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Ketcham grad Sullivan re-signs with Red Bulls II

By Morgan E. Maier



Dylan Sullivan

For Wappingers Falls native Dylan Sullivan, the game began with a generational love for the Glasgow Rangers Football Club. Threaded in his fibers next to his Scottish blood, soccer is the center of Sullivan's early memories.

At the age of four, he joined his first organized team with the Wappingers Soccer Club.

Twenty years, a continued family legacy and a national soccer title later, defensive midfielder Sullivan is now approaching his third professional season with the New York Red Bulls II. With the ink freshly dried on his second Major League Soccer (MLS NEXT) Pro contract, a new chapter awaits the Roy C. Ketcham High School graduate.

MLS NEXT Pro is a men's professional soccer league created to support developing players on the path to Major League Soccer. New York's season kicks off against Atlanta United 2, at 7:30 p.m. on March 7.

continued on page 10

DCC men hold No. 1 ranking, unbeaten as playoffs approach

The Dutchess Community College men's basketball team has risen to the top of the NJCAA Division III rankings, holding the No. 1 spot with an undefeated 21-0 record (14-0 in Region XV).

Led by Head Coach Robert Piano and Assistant Coaches Justin Kinlock, Conor Maisch, Matthew Randolph and Ian Umpierre, the Falcons have built their success on dominant defensive play and a roster of standout student-athletes.

"We have had much success thus far due to our defensive play," Piano said. "The players have bought into the defensive philosophy. We have been able to take teams out of running their offense and are constantly disruptive. For the remainder of the season, it is one day at a time—looking to improve on the parts of the game we need to get better at while preparing for the next opponent."

The team's leadership includes key sophomores, Joseph Battle, Prince Kamate, Quincey Platt and Seiray Sinerna, sophomore transfers Alijah England and Amadou Diallo, along with a talented freshman class.

"It's been tremendous watching the dedication of our coaches and student-athletes," said DCC Director of Athletics Matt Paquet. "The players have committed themselves to being model student-athletes, prioritizing academics and athletics. Their success can be



Alijah England of Dutchess Community College leaps toward completing a lay-up during a recent game. The Falcons are undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the NJCAA Division III as the post-season approaches. *Courtesy photo*

attributed to the entire college community providing support and resources that allow them to flourish."

The Falcons celebrated their sophomore student-athletes at their home game against Fulton-Montgomery Community College on Tuesday, Feb. 18. They will conclude the regular season on Feb. 20

against Orange County Community College before beginning postseason play. DCC will host a quarterfinal matchup on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.

For more on DCC athletics, including information for prospective student-athletes and a schedule of upcoming games, visit dutchessfalcons.com.

Serino, Childcare Council call for legislative action to support providers and families

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Childcare Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. are urging state lawmakers to address critical challenges facing childcare providers in Dutchess County. In a recent letter sent to state representatives, Serino and the Childcare Council called for legislative solutions to improve accessibility and quality of childcare services that are vital for families and the local economy.

"Access to quality child care is essential for working families, yet too many providers face unnecessary roadblocks that make it harder to do their jobs," said Serino. "As a former child care provider and single mother, I know firsthand how important it is to have a system that truly supports parents, children and providers alike. By expanding workforce flexibility, streamlining processes, and ensuring the

safety of childcare options, we can strengthen childcare options for families while making it easier for those who dedicate themselves to this vital work."

In a letter to state representatives, they outlined the following critical issues:

- Substitute Pool for Childcare Providers – Current requirements for substitutes separately cleared by OCFS for each location create delays and administrative burdens. Serino and the Childcare Council are advocating for a system allowing substitutes to register with local Departments of Social Services, streamlining the process for multiple locations.
- Home-Based Childcare Provider Relocation Flexibility – Providers who move homes face lengthy re-registration, deterring continued service. Streamlining the process for location transfers would eliminate this barrier.

- Staffing Challenges – Inconsistent funding and no financial assistance during low enrollment periods make it difficult to retain staff. Serino and the Childcare Council are advocating for a dedicated funding stream to help providers during downturns.

- Duplicative Background Checks – Childcare workers often undergo duplicative fingerprinting even if already completed for other positions. Serino and the Council urge integration of background checks to reduce delays.

"Childcare is the backbone of our workforce and economy," said Jeanne Wagner, Executive Director of the Childcare Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. "Providers are struggling and families are feeling the impact. We need legislative action that prioritizes

continued on page 2

INDEX

Letters	4
Community Calendar	5
DC Veterans Column	6
Creative Living	9-15
That's Italian!	9
Suguru	12
Crossword Puzzle	12
Sudoku	12
Hudson Valley Naturalist	13
Decoding Dutchess' Past	14
Obituaries	17
Public Notices	17
Classifieds	18-19

• OPEN FOR BUSINESS •

Alpine Construction	p 5	Facial Plastic Surgery	p 5	Roosevelt Cinemas	p 8
Brookmeade Community	p 10	Firewood Sheds	p 6	Salt Point Community	p 7
Center for Physical Therapy	p 2	Impact PR	p 3	WKZE 98.1	p 4
Coppola's of Hyde Park	p 4	Pleasant Valley Department Store	p 11	INSIDE:	
Dutchess Scuba	p 2	The Ridge School	p 6	Adams Fairacre Farms	



Direct File offers easy, free option to e-file state and federal tax returns

Tax season is open and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance encourages New Yorkers to consider using the Direct File program to e-file their federal and state tax returns. After last year's successful pilot program, the IRS and New York State expanded Direct File eligibility to allow more taxpayers to file their 2024 federal and state personal income tax returns for free.

"The Tax Department is excited to expand the Direct File program to provide simple and free tax filing to New Yorkers," said New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller. "The program expansion covers more tax credits and different types of income. Check your eligibility to see if Direct File is right for you."

Direct File is a great option for taxpayers with basic returns: those with one or two main sources of wages claiming the most common deductions and credits. New Yorkers with 2024 wages of up to \$200,000 - or \$250,000 if filing a joint return - may qualify. Taxpayers can access Direct File from their smartphone, laptop, tablet, or desktop computer - in English or Spanish.

"Expanding the Direct File program provides taxpayers with an additional resource to help them meet their tax obligations and claim the credits they deserve," said Yversha Roman, Director

of Strategic Partnerships and CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) with Empire Justice Center in Rochester. "Eligible New Yorkers can save hundreds of dollars in tax preparation fees with this free, easy-to-use filing option."

The average New York taxpayer can save around \$260 in tax preparation fees by using Direct File.

To get started with Direct File:

- Check eligibility for New York State Direct File at <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/direct-file/direct-file-eligibility.htm>. The Direct File program has expanded this year, so taxpayers may qualify even if they didn't last year.

- Check eligibility for IRS Direct File at <https://directfile.irs.gov/state>. New York State and the IRS have different filing conditions, so it's important to review both.

- If eligible for both, go to "File your taxes for free" to get started. After filing the federal return, tax information will be seamlessly transferred to New York State Direct File to complete the New York State return.

For more information, visit IRS Direct File news (<https://www.irs.gov/filing/irs-direct-file-for-free>) and the Tax Department's Direct File webpage (<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/direct-file/>) for the latest updates and information about Direct File.

Hochul alerts E-ZPass users of text message scam

Governor Kathy Hochul warned New York consumers of E-ZPass text message scams. Consumers have reported receiving SMS text messages attempting to collect tolls. These fake texts are often sent from an international number and request the consumer to reply with "Y" to receive a link and contain an unofficial website.

Consumers should be aware that E-ZPass or Tolls by Mail will never send a text or email requesting sensitive personal information such as credit card, birthday, Social Security number or other personally identifiable information.

If one is unsure about a message one received, call E-ZPass directly at 1-800-333-8655 or Tolls by Mail at 1-844-826-8400. You may also directly access the official websites from your browser at: EZPassNY.com and TollsByMailNY.com.

If one receives a fraudulent or suspicious SMS text message of any kind and have questions, you can contact the New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection Consumer Assistance Helpline at 1-800-697-1220, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; excluding State Holidays. Consumer fraud complaints may also be filed at any time with the Federal Trade Commission at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

Tips to follow if you or someone you know receives a fraudulent SMS text message:

- Don't reply to text messages from unknown numbers. It could lead to a scam. Be wary of unsolicited messages from unknown senders that request personal information or payments and don't respond to the message.

- Don't click on any links in the message or attempt to access a website through the text.

- Delete and report the message using your phone's "report junk" option. Forward unwanted texts to 7726 (SPAM) and unwanted emails to your email provider. Use the reporting features that are built into devices or email platforms. Reporting suspicious phishing messages is one of the most efficient methods for protecting you as it helps identify new or trending phishing attacks.

- Block the sender's email address or phone number.

- Remember, it's always better to be cautious. If you're unsure of the legitimacy of a message, avoid engaging with the sender.

Clicking a link from a fraudulent text message puts your personal information and money at risk. Scammers may be able to:

- Install ransomware or other programs in your device that can spy on your online activity or hold your device hostage by encrypting your data and demanding payment to unscramble it.

- Gain access to your personal or sensitive information - including passwords, credit card numbers, banking PINs, etc. This information can be used to take out loans or credit cards in your name or perform other fraudulent financial transactions.

The NYS Division of Consumer Protection provides voluntary mediation between a consumer and a business when a consumer has been unsuccessful at reaching a resolution on their own. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection.

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Serino, Childcare Council call for legislative action to support providers and families

continued from cover

solutions, removes red tape, and makes it easier for people to open and maintain childcare programs."

To read a copy of the letter sent, visit www.dutchessny.gov (go to Departments, County Executive).

Recent findings from the New York State Comptroller's office (<https://www.osc.ny.gov/files/reports/pdf/child-care-challenges.pdf>) have highlighted the critical state of childcare across New York, with high prices and

insufficient slots in many areas. In Dutchess County, 51% of census tracts are considered childcare deserts, with 3.7 children under six for every available childcare slot. The cost of center-based care for one infant can consume up to 10.9% of the median family income in the county, further exacerbating the financial strain on working families.

For more information on the Childcare Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc., go to [https://www.childcaredutchess.org/](http://www.childcaredutchess.org/).

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page 8

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Pleasant Valley Repair Café: Small miracles on Main Street

By Gully Stanford

With the slogan “Repair NOT Landfills,” the flyer announced: “We fix everything: lamps, computers, clocks, cell phones, vacuums, video devices, laptops, printers, jewelry, mend clothing, knitting help & repair moth holes.

“The Pleasant Valley Repair Café also offers free classes in tool and knife sharpening and knitting...and delicious nibbles on the side.”

Irresistible! So I bagged my old, adored CD (and, wait for it, cassette tape) player, which – like Hans Christian Anderson’s clockwork nightingale – had stubbornly retired from playing Sousa Marches and Christmas Carols to far-flung grandchildren on holiday mornings, and reported to the Pleasant Valley Town Hall, the site of these unlikely promises.

I was pretty well certain that the “fixers,” magicians who repair all kinds of domestic appliances, would take one derisive look and send me packing (probably with an official pamphlet explaining how and how not to dispose of irreparable devices).

How wrong I was! Not only was I warmly welcomed (along with a couple of score neighbors) by ringleaders Jean Curlee, Sandra Larkin, Debby Glynn, and Michelle Bear, I got to see a veritable Santa’s Workshop of industry orchestrated by a team of tireless technicians and persistent problem-solvers busily breathing new life into broken but beloved

treasures, punctuated by incredulous cheers as abandoned machinery came back to life. Where else can you witness general jubilation greeting the sound of a revived vacuum cleaner or snow-blower?

I was graciously guided to the table of Morty Morton, retired from an electrical engineering career at IBM, with a splendid head of silvery locks, and a toolbox full of screwdrivers, pliers, solder-irons, and multimeters: he instantly reminded me both of Jimmy Carter, with his kindly smile, and of the irrepressible Christopher Lloyd in “Back to the Future.”

He took in my hopeful gaze, glanced at the boom-box, and rubbed his hands in anticipation of a challenge.

As the clock ticked down toward closing time, Morty, with the calm assurance of a brain surgeon (or James Bond defusing an explosive), carefully disassembled an unbelievably complicated combination of circuit boards, wires, push-button controls, and nameless but essential components. At a key moment of indecision Dr. Morton sought a second opinion from fellow fixer Electronic Surgeon-General David Talbot, who expressed himself unconvinced as to the likelihood of success.

But suddenly, with a twirl of his magnetic needles, Morty isolated a defective switch, cannibalized an adequate replacement from “tone control,” made the exchange, re-connected a maze of wires and screws ... and the triumphant chords



Retired electrical engineer Robert “Morty” Morton is pictured at his table at a Repair Cafe in Pleasant Valley. On the table is a CD/cassette player that Gully Stanford brought along in hopes of Morton fixing it (he did). *Courtesy photo*

of the “Stars and Stripes Forever” echoed through the corridors of power.

