

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Local connections to nearly lost sport of Ice Yachting



In this 1901 photo on the Hudson River, the unnamed operator lies flat on the ice yacht to minimize any air resistance that sitting up would create. Able to reach speeds of 100 miles per hour, these “boats or yachts” were for a time, the fastest (if very limited) means of travel.

-Photo courtesy of DCHS Collections

By Bill Jeffway & Aidan Chisamore
Dutchess County Historical Society

Anyone traveling across the Hudson River locally during this time of year might notice ice dotting the water. Many might be surprised to learn that until around a century ago, the Hudson River routinely completely froze for several months in the middle of the winter. Newspapers announced when the last boat just managed to make a trip and the river was officially “closed” until some months later.

While the hindrance and inconvenience to persons and business is obvious, it did provide a window of unique pleasure and sport as the frozen river became the site of numerous informal races, known as scrubs. These scrubs, an unorganized form of ice yachting, pitted two or more boats against each other as they raced along a set route.

Originally, employed as winter transportation by the Dutch, ice yachting became a recreational outing led by many of the Hudson River elite but drew inter-

est and involvement of every part of society. By the mid-nineteenth century many Dutchess County residents began to organize into clubs, hoping to establish rules for their races. The Hyde Park Ice Yacht Club was one such organization. Founded in 1899, with only twenty-two members, the club became one of the largest in the county, and it included many important local figures such as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Several items from Dutchess County Historical Society (DCHS) Collections can connect us to these distant activities, as did a recent exhibit at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center at Hyde Park’s FDR Presidential Library & Museum that was created by the *Hudson River Ice Yacht Preservation Trust*. This article will examine both.

Held in DCHS’s collections and archives, the Record of Roll and Proceeding of Colors

Continued on page 2



A new railway bridge section for the Portal North Bridge across the Hackensack River in New Jersey passes under Poughkeepsie’s Walkway Over the Hudson Bridge on Jan. 15 en route to its new home.

-Photo by Jim Donick

New bridge section passes under bridges on Hudson

By Jim Donick

A bridge under a bridge? Sure, why not? The Hudson River has been the largest highway on the East Coast since long before Europeans ever set foot on the continent. It still serves much of that purpose today. AMTRAK and New Jersey Transit just demonstrated that fact last week.

Built in 1910, AMTRAK’s 114-year-old Portal North Bridge across the Hackensack River in New Jersey has turned into a major choke point for rail travel through the North East. Any train coming from the south to New York City and points north has had to cross this

bridge on their way. It’s a bridge that also had to swing open for shipping traffic. After 114 years, that mechanism seems to have passed its “sell-by” date and too often would get stuck in the open position. This stopped rail traffic into New York City, sometimes for hours.

In 2021, AMTRAK and New Jersey Transit, who also use the bridge, had finally gathered the funding to replace the Portal North Bridge. A \$1.5 billion contract with Skanska/Traylor Brothers Joint Venture for the construction of the new Portal North Bridge was signed. This one

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Applications for Beacon Poet Laureate post now available

By Kristine Coulter

The Howland Public Library and Beacon City Council have announced a call for submissions for the position of Beacon Poet Laureate. The poet laureate position is a two-year term. The term begins in April and goes through March 31, 2027. One must be a resident of the Beacon City School District to apply and 18 years or older.

According to organizers, “The Beacon Poet Laureate program, formally recognized by Mayor Lee Kyriacou and the Beacon City Council, celebrates the power of poetry to enrich our community. The Poet Laureate will present poetry readings at select government and community events, fostering a deeper appreciation for the literary arts.”

“The Beacon Poet Laureate brings people together through the power of words. The poet laureate program provides an opportunity for local writers to showcase their talents and contribute to the cultural richness of

our city. During their tenure, the Beacon Poet Laureate will participate in public events throughout the city sharing the art of poetry with people of all ages,” explained Michelle Rivas, Howland Public Library.

The application asks for the applicant to provide the titles of three poems that are being submitted. One of the three poems has had to have been published or broadcasted (self-published works are excluded).

Also, one must submit a bibliography or web links for all published/broadcasted works. The applicant must sign and submit the Overview and Summary of Expected Responsibilities.

“Applying is a chance to share your passion for poetry, inspire others, and leave a lasting impact on the community. It’s a unique opportunity to grow as an artist and contribute to Beacon’s cultural life in a meaningful way,” stated Rivas.

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Applications to become the next Beacon Poet Laureate can be picked up at the Howland Public Library, on Main St.

-Courtesy photo

Local connections to nearly lost sport of Ice Yachting



Above left to right: Leo, Tim, and Christa Amodeo visited the recent exhibit hosted by the Hudson River Ice Yacht Preservation Trust at the FDR Presidential Library & Museum. They were surprised to learn that Tim's grandfather, Samuel Rogers, was the builder of the boat, "Allons," just behind them.

-Photo provided by Amodeo family.

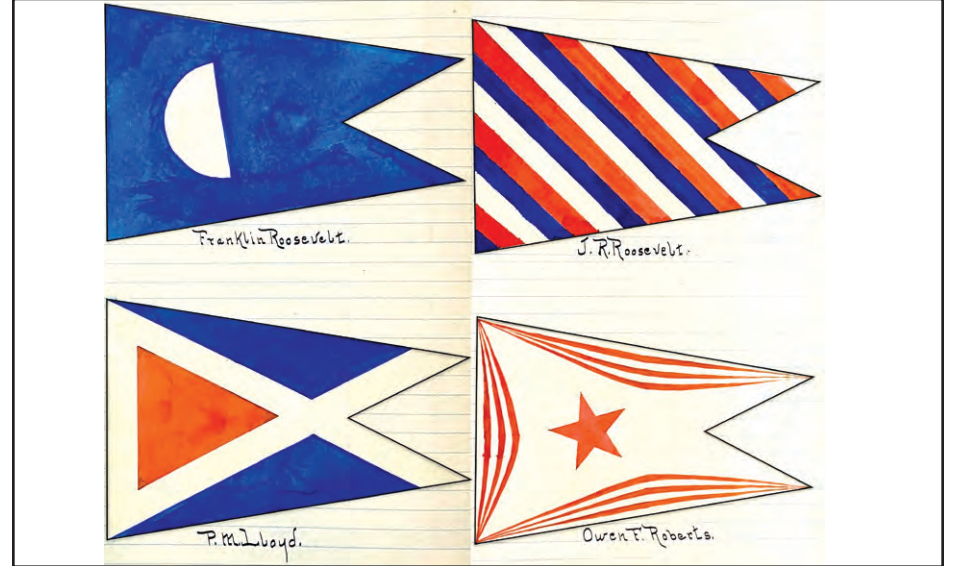
Inset: At left, Henry Sleight at the helm of "Allons." At right, Rogers sailing "Bessie."

-Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library & Museum



Franklin Roosevelt is shown in his Ice Yacht the Hawk. While the elite may have owned and operated such boats, the activity drew interest from all walks of life.

-Courtesy FDR Library & Museum



Deep personal pride and fierce competitiveness are reflected in the formally acknowledged flags that include the future US President Franklin Roosevelt, and his half-brother James Roosevelt Roosevelt, among others. From DCHS Collections, ledger entitled, "Record of Proceeding and Roll of Colors, Hyde Park Ice Yacht Club, Organized February 16, 1899. Hyde Park, New York."

Continued from cover

of the Hyde Park Ice Yacht Club provides an important overview of the organization and the development of its boating culture in its first three decades, 1899-1927. The text reveals a rich history of the functioning of the organization, including meeting minutes, subcommittee reports, and racing records.

The first meeting of the yacht club convened on February 16th, 1899. An entry in the book shows that at this meeting the name of the organization was chosen, members were elected, a subcommittee was appointed to draft bylaws, and the first members were deemed charter members. In the preceding year, the club set forth the guidelines for the structure and organization of the races. Subcommittees were tasked with formulating rules and regulations for the races. This included items such as standards for yacht size classes and vehicle handicaps which ensured fairer races.

The charter members of the club com-

prised the first twenty-two racing positions. As subsequent members were added or removed, each year any given member might be assigned a new number. A chart highlights the order which any given race might take, showing the sequence of racers.

From its founding, the Club hosted regattas through which members could compete against each other. During the meeting on November 16, 1899, Commodore Sterling Bird announced the commencement of the Point Prize Cup for the 1899-1900 season. In his address he outlined the goal of the competition was a fair competition: "the object of the cup is to induce all yachts to start in all club races, as the one starting the greatest number is most likely to win." A history of the Hyde Park-based club, also part of DCHS's collections, described the course for the first season. Beginning at Bard's Rock, later the club house at Hyde Park Landing, the races would make their way five miles north, looping around Esopus Island. Times were calculated against the handicap and recorded.

While the careful preservation of physical items can make a strong impression on the present viewer, imagine how powerful it is to discover that an item (the size and scale of an ice yacht) was created by a family mem-

ber, a lineal ancestor.

That's what happened recently when lifetime Dutchess County residents Tim Amodeo, and his son Leo, walked into the Wallace Center, mentioned earlier. What they discovered amazed both of them.

Tim Amodeo comments, "We used to sit around my grandmother's kitchen and hear stories of [my grandfather] Samuel or 'Danny' Rogers building iceboats. I was told he built boats for FDR and knowing what they could do he then built himself better boats that proceeded to beat him."

To Amodeo's surprise, there at the exhibit was a boat made by his grandfather. Named "Allons," in French approximately let's go, the boat raced from 1900 to 1910. Decked out with hardwood runners (which hold sharpened metal skates), a slightly tattered, white canvas sail and maroon colored cloth covered the pilot's running plank; "old-school" without an inch of fiberglass or laminate to be found over its nineteen foot-seven-inch structure.

Leo, a freshman at Dutchess Community College said, "It was truly a fascinating day. I was thrilled to see the ice boats in person and their intricacies, to physically witness the handy work of my great-great-grandfather was quite an experience."

Bob Wills is President of Hudson River Ice Yacht Preservation Trust and explains that changes in climate and increased ice

breaking activities to keep a channel open to the Troy dam have virtually eliminated ice yachting except occasionally in small areas. From the 1970s until a decade ago, there was intermittent sailing north of Rhinecliff up to Barrytown. Wills explains that due to the topography, there has been recent ice boating at Athens, across from Hudson, NY.

