

DC Sports Hall of Fame honors trailblazer Zerbe

By Rich Thomaselli



Pat Zerbe. Courtesy photo

She is an icon of women's athletics in the Hudson Valley.

There are arguably few coaches who have blazed more of a trail for female athletes in the area.

Pat Zerbe tops the list. And now she is being honored for all of her efforts.

Officials of the Sports Museum of Dutchess County said the curation of the Pat Zerbe Women's Room, an exhibit to celebrate generations of women in Dutchess County sports history, is being constructed.

"It's truly an honor," said the long-time Arlington High School and Dutchess Community College tennis coach.

Zerbe has made an impact on local athletics and culture for decades. The museum will be collecting artifacts (photographs, equipment, newspaper clippings, medals/trophies, etc.) to display in the women's room.

It's not like she wasn't born for this.

Zerbe has spent the better part of the last half-century being a player, coach and trailblazer for women's athletics. She broke the gender barrier in the area at age 11 when she

continued on page 2

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER: 1924-2024

39th president devoted post-political life to humanitarian causes

By Kristine Coulter

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the longest-living American president, died on Dec. 29, 2024 at the age of 100 at his home in Plains, Georgia. The official state funeral for the former president will be held on Jan. 9, a day that President Joe Biden has declared a national day of mourning. The funeral will take place at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington D.C. James Earl Carter Jr., who went on to serve in the U.S. Navy, was born on Oct. 1, 1924.

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County employees and volunteers joined the world in mourning the death of the 39th president of the United States.

Maureen Brennan Lashlee, CEO of Habitat Dutchess, told Northern Dutchess News the day after it was announced that the former president died, "I did get to



From left: President Jimmy Carter makes remarks at a Habitat for Humanity project in New York City in 1985. The project would become known as the first Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project. President Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter work together on a Habitat for Humanity project. Courtesy photos from Habitat for Humanity website

"Every human being has within himself or herself a desire to reach out to others"

Jimmy Carter

meet him at my first ever conference in 2013. He and Rosalynn came to speak. I met him as part of a group. It was a great honor, and I was very grateful for it."

Carter and his wife, Rosalynn – who were wed for 77 years until the former first lady's passing at the age of 96 in 2023 – served Habitat by building houses

across the world until 2019, it was stated. President Carter served as a member of the international organization's board of directors from 1984 to 1987, according to Habitat Dutchess.

Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat

continued on page 3

Hochul proposes major investment in HV rail service as part of 2025 State of the State

As part of her 2025 State of the State, Governor Kathy Hochul this week proposed a major investment in Hudson Valley rail service that would increase capacity, reduce delays, improve safety and cut potential travel times by up to 15 minutes each way for certain trips, as well as shorten "super-express" Metro-North Hudson Line trips to less than 90 minutes. The proposal includes planning, evaluation and design for a set of rail infrastructure capital improvements between New York City and Poughkeepsie, including projects such as a second track at Spuyten Duyvil, interlocking, signaling and trackwork at Croton Harmon, and capacity improvements at Poughkeepsie Yard. In

addition, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) will execute a signaling redesign near Yonkers and climate resilience investments in the most vulnerable and highest ridership segments of the Hudson Line.

"Hudson Valley commuters deserve fast, high quality rail service they can count on, and the investments I am proposing we make today will drive transformational change for generations to come," Hochul said. "Over the coming years, these much-needed infrastructure improvements will allow us to modernize our rail system, increase connectivity, reduce travel time and strengthen economic connections across the region.

With these proposals, we are laying the groundwork to deliver faster and more reliable rail service for suburban and rural commuters across the Hudson Valley and beyond."

As part of an allocation anticipated to be available for regional investments in its 2025-29 capital plan, the MTA will evaluate and design other potential rail improvements, such as adding a third track to the Metro-North Harlem Line or connecting Hudson Line service to Penn Station for a one-seat commute to Manhattan's West Side. In partnership with NYSDOT, the MTA will also establish a regional rail working group with

continued on page 2

INDEX

Letters 4
Community Calendar 6
Creative Living 10-15
Hudson Valley Naturalist 11
Suguru 12
Crossword Puzzle 12
Sudoku 12
That's Italian! 13
Decoding Dutchess' Past 14
Obituaries 16
Public Notices 17
Classifieds 18-19



Advertisement for Upstate Pines Recreational Cannabis Dispensary. The ad features a large green circular logo with a cannabis leaf and the text 'RECREATIONAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY' and 'UPSTATE PINES EST. 2023'. Below the logo is a photograph of three people standing in front of a wall covered in various cannabis product labels like 'KEY LIME PIE', 'KUSH RED HOOK', 'NORTHERN LIGHTS', 'HIGH STANDARDS', and 'GANJA HAZE'. To the right of the photo is a QR code and the text 'Flower Edibles Vapes Beverages Tinctures' and 'Recreational Cannabis Dispensary • 7345 S Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571 • OPEN DAILY'.

NY Transco names Red Hook resident Andrew Welch as recipient of inaugural Innovator of the Year Award

New York Transco, the New York-based owner, operator and developer of bulk electric transmission facilities, marked its 10th anniversary as a leader in electric transmission success by awarding its inaugural Innovator of the Year Award to Red Hook resident Andrew Welch, the company's Director of Operations and Maintenance.

The Innovator of the Year Award will be presented annually to a New York Transco employee who exemplifies the company's commitment to creatively improving or advancing design, implementation, processes, and/or problem solving related to a core business function that benefits customers, communities, or the environment.

Welch was honored for leading the development of a specialized tool and method of cleaning transmission lines, while the line is energized, to minimize corona and any potential disruption to the area community. Corona is a common noise – a cracking or humming – that occurs when the air in close proximity to a transmission line becomes ionized by electricity emanating from the line. Dirt, dust, and abrasions on the surface of the line can intensify the sound, as can rain and humidity. Welch and his team developed a customized brush that, used in tandem with a hot stick and a corona camera, has proven effective at minimizing the noise without waiting until the line is taken out of service as has traditionally been required.

"Andrew was presented with a challenge and didn't stop working on it until

he found a solution," said New York Transco President Victor Mullin. "His effort epitomizes what our Innovator of the Year Award is all about and exemplifies New York Transco's commitment to designing, building and operating transmission infrastructure that does its job safely, efficiently and with minimal disruption to line neighbors and the surrounding community and environment. We are thrilled to name Andrew the inaugural recipient of this honor."

"I'm just doing my job to make sure our communities are safe and we can all go about everyday life," said award recipient Andrew Welch. "I come from a long line of family that has worked in this industry and we've all been drawn to better serving our communities and the complexity of the work; it is very fulfilling, and I'm honored to be recognized for doing what I love."

A native Long Islander, Andrew, his wife and two children have called Red Hook home for nearly a decade. Andrew has served in the electrical industry for over 25 years, previously working for Central Hudson Electric & Gas. Andrew has been employed at New York Transco since December 2020.

"Working on New York Transco's New York Energy Solution (NYES) project was the pinnacle of my career thus far," stated Mr. Welch. "I'm very proud of my work and it's a real full circle moment to be able to drive by the NYES assets with my kids and point out all of the ways this is helping our area and New York as a whole."



New York Transco president Victor Mullin, left, presents the company's Innovator of the Year Award to Director of Operations and Maintenance Andrew Welch of Red Hook. Courtesy photo

send us your news —————
 ————— cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

DC Sports Hall of Fame honors trailblazer Zerbe

continued from cover

tried out for Little League Baseball at a time when most teams and accepted girls only for softball. Naturally, she downplays the achievement.

"I just wanted to play," she said. She did much more than that, creating a legacy that few can match. That includes her time as the girls basketball coach at Arlington. This set the stage for a lifetime dedicated to breaking gender barriers in sports. Throughout her long

association with Dutchess Community College and other local organizations, Pat has been a driving force in creating opportunities for women in Hudson Valley sports.

Her exploits and achievements and ability to set precedents are legendary. She has opened doors for hundreds. A scholarship in her name has been established at DCC.



4167 Albany Post Road
Hyde Park, NY
(845) 229-9113

PIZZA SPECIAL

2 LARGE PIZZAS

\$20.00

TOPPINGS EXTRA
TAKEOUT ONLY




Hochul proposes major investment in HV rail service...

continued from cover

New Jersey, Connecticut and rail partners, to promote better coordination on interoperability, ticketing, schedules and customer interfaces. This group will also develop plans to make travel by Metro-North or Long Island Railroad to MetLife Stadium as seamless as possible for the 2026 World Cup and explore future opportunities to further integrate regional travel.

Hochul believes even more can be done to enhance service and deliver for riders on both sides of the Hudson River. Building off a pilot program to enhance the reach of Metro-North west of the Hudson River with ticketing, ferry and parking incentives, New York will also conduct a transit analysis with expert advisors to propose and evaluate additional recommendations to expand and maximize the impact of rail service and look at opportunities for other types of commuter transit for New Yorkers living west of the river and working in New York City. That analysis will include a major employer and destination review in Orange County, exploring options like shuttle bus service timed with Port Jervis Line trains to attractions like Woodbury Commons, Legoland, Storm King, Renaissance Fair, and Stewart Airport.

This week's announcement builds off major regional rail investments delivered during Governor Hochul's term, including the delivery of the LIRR Third Track and the historic opening of Grand Central Madison, which introduced new commuting opportunities on the LIRR, enhanced New York's regional connectivity, and expanded service by 40 percent.

State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, "Everyone deserves reliable, high quality passenger rail service, and Governor Hochul's targeted investments in the Hudson Valley rail network will significantly enhance the rail experience for thousands of passengers who rely on this service every day. When we invest in rail and transit, we are investing in environmentally friendly, dependable and safe modes of transportation. NYSDOT is proud to help

spearhead these investments on our state-supported Amtrak services, and we look forward to partnering with the MTA on separate enhancements to Metro-North services along the Hudson Line rail corridor. New Yorkers deserve nothing less."

MTA Chair and CEO Janno Lieber said, "Metro-North is the economic backbone of the lower Hudson Valley, and these are smart targeted investments to protect its future and record-setting 98+ percent on-time performance. In the age of climate change, resiliency is especially important, and Governor Hochul has shown she gets it intuitively."

MTA Metro-North Railroad President Catherine Rinaldi said, "Weather-related events in recent years have shown the importance of climate resiliency on the Hudson Line, and we are thrilled by these upgrades which will enable continuing reliability of Metro-North service for the Hudson Valley. I greatly appreciate Governor Hochul's support for these improvements, which will support the economy of the Hudson Valley."

Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers said, "I'm excited to hear that Governor Hochul wants to invest in the Hudson Valley rail service between Poughkeepsie and New York City. The Governor's commitment to improve the connection between the City of Poughkeepsie and New York City means more opportunities for our residents, stronger support for our local businesses, and a safer and faster commute to and from NYC. This investment helps our community thrive and stay connected in ways that matter."

Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou said, "Thank you Governor Hochul for proposing these major rail investments along the Hudson Line — which improve the communities and day-to-day lives of so many of us in the Hudson Valley. As a Beacon to New York City commuter for more than thirty years — and a rider on the "super-express" peak hour trains to Beacon — I know first hand the importance of frequent and fast rail service, which allows so many to earn a living at work and enjoy family life at home."



IMPACT
PR & Communications

**Impact PR & Communications rings in
New Year with addition of
Westerra Credit Union to client roster**



IMPACT
PR & Communications



**See story,
page 8**



Remembering President Jimmy Carter: 1924-2024

continued from cover

for Humanity International, explained in a statement, “President and Mrs. Carter began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity near their home in southwest Georgia, soon bringing worldwide attention to the need for decent and affordable housing. We are grateful for the incredible impact the Carters have had on Habitat and on the families who have benefited from their shining example. The Carters put Habitat for Humanity on the map, and their legacy will live on in every family we serve around the world.”

Lashlee said in a statement emailed by Habitat Dutchess, “The local affiliate was incorporated at about the same time President and Mrs. Carter began their lifelong commitment to Habitat homeownership. As we remember President Carter’s [service] leadership, we give thanks he chose to put God’s love into action advocating for policies and resources to assure an opportunity for everyone to become a homeowner. He gave of his time, talent and treasure unselfishly and unceasingly.”

According to Habitat Dutchess, the former president and his wife served as Habitat for Humanity’s most famous volunteers for more than the 35 years and helped to build affordable housing with the organization.

“We are deeply saddened by President Carter’s passing, and our prayers are with the rest of the Carter family,” said Reckford.

In 1984, it was stated, the Carters began volunteering with Habitat in Americus, Georgia.

Carter, who served the country as president from 1977-1981, gave of his time on New York City’s Lower East Side renovating an abandoned building in partnership with families in need of affordable housing, it was noted. That site became the first Jimmy Carter Work Project (later renamed the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project).

It was announced on the Carter Work Project-Habitat for Humanity website, “Please know that the 2025 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project, taking place in Austin, Texas, on Oct. 26-31, is continuing as planned. We know President Carter wouldn’t want it any other way.”

In 2016, Habitat named President and Mrs. Carter as the inaugural Habitat Humanitarians.

The statement from Habitat Dutchess included the following remarks once stated by the late president: “I think every human being has within himself or herself a desire to reach out to others and to share some of our blessings with those who are in need.” The remarks from Carter continued, “What’s opened up that avenue for me and my wife and hundreds and thousands of others is Habitat for Humanity. It makes it easy for us to reach out and work side by side with the homeowner who’s never had a decent house, perhaps. I haven’t been on a Habitat project that I wasn’t thrilled and inspired, and wept.”

According to Habitat Dutchess, “Over the last three decades, the Carter Work Project has touched lives around the world by inspiring more than 108,000 volunteers across the U.S. and in 14

countries to build, renovate and repair 4,447 Habitat homes. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has served more than 62 million people around the world.”

Politicians react to former president’s death

Rep. Pat Ryan (NY-18) posted to social media Dec. 30, “My heart is with the Carter family — I hope they find comfort in knowing President Carter lived his life truly to the fullest, always in service of the American people. May he rest in peace.”

“My thoughts are with the Carter family during this difficult time. President Carter will long be remembered for his sincerity, decency, and compassion for his fellow Americans. He extolled these virtues before, during, and after his presidency,” Rep. Mike Lawler (NY-17) stated in a post on his Facebook page.

U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer stated on social media, “As we remember President Carter’s extraordinary life, we also honor the countless lives he touched through his vision and generosity. My thoughts are with the Carter family and all those mourning this incredible man. May his memory be a blessing and an enduring reminder of what it means to truly serve.”

The Democrat defeated President Gerald Ford in the 1976 presidential election.

Carter brought together the leaders of Egypt and Israel, Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin, while he was in office. The Camp David accords were signed in 1978 and was a highlight of his time in office.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan, a former Republican governor of California, defeated Carter, in part due to the economy and the Iran hostage crisis.

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand stated in a statement on the death of President Carter: “President Jimmy Carter was a devoted public servant, a lifelong activist, and a prolific humanitarian. I am devastated to hear of his passing, but I know that his legacy will live on through the work of the Carter Center and the thousands of people he influenced throughout his life. My thoughts are with his family today.” Gillibrand’s statement concluded, “He will be deeply missed.”

Carter won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 for his humanitarian work.