And, unlike the classic Ikea cartoon, not one single item remained unaccounted for.

Stanford-Denny grandchildren on two continents will again wake to the unforgettable tunes of history and community, thanks to a kindly, skilled gentleman who

donates his time to repairing other people’s cherished devices...and dreams.

Community at its best on Route 44!

The next Pleasant Valley Repair Café is Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Pleasant Valley Town Hall. See www.repaircafehv.org or www.facebook.com/PVRepairCafe.

All are welcome!

Serino launches series of roundtables to support small businesses across the county

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino has launched a new series of forums specifically designed to engage with small business owners, identify their challenges, and connect them with the resources they need to grow and thrive. The first forum was held last week in the Village of Millerton, bringing together local businesses in the Village and the Town of North East for an open discussion about their experiences and how the County can better support small business success.

“As County Executive, I want to ensure that Dutchess County is not just open for business but is actively working to fuel the growth of our small businesses,” said Serino. “By meeting directly with small business owners, we can learn what’s working, what’s not, and how we can be a stronger partner. Our first forum in Millerton was a great opportunity to listen, collaborate, and share resources, and I look forward to continuing these

conversations across the County.”

The small business roundtables are to foster innovation through collaboration and help connect local business with the tools and the resources that can drive strategic growth. These forums will be hosted in communities across the County, providing business owners with an opportunity to exchange ideas, voice their concerns and gain valuable insights into the support services available through ThinkDutchess and other County programs.

At the inaugural forum in Millerton, participants discussed workforce challenges, business regulations, and opportunities for growth. County officials also shared information on economic development programs available to assist businesses.

Lann Rubin II, Owner of North East Ford, said, “It was refreshing to have a real conversation about the challenges we face as small business owners. Knowing

about the available resources and the County’s willingness help our business if one of the reasons I love to live and work in this community.”

Additional small business forums will be scheduled in communities across the County, ensuring that small businesses and organizations in all areas have a

chance to participate and help shape the County’s approach to supporting economic success.

For more information on the small business roundtables, or to stay informed about upcoming forums, email CountyExec@dutchessny.gov or call (845) 486-2000.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE IS LIVE

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

Dialing 988:

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

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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.

Urges citizens to protect our democracy

To the editor:
Republicans successfully elected a convicted felon president of the United States with a help of his rich buddies, in particular Elon Musk. Musk donated billions of dollars and is now calling the shots at the oval office while President Trump sits quietly by. President Trump's actions are creating irreversible damage here and abroad. Ironically, only Mitch McConnell voted against Trump's totally unqualified picks which required Senate approval. Americans around the country are protesting the takeover of our democracy. Join the fight!

Louise Trancynger
Poughkeepsie

The world of Trump

To the editor:
An e-mail sent to me recently quoted "a glorious day in the neighborhood" and "return to common sense." I responded "We have put the Fox in the Chicken House to guard the Chickens" and "it is more like a thunderstorm that pours down with uncontrolled flooding and destroying all in its path." Two (2) days of infamy have occurred in my lifetime - December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor and January 6, 2021 Insurrection Day. Paranoia and secrecy: Trump quickly fired 17 inspector Generals (USA Today); and removed security clearance from 50 intelligence officials that could disclose his harmful actions. His constant threats and actions - the only news would be Trump false information (George Orwell 1984). Megalomania: Power and Control - The proverb "A Leopard does not change its spots." Trump still has the odor or smell of a Nazi (I lived and remember the days of Hitler). Trump wants to take over Panama, Greenland, Canada and now Gaza. Whose sons will be sent to conquer or die - led by a 5-time Draft Dodger who thinks our Military Dead were "suckers." (Gen. Kelly-spoken at WWII French cemetery) Racist: His anti-DEI executive order to remove references to Black and Women leaving only White (black and women WASP pilots; social clubs, their days of honor); Vilification of legal black immigrants "cat and dog eaters"; now exempt white South African "Afrikaners" immigrants. Economy: Where is the fiscal in-balance improved with top 10 percent of people owning more than the lower 90 percent (Pew research) and any empathy for the non-rich with Trump and Musk "throwing out the baby with the bath water?" His tariffs will add an estimated \$1,250 to the average household (Yale budget Lab). Law and order be damned: His claim of absolute power; pardon of 1,500 insurrectionist followers, Tax cheater; Sex abuser and defamer; hush money coverup. Destroyer of the belief that "no one is above the law." I end with the proverb "Fool Me Once, Shame on You; Fool

me Twice, Shame on Me."

David F. Queen
Red Hook

Invading Louisiana

To the editor:
This is a response to state Senator Hinchey's letter in the February 5-11, 2025, Northern Dutchess News where she defended the position of protecting local doctors who provide long distance medical advice and medication to someone in another state. Specifically, it is reported a New York doctor prescribed the abortion pill to a woman in Louisiana, for which she was indicted by a grand jury.

It is alarming a doctor would take such steps, especially when not licensed in that state. It is further alarming a local politician would support such action and the circumventing of another state's laws.

While there are many sources about the concerns of the abortion pill, I will reference a fact sheet from the Charlotte Lozier Institute dated July 2022 to provide a few data points.

- "Chemical abortion has a complication rate four times that of surgical abortion, and as many as one out of five women will suffer a complication."
- "Chemical abortion drugs are more likely to send women to the emergency room: the rate of chemical abortion-related emergency room visits increased over 500% between 2002-2015."
- "Chemical abortions are over 50% more likely than surgical abortions to result in an ER visit within 30 days affecting one in twenty women."
- "Mifepristone cannot treat an ectopic pregnancy and can mask the symptoms of tubal rupture, putting women at risk of severe bleeding and death." This is difficult to discern when meeting with one's primary physician but can be completely missed when treated at distance.
- "...women have described that their chemical abortion experiences left them feeling unprepared, silenced, regretful, or left with no other choice."
- Adverse events of chemical abortions reported to the FDA shows significant underreporting.

More can be said but this is sufficient for the space available. A good read of the impact of abortion on women, the family, equality and choice, medicine, rule of law, and more, can be found in Tearing Us Apart by Anderson and DeSanctis.

It is no secret New York law permits abortion up to birth, which means the barbaric third term abortion is permitted. Beyond that, we see our politicians favor exporting death beyond the borders of the state. Senator Hinchey may be trying to present the cause as noble but it is without merit. Citizens of New York, particularly women and the little human beings in utero, deserve better.

Rex S. Bridges
Rhinebeck

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.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Rhinecliff Community Parking Workshop set Feb. 19

Morton Memorial Library (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) will host a community conversation about parking on Rhinecliff's streets on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. This workshop will discuss plans to codify parking considerations on residential streets in the hamlet. Call (845) 876-2903 for more information.

Winter Soup Sales to benefit Rhinebeck Grange

It's time for Winter Soup Sales in Rhinecliff, sponsored by Rhinebeck Grange #896. Mark your calendar for the following Thursdays: 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.

PV Rec to host 'Beauty & The Beast' Movie Night Feb. 21

Pleasant Valley Recreation will present "Beauty & The Beast" Movie Night on Friday, Feb. 21. Come dressed as your favorite prince or princess and enjoy a classic movie that's sure to bring joy and wonder, along with a special visit from a real-life princess from 6 to 6:40 p.m., so be sure to come on time. Bring your tiaras, capes, and crowns, and let the enchantment begin!

This is a free event, but registration is required at pvrec.com. Email pvrecreation@pleasantvalley-nv.org or call (845) 635-1111, ext. 203 for more information.

Vanderbilt Garden Association sets volunteer recruitment sessions

The Frederick W. Vanderbilt Garden Association (FWVGA) will hold information sessions for volunteer recruitment on Friday, Feb. 21; Sat., Feb. 22; Thursday, March 13; and Friday, March 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. each day, at the Hyde Park Library, 2 Main St., Hyde Park.

All experience levels are welcome, and weeding help is always appreciated. Those who don't wish to work in the gardens but are interested in history and community are invited to become garden greeters, who help answer questions visitors have about the garden. All materials and training are provided.

Contact Jo-Anne Gauthier (volunteers@vanderbiltgarden.org; 845.224.7093) if you need additional information or have any questions.

Community Program about senior surgery set Feb. 25 at Stanford Grange

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Community Program on Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors on Tuesday, February 25, at the Stanford Grange Hall; 6043 Route 82; Stanfordville. The Program will begin at 7 p.m. and is free to attend. This program will review important information and questions that people, especially senior citizens, should ask when facing a surgery. A user-friendly pre-surgery guide - a question prompt list that can be utilized to talk with your doctor/surgeon - and planning for my future guide that can be utilized to talk with your family to help provide your plans and desires for the future - will be distributed. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869.

Rhinebeck Garden Club meeting set Feb. 26
The Rhinebeck Garden Club's next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 26, from 10

a.m. to noon, at Rhinebeck Village Hall, 76 East Market Street. The program, "From Drab to Fab! How to Take your Grocery Bouquet or Flowers to the Next Level," will be presented by Jay Bell, a floral designer for 25 years in NYC and a member of the Rhinebeck Garden Club. Refreshments will be served. Visitors are welcomed.

Every year the Rhinebeck Garden Club puts together a series of meetings, field trips and events. Most meetings are open to the public, but visitors are asked to join after attending two meetings. For information, call Sue at (845) 797-3226 or logon to <https://www.facebook.com/p/Rhinebeck-Garden-Club-100064834505072/>

Hyde Park Rotary sets comedy fundraiser Feb. 28

Hyde Park Rotary will present a family-friendly Comedy Night on Friday, Feb. 28, at Coppola's of Hyde Park. Featured performers are Matt Pena (stand-up comedian, producer and storyteller) and Gabe Mollica (comedian, writer, and star of the Off-Broadway hit "Solo: A Show About Friendship," featured on "This American Life").

Dinner (cash bar) and show are at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$68 per person at the door. Checks should be made to Hyde Park Rotary Foundation, Inc.

Comedy Night is a fundraiser to benefit Rotary Projects including FDR Honors Dinner, Meals on Wheels, Literacy, Food Pantry, RYLA and SPCA.

Snow date is Saturday, March 1.
More information is available by emailing Hydeparkrotary@gmail.com.

Program on Monarch butterflies set at Hyde Park church

The Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee (HPVEC) will sponsor an educational program on Monarch butterflies on Sunday, March 2, at 2 p.m., at St. James' Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 4526 Albany Post Road (Route 9) in Hyde Park.

Guest speaker Maraleen Manos-Jones (a.k.a. "The Butterfly Lady") will present "Saving the Monarch Butterflies," sharing her recent experience of flying with the Monarch butterflies in Mexico.

Attendance is free, and registration is encouraged. Email hpvecboard@gmail.com to register.

Medical Reserve Corps to host Pet First Aid Training on March 5

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Dutchess County will offer its popular Pet First Aid Training on Wednesday, March 5, at 7 p.m., at Beacon VFW Memorial Hall, 413 Main Street. The training is free; however registration is required at DutchessNY.gov/PetFirstAid or by emailing mrc@dutchessny.gov.

Training participants will learn possible life-saving skills for pets, including CPR; recognizing signs of heat stroke and hypothermia; identifying gastrointestinal issues, allergies, and poisonings; and treating injuries such as burns, eye issues, wound care and more. The training will be presented by Paul S. McNamara, DVM, Chief of Surgery at the Hudson Highlands Veterinary Medical Group.

Rhinebeck Chamber sets business meeting March 6

The Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its March business meeting on Thursday, March 6, from 5 to 7 p.m., at The Beekman Arms.

Business leaders Sarah Lee and Melaine Rottkamp will discuss the economic outlook for 2025 and beyond, as well as the impact of tourism on the small business community. Learn about business expansion and initiatives happening in Dutchess County.

Q&A session to follow. Mingle beforehand with community members and friends. Light appetiz-

ers provided. Cash bar.

The cost to members is \$25 per person, non-members \$30 per person.

Advance registration is preferred at www.rhinebeckchamber.com.

Skilled Trades Fairs set

On Thursday, March 6, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and the Arlington Central School District will host a Skilled Trades Fair, designed to connect students and young adults with a wide range of career opportunities available in the Hudson Valley. This free event will bring together representatives from various trades to provide insights, answer questions, and share information about rewarding career paths in fields like construction, electrical work, plumbing, and more. It is open to the public and students from all Dutchess County school districts, taking place from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 6, at Arlington High School. No RSVP is required to attend.

Local businesses and trade organizations interested in showcasing their opportunities at the fair are encouraged to register online or contact the Dutchess County Executive's Office at (845) 486-2000 or CountyExec@dutchessny.gov. There is no fee to participate; however, space is limited, and spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Register online at dutchessny.gov/TradesFair.

A second Skilled Trades Fair has been scheduled for Thursday, April 24, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Roy C. Ketcham High School in the Town of Wappinger in partnership with the Wappingers Central School District. Register to participate in this event online at dutchessny.gov/RCKTradesFair.