Wills comments, "We have had to go to the Stockbridge Bowl, a small lake west of Stockbridge, MA, this past February for some sailing, and in trips in the past two years to the Great Sacandaga Lake, some of our members have had only two days of sailing. However, we are eternally optimistic. So far, January of 2025 is looking promising, and we will be sailing on Orange Lake in the coming days, with the hope that Athens or Barrytown ice will allow us to sail!"

DCHS has bundled and republished articles in our DCHS Yearbook (since 1914) that relate to Hudson River sports: "Rowing & Ice Yachting: The Hudson River & Year-round Sport" at www.dchsn.org/encore.

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.

Aidan Chisamore is part of DCHS' staff. He works in Collections and Archives and may be reached at aidan.chisamore@dchsn.org.

Applications for Beacon Poet Laureate post now available

Continued from cover

Peter Ullian, who is a former poet laureate, told the Beacon Free Press in an email, "With all the hustle and bustle and generalized craziness in the

world, it sometimes feels as if poetry must be the last thing on people's minds. But in fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Poetry is vital to people, both to write and to enjoy as a

means of expressing feelings and experiences that can't easily be captured any other way. Serving as Beacon Poet Laureate in 2019-2020 really brought this home to me. I was amazed at the turnout at readings, poetry events, and overall enthusiasm for the program.

"Serving as Poet Laureate really brought home to me how important poetry is to community, as a way to respond to and make sense of the complicated and often vexing world we live in," said Ullian.

The following are the list of responsibilities for the Poet Laureate:

- Present a poetry reading at the "Meet the Poet Laureate" event hosted by the Howland Public Library each year

- Present a poetry reading at one government event held within the city of Beacon each year

- Present a poetry reading at one additional event of the Poet Laureate's choice that fosters the appreciation of poetry within the city of Beacon

- Present a poetry reading at one major City of Beacon event during the term

- Serve as an honorary member of the Poet Laureate Committee after completing the term (Also a two-year term.)

- Be available to speak with the media and members of the public to promote poetry and related initiatives

Ullian remarked, "I loved hosting readings at the Howland Public Library and joining poetry events around Beacon and the Hudson Valley, including sharing poems at community events such as the Pumpkin Festival and the Spirit of Beacon Day. But if I had to choose one thing as my favorite, it would be spending time with students at Beacon High School, both in creative writing classes and the creative writing club. The joy, enthusiasm, and terrific creativity of the students was inspiring."

Rivas said, "People will discover new perspectives, deepen their appreciation for poetry, and explore creative ways to express themselves. Most importantly, I hope that people will learn that appreciating poetry can be for everyone."

For more information, and regarding the deadline, please visit <https://beaconlibrary.org> or visit the Howland Public Library, 313 Main St. in Beacon.

If one is applying, one may send materials to: Beacon Poet Laureate Committee, Howland Public Library, 313 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508.

"Serving as Beacon Poet Laureate is more than simply holding a title to go with writing poetry in isolation. It really is a deeply communal experience," stated Ullian.

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DEC forest rangers deployed to California to assist in the containment of wildfires

Governor Kathy Hochul announced last week that a team of 10 Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Rangers is traveling to California to support ongoing efforts to contain wildfires raging in Los Angeles. The Forest Rangers flew out of Albany this morning for what is expected to be a two-week assignment.

"When other states and nations ask for New York's help, we are always prepared to send assistance," Hochul said. New York's expert wildland firefighting Forest Rangers were eager to answer the call and will do what they can to help in response to the extraordinary devastation in and around Los Angeles. I thank them for their bravery and look forward to their safe return."

New York State regularly deploys highly trained wildland firefighters to help battle fires in other states and nations as part of interstate and international firefighting compacts, according to state officials. In Southern California, the fires have killed an estimated 25 people to date, burned more than 40,000 acres, and destroyed more than 12,000 structures. The fires started on Jan. 7 and were then fueled by Santa Ana winds.

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar said, "DEC's Forest Rangers are highly trained wildland firefighters who are prepared to use their expertise to assist communities in need whenever they get the call. I appreciate the Rangers stepping up to run toward danger and bolster the efforts of firefighters from across the U.S., Mexico, Canada, and other nations to battle these destructive wildfires."

In 1979, New York sent its first firefighting crew to assist western states with large wildfires. On average, one or two crews are deployed as needed to assist with wildfires every year. In addition to helping contain wildfires and minimize damage to people and property, these crews gain valuable experience that will be utilized fighting wildfires and managing incidents in New York.

All personnel and travel expenses for the New York crews are either paid directly by the U.S. Forest Service or reimbursed to New York State based on a mutual aid agreement between states and federal land agencies.

Kyriacou comments during Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail hearing

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historical Preservation held a public hearing on the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail on Jan. 14. One of those who made comments during the hearing was City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou.

Kyriacou submitted written remarks in support of the project. The comments summarized the important benefits that residents of and visitors to the City of Beacon alike can expect to result from completion of the transformational project, and voiced unqualified support for both the trail itself, and the leadership team behind it.

Among the comments he made, Kyriacou stated: "Allow me to offer my enthusiastic, unqualified support for the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail – which will take a heavily used trailhead desperately in need of improvement, and transform it and a 7.5-mile stretch on the Hudson River into a beautiful and unique linear park – linking Beacon and Cold Spring, and eventually, connecting to the future Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail and 750-mile Empire State Trail."

The mayor noted the recreational benefits of this project. He mentioned the "unsafe and overcrowded roadside trailhead at Breakneck will see a vast improvement for all." Greater access to the Hudson Highlands and "to larger sections of the Hudson River" was also mentioned by him.

"Along the Hudson will be flat trail sections, broadening access to those who cannot easily do mountain hikes – including seniors, persons with disabilities, cyclists, runners, and those simply wanting less strenuous options. I, for one, am past the age that I regularly hike the Highlands, but my entire family would take frequent walks on the Fjord Trail, as we do today on the Walkway Over the Hudson and Beacon's Klara Sauer Trail," stated Kyriacou.

It was remarked by Kyriacou "Another major benefit for Beacon is that the Fjord Trail will connect to Dennings Point State Park, Madame Brett Park, our future rail trail, Klara Sauer Trail, Long Dock Park and Seeger Riverfront Park, and then to the Beacon train station."

Main St. and the benefit it would receive was noted by the mayor. "Beacon has a very long Main Street, the result of two villages becoming one city more than

a century ago. That long street fell into deep decline and disuse by the 1970s, and has taken a couple of generations to re-envision and rebuild our community and its Main Street to the bustling center it is today. Because of its length, and despite its current vibrancy, our Main Street's success is in large part dependent on visitors, and the City's Comprehensive Plan recognizes the importance of increased density near Main Street, strong connections to our preserved natural environment, and tourism. The Fjord Trail helps Beacon far more than any ancillary problems that it may create, and that we will manage," he said.

Regarding the number of people who would come to use the site, Kyriacou said, "As for visitor counts and traffic, I appointed data-versant Beacon residents to the Visitation Data Committee. I trust the committee's visitor and traffic estimates. I note that a large share of the added visits would be repeat local users – exactly what I am expecting myself, my family and our community to do – use it regularly. That means that we local residents will benefit the most. And if visitor counts exceed expectations, I trust HHFT can consider how other popular parks manage visitation, and adapt accordingly."

The trail, said Kyriacou, would "serve as a catalyst for the building of a rail trail on the abandoned Beacon-Hopewell rail spur. Running from Beacon's train station and along our Main Street, this future rail trail will connect the heart of Beacon to Dutchess County trails, to the Walkway over the Hudson, and to New York's Empire State Trail that runs from New York City to Buffalo and Canada."

Kyriacou also stated the City of Beacon "is already partnering with the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc. (HHFT) and looking for additional ways to work together. We are negotiating for HHFT to build its maintenance facility adjacent to the Trail at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City was excited when HHFT moved forward its proposed timetable for construction in Beacon, and we encourage them to build sooner – their trailhead restrooms, connection to the future Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail, and the pedestrian bridge over Fishkill Creek."

Kyriacou closed by reiterating his support for the HHFT.



Los Angeles Fire Department firefighters fight a wildfire earlier this month in Los Angeles County.

-Photo LAFD Facebook

Red Cross requests donations of blood or platelets

The American Red Cross urges donors to make an appointment to give lifesaving blood or platelets in the new year to help keep the blood supply strong this winter. Type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets are especially urged to give now to keep critical blood products on the shelves for patients in need.

To book a time to give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

For the sixth year, the Red Cross and the National Football League (NFL) are partnering in January for National Blood Donor Month to invite football fans and blood donors to join our lifesaving team and score big for patients in need. As a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood during the critical post-holiday time, those who come to give through Jan. 26, 2025, will be automatically entered for a chance to win an exciting Super Bowl LIX giveaway. The trip includes access to day-of

in-stadium pre-game activities, tickets to the official Super Bowl Experience, round-trip airfare, three-night hotel accommodations (Feb. 7-10), plus a \$1,000 gift card for expenses. For full details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Dutchess County

Poughkeepsie: Jan. 23: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Elks Lodge 275, 29 Overocker Rd.

Orange County

Middletown: Jan. 25: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., New Beginnings House of Worship, 11 Mulberry St.

Newburgh: Jan. 23: 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Newburgh Armory Unity Center, 321 S William St.

Putnam County

Carmel Hamlet: Jan. 23: Noon - 5 p.m., Kent Volunteer Fire Department, 2490 NY-301.

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Viewpoints

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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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 Beacon Free Press 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 Beacon Free Press.

Editor's note: The following is the full text of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's letter to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services regarding combating potential wildfires in NYS.

Gillibrand inquires about DHSES' preparedness for potential wildfires in NY

Dear Commissioner Jackie Bray,

I am writing today to inquire about the preparedness of New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and its partners to combat potential wildfires in New York State. Climate change has exacerbated the unpredictability of weather conditions and natural disasters. New York has experienced several natural disasters in recent years, including wildfires, tornadoes, snowstorms, and flooding, and it is critical New York is prepared for the potential of unpredictable weather patterns that may lead to economic losses or loss of life.

With increased periods of drought in New York State, it is increasingly important that New York is prepared to handle naturally occurring or accidental wildfires. The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, as well as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), do an excellent job at training firefighters, providing technical assistance to communities, and managing New York's forests to prevent the spread of wildfires in our state.

In the wake of the devastation of the ongoing wildfires in California, I am profoundly saddened by the loss of life, homes, and communities. Also considering recent wildfires in New York, such as the Jennings Creek Fire, it is important that New York be proactive in its fire prevention programs through public education, forest management, and government preparedness. I am reaching out to request a briefing from your team on the following topics:

- What are the preparedness plans for the DHSES and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control in the face of increasing fire threats?
- How does DHSES coordinate with NYSDEC to consider climate change impacts on wildfire preparedness?