Officials from the Town of Fishkill sent out a statement, which partially stated, “Pres. Carter lived a life that exemplified the principles of public service, humility and a genuine desire to help others. One of four American presidents to win the Nobel Peace Prize, his humanitarian achievements outside of politics are as noteworthy as his peacemaking efforts while president from 1977 to 1981. From the Camp David Accords to building houses for the poor well into his 90s, Pres. Carter’s life was testament to his faith, his family, and his dedication to others.”

A post on the Town of East Fishkill’s Facebook page has an American flag with the words “In Remembrance of President Carter.”

Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini posted to social media, in part, “President Carter’s lifetime of service,



From top: President Jimmy Carter waves from Air Force One, May 17, 1977. *Courtesy photo from Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum.* Egyptian President Anwar Sadat (from left), U.S. President Jimmy Carter, and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin make a three-way handshake at the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty on the White House Lawn on March 16, 1979. *Courtesy photo from The Jimmy Carter Library.* President Jimmy Carter receives the Nobel Peace Prize during the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony Dec. 10, 2002 in Oslo, Norway. *Courtesy photo from The Carter Center*



compassion, and dedication to humanitarian efforts has left an indelible mark on our nation and the world. His commitment to peace, human rights, and the betterment of society will continue to inspire us all.”

It was announced the flags outside of Wappinger Town Hall and in the town of Fishkill will be lowered to half-staff in honor of the former president.

Governor Kathy Hochul also announced that flags will be flown at half-staff in honor of President Carter.

“President Jimmy Carter embodied decency and integrity throughout his life of public service,” Hochul said in the announcement. “I’ll never forget as a teenager meeting him in Buffalo. He was an inspiration to me and so many

Americans. Our hearts are with the Carter family during this difficult time.”

President Carter is survived by his children Jack, Chip, Jeff and Amy; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

On the Carter Work Project site, there is a Q&A with the former president.

The former president was asked, “What would you say to the next generation to help encourage them to serve? How does service impact our collective future?”

President Carter replied, “Enjoy your American freedom, and utilize it to expand your own opportunities and God-given talents as much as possible. You will find that these investments in helping others will always pay rich dividends.”

(Published weekly)

Northern Dutchess News & Creative Living is a division of the Southern Dutchess News, produced and printed in Dutchess County since 1959. The Southern Dutchess News is an official newspaper of Dutchess County, as voted by the Dutchess County Legislature. The Northern Dutchess News is the official newspaper of the Towns of Amenia, Millbrook, Union Vale, Stanford and Rhinebeck.

Submit all legal notices to sdnlegals@aol.com.

Publisher
Albert Osten

General Manager
Curtis Schmidt
cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Editorial/Creative Director
Kate Goldsmith

Reporters
Kristine Coulter
Rich Thomaselli

Contributing Writers
Jim Donick
Stacey vanden Thoorn

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

Advertising deadline: Friday, noon

To submit news and letters to the editor:
cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com
Deadline is Thursday at 3 p.m.

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

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

The Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main Street
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
845-297-3723

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.

Lennon's 'Imagine' still rings true today

To the editor:
For the coming New Year I would like to quote (my abridged version of) John Lennon's "Imagine."
Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion, too
Imagine all the people
Livin' life in peace
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one
Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one.
He finished composing this song in early 1971 ... over 50 years ago.
If we each do more than just imagine, or at least imagine even harder... just love.

Claudia Gorman
Poughkeepsie

US has turned from 'savior' to 'executioner'

To the editor:
My uncle liberated Dachau at the end of WW II. After four years of combat, he had lost much of his emotional response to anything, a classic case of PTSD. Only once he did talk about the Dachau survivors and how hard it was to keep them alive. They were nothing but skin and bones.
My uncle was proud of what he did there. His army had done the right thing, and brought an end to the Third Reich and its nightmare of exterminations. At least he had that to comfort himself for all those years in a foxhole. He was on the right side of history.

How different our world is from his. Now the US is arming and funding an actual genocide in Gaza. Hoards of Palestinian children roam their cratered world, just looking for something to eat. They could be from Dachau, emaciated skeletons of their former selves. By the tens of thousands these Palestinian children bear witness to how our nation has gone from savior of the innocent to executioner.

My uncle wouldn't have believed it possible, that his beloved country could have turned into a champion of apartheid and genocide. He wouldn't have understood how the Israel Lobby was allowed to spend \$36 million on the last election, much more than the "contributions" of even the US weapons makers (OpenSecrets.org). He would find himself adrift in a world where money can buy one's soul. Where "never again" is a quaint reminder of a forgotten time.

Fred Nagel
Rhinebeck

Federal government has not followed through on enforcement of immigration laws

To the editor:
In his December 18 "Get Growing!" column, Mark Adams omits a couple important facts concerning the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA). The IRCA's legislative compromise traded immediate amnesty for long term enforcement of our immigration laws. Unfortunately, the federal government has not followed through on enforcement.

The IRCA's sponsors, Senator Alan Simpson and Representative Romano Mazzoli, acknowledged that funding for enforcement and border security has been insufficient. They also recognized the inadequacy of employer restrictions, allowing businesses to accept easily forged documents. The result has been a dramatic increase in illegal immigration, exactly the opposite outcome that President Reagan intended when he signed the IRCA into law. Hopefully, the incoming administration will step up border and workplace enforcement.

Employers have an alternative to easily forged documents. Ethical employers use the voluntary e-Verify program to confirm employment eligibility. Mandating use of e-Verify would plug the IRCA's documentation loophole. This would reduce greatly the availability of employment to illegal immigrants, reducing the incentive to sneak across our country's borders.

Richard Trent
Poughkeepsie

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.

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

Town of Clinton sets meetings to explore participation in CCA electricity supply program

First session scheduled Jan. 11 www.bit.ly/clint111, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 859 4724 5115

The Town of Clinton is exploring participation in an upcoming bid for an electricity supply contract through the Hudson Valley Community Power program. This Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) electricity supply program enables municipal leaders to leverage the purchasing power of residents and small businesses to negotiate competitive rates for their electricity supply, protect consumers, and support renewable generation sources.

Thursday, Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m. - online only. Join Zoom Meeting: www.bit.ly/clint116, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 811 4479 7228

Thursday, Feb. 6, 6 p.m. - in-person or hybrid. Join in person: Town Hall, 1215 Centre Road (County Route 18), Rhinebeck. Join Zoom Meeting: www.bit.ly/clint26, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 810 9879 7264

You can also find more information at www.hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com/events or call the helpline at (845) 859-9099 or email info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com.

If the municipality selects an electricity supplier, eligible residents and businesses will receive a letter this coming spring with information about the program, their choices and information about how to opt-out.

Learn more about the program at any of these events:

Saturday, Jan. 11, noon - in-person or hybrid Attend in person: Town Hall, 1215 Centre Road (County Route 18), Rhinebeck. Join Zoom Meeting:

NORTHERN
DUTCHESS NEWS
ALL LOCAL ~ ALL THE TIME
www.sdutchessnews.com



Resumes:
gm@wkze.com

Aymar-Blair takes oath of office as Dutchess County Comptroller

A crowd of over 150 people, including family, friends, elected officials, and community leaders, gathered at Tymor Park in Union Vale to support Dan Aymar-Blair as he took the oath of office as Dutchess County Comptroller on Saturday, January 4. The event celebrated Aymar-Blair's commitment to public service and the beginning of his tenure as Comptroller.

New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli administered the oath of office during the ceremony, which featured remarks from several distinguished speakers, including New York State Senator Michelle Hinchey, City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers, and Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor Rebecca Edwards. The event was emceed by NYS Deputy Comptroller Robin Lois, who served as Dutchess Comptroller from 2018-2023. Sheriff Kirk Imperati called the Presentation of Colors by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

Aymar-Blair brings over two decades of experience in municipal finance to the Dutchess Comptroller's Office, including overseeing business operations for New York City Public Schools' special education program, and serving on the Beacon City Council. He stepped down from both roles to dedicate himself fully to his responsibilities as Dutchess County Comptroller.

Reflecting on his new role,

Aymar-Blair said, "I am deeply honored to serve as Dutchess County Comptroller and humbled by the trust the people of this County have placed in me. My job as Comptroller is to help County government work better, and that means improving efficiency—getting more public service from every public dollar. The people of Dutchess County want careful analysis and oversight, and I will go to every length to give it to them.

At a time when people are losing faith in institutions and government, Dutchess County has an opportunity to show that good people coming together and working hard to solve our shared problems is what good government is all about. I am excited to have the opportunity to work with County Executive Sue Serino and my other colleagues to do just that."

Comptroller DiNapoli said, "It was my honor to swear-in Dan Aymar-Blair today in Union Vale as he took the oath of office as the new Dutchess County Comptroller. I look forward to working with him to provide fiscal transparency and protect taxpayer dollars."

Senator Hinchey said, "Integrity and transparency are the foundation of good government, and I'm excited to see Dan Aymar-Blair bring both, along with a fresh perspective, to his role as the new Dutchess County Comptroller. I'm confident in his commitment to safeguarding the County's financial health and



Dan Aymar-Blair took the oath of office as Dutchess County Comptroller on Saturday, Jan. 4. From left are County Clerk Brad Kendall, County Executive Sue Serino, Aymar-Blair and District Attorney Anthony Parisi. Photo by Mike Lawrie

ensuring that every dollar serves the betterment of our community. I look forward to working together to strengthen Dutchess County's future.

County Executive Serino said, "Congratulations to Dan Aymar-Blair as he is sworn-in as Dutchess County's next Comptroller. He joins a County Government team dedicated to serving our residents and protecting the tax dol-

lars they entrust to us for vital programs and services. We look forward to working collaboratively with Dan to continue to provide transparency and accountability for all Dutchess County Residents."

Aymar-Blair will serve out the remainder of former Comptroller Robin Lois' term. He has pledged to focus on enhancing financial oversight and transparency, as well as protecting Dutchess tax dollars.

Dover man arrested after standoff

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office reports the arrest of Richard P. Danko, age 36 of Dover Plains, at approximately 1:20 p.m. on Jan. 1, 2025 as the result of a complaint and subsequent standoff in the Town of Dover.

At approximately 6:10 a.m. on Jan. 1, deputies responded to 16 Old State Route 22 in Dover for a report of someone having been threatened with a shotgun. Upon arrival Mr. Danko was identified as a possible suspect in the complaint; however, he allegedly refused to cooperate with the investigation and fled into a residence. After approximately five hours of attempted but unsuccessful negotiation with Mr. Danko, members of the Sheriff's Office's Emergency Services Unit entered the residence and took him into custody without further incident.

Prior to the standoff, Mr. Danko was also wanted on a warrant for reckless endangerment stemming from a previous unrelated incident. At this time he has been charged with the following in connection with both the pre-existing warrant and standoff incident:

- Criminal possession of a weapon 3rd degree – Felony
- Criminal contempt 2nd degree – Misdemeanor
- Menacing 2nd degree – Misdemeanor
- Resisting arrest – Misdemeanor
- Bail jumping – Misdemeanor

After being processed, Mr. Danko was arraigned before the Town of Dover Court and remanded to the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center in lieu of \$10,000 cash bail. NOTE: On Jan. 1, Mr. Danko was only arraigned on the warrant and bail jumping charge; the other charges were lodged after the arraignment.

Numerous Sheriff's Office personnel and units responded to the scene and contributed to the successful outcome of the incident to include Patrol, Detectives,

Crisis Negotiators, K-9, Emergency Services, and UAS (drones). The Sheriff's Office was also assisted at the scene by the New York State Police, Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response, the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company.

As with any criminal case the charges described above are merely accusations and Mr. Danko is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

send us your news cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE SETS JOB FAIR ON FRIDAY, JAN. 10

The Town of Poughkeepsie will be holding a Job Fair on Friday, Jan 10 from noon until 3 p.m. at Town Hall, located at 1 Overocker Road.

Several departments will be offering on-the-spot interviews for many different positions, including seasonal, part time and full time.

Individuals interested in working for the Town of Poughkeepsie are encouraged to attend and come with their resume and enthusiasm.

If you have any questions, please email the Town's HR representative at econsiglio@townofpoughkeepsie-ny.gov.

People you know. A bank you can trust.

Bank of Millbrook is everything you need in a bank:

Personal & business banking services you can count on.

Outstanding customer service from people who know you by name.

Stop by our Amenia Branch, say hello to Mark Vila, and experience community banking at its best.

BANK OF MILLBROOK
The Strength of Relationships



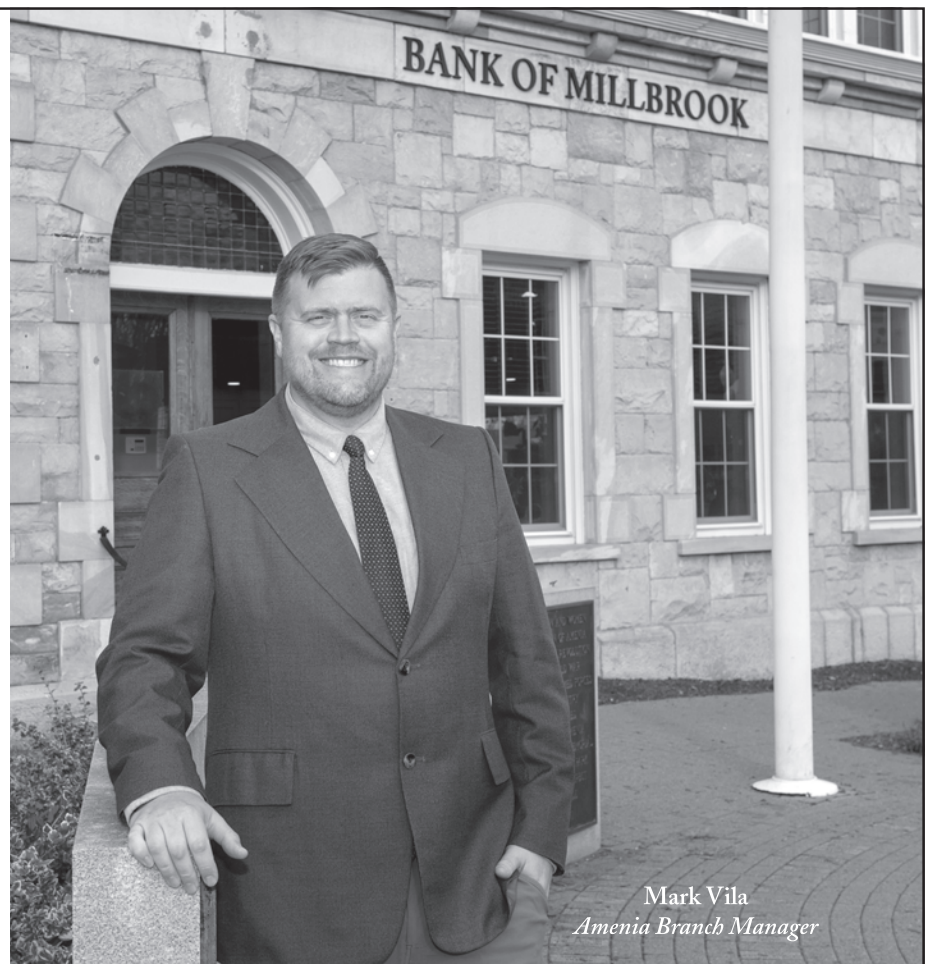
(845) 677-5321

BANKOFMILLBROOK.COM

FOUR CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Millbrook • Amenia • Pine Plains • Stanfordsville

MEMBER FDIC



Mark Vila
Amenia Branch Manager

DC Toys for Tots reports gifts to 600 families for 2024



Dutchess County Toys for Tots coordinator TJ Ashline, left, is pictured with children and parents from Home School Heroes during the 2024 holiday gift drive. This distribution took place at Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County on Route 44. *Photo by Curtis Schmitt*

Toys for Tots of Dutchess County distributed gifts to over 600 families during the 2024 holidays.