Pancake Breakfast set at Rhinecliff Firehouse

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad will host a Winter Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, 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: csaniewski1@gmail.com

Premier Cares Foundation sets food & wine fundraiser March 13

Premier Cares Foundation will host "Uncorked!" on Thursday, March 13, from 6 to 9 p.m., at Vassar Alumnae House, 161 College Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Savor six exceptional wines as you gain expert insights from renowned wine educator Kevin Zraly. After the tasting, enjoy a selection of perfectly paired dishes prepared by Main Course Catering.

There will also be a silent auction. Casual cocktail attire is suggested.

The cost is \$200/person. Reservations are required by March 1 at <https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/uncorked-for-a-cause>.

ONGOING

Meals on Wheels of Hyde Park and the Village of Rhinebeck is seeking volunteer drivers during the hours of 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Drivers are needed Monday-Friday. You can drive one or more days each week or substitute as needed. All drivers work in teams so couples or friends are encouraged to volunteer together. For more information visit www.mealsonwheelsofhp.org or, contact Andrea Tkazyik at (845) 229-5896.

The New to You Thrift Shop at St. Christopher's in Red Hook has cold-weather clothing, with everything from shoes to coats, bags, scarves, hats...Come in and outfit yourself for the chillier times. The prices are amazing. And while the ladies are browsing clothing, we have children's clothing and toys and games. The shop is at 30 Benner Road in Red Hook by St. Christopher's School.

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Honoring and serving our vets with new programs and initiatives



Year after year, Dutchess County and our Office of Veterans Affairs make the needs of our veteran community a top priority – both in word and in action – putting into place new initiatives that will enrich their lives, and this year is no exception.

County Executive Sue Serino and I proudly invite Dutchess County residents to learn about our new “Honor-A-Veteran” program, in which family, friends and Dutchess County leaders can honor deceased veterans at a series of monthly ceremonies, held April through November, in recognition of their service to their country.

The initiative allows families and residents to nominate a local veteran from their community to be honored at the “Honor-A-Veteran” recognition ceremony and in the Legislative Chambers of the County Office Building in Poughkeepsie or in the town, village or city hall of the municipality the veteran being honored that month resided in.

Dutchess County has a rich and enduring reputation of veterans valiantly serving our country. Continuing that tradition, the “Honor-A-Veteran” program will serve, in part, to keep that history in the

forefront of our community’s eyes; offering an opportunity to learn about the lives and history of those who have served, strengthening the bond between the veterans and the communities they call home; and giving the families of the vets being honored a sense of pride that their neighbors have not forgotten the valor, sacrifice and courage of their loved ones who protected Dutchess County.

To be eligible for the “Honor-A-Veteran” award, the veteran must be deceased for at least 30 days; have served in the United States Armed Forces with an honorable discharge; or have died while in service or missing in action or have served in the Merchant Marines or as a Special Civilian Employee on “Active Duty” during the period December 7, 1941, through August 15, 1945. Wartime and peacetime military service members will be honored, and there is no specific length of service requirement to be considered for the program.

Nominations for the “Honor-A-Veteran” recognition are ongoing, and the process to apply is straightforward. Applications are available online, or you can pick one up at the Dutchess County

Office of Veterans Affairs, located at 1335 Route 44 in Pleasant Valley. If you have any questions regarding the “Honor-A-Veteran” program, feel free to my office, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., at 845-486-2060.

A second new, exciting initiative that will greatly help our local veterans is modeled after the County Office for the Aging’s GoGo Technology ride-share program called “GoGo Grandparent,” which serves Dutchess County’s older adults. Our Office of Veterans Affairs has just recently introduced a similar program this month for the veterans of Dutchess County called “GoGo Veterans.”

This new transit solution will provide on-demand transportation for free rides to non-emergency medical appointments, grocery delivery, home services, prescription pick-up services and for business and appointments our veterans have at our one-stop campus. The “GoGo Veterans” service customizes each ride to the specific needs of its clients and offers security to those using the service by providing 24/7 live operator support and real-time ride monitoring.

After registering with the Office of

Veterans Affairs, the “GoGo Veterans” program will make it possible for you to utilize rides with a network of vetted Uber and Lyft drivers, where they are available, by simply making a phone call or online request without having to coordinate with several entities. The customized service also comes with multiple safety measures in place for the peace of mind of the veterans we serve.

Those who have already used the “GoGo Veterans” ride program have told us it is convenient, flexible and a perfect transportation option for those with spontaneous and changing schedules, which can sometimes be difficult to accommodate when relying only on public transportation and traditional private or taxi services.

Dutchess County is funding the “GoGo Veterans” program as part of our continued commitment to offer programs that enhance the lives of our veterans who have who have selflessly served our nation.

To register for the “GoGo Veteran” program or for information about the new service go to www.dutchessny.gov/veterans or call our office at 845-486-2060.

Stanford Library events

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<https://stanfordlibrary.org/>

Registration required for events unless noted otherwise. Please email stanfordlibrary@optonline.net or call (845) 868-1341

Swedish Death Cleaning: Debunking the Myths and Getting Started
Saturday, Feb. 22, 1 p.m.

Presented by Colleen Ashe, Certified Professional Organizer and Certified Specialty & Senior Move Manager. Honestly, you will not die from reading about or acting on the Swedish tradition of “Death Cleansing.” Come take a seat and learn the secrets behind this practice. Colleen will debunk the scary myths and

give you smart strategies to start your own decluttering journey in 2025. You (and your loved ones!) will be glad that you took this first step! Registration required.

Read to Therapy Dog Jambo
Tuesday, March 11, 4-5 p.m.

He’s a gentle giant who loves to make new friends. People of all ages are welcome to come and visit with him. Sign up for a 15-minute slot with Jambo.

Book Club
Monday, March 10, 1-2 p.m.
This month’s selection is “The Glassmaker” by Tracy Chevalier

Supper Club with Lenny
Wednesday, March 12, 6-7 p.m.

Enjoy a community tasting and sharing event with friends and family. This month’s theme is “On a Stick.” Bring anything to eat that is on a stick from an appetizer to desert. No need to register; just come with your cuisine and enjoy food and conversation!

Chair Yoga
Friday, March 14, 1-2 p.m.

This is gentle yoga with a chair to support and aid seated and standing postures.

ONGOING EVENTS

Home School Stories and STEAM
Students in Grade K-3:Thursdays,
12:45-1:45 p.m.

Students Grade 4-6 (STEAM only)
Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.

Preschool Storytime
Tuesday Mornings
Preschoolers (Age 3-4), 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Toddlers (Age 18 months-2 years),
10:30-11:15 a.m.

Babies (Birth-18 months) 11:30 a.m.-
12:15 p.m.

Stories, songs and free play every week!

Water Color Workshop
First, Third and Fifth Tuesday of each month 1-4 p.m.
Using the Basic Watercolor

Techniques:A Flat Wash, Graded Wash, Wet-In-Wet or Drybrush

We will be happy to provide guidance but this is a Watercolor Workshop not a Watercolor Class. Supplies are not provided, a list of needed materials is available at the library.

Literacy Connections Classes for English Language Learners

Mondays, 6-8 p.m.
All levels welcome.

Knitting

First, Third and Fifth Thursday of the month, 7-8:30 p.m.

Come for knitting, tea and conversation. All levels welcome. Advanced knitters will teach beginners.

Brain Games

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Calling all seniors! Join in the fun and laughter of our brain games! Fun, stimulating, invigorating word games, board games, card games, conversation and laughter!

Mahjong for Intermediate Players

Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon

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The Ridge School

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Stenger Glass Law team welcomes Mariel Gil as counsel

In an expansion of its team and its offerings, Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP (Stenger Glass) has welcomed Mariel Gil as of counsel.

Gil, who brings nearly two decades of experience to the firm, will strengthen the team in various practice areas, including business law, real estate, banking and secured lending, and commercial leasing.

"Mariel brings a depth of knowledge and experience to our firm," said Kenneth Stenger, founding partner at Stenger Glass. "I am confident that she will enable us to better serve our clients and the Hudson Valley at large and keep up with the growing demand for the comprehensive counsel we provide."

Prior to joining the Stenger Glass team, Gil served as General Counsel at Access Health, LLC and, before that, was a senior associate attorney at Levine & Levine, PLLC and held positions at the Law Office of Omer Gil and Daniels, Porco and Lusardi, LLP. She is a graduate of the University of Miami, where she received her bachelor's degree, and St. Thomas University's Benjamin L. Crump College of Law, where she earned her Juris Doctor. She currently resides in Poughkeepsie.



Mariel Gil. Courtesy photo

"Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP is renowned for their legal expertise," said Gil. "I am honored to join such an esteemed team and look forward to bringing my years of experience to the table."

For more information on Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP, visit stengerglass.com.

Millbrook Historical Society to meet Feb. 20

The Millbrook Historical Society will present a talk by James Merrill, Professor of History Emeritus at Vassar College, on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m., at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. Merrill will discuss "The Indian & Mob Affairs": Natives, Colonists and the Dutchess County Land War."

In the mid-1760s Dutchess County became a literal and figurative battleground as Wappinger Indians, colonial farmers, and local landlords fought over the past, present, and future of these lands. First Natives and their tenants combined forces to contend for their

rights in New York courts. Losing that fight, they took separate paths in search of justice: tenant farmers set up a "Mob Government," unrest that culminated in a firefight with British troops and a show trial of the "Mob Men" in Poughkeepsie; Wappingers, meanwhile, led by sachem Daniel Nimham, sailed to England to plead their case with King George III.

This controversy, long forgotten, has much to tell us about Natives and newcomers, about power and resistance, about connections between then and now.

Email millbrookhistoricalsociety@gmail.com for more information.

Tickets to Women's United Empowerment Luncheon available

The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region will host the second annual Women's United Empowerment Luncheon on Feb. 26, at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Jeannie Montano, President & CEO, shares these words of invitation: "Together, let us embrace collaboration and empowerment as we uplift and support one another in our shared mission of ensuring women in our community that are in need have the resources and support that give them a safe and secure space."

Guests will be inspired by keynote speaker Rella Fogliano, CEO of The MacQuesten Companies, a seasoned real estate developer with a legacy spanning decades. With a deep-rooted passion for affordable housing, she has successfully led numerous projects in the New York Metropolitan area, including groundbreaking developments like Tony Mendez Apartments, Hughes Avenue Crescent and Palmer Court Homes.

The event will be emceed by Anne Marie "Annie" Leamy, a beloved Hudson Valley morning radio host for over 17 years, who will bring energy, positivity, and community focus to your daily routine. With her husband, Sean, and their three sons as her inspiration, Annie delights listeners with local insights, business spotlights, and community engagement. Tune in to Foxx and Annie in the Morning on WCBS FM 101.1 and connect with her on FB/Instagram @annieonair.

Two women in leadership who are nonprofit partners will also be speaking and sharing from their experiences in

service to the community. Dareshanie D'Arpino, the Vice President of Club Operations of the Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh who has over two decades of experience in childcare and education, brings a wealth of expertise in managing and enhancing programs that inspire and empower young people. Her leadership is rooted in a passion for creating opportunities that help children and teens reach their full potential.

Additionally, Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier the Executive Director of Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc. f/k/a Safe Homes of Orange County will present. Kellyann works alongside an amazing team every day that is working towards building an informed, just and accountable society so all people can experience supportive and safe relationships free from abuse, exploitation and oppression. They do this through education, prevention, advocacy, and providing comprehensive services, including shelter, to victims and survivors of interpersonal violence, human trafficking, sexual violence, and other types of crime victimization.

A delicious lunch will be served with opportunities for raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. Enjoy meeting individuals who share your interests and take advantage of the opportunity to view and purchase products shared by women-owned and operated businesses.

For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.uwdor.org/womenunitedluncheon. One's \$125 ticket supports programs that empower women and families in need.

Cary Institute to present program on fate of world's largest trees

On Friday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m., Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies will host a public lecture featuring forest ecologist Evan Gora, a staff member and a Fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Gora will explore the fate of some of the world's largest trees and why they are so important.

Guests can attend the presentation in-person, at Cary's Millbrook auditorium, or via live stream. For more information and to register, visit caryinstitute.org/events or see below.

Tropical forests like the Amazon store vast amounts of carbon in the trunks, branches, and roots of their trees. Over half of this carbon is locked up in the largest 1% of trees. These giants, which can live for hundreds to thousands of years and grow to massive heights, play an outsized role in mitigating climate change. When giants die, we lose the rich biodiversity they support, and the carbon they store is released back into the atmos-

phere. Understanding their fate, at a time when tropical trees are dying at an increasing rate, is critical.