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- What support can the federal government provide to bolster the work of the Office of Fire Control and Prevention to ensure New York is prepared for potential fires?

I look forward to learning more about your plans and the support you provide New York State in the face of increasing wildfire threats. I stand ready to assist you in your vital prevention and preparedness work, and I am committed to ensuring New Yorkers and all Americans are able to recover from these types of natural disasters.

Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator from NY

Free to change reality for the better

To the Editor:

I just wanted to respond to the letter "Lennon's 'Imagine' still rings true today," in the January 8th issue. I would like to let the letter writer know that this is already a reality, and one could join them anytime if one wanted to.

There is a world where there is no religion too, and nothing to live or die for. They have no possessions, no need for greed and they all wear the same thing. I'm talking about communist China.

When this is your dream, all must comply and adhere for the good of all which because there's no morals includes torture and murder. This leaves very little for imagination and ingenuity anymore.

I hope I never have to imagine the world this way. Be grateful for our differences and the reality that we possess.

I hope we can keep it as long as possible.

Our reality is not perfect but every day we are free and try to change it for the better.
God Bless America.

Kathleen Pucher
Beacon

Beacon Police Blotter

The following is from the City of Beacon Police Department.

Dec. 1: Property Damage- Main Street- Officers responded to a call for a side-swipe auto accident. Report taken.

Dec. 2: Warrant-Municipal Plaza- Nevaeh A. Rosa, 23, of Poughkeepsie, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

Dec. 2: Lost Plate-Cross Street- Caller reported a lost license plate. Report taken.

Dec. 3: Unattended Death-Beacon- Officers responded to a call for an Unattended Death. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 4: Auto Accident-Hit & Run- Long Dock Road- Caller reported damage to her vehicle as a result of a Hit & Run Accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 7: Larceny-Main Street- Report of a stolen phone. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 8: Fraud- Mason Circle- Caller reported being the victim of fraud. Someone had access to her information from her phone. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 8: Warrant- Municipal Plaza- Robert E. Morganfield age 55 of Newburgh, was processed on an open Bench warrant and also charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operator Motor Vehicle 2nd.

Dec. 12: Parking-Ralph Street- Caller reported a vehicle parked for several hours with flashers on. Tickets issued and vehicle was impounded.

Dec. 13: Information- Tompkins Avenue- Caller reported graffiti on a real estate sign. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 13: Dispute-Hastings Drive- Officers responded to a call for a dispute between an employer and employee. Report taken.

Dec. 13: Welfare Check-West Center

Street- Roman Karuso, 25, of Beacon, was processed on an open Warrant of Arrest.

Dec. 14: Traffic Stop- Rte. 9D- Michael G. Conor age 33 of Frederick, MD, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation Motor Vehicle 3rd & Miscellaneous Vehicle & Traffic violations.

Dec. 15: Unattended Death- Beacon- Officers responded to a call for an Unattended Death. Report Taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 15: Larceny- Colonial Drive- Caller reported a theft of a food delivery. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 17: Fraud- Colonial Road- Caller reported being the victim of a social media scam. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Dec. 19: Unwanted Party- Wolcott Avenue- Lauren DeLuca, 35, of Beacon, was charged with petit larceny.

Dec. 24: Burglary- Iris Circle- Caller reported that someone was in his residence. Report was taken. Investigation conducted. Caller later verified that it was a family member, who has permission to be on premises.

Dec. 25: Auto Accident- Hit & Run- Beekman Street- Caller reported damage to his car as a result of a hit & run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted. Offender was contacted and issued tickets for the incident.

Dec. 28: Property Damage-Cliff Street- Tarran M. McElroy, 39, of Beacon, was charged with DWI 1st, Aggravated DWI & Miscellaneous Vehicle & Traffic violations.

Dec. 30: Assist Other Agency- Fishkill Avenue- Officers assisted Fire Department to gain entry to a property that had flooding conditions.

Donations made to local pantry at Castle Point VA Medical Center

The Wappingers Ladies donated \$4,000 to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 144. The funds went to purchase items for the food pantry at Castle Point VA Medical Center.

The Wappingers Ladies (Cathy DelCotto Boldrin, Barbara Roberti, Lynette Macina, Pam Pinkard Jones) and other volunteers held an annual Lip Sync contest and donated the proceeds to local organizations that

help veterans. Hannaford Manager Rod Duncan and his staff at the Hannaford Supermarket in Wappingers Falls helped by making donations.

This year approximately 60 cases of groceries were donated to assist the DAV and the food bank at Castle Point. All came together to ensure a very merry Christmas for at least 130 veterans and families in need.

Organizations weigh in on Hochul's State of the State

The following are responses to Gov. Hochul's State of the State, which was given on Jan. 14 in Albany.

Scenic Hudson weighs in on Gov. Hochul's State of the State address

The organization highlighted her dedication to maintaining the state's leadership in and commitment to clean energy and environmental resiliency within her broader effort to advance economic development and address affordability.

Individual comments were prefaced with a general assessment:

"Fresh air, clean drinking water, and healthy food are essentials of life that every New Yorker deserves access to. The Governor's continued efforts to roll out funds from the 2022 Environmental Bond Act and achieve the trailblazing goals of the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) are critical steps toward providing those essentials to every New York family and individual."

Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan said, "In Governor Hochul's State of the State Address, she proposed key reforms that would greatly improve the State's land acquisition process, including modernizing title insurance, granting the Department of Environmental Conservation authority to acquire conservation easements, and funding conservation efforts through nonprofit organizations. Those changes would expedite land acquisitions for land trusts and increase the amount of protected lands throughout the state, effectively protecting our natural heritage for future generations. I commend Governor Hochul for taking this important step toward protecting New York's precious natural resources and reaching the state's conservation goals. Scenic Hudson is proud to partner with Governor Hochul to help ensure that New York remains a national leader in land conservation."

Pete Lopez, Scenic Hudson Executive Director of Policy, Advocacy and Science, said "The Governor reaffirmed her commitment to protecting clean air and water through a revitalization of New York State's Superfund program. The Governor announced plans to reauthorize the Superfund program with new tools that will accelerate the cleanup of hazardous waste sites and tackle dangerous contaminants like PFAS. We



Governor Kathy Hochul delivers her State of the State address in Albany.

-Courtesy photo from NY Governor's Office

encourage similarly swift action on the Hudson River Superfund Site, which is one of the largest Superfund sites in the country. We are hopeful that the Governor can find resources in the upcoming state budget to promote robust sediment sampling and an updated angler survey. This would reinforce the important work that EPA is undertaking to reduce PCBs and protect public health."

Stephen Ballentine, Director of Environmental Advocacy, Government Relations & Public Policy said, "We commend the Governor on her proposal to invest \$1 billion to streamline renewable energy development, as well as the significant progress that she has made in implementing the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). We understand that the Governor is pursuing the Cap and Invest Program, which is a fundamental element of the CLCPA and is necessary for New York to meet its climate goals. We respectfully encourage the Governor to ensure that the Cap and Invest Program is implemented

as quickly as possible, that it prioritizes equity and fairness, and that it aligns with the CLCPA's emissions reductions targets."

Government Relations Manager Carli Fraccarolli said, "We are excited about the Governor's initiative to protect more farmland with Bond Act dollars by building capacity within New York's land trust community. As we look toward the release of Governor Hochul's proposed budget, we support the Governor's continued investment in public health, environmental protection, and climate solutions. We respectfully encourage the Governor to build on her strong environmental legacy by increasing the Environmental Protection Fund to \$500 million, raising Clean Water Infrastructure Act funding to \$600 million, and continuing to invest in speedy, effective implementation of the Environmental Bond Act."

American Heart Association praises school lunch proposal, urges governor to include Cardiac Emergency Response Plans

The American Heart Association ("the Association") released the following statement regarding the State of the State address:

"The American Heart Association, a global force for longer, healthier lives, applauds Gov. Kathy Hochul's assertion that 'Your family is my fight,' heard repeatedly in [the Jan. 14] State of the State address," the release stated.

"The governor's proposed funding of breakfast and lunch at school for all of New York's children benefits families in a positive and concrete way," said Michael-Aaron Poindexter, chair of the board of directors of the American Heart Association in the Capital Region, chief community officer of the Regional Food Bank and Pastor, Macedonia Baptist Church. "Having meals at school goes a long way toward addressing food insecurity, promoting equity, and fostering lifelong healthy eating habits for children. The anticipated \$165 savings per child each month is also a relief to parents managing family budgets."

While that's a good start, the Association called on the governor to fund Cardiac Emergency Response Plans in New York's schools.

"Gov. Hochul spoke at length about safety today," Poindexter said. "A great way to keep families safe is to have Cardiac Emergency Response Plans (CERPs) in schools. Those plans make it very clear where the AED is and what steps will be taken if someone's heart stops in the school. In addition to the students in schools all day, schools host parents and other community members at many different times of the day. Each year, nearly 350,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrest, and only 10 percent survive. We can change that statistic and make the state safer with these plans in our schools."

The Association will ask Gov. Hochul and the state Legislature to allot a minimum of \$1 million to support the implementation of CERPs. In addition, the Association will also continue to advocate for funding of programs that improve health, like the State Tobacco Control Program, the Hypertension Prevention Program, and the Healthy Heart Program.

Advocates from across the state will come to Albany for a Day of Advocacy on Tuesday, Jan. 28 to talk with their elected officials about these initiatives.

Drug Task Force: Neighborhood complaints lead to alleged fentanyl, cocaine dealer apprehension

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force has been investigating the sale of narcotics and dangerous drugs in the area of South Clinton Street and Main Street in the City of Poughkeepsie for several months. Numerous community members made complaints regarding drug activity and sales in this area and requested assistance from the Drug Task Force.

The investigation resulted in the identification of Najey Green, 23, an alleged fentanyl and cocaine dealer operating in that area. Drug Task Force Agents began purchasing fentanyl and cocaine allegedly from Green in this area and other locations throughout Poughkeepsie.

On Jan. 9, Drug Task Force Agents with the assistance of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Unit (SWAT) located Green in the City of Poughkeepsie with an alleged large quantity of cocaine as well as fentanyl and took her into custody without incident.