Dutchess County Coordinator TJ Ashline reports that the number is up over 200 families from 2023. The total number of children was 2,037. He said that is over 20,000 toys, books, games, puzzles, bikes, etc.

Some donors of monetary funds and or time and goods included the following: American Legion Post #178, Sons of The American Legion #178, Dutchess

Fairview Firefighters, Golden & Golden Building Company, DS home services, Adams Fairacre Farms, Madison's Pizza of Pleasant Valley, Tomato Cafe of Fishkill, 97.7 The Wolf CJ & Jess Morning Show (Townsquare Media), Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County and Dutchess County Long Rifles - 4H shooting sports club.

Ashline thanks all those who contributed and goods for the 2024 holiday season.

Free Homebuyer Seminar set Jan. 11

Ulster Savings Bank will host a free homebuyer seminar on Saturday, Jan. 11, starting at 2 p.m. This seminar will be presented in Spanish and offered in-person at the Poughkeepsie Library, 93 Market Street, Poughkeepsie.

Ulster Savings Bank is hosting this event, along with Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, to help potential homebuyers understand the many critical steps to owning their own home.

Discussion will include:

- Steps in getting pre-qualified;
- Credit scores and why they are important;
- Documentation needed to apply;
- Low down payment options;
- Choosing the right lender;
- What to expect during the buying process.

Some attendees may be eligible for a \$750 Home Buyer Credit*; sign up at [https://www.ulstersavings.com/why-](https://www.ulstersavings.com/why-us/seminars/#section_HomebuyerSeminars)

[us/seminars/#section_HomebuyerSeminars](https://www.ulstersavings.com/why-us/seminars/#section_HomebuyerSeminars)

*Receive a \$750 coupon good towards borrower's choice of closing costs, down payment, or post-closing payment assistance, in accordance with the loan program selected and that program's eligibility requirements. The certificate must be presented at time of application. Customer pays for all other fees and services. Eligible mortgages are for owner-occupied purchases. Not valid for refinances, home equity products, second homes, construction loans, or mortgage applications received prior to date of seminar on certificate. Offer may not be combined with any other offers or discounts unless otherwise noted. This offer expires December 31, 2027. Limit one (1) per loan transaction. Certain conditions apply. Ulster Savings Bank is an Equal Housing Lender & Member FDIC. NMLS# 619306

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Pleasant Valley Community Gardens kicks off 2025 season

It's dark days of winter outside, but Pleasant Valley Community Gardens is already planning for its next season. The organization will meet on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 6 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Community Library. No experience necessary. PV Community Gardens is a committed group of volunteers learning as they grow vegetables and flowers in their garden in Helen Aldrich Park on Route 115. Everything grown is to benefit Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry. Meet your neighbors, learn about the seeding planting and more while you help feed your community! See our Facebook page and web site at www.pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com.

Repair Cafe set Jan. 11 in Hyde Park

The Hyde Park Repair Café will take place on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at The United Methodist Church, 1 Church St., Hyde Park. Bring your beloved but broken items in for free repairs and advice. For more information, go to www.ClimateSmartHydePark.org or see the Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/share/15VdWivFPL/>

Stanford Grange to offer take-out Winter Soup Dinner Jan. 11

Stanford Grange will host its Annual Winter Soup Dinner on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville, at 5 p.m. All dinners are take out only. The menu will consist of your choice of a quart of homemade soup (turkey orzo, winter minestrone, or potato corn chowder), your choice of bread (French bread or homemade cornbread), garden salad with dressing, and old fashioned country banana pudding with wafers for dessert. Donation is \$17 per dinner. For reservations, please call Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869. Please note which kind of soup and bread you would like when you call to order!

Pleasant Valley Repair Cafe set Jan. 11

The Pleasant Valley Repair Cafe will kick off the new year, Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Town Hall, Route 44, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The kick off will feature a Learn to Knit Class at 12:30 p.m. and a Sharpening Class from 1 to 2 p.m. Bring whatever needs sharpening, (knives, scissors, tools). Both classes will have a limit of 10, so arrive 15 minutes early.

A skilled team of "fixers" have much experience working on antique lamps and clocks, but it takes time, so come early and be patient. Computers, vacuums, clothing, moth-eaten sweaters, electronics, video games and cell phones are just a few of what can be repaired. The cafe features fresh coffee, tea, muffins, cookies and fruit. Everything is free, but donations are appreciated, as they help feed the staff and buy parts for repairs.

Pancake Breakfasts set at Rhinecliff Firehouse

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad will host Winter Pancake Breakfasts from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on the following Sundays: Jan. 12, Feb. 9 and March 9. Enjoy a pile-high of "Rhinecliff's Best" pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. It's all-you-can-eat so bring your appetite and your friends. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$4 for children, and free for children age 5 and younger. Breakfasts will be served at the Rhinecliff Firehouse (corner of Shatzell & Orchard in Rhinecliff). Proceeds will support the Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Co. For more information, call Cynthia at (845) 876-5738 or email: csaniewski@gmail.com.

Winter Soup Sales to benefit Rhinebeck Grange

It's time for Winter Soup Sales in Rhinebeck,

sponsored by Rhinebeck Grange #896. Mark your calendar for the following Thursdays: Jan. 16, Feb. 20 and March 20. The cost is \$10 per quart (two pint-size containers). Take-out only. Pick up at the Rhinecliff Firehouse, corner of Shatzell Ave. and Orchard Drive, Rhinecliff, at the side door on Orchard Drive, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

New: Pick up also available at Morton Library (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Email JoBaer2@gmail.com to be sent the soup choices for each month and to pre-order online. Proceeds support the Rhinebeck Grange.

For more information, contact Joe Baer at (845) 876-6488, JoBaer2@gmail.com.

Winter Celebration Dinner set at St. Paul's Poughkeepsie

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 161 Mansion St., Poughkeepsie will hold its Winter Celebration Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 18, at 4:30 p.m. The menu will include beef/sausage lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and strawberry shortcake with biscuits. The cost is \$20, and reservations are strongly suggested.

Call the church at (845) 452-8440.

Copake Grange's upcoming events

On Saturday, Jan. 18, the Copake Grange will host a Love to Dance Party from 7 to 9:30 p.m., at the Grange, 628 Empire Road, Copake (right behind Clock Tower Pub & Grill). All songs will include "love" or "dance"; submit a suggested tune at tinyurl.com/JanuaryDance.

There is a \$5 suggested donation; refreshments available, BYOB. Guests are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item or hygiene product for donation to the Roe Jan Food Pantry & Taconic Hills Schools' Care Closet.

On Sunday, Jan. 19, at 3:30 p.m. the Grange's Classic Film Series will present "Mississippi Burning" at the Grange. The film is being screened in conjunction with Martin Luther King Day. Based on true events, this film is a fictionalized version of the FBI's search for the killers of three civil rights workers in the South in 1964. Starring Gene Hackman, Willam Dafoe and Frances McDormand, it was directed by Alan Parker and won an Academy Award for best cinematography. Grange Classic Film Series organizer, Lenny Barham, will provide commentary and insights about the film. Movie admission by donation. Stay after the movie for dinner: soup, salad and dessert for \$10; vegetarian options available.

Annual Bonfire set Jan. 25 at Fran Mark Park

The Town of Clinton will hold its annual Bonfire at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25, at Fran Mark Park, 337 Clinton Hollow Road, Salt Point. Residents can drop off their Christmas trees by the fence to the Highway Garage (where the mulch is usually piled) by Jan. 24. Hot cocoa will be served. The event is sponsored by the Town of Clinton Recreation, East Clinton Volunteer Fire District and East Clinton Auxiliary.

Defensive Driving Course offered Jan. 25 at Stanford Grange

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Defensive Driving Course on Saturday, January 25, 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.

REDUCED RATE COSMETIC SURGERY

with **DR. JOHN WILSON IV, MD**
Mt. Sinai NYC Facial Plastic Surgery Fellow

Rhinoplasty/Nasal Surgery, Face and Neck lifts,
Eyelid and Brow lifts, Cosmetic Otoplasty/Ear Tuck

Trust your face to our expert facial plastic surgeons!

Call 845.367.7328
www.NYfaceMD.com • info@NYfaceMD.com



Website



Facebook



Instagram



TikTok

Be prepared before the next power outage.



**It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.™**

Receive a free 5-year warranty
with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 877-516-1160
to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.



EXPERIENCE EASTDALE!

Our businesses are for EVERYONE

A live-work-dine-shop-play experience unlike any other. Plenty of FREE parking!
Eastdale Village | 10 Otto Way, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



Committed to providing a sustainable shopping experience that supports your low-waste lifestyle. As your premier package-free bulk food grocer, we offer over 250+ non-perishable food items, everyday household essentials, personal care products, local dairy goods, and a unique tap system featuring local and national craft beers for carry-out consumption.

845-795-8099 • 23 Eastdale Ave S • Poughkeepsie, NY
www.therefillerystorehouse.com



Barbue Bar
30 Eastdale Ave N
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



P: 845-395-3610
E: BarbueBar@gmail.com
W: BarbueBar.com

BARBUE

Cocktail Bar and Cajun Fare




The Hudson Valley's Favorite Burgers, Fries, Shakes & More!



32 Eastdale Ave N, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
845-395-3473 Order Online: BunsBurgersNY.com

Your Premier Destination for JELLYCAT® in the Hudson Valley!



at Eastdale Village

Open Everyday
Complimentary Gift Wrapping
Brighton | Baby | Gifts | Accessories

43 Eastdale Avenue N,
Poughkeepsie NY
(845) 765-7700
daffodilsgiftshoppe.com

EASTDALE VILLAGE FARMERS' MARKET

2025 Eastdale Farmers' Market Now Accepting Applications!

The Eastdale Farmers' Market is celebrating its second year of existence. We aim to promote Hudson Valley agriculture, support local farmers and producers, support the local economy, and foster lasting community connections.

Hosted from our municipal parking lot on Eastdale Avenue South, behind the Sims Podiatry, this bi-weekly popup will become a destination for locals to meet, eat, and network amongst farmers and makers.

Open every first & third Sunday, May-October 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Stop in and grab one of our unique gifts or arrangement's for that someone special!



We offer local delivery, too!



11 Eastdale Ave S • Poughkeepsie, NY
(716) 293-3737
www.hudsonvalleyfloral.com



Scan for Farmers' Market Vendor Rules, Regulations and Application



Impact PR & Communications rings in New Year with addition of Westerra Credit Union to client roster



The team at Impact PR & Communications. *Courtesy photo*

Public relations and marketing firm Impact PR & Communications, Ltd. (IPR&C) is kicking off 2025 with the announcement of Westerra Credit Union joining its client roster. As agency of record for the Colorado-based credit union, Impact PR & Communications will spearhead an awareness campaign to strengthen its brand messaging, distinguish it from its competitors, and showcase its heritage as a teacher-founded organization through community connection and earned media stories. The newest client signifies an ever-deepening of the agency's expertise in the banking, credit union, financial advisory and investment sectors.

"Westerra has a storied heritage and legacy in Colorado, and we are delighted to partner with Impact PR & Communications to help shine a light on what we do and how we do it differently," said Nicole Andrushko, vice president of

marketing, Westerra Credit Union. "We recently worked with the IPR&C team on a project and the creativity and chemistry was apparent, so this seemed like a perfect next step."

Impact PR & Communications, which celebrated its ten-year anniversary last year, has a long history of representing financial institutions throughout New York, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Westerra Credit Union's addition to the roster makes it the agency's first client based in the Rocky Mountain region.

"I, along with our team, am energized about the collaboration with Westerra Credit Union and the mission of bringing awareness of this community-minded company to a larger audience," said Filomena Fanelli, CEO and founder, Impact PR & Communications. "Like us, Westerra values meaningful personal relationships and we look forward to helping them grow that impact."

PV Community Gardens grows its impact in 2025

Submitted By Paulette Thomas

Pleasant Valley Community Gardens (PVCG) is expanding its planting space – and increasing its impact – in 2025. PVCG volunteers are planning workshops for novice vegetable growers, a jazz benefit concert, and anticipating greater yield from their newly extended garden beds, all to support local food pantries.

Here's what's happening at Pleasant Valley Community Gardens:

- In summer of 2024, its second year, the all-volunteer garden group donated more than 1,700 pounds of fresh organic produce to the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry. The previous year – PVCG's first – volunteers delivered more than 1,500 pounds of fresh vegetables and herbs, including tomatoes, lettuce, potatoes, peppers, cabbages, and beans. Everything the PVCG grows is to benefit the local food pantries. "We are always looking for volunteers, and all are welcome, regardless of experience," said Janice Novet, PVCG co-president.

- The PVCG will host a benefit, "Beat the Winter Blues, A Winter Concert with Bob Arthurs," on Saturday, Feb. 8. "We wanted a chance to celebrate our successes and thank our sponsors," said Novet. Bob Arthurs, a local jazz trumpeter, will perform an evening of standards and stories at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pleasant Valley from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple at the door, and can be reserved online at pleasantvalleycommunitygardens.com.

- Beyond the borders of its garden, PVCG is planning a three-part basic Vegetable Gardening Workshop series at the Pleasant Valley Library this spring. The workshops will include hands-on follow-up sessions at the PV Community Garden, where gardeners can put their training into practice. Topics will include all you need to get started with a vegetable garden of your own, including garden layout, seed starting, cool and warm weather planting calendars, soil preparation and more. The first workshop will be Feb. 3, with sessions to follow on March

3 and April 7. Register through the Pleasant Valley Library at pleasantvalleylibrary.org. Registration opens Monday Jan. 20.

• Thanks to many local businesses and a long list of residents, PVCG was able to raise funds last year to erect a new, permanent garden fence. The former 90- by 100-foot space is now closer to 100 square feet. "This will allow us to expand the variety of vegetables, and grow more of the popular crops at the food pantry," said Novet.

The garden has attracted many generous individual donors and corporate sponsors for its mission in the last two years, including: Adams Fairacre Farms, Albrecht's Auto Repair, Ballantine Communications, Baroni Recycling, Bonded Concrete of Pleasant Valley, Brookside Meadows LLC, Champion Gaming, Crown Energy Corp. of Pleasant Valley, Dermalabs, Hudson Valley Skin Care, Four Brothers Pizza Inns, Kirchoff Companies, Lovenger Farm, Mill House Brewing Co, Murphy's Auto Center, New Corn Crib Greenhouse, Peckham Industries, Peony Design Studio, Plan Bee Farm Brewery, Pleasant Valley Repair Cafe, Pomodoro Pizza Cafe, Players Club 845, Prime Print Shop, Publick House 23, Pleasant Valley Department Store, Pleasant Valley Insurance Agency, Small Family Companies, Stewart's Shops, Up in Smoke, and Williams Lumber.