Gora is co-leading Gigante, a project exploring when, where, and why giant tropical trees die. Using forest forensics, drones, and computing, he is working with an international team to monitor the fate of trees in large-scale plots across four countries on three continents: Panama, Brazil, Cameroon, and Malaysia. By understanding what is killing giant trees, the Gigante team is developing a clearer picture of which tree species are best at surviving major stresses like lightning, wind, drought, and disease. This information is vital to tropical forest conservation and restoration.

There will be time for audience Q&A following the presentation. There are separate signups for in-person seating in our the auditorium and virtual access via live stream.

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The new mattress

Pop makes a deal.

Watching my father in action over the years has made me very jaded. I have been with my father during many purchases and have come to learn that I have to be ready to get embarrassed. Whether it be purchasing chairs for the restaurant or a personal vehicle, Pop has been a haggler like no other. Over the past few years, my other brothers have stepped in. They forgot what it was like.

On one occasion, my father decided he was going to buy a new mattress. So he went to a local mattress store and started to look around. Immediately, the sales person pounced on him and before too long had convinced Pop to purchase the top-of-the-line bed with twin remote controls that could bend you into a taco shell if you wanted to.

Pop spoke to him for a few more minutes and was able to get him to throw in two memory foam pillows free of charge if he purchased the top-of-the-line bed with twin remote controls that could bend you into a taco shell if you wanted to. However, before he finalized the purchase he was going to ask one of his sons for an opinion. Pop called my brother Anthony and asked him to come down to get his opinion.

Pop: Anthony, these esa "Joe." Joe, these esa my son Anthony.

Joe: Hello, Anthony. Your father has decided to purchase the "Starsleeper 2000." It has dual controls so your parents can set their individual bend ratios and massage indexes to maximize their sleep quotient enabling them to get a better more complete night's sleep while still...

Pop: (interrupting) Anthony, do youa thenka Mom and me can use thisa bed?

Anthony: Well, Pop. This might be a little complicated for you. One of us can

definitely show you how to use it.

Joe: We can show him what...

Pop: (interrupting) I donta know. I thought it wasa too much, too.

Joe was sensing he was going to lose the sale of the top-of-the-line bed with twin remote controls that could bend you into a taco shell if you wanted to, and he wasn't too happy, shooting death looks at my brother.

Anthony: Pop, it's up to you.

Pop: Anthony, what kind ofa bed do you have?

Joe: I'm sure the mattress your son has is quite good for what his needs are; however, I can assure you that the "Starsleeper 2000" will help both you and your wife.

Pop: Youa be quiet. Ima gonna talk to my son.

Anthony: Pop, really all you need is a good mattress. I don't think you need all this stuff.

Pop: Ok. Show whicha one youa have.

Before too long, poor Joe lost his sale of the top-of-the-line bed with twin remote controls that could bend you into a taco shell if you wanted to, and the commission that went with it. Not only that, after Pop had decided on the mattress, it was time for Pop to make a deal, and Joe wasn't prepared.

Pop: OK, I wanta thisa mattress. Now, because my son helped me make the decision, Ia want a 10% discount and the pillows.

Joe: What? Huh? Wait? What?

Pop: Yes. Ifa you no give me the deal, Ia go someplace else.

Joe: Wait? What? Excuse me?

Pop: Wea gotta the deal or am I gonna

go to the Macy's.

Joe: Mr. Coppola. I can't give you that deal. I can't even give you the pillows now.

Pop: OKa, Anthony. Andiamo.

Joe: Wait. OK, I'll give you half off the pillows.

Pop: No.

Joe: OK, I'll give you one of the pillows and only charge you for the second one.

Pop: Ima no stupid. NO.

Joe: (sensing defeat) OK, I'll give you the pillows.

Pop: You a gooda boy. Thank You. Now maka sure I getta free delivery.

Joe: Wait? What? Huh? (defeated sigh) OK.

Pop: Now hurry up. I gotta go and make escarole and beans fora my wife, Franca.

A few nights later Mom and Pop were asleep on their new mattress, happy and content. I am sure poor Joe was not. Maybe he'd feel better if he had some escarole and beans? Buon Appetitto!

2 (16 ounce) cans cannellini beans, undrained

Fresh grated Reggiano Parmagiana cheese

Method

Fill your sink with warm water. Roughly chop the escarole and place in the sink and let soak.

In a large skillet over medium heat, fry the garlic with the olive oil. Add the olives.

Strain the escarole with a colander and place in the frying pan, turning. Season with salt, pepper, and crushed red pepper flakes.

Cook, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes, or until tender.

Pour in beans, with juices and the Tubetini pasta, and simmer until creamy, about 10 minutes.

Serve with fresh grated Reggiano Parmagiana, a crusty loaf of Italian bread and a glass of Pinot Grigio.

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.

ESCAROLE AND BEANS WITH PASTA

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 large heads escarole
- 1 cup of Tubetini pasta
- 1 pinch of salt and pepper
- 4 green olives, pitted and diced
- 1 pinch crushed red pepper flakes
- 3 clove garlic, sliced

DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 15 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 103

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Love of family & baseball excite new Renegades GM Denlinger

Editor's note: Tom Denlinger, the eighth and new General Manager of the Hudson Valley Renegades takes time to talk about family, baseball and the excitement of his new role.

By Morgan E. Maier

The Hudson Valley Renegades announced the hiring of General Manager Tom Denlinger on Jan. 17. Denlinger's minor league baseball career stretches down the East Coast, most recently spending 10 seasons with the Atlanta Braves Single-A affiliate Augusta GreenJackets. A Pennsylvania native and die-hard Philadelphia sports fan, he returns to northeast baseball with two wishes: 50 degrees F in April and fun for everyone crossing the turnstiles at Heritage Financial Park.

How did family inspire your move to the Hudson Valley?

My wife's family is from Ohio, so it got us both closer to home to allow our daughter to be a part of her grandparents' lives. At the end of the day, family plays a big role in what we do in Minor League

Baseball. I love what I do, and the opportunity to be close to home and put my hat in the ring of a franchise that's been successful like the Renegades was a no-brainer. I'm excited to be here and hit the ground running.

When did your career in baseball operations start?

I loved sports, so when I was taking business classes and things I was looking at ways to still have that part of my life. So I started doing internships toward my junior and senior year. My last was with the Reading Phillies, which are probably one of the 10 best teams in baseball. So I had that experience, got it in my blood, and when that internship was up I started my career and applied to a number of places. I started in Salisbury, Maryland with the Delmarva Shorebirds and I've just been able to run it from there, so it's been fun. I've been blessed to be in it this long, and now be in a new market to learn and be a part of the community.

Which Minor League Baseball promotion brings the most fun for fans?

My all-time favorite is fireworks in general. I've been in the industry for 23 years with teams that have 10 to 20 fireworks shows a season, and they never get old. It's always the best promotion because it's one that everybody can enjoy. I love giveaways and things, but that's only for the first certain amount of people. When you come to a fireworks night, it impacts everybody.

What is your favorite baseball memory?

My family and I were at the longest doubleheader [by total elapsed time] in the history of baseball. The Phillies played the Padres at Veterans Stadium. It was raining all night long and the first game ended right before midnight. It's one of those special things where we picked the right game to go to. My family actually left because we didn't think they were playing the second game, and then I convinced my mom to go back. They ended up playing, and it was over at around 4:50 in the morning.

Fun Fact: The July 2-3, 1993 Phillies- Padres double-header ended 12 hours and 5 minutes after the start of Game 1.



Tom Denlinger

What are you most excited for as 2025 Opening Day approaches?

I've never experienced a game at Heritage Financial Park, so I am counting down until I get to see the park in action and to see the community engaging with the experience. At the end of the day, we are on the platform for a family, college kid, grandparent, or a couple to come out and relax, and enjoy three hours at the ballpark. We put a lot of things on paper, but it's always more fun when it comes to life.

Ketcham grad Sullivan re-signs with Red Bulls II

continued from cover

The match will be live-streamed on the MLS NEXT Pro website.

New York Red Bulls II is one of the league's 27 direct MLS affiliates, as a stepping stone to New York Red Bulls. Sullivan joins current Red Bulls II teammate Curtis Ofori as the organization's most recent players out of Wappingers Falls. In 2015 Tyler Adams, Sullivan's brother, became the first player to ink a Red Bulls II contract. Sullivan has 1 goal and 1 assist in 40 career appearances for the New Jersey-based club. This one-year contract is another step forward in a legacy written miles north in Dutchess County.

Days spent lift training in Montclair, N.J., were once spent at the John Jay High School pitch. With his dad Darryl coaching the varsity girls, Dylan was their built-in ball boy. Sullivan's own high school years traded those afternoons

for the elite Red Bulls Academy, playing for its U16 and U18 teams. Sullivan credits his dad, stepmother, and mom, who each buckled up for three-hour round trips to training.

The Academy fit Sullivan's game well, growing him into a process-based player. It complemented the fast, aggressive Northeast style of play. When he left the North's oft-soggy pitches for "attractive" southern soccer at Clemson University, the fundamentals didn't change. The game only grew with him as he matured off the field. Yes, he's learned a lot about soccer over the years, but he also learned more about what it takes to reach every new career step.

"I went to Red Bulls Academy, I learned the system and it really fit my play style well. I grew a lot within that. What the coaches [at Clemson] taught me as well, from a technical standpoint and a

tactical standpoint, and really, just becoming a man. Now to come here, playing at Red Bulls II, MLS NEXT Pro is just another step for me," Sullivan said.

As his third professional season approaches, Sullivan's processed thinking is an asset to New York's high-press play style.

"We are happy to have Dylan [Sullivan] back with the team," head coach Ibrahim Sekagya said in a press release. "He is an athletic midfielder with great soccer IQ that will be valuable for our team for the upcoming season."

New York fell short of last year's postseason, but a magical 2023 playoff run is fresh in the minds of the Red Bulls II squad. For Sullivan and other third-year players, this season builds off those highs and lows of the last two years.

Sullivan's foundation rests on the basics. The big three are - doing what's right, taking care of the body and leading by example. In the midst of preseason, he's ready to get back to business.

"This is when it really matters to get ahead of the curve. You want to be full throttle, especially when the season starts," he said.



Dylan Sullivan, a graduate of Roy C. Ketcham High School, has re-signed with the New York Bulls II in the MLS NEXT professional soccer league. Photo by Peter Bonilla

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Marist women's basketball, Miles of Hope Foundation honor breast cancer survivors at 15th annual Pink Game

By Morgan E. Maier

The American Cancer Society predicts that over 315,000 women will receive new breast cancer diagnoses in 2025. The Marist University women's basketball team and Dutchess County-based foundation Miles of Hope hosted an annual Pink Game to raise awareness of this life-altering disease on a snowy February 15 afternoon and applause from pink-clad supporters marked an annual tradition of honoring what's bigger than basketball.

The Pink Game raises awareness, funds, and support for local survivors. As Marist faced off against conference opponent Merrimack, the 15th annual Pink Game raised money for Miles of Hope with a 50/50 raffle, and featured a sports bra donation drive by The Sports Bra Project.

Miles of Hope executive director Pari Forood raises money 365 days a year for breast cancer survivors in the Hudson Valley. The foundation supports survivors and their families with education, financial assistance, and scholarships across nine counties. Through fundraising efforts like the Marist Pink Out, Miles of Hope contributes millions of dollars toward medical bills, costs of living, and transportation. "People have literally not had treatment because they couldn't afford to get there," Farood said. "They couldn't pay their heating bill, electric bill payments, food, gas, you name it."

After a half-court buzzer-beater shot closed out the first half of the game, McCann Arena's attention turned to the halftime Salute to Survivors. The cere-

mony, a constant at this event, honors breast cancer survivors in attendance as they are announced at center court.

"We're just so honored that [survivors] want to be there," said Forood, "For a disease to have a happy time like this, that's a gift." Basketball programs nationwide highlight breast cancer awareness in partnership with nonprofit Play4Kay, which honors the legacy of late NC State coach Kay Yow, who publicly shared her breast cancer journey.

Harrison Baker, Marist Athletics' associate athletic director and head of external affairs, coordinates yearly with Miles of Hope. This is Baker's eighth year involved at the Pink Game and each Salute brings a familiar feeling. "It's always a special night. And [it's] really fun to get to work with the survivors and give them their moment ... The applause of the crowd gets me every time," Baker said.

Repeated attendance by survivors and local organizations shows the widespread impact of the Pink Game. It means Marist does its job as a community partner, according to Baker. "The cause itself affects so many people. We see it year to year when people come back and want to be a part of this game," he said. "It's showing people that we're here for them, and we're accessible."

Interested in supporting breast cancer survivors? Community members can host their own fundraisers to support Miles of Hope, from bake sales to marathons, lemonade stands and zumba classes. As more organizations and individuals become involved with the foundation,



Jackie Piddock of Marist University drives the ball past a Merrimack defender during Saturday's game. Photos courtesy of Stockton Photos

awareness will spread even further, Forood said. The Miles of Hope website also features resources including a peer-to-peer hotline with trained survivor dispatchers, and local sites where women can receive free mammograms.