According to law enforcement officials, Green was charged with the following offenses:

(1) Criminal Possession of a Controlled

Substance 3rd Degree, intent to sell, a class B Felony

(1) Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree, a class B Felony

Green was later arraigned in the City of Poughkeepsie Court and remanded to DCJ on \$25,000 cash, \$50,000 bond, or \$100,000 partially secured bond. Several additional charges are pending in this case against Green related to this investigation and are expected to be filed by the Drug Task Force in the coming days.

The Drug Task Force encourages the Dutchess County community to report narcotic and dangerous drug dealers to the Drug Task Force.

As with any criminal case, the charges described above are merely an accusation and those individuals named in this release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

If anyone has information regarding this case or about any other individuals selling drugs in Dutchess County, you are urged to contact the Drug Task Force confidential tip line at 845-463-6040 or by sending an email to the following web address: Drugtaskforcetips@gmail.com.

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Environmental groups condemn EPA's final review of the Hudson Superfund Site

Environmental groups decry the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conclusions in the Final Third Five-Year Review of the Hudson River PCB Superfund cleanup released last week. According to the groups, "the review irresponsibly concludes that more data is needed to determine if the dredging of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in the Upper Hudson is meeting the expectations of the original cleanup plan."

In a statement released by Scenic Hudson on Jan. 17, it was noted that "The EPA's conclusions ignore the agency's own data, which show that the amount of cancer-causing PCBs remaining in the river following the dredging project is significantly higher than anticipated. A report issued by the Friends of a Clean Hudson coalition in November 2023 found neither fish nor sediment are recovering at the rates needed to achieve the EPA's established goals."

The coalition maintains, based on its independent analysis of the data trends, that the Upper Hudson River PCB cleanup is not protecting human health and the environment as required. The health risks associated with fish consumption are well above the EPA's accepted risk range and well above New York's advisories. The agency disregards long-standing environmental justice policies intended to address pollution in disadvantaged communities.

For over 30 years, General Electric (GE) dumped PCBs into the Hudson River, turning a 200-mile stretch of the waterway into one of the country's largest Superfund sites. This toxic pollution has burdened the entire region for over 70 years. The persistent nature of PCBs ensures that GE's pollution

will continue to travel throughout the Hudson River, resisting degradation and accumulating in human and animal tissue. At the current rate, and without additional interventions, the health risks and impacts to those living, working, and playing within a heavily polluted Superfund site will persist for generations.

Scenic Hudson Executive Director of Policy, Advocacy and Science (and former EPA Region 2 Administrator), Pete Lopez said, "For over 70 years, millions of people along the shores of the Hudson have faced significant environmental, economic, and public health impacts of living, working, and playing near one of the nation's oldest and largest toxic waste sites. With the release of the Final Third Five-Year Review, EPA has squandered its opportunity to put the cleanup back on track and achieve the modest cleanup goals the river communities were promised and deserve. The conclusions in its Five-Year Review mean many low-income families will continue eating tainted fish, and millions of dollars of waterfront economic development remains on hold. Scenic Hudson will press on, regardless, in its campaign for a clean Hudson and the health and economic benefits it will bring."

"Riverkeeper fiercely opposes the EPA's findings in its latest review of the Upper Hudson River PCB cleanup. The EPA's conclusions dismiss clear evidence that PCBs in fish and sediment remain at concentrations hazardous to humans and wildlife. Despite the data, and thousands of public comments, the EPA has once again failed to acknowledge that the cleanup is not succeeding in protecting our communities and our river," said Tracy Brown,



A crowd gathered at the shores of Beacon for "Heal The Hudson" collaborative Community Candlelight Vigil on Dec. 5, 2024.

-Image by Jeff Mertz, Courtesy of ScenicHudson.org

President of Riverkeeper. "The agency continues to delay necessary steps to put the Hudson on a real path to recovery. PCBs still course through the Hudson River ecosystem, and without additional action, the river's toxic burden will endure, harming the health and well-being of current and future generations. Riverkeeper remains steadfast in our advocacy and will continue to push for a meaningful and enduring cleanup of the Hudson River."

"The findings of EPA's Final Third Five-Year Review ignores their own data and misses a critical opportunity to get the Hudson River PCB cleanup back on track. A "Not Protective" determination would have triggered a much needed reevaluation of the

cleanup remedy. Communities along the river will experience the impact of this outcome for years to come, particularly families who rely on the river as a primary or secondary food source. The public and scientific consensus support of the need for additional action to expedite the recovery of the Hudson, and regardless of this outcome, Clearwater will continue our advocacy," said David Toman, Executive Director of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater.

"It is evident from the EPA's own and other sampling and analysis that GE's alleged cleanup of the Hudson River is not adequately protective of human health or the environment. The river remains significantly contaminated with PCBs and thousands of New Yorkers, many of whom represent immigrant, low-income, and minority communities, regularly eat the fish they catch from the Hudson for sustenance and through long-standing traditions — despite health advisories. Barring citizens from eating fish and releasing wait-and-see guidance does not represent the kind of justice Hudson River communities deserve. True justice means the EPA listening to its own data and protecting Hudson communities now," said Mallory Rutigliano, Hudson River Committee Chair for Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter.

The Friends of a Clean Hudson (FOCH), a coalition of national, state, and regional organizations including Riverkeeper, Scenic Hudson, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Sierra Club, Hudson River Fishermen's Association, Arbor Hill Environmental Justice Corporation, and NRDC, has been fighting for decades for the restoration of the Hudson River.

HCMC to present Chaeyoung Park as part of piano festival on January 26 in Beacon



The Howland Chamber Music Circle (HCMC) continues its 2025 piano festival with Chaeyoung Park, at the Howland Cultural Center on Sunday, Jan. 26 at 4 p.m. Following the concert, audience members can meet the musician and enjoy complementary refreshments. All ticket holders are invited to the reception. To purchase a ticket, visit howlandmusic.org. The Howland Cultural Center is at 477 Main Street in Beacon.

Born in Korea, Park moved to Kansas with her family at age 10 and won her first international piano competition at age 13. She has since studied at The Juilliard School, winning additional competitions and accolades.

Park has a strong command of classical and romantic repertoire, and for her HCMC concert, she will also include the

works of two contemporary women composers: Ana Sokolovic and Unsuk Chin. The rest of her program will be comprised of works by J.S. Bach (arranged by Vivaldi), Felix Mendelssohn, Scriabin, Ligeti, Messiaen and Franck. This will be HCMC's Founders Concert, in memory of the organization's founders, Gwen and Bill Stevens.

HCMC now offers tickets at prices to include music lovers who may have been unable to afford our tickets in the past. A limited number of tickets will be available on a pay-what-you-wish basis. These tickets will be released one week prior to each concert.

For more information on this performance, the Howland Chamber Music Circle, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.howlandmusic.org.

Left: Chaeyoung Park will perform on Jan. 26 at Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo HCMC

Latin Dancing at the Towne Crier on Jan. 23

A Night of Latin Dancing will be presented by Beacon Dance Beat on Thursday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m. for dining), at the Towne Crier Café, 379 Main Street, in Beacon. Fall in love with the exciting and sensuous rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Bachata, Reggaeton and much more played by DJ Rhoda. Song requests are welcome.

There is a full menu and bar service available before and during the dance. Admission is \$10, which can be paid at the door. For reservations, please call the Towne Crier at 845-831-5500.

For further information about the music, or for a special song request, please contact Rhoda at 845-765-0667 or rhodaja@optonline.net.

Beacon man to be posthumously honored for invention' improving outcome for leukemia patients

In partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the Hall of Fame will honor these Inductees on May 8 in Washington, D.C. at one of the innovation industry's highly anticipated events — "The Greatest Celebration of American Innovation."

Seventeen innovation pioneers whose inventions range from cancer treatments to satellite-based imaging will be honored in the 2025 class of National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductees. Among them is a native of Beacon, the late George Judson.

Oncologist Emil Freireich and Judson, an engineer, developed the first continuous-flow blood cell separator. Devices based on their invention have been vital for improving outcomes for leukemia patients and developing new approaches to treating cancer and other diseases. Judson will be posthumously honored.

"It is an honor for the USPTO to recognize the 2025 class of the National Inventors Hall of Fame," said Derrick Brent, Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the USPTO. "These



George Judson

-Courtesy photo National Inventors Hall of Fame

amazing visionaries have not only changed the world through their inventions, but they also are paving the way for future generations of STEM innovators."

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Renegades announce Tom Denlinger as team's new General Manager

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, and their ownership group, Diamond Baseball Holdings (DBH), the club's owner and operator, announced today that Tom Denlinger will become the eighth General Manager of the Renegades.

Denlinger joins the Renegades after spending the previous 10 seasons with the Augusta GreenJackets, the Single-A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves. Denlinger served as Augusta's General Manager from 2014-17, and was elevated to Vice President in 2018. During his time with the GreenJackets, the team opened a new riverfront ballpark, SRP Park, which was named Ballpark Digest's "Ballpark of the Year" in 2018.

"My family and I are excited for the opportunity to come to Hudson Valley and build on the great legacy the Renegades Baseball has played in the community,"

said Denlinger. "We have a great team and a beautiful venue at Heritage Financial Park, and I look forward to joining and continuing our commitment to Find Your Fun. The 2025 season is going to be a great one, I can't wait for April 4th!"

Outside of baseball, Denlinger served on the steering committee of the North Augusta Miracle League to help fund a new field, raising over \$1 million for phase one construction. He also served on numerous community boards, including being Chair of the Augusta Sports Council, Vice Chair of the North Augusta Chamber of Commerce, and helping the North Augusta Family YMCA with fundraising campaigns.

Before his time with the GreenJackets, Denlinger was part of the first front office staff of the Richmond Flying Squirrels, serving as the team's Assistant General Manager from 2010-13. He has also worked as the Assistant GM for the



Tom Denlinger
-Courtesy photo HV Renegades

Daytona Cubs (2007-09), as a Group Sales and Sponsorships Executive for the Delmarva Shorebirds (2004-06) and began his career as an intern for the Reading Phillies in 2003.

"Over his impressive 20-year career in Minor League Baseball, Tom has earned a reputation for operational excellence and established himself as a respected leader in the MiLB community," said Pat Battle and Peter Freund, Executive Chairman and CEO of DBH, respectively. "With the exciting momentum at Heritage Financial Park, Tom is the perfect choice to take the helm of the Renegades and lead them to even greater success. We're thrilled to have him driving the team's future in Hudson Valley."