The Town of Pleasant Valley also contributed by donating land, clearing the original field, providing a shed, and delivering water to the garden tanks.

"We are so grateful for the support of the community," Novet said.

With successful fundraising for the garden, the PVCG was able to donate \$500 to the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry, the beneficiary of all its growing effort. In addition to contributing all its produce to local food pantries, PVCG provides a place for novice gardeners to learn, and residents to meet and share gardening practices.

"We really believe in our mission to grow food and community," said Novet.

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.

Creating enriching experiences for students

Giving back through life-changing experiences!

The Ridge School is a New York State Board of Regents Accredited School, Not-for-profit organization located in Dutchess County, New York dedicated to the creation of a rich and positive setting for students who are not succeeding in their current educational placements. The Ridge School is a day school for students who are diagnosed with High Functioning Autism.

845-266-4283

The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org

Village of Rhinebeck to explore participation in HV Community Power program

Information sessions set in January & February

The Village of Rhinebeck is exploring participation in an upcoming bid for an electricity supply contract through the Hudson Valley Community Power program. Hudson Valley Community Power is a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program. CCA programs can provide eligible residents and small businesses with access to renewable electricity supply options at competitive rates, with no individual contracts for consumers. Benefits include support for renewable energy, competitive rates, and strong consumer protections.

This program has opt-out enrollment, which means that if the municipality moves forward and selects an electricity supplier, all eligible residents and small businesses will be notified by mail before the program launches and have the opportunity to review their new electricity supply options and opt-out if they choose to not participate.

The program can have a measurable positive environmental impact by giving residents a way to reduce their carbon footprint.

Learn more about the program at any of three events in January and February:

Saturday, Jan. 11, 11 a.m. - in-person or online. Attend in person: Village Hall, 76 East Market St., Rhinebeck. Join Zoom Meeting: www.bit.ly/vrh111, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 845 1746 6751

Wednesday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m. - online only. Join Zoom Meeting: www.bit.ly/vrh122, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 853 4592 7558

Thursday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m. - in-person or online. Attend in person: Village Hall, 76 East Market St., Rhinebeck. Join Zoom Meeting: www.bit.ly/vrh26, or call: 1 929 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 834 3402 3362

More information is also available at www.hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com/events; or call the helpline at (845) 859-9099 or email info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com.

4-H CONNECTION



**REARDON
BRIGGS
CO. INC.**

LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT

SALES, PARTS AND SERVICE
2448 Route 44 • Salt Point, NY 12578
845-677-3100 • www.ReardonBriggs.com

CONWAYS
WWW.CONWAYSUSA.COM Celebrating 45 Years!
FIND A LARGE VARIETY OF LAWN & POWER EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR EVERY NEED!

TORO **FERRIS** **STIHL** **BRIGGS & STRATTON**
Simplicity

We want to be your power equipment dealer!

2021 BEST OF THE BEST
MID-HUDSON
Finalist

CONWAY'S
LAWN & POWER EQUIPMENT, Inc.
Route 9 • 7235 South Broadway
Red Hook, NY 12571
Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:00pm Sat til 3pm
845-758-8134

MasterCard, VISA, Discover, American Express, Facebook, BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Matt's **AUTO BODY**
COLLISION AND TOWING SPECIALISTS

SALUTES 4-H

24-Hour Towing • Auto Body Repair • Collision Work
Glass Replacement • Custom Restoration
• Custom Art Services

845-266-5450 SALT POINT • NEW YORK
www.MattsAutoBody.com

HACKETT
farm supply

CHICK DAYS

CHECK OUT OUR POULTRY AVAILABILITY LIST ON OUR WEBSITE!
WWW.HACKETTFARMSUPPLY.COM

The best place to pick up chicks!

2297 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners, NY 12514
Tel. 845-266-3494 Text 845-309-8686

Family support, variety of interests abound with Stony Ground club

By Kaeleigh Banda

Southern Dutchess News intern

Stony Kill Farm and Common Ground Farm partnered seven years ago to create Stony Ground, an expansive general interest 4-H club. The kids learn about livestock, beekeeping, gardening, art, entomology, rabbits and more. The range of things to learn about makes Stony Ground a popular club to join.

Stacey Lynch-Adnams and Kim Pennock are the current co-leaders of the club. The club has around 30 members ages 5-19 making it one of the largest clubs.

Lynch-Adnams said community connections create valuable experiences for the kids.

"4-H is really about making you the best you can be, being compassionate toward others and giving back to your community because you're working with so many different people," Lynch-Adnams said. "Being a part of Stony Kill Foundation and being on Stony Kill Farm there are about 20,000 people that come through the property every year."

The club also gives back to the community through community service. They went to the Maple Celebration at Sharp Reservation in 2024 to fundraise and provide waffles for people to eat. Stony Ground has also done clean-up projects at the Beacon waterfront.

Stony Ground creates a club space for every kid with any interest in 4-H. Lynch-Adnams said she is grateful that the club is rooted in family and appreciates the support the families provide.

"Most of the time the parents are there working with their kids or they're at the meetings and they always help at all of the events and fundraising we do," Lynch-Adnams said. "It's a very family-oriented type of a program and it really sets these kids up for a very successful future."



Community connections create valuable experiences for youth involved in the Stony Ground 4-H club. Courtesy photo

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

Beacon Sloop Club to present 'Chopping Wood – Pete Seeger w/ David & Jacob Bernz' on Jan. 16

The Beacon Sloop Club's 2025 Lecture Series will present "Chopping Wood – Pete Seeger w/ David & Jacob Bernz," part book reading and part sing-along, on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m., at the Beacon Sloop Club. The presentation was derived from conversations between David Bernz and Pete Seeger, who died in 2014.

This is an opportunity to hear Seeger's own words. Minimally edited to preserve Seeger's trademark cadence, the book is punctuated by historical images and additional commentary by David Bernz, as well as remembrances from other musicians and friends and a foreword by Arlo Guthrie.

All are invited to listen in as Seeger unabashedly shares historical and family stories; tells of learning the banjo, traveling with Woody Guthrie, and finding commercial success with The Weavers; explains how he wrote books and put together songs; delves into controversial subjects like communism and the Peekskill Riots; and highlights those he admired and respected, including Bruce Springsteen, who honored Seeger with his "Seeger Sessions" album in 2006.

Seeger and David Bernz share the

heavy lifting as they tackle subjects such as the 1965 Newport Folk Festival, Pete's relationship to Greenwich Village, and the need for copyright reform. Together, they describe how Seeger put his worldview into practice in his local community, and how he lived with local hero status in later life.

David and Jacob Bernz are a father-son team of folksingers and songwriters hailing from Beacon. David Bernz's performance ensembles have included "Dave, Perry, Rande," "Stone Soup" and "Work o' the Weavers" and he has released CDs with each. David Bernz has also received two Grammy Awards producing CDs for Pete Seeger including Best Folk Album 2008 and best children's album 2010. Jacob is a prolific young songwriter with five CDs of original material. Combining many influences into a genre all his own, Jacob Bernz's delivery is uniquely poetic and personal; together they weave a tapestry of songs old and new.

The lecture is free. The Beacon Sloop Club is at 2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon.

For more information, visit www.beaconsloopclub.org or call (845) 463-4660 or (914) 879-1082.



Jacob and David Bernz, a father-son team, perform in Beacon. Right: David Bernz with the late activist and folk singer Pete Seeger. *Courtesy photos*



1st 2nd Mortgage Co.
REVERSE MORTGAGES
IS IT THE RIGHT CHOICE?
 Get the Facts from a local Certified Reverse Mortgage Professional (CRMP) Mario L. Martirano
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
 Call today for more information and Free analysis

Mario L. Martirano (914) 420-1950 NMLS#64064

1st 2nd Mortgage Company of N.J., Inc. is a Licensed Mortgage Lender. California Department of Corporations, 03/20/08; Connecticut Department of Banking, Delaware State Bank Commissioner, 02/09; Florida Office of Financial Regulation, 04/20/09; Georgia Department of Banking and Finance, 03/04; Hawaii Department of Financial Institutions, 01/13/09; Illinois Department of Financial Institutions, 01/13/09; Maryland Department of Financial Regulation, 10/01/09; Massachusetts Department of Banking and Finance, 03/02/09; New Hampshire Banking Department, 09/22/08; New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, 03/02/09; New York Department of Financial Services, 03/02/09; North Carolina Department of Financial Services, 03/02/09; North Carolina Office Commissioner of Banks, 01/18/07; Ohio Department of Commerce, 03/02/09; Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, 03/02/09; Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Finance, 03/02/09; South Carolina Commissioner of Consumer Finance, 03/02/09; Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending, TEXAS MORTGAGE BANKER DISCLOSURE; Virginia Bureau of Financial Institutions/Virginia State Corporation Commission, 02/20/09; Washington Department of Financial Institutions, 01/13/09; Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, 11/20/08.

Are you raising a grandchild, young relative or child of a family friend in the absence of the biological parents?
Then you're a Kinship Caregiver!

Want to keep your family healthy and safe?
NYS Kinship Navigator can help.
 NYS Kinship Navigator provides information, referral and assistance with financial needs, legal options, school enrollment, kinship law and other resources.
Help is just a phone call away.
877-454-6463
 TTY: NY Relay 711 or 800-421-1220
nysnavigator.org

Catholic Charities
 Family and Community Services

NEW YORK STATE
 Office of Children and Family Services

NEW YORK STATE
 Kinship Navigator

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE
 See page 20 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

THE GREATEST DOT-TO-DOT BOOKS!

Stars
 Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 95

By David Kalvitis © 2004 Monkeying Around



Hang on to your Halloumi! Jan. 20 is National Cheese Lover's Day

Early farmers who discovered cheese in 8000 BCE used it as a dairy preservative, since cheese does not spoil as quickly as milk. But, by the 20th century, global trade necessitated an even longer shelf life. This spurred the invention of ultra-processed cheeses like Velveeta.

Interestingly, the Hudson Valley Town of Monroe was where Velveeta was invented. The original Velveeta recipe was made by blending leftover pieces of cheddar, Colby, and Swiss, along with an emulsifier to create a smooth texture. However, today's Velveeta, produced by Kraft Foods, is a "pasteurized prepared cheese product" containing whey and milk protein concentrates, not substantial amounts of real cheese, according to FDA standards.

Making cheese is a process

Cheese is made from acidified milk. Agents such as vinegar, bacteria, or citric

acid lower the pH of the creamy liquid. Acidifying milk separates its component curds (clumps of casein proteins) from the whey and controls the growth of undesirable bacteria. Some cheeses are curdled only by acidity; many other cheeses are curdled further with the addition of enzymes. Enzymes cause the milk proteins to clump into more solid curds. Those curds are then cut to encourage the release of more whey. The liquid whey is then drained off, and the curds are pressed into the desired shape to form cheese. The cheese type depends on factors like the milk used; the amount of acidification, cutting, and salting; and the length of the aging process.

Cheese is an 'udder' scientific marvel

Cheese-making organisms such as *Lactococcus lactis*, *Streptococcus thermophilus*, and *Penicillium roqueforti* are examples of beneficial bacteria.



Dutchess County cheese, fruit, and crackers. Left: Cheese on pizza at an unnamed Dutchess County store. Photos by Francine Wizner



Lactococcus lactis produces lactic acid, which helps to curdle milk. It is used in making cheddar, cottage cheese, and many others. *Streptococcus thermophilus* contributes to the acidity and flavor development in cheeses like mozzarella. *Penicillium roqueforti* creates the characteristic blue veins and pungent flavor in blue cheeses.

Cheese contains fat and water that are held together by a network of proteins. In cooler temperatures, the fat is solid, but it becomes more pliable with warmth. Some cheeses are "meltier" than others. Younger cheeses like mozzarella and brie melt better than grating cheeses like Parmesan or Pecorino-Romano. But even "melty" cheeses will cook off their water content in excessive heat. If that happens, you'll notice the tough casein floating in grease, meaning that the protein structure shrunk so much that it could not contain the fat.

Maybe you've noticed a greasy slick on top of an overcooked pizza or a lasagna in the past. Scientifically, the proteins have denatured. Seek out your favorite science teacher to explain what causes that to happen!

Dutchess County milk and cheese

Although Velveeta contains milk, it no longer lists cheese among its ingredients. You can, however, buy wholesome milk from Dutchess County Dairy cows. And you can buy cheese produced here, as well!

Dairy farms can be found in Millbrook, Amenia, Fishkill, Millerton, and Pine Plains. I recently tried some local artisanal cheeses that were delicious. Seek out a local fromager for a Hudson Valley nibble, or head to your own fridge for schmear of cream cheese on a bagel and celebrate National Cheese Lover's Day on Jan. 20.

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/>

'Relics in Situ' on Jan. 8

Behind the Scenes at the Victoria and Albert Museum on Jan. 8, at the Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 R0ute 55, Lagrangeville. Skylkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America (EGA), presents a program by Erin Harvey Moody and Christy Gordon Baty of "Relics in Situ," research on early modern needlework to learn about the

lives of women and how they contributed to their world. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10 a.m. (bring one's morning project and bag lunch) or, come for this program only beginning at 12:30 pm.

For more information visit www.facebook.com/SkylkillEGA or email EGASkylkill@gmail.com.

Pleasant Valley
DEPARTMENT STORE
Shopping Local Never Felt So Good

Thank you all for a wonderful 2024!

We look forward to seeing you in 2025!

1946

2024

1585 Main Street • Pleasant Valley **(845) 635-2220**

www.pleasantvalleydepartmentstore.com

email: PVMill2@aol.com

Have Computer Problems?

Get
\$20 OFF
Any Service

Use Coupon Code

42513

Friendly Certified
Computer Repair Experts

- ✓ 24/7 Emergency Service
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ Virus Removal
- ✓ Regular Maintenance

Call Now
Get a Free Diagnosis

866-848-0045

Geeks OnSite

Diversions

SUDOKU

SPECIAL OFFER

Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0053445

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

© StatePoint Media

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

5					
				5	1
	4				
		2		3	

© 2023 krazydad.com

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: SCIENCE FICTION

ACROSS

- Le Corbusier's art
- "The Matrix" protagonist
- Captures
- Funkiness in the air
- Vegetative state
- Capital of Vietnam
- Fairy tale villain
- Beware of these in March
- Spiker and Sponge of "James and the Giant Peach"
- *Bioengineered humanoid in "Blade Runner"
- The Beehive State
- Burn with coffee, e.g.
- Tire meas.
- Sea nymph
- Salad dressing option
- *Pierre Boullé's Cornelius
- Hoity-toity
- Back arrow key
- Covered with sphagnum
- Tiny Tim's guitar
- Allegro _____, in music
- Sign of escape
- Apprehension
- Emergency responder, acr.
- Neuron junction
- Sleeping sickness vector
- *Katniss Everdeen's sister
- Hammerin' Hank
- Tennis "innings"
- *2010 film starring DiCaprio
- Meat of coconut
- Desperate
- Karl of politics
- *1979 film starring Sigourney Weaver
- Fail to mention
- Bo Peep's females
- *"Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep" author
- Was ahead
- *Spock's are pointy

DOWN

- Point of entry
- Side of a ruler, e.g.
- S or C follower, in business
- Two-word threat
- Relating to node
- Make corrections
- Kiln for hops
- *Captain Nemo's submarine
- Tolstoy's Karenina
- This and that
- Bro's sibling
- Droning insect
- Niger and Nigeria language
- In an unfriendly manner
- Parent org.
- "He named _____"
- Strong adhesive
- Pine juice
- Original thought
- Garment enlarger
- *"The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" author
- Neil Diamond's "Beautiful _____"
- *Frank Herbert's famous novel
- "I Like _____" 1950s campaign slogan
- *"Where no man has gone before" TV series
- "The Tortoise and the Hare" author
- "It's no _____!"
- Beale of Memphis, e.g.
- South Korean port
- Main dish
- Japanese cartoon art
- Like thick smoke
- Solo, pl.
- Long narrative poem
- Worshiped one
- Minnesota's southern neighbor
- Last word on radio
- Famed loch
- Rogue or rascal

CROSSWORD

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



Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

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



Happy New Year

Luigi shares some memories from his youth.