Miles of Hope promotes regular screening for early cancer detection, and

representation like the Marist Pink Out can inspire people to take personal caution. "We are a huge, bright pink reminder that you need to get a mammogram this year," said Forood. "Because you can spread the word but if you don't point people towards the resources, you're only doing half the work."

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The halftime portion of the annual Pink Game at Marist University on Feb. 15 included a Salute to Survivors of breast cancer.

Renegades taking applications for Field Betterment Program

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, have announced that applications for the Youth Field Betterment Program presented by Heritage Financial Credit Union are now open. Applications will be accepted by the Renegades from Feb. 1 through March 8, with the recipient being announced during the week of March 25.

"The Youth Field Betterment Program has been one of the most-popular initiatives as part of our community partnership with Heritage Financial Credit Union for the past two years," said Jessica Levinson, Manager of Ticket Operations for the Renegades. "We are really excited to bring the program back in 2025 and continue to make an impact in our community."

The program, which began in 2023, sees the Renegades and Heritage Financial Credit Union award one little league organization with a refurbishment of a field used within their community for youth baseball. In 2023, Renegades and

HFCU staff renovated Sauter Field at Spratt Park in the City of Poughkeepsie, and in 2024 Lee Town Park of the East Fishkill Babe Ruth League was renovated.

Each refurbishment includes one makeover of a 46/60 or 50/70 little league field. Youth Field Betterment proposals may include, but are not limited to, improving existing spaces to increase overall usage, safety, accessibility, and inclusiveness for all participants.

The Youth Field Betterment Program was created to help local organizations positively impact their local community by creating a safe place for their youth to further develop themselves and their baseball skills. The program's goal is to aid local youth organizations that provide players of all abilities with an environment that combines inclusiveness with fair play.

Submissions will be evaluated for constructed ideas and goals that provide a direct benefit to youth from across the Hudson Valley.

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

Suguru

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

THEME: IDIOMS

ACROSS

- Actor Driver
- By way of
- Bambino
- Oscar De La _____
- *Do this backwards to try hard to please
- Range
- Petri dish gel
- Celestial bear
- K-pop home
- *Cold one is offensive
- Sportscaster Andrews
- Outer space path
- Hold title to
- *Take this to commit to marriage
- Bullet factory
- Even, poetically
- Trim
- Sitar music
- Kon-Tiki and such
- Be in a cast
- Very, in music
- Actress Barrymore
- "Long Day's Journey into Night" playwright
- Between Mar. and May
- Annulling
- Loads
- Compass point between NE and E
- Dugout river ride
- Check-in via text
- *Sign of nervousness (2 words)
- One up
- Lowest female voice
- One quark plus one antiquark
- Toothpaste brand
- Riddle without solution
- Cogito _____ sum
- *Leg's partner, price-wise
- Make a mistake
- Robin's house

DOWN

- "Eureka!"
- *They cause no problems when they sleep
- Nursemaid, in India
- _____ 5, band
- "Il Trovatore" composer
- Garment insert
- Month before Nisan
- Torus, pl.
- Word before sesame
- *Cupful that's not for everyone
- Adjective derived from bulb
- Distorts
- *Cutting these leads to poor results
- Prods
- Dot follower
- Lost, in Provence
- Live's partner
- Hungry
- Voting no
- Like Fran Drescher's voice
- Wide open
- Bear digs
- Group of buffaloes
- *Breaking it relieves tension
- *When these meet, one can afford what they want (2 words)
- Remote in manner
- Football's extra point
- "The Call of the Wild" author
- Gold bar
- Dig further
- One on artist's wheel
- Communion table
- Feline vibration
- Unit on a list
- *Easy piece
- Ireland's other name
- Duds
- Edible tuber
- 1990s negation

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 19



A 'Frostie' guest demonstrates ice bubbles

Changing climate patterns have resulted in milder winters in Dutchess County, but there is still the occasional snowy day. It was on one such white winter afternoon that I took the opportunity to have a fanciful chat with a not-so-famous Snowy Man: Frostie. Our conversation started out as merely instructive.

Me and 'Frostie the Snowy Man'

For example, Frostie told me that snow looks white because light reflects off the many sides of snowflakes, diffusing the spectrum. Snow can also appear to be other colors due to dust, pollution, or algae. And, as far as the uniqueness of snowflakes, he explained that their shapes are temperature-dependent and are created by the individual path they take as they fall through the sky.

Our chat about the ice crystals that form Frostie's arctic anatomy made me shiver. Snowflakes are fleeting. They melt so quickly. But Frostie was ready with a suggestion to get a really good look at all the beautiful shapes falling from the sky.

"Place a piece of dark fabric on a snow pile so it gets nice and chilly," directed Frostie as he handed me a scarf. The sun wasn't out, so we didn't have to worry about the fabric absorbing heat. When the snowflakes dropped onto it, I was able to

magnify them. Close-up photos show the intricate patterns and allow lengthy observations. But, even in the cold, snowflakes melt quickly.

Making frozen crystals last

That snowman was not out of ideas. You see, Frostie's pipe is special. Frostie understands the dangers of tobacco use!

"My pipe blows bubbles instead of smoke. And snowman bubbles are quite magical because they are frozen," he explained.

For mere mortals incapable of blowing magical frozen bubbles through a pipe, Frostie had some scientific information. He explained, "The key is making bubbles that last at least several seconds so they have time to freeze. For that, you need to delay evaporation by adding a viscous substance such as corn syrup or glycerin to a water and dish soap mixture."

But, you also will need to blow cold bubbles. If you blow bubbles using a straw (or pipe), your breath will be warmer than a frosty, snowy man's. Making frozen bubbles will be easier if you use a "bubble blower" to keep the air inside the bubbles at a lower temperature.

Here is an activity that shows how to blow frozen bubbles: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Frostie-the->

Snowy-Man-Science-Bubbles-Enrichment-Cross-Curricular-11953653

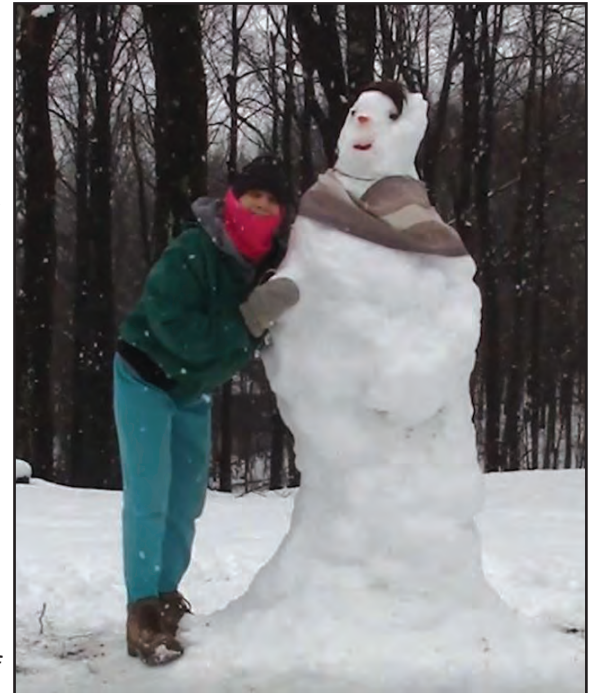
Frostie is corny and punny

This snowy man's pipe is made out of corn ... and maybe he is, as well! I asked Frostie a few biographical questions as we examined our frozen bubbles. He told me his parents' names were Mom and Pop-Sicle and he that has a very close relationship with his mom's sister, Aunt Arctica.

I rolled my eyes.

When we stopped for lunch, I was not surprised that the menu consisted of ice-burgers with chili sauce and cake with frosting. When he left, he traveled by icicle.

Francine Wizner is a native of the Hudson Valley. She grew up in the Catskills of Greene County and spent over three 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



Our intrepid columnist "chills" with "Frostie the Snowy Man." Courtesy photo

her at <https://medium.com/@wiznerf>, <https://substack.com/@gkatzchronicle>, and <https://www.pleasantvalleymaplelodging.com/>.



Francine noted: "Bubbles made with a Bubble Blower (squeeze bottle) were smaller than those that I blew through a straw. I placed my large 'warm' bubble in the freezer to get it to crystalize, so it would not be disturbed by the wind." Photos by Francine Wizner

THE TWO OF US PRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS

The Two Of Us Productions, the award-winning theater company based in Columbia County, will hold auditions for "Girl With A Camera" by Byron Nilsson. Auditions will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m.; and Friday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. Audition and Callbacks will be held on Sunday, March 2, at 2 p.m.

All auditions are held at the Claverack Library's Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery, located at 629 NY-23B, Claverack. Performances are May 9-18, 2025 at the Claverack Library.

Sides will be provided at the audition.

For more information or to get the sides in advance, please write the director at StephenSanbornPhD@gmail.com.

Synopsis: How does a creative artist come to terms with sudden fame? Photographer Ivy Wilmot found success as a photo-journalist but became a public figure when she married a movie star. As the marriage unraveled, so too did her career. There was another man in love with her – but he was the FBI agent investigating her father. "Girl With A Camera" shows us a life that couldn't be constrained in the borders of a photograph.

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Navigating wealth & poverty: the local 19th-century Black community

By Bill Jeffway

“Navigating Wealth & Poverty: Economic Diversity of the local 19th-Century Black Community” is the subject of a talk on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. on Zoom by the Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS). Sponsorship by the Dutchess County Government in recognition of Black History Month allows us to offer the event at no charge, and it will be available on demand at DCHS’s Virtual Event Space after Feb 22. Details/RSVP at www.dchsn.org. This provides an introduction to that talk.

From its inception, the Dutchess County economy has been at the crossroads of great economic currents. From the earliest times of Dutch settlement it has operated in the economic realms of global trade right down to the smallest economic unit of the self-sufficient farm. We examine how the Black community, focusing on the 19th century in particular, engaged in all those economic levels locally. We find extremes of wealth and poverty, and a growing middle class of professionals who often worked within, or intersected with, these various levels of economic activity. Likely because of the pervasiveness of slavery even in the most rural parts of the county until its abolition in New York State in 1827, communities of color were present in both built up and the most remote in-land rural areas.

Paul Cuffee (1769–1817) Global Whaling & Trading Captain

We profile Paul Cuffee, who was as a leading Captain of a global whaling vessel who happened to be Black and who had an entirely Black crew. Based from New Bedford, he would go on whaling

trips that might take two or three years and involve navigation around the world. Like many successful Black entrepreneurs, he was involved in developing ideas to address racial justice issues, as well as whaling and trading of cargo for business income.

It is this trading in cargo that specifically engaged him with Poughkeepsie at the end of the War of 1812 with Britain. Abram Lincoln Harris wrote about Cuffee in his landmark 1936 book, “The Negro Capitalist,” explaining that among Cuffee’s cargo in 1815 was African camwood which he sold at Poughkeepsie. Camwood was a very popular item, which when ground, could provide a deep red, or reddish brown color that was very popular.

The United States had not yet moved to the mass manufacturing of clothing. Individuals still bought different color dyes for use at home, although industrial-scale demand was very much growing locally at the time. An advertisement in the Poughkeepsie Eagle of 1815 for Barnes & Willoughby, a general store, offers “camwood” for sale among other dyes. Camwood is made from the heartwood of baphia natida, a small evergreen tree or bush native to West Africa that is a deep, warm red or reddish brown. We don’t know what he paid for the Camwood in Africa, but Harris reports Cuffee sold it in Poughkeepsie at \$100 per ton.

Jeremiah G. Hamilton (1806–1875) America’s first Black Millionaire

A generation later, just before the Civil War, Jeremiah G. Hamilton was described as “the only Black millionaire in New York.” The term “robber baron” described the aggressive tactics and



Paul Cuffee (1769-1817) was a world-famous whaling captain who sailed around the world and used the port of Poughkeepsie to sell cargo such as a rare African wood used for color dyeing. In the 19th century there was a large Black population involved in the river industry from riverboat captains and crew to stevedores. The image shows the Exchange Hotel at the foot of Main Street while the insets show a notebook used in the 1840s to collect census data showing Blacks at that hotel working as waiters and stewards. Photo and ledger DCHS Collections

nature of the emerging newly wealthy, like the Vanderbilts, and Hamilton fit that mold and reputation, as well!

Hamilton’s embrace of Poughkeepsie was not just a place of investment, but a potential place to reside. What caught his attention was what remains the single biggest blueprint for growth for Poughkeepsie: plans through The Improvement Party. The group consisted of local wealthy men like Matthew Vassar, who tapped into investors in New York City, like James Delafield, for whom Delafield Avenue is named in Poughkeepsie, and Hamilton.