A native of Paradise, Pennsylvania, Denlinger graduated from Messiah University with a bachelor's degree in Sports Management in 2003. He and his wife Molly have a daughter, Grace, and a rescue pup, Belle.

Beacon Elks distribute dictionaries to local elementary school students



Pictured are 3rd grade students at Gayhead Elementary School with Principal James Daley; Cathy Oken, Youth Activities Chair; Jeanine McAuley, Esteemed Leading Knight; and Nancy Birkler, Lodge member.



Third grade students at Fishkill Plains Elementary School in the Wappingers Central School District.

-Courtesy photos Beacon Elks

Members of the Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 last month distributed 288 dictionaries to third grade students at Gayhead Elementary, Fishkill Plains Elementary, Fishkill Elementary schools in the Wappingers Central

School District and South Avenue Elementary School in the Beacon City School District. This donation was made using part of a Gratitude Grant.

"One of the criteria of the Gratitude Grant is to use the funds to 'advance

education but not through scholarships,'" said Michael Zanzarella, Exalted Ruler, Beacon Elks Lodge #1493. "Beacon Lodge is using our funds to provide local students with their first dictionary.

The goal is to encourage a love for education at a young age, to assist the school district with making better students and citizens, and – through education – combat community deterioration."

College notes

CANTON, NY - SUNY Canton congratulates the students who earned the grades necessary for President's List honors during the fall 2024 semester.

To earn a spot on the President's List, full-time students must earn a 3.75 or greater GPA during a single semester of study.

A complete list of all honor students runs in the news section of www.canton.edu.

Area students on the President's List include:

Tommy Coulter, a SUNY Canton Cybersecurity major from Beacon.

Brendan M. Padgett, a SUNY Canton Criminal Investigation major from Hopewell Junction.

Sharie Joseph-Registe, a SUNY Canton Health Care Management major from

Poughkeepsie.

Kristen N. Pietras, a SUNY Canton Management major from Poughkeepsie.

SUNY Canton congratulates the students who earned the grades necessary for Dean's List honors during the fall 2024 semester.

Dean's List recognizes full-time students who earned a GPA between 3.25 and 3.74.

A complete list of all honor students runs in the news section of www.canton.edu.

Area students on the Dean's List include:

Savannah E. Hoffman, a SUNY Canton Forensic Criminology major from Poughkeepsie.

Samtreo C. Tucker, a SUNY Canton Legal Studies major from Wappingers Falls.

POTSDAM, NY - Students have been named Presidential Scholars for the Fall

2024 semester at Clarkson University. Madison Morsey of Hopewell Junction Angelina Zeoli of Wappinger.

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HUDSON VALLEY NATURALIST

by Francine Wizner



Nasal congestion is 'snot' funny!

Although I rarely comment on it, breathing is one of my favorite things. Especially through my nose. I really like it. But, I recently had a cold, which reminded me of an oft-overlooked, but much appreciated bodily secretion: Mucus.

Your epithelial tissue produces it

Epithelial tissue lines your body tracts and cavities, producing mucus, which provides protection and lubrication to the cells that lie beneath. Because of its viscosity, mucus traps unwanted substances and microbes. It is mostly made of water, but contains many other components such as antibodies, enzymes, and mucins, which help your body fight infections.

Even when you're healthy, your body is a mucus-making machine. Most of us make one to two quarts a day. You probably don't notice it ... unless your body starts making more, or its consistency changes. That's when you might wish your body didn't make it. Especially when you need to blow your nose due to a sinus infection. But you wouldn't want to live without mucus!

You notice when it changes

It generally takes a bad cold, allergy, or contact with something irritating – like a plate of spicy chicken wings – to throw your body's nasal mucus production into overdrive. Allergies and gustatory rhinitis, as well as pathogens, can make your nose run. Besides overproduction, changes to your mucosal lining, and the relative viscosity of your mucus will be noticeable. Respiratory mucus is affected by a dry indoor environment; dehydration from inadequate water, over-consumption of coffee, tea, or alcohol; some medications; and smoking.

Do this if you have a sick sense of humor

According to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, the average uncovered sneeze sends mucosal droplets about six feet. Small particles can become suspended and travel over three times as far. Particles expelled in a sneeze or cough can carry germs for an array of infectious diseases, including coronavirus, colds, the flu, chickenpox, measles and more.

If you have a sick sense of humor and an inquiring mind, investigate snot projectiles! Kids will enjoy investigating the effect of viscosity on the distance mucus travels. To do the activity, you'll need plastic sheeting or a couple of shower curtains, permanent markers, two stools, tape, meter sticks, gelatin, corn syrup, food coloring, a sponge, two containers, and two plastic pipettes (eye droppers).

Make two batches of "model snot": a thick version and thin version. Both batches can be made with gelatin, corn syrup, and water. Make one batch more "watery" and the other with less water, so it is more viscous. Differentiate the batches with opposing food coloring so that they can be easily compared.

Lay shower curtains over the experimental area (wall and floor) and tape them in place. Mark measurements at intervals along the shower curtains in the anticipated projectile zone. Place each of the containers with the two kinds of model snot, as well as a pipette, on a separate stool. Fill the bulb of each pipette and hold each horizontally on top of each stool. Make sure the pipettes are facing the shower curtains to contain the mess and get an accurate measurement. When you squeeze the pipettes, you are simulating a sneeze.

Keep track of the number of large (>5mm) and small (<5mm) drops that fell at the different intervals. Repeat this process 5-10 times for both the thick and thin model snot. The idea of experimenting with a "snot



Dealing with the symptoms of nasal congestion is not fun.

-Photo by Francine Wizner

model" can be icky and entertaining at the same time.

Healthier choices

To keep from spreading germs (in actual snot), cover your nose and mouth with a tissue whenever you sneeze or cough. If you're caught without a tissue, health experts suggest using the crook of your elbow. That will keep the germs from becoming airborne and will keep your hands from getting germ. If you do sneeze or cough into your hands, wash them immediately with soap and water, or an alcohol-based sanitizer. The best choice to prevent the airborne spread of germs is to

avoid close contact with anyone who is sick. If you are ill and likely to cough or sneeze, stay home until you're healthy.

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

New bridge section passes under bridges on Hudson

Continued from cover

would be a lot higher, so it wouldn't have to open for river traffic. It would be put in place adjacent to the existing structure so traffic would continue throughout the project. The only obvious drawback might have been that the contractors were going to build the bridge near Ravena, just south of Albany. That's a long way to travel from New Jersey with a fully constructed bridge section. Fortunately the construction was near to the Hudson River. The three sections of the new bridge are making their way to Jersey by sail-

ing down the river.

The second section of AMTRAK and NJ TRANSIT's Portal North Bridge set sail from the Port of Coeymans early last Wednesday morning, Jan. 15. The structure was loaded onto a very large barge to make the trip to its new home. It came down the river guided by three Carver Marine Towing tugboats - Erin Elizabeth, Daisy Mae and CMT Pike. The massive structure made good use of the oldest highway on the East Coast, looking majestic as it passed under the bridges at Poughkeepsie around 4 p.m. By evening, it was all the way to New Jersey. There will still be one more section to come. The date for its transit is yet to be announced.

Right: An architectural rendering of the new Portal North Bridge on the Hackensack River.

-Courtesy image



Wilderstein to host Victorian Valentine 'Craft & Sip' workshop

Wilderstein Historic Site (330 Morton Road, Rhinebeck) will hold a Victorian Valentine "Craft & Sip" workshop Saturday, Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. In the spirit of Wilderstein, enjoy sipping on Harney & Sons tea as you craft a beautiful 11-inch wood panel heart for your sweetheart. This is Wilderstein's modern take on the Victorian Valentine's Day gift-making tradition.

Participants will learn about the history

of valentines while creating their own original art. All materials will be provided, but feel free to bring any greeting cards you may have or other ephemera to add that special something to your project.

The cost is \$40.

The workshop is sponsored by Hudson Valley Vintage. Registration is required. For more information, call Wilderstein at 845-876-4818 or visit www.wilderstein.org.



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that's italian!



Behind our house, we had what seemed to us a giant mountain perfect for sleigh riding. At the end of the mountain was woods with a trail running through it, which led to another bigger hill in our neighbor's yard. The trick was to ride our hill through the woods to the second hill and down to the street on the other side. The problem was if you missed the trail, you hit a bunch of trees.

I remember one year we got a colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles for Christmas which could hold two of us. The beauty of the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles was that the extra weight would allow you to shoot through the woods and down the second hill.

I was about 8 years old when got the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles and we couldn't wait for the first storm so we could try it out. A couple of days after Christmas we got our storm and my brother Vinny, who was around four at the time, and I towed the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles out to the hill. However, before we even got out side, my mother dressed us with long johns, sweat pants, wool sweater, full snow suit, homemade knitted scarf, homemade knitted hat, gloves, wool socks, rubber boots, holy water, and rosary beads.

So, Vinny and I started our trek dressed for the Arctic winter. Because we were so

loaded down with the extra Arctic gear, a short walk to the hill seemed like a trek across the Glacier Bay National Park. When we finally arrived at our destination, we took a minute to catch our breath and to break off the icicles that were forming on our scarf from our hot breath.

I set up the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles with Vinny in the front. I sat behind him and carefully lined up the toboggan with the trail. I looked up into the snowy sky and imagined I was on a bob sled run at Lake Placid. I wiped my nose using the sleeve of my snow suit and pushed off to start our run.

I clutched Vinny tightly because I didn't want him to get hurt - and thus get into trouble yet again. As we got halfway down the hill, I realized we were going to miss the trail, so I got ready to ditch before we hit the trees. I slid off the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles. In that instant, I realized that I didn't grab Vinny and he was still on the colossal wooden toboggan with rope handles and headed for the trees.

As Vinny plunged into the trees looking like a giant snowball, I realized I was about to get into big trouble again.

Well, Vinny smacked into the tree so hard the snow fell from the branches and covered him. All that stuck out of the pile of snow was the top of his head, which

was covered with the homemade knitted hat. I knew I was dead.

I dug him out as he screamed bloody murder. Once he was freed from his arctic snow prison, together we dragged the giant wooden toboggan up the hill and back home for what I was sure was a trip to the County Jail.

When we got inside, Mom ordered us downstairs into the basement where we undressed, hanging our layers of clothes by the furnace to dry. When we got upstairs, Vinny started to tell Mom how I purposely left him on the toboggan and how he almost died from the avalanche of snow that came down and buried him.