As the new year begins, I am flooded with thoughts of my childhood. Some memories good, some bad, but always funny.

Buying sneakers at Grand Union. That's right, at the grocery store there was a basket of sneakers. Each pair had a piece of plastic holding them together. Mom would make us try them on and shuffle around to see if the fit correctly. She would then kneel in front of us and tell us to "Standa dritto (straight)" and she would feel the tip of the sneakers to make sure there was enough room for our feet to grow.

Trying on jeans in the aisle. Barker's was our local department store in Hyde Park. They carried everything from lawnmowers to bicycles to jeans and everything in between. Barker's is where we would go to get Levi jeans. Mom would make us try on jeans right in the middle of the aisle. She would say, "No one is watching you." Then she would make us bend down to make sure there was enough room in the seat of the pants. Once satisfied, she would tell us to put our other pants back on. As we got older we got smart, and put on our older brother's loose-fitting shorts in order to streamline the process.

Going to buy school shoes. We were growing so fast that Mom would wait until the last possible minute to buy school shoes. We went to a little Italian cobbler on Market Street next to the Bardavon. It was called Defalco shoes, and Mr. Defalco would measure our shoes, check our arches and track our growth. He would then fit us with shoes that would last us the whole year and fit us until the next summer.

Buying clothes at Schwartz. On Main Street in Poughkeepsie there was a store called Schwartz which was about a block from the original [Coppola's] restaurant. Since we wore school uniforms, that's where Mom would take us for our school pants, shirts and ties. We would have to go to the husky section because we were too big for kid clothes, yet too small for adult clothes. Lucky us. However, there were dressing rooms at Schwartz so we didn't have to try on clothes in the aisle. There was a little Italian tailor who would come and measure us and hem the pants for us. We would get one regular pair of pants and one pair of corduroy for the winter.

Getting a hair cut. We would go to Mr. Sosta's in Hyde Park to get our haircuts. Mr. Sosta would give Vinny and me

the same haircut. Mom would always ask to make our hair shorter so it would last longer. Afterward, she would give Vinny and me a quarter to give to Mr. Sosta as a tip, and he would give us each a lollipop.

Getting our before-school physical. Each year we would go to Children's Medical Group for our physical. Yes, they were around back then also. We would get checked, poked, prodded and measured. We would always ask how much we grew from last year. Right before our appointment was completed, we got our annual vaccinations; however, we were then allowed to get a prize from the treasure box.

Eating Pasta with Asparagus. Well you get the idea. Everyone had their dish that they remember. This was mine.

PENNE WITH ASPARAGUS

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 ounces thinly sliced prosciutto, cut into thin ribbons
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced green garlic or scallions, white and pale green parts only (about 4)
- 2 medium cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pound asparagus, cut on a bias into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 ounces grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, divided
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon grated zest plus 1 tablespoon juice from 1 lemon, divided
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh chives
- 1 lb. imported penne pasta

Directions

Set a large pot of salted water over high heat. Meanwhile, heat olive oil in a large skillet or slope-sided saucepan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add prosciutto and cook, stirring, until mostly crisp, about 2 minutes. Add scallions and garlic and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add asparagus and cook, tossing and stirring frequently, until asparagus is just starting to turn tender, about 2 minutes.

Add heavy cream and half of Parmesan. Cook, stirring, until cream thickens and coats the asparagus pieces, about 4 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Add penne to now-boiling pot of water, stir gently, and cook for about 7 minutes total or until the penne is still firm but not hard. Drain and add penne, lemon juice, half of lemon zest, chives, and 2 tablespoons of cooking water to saucepan with sauce and bring to a hard boil, stirring gently. Add more pasta water to thin sauce to desired consistency. Serve immediately, topped with lemon zest and additional Parmesan cheese.

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.

CORRECTION:

In the Dec. 25 Crossword puzzle, the answer to 36 down (Scarlet O'Hara's home) is "Tara."

County Players sets auditions

Auditions will be held at the County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 West Main St., Wappingers Falls.

Sunday, Jan. 12, and Monday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.

"Big Fish The Musical"
Book by John August
Music and Lyrics by Andrew LIPPA
Directed by Michael J. Frohnhoefer

A fantastical musical adventure inspired by a father's incredible stories. Based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton, "Big Fish" tells the story of Edward Bloom, a charming traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest, and then some. Overflowing with heart and humor, "Big Fish" is the extraordinary story that reminds us why we love going to the theatre. A buoyant feel-good show for the whole family.

"Big Fish" is presented through special arrangement with TRW Plays. trwplays.com

Details at <https://countyplayers.org/shows/auditions/>

Sunday, Jan. 19
CP2 Mini-Festival Auditions

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

Details for both auditions are at <https://countyplayers.org/cp2-auditions/>

"Witch" at 1 p.m.
By Jen Silverman
Directed by Kit Colbourn

A charming devil arrives in a quiet village to bargain for the souls of its residents. Elizabeth should be his easiest target, having been labeled a "witch," but her soul is not so easily bought. Unexpected passions flare, alliances are formed, and the village is forever changed. An inventive retelling of a Jacobean drama, this sharp, subversive fable debates how much our souls are worth when hope is hard to come by.

"Witch" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. concordtheatricals.com

"The Burdens" at 3 p.m.
By Matt Schatz
Directed by Matt Andrews

Adult siblings Mordy and Jane have a problem. Their centenarian grandfather is an emotional and financial burden on the family, and he just won't die. Scheming almost entirely via text messages, the siblings hatch an outrageous plan to relieve themselves of their family's burdens and their own.

The play is performed as a spoken conversation with no phones, screens or technology. "The Burdens" contains adult language.

"The Burdens" is presented through special arrangement with TRW Plays. trwplays.com

what's happening?

creativeliving@s Dutchessnews.com

ROOSEVELT CINEMAS **LYCEUM CINEMAS**
Rte. 9 Hyde Park 229-2000 Rte. 9 Red Hook 758-3311

--STARTS THURSDAY 1/9--

DEN OF THIEVES 2: PANTERA R

A COMPLETE UNKNOWN R

nosferatu R

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3 PG

MUFASA: THE LION KING PG

WICKED PG **MOANA 2** PG

BEST ENTERTAINMENT VALUE!

LYCEUM CINEMAS
Rte. 9 • Hyde Park, NY • 758-3311

SUPER VALUE BOOK

NEW PALTZ CINEMA ROOSEVELT CINEMAS
New Paltz Plaza • Rte. 28 • 258-6622 Hyde Park, NY • 229-2000

10 MOVIE ADMISSION TICKETS
MAXIMUM OF 4 TICKETS CAN BE USED AT ONE TIME 07/5781

Good any time for any movie

10 tickets \$69

PLUS get a FREE
large bag of popcorn
with every purchase!

**FOR COMPLETE MOVIE INFO--876-8000
OR WWW.GREATMOVIESLOWERPRICES.COM**

The evolving shape of Dutchess County

By Bill Jeffway

Over time, New York State has lost a few counties from early, over-ambitious land claims, and gained many. Dutchess County was named for the Dutchess of York and was created along with a total of twelve counties by the English in 1683. The total number of counties today is sixty-two. What are the dynamics that give us the physical boundaries and characteristics of our county today? In particular, why do we have the border we do, and why is the county seat Poughkeepsie?

The size, shape, and names of New York's counties were affected by many things, among them the location of rivers and streams that tended to attract settlement and economic development and other topographical features like hills, hollows, swamps and rocky terrain. Then there was the impact of the overlay of early patent lines, the early system of granting large land rights, sometimes in the form of a Manor with a Lord, as in what is today's Columbia County.

Many are aware of the antiquity of our Dutchess County, going back to the time when we honored members of the British Royal family! But many may be surprised to learn that the only border that remains as originally laid out in 1683 (aside from the Hudson River) is the few miles that form the northern border of Pine Plains (see illustration).

Originally called "The Dutchess's

County" right after the British had taken over from the Dutch, the name was shortened soon after. At the same time, other counties with very British names were created, many of which you will recognize because they remain today: New York (Manhattan), Queens (NYC), Kings (Brooklyn), Richmond (Staten Island), Albany, Orange, Ulster and Westchester and Suffolk.

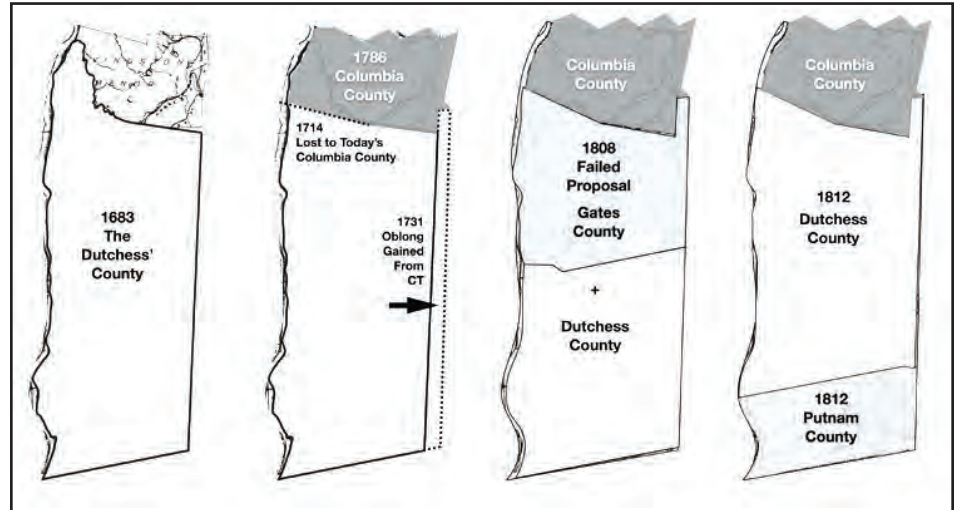
New York State lost Duke's County when Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket claims were lost to Massachusetts in 1691. Gloucester and Cumberland counties were lost after 1777 as what would become the State of Vermont pushed back on New York land claims, creating the borders that exist today. But obviously the gains far outweigh the losses!

The basic function of the management of justice through a sheriff and courts remains from the days one thousand years ago when the shire system emerged in England.

The old rule of thumb was that a trip to or from the county seat to the far reaches of a county should not involve more than a same day return trip. This was of course in the days of horses, carriages and dirt roads that could travel 5 to 10 miles per hour under good conditions.

Original borders

Changes from the original 1683 border were driven by a variety of reasons. The original border followed further north along the irregular Roeliff Jansen Kill and went south to include all the towns



Above left to right: 1. The original 1683 boundary of "The Dutchess's County." 2. Dotted lines show where land was ceded, and where it was gained. 3. An 1807 to 1808 campaign to create a new county, Gates County, in the north, failed. 4. The issue was finally settled in 1812 with the creation of Putnam County. *Courtesy images*

that are in Putnam County today. This explains why Dutchess's Town of North East and Putnam's Town of South East are named as relative points within Dutchess County.

The first adjustment came in 1714 when Robert Livingston, First Lord of Livingston Manor, complained of the inconvenience and petitioned to have his 160,000-acre manor operate within just one county, rather than across two. The Dutchess border originally extended up to the Roeliff Jansen Kill. Most of the manor was in Albany County, while the irregular area that includes what are today the towns of Germantown and Livingston was in Dutchess.

The next change was an addition in 1731. New York and Connecticut had a longstanding border dispute but settled on allowing Connecticut to have the "panhandle" town of Greenwich, while New York got a long vertical strip of land called the Oblong between the two counties.

The only question after that became one of sub-division. Dutchess County was essentially settled around the Wappinger Creek and the Fish Kill which extend up like fingers in a hand from where they empty into the Hudson at Wappingers and today's Fishkill/Beacon, respectively. The main population centers were Rhinebeck, Poughkeepsie/Wappinger, and today's Fishkill/Beacon.

Poughkeepsie was settled at a much smaller creek, the Fall Kill, but was dead center north/south along the Hudson. One of the reasons for its choice in the early 18th century must have had to do with it being essentially in the middle of the county. When the British burned the then capital of New York State at Kingston in 1777, the State started operating out of Poughkeepsie, directly across the river. This only added more to Poughkeepsie's prominence. It was the site of the 1788 US Constitutional Convention, where New York State ultimately agreed to endorse the U.S. Constitution and become part of the United States.

There apparently had been discussion about whether to have a subdivision for some time.

In the first half of the 18th century there emerged a civil division in thirds that first called wards, then precincts. This reflected the fact that there was a lightly populated north, a relatively heavily populated middle, and a less populated mountainous south.

The County Courthouse was completely destroyed by fire in September of 1806, which launched what became a

chaotic, contradictory, unpleasant and divisive campaign to not rebuild in Poughkeepsie between 1807 and 1808.

The county that almost was: Gates County

Not surprisingly, led by the highly regarded Van Wyck family of Fishkill, there was an effort to break off the northern portion and create a new county which would be named for Revolutionary War General Horatio Gates. Then the middle and southern portions – including what are today Putnam County towns, would remain Dutchess County. County seats would be at Stanford or Rhinebeck in Gates County, and Fishkill in Dutchess County. This became known as the Division political movement against the Anti-Division movement.

Among a vote of freeholders in April of 1807, a referendum showed little support for the concept, especially within Dutchess County. There was virtually no support in the towns of Poughkeepsie, Washington, Armenia, and Beekman. Stanford was split 50/50. The greatest enthusiasm was from voters in Fishkill in support of Assemblyman Theodorus Van Wyck.

There was strong support in all the towns that are today in Putnam County, but Rhinebeck was the only town in the north that had a strong preference for division.

In 1807 the pro-division bill passed the Senate 16 to 13, but failed in the House losing 47 to 46, with only one of the several members from Dutchess voting in the affirmative (Van Wyck). Further attempts in 1808 also failed.

In 1809 the Assembly passed a bill to construct a new courthouse at Poughkeepsie; and so the issue was settled that Poughkeepsie would be the county seat of Dutchess County, regardless of any subdivision.