In 1836 Hamilton invested in three things in particular that the Party proposed. One was the silk mill at Upper Landing, where he became a shareholder. Another was the purchase of Union Landing, a 400-foot-long dock, including three large storehouses, as well as a nearby five acres of land at the foot of Union Street at the Hudson River. And the third, perhaps the most visible, was his purchase of land and a significant house built in the grand Greek Revival style on Mansion Square, an area being developed by the Improvement Party.

The timing could not have been worse. By the spring of 1837 the national financial crisis derailed those plans, and the plans of virtually everyone who had invested in anything at the time. Recovery was years off and Hamilton went bankrupt, like many others.

On the Other End of the Spectrum: Getting By

DCHS Collections holds the writings of Thomas Sweet Lossing, who wrote in the 1930s about his childhood memories in Dover in the 1870s and 1880s. Among many topics he writes about is the significant Black community which provides uniquely detailed insights. He was the son of the noted historian of Dover, Benson J. Lossing.

“Their occupation mostly consisted of selling wild berries and making all kinds of splint baskets which they sold to the farmers of the surrounding countryside. It was said of Jackie [Duncan] that he could make a watertight basket. Amos [Duncan] would often come to our place

with all sized baskets and usually succeeded in making a sale of some description as we use a great many. There always had to be a replenishment of bushel baskets for corn husking, and half-bushel baskets for apple picking, and a basket about 6 inches wide and 14 inches long which we painted red for our mother’s garden basket. One other basket we always had to be sure of having that was my mother’s key basket. This was a basket about 6 inches square and about 4 in deep with a strong handle. It was painted black and varnished with a little yellow stripe up under the rim to match the furniture in her bedroom.”

We know of other basket makers at the time, like Milan’s Jacob Lyle before the Civil War. And we will examine a host of other such activities.

The Bulk of Economic Activity: A Burgeoning Middle Class

A growing part of the population worked in a burgeoning middle class that included the better known trades of barbers, tailors, gardeners and domestics. The descriptor “gardener” may understate the roles of someone like Alexander Gilson, who was head gardener at Montgomery Place at Red Hook. He bred a unique double-blossoming Begonia which has the official Latin name of Begonia Gilsonia.

Blacks’ growing political influence affected job prospects and economics. The Bolin family is well known for this, but there are other examples. William K. Mowers of Amenia ended up working (and suffering a fatal heart attack in the office of) the US Secretary of the Treasury in Washington DC. A woman’s seamstress business came to employ others, including White women. Property ownership, and work in education and churches were among the stepping stones used for multi-generational economic advancement.

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.



Unknown individuals from the 19th-century family album of Alma and Henry Jackson of the Town of Milan. Patrice was the great-grandson of the Jacksons. An analysis of the clothing of those in the local family album suggests a range of economic status, worn with equal pride and care. DCHS Image Collections, gift of Walter M. Patrice



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HV Symphony concert to feature Broadway legend Hugh Panaro

Vocalist Hugh Panaro, well known for performing as the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom of the Opera" over 2,000 times, joins the HVSO to present "A Night of Broadway." Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor André Raphael will lead the orchestra for this Pops concert packed with Broadway hits. The performance will take place in Seeger Theater at Beacon High School on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

The Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra invites concertgoers to explore a wide range of Broadway gems from "The Music Man," "Jersey Boys," "Wicked," and of course, "The Phantom of the Opera." The evening will be filled with some of the most iconic music written for the stage.

Tickets are \$68 for Premium Reserved Seating; \$55 for General Open Seating; \$38 or Senior Open Seating; \$15 for Students K-12 and college; and free for children age 5 and younger. For tickets, visit <https://www.hudsonvalleysymphony.org/events>

Seeger Theater at Beacon High School is at 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon. The doors will open at 6:45 pm.

About Hugh Panaro

Panaro is perhaps best known for having played the coveted role of the Phantom in Broadway's "The Phantom of the Opera" over 2,000 times, including the 25th Anniversary production. In fact, he is one of the few actors to be cast by Harold Prince as both The Phantom and Raoul in the show's Broadway production and recently starred as the title role in the New York production of "Sweeney Todd."

Panaro made his Broadway debut in the original production of "Les Misérables" as Marius, the role he originated in the First National Company. He also created the roles of Buddy in the original "Side Show" (Sony cast recording); Julian Craster in Jule Styne's last musical, "The Red Shoes"; and the title role in the American premiere of Cameron Mackintosh's "Martin Guerre." Panaro was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award for his performance in the title role of Elton John's "Lestat," based on Anne Rice's Vampire Chronicles.

He made his West End debut in the original London company of Harold Prince's "Show Boat" as Gaylord Ravenal, the role he previously played in the Broadway and Toronto productions. Other roles include George Seurat in "Sunday in the Park with George," and



Hugh Panaro. Courtesy photo

Robert in Stephen Sondheim's "Company." Panaro's performance as Jean Valjean in the Walnut Street Theater's production of "Les Misérables" earned him the prestigious Barrymore Award, for which he was again nominated after a turn as Fagin in "Oliver!" In 2012, Panaro was honored with the Edwin Forrest Award for his long-term contribution to the theater.

An active concert artist, Panaro has performed with numerous symphony orchestras including the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, The Cleveland Orchestra, Philly Pops, Dallas, Detroit, San Francisco, Seattle, Utah Symphonies, and the London Sinfonietta, among many others.

About Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1932 as the Dutchess County Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra (HVSO) has a long history of bringing musical inspiration to people of all ages throughout the Hudson Valley. Under various forms, the orchestra has served the communities in Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, and surrounding counties. In 1959, Claude Montoux brought the musicians to prominence, organized as the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Society, Inc., a fully professional regional orchestra performing Classics and Pops concerts and bringing educational programs to area school children. In 2024, the orchestra reorganized once again and became self-managed. Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor André Raphael leads the HVSO as it begins this new chapter. Visit www.hudsonvalleysymphony.com for more information.

A & E CALENDAR

Feb. 19 & 23: Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, "Rodney and Juliet's Wedding," various location. Love and mystery are in the air at Murder Cafe's 27th annual Valentine's-themed murder mystery dinner. Not your average tale of star-crossed lovers, "Rodney and Juliet's Wedding" tells the story of happy couple Rodney Woodbead and Juliet Hogg, whose families can't get along despite the couple's approaching nuptials. The Woodbeads see the Hogs as a bunch of ignorant mountaineers, and the Hogs think the Woodbeads are a bunch of stuck-up snobs. Just as the pair plans to convince the others to put their differences aside, a murder occurs on the day of the wedding; and audience members are invited as wedding guests to help Detective Little solve the case. Performances: Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.: The Venue Uptown at the Best Western, Kingston. Saturday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m.: The Eldred Preserve, Eldred, NY. Tickets at MurderCafe.net

Feb. 20: Premier Performances Film Series, Poughkeepsie & Kingston. Monthly series focuses on legendary stars of stage and screen in some of their most memorable roles. This month: "Little Richard: I Am Everything" (2023), screening at 7:30 p.m. at the Bardavon (35 Market St., Poughkeepsie) and UPAC (601 Broadway, Kingston). Free. No reservations required. Bardavon screening features a 30-minute pre-show concert by Juan Cardona Jr. on the Bardavon's Mighty Wurlitzer organ, courtesy of the New York Theatre Organ Society. www.bardavon.org

Feb. 21: Richard's Rhinecliff Acoustic Show, Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Featuring: Maureen and Don Black, Greg Dinger, Barbara Dempsey, Cheryl and Kurt, 8 p.m. Donations to benefit Morton are suggested. Call (845) 876-7007 for more info.

Feb. 21-22: "Into the Breeches," County Players Falls Theatre, 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls. Comedy by George Brant. With the actors and director off at war, a group of passionate women face the daunting challenge of preserving the theater's reputation for mounting outstanding Shakespearean productions. Crammed with laughs and an abundance of visual humor, their fierce determination and unbridled enthusiasm will have audiences cheering as they prove that art and community triumph, even in times of peril. Directed by Christine Crawfis. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 22, 2 p.m. Tickets: adult \$26; senior 60+, military, students (with ID at the door) & children under 12, \$24. (845) 298-1491 or countyplayers.org

Feb. 21-23: The Two Of Us Productions Presents "Clue On Stage," Theater at Copake Grange, 628 Empire Road in Copake. Based on the iconic 1985 Paramount movie which was inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, "Clue" is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. The tale takes place at a remote mansion, where six mysterious guests assemble for an unusual dinner party where murder and blackmail are on the menu. When their host turns up dead, they all become suspects. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students & seniors; call for group rates. For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 758-1648.

Feb. 21-March 2: "The Mousetrap," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. Up In One Productions, in collaboration with The Center, presents the iconic murder mystery

play by Agatha Christie. As a snowstorm traps guests at a newly opened countryside inn, an unsettling message arrives: a murderer is on the loose, and the killer may be among them. Tensions rise, secrets unravel, alliances shift, and danger closes in as Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" keeps audiences on the edge of their seats until the jaw-dropping final twist. In this thrilling tale of deception and intrigue, "The Mousetrap" challenges the audience to put on their detective hats, solve the mystery, and, as always, keep the secret of the killer's identity once the curtain falls. Performances: Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 22, 8 p.m.; Sat., March 1, 3 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. (845) 876-3080 or www.cenferperformingarts.org

Feb. 22: Jazz Age Concert, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. As part of their ongoing Winter Concert Series, the Millbrook Arts Group presents "Charleston! Songs and Instrumentals from the Jazz Age," with internationally recognized pianist, vocalist, and musicologist Peter Muir, PhD, 5-6:30 p.m. An exhilarating, toe-tapping celebration of American music of the 1920s: blues, show tunes, pop songs, and above all jazz, the new, effervescent style that embodied the spirit of the decade. Including works by George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Jelly Roll Morton, James P. Johnson and many others, this lecture recital offers an inspiring look at this remarkably vibrant and creative era in American music. A pre-show reception starts at 4:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. RSVP requested but not required through the library's events calendar at <https://millbrooklibrary.org>. More info: <https://millbrookartsgroup.org> and <https://petermuir.com/>

Feb. 22: Movies with Spirit, "Mudbound," New Progressive Baptist Church, 8 Hone St., Kingston. (Rescheduled from Feb. 15 due to weather) Gripping drama about racial tensions and hardships in 1940s Mississippi, 7 p.m. The 2017 film runs 2 hours 14 minutes; rated R. The screening will be followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be served. Attendees over age 12 are asked to contribute \$10 a person. More info: (845) 389-9201 or gerryharrington@mindspring.com

Feb. 23: Ilana Kaplan, "Nora Ephron at the Movies," The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton. A special screening of "When Harry Met Sally," followed by a Q&A with author Ilana Kaplan, 7 p.m. Tickets \$100, includes one copy of Norah Ephron at the Movies (a \$50 value) + 2 seats to the event. A portion of the proceeds will go to support The Moviehouse. (845) 876-0500, events@oblongbooks.com

Feb. 25: Screening and Q&A, "Against All Odds: The Fight for a Black Middle Class," Morton Memorial Library, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff. Documentary looks at the extraordinary difficulty African Americans have faced in their efforts to establish a middle-class standard of living. Through dramatic historical footage and deeply moving personal interviews, the documentary explores the often frustrated efforts of black families to pursue the American dream. 6 p.m. Journalist Bob Herbert interviews prominent African Americans - including Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Isabel Wilkerson, Congressman Elijah Cummings, renowned psychologist and author Alvin Poussaint, and policy activist Angela Glover Blackwell - who share generational stories of profoundly damaging economic and social prejudice. Join journalist Bob Herbert and producer Sally Roy for a Q&A following the screening. (845) 876-2903

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 9)

Stars
Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 103

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Agatha Christie's classic whodunit 'The Mousetrap' comes to Rhinebeck

Up In One Productions, in collaboration with The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, will present the iconic murder mystery play "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. The production will run from Feb. 21 to March 2, with performances on Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 22, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 1, at 3 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are available for \$25, and can be purchased at centerforperformingarts.org.

As a snowstorm traps guests at a newly opened countryside inn, an unsettling message arrives: a murderer is on the loose, and the killer may be among them. Tensions rise, secrets unravel, alliances shift, and danger closes in as Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" keeps audiences on the edge of their seats until the jaw-dropping final twist. In this thrilling tale of deception and intrigue, "The Mousetrap" challenges the audience to put on their detective hats, solve the mystery, and, as always, keep the secret of the killer's identity once the curtain falls.

Featuring an ensemble cast of local talent including Shelli Koffman, Joshua Ezra, Justin Doro, Elaine Young, Champ Knecht, Cassidy Browne, Rik Lopes, and Jackson Bowles, "The Mousetrap" promises to be a gripping and unforgettable evening. The production is directed by

Vera Perry, whose recent directorial work includes Pushkin's "The Little Tragedies" in The Center's new Black Box space.

