday, Dec. 10, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3 p.m. (snow date Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.).

Tickets are \$36 for adults and \$30 for students (Members get \$5 off).

This classic holiday event features dancers from the New York City Ballet. Peter and Lisa Naumann, co-directors of the NPBT, have brought many fine regional artists together to create this beautiful production. Dancers, designers,

and technicians have all contributed to make this Nutcracker a visual delight. Come along with Marie as she dreams of a fierce battle between giant mice and toy soldiers followed by a magical journey through the Land of Snow to the Kingdom of Sweets.

The Bardavon is at 35 Market St. in Poughkeepsie. The Bardavon and UPAC box offices are open Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call Bardavon at (845) 473-5288 or UPAC at 845-339-6088 or email at [boxoffice@bardavon.org](mailto:boxoffice@bardavon.org) to purchase tickets, or go through [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) (additional fees will apply).

New Paltz Ballet Theatre's production of "The Nutcracker" returns to the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie on Dec. 10 and 11.

-Courtesy photo by Jacques Luigi

## County to host sensory-friendly performance of 'The Nutcracker' at Bardavon Opera House

County Executive Marc Molinaro invites residents of all abilities and their families to a free, sensory sensitive performance of the holiday classic ballet, "The Nutcracker," presented by the New Paltz Ballet Theatre. The show will take place at the Bardavon 1869 Opera House in Poughkeepsie on Friday, Dec. 9, starting at 6 p.m. Seating is limited, and reservations are required online at [dutchessny.gov/nutcracker](https://dutchessny.gov/nutcracker).

Molinaro said, "The Nutcracker is a classic family favorite during the holidays and we're happy to partner with the Bardavon to offer a sensory-sensitive performance and bring inclusivity to the

holiday season. I hope many can attend this magical performance which truly encompasses this beautiful time of year."

During this "no-hush" performance, the Bardavon will adjust both the lighting and sound to make the experience more enjoyable for those on the autism spectrum or who experience sensory issues.

More information about Dutchess County's efforts to "Think DIFFERENTLY," as well as a calendar of upcoming inclusive events throughout the County, is available at the award-winning website, [thinkdifferently.net](https://thinkdifferently.net).

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Stu and Bunny Davis offer a great selection of sewing machines, vacuums and much more at S&S Vac, Appliance and Sewing Center in Hyde Park. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

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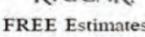
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# Obituaries

## Christopher Ditullio



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Christopher Ditullio, 62, of Wappingers Falls, passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at the Ferncliff Hospital. A local resident, and previously of Springfield, MA, he was the son of Ray Ditullio and Lucille Beverly. Christopher was born in Poughkeepsie on December 15, 1959. He received his BA in Journalism and Communications. He then worked as a photojournalist prior to working for IBM. He is survived by his mother Lucille Beverly and his sister Cindy Hafenbrack. He is also survived by his children Allyson, Nicole, and Christopher. Calling hours were held on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the Timothy P. Doyle Funeral Home, 371 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. A Mass

of Christian Burial was held Friday, December 2, 2022 at St. Mary's Church in Wappingers Falls and burial followed in the Fishkill Rural Cemetery. To send online condolences, please visit our website at [www.doylefuneralhome.com](http://www.doylefuneralhome.com).

## Carl M. Hessick



FORMERLY OF EAST FISHKILL - Carl M. Hessick, 66, of Lancaster, PA and formerly of Hopewell Junction, NY entered into eternal life peacefully with his family by his side on November 27, 2022. Carl was born on November 26, 1956 to Bruno and Stella Hessick in Detroit, MI. After graduating from Austin Prep High School in 1974, he went on to study English at the University of Detroit. It was there that he met the love of his life, Mary Sue, whom he married on May 16, 1980 and together raised three wonderful children. He continued his education and earned a MBA from Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY in 2005. Carl was a caring and loving father and husband who dedicated

his life to his family and God. He valued education, helping others, and taking every opportunity for a teachable moment. Carl was a car enthusiast and spent numerous days joyfully basking in the sun at car shows with his award-winning Pontiac Trans Am GTA. As a member of St. Columba Catholic Church in Hopewell Junction, Carl served as a lector and an adult leader in his sons' Boys Scout Troop 40. Moving to Lancaster in 2014, Carl and his wife became parishioners at St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church where he participated in the liturgical ministries. Carl was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Mary Sue, children, Dr. Christopher Hessick of Albany, NY, Dr. Catherine Hessick of Lancaster, PA, and Michael (Allison) Hessick of Allentown, PA, and beloved furry friends, Heilani and Scout. Visiting Hours were held on Friday, December 2 at McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, December 3 at St. Columba Catholic Church followed by the Rite of Committal and burial at St. Denis Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donation be made to the Prostate Cancer Foundation ([www.pcf.org](http://www.pcf.org)). Please visit his Book of Memories at [www.mchoulfuneralhome.com](http://www.mchoulfuneralhome.com).