Mom listened intently, put two bowls of escarole and potato soup on the kitchen table and told us to eat our lunch. The funny thing was, by the time we finished our soup, Vinny had forgotten about his life-changing sledding accident and so had Mom.

Escarole and Potato Soup Ingredients

1 lb. cooked diced fennel sausage

2 potatoes, diced
1 cup diced Spanish onion
2 teaspoons minced garlic
2 cups escarole, washed and shredded
1 qt. chicken stock

Method

Place onions, garlic and sausage in a large saucepan and cook over medium heat until onions are almost clear.

Add chicken stock and potatoes, simmer 15 minutes.

Add escarole and simmer for 15 more minutes then serve.

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

The Toboggan

by luigi coppola

Watch out for those trees!

Decorated multi-sport athlete, coach Zerbe honored with women's exhibit at Dutchess County Sports Museum

By Morgan Maier

Patsy Zerbe didn't grow up playing ball in the Hudson Valley, but her contributions to local athletics echo through Dutchess County. Since 1962, when she first played field hockey at Vassar College, Zerbe has impacted generations of sports programs as a player, coach, and pioneer.

On May 3, the Sports Museum of Dutchess County (SMDC) will unveil the Patsy Zerbe Women in Sports Room, an exhibit honoring Zerbe's dedication to local athletics, and the athletes continuing her legacy.

Her career encompasses achievements in field hockey and basketball, then tennis, wheelchair tennis, golf and senior golf. Zerbe has empowered her fellow athletes across ages, genders and abilities.

Former players and their families remember her fondly. And Zerbe's field hockey opponents certainly recall her lockdown defense. Her impact on Dutchess County will forever live in SMDC's newest exhibit. Alongside the accomplishments of the county's female athletes, this room will also include a collection of artifacts through Zerbe's career. The idea is to inspire and educate young athletes. "If Maddy Siegrist can come from a small town like Poughkeepsie... kids look at her and think, 'I can do that,'" Zerbe said.

And to think Zerbe started her athletic career on a boys' baseball team in a place when girls didn't have varsity, or even intramural, sports to join. Baseball, a tradition passed down generations in her hometown, Zerbe says, was the extent of her adolescent athletics. While attending East Stroudsburg State College, Zerbe found herself surrounded by sports she never knew existed. "If I tried at these new sports and succeeded, I fell quickly in love with them," she said.

At its 2025 opening ceremony, the Sports Museum of Dutchess County will unveil the Pat Zerbe Women in Sports Room, including guest speakers and programming highlighting Dutchess women's sports.

Sports Museum President Bill Ponte credits Zerbe with influencing the creation of this room to recognize the achievements of women in sports. "Patsy has spent her life working for women's sports, and this is something that's long overdue," Ponte said. "It's an honor for us to have (her) here."

From Zerbe's first field hockey match in 1962, she became a natural Dutchess County competitor. When she stopped competing, Zerbe's involvement in community sports was far from over. From there, she



Pat Zerbe

-Courtesy photo

made it her mission for Dutchess County girls and women to have the opportunities she didn't have as a young athlete. Zerbe spent 44 years coaching at Dutchess Community College. She started DCC's women's varsity basketball program, and led the team to 100 wins from 1966-1978. She further founded intramural sports to promote involvement for students who didn't have time in their schedule for varsity sports. "I've loved my time in Dutchess County," Zerbe said. "It started with Betty Richey at Vassar College, and just grew and grew."

Zerbe was blazing trails in sports equity before ESPN and the WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association) were even created. As girls become involved in sports at an early age, and women's sports see increased media exposure, Zerbe sees the future of women's sports growing in the right direction. This room, she says, is only a continuation of what's been started. And women aren't the only ones taking note of these accomplishments. "The gyms are filled not just with women, but men watching women's sports," Zerbe said. "I'm just so proud of that, and how their accomplishments are so well-received."

Dutchess County athletes are encouraged to share artifacts (uniforms, news clippings, medals, books, etc.) to be displayed in this exhibit, which will open on May 3. To learn more about the upcoming exhibit, artifact donation or lending, and volunteering opportunities, contact the Sports Museum of Dutchess County at 845-476-2314 or 845-473-0903.

Elks to host luncheon for veterans

Veterans and their loved ones are invited to the Beacon Elks Lodge for a free lunch. Lunch will be served at noon on

Saturday, Jan. 25. The Beacon Elks Lodge is at 300 Wolcott Avenue in Beacon.

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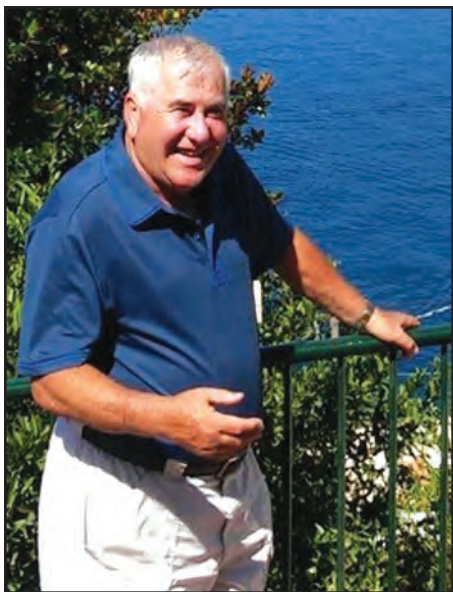
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Obituaries

Joseph G. Zingone



EAST FISHKILL - My father, Joseph G. Zingone, was born Giuseppe Gennaro on December 16, 1942 in Praiano, Italy, a small fishing village on the southern coast of Italy to Rosa and Rafele. Although his family was poor, my father remembers never realizing it as he was always happy and felt loved. At the age of 16, my father moved from this fishing village to New York City in 1958 along with his mother, brother Gennaro, and sisters Anna and Rachele to join their father and big brother Angelo, who had come years previously to earn the money to bring the rest of the family.

In America, Joe entered Benjamin Franklin High School for Printing. He was drafted into the Vietnam War after graduation and served his time in Korea

at Camp Red Cloud. He served as a supply sergeant and later continued his military service as a national guard. Upon his return to the US, Joe began to work as a pressman and started college on the GI Bill. He would eventually earn his degree from Nyack College.

By this time, the Zingone family had purchased a home in the North Bronx and it was here in this borough that my father met my mother at a social club on Williamsbridge Road. Elizabeth and Joe were devoted to each other and inseparable from that moment on. They married in May of 1970 and 10 months later in March, they were proud to announce the birth of their first child, Rosangela. I was born a few years later in December of 1973 and shortly after that, our family purchased a home and moved to Yonkers. In 1976, Joe began to work at General Foods Corporation in White Plains, New York and remained with the company until his retirement in March of 1996.

In 1980, the family made a major move to East Fishkill, NY. It was here that Joe and Liz decided to put down their roots and became pillars of their community for the next fifty years. Joe had many hobbies including gardening and golf. Joe was always very involved with his children and he served as a soccer coach for many of my youth teams, a sport that connected him to his Italian roots.

This Italian pride led him to become involved with the Sons of Italy where he served in numerous positions including President of the Joe DiMaggio Lodge. He also served as the chairman of the state scholarship fund for many years. Preserving the Italian Language was something that was important to Joe. He and friends petitioned for the creation of an Italian Language program in Wappingers Central School. To date, this program has become one of the most successful Italian Language programs in New York State. The Italian National Honors Society at John Jay High School was named in his honor.

If I counted all of the awards and honors that my father has earned in his lifetime, this obituary would go on for pages. It was always so inspiring to me to see my father's success and the recognition that came with his achievements. But what brought Joe the most joy however was his grandchildren; Gianna and Nicholas DeFalco and Ava and Giulia Zingone. He was always proud to share tales of life with them. Joe was loved by many and will be remembered with affection by his family and friends. I love and miss you Dad.

Joe passed peacefully on January 12, 2025 and is survived by his wife Elizabeth, daughter Rosangela DeFalco, son and daughter-in-law Joseph and Enza Zingone, his grandchildren Ava, Gianna, Giulia, and Nicholas, his siblings Gennaro, Angelo, and Rachele, and his many god children, nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be reunited with his parents and sister Anna in Heaven.

Services for Joe were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc. and Mass was at St. Columba Church followed by interment in St. Denis Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hudson Valley Hospice House in Joe's honor.

Written by Joseph C. Zingone

Evelyn J. Hitchen



EAST FISHKILL - Evelyn J. Hitchen, 98 1/2 years young, died on January 9, 2025 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center following a brief illness.

Born in Manhattan on June 9, 1926, she was the daughter of the late John and Mary (Kennedy) O'Mara. Evelyn moved with her family from the Bronx to Hillside Lake 55 years ago. She was a devoted parishioner of St. Columba Church, and a member of the St. Denis-St. Columba-St. Kateri Altar Rosary Society. She also volunteered at the New York Foundling Home.

On May 22, 1954 at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church in the Bronx, Evelyn married Richard M. Hitchen who predeceased her on April 8, 2013. She is survived by her beloved son, Richard and his partner Linda Thompson; her sister, Jean Lusk; and her nieces and nephews, Kenneth, Mary, Christopher and Brian O'Mara, Robert and Bruce Lusk, Glenn

Lusk, Frederick, Laura and Christopher Tippett, Robert, Patricia, Gina and Kellie Giordano. In addition to her husband and parents, she was also predeceased by her siblings, James, John and Madeline O'Mara; and her dear friend of more than 85 years, Frieda Walters.

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Thursday at St. Columba Church, 835 Route 82, Hopewell Junction followed by interment in St. Denis Cemetery.

For directions and online tributes, please visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Stewart H. Steffensen



Stewart H. Steffensen "The man with the cowboy hat" died at home on January 15th, 2025. He was 81 years old.

Born on October 29th 1943 in Beacon New York to Hans and Leonore Steffensen, Stewart graduated from Arlington High School in LaGrangeville, New York before embarking on a 47-year career as loader-man, Shop Steward, and member of Operating Engineers Local 135 at Dutchess Quarry in Pleasant Valley, NY. At the time on his retirement in 2010, Stewart had "never been late in 47 years."

Stewart wed his "Sweetheart" Linda Voigt Steffensen on December 4th, 1971 in Danbury, Connecticut after a brief courtship. Linda, donning a tennis skirt on a Summer day, caught Stewart's eye and continued to hold his affection and his hand through 53 years of marriage. Linda survives at home.