A timeless classic, "The Mousetrap" first debuted in London's West End in 1952, and holds the title of the longest-running play in the world. Originally created as a radio drama for Queen Mary's 80th birthday, Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" has captivated audiences for decades with its suspenseful plot and unexpected twists. As one of the best-known works in Christie's vast catalog, this play brings the art of the whodunit to life and leaves audiences guessing until the very end.

Note: This production includes the use of fake cigarettes and cigars.

The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck experienced a period of great adjustment over the past five years, from the challenges of keeping the venue open during the COVID-19 pandemic to the loss of two beloved leaders: Kevin Archambault, who passed in January 2022; and Lou Trapani, who passed just months ago in July 2024. Despite these hardships, The Center remains steadfast in its mission to provide quality entertainment, a safe and welcoming space for the arts, and a place for creative exploration.

Under the leadership of Managing



The cast of Up In One Productions' "The Mousetrap" is pictured. Agatha Christie classic whodunit opens this Friday, Feb. 21, at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. *Courtesy photo*

Director Kerry Dotson, Creative Director Olivia Michaels Bogert, and Director of Education Victoria Howland, The Center continues to evolve, adding a new Black Box space, expanding educational programs, and by working with a wide range of artists from all backgrounds.

"The Mousetrap" is not only an essen-

tial part of Agatha Christie's legacy, but also aims to be a part of The Center's legacy of resilience and dedication to the arts. Join us for a thrilling night of suspense and mystery that you won't soon forget.

The Center is at 661 Route 308, just east of the Village of Rhinebeck.

Dutchess County arts & cultural funding available

For over 60 years, Arts Mid-Hudson (AMH) has taken a lead role in equitably distributing Dutchess County arts and cultural funds to Dutchess County arts organizations, so that both residents and visitors to the region can enjoy a rich offering of arts. Through a partnership with the Office of the County Executive and Dutchess Tourism, AMH is pleased to partner with arts organizations to support capacity-building initiatives and implement arts and cultural programs.

AMH seeks partners that have a history of achievement in the arts, good management, stable finances, and self-sustaining programs with the potential to make a measurable impact.

The deadline to apply is Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

Complete information is available at <https://www.artsmidhudson.org/dutchess-partners-in-the-arts>

Capacity Building Initiatives support initiatives which grow the capacity of arts and cultural organizations in Dutchess County. This funding opportunity is made possible through funding from the County of Dutchess. This funding oppor-

tunity is made possible through funding from the County of Dutchess.

Programmatic Support funds may be used for arts and cultural events, new and existing, which engage visitors and residents of Dutchess County. All programs must have a stated focus on generating a measurable impact on tourism in Dutchess County. This funding opportunity is made possible through funding from Dutchess Tourism, Inc.

Information Session: A recording of the Info Session is available. Q&A Sessions will be held on Zoom weekly to assist applicants with the process. Go to www.artsmidhudson.org for more information.

Contact AMH with accommodation requests. AMH provides free in-depth support including informational videos, resources, one-on-one appointments, and draft review.

If you are unable to attend any of the sessions, and still wish to apply, contact the AMH Grants Team in advance of the deadline at (845) 454-3222 or grants@artsmidhudson.org.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery 71, 71 E. Market St., Rhinebeck. **Through March 2:** "Primordial," a collection of oil paintings by this month's featured artist, KP Devlin. Drawing inspiration from his dreams and meditation visions, as well as imagery from artists such as Hieronymus Bosch, Remedios Varo and David Lynch, Devlin's paintings weave humorous and horrifying images into hallucinogenic landscapes, oozing with saturated primary colors and graded earthtones. www.artgallery71.com

Millbrook Arts Project, Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook. **Through March 1:** "Ann Ledy: Circle + Square," an exhibition in 2- and 3-dimensions. (845) 677-3611 or www.millbrooklibrary.org

Tivoli Artists Gallery, 60 Broadway, Tivoli. **Through March 2:** "Winter Blues," an uplifting take on winter in all its glory. This captivating exhibit delves into the artists' interpretations of winter's beauty and majesty. (845) 757-2667 or www.tivoliartistsgallery.com

WomensWork.art, 12 Vassar St., 3rd Floor, Poughkeepsie. **Through Feb. 23:** "Perfectly Imperfect: The Flawed Beauty of the Human Form," focusing on sharing the works of artists depicting the human form in all its beauty and the limitations modern Western culture has placed on it throughout time, and experiencing the theme of the human form through the recent societal upheavals to reclaim one's autonomy from patriarchal shackles. **Artists' Talk:** Sat., Feb. 22, 1-3 p.m. (845) 293-3660 or info@womenswork.art

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

One more weekend to see 'Clue On Stage'

The Two Of Us Productions will continue performances of "Clue On Stage," the melodramatic stage version of Parker Brother's famous board game, for one final weekend: Feb. 21-23, at the Theater at the Copake Grange, 628 Empire Road in Copake.

Based on the iconic 1985 Paramount movie which was inspired by the classic Hasbro board game, "Clue" is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. The tale takes place at a remote mansion, where six mysterious guests assemble for an unusual dinner party where murder and blackmail are on the menu. When their host turns up dead, they all become suspects. Led by Wadsworth – the butler, Miss Scarlett, Professor Plum, Mrs. White, Mr. Green, Mrs. Peacock and Colonel Mustard race to find the killer as the body count stacks up. Clue is the comedy "whodunit" that will leave both cult-fans and newcomers in stitches as they try to figure out...WHO did it,

WHERE, and with WHAT!

"Clue" features Andrew Joffe as the ubiquitous Wadsworth the butler, Constance Lopez as the smoky Miss Scarlett, Matthew Leinung as "always ready" Professor Plum, Karissa Payson as the meek Mrs. White, Fred Sirois as the skittish Mr. Green, Cyndi Miller as the pious Mrs. Peacock, Mark Leinung as the stuffy Colonel Mustard, Nicole Molinski as Yvette "ze French maid", Zachary Nayer playing Mr. Boddy as well as the Cop and the FBI Agent, and Deborah Lombardi playing the Cook, a very unlucky Motorist, and an equally unlucky singing Telegram Girl.

Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee is at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for Students & Seniors. Please call for Group Rates. For advance reservations, visit www.TheTwoOfUsProductions.org or call (518) 758-1648.

NORTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

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OBITUARIES

Stephen J. McRoberts

Stephen James McRoberts, 64, a lifetime area resident, passed away on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, NY. Stephen was a direct care specialist with New Horizons in Pleasant Valley, NY.

Born on January 12, 1961 in Sharon, CT. he was the son of the late Russell and Ann (Scott) McRoberts. Stephen was a graduate of Dover High School Class of 1980. He coached and supported Special Olympics and was an avid hunter.

He is survived by two brothers, Alan McRoberts of Amenia, NY and Richard McRoberts, and his wife, Jennifer, of Millerton, NY. He is also survived by three nephews, Joshua, Jered and Russell McRoberts; a great niece, Madison McRoberts and two great nephews, Aiden and Austin McRoberts.

There will be no calling hours. Graveside services and burial will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025 at Valley View Cemetery, S. Nellie Hill Rd., Dover Plains, NY. Memorial contributions may be made to the Center for Spectrum Services, 70 Kukuk Lane, Kingston, NY 12401 or online at <https://centerforspectrumservices.org>. To send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com

Stephen L. Monica

Stephen L. Monica, 74, a longtime resident of Wingdale, NY, passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2025 at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington, CT. Mr. Monica spent 40 years in the tree industry, finishing as a supervisor with Nelson Tree Service for his last 15 years before retiring in 2012.

Born on September 30, 1950 in Potsdam, NY, he was the son of the late Lyle and Wilma (Wagstaff) Monica. On July 19, 1969 in Dover Plains, NY, he married Doreen Somers who survives at home. Mr. Monica proudly served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1971 with active duty in Vietnam.

Mr. Monica was a life member and past quartermaster of V.F.W. Post #5444 in Dover Plains. He was a former coach and manager of the Town of Dover Girls Softball Team. Steve was a musician and played in country music bands throughout his lifetime, and also performed at several nursing homes and Veterans hospital in his retirement.

Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters: Leah Bochar and her husband, Michael, of Wappingers Falls, NY; Deidra Monica and her partner, Clive Lodge, of Santa Fe, TN and Stephanie Orton and her husband, Jody, of Dover Plains, NY; a brother, Edward Monica and his wife, Sandy, of Las Cruces, NM and two sisters, Yvonne Coburn and her husband, Michael, of Millerton, NY and Linda Coburn and her husband, Kevin, of Wingdale, NY. He is also survived by two grandchildren, Michael Bochar and Nathaniel Orton and a very special friend, Mike Hafner.

Calling hours were held on Monday, February 17, 2025 at Hufcut Funeral Home, Dover Plains, NY. Funeral services followed at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to V.F.W. Post #5444, 3422 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY 12522 or The Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, 504 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556 or online at <https://lustgarten.org>. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

Donald Paul Rosendale

Donald P. Rosendale, 88 yrs old, of Amenia, NY (formerly of New York City and Sugarbush, VT) passed away peacefully at his home on February 2, 2025. Don was born on June 26, 1936 and raised in Cradock, VA and is predeceased by his parents, Charles Rosendale and Mildred Fishbourne. He is also predeceased by his brother, Joseph W. Rosendale and his niece, Marianne Rosendale Weeks. He is survived by his nieces, Carol Kennedy (Steve) and Irene Rosendale Nicaastro and his nephews, Joseph C. Rosendale (Stephanie) and John Rosendale, as well as his grand-nieces, Taylor Warren (Christopher), Morgan Kennedy and Bianca Ramirez.

Don graduated from St. John's University and University of Oxford. After college, Don transitioned into a successful career in NYC as a top Public Relations/Marketing/Advertising professional at various top tier firms such as TWA, PepsiCo and AMF. He was also a broadly published writer with articles in Forbes, The Economist, The NY Times, Vanity Fair, GQ, and Town & Country. In his earlier years, Don was a nationally ranked competitor in three sports – amateur sports car racing, Three-day eventing, and tennis. Don eventually transitioned from NYC to a farm in upstate NY, where he pursued his love of horses. His family will always remember Don referring to his upstate farm as the Rosendale family farm, where he loved hosting dinners with friends.

Donald will be laid to rest close to his beloved farm at Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery, Route 22, Amenia, NY. In

memory of Donald, donations may be made to the American Heart Association. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Kimberly Theresa Tompkins

Kimberly Theresa Tompkins, 59, of Millbrook, formerly of Pleasant Valley, passed away unexpectedly in the comfort of her home on February 7, 2025.

Born September 13, 1965, in Poughkeepsie, she was the daughter of Robert E. Tompkins Sr. and the former Donna C. Gibson.

Kimberly graduated from Marist University with her MBA, though she took pride in her work as a trauma nurse in the E.R. of the former St. Francis Hospital.

In her free time Kim loved going to Warlock CrossFit in Poughkeepsie.

Kim was an avid animal lover, having the most love for shelter dogs in need of homes. She was a coordinator for Big Fluffy Dog Rescue, often fostering many dogs until they found their forever home. She touched, and changed the lives of many dogs over the years and it brought her the most joy and honor to do so.

She is survived by her parents, Robert E. and Donna C. Tompkins; her brother, Robert and wife Dawn Tompkins; and her nieces, Mackenzie Tompkins, and Kaleigh Tompkins; and her nephew, Robert Tompkins III.

Following Kimberly's wishes, cremation has taken place.

Calling hours were held on Monday, February 17, 2025, at Sweet's Funeral Home, Hyde Park, NY. A memorial service took place at the funeral home.

Following in Kim's work during her life, her family strongly request donations to Big Fluffy Dog Rescue, P.O. Box 160485 Nashville, TN 37216. (www.bigfluffydogs.com) (Please no Flowers)

To send an online condolence, for directions, or for updated service details pending inclement weather please visit Kimberly's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com

Janet F. Townsend

Janet F. Townsend, 71, of Lagrangeville passed away at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx on Sunday, February 9, 2025. Born on September 19, 1953, to Elmer and Marion (Webb) Smith in Mahopac, NY, Janet was a lifelong resident of the Hudson Valley. She attended Pawling High School and Dutchess County B.O.C.E.S.

Janet married Claude B. Townsend on March 3, 1999, at Faith Assembly in Poughkeepsie, where they remained together until his passing in January 2012.

Janet was a bus driver and custodial worker for Arlington School District for years, before retiring in 2015. She spent most of her down time very involved in her community or at Faith Assembly of God where she was an usher, greater, Sunday school teacher, and part of the women's ministry. She also was involved in Main Street Poughkeepsie Ministry.

Janet loved reading, cooking, and baking, but her absolute pride and joy was her granddaughter.

Janet is survived by her daughters, Jeanette L. Harrison, and Joanna L. Harrison of Poughkeepsie, and her granddaughter, Leanne Harrison, brother and sister-in-law David and Jackie Smith, sister Patricia and Richard Schaniel, brother and sister-in-law Bruce and Jill Smith, sister-in-law Patricia Smith and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours were held Friday, February 14, 2025, at Faith Assembly of God, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Funeral service was set to be held on Saturday, February 15, at Faith Assembly of God, followed by burial at Pawling Rural Cemetery.