## Cleon J. Sawyer



FORMERLY OF EAST FISHKILL - Cleon Josiah Sawyer, 93, a resident of Myrtle Beach, SC, died on November 28, 2022. He previously lived in Hopewell Junction, NY. Born on October 4, 1929 in Yonkers, NY, Cleon was the son of the late Harold and Bridget (Tobin) Sawyer. He proudly served in the US Army in Austria during the Korean War. On June 25, 1950 in Millerton, he married Marjorie C. (Coons) Sawyer who predeceased him in 2010. He was employed in the printing industry for over 45 years until his retirement. Cleon had been a member of the Hopewell Reformed Church in Hopewell Junction, NY. Cleon is survived by his son, Gary Sawyer and his wife Frieda of Myrtle

Beach, SC; his son-in-law, Chuck Irving of AZ; his grandchildren, Kelly and Nathan Fears of Clover, SC and Amanda and Jeremy Carlin of Myrtle Beach, SC; his great-grandchildren, Oliver and Eva Lynne Fears; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Cleon was also predeceased by his daughter, Dianne Irving in 1978; and his granddaughters, Ellie and Emma Fears in 2013. Visitation was held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction, NY on Tuesday, December 6 with a service. Burial followed at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton with military honors. Donations may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice. Please visit Cleon's Book of Memories at [www.mchoulfuneralhome.com](http://www.mchoulfuneralhome.com).

## Ruth Schwartz



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Ruth Schwartz, age 87, a longtime resident of Yonkers, NY and recently of Wappingers Falls, NY, passed away on November 29, 2022 at the Pines at Poughkeepsie. She was born in Brooklyn, NY on September 23, 1935 to parents Louis and Molly (Geller) Lowatsky. On October 16, 1955, she married her loving husband Sherman Schwartz in Farmingdale, Long Island. He predeceased her in 2021. Ruth greatly enjoyed being a homemaker and creating a lovely and inviting atmosphere for friends and family. She loved to cook, watch the news, and loved her neighbors. Being a grandma was one of the greatest joys of her life, and she adored her grandchil-

dren. She is survived by her beloved children: Michelle Pantori, Michael Schwartz (Sue), and Stacey Dylewski (Eric); her cherished grandchildren: Anthony, Daniel, Amanda and Dianna Pantori, Michael Schwartz, and Hunter and Sean Dylewski; as well as a great-grandson Logan; her siblings Burton Lowatsky and Esther Lerner, as well as nieces and nephews. In addition to her loving husband Sherman, Ruth is predeceased by her brother Stanley Lowatsky and her sister Maxine Steinberg. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date to be determined by the family. Memorial donations may be made in Ruth's name to either the ASPCA [www.aspc.org](http://www.aspc.org) or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org). Please visit Ruth's Book of Memories at [www.mchoulfuneralhome.com](http://www.mchoulfuneralhome.com).

## Hudson Chorale Holiday Program Dec. 10, 11

Hudson Chorale Holiday Program, with two live concerts -- Camille Saint-Saens' Christmas Oratorio and Benjamin Britten's St. Nicolas Cantata -- will be performed on December 10 and December 11, at Christ Episcopal Church, 43 South Broadway, Tarrytown, Westchester County. The concerts will take place at 3 p.m. on both days.

Hudson Chorale, under the baton of Artistic Director David Baranowski, will perform with soloists including acclaimed tenor Nils Neubert, who will sing the lead role of Nicolas in the Britten.

They will usher in the season of light and rebirth with these performances, featuring an ensemble including harp, tympani, violins, organ and piano. The Saturday concert will additionally be recorded for streaming on YouTube, fulfilling Hudson Chorale's promise to

maintain community access in the time of COVID.

"We are delighted to bring this program to the community before the holidays," said Baranowski. "Through nearly two years of pandemic, we have nurtured our music through remote and, recently, live rehearsal. We can't wait to hear these beautiful works soar in this church."

It is recommended that audience members be masked during the performance.

Tickets can be purchased for \$25 each from members of the Hudson Chorale, or through this website link. For further information, please visit [www.HudsonChorale.org](http://www.HudsonChorale.org) or email [info@hudsonchorale.org](mailto:info@hudsonchorale.org).

Hudson Chorale is grateful to the New York State Council on the Arts, which awarded it funds to support its work and community outreach this year.

## Newburgh Symphony to offer Holiday Concert December 10

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra (GNSO) presents a Holiday Concert -- O Night Divine -- on December 10, starting at 4 p.m. at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh. The program, which always attracts large audiences, includes much loved seasonal favorites as well as dancers from local studios performing Tchaikovsky's classic Nutcracker Suite.