In addition to his bride Linda, Stewart is

survived by his brother Sterling Steffensen of Florence, South Carolina, Son Erich Steffensen and his wife Kara of LaGrangeville, New York, Daughter Ingrid Steffensen Bialy of Verbank, New York, and his three beloved grandsons; Ethan, Zane and Griffin Bialy of Verbank, New York. Stewart is also survived by a niece Steffenie Steffensen of Little Falls, New York, and was predeceased by his brother Stevie Steffensen of Little Falls, New York.

Stewart was a doting husband and loving father and grandfather, dedicating his time not only to his career and garden, but also to his family. Stewart, affectionately known as "Mr Steff," coached numerous youth soccer teams for the LaGrange Soccer League, and spent countless hours with his son Erich, hunting, fishing, and hiking. An avid craftsman, Stewart created homespun furniture as well as snowboards and rubber-band guns; most recently crafting seasonal figurines that he would share with friends and special connections.

A fixture at every school, band, or sporting event for his grandsons over the years and at Adams Fairacre Farms in Poughkeepsie New York on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Stewart will be deeply missed for his giving spirit and "terrible" jokes.

Stewart's family welcomed family and friends on Sunday, January 19th at Tymor Park hall in Union Vale, New York.

Rosemarie Y. Rinaldi



BEACON - Rosemarie Y. Rinaldi, a long-time resident of Peekskill and Cold Spring passed away on January 10, 2025. She was 94 years old. In 2019, she moved to Beacon to be close to her family.

Rosemarie was born on January 30, 1930 in the Bronx, the daughter of the late Michael and Catherine (Negri) Lauria. Rosemarie had a zest for life and love for people from all walks of life. She valued every person and made each person who met her feel special. On January 22, 1950, she married Joseph S. Rinaldi who predeceased her in May 2002. They raised three sons together over their 52-year marriage. Throughout her life, Rose held many jobs including being a stay-at-home mom for many years, a cashier at the Five and Dime Store, a real estate agent, a secretary at Lazar's Car Dealership, a hostess at the Cracker Barrel, and her last job as a breakfast attendant at the Holiday Inn Express in Fishkill, NY. Out of all her employed positions, she enjoyed the restaurant business the most. She worked at multiple restaurants in Peekskill as she loved the idea of bringing people together over a good meal and conversation. However, being a mother, a grandmother and a great grandmother are her most cherished titles. Rose adored all children.

Rosemarie is survived by her sons, Michael Rinaldi and his wife, Lillian, Joseph Rinaldi, Richard Rinaldi and his wife, Patty; her grandchildren, Bryan (Venessa) Rinaldi, Richard J. Rinaldi, Leanna Rinaldi and Marilyn Rinaldi; her three great grandchildren, Ella, Riley and Braden; her large extended family including Phyllis Rinaldi, Pattyanne (Jimmy) Gunzel, June Rinaldi.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her twin sisters, Marie and Anne Lauria; her grandson, Michael Rinaldi and many relatives and a few best friends. Rosemarie would walk into a room and light it up with her smile and energy. Next, she would take it over with her personality. She will be very missed by her family and friends.

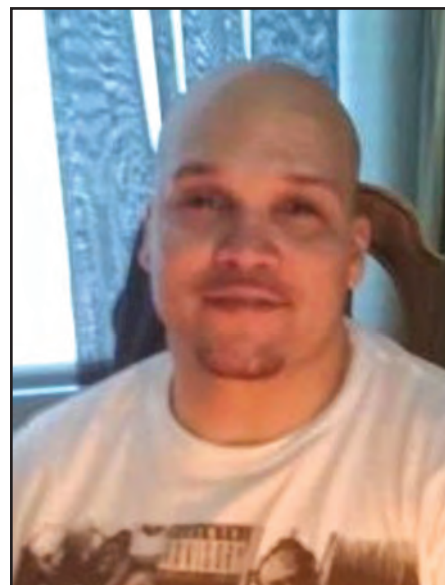
Family and friends gathered on Tuesday, January 14 at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Wednesday, January 15 at St. Mary Mother of the Church, 106 Jackson Street, Fishkill. Burial followed at Assumption Cemetery, 1055 Oregon Road, Cortlandt.

Memorial donations in memory of Rosemarie may be made to either St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Shriners's Hospitals for Children.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

Julio Ramos, Jr.



BEACON - Julio Ramos, Jr., a resident of Beacon, passed away on January 7, 2025. He was 45 years old.

Julio was born on May 9, 1979 in Miami, son of Carmen Valentin Sanchez and the late Julio Ramos, Sr. Julio was a mechanic and handyman. He loved cars, especially racing cars. He also enjoyed Batman.

Julio is survived by his mother, Carmen Valentine Sanchez and his step-father, Jose Rivas; his children, Julio Ramos, Jr., Enrique Ramos and Elizabeth Ramos; his longtime companion, Elizabeth Camacho; his sister, Jennifer Ramos; his brothers, Eric Ramos and Luis Ortiz; his many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

To send a personal condolence please visit www.riverviewbyhalvey.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Patrick J. Halvey of Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, LLC.

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Bill sponsored by Jacobson, Mayer that prohibits conflicts of interest at Board of Elections signed into law

Governor Kathy Hochul signed major reform legislation sponsored by Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-104) and State Senator Shelley Mayer (D-37) to eliminate conflicts of interest that arise when Board of Elections employees work for a company that sells equipment to the Board, perform campaign services for candidates in their county, or run for office.

Through Jacobson and Mayer's legislation, S.612/A.1244 of 2024, Board of Elections employees cannot hold financial interest in any company that provides services to candidates in an election overseen by that employee's Board. This includes campaign consulting, direct mail, digital marketing, and printing services.

The new law also restricts Board employees from having a financial interest in or working for a company that sells equipment to the Board, such as voting machines, electronic poll books, printers, or other equipment.

"In recent years, our democracy has been under attack. The electoral system is questioned on a regular basis. Whether based on fact or conspiracy theories, these attacks have undermined the public's confidence in our Boards of Elections and the basic work that they do. For our democratic process to work, the public must have faith that Boards of Elections are acting in the best interest of the public and not themselves and that they are administering elections fairly," said Jacobson.

Senator Mayer said, "I am pleased Governor Hochul has signed legislation to bolster the integrity of the elections process in New York State. This is an important layer of accountability that will eliminate actual and perceived conflicts of interest within our local Board of Elections. I thank Assemblymember Jacobson for championing this bill in the Assembly and Governor Hochul for signing it into law."

Susan Lerner, Executive Director of Common Cause New York, also praised the law: "Common Cause has long advocated for reforming New York's state and local Boards of Elections, and this bill will do exactly that by reducing any potential issues that call into question the hard work of our BOE employ-

ees. We applaud the Governor and Legislature for getting this bill done and look forward to working with lawmakers this session to continue putting New York voters first."

The new law would also require a Board employee running for public office to take unpaid leave from the Board while a candidate unless both Board of Elections commissioners agree to waive this requirement. The employee would be restricted from working on matters directly related to the employee's election.

"While these restrictions might seem like common sense, our current laws have not been effective in stopping these obvious conflicts of interest," said Jacobson.

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Pre-register for free rabies clinic in Hyde Park on Feb. 15

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH), in partnership with the Dutchess County SPCA (DCSPCA), will offer a free rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, Feb. 15 at the DCSPCA Adoptions and Education Center located at 636 Violet Avenue in Hyde Park from 8 a.m. to noon. This clinic is open to dogs, cats and domestic ferrets 3 months of age and older. Pre-registration is required; registration opened on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at DCSPCA.org or by calling the DCSPCA at 845-452-7722, extension 425.

The clinic is free for Dutchess County residents; non-residents will be charged a fee of \$10 per pet vaccinated. All dogs must be on leash, and cats and domestic ferrets must be in carriers. Vaccinations will be good for three years for pets with proper proof of a prior immunization. For those without proof, the vaccination will be good for

one year.

New York State law requires rabies vaccinations for all cats, dogs and domestic ferrets by the age of 4 months of age. Pet owners are required to revaccinate on a regular schedule to keep the animal properly immunized against the rabies virus.

DOH is available 24/7 to assist with any questions or concerns regarding potential rabies exposure to people or domestic animals. Pet owners should report to DOH any incident in which their pet has been bitten by or has an open wound exposed to the saliva or nervous tissue of a domestic or wild animal. Staff will investigate and advise the pet owner of any necessary steps they should take to ensure the safety of their animal.

Residents who see an animal acting strangely are advised to contact their local police agency. If a person has been bitten, or a domestic pet is bitten or is in contact, with any animal, they're to contact DOH immediately at 845-486-3404 Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or 845-431-6465 on nights and weekends.

To learn more about rabies please visit dutchessny.gov/rabies.

this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer

SUDOKU

E	P	I	C	N	O	N	O	N	O
B	O	A	R	S	L	A	L	A	R
C	O	P	E	S	L	I	E	G	E
M	O	B	A	V	E	R	L	I	N
A	R	I	E	S	F	E	Z	A	R
S	H	O	V	E	L	I	N	G	E
Z	E	R	A						
D	O	T	E						
A	V	E	R						
L	I	N	G						
C	I	T	A	D	E	L			
P	E	R	S	O	C	C	E	R	
R	O	B	E						
E	R	A	S	E	O	I	L	C	D
R	O	M							
E	V	I	L	A	Z	A	L	E	A
S	Y	N	E	R	G	Y			
D	O	E	A	C	R	I	D		
S	O	D	A	S	N	O	W	F	L
A	K	E							
H	E	M	I	N	U	G	L	I	C
I	C	E	D						
O	M	E	N	S	C	L	O	G	
B	A	N	G						
S	I	T	E						

Sudoku solution

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

Game Night set for Jan. 25

Game Night an All Improv Comedy Event take place on Saturday, Jan. 25, The Yard, 4 Hanna Lane, in Beacon. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade postponed

Beacon's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade has been postponed to Feb. 17 due to winter weather conditions. The parade was originally scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 20.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2025-02
****NOTE** CORRECTION FOR BID DUE DATE. BIDS ARE DUE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025, AND NOT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025 AS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED.**
NAME OF PROJECT: Reconstruction of PA-01 and PA-04 Culverts, Town of Pawling, County of Dutchess, State of New York
Project Description: Replacement of two existing Culverts with Appurtenant Structures located on CR-68 (North Quaker Hill Rd.) in the Town of Pawling, Dutchess County, State of New York. The County of Dutchess official bid documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york-county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york-county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Govern-

Legal Notices

ment" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. **All Addenda will be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by:** Caroline A. Miller, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW), 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. On or before **11:00AM, Tuesday, February 18, 2025**, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams,