Just a few years later, in 1812, the State created the County of Putnam as we know it today. Perhaps because of the distraction of the War of 1812 and more pressing matters, there was far less controversy about this division. General Gates ended up not having a county named for him. That honor ended up going to General Israel Putnam.

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



Above left to right: The Dutchess of York at the time. Dutchess County is one of a handful of early counties that have retained their original honoring of the British Royal Family. Revolutionary War General Horatio Gates ended up not having a New York County named for him. His fellow patriot, General Israel Putnam, had the honor bestowed in 1812. *Courtesy photos*

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

Red Hook Library to hold Trivia Contest at Cancun's

Think you know more general knowledge trivia than your local librarians? Find out at the Red Hook Public Library's Annual Trivia Contest at Cancun's (7483 South Broadway, Red Hook) on Sunday, Feb. 2.

Check-in begins at 12:20 p.m. with the contest starting at 1 p.m.

Admission is \$25 per person. Teams of five or six are invited to participate.

Cash bar and food is available for purchase.

Teams must register in advance by sending an email to Karen Sipperley: sippinredhook@aol.com.

Teams must designate a Team Captain

to be the point person and collect the entire team's entrance fee.

Checks must be made out to "Red Hook Public Library" for the entire team and mailed to:

Karen Sipperley
294 Pitcher Lane
Red Hook, NY 12571

Please note: Early registration is requested and confirmed when payment is received. The library is limiting the number of teams this year; early payment is essential to successfully register.

Direct any questions to sippinredhook@aol.com.

A & E CALENDAR

Through Jan. 26: "Shrek The Musical," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Tony Award-winning fairy tale adventure based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film. Featuring all new songs from Jeanine Tesori ("Thoroughly Modern Millie," "Caroline, or Change") and a side-splitting book by David Lindsay-Abaire, "Shrek" brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. There will be Saturday matinees at 3 p.m. on Jan. 11 & 18. Tickets \$29. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Jan. 10-12: Live Music at the Towne

Crier Cafe, 379 Main St., Beacon. Jan. 10: California Dreamin,' 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. Jan. 11: Sharkey & The Sparks, 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. Jan. 12: The McKrells, 6 p.m. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 door. (845) 855-1300 or www.townecrier.com

Jan. 11: Concert by No Strings Attached, East Fishkill Community Library, 348 Rte. 376, Hopewell Junction. Bingham University's only Disney/Broadway a cappella group performing music from "The Phantom of the Opera," "La La Land," "Hometown," and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," 10:30 a.m. This program will have limited in seating, but standing room will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. (845) 221-9943

Two of Us Productions launches 2025 virtual suspense series Jan. 18

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Columbia County, will present the first installment of its Virtual Live-Staged Reading for 2025 on Saturday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. Featured are two exciting suspense theater radio dramas: "The Moment Of Darkness" and "Riabouchinska." This performance is being presented in collaboration with Roving Actors' Repertory Ensemble (RARE) Inc.

In "The Moment Of Darkness," Marjorie Grey is convinced that her Aunt Hester's interest in contacting her recently deceased husband is being used by the renowned medium Georges Ravel to get her money. Marjorie enlists the aid of diplomat Mr. Blake and family lawyer Mr. Stevens to thwart Ravel's plan. Meeting together at Hester's cliff-top beach house they attend Ravel's séance, but in that locked room a blackmailer is murdered, but not by Ravel!

In "Riabouchinska," we meet a certain John Fabian, a talented ventriloquist being interrogated by Lt. Krovich regarding how a dead body came to be found in the theater cellar. In the midst of this tense conversation we hear a small sweet voice coming from the exquisite varnished box containing Fabian's ventriloquist dummy. To the exasperation of the police, the lovely female doll, named Ria, persists in interrupting and correcting Fabian's answers to Lt. Krovich's questions. As the story unfolds before us, we find out that Fabian has created Riabouchinska and used his talent to imbue her with a life of her own.

This performance is free to the public; donations are gratefully accepted.

To learn the rest of these thrilling stories, R.S.V.P to www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org and then see these thrilling dramas in the comfort of your own home.

Dan Slepian to present author talk on 'The Sing Sing Files' Jan. 11

Award-winning journalist and author, Dan Slepian, will be discussing his book, "The Sing Sing Files: One Journalist, Six Innocent Men, and a Twenty-Year Fight for Justice" on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 3:30 p.m. at the Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library at the Family Partnership Center.

Slepian's book follows his journey searching for the truth about inmates at Sing Sing, and the laborious process of proving their innocence, even with supporting evidence.

Slepian is an award-winning journalist at NBC News and a veteran producer of Dateline. For nearly three decades,

Slepian has spearheaded dozens of documentaries and hidden-camera investigations for NBC. He is known for his in-depth reporting about the criminal justice system, and specifically, wrongful convictions. He has received three Edward R. Murrow Awards, over a dozen Emmy nominations, and has been recognized by multiple justice organizations across the country. Slepian was also the host of Letters From Sing Sing, a podcast that hit number one on Apple's top charts and was a finalist for the 2024 Pulitzer Prize in audio reporting.

Attendees will receive a complimentary copy of the book.

105th Annual Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony set Feb. 1

Join the Poughkeepsie Neighborhood Club (PKNC) for an afternoon of inspiration, celebration, and community at the 105th Annual Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony. This historic event will take place from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1 – the first day of Black History Month – and will honor outstanding individuals who exemplify leadership, integrity, and service.

As a vital tradition for more than a century, the Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony remains one of the most prestigious community events in Poughkeepsie.

This year's distinguished honorees include Pastor Jason Elder, Pastor Maeola Farquharson, Ruth Jackson Cromedy, and Roy D. Watterson. Each honoree has made a profound impact on their respective communities through years of selfless dedication to service and leadership. Their stories highlight the quiet, yet powerful contributions that often go unsung but create ripple effects of positive change throughout the region. These unsung heroes are a true testament to the resilience and strength of our community, with their perseverance and commitment shaping the fabric of Poughkeepsie in lasting ways.

The ceremony is not just an awards event but a celebration of the rich culture and history that define the Poughkeepsie community. Guests will enjoy powerful performances by a praise dancer, uplifting music from a talented DJ, and a moving mime presentation that will inspire and captivate. The afternoon will offer an

opportunity for attendees to engage with local leaders and influential figures, including local government officials, NAACP leaders, and other distinguished guests, creating an enriching experience of connection and reflection.

"This event is more than an awards ceremony – it's a tribute to our community's strength and resilience, honoring the legacy of Lincoln and Douglass, celebrating the impact of our honorees, and inspiring future leaders," said Julia Henry, President of PKNC. "It highlights the contributions of those who work quietly behind the scenes while ushering in the next generation of leaders to carry the torch forward."

Henry added, "This ceremony not only acknowledges the incredible achievements of those before us, but it also looks forward to the future by inspiring young leaders to follow in their footsteps and build upon the foundation laid by our past."

The 105th Annual Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony offers a unique chance to connect with community leaders, celebrate Black history, and make a tangible difference in the lives of local students. As always, the event will benefit the PKNC's ongoing community programs, supporting its mission to empower future generations through leadership, education, and civic engagement. Hundreds attended the last event, and this year's celebration is expected to be even more impactful. Tickets are available now via Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/PKNC2024>.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery 71, 71 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through Feb. 2:** To commemorate its five year anniversary, Art Gallery 71's January feature is a group exhibition of the seven artists that founded the cooperative: Alix Travis, Wendy Sheasby, Evelyn LaStella, Richard Chianella, Trevor Hunter, Mary Belliveau and Ted Braggins. **Reception/party:** Sat., Jan. 25, 4-6 p.m. www.artgallery71.com

Bannerman Island Gallery, 150 Main St., Beacon. **Through January:** "The True Story of Bannerman's Island," Bannerman Castle Trust's 30th anniversary exhibition featuring fine art, historic & contemporary photographs, Bannerman Island antiques & artifacts. www.bannermancastle.org

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through January:** New art installations featuring Melanie Gonzalez in the Victorian Gallery at 9 Vassar St., and Jessica Licciardello in the Reception and Hancock Galleries at 12 Vassar St. **Free public art opening reception** will be held on Fri., Jan. 10, 5-7 p.m. for Melanie Gonzalez in the Victorian Gallery. 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. 2:** "Reproductive: Health, Fertility, Agency," an exhibition that brings together diverse artistic perspectives to address critical issues including birth, miscarriage, pleasure, access to abortion, trauma, and the loss of fertility. Through a range of media and approaches, the artists provide a space for reflection and dialogue on these vital topics, challenging viewers to engage with the complexities of reproductive experiences and the pursuit of agency. (845) 437-5632 or <https://www.vassar.edu/theloeb>

Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. **Through January:** "Objective Perception and Reclamation of Agency," new series of paintings and textile art pieces by Gina Malfetano. **Closing Party:** Sat., Jan. 31, 5-7 p.m. (845) 876-2903

Rhinebeck Bank, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through January:** Artworks by Deztiny Di Meo on display. A Hyde Park resident, Di Meo utilizes a mix of different media to create her artwork, including acrylic paint, marker, pen, and paper clippings. Her artwork has been displayed at the Hyde Park Library, the Millbrook Library, and The Crafted Kup as part of WomensWork.Art Gallery. <https://deztinydimeo.com/art>

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Jan. 10-Feb. 2:** "Artists Choice ~ Member Selected Work," TAG members will exhibit their imaginative works that challenge traditional notions of art with their unique artistic styles, diverse mediums and thought-provoking themes. They make free association between ideas, concepts, emotions, memories and symbols. Opening reception: Sat., Jan. 11, 5-7 p.m. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

Do you need a **Roof, Windows, Siding and Help** paying for it?

*Any leaking, visible damage, or age, may *qualify you!*

Do you need **Energy Efficient Windows & Help** paying for it?

*Drafty windows, energy cost too high, you may *qualify!*

HELP IS AVAILABLE EVEN IF YOU COULD PAY CASH



YOU MAY *QUALIFY THROUGH NEW 2024 RELIEF PROGRAMS

Qualify Today: (800) 736-9629
or visit NYImprovementFund.com to see if you *qualify

*Enrollment is only open during a limited time. Programs, appointments, and installations are on a first come, first serve basis in your area.

Approved applications will have the work completed by a quality repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs. Contractor License: NY: #2719-h14

OBITUARIES

Donald T. Bartles Jr.

Donald T. Bartles Jr., 79, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, December 22, 2024. He was born on March 18, 1945, in Flushing, to the late Donald Sr. and Gellietia (Tompkins) Bartles. His family moved to Dutchess County and settled on Silver Lake.

In 1962, he graduated from Rhinebeck High School and furthered his education at SUNY Albany where he studied Mathematics. In 1966, in Pleasant Valley at the Presbyterian Church, Don married Kathleen Freiberg, and together they enjoyed 58 years of marriage. This was also the same year that he enlisted in the United States Army and proudly served in Vietnam until 1969. This is when Don and Kathy settled in Pine Plains and began to raise their family. He worked for many years as the owner and operator of Bartles Tree Service before going to work as a right of way engineer for Dutchess County Highway.

In retirement, he traveled with Kathy to China, England, New Zealand, Scandinavia, and Cuba just to name a few. He always enjoyed learning something new and exploring other countries & cultures. They were very active in the China exchange program through the Pine Plains Central School District including hosting the Chinese teachers in their home. He chaired the SEED program at the School for many years, providing grants to enrich various programs in the district.

Don was a well respected and active community member in Pine Plains. He served for 37 years on the town planning board, was a town councilman and deputy town supervisor. He was also very involved in the Pine Plains Lions Club. His service was remarked as being legendary, and a shining example of the Lions Club motto "We Serve". Don served as a past president, long time sight chairman, and was an active part in the Dutchess County Lions Sight group. He has done eye screenings programs for thousands of children throughout Dutchess county, as part of the Lions Sight Program.

The family wishes to thank the many friends and relatives who supported Don during his illness. Also, for their compassionate care: Dr. Ryan Denley and all the staff at the Dyson Center at Vassar Hospital. The valet parking staff at the Dyson Center, Paul and Lisa, for their unceasing support and good cheer. The caring staff at the Pleasant Valley House of New Horizons Resources agency, for their support of Carl. Hudson Valley Hospice for their support in Don's final days.

Donald is survived by his devoted wife Kathleen, and their two sons, Ted and wife Angie Bartles of Queens, and Carl Bartles, of Clinton Corners. His four siblings, William, and his wife Judy of Brevard, NC; James Bartles, Jeanne Stirzel, & Stephen, and his wife Peta, all of Clinton. In addition to nieces, nephews and cousins.

A time for sharing of memories and offering condolences will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 from 1:00 to 4:30pm at Peck & Peck Funeral Homes, 7749 S. Main Street, Pine Plains. At 4:30, Reverend Jan Brooks will officiate a funeral service that will conclude with a VFW service. Donations in Don's memory are welcomed to Westminster Presbyterian Church, PO Box 271, Salt Point, NY 12578 or to New Horizons Resources, 123 West Rd., Pleasant Valley, NY 12569. For directions or to leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit www.peckandpeck.net.

Margaret Meagher

Margaret (Bonnie) MacInnes Meagher, Millbrook, passed away peacefully under the care of Hospice on December 21, 2024 after a long illness. Bonnie was born in New York City on November 28, 1940, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Ranald (Ran and Margaret) MacInnes. The family moved to Devon, PA when Bonnie was five, which is where she spent the most of her childhood. She graduated from the Agnes Irwin School in Bryn Mawr, PA (1958). As a child she was an avid, competitive figure skater. She attended Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, graduating in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in liberal arts. Upon graduation, she spent one memorable summer in Washington, D.C. as an intern in the Kennedy Administration White House.

While a student at Vassar, she was introduced to a young, handsome businessman named Raymond E. Meagher, Jr., whom she

would ultimately marry in August 1963. He predeceased her, passing away in February 2023. They were blessed with nearly sixty years of a beautiful marriage filled with many community endeavors, lots of world travel, the enjoyment of family and friends, and personal commitments to life-long learning.

Together they had two children, Ranald (Ran) MacInnes Meagher and James (Jamie) Stewart Meagher of New Milford, CT, and New York City, respectively.

Before starting a family, she taught at Arlington High School; when the boys were school-aged, she taught at Dutchess Day School (DDS) in Millbrook and went on to enjoy a long, storied career there, having both of her sons as students (Jamie twice!), but also having the privilege of influencing the lives of many students over the years. She rounded out her career at DDS serving as Director of Admissions.

While Bonnie was small in stature, she was clearly a force to be reckoned. She was a woman of grace and presence, with a remarkable spirit, strength and resilience and left an indelible mark on all who knew her. While Bonnie had many volunteer pursuits, she was likely proudest of her work on behalf of the Foundation Board for Vassar Brothers Medical Center. She spent many years of service on the Board, becoming Chair in 1997 through 2000. As Chair, she oversaw the \$20 Million capital campaign undertaken to support construction of the west wing addition (new cardiac center, operating rooms, and labor/delivery/post-parturition center) and the Dyson Center for Cancer Care.