Russell Ger, Music Director of the GNSO, said "The GNSO has set the standard in our region for creating musical Holiday magic. In addition to our classic favorites, such as The First Noel and The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting), this year we are adding a wonderful new element! Young students from local dance studios will join the orchestra onstage to perform Tchaikovsky's beloved Nutcracker. It's sure to be a joyous celebration for all."

The dancers participating in O Night Divine represent High Definition Dance of New Windsor, Ballet Art Studio of Beacon and Take the Leap dance studio of Gardiner.

Ger also reminded GNSO supporters that the Holiday Concert is the best-attended of the year and has sold out in the past. "Get your tickets early," he enthused.

Now in his seventh season of GNSO leadership, Ger has led the orchestra to new attendance records and artistic heights. The full 2022/23 season is listed on the website noted below.

Tickets -- Balcony \$50, Reserved \$40, Open \$35, Senior Citizen \$25 -- can be purchased online or at the door.

Call 845-913-7157 or visit [www.newburghsymphony.org](http://www.newburghsymphony.org). Students are admitted free to Open seating.

## Handel's Messiah set for Dec. 10, 11

As part of its 25th anniversary celebration, Taconic Opera invites all to its December holiday concert, performing the oratorio that has survived almost three centuries since first presented in Dublin in 1742: George Frideric Handel's magnificent Messiah.

Conducted by the company's Artistic Director, Dan Montez, the program will include professional soloists and the Taconic Opera Orchestra and Chorus. Hear the Messiah in a whole new way - not as sung by soloists and chorus, but as sung by opera soloists and chorus.

This masterwork in English, from the Baroque period of music, still thrills audiences worldwide and remains a quintessential holiday concert favorite. You will want to stand and sing Hallelujah with the

whole audience!

Two weekend matinee concerts will be given in central Westchester: Sat., Dec. 10, and Sun., Dec. 11, 3 p.m., Holy Name of Mary Church, 110 Grand St., Croton-on-Hudson. This beautiful venue is handicap accessible and ideally suited for live sacred music of this caliber due to its acoustical and architectural properties.

For tickets call toll-free 855-886-7372 or visit <https://taconicopera.org/Tickets/>

Ticket Prices:  
Advance Sale: \$25, Seniors \$20, Students \$12

Door Sale: \$30, Seniors \$25, Student - \$15

Groups of five or more: deduct \$5 per ticket

Discounts can be taken together.

## Wappingers Falls National Guard soldier receives new rank, responsibilities

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

Ariana Pacheco from Wappingers Falls and assigned to the Company G, 427th Brigade Support Battalion, received a promotion October 4, to the rank of private.

Army National Guard promotions are based on overall performance, attitude, leadership ability, and development potential. These promotions additionally recognize the best qualified Soldiers and attract and retain the highest caliber Citizen Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

For more information about the New York Army National Guard, visit [www.dmna.ny.gov](http://www.dmna.ny.gov) or [www.1800go-guard.com](http://www.1800go-guard.com).

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# DCTC unveils new logo, celebrates 40 years

The Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Dutchess County, has developed a new logo and tagline, Better ways from here to there, that together express its continued focus on serving the transportation planning needs of Dutchess County.

The logo, developed with Drake Creative, establishes a new style for DCTC and coincides with the Council's 40th anniversary. The Council appreciates its partners' collaboration over the past four decades, and its members look forward to many more years of working together to create a safer, more reliable and resilient transportation system that works for everyone.

The DCTC has recently been recognized by the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations as its honorable mention winner for Outstanding Overall Achievement for a large-area MPO for Moving Dutchess Forward, the DCTC's innovative 25-year transportation plan for Dutchess County, developed in partnership with FHI Studio and Dutchess County Government's Office of Central

and Information Services. For more information about what the DCTC does, please visit [www.dutchessny.gov/dctc](http://www.dutchessny.gov/dctc).

The DCTC is currently in the midst of a 45-day comment period for its draft Public Participation Plan, the council's new outreach strategy to better connect with the public and encourage their involvement in the transportation planning process. The Participation Plan offers a menu of virtual, in-person, and hybrid tools to engage people with the DCTC's work, which includes regional and countywide transportation plans, corridor-based studies, and local projects such as pedestrian plans and safety analyses. The Participation Plan also outlines ways the DCTC will engage populations that have historically been excluded from the planning process.

The DCTC invites residents to read the plan online and offer feedback through December 12. Comments can be submitted by email to [dctc@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dctc@dutchessny.gov), by phone at (845) 486-3600, or by mail to DCTC, 85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 107, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.