Donations can be made in Janet's name to Integra Pregnancy Services P.O. Box 2118 Poughkeepsie, New York 12601.

Margaret H. Veeder Grey

Margaret H. Veeder Grey, a longtime area resident, passed away on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at her son's home in Poughkeepsie, NY. Mrs. Grey was a pharmacist at several local pharmacies and later worked on the Westview Farm in Pawling, NY with her late husband, Kenneth Grey.

Born on October 10, 1934 in New York, NY, she was the daughter of the late Robert and Margaret Stauber. Mrs. Grey received her Bachelor's of Science degree from Albany Pharmacy College Class of 1958. She was a longtime member and former deacon and treasurer of Crossroads Church in Lagrangeville.

Mrs. Grey was a prayerful person who prayed daily for her family and friends.

Mrs. Grey is survived by her children, Donald (Ann), Rick (Donna); DeeAnn (Dave) and Cynthia (Brian). She is also survived by her brother, Albert; her sister, Ruth; 11 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Calling hours took place on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at the Crossroads Church, Lagrangeville, NY. Funeral services followed at

the church with Pastor Theodore Jensen officiating. Burial followed at Clove Cemetery in Lagrangeville.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Hudson Valley Hospice for their compassionate care.

Memorial contributions may be made to Crossroads Church, 1807 Clove Valley Rd., Lagrangeville, NY 12540. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

Mildred R. Whalen

Mildred Whalen, age 105, died peacefully at home on February 9, 2025. She was born on July 7, 1919 at home on Little Italy Road in Highland, New York and was named Carmella Maria di Roberto by her parents, Generoso Roberto and Rose Roberto (née Lombardi). Her parents were immigrants and, Millie, as she was known, needed to improve her English before she started school. The Roberto family exemplified the success story of the immigrant's dream of a better life in America. They operated a farm on their land and sustained themselves from a cow, chickens, fruits and vegetables. Generoso died when Millie was seven years old and her older siblings needed to leave school to work outside the home. Millie graduated from Highland High School in 1938 where she excelled in field hockey, basketball, and softball.

Following high school, she went on to become a registered nurse. Two of her brothers went into service in the Second World War, and in 1945 she too volunteered and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. She cared for gravely wounded soldiers who returned from the war in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Upon her honorable discharge, she traveled with an army girlfriend to Bermuda and Cuba. Upon her return to New York, she worked at Bellevue Hospital in New York City before returning home to Highland. She was the surgical nurse for Dr. James Toomey a well-respected physician who practiced in Poughkeepsie. While working a private duty job for one of Dr. Toomey's patients she encountered a young lawyer from Dover Plains, George E. Whalen, with whom she soon became engaged. They married on June 22, 1951 at St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church in Highland. They established their home in Dover Plains in a house that was constructed during their engagement. She quickly made friends and acclimated to her new setting.

In 1961, upon the death of her mother-in-law who lived in the Whalen family home next door,

a house occupied by the Whalen family since 1870, she and her husband undertook a meticulous restoration of the residence. No detail was too small for her attention. She could bake a cake, mow the lawn, make phone calls and knock on doors in support of her husband's activity in the political arena. She actively campaigned for John F. Kennedy and attended his inauguration and was inspired by Jacqueline Kennedy's renovation of the White House. From her army service nursing soldiers who had given the last full measure of their devotion, she was vehemently opposed to the war in Vietnam and supported the presidential campaign of Robert F. Kennedy whose funeral she attended. She was a member of the New York State Democratic Committee and a director of the Dover Plains National Bank which was acquired by the Fishkill National Bank. The businessmen on the bank board greatly enjoyed her woman's common sense perspective. She was a breast cancer survivor and stoically endured several difficult surgeries and recoveries without complaint. Her life could well be likened to a 110 yard punt return, never daunted by any obstacle in her path.

She gave all credit and thanks to the Lord and quietly enjoyed her last years praying with EWTN, getting caught with her hand in the cookie jar sneaking an Oreo cookie, and looking forward to two scoops of ice cream after dinner. She is survived by her son, Thomas J. Whalen, and his wife, Regina, her grandchildren, Jennifer Whalen Karpel and John T. Whalen who were her pride and joy, and also several nieces and nephews. Her husband died in 2010 and her son, George Patrick, died eleven months later. Their deaths greatly affected her but did not in the least diminish her indomitable spirit.

Visitation will be conducted at the Whalen home at 3143 Route 22 in Dover Plains on Sunday, February 23, 2025 from 2 to 5 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Charles Borromeo Roman Catholic Church, 62 Mill Street, Dover Plains on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 10 am. Burial will follow at St. Charles Cemetery in Dover Plains. The Whalen family is immensely grateful for her home health aids who cared for her in her last two years of life: Viola Stroud, Shirley Skidgell and Kishma Turnbull and also Hospice for their superb, compassionate comfort and care.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Hufcut Funeral Home in Dover Plains. For directions or to send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE FOR APPLICATION OF FRANCHISE RENEWAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Spectrum Northeast, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications, has filed an application for Renewal of its Cable Television Franchise in the Town of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York.

The application and all comments filed relative thereto are available for public inspection at the Town of Pleasant Valley office during normal business hours. Interested persons may file comments on the application with the Town of Pleasant Valley clerk and with the New York State Public Service Commission within 10 days of publication. Comments may be addressed to Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Public Service

Legal Notices

Commission, 3 Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF DUTCHESS.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS OF THE CWMBS INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH TRUST 2005-HYB6, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-HYB6, Plaintiff-against- MICHAEL SEDGWICK, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated January 7, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the rear lobby located at the Dutchess County Courthouse, 10 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY on March 18, 2025 at

Legal Notices

2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Washington, County of Dutchess and State of New York, known and designated as Section 6664 Block 00 Lot 667504.

Said premises known as 354 SOUTH ROAD, MILL-BROOK, NY 12545

Approximate amount of lien \$831,708.87 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 53474/2023.

ANTHONY TIRONE, ESQ., Referee DRUCKMAN LAW GROUP PLLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

242 Drexel Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590

For sale information, please visit www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. DLG# 39461 {*Northern Dutchess*}

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*When a public holiday falls on a Monday the deadline becomes Thursday at noon.

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& Beacon Free Press

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

This week's answer

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

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

GOLDEN LIVING

There are two kinds of people in the world:

1) those who immediately recognize the SSA-1099 as the annual IRS statement detailing your Social Security benefits for the year just past, and who already have their tax paperwork ducks in a row. If this sounds like you, we have a special volunteering offer at the end of this article. 2) the rest of us, saying my SSA what now? Maybe you don't remember receiving an SSA-1099, or maybe you can't remember where you put it.

At the Office for the Aging, we call this an "uh-oh moment." Fear not: we can help you get Social Security paperwork issues straightened out as tax season gets under way.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) is making it easier for beneficiaries to replace their benefit statements, which show the total amount of benefits received in the previous year. It's a number that needs to be reported to the IRS.

Whether you misplaced your SSA-1099 or never received one when they were mailed in January, you no longer have to visit a Social Security office or wait on the phone. If you have an online My Social Security account, you can replace the form online:

1) Go to ssa.gov and log in to My Social Security.

2) Select the "Replace Your Tax Form SSA-1099/SSA-1042S" link.

3) Choose a year from the dropdown menu, which goes back six years.

4) Select the "Download" link to view and print your form.

If you don't have a printer, you can save the document on your computer.

If you don't have a My Social Security account or aren't online: It's easy to cre-

ate an online My Social Security account at the Social Security website ssa.gov. Those of you who don't have internet access or are having trouble creating a My Social Security account can still get your needs taken care of, by using Social Security's automated phone services to request a replacement SSA-1099. Automated services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by calling 1-800-772-1213. When you hear "How can I help you today?" say "1099."

If a beneficiary died before the end of 2024 or before they received their SSA-1099, the form will be mailed to the last address on their record. The form is used to file any final tax return, if necessary.

For those of you with TTY equipment, Social Security can be reached at 1-800-325-0778.

If you're still stumped, contact OFA

Reach out to us at ofa@dutchessny.gov or 845-486-2555 and can help you through the process of getting your Social Security tax forms. We can work with you over the phone, or in-person at our Poughkeepsie office at 114 Delafield St., open 9:00am - 5:00pm weekdays.

For general tax-prep questions

Free tax preparation once again is available, from AARP Foundation TaxAide's IRS trained and certified volunteers, through the Hudson Valley CASH Coalition. Last year, 6,418 residents of Dutchess, Orange, and Putnam Counties received help preparing and filing their taxes, with a goal of helping 8,000 residents file returns this tax season. The tax service is open for low to moderate income residents of all ages who meet the eligibility guidelines. Membership in AARP is not required. This free tax preparation service is pro-

vided to all those who are eligible thanks to AARP Foundation Tax-Aide and Hudson Valley CASH Coalition members including the Community Action

Partnership for Dutchess County, which receives partial funding from the Dutchess County Office for the Aging.

To receive help, dial 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment through United Way's Hudson Valley Region 2-1-1 Helpline; or call 1-800-899-1479. 2-1-1 is available to take appointment calls from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday. There are 15 tax sites located throughout Dutchess County, with many day, evening, and Saturday appointments available.

That special volunteering offer we mentioned at the top

OFA's Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP) is looking for volunteer counselors who can convey often complex insurance information in ways that'll be easily understood. We provide ongoing training for all HIICAP counselors. You'll be able to use your specialized skills to help hundreds of Dutchess County older adults. Visit dutchessny.gov/hiicap for details on HIICAP volunteering and services.

In next week's issue: *What to know about your 2025 Social Security benefit verification letter.*

TRI-TOWN (PLEASANT VALLEY) FRIENDSHIP CENTER NEEDS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The OFA Friendship Center at Tri-Town (1576 Main St. / US 44), Pleasant Valley, at the First Presbyterian Church) needs volunteer drivers for our Home Delivered Meals Program clients in central Dutchess County.

We're especially in need of volunteer drivers on Mondays and Fridays, but welcome volunteers for all days of the week. Hours are 9:30am-12:30pm weekdays. Mileage can be reimbursed for drivers who use their own vehicles for deliveries.

For more information and a printable volunteering form, see dutchessny.gov/ofavolunteer. For an online signup form, visit surveymonkey.com/r/WLQKB3Q.

DUTCHESS COUNTY LAUNCHES 'GOGO VETERANS' FREE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR LOCAL VETERANS

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Dutchess County Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche have announced the launch of 'GoGo Veterans,' a new transportation program providing free rides to veterans in need of reliable transportation for essential services. Officially starting on March 1st, this initiative underscores Dutchess County's unwavering commitment to those who have served our nation, ensuring they have access to the care and resources they deserve.

Through the 'GoGo Veterans' program, eligible veterans can receive:

- Two free rides per month in Dutchess

County to medical appointments, including VA hospitals and local healthcare providers.

- One free ride in Dutchess County per month to a grocery store, pharmacy, or personal visit, helping veterans maintain independence and quality of life.

Veterans interested in enrolling in the program can call the Dutchess County Office of Veterans Affairs at 845-486-2060 to register for the program. Instructions on how to schedule rides will then be provided to enrolled veterans.

The GoGo Veterans program will enable the County to significantly expand ride availability for local veterans. The County has already successfully been utilizing GoGo services through the Dutchess County Office for the Aging's "GoGo Grandparent), with nearly 2,000 rides provided to older adults in 2024. Contact OFA during business hours at 845-486-2555 for more information about OFA's "GoGo Grandparent" program.

For veterans who had a ride previously scheduled through VetZero for the month of February, those rides will continue as scheduled.

To learn more about the GoGo Veterans program as well as other on available veteran programs and benefits, visit DutchessNY.gov/Veterans.

LOW/MODERATE INCOME TAX PREP

FREE tax preparation once again is available, from AARP Foundation TaxAide's IRS trained and certified volunteers, through the Hudson Valley CASH Coalition.

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To receive help, dial 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment through United Way's Hudson Valley Region 2-1-1 Helpline; or call 1-800-899-1479. 2-1-1 is available to take appointment calls from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday.

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

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- Support in house service team with parts needs for service/repair of our large rental fleet.
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- Provide accurate price quotes and availability information to customers.
- Process parts orders, invoices, and returns efficiently and accurately.
- Maintain a clean and organized parts counter and showroom area.
- Develop and maintain strong customer relationships through excellent service and product knowledge.
- Collaborate with service and sales departments to ensure customer needs are met.

Qualifications:

- High school diploma or equivalent; technical or vocational training preferred.
- Experience in heavy equipment parts sales or a related field is a plus.
- Strong customer service and communication skills.
- Proficiency in using computer systems and parts catalogues.
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