She was also a passionate Vassar College alumnae and remained active in association activities well into her 70's, including serving as Chair of her class's 50th College Reunion Committee. She is also a former Board Member of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. Her love for gardening was evident in every bloom. She was a member of the Millbrook Garden Club as well as a long-time member of the Millbrook Golf & Tennis Club. She had a real love for tennis, and was a novice (but determined) skier.

In addition to being survived by her sons, Bonnie is also survived by her grandson John (Jack) Mulvey Meagher (son of Ran, and a Junior at Hobart and William Smith Colleges) as well as two adoring women who meant the world to her: Ulka Patel (long-time partner of Ran Meagher) and ex-daughter-in-law, Ann Chambers Meagher (Millbrook). Many wonderful cousins also survive in CT, PA, and MA, as well as special extended families of friends related to her more than fifty years in Mad River Glen in the Green Mountains of Vermont, and more than forty years spending wonderful summers at Squam Lake in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Visitation was held at Allen Funeral Home, Millbrook, NY on Sunday, December 29. A Mass of Christian Burial in her honor was offered on Monday, December 30 at St. Joseph's Church, Millbrook. Interment followed at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Foundation for Vassar Brothers Medical Center. For condolences, please visit www.hudsonvalleyfuneralhomes.com

June Pierce

June Kelley Pierce, 77, of Hyde Park, NY, passed away, surrounded by family and friends on Monday, December 30, 2024, after a long, courageous battle with heart disease.

June was born in Massena, NY on February 12, 1947, the oldest child of the late William and Theresa (Trudell) Kelley. June graduated from Madrid-Waddington High School in 1965 and moved to Key West to pursue a career in fashion design. Within a year, she changed course and returned to Northern New York to reunite with her high school sweetheart, Bernard Pierce. On July 29, 1967, they were married and moved to the Hudson Valley, first living in Hyde Park and later moving to the town of Poughkeepsie. She was married to Bernie for 45 years until his passing in 2012.

As June would say, she never rested on her laurels. She received degrees in both Psychology and Sociology from Mount St. Mary College and her master's degree in K-12 Education, Special Education and Science.

June's love for teaching was only equal to her love for children. She taught Grades 3-5 for ten years in the New Paltz Central School

David Jon Greenwood

David Jon Greenwood passed away December 23, 2024 at home in Millbrook, NY. He was born July 9, 1944 in Putnam County, NY, to Harold K. and Rita Baxter Greenwood and grew up in Carmel. On his mother's side, his ancestry was Native American (Wappinger), and on his father's side, British. He and his fiancée Nan were married in the ancestral home of the Greenwoods in Yorkshire July 30, 1974 and returned this past summer with family to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Mr. Greenwood's field was art history with a specialization in American architecture and decorative arts. He earned his bachelor's degree in art education at SUNY Buffalo, which included a semester abroad studying art history in Siena, Italy. His master's degree and supervisory accreditation were earned at SUNY New Paltz, which in 1982 named him an outstanding alumnus.

Mr. Greenwood joined Carmel Central School District in Putnam County in 1967 as a teacher of art and advanced placement art history. In 1974 he was named district supervisor of art K-12. After retiring in 2004, he taught Art History and Aesthetics for seven years at Millbrook School. He specialized in pen and ink renderings and his work is included in several collections and books.

In addition to volunteer work with the Putnam and Dutchess County Arts Councils, he served on an arts review panel for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Art in Public Places project.

David served on the boards of the Putnam County Landmarks Preservation Society and the Dutchess County Historical Society, and for many years as an overseer of Old Sturbridge Village, a Massachusetts living history museum. He was historian for the Village of Millbrook and Town of Washington and parish historian for St. Peter's Episcopal Church Lithgow. He was an ex officio member of the Millbrook Historical Society and until recently chaired the Town of Washington Conservation Advisory Commission. Among his proudest achievements were contributing to Millbrook's Museum in the Streets public history project, and coordinating an annual historic calendar for 28 years. It was for the calendar project that in 2022 the Association for Public Historians of New York State and the New York State Museum awarded him the Local Government Historian Award of Excellence.

David was an active Rotarian and he and Nan served as Inbound co-chairs on the District Youth Exchange Committee. Attending Rotary conventions took them throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

In May he was honored by the Millbrook Historical Society, Village of Millbrook and Town of Washington for his decades of service as local historian, and May 16, 2024 was proclaimed David Greenwood Day.

David was predeceased by his parents and brothers. He is survived by his wife Nan and sons Calder and Wixon (Sibyl) and grandson Augustus.

A memorial service will be scheduled at a future date.



District until she retired in 2007 and continued to teach, tutoring young children at her home for over a decade.

June was a creative visionary with an energy, passion and self-discipline that made her unstoppable. Her talent traversed so many areas of expertise, that she could truly be called a Renaissance woman.

As an accomplished, life-long artist of Early American and European Folk Art and Restoration, June perfected her skill throughout Europe, traveling to Russia, Germany, and England. She was a member of the Historical Society for Early American Decoration and took the greatest pleasure in teaching her craft in her beloved studio for nearly 45 years. June often humbly said that she was "not a fine artist" but a trained Early American and European Folk Artist. Those who knew June, believed differently.

Upon her retirement, June finally had time to begin writing. Her first book, *Keeping Secrets*, was published in 2011. She wrote proficiently and with great fervor until her death, publishing over six novels, two books of short stories, a book of poetry and over 12 children's books, including a series called *Buford the Bully*, which provided children with strategies to deal with bullying.

June was the embodiment of kindness and generosity, who gave with warm hands and enthusiastic spirit. She was keenly aware of the needs of others and made it her business to invite those into her home and to her table who had nowhere else to go. Many a stranger and many a troubled soul have been comforted by her wings of compassion.

At heart, June was a country girl who grew up on a farm in Northern New York, but could mingle with the most sophisticated of crowds, while never forgetting her humble beginning. Appreciating the beauty in all things, great and small, June's perfect day might be a Sunday drive in her vintage Crosley, with a pit stop to pick wildflowers on her way to the Consignment Shop where she could search for treasures. Then, with an ice cream cone in hand, she'd head home just in time to watch *Masterpiece*.

June was a domestic diva, who worked daily to painstakingly maintain her historic home, with the stone walls and gardens she proudly created. June loved the art of home-making and entertaining.

June is survived by her two daughters and son: Lori Pierce Holt and her husband Jim Holt of Red Hook, NY, Lisa Pierce Rieckermann of Amenia, and Christopher Klaves of Poughkeepsie, NY, who she and Bernie embraced as their own. More than anything, June treasured her grandchildren: Aidan, Ian, Mikaela and Noah. Until the day she died, June mourned the untimely death of her grandson, Caleb, who passed away in 2019. In addition, June is survived by her sister, Debra Kelley Hill of Waddington, NY, her brother William Kelley, Jr. and his wife Debbie of Virginia Beach, and her brother, Anthony Pagliaro of Miami and by many loving nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her brothers-in-law, Lee Hill, William Pierce and David Pierce.

June leaves behind Kim and Rich Davis and their children Olivia and Roselle, and a multitude of companions and close friends, who she cherished to the very end, as she considered them all her extended family. "The more the merrier" was said often.

Each and every day, regardless of great challenges, June moved forward with tremendous will and determination. She approached each new day with optimism and believed in doing and looking her best—hair styled, lipstick on, and fully accessorized.

A loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, co-worker and friend, June leaves behind a legacy of undying loyalty and devotion to those she loved.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, January 17, 2025 at 10am at the Hyde Park United Methodist Church, at 1 Church Street in Hyde Park, NY.

In lieu of flowers, June has asked that donations be made in her memory to your local food pantry.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home.

Legal Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK CADY FIELD BASKETBALL COURT 1.2.3.

General Notice

The **Town of Pleasant Valley** (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

CADY FIELD BASKETBALL COURT CONTRACT NUMBER 2170.01

Sealed bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Pleasant Valley Town Hall** located at **1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569** until **Friday, January 24, 2025, at 12:00 PM** local time. At that time the sealed bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

The Town has developed final designs and construction drawings for the removal of an existing tennis court and the installation of a new basketball court at Cady Field, located at 1554 Main Street in Pleasant Valley.

* Remove existing asphalt surfacing, chain link fencing, and associated tennis court equipment. The tennis court subbase will be re-used.

* Install new basketball court surface and associated equipment, erosion control, sidewalk, a segmental retaining wall, chain link fencing and gates, and site restoration with lawn.

* An existing water well will be decommissioned in accordance with Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH) requirements. **Lump Sum Bids** are requested for the following Contract: **Contract 1 – General Construction** Work shall be sub-

Legal Notices

stantially completed on or before **June 2, 2025**, and ready for final payment by **June 30, 2025**.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

To become a Registered Plan Holder and to obtain electronic copies of the Contract Documents, please visit the MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Land Surveying, P.C. Plan Room located at <http://www.mjteam.com/bids>. Bids received from non-registered plan holders may be subject to disqualification.

Addenda, if any, will be issued only to Registered Plan Holders whose name and address are on record. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Land Surveying, P.C.

21 Corporate Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065

Douglas Gerber, PLA, 518-371-0799 EXT 357, dgerber@mjteam.com

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 am to 4 pm.

Deadline for questions is 4:00 pm on Thursday, January 16, 2025.

Pre-bid Conference

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 12:00pm** at **Cady Field** located behind the Town of Pleasant Valley Town Hall at 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569. Atten-

Legal Notices

dance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required. **Instructions to Bidders**

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

Prevailing Wages

The Bidders must comply with New York State Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule. Bid security in the amount of 5% of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The successful Bidders will be required to furnish a performance bond and a payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price.

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirements for ensuring that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the Bid received, or to reject any or all Bids without explanation.

The Owner is an exempt organization under the Tax Law and is exempt from payment of Sales and Compensating Use Taxes on materials which are to be incorporated into the project and which are to be separately sold by the Contractor to the Owner prior to incorporation into the project, pursuant to the provisions of the Contract. These taxes are not to be included in the bid.

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: **Town of Pleasant Valley**
By: **Mary Beth Muir**
Title: **Town Clerk**
Date: **December 30,**

Legal Notices

2024

NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION 2025 TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY, NEW YORK

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that I, Mary Beth Muir, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Pleasant Valley, County of Dutchess and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Pleasant Valley for the year 2025, and that I will attend at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, in the said Town of Pleasant Valley from today to February 28, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon on **TUESDAY** and **THURSDAY** and **FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MONDAY** and **WEDNESDAY** 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon. **MARCH, APRIL** and **MAY** collection hours will be 9 o'clock in the forenoon to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon with the exception of **FRIDAY** collection hours will be 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, except **SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS** and **LEGAL HOLIDAYS** for the purpose of collecting the taxes listed on the said roll.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that taxes may be paid on or before February 28, 2025 without charge or interest. On all taxes received after such date, there shall be a 2 percent added interest if paid on or before March 31, 2025 and an additional 1 percent for each additional month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law.

Legal Notices

thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE

that pursuant to the provisions of law the tax roll of the Town of Pleasant Valley will be returned to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance on the 1st day of June, 2025.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, a reminder of unpaid taxes will be sent on or before May 01, 2025. A fee of \$2.00 will be added to your tax bill during the full month of May.

DATED: January 1, 2025
Mary Beth Muir
Tax Collector
Town of Pleasant Valley

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-05-25

EISEP Consumer Directed Fiscal Intermediary

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., January 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, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

Legal Notices

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-02-25

Part 820 OASAS Stabilization and Rehabilitation Beds

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., February 11, 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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: I Catherine Gill, the undersigned Collector of Taxes for the Town of Milan, County of Dutchess, and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Milan for the year of 2025. I will be collecting taxes at the following place and time listed below:

MILAN TOWN HALL: Collection of taxes will be at the Milan Town Clerk's Office, 20 Wilcox Circle in the Town of Milan from today to February 28, 2025 – Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM or by mail anytime – excepting Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

FURTHER NOTICE: The taxes may be paid on or before February 28, 2025 without charge or interest. All taxes received after such date, there shall be added interest 2% interest if paid on or before

Legal Notices

fore March 31, 2024 and an additional 1% for each additional month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the county treasurer pursuant to law.

FURTHER NOTICE: that a reminder of unpaid taxes will be sent on or before May 15th, 2025. A fee of \$2.00 will be added to your tax bill during the full month of May.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: Pursuant to the provisions of the law, the Tax Roll of the Town of Milan will be returned to the Dutchess County Commission of Finance on the 1st of June 2025.

Catherine Gill
Milan Tax Collector

PUBLIC HEARING – PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

the Milan Town Board will hold a public hearing on 1/20/2025 at 6:50 pm on Local Law No. 1 of 2025 amending Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 183 of the Code of the Town of Milan increasing the exemptions for senior citizens and persons with physical disabilities. Said hearing will take place at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, Milan, NY.

PUBLIC HEARING – PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

the Milan Town Board will hold a public hearing on 1/20/2025 at 6:55 pm on Resolution No. 1 of 2025 for property tax exemption for volunteer firefighter and volunteer ambulance service member. Said hearing will take place at the Milan Town Hall, 20 Wilcox Circle, Milan, NY.

By order of the Milan Town Board
Catherine Gill, Town Clerk

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.

SEND US YOUR NEWS:

cschmidt@sdutchessnews.com

Suguru solution

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

SUDOKU
This week's answer

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

DECO	NEO	NABS			
ODOR	COMA	HANOI			
OGRE	IDES	AUNTS			
REPLICANT	UTAH				
	SCALD	PSI			
NEREID	ITALIAN				
APE	LADIDA	UNDO			
MOSSY	UKE	ASSAI			
EXIT	UNEASE	EMS			
SYNAPSE	TSETSE				
	RUE	AARON			
SETS	INCEPTION				
COPRA	DIRE	ROVE			
ALIEN	OMIT	EWES			
DICK	LED	EARS			

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

Classified

Place your ad today! Call 297-3723

Deadline Thurs at 3 p.m • Publication Wednesday

Fax your ad today! 297-6810

Classified Rates

Classified Line Ads
20 words \$12.50; each additional word 20¢

Classified Display Ads
\$14.50 per column inch.

If submitted by deadline, ads appear in three newspapers: Northern Dutchess News, Southern Dutchess News & Beacon Free Press

We are not responsible for typographical errors. A letter of correction will be supplied if requested.