## Ivan Carvalho joins EXIT Realty in Wappingers Falls

EXIT Realty Connections in Wappingers Falls announced the addition of Ivan Carvalho to its team of real estate professionals.

"We're very excited to welcome Ivan to EXIT Realty Connections," said Lino Mendogni, Broker/Owner of EXIT Realty Connections. "EXIT is growing and attracting quality business people like Ivan each and every day."

As a resident of the Hudson Valley for the last 13 years, Ivan has a deep understanding of the local market. Originally from the Bronx, Ivan and his family moved up to the Hudson Valley for a better quality of life, and that's exactly what he got. Raising their two children here and being involved in several community endeavors has allowed Ivan to hone in on his market expertise. Ivan's mission is to

enrich lives through home ownership. Ivan accomplishes this goal by providing exceptional value to his clients. Ivan has executive level leadership skills including: Time Management, Communication, Budgeting and Negotiation which all allow him to facilitate your real estate needs. Ivan is a member of the Dutchess County Association of Realtors (DCAR), New York State Association of Realtors (NYSAR) and the National Association of Realtors (NAR). In his limited free time, he enjoys skiing, reading and everything New York Jets. Ivan looks forward to working tirelessly on your behalf!

"We'd like to extend our warmest welcome to Ivan and are rooting for his success here at EXIT Realty Connections" said Lino Mendogni, Owner, EXIT Realty Connections.

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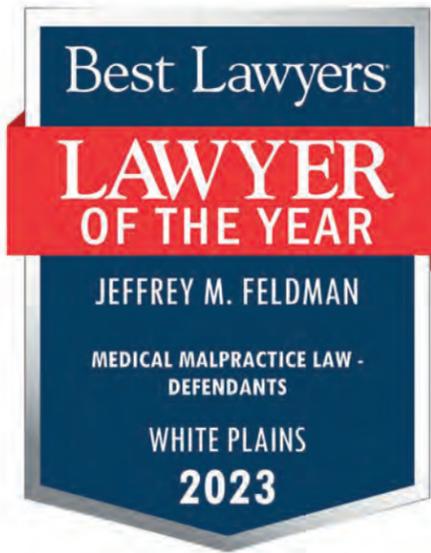
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# Santa & Mrs. Claus make a stop in Poughkeepsie



Santa & Mrs. Claus made a stop in Poughkeepsie during the Town's annual holiday event. The festivities were held on December 3.

*-Courtesy photo*



This year US News and World Report named Jeff Feldman the Best Lawyers® 2023 Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year" in White Plains, NY. Recognition is based entirely on peer review and only a single lawyer in each practice area and community is honored with a "Lawyer of the Year" award.

This marks the third year that Jeff is receiving this significant distinction. Jeff is appreciative that his peers felt strongly enough about his abilities and integrity to honor him with this prestigious award.

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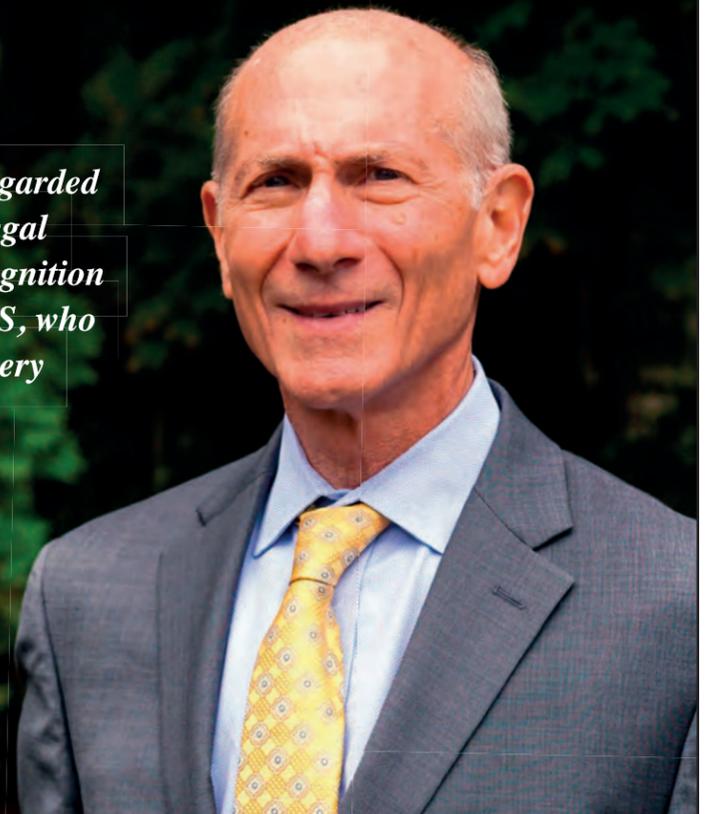
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