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will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All callers will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting, +1516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll), **Conference ID: 319 605 841#**. Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. **Questions will be accepted by the close of business Thursday, February 13, 2025** and emailed to Caroline Miller at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. **The An-**

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anticipated Start of Construction is April 1, 2025; the Anticipated Substantial Completion Date is October 31, 2025. Final Completion Date is November 14, 2025. Failure to meet these dates may result in **Liquidated Damages.** This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor **Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #2025000096. IMPORTANT: Starting December 30, 2024: NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor Registry Requirements. THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM DOES NOT APPLY TO THIS PROJECT.** The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS-RFB-DCH-2025-01
****PLEASE NOTE** THIS NOTICE CONTAINS A CORRECTION OF THE MICROSOFT TEAMS CONFERENCE ID NUMBER.**
NAME OF PROJECT: Replacement of Bridge L-29 Town of Lagrange, Dutchess County, New York. **Project Description:** Replacement of a single-span (38 ft.) jack-arch bridge with a 58 ft. span bridge comprised of adjacent precast concrete box beams, with a cast-in-place concrete deck, supported by integral abutments. The County of Dutchess official bid

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documents for this project are obtained from the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york-county-of-dutchess. Copies of bidding documents obtained from any other source are not considered official copies. It is incumbent upon all potential bidders to view all posted addenda prior to the bid close date. You may obtain an official copy by registering on the Empire State Regional Bid Notification System at www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york-county-of-dutchess or by using the link provided at www.dutchessny.gov, selecting "Government" then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities." For those without Internet access, you may obtain an electronic copy of bidding documents by contacting the Dutchess County Department of Public Works at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov, or in person, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm: Dutchess County DPW, Business Office, 1st Floor, 626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Upon request, all interested parties may review the hard copy of the Bid Specifications and Drawings by visiting the above referenced address. All Addenda will

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be posted on BidNet Direct (aka Empire State Purchasing Group) site. Bids for the above project will be received by: Christopher Sterbenz, Contract Specialist, Dutchess County Department of Public Works (DPW) 626 Dutchess Turnpike-1st Floor, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 on or before 11:00AM Friday, January 24, 2025, and at that time publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. The bid opening for this solicitation may also be attended through Microsoft Teams Audio Conferencing. Anyone who wishes to hear bids read aloud via Teams, will need to call into the phone number listed below. We ask that you call in at least three minutes prior to bid due/time to ensure you are connected properly. All callers will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization. Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 516-268-4602 United States, Hempstead (Toll) Conference ID: 605 937 441# Each bid shall be submitted as one paper original and one electronic flash drive copy and be accompanied by Bid Security (bid bond, certified check, official bank check) or a Letter of Credit (in a form agreeable to Dutchess

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County) in the amount of 10% of the bid amount. Bidders' security will be retained until the successful bidder has signed the Owner-Contractor Agreement and the County has finalized the Agreement. Each bid with Bid Security shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the Project, Name of the Bidder, and the date and hour of the bid opening, which must be visible upon delivery. Questions will be accepted by the close of business Friday January 17, 2025 and emailed to Christopher Sterbenz at dpwcontracts@dutchessny.gov with the County's response published in Addenda prior to 48 hours before the bid opening date. The anticipated start of construction is March 15, 2025; the anticipated substantial completion date is September 5, 2025. Failure to meet these dates may result in liquidated damages. This project may be subject to NYS Department of Labor **Prevailing Wage Rates PRC #: 2024015336** Starting December 30, 2024: **NYSDOL Contractor and Subcontractor registry requirements.** View Bid Specifications regarding **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**, if applicable. The County reserves the right to waive irregularities in bids and in bidding and to reject any or all proposals.

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

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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

2	3								
	5					3			
									4

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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: SNOW DAY

ACROSS

1. Larger-than-life
5. Capone's family
8. Wild swine
12. "You're not allowed," to a baby
13. Deal with it
14. Cunningly
15. Shower with affection
16. Allege
17. City in Belgium
18. *Snow Day exercise?
20. Poet Pound
21. Ovine sign of the zodiac
22. Tasseled hat
23. All together (2 words)
26. Military College of South Carolina, with The
30. For every
31. a.k.a. association football
34. *All-day Snow Day garb?
35. Delete
37. Crude fuel
38. Read-only disc
39. Good's counterpart
40. Popular flowering shrub
42. Female ancestor
43. Two heads are better than one, e.g.
45. Bering Strait state
47. Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
48. Like thick smoke
50. Fountain option
52. *No two are alike, sing.
56. Surround (2 words)
57. Tangerine plus grapefruit
58. *Like a river, with over
59. #51 Down, pl.
60. Heidi's "Magic Wooden Shoe"
61. Olufsen's partner
62. Sound of a bell
63. Not him
64. Surfer's stop

DOWN

1. Odds' partners
2. Tubby little cubby
3. "He's Just Not That ____ You"
4. Of the same period
5. *Popular Snow Day pastime
6. Some tournaments
7. Zugspitze, e.g.
8. *Severe weather
9. Deed hearing
10. Algae, sing.
11. Marble bread
13. ____ Jack, English pirate
14. *As opposed to rain
19. Irregular
22. Type of conifer
23. Musketeers' swords
24. High-strung
25. Cerebellum location
26. Unit of life
27. Students' dwellings
28. *Snow Day reading choice
29. Helping theorem
32. *Like soft pj's
33. Intelligence org.
36. *Slope fun
38. Shorter than California
40. Number of years
41. No, it doesn't crawl in one's ear
44. Horse of certain color, pl.
46. Spontaneous additions
48. Obtuse one
49. Tom Cruise's "The ____ of Money"
50. Highway hauler
51. Bad sign
52. Of a particular kind
53. Smoothie berry
54. Superman's last name
55. Part of a seat
56. *Like chocolate on a Snow Day

CROSSWORD

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

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Local muralist Brian Zickafoose awarded Arts & Culture Project Grant for 'Art Day in the Village'

By Kristine Coulter

Local resident and muralist Brian Zickafoose was awarded the Arts & Culture Project Grant (ACPG) for 2025. With this grant, Zickafoose will use the funds towards "Art Day in the Village 2025" in the village of Wappingers Falls. The annual event will be held in the spring.

Zickafoose, who painted the mural "The Gift" last year in the village, said, "I am incredibly honored to receive this grant and grateful for the opportunity to continue building "Art Day in the Village."

"I applied for the Arts & Culture Project Grant because "Art Day in the Village" has grown into a vital cultural event that celebrates creativity and community in Wappingers Falls. The grant provides essential support to expand and enhance the event, allowing us to create meaningful public art projects and ensure accessibility for all," Zickafoose stated in an email to Southern Dutchess News.

There were 102 grants awarded. More than 250 applications were received, it was noted. According to Zickafoose, his project was chosen to receive funding from the New York State Legislature, administered by Arts Mid-Hudson. Zickafoose believes he was awarded the grant because of his "commitment to bringing people together through creative expression."

Later this year, artist Perry Kroeger and Zickafoose will install art pieces for this year's event.

According to Zickafoose, the theme will be "Community."

Last year, Zickafoose received the Wappinger Proud Community Award from Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini.

"Developing programming and initiatives surrounding the arts is crucial for any community to be a vibrant and

engaging place to live. On behalf of our Town government, it is my pleasure to recognize the remarkable work of Brian Zickafoose in obtaining this year's ACPG to expand upon our successful annual "Art Day." Congratulations Brian," Cavaccini told Southern Dutchess News.

"This year, we are unveiling two new large-scale art pieces that explore the theme of "Community" and reflect the unique character of our village. These installations, along with our ongoing artist pop-ups and collaborations with local businesses, highlight how art can bring people together and create a sense of pride and connection throughout our humble village," said Zickafoose.

He added, "The funding enables us to continue building on the event's success, which works in tandem with the Festival of the Arts Student Exhibition to showcase emerging and professional artists. Together, these efforts foster a love for the arts and strengthen the bonds of our vibrant community."

In the case of "Art Day in the Village," Zickafoose said, "this grant allows us to create public art projects, like large-scale art banners, that celebrate our community and leave a lasting legacy. It also supports initiatives that connect artists with local businesses and residents, fostering collaboration and engagement."

The free Art Day in the Village 2025 is set for Saturday, May 17 (rain date of Sunday, May 18).

Zickafoose said, "This event is about bringing people together, making art accessible to all, and celebrating the creative spirit that makes Wappingers Falls so special."

For further information about Art Day in the Village, go to: www.instagram.com/artdayinthevillage.



Local artist Brian Zickafoose was awarded an Arts & Culture Project grant for "Art Day in the Village," which will be held in May in the village of Wappingers Falls. Zickafoose is pictured with Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini during the unveiling of Zickafoose's mural, "The Gift," in Wappingers Falls in May 2024. -Courtesy photo

105th Annual Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony set for Feb. 1

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

Lincoln Douglas Award Ceremony remains one of the most prestigious community events in Poughkeepsie.

This year's distinguished honorees include Pastor Jason Elder, Pastor Maeola Farquharson, Ruth Jackson Cromedy, and Roy D. Watterson. Each honoree has made a profound impact on their respective communities through years of selfless dedication to service and leadership. Their stories highlight

the quiet, yet powerful contributions that often go unsung but create ripple effects of positive change throughout the region. These unsung heroes are a true testament to the resilience and strength of our community, with their perseverance and commitment shaping the fabric of Poughkeepsie in lasting ways.

The ceremony is not just an awards event but a celebration of the rich culture and history that define the Poughkeepsie community. Guests will enjoy powerful performances by a praise dancer, uplifting music from a talented DJ, and a moving mime presentation that will inspire and captivate. The afternoon will offer an opportunity for attendees to engage with local leaders and influential figures, including local government officials, NAACP leaders, and other distinguished guests, creating an enriching experience of connection and reflection.

"This event is more than an awards ceremony—it's a tribute to our community's strength and resilience, honoring the legacy of Lincoln and Douglass, celebrating the impact of our honorees,

and inspiring future leaders," said Julia Henry, President of PKNC. "It highlights the contributions of those who work quietly behind the scenes while ushering in the next generation of leaders to carry the torch forward." Henry added, "This ceremony not only acknowledges the incredible achievements of those before us, but it also looks forward to the future by inspiring young leaders to follow in their footsteps and build upon the foundation laid by our past."

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

Tickets are available now via Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/PKNC2024>.

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