100 Help Wanted
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
200 Services

201 Home Improvement
202 Cleaning Services
203 Lawn Services
221 Professional Services
222 Tax Experts
223 Beauty Services
225 Business Services
226 Travel & Services
227 Bridal Services
295 Financial
296 Mortgages
300 Real Estate
301 Townhouses & Condos
302 Commercial Property
304 Mobile Homes
305 Lots & Acreage
400 Townhomes & Condos for rent

Classified Index

401 Apartments for Rent
402 Rooms for Rent
403 Furnished Rooms
404 Furnished Apartments
405 Wanted to Rent
406 Garages for Rent
407 Vacation Rentals
408 Houses for Rent
420 Commercial Rentals
500 Musical Merchandise
501 Kid Stuff
502 Clothing
503 Furniture
504 Appliances
505 Free Items
506 Computers
507 Sports Equipment
508 Exercise Equipment

509 Office Equipment
510 Firewood
511 Lawn & Garden Equip.
512 Winter Merchandise
516 Misc. Merchandise
700 Pets & Supplies
701 Free Pets
702 Lost & Found Pets
703 Pets for Adoption
710 Garage & Yard Sale
711 Tag Sale
712 Moving sale
713 Rummage Sale
714 Flea Market
715 Craft Corner
716 Barn Sale
717 Estate Sale
718 Auctions
719 Antiques

720 Vendors Wanted
721 Wanted to Buy
722 Bazaar
723 Consignments
724 Farmers Market
725 Collectibles
750 Events
800 Boats
801 Campers & Trailers
802 Motor Homes
803 Recreational Vehicles
900 Autos for Sale
901 Vans/SUV's
902 Trucks
903 Motorcycles
904 Auto Parts & Tires
905 Autos Wanted

Contact Us

Call:
845-297-3723

Fax:
845-297-6810

E-Mail:
sdnadvertising@aol.com

Monday-Friday
9 am-4 pm

200 Services

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-866-448-8311 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

202 Cleaning Services

Residential/Hospitality Cleaning! When experience comes to your doorstep! All cleaning/schedules available. Fresh flowers and bed turn downs with mints! 30 years experience 772-404-1113

204 Health

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-855-399-2582

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-399-2719

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-819-7060

Home Improvement

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-866-247-5728

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-855-399-2076

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-888-605-1496

Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgramFunding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

219 Attorney Legal

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-888-454-4717. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider



905 Autos Wanted

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-403-3374

219 Attorney Legal

DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

516 Misc. Merchandise

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

Autos Wanted

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-888-251-3135.

Real Estate SHOWCASE

Kimberlee Markarian

Associate Real Estate Broker
m. 845.505.9174 | d. 845.244.2188
kmarkarian@bhshudsonvalley.com
kimberleemarkarian.bhshudsonvalley.com



LET ME HELP YOU IN 2025! Most of my listings have SOLD! If you are thinking about selling your home, I'm here for you when you are ready... Please give me a call!!

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES HUDSON VALLEY PROPERTIES
Let me show you the way home.
802 Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524



We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

226 Travel Services

SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277

521 Internet

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-855-399-2803

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

DENTAL Insurance
Physicians Mutual Insurance Company
A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!
CALL NOW! 1-855-225-1434
Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket.
This is real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan.
You can get coverage before your next checkup.
Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE information kit with all the details.
1-855-225-1434
www.dental50plus.com/cyprass

Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

I'm never alone

Life Alert® is always here for me.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Help at Home | Help On-the-Go

Life Alert Batteries Never Need Charging.

For a FREE brochure call:
1-800-404-9776

Call an Expert

For Sale:
Dark cherry wood hutch in excellent condition. Glass shelves, four drawers and four lower cabinets. Dimensions - 5 feet wide x 7 feet high x 16 inches depth. \$250 or best offer. Call 845-406-7733



BOGO 40% OFF
Minimum purchase of 4

+ \$200 OFF
Your Entire Purchase
Minimum purchase of 4

ENDS 1/31

888-448-0421



RENEWAL
by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE, WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.

Plans start at just \$20/month.

Switch & Save Today

844-919-1682 Consumer Cellular

LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!
1-855-478-9473

20% OFF + **10% OFF**
Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget!

*See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AL #036920922, CA #1025795, CT #HCC0649905, FL #02056678-1A, #C127230, ID #RCE31004, LA #555044, MA #175447, MD #MHC148326, MI # 2302212996, #020200022, #020200043, #2109312946, MN #R731804, MT #226192, ND #7304, NE #0145-22, NE #13402952700, NJ #020702, NY #010702, NY #011114, #132220, OR #718294, PA #PAB0303, RI #RCA41358, TN #7155, UT #1029365-1501, VA #270510445, WA #WATM00022, WY #W049512

Get **40% off** your kitchen install.

Kitchen Magic
KITCHEN & BATH SOLUTIONS

Experience a new standard of service every step of the way.

Learn more and schedule your free design consultation.
(855) 281-6439

*Discount applies to the replacement of new, optional, and existing only. Maximum of \$10,000 project value. Offer valid on new customer agreements only. Offer valid through March 31st, 2025. Offer may not be combinable with other offers. Resale #075040000. ©2024 Kitchen Magic, Inc.



SAVE ON YOUR **Travel Plans!**

Up to **75%** more than **500 Airlines** and **300,000 Hotels** across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money



Spend your travel dollars when you get there **Not getting there!**

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now **877-988-7277**

THE HOME IMPROVEMENT HEADQUARTERS

Jacuzzi BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

CALL NOW **855.564.2680**

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change w/o notice. Expires 3/30/25.



Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

Before **After**

LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!

UP TO 50% OFF INSTALLATION

FREE ESTIMATE
1.855.492.6084

ERIEHOME **MADE IN THE U.S.A.**
Expires 4/30/2025

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licenses/

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB
1-855-916-5473

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED **MADE IN KENTUCKY** **BBB** **LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY**

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

Hinchey bill launching first statewide review of TBI care in New York signed into law

ALBANY, NY – Senator Michelle Hinchey recently announced that her bill to improve access to services for New Yorkers with Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) has been signed into law. The bill, S.1478/A.7215, inspired by the challenges faced by former Ulster County resident Hannah Berryan and her mother, Katherine, will be the first statewide review of TBI care in New York.

At 16, Hannah Berryan was severely injured in a car accident, resulting in a life-changing TBI that now requires 24-hour care. In 2021, Hinchey's office worked closely with the Berryans to find care for Hannah in the Hudson Valley; however, due to a lack of local options, Hannah has had to move out of state. Her mother, Katherine, remains in Ulster County, where she continues to advocate for her daughter and TBI survivors across New York.

To support families like the Berryans,

Hinchey's legislation directs the New York State TBI Services Coordinating Council to develop recommendations related to TBI care, including reviewing the availability and accessibility of services, regional disparities, emerging trends in TBI, differences in services and outcomes for New Yorkers served by various TBI programs, and efficiency of service administration. The recommendations are required to be completed within a year and posted on the New York State Department of Health's website.

Hinchey said, "After nearly a decade of searching for TBI care, Hannah and Katherine Berryan came to my office for help when leaving the Hudson Valley became their only option in order to get Hannah the specialized care she needed—a path no family in our community should ever have to take. Hannah and Katherine's fight to access local TBI services became a fight that my office took on alongside

them through new legislation aimed at creating change. I'm proud that our bill, which authorizes the first statewide review of TBI care in New York, has been signed into law because we know it will shine a light on how we need to help people with this complex disability live the best quality of life possible. I'm honored to work with Katherine and Hannah to move this important issue forward and help families like them facing roadblocks to TBI care get the services they deserve."

Katherine Beryan, TBI Advocate and Regional Lead Transition and Peer Specialist for the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley said, "I want to thank Senator Hinchey for her steadfast dedication and compassion in the passing of Hannah's bill. This bill will now bring optics, clarity, and substantiation to the underserved brain injury population in New York State. For over ten years, Hannah has not been able to obtain the

medically necessary treatments needed to thrive because New York does not adequately service or support people with Traumatic Brain Injuries. This bill is the first step in righting what is happening to all people in New York State with brain injuries. Hannah and I are honored to represent this population, and we have dedicated our lives to serve as a beacon of hope for all TBI survivors and their families."

Christina Lebeau, Director of Advocacy and Engagement at the Brain Injury Association of New York State, said, "This law marks a significant step toward ensuring that every New Yorker with a TBI can access the care they need without leaving their community. I thank Senator Hinchey for her tireless advocacy for individuals impacted by brain injury and Governor Hochul for signing this critical legislation into law."

MAKING YOUR WISHES KNOWN

When it comes to your health care and end-of-life decisions, do your loved ones know what you would want, or would they be left guessing and arguing among themselves if you became unable to decide for yourself?

These don't have to be awkward conversations. It may come as a pleasant surprise to those closest to you that you've been giving end-of-life and aging issues some thought, to spare them future confusion in an already stressful situation.

Making your wishes clearly known, in writing, is the basis of what's called "advance care planning." The goal is to create plans known as "advance directives" covering the decisions that are best made ahead of time, while you're able to do so. The directive can describe what you want, as well as what you don't.

NOTHING'S CARVED IN STONE

Your wishes may change between now and this time next year, or ten years from now, or even next week. An advance directive only takes effect if you cannot communicate your own wishes. That's how the directive is designed: to let you make changes as your needs evolve.

The American Bar Association defines advance care planning as "A process for setting goals and plans with respect to medical care and treatments. It requires conversations between the individual and his or her family, key health care providers, and anyone else who may be involved in decision-making. It can begin at any point in a person's life, regardless of his or her current health state and, ideally, is documented in an advance directive or recorded in your medical record, revisited periodically, and becomes more specific as your health status changes."

If you are looking for a simple way to make your wishes known, a living will or a durable power of attorney are great directives to start with. There may be other directives needed to cover your

finances and estate, depending on your n WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT DIRECTIVES?

Planning can only improve your chances of receiving the care you prefer, while avoiding treatments you may wish to avoid. The lack of an advance care directive, on the other hand, can complicate what could otherwise be straightforward decisions about your health care. Without a directive, doctors may try to look to family, friends or clergy for guidance, or to a court-appointed guardian if no one can be found to make decisions on your behalf.

IT COSTS LESS THAN DOING NOTHING

While OFA legal services do not have a financial eligibility requirement, the services are intended for those who would be otherwise unable to afford them. We operate our legal services division on a suggested-donation basis.

Reach out to OFA at 845-486-2555 or ofa@dutchessny.gov, and we can help you get started with the advance directive process. Visit dutchessny.gov/ofalegal to find out more about our full range of legal services, as well as additional legal services located nearby.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO START 2025 – CHICKEN SOUP

Try as we may to avoid them, we all catch colds. To battle this inevitability to a draw, humanity has come up with folk remedies; some of which do work, at least to some extent.

You might recognize the following remedy, taken from Pliny the Elder's Natural History, written 77-79 A.D.: "The skin of the crop of poultry, sprinkled into the drink when dried, or roasted if fresh, relieves chest catarrhs and moist coughs."

It's translated from the Latin of Imperial Rome, but we know chicken soup when we see it.

The medical journal Chest, from the American College of Chest Physicians, reports that chicken soup is indeed a use-

ful temporary cold remedy. The soup's heat clears the airways. Its water keeps you hydrated and replaces fluids. The combination of fats, garlic and spices work together to break up mucus and calm the throat.

And it can't be a can of Campbell's that'll cure what ails you. Too processed, and too much sodium. What's needed is the soup our grandparents would make when we were home sick. Look at any culture on earth. If they raised poultry, they used the whole bird – and made some kind of soup from it.

None as good as yours or your grandma's, of course. But if you don't have the classic family recipe handy, here are just a few from around the world.

From the southern US: chicken and rice soup

From Finland: you might need to know Finnish (or Google Translate) for this one.

From Africa: chicken pepper soup.
From Mexico (and the Caribbean): caldo de pollo.

From Poland: it's called rosól there.

From India: chicken rasam and more.

Of course there's Jewish chicken soup, and many other culinary mashups like chicken matzo ball ramen.

Japanese style chicken and dumplings

And we're not forgetting the vegan spin on "chicken" soup, which includes the important tip for all noodle soups - to cook your noodles separately from your soup, lest the noodles go mushy from absorbing too much broth.

'FRIENDLY CALLS' JANUARY VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

With OFA's "Friendly Calls" program, you can choose to make phone calls to older adults at risk of social isolation, or you can choose to receive calls - or you can do both. For those of you who haven't volunteered before and are exploring your possibilities, "Friendly

Calls" can be ideal. A typical "Friendly Calls" series takes place once a week, for 20-30 minutes a call, for eight weeks. "Friendly Calls" volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. Those who wish to receive calls must be Dutchess County residents at least 60 years of age.

Upcoming "Friendly Calls" orientations at OFA headquarters at 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie are scheduled as follows:

Monday 1/13/25, 1:30pm

Tuesday 1/21/25, 10:00am

Monday 1/27/25, 1:30pm

To schedule your orientation – they last about an hour – here at our Poughkeepsie office, call 845-486-2555 during business hours, or email ledgar@dutchessny.gov.

EBT CARD NEWS FOR 2025

After a rash of "skimming" scams targeting EBT (formerly known as food stamps) benefit cards, New York State is (slowly) moving its EBT system to more secure cards, the kind with "smart card" chips that we've seen on debit and credit cards for years. Here's the latest from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

We'll let you know ASAP when New York announces a timetable on the rollout of new cards.

In the meantime, if you've had benefits stolen recently, the window to have a scammed card replenished is a lot tighter than it was just a few months ago.

Worried about scams in general? Visit dutchessny.gov/scampreventionresources for useful contact information.

Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone 845-486-2555, email: ofa@dutchessny.gov website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging Social media: www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA

Excelsior Scholarship application for spring term open through Feb. 2

Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) recently announced the opening of the spring 2025 Excelsior Scholarship application. Eligible students planning to enroll full-time in a SUNY or CUNY two- or four-year college or university in the spring 2025 term can apply. The Excelsior Scholarship allows eligible full-time students to attend a SUNY or CUNY tuition-free.

"The Excelsior Scholarship transforms lives by making higher education more affordable and accessible for students across New York State," Hochul said. "I encourage every eligible New Yorker to apply for this scholarship to pursue their higher education goals and build a brighter future for themselves, their family, and their community."

To be eligible for the spring Excelsior Scholarship, applicants must meet eligibility requirements, including but not limited to the following criteria:

- Have an adjusted combined federal household income of \$125,000 or less;
- Be entering college in the spring 2025 term;
- Plan to attend a SUNY or CUNY two- or four-year college full-time;
- Agree to live in New York State and not be employed out of state for a duration equal to the number of years you received the scholarship.

To be eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship, students eligible for federal aid must complete the FAFSA and New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) applications or apply through the New York State DREAM Act. The TAP application can be accessed through the

New York State Aid link at the end of the FAFSA. Students who already submitted their FAFSA and missed the link can apply at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

NY HESC President Dr. Guillermo Linares said, "I want to thank Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in higher education and its role in shaping the future of our state. Her commitment to ensuring that every student has a fair shot at an affordable education is transforming lives and creating opportunities."

SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. said, "There is a place at SUNY for every New Yorker, and we are committed to delivering an exceptional educational experience at an affordable price. With the invaluable support of the Excelsior Scholarship, New York State's Tuition Assistance Program, and other financial aid, 52% of in-state SUNY students attend one of our 64 institutions completely tuition-free. This is made possible through the incredible efforts of Governor Kathy Hochul and our legislative partners."

CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez said, "As part of our efforts to help current and prospective students access financial aid by completing their FAFSA and TAP applications, we are also encouraging eligible students to apply for robust New York State opportunities like the Excelsior Scholarship, which has already enabled thousands of CUNY students to attend college tuition-free and provided a pathway for them to pursue and achieve their dreams. We thank Gov. Hochul for her strong commitment to

keeping the many benefits of higher education accessible and attainable to all New Yorkers."

Launched in 2017, the New York State Excelsior Scholarship provides students with the opportunity to attend SUNY and

CUNY colleges and universities tuition-free. By removing financial barriers, the program aims to make higher education more accessible to middle-class families. For more information or to apply, visit hesc.ny.gov/excelsior.

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

