

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Heart Walk set Saturday on Walkway over Hudson

By Kristine Coulter

The Hudson Valley Heart Walk is set to take place on both sides of the Walkway over the Hudson, 61 Parker Ave., in Poughkeepsie, on Saturday, April 27. Opening remarks will take place at 9 a.m., followed by the walk over the bridge and back again. Participants can register at Heart.org/hudsonvalleyheartwalk.

Hudson Valley residents Mary Jo Cipollini and Karina Gonzabay will be one of two survivors who share stories at the event. Organizers expect 600 people.

“People should definitely come to the Heart Walk, and raise money for it,” said Steve Kelley, who is chairing the event and president and CEO of Ellenville Regional Hospital. “The American Heart Association is the premiere organization to save lives. We’ll be raising funds for research to study the leading cause of death, heart disease. This is our best opportunity to save lives. I can’t think of a better charity to give to.”

“It’s a great opportunity to improve your own health in an iconic location. The American Heart Association recommends 150 minutes of exercise per week, and a walk across the bridge and back is a great way to get some movement in! Also, money raised at the Heart Walk will help us fund more research to save more lives,” remarked Kelley.

Surviving sudden cardiac arrest – twice

It was in 2002 that Cipollini, a resident of Highland, had sudden cardiac arrest for the first time, when her 2 children were ages six and two. At the age of 36, she received a defibrillator.

“I was without oxygen for 10 to 12 minutes,” Cipollini said. “Twenty-two years later, here I am, brain-injured, but not brain damaged.”

“I didn’t smoke, I didn’t drink, there was no family history of heart disease,” Cipollini said. “I brought this to the family.”

Cipollini had a second cardiac arrest during her son’s baseball game. That medical emergency occurred in 2016.

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Renegades set record with 3 consecutive walk-off wins

Hudson Valley opens home schedule with 4 wins over Aberdeen

By Rich Thomaselli

New season, new record.

In their 30th season in the area, the Hudson Valley Renegades set a milestone with three consecutive walk-off victories during their opening week at home.

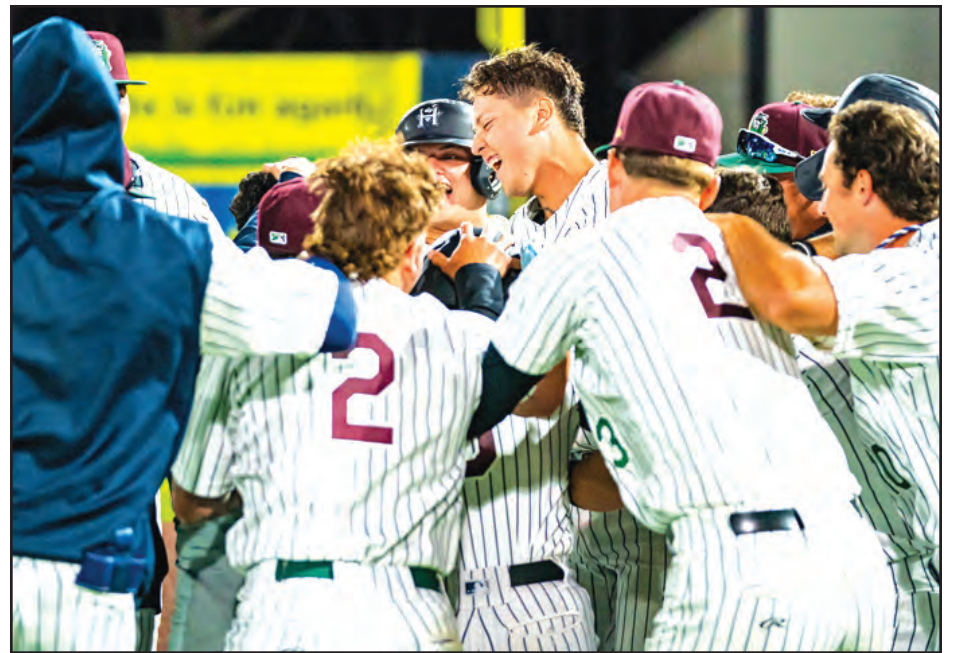
All of them were against their South Atlantic League North Division rival, the Aberdeen Ironbirds.

It all started with a 3-2 dramatic victory in the bottom of the ninth in the 30th season opener on Tuesday, April 16.

It continued the next night in 11 innings with a 5-4 win. After a brief rain delay prior to first pitch, it appeared that the IronBirds were going to cruise to a 4-1 victory on Wednesday night. Instead, the Renegades found more late-inning magic, scoring three in the ninth to tie the game at 4. At long last, in the 11th inning, Nelson Medina singled home Kiko Romero to seal the win.

Renegades starter Jackson Fristoe struggled with command in the first inning, walking four batters in 0.2 innings. A single from Matthew Etzel opened the scoring, and a sacrifice fly from Carter Young later in the inning put Aberdeen in front 2-0. Etzel finished his night 4-for-5, and was on base five times.

On the other side, Hudson Valley had runners on in the early going, but a pair of inning-ending double plays in the first and second allowed IronBirds starter Cameron Weston to settle in. After earning South Atlantic Player of the Week honors on Monday, Weston tossed four



Hudson Valley Renegades players celebrate after gaining a dramatic 3-2 victory over Aberdeen in the bottom of the ninth inning of their 30th season home opener on Tuesday, April 16.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

scoreless innings on Wednesday, allowing just two hits and striking out four.

Josh Moylan got the Renegades on the board in the bottom of the fifth with a towering drive to right for his first home run of the season. The IronBirds added a fourth run in the sixth with Tavian Josenberger coming around to score on a two-out walk, via an error by Renegades second baseman Roc Riggio.

In the bottom of the ninth, the Renegades came alive. Jesus Rodriguez

continued to perform, singling home Jared Serna to cut the deficit to 4-2. After Moylan was hit by a pitch, a throwing error by Matthew Etzel allowed Rodriguez to come in to score. With the score 4-3, IronBirds reliever Hayden Nierman issued a free pass to Anthony Hall to load the bases, and Beau Brewer earned a base on balls in the ensuing at-bat to complete the three-run comeback to send the game into extra innings.

Continued on page 7

20 years of Ree Play Sales

By Kristine Coulter

Wee Play Community Project is celebrating its 20th year. There will also be the 20th annual Ree Play Sale on April 26-28 at University Settlement Camp, 724 Wolcott Ave. (Route 9), in Beacon. According to organizers, 100% of the funds raised goes back to the Beacon community.

“Wee Play Community Project began in 2005 when involved parents decided that Beacon needed a safe place for children under the age of six to play. They lobbied the City of Beacon Recreation Commission, and were granted space at Memorial Park. Donations were sought for play equipment, benches, a steppingstone project and \$20,000 in grants were received. The City of Beacon contributed \$38,000 and the “Wee Play Tot Park” was born with a baby-friendly solid play surface, playground equipment, a sandbox, and garden. The playground officially opened at the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 8, 2006,” explained Lauren McEvoy, current Sales Director.

The first Ree Play Sale was dreamed up in the same year the organization began, said McEvoy, “and has grown tremendously from a small one day event in a volunteer’s garage to a 3,000 sq ft theater so full it takes us three days to sell it all, and



The 20th Ree Play Sale will be held on April 26-28 in Beacon. Funds benefit the Wee Play Community Project.

-Courtesy photo

days after to get things thoughtfully to charitable organizations.”

Sale hours are:
Friday, April 26, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m., full price
Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., 50% off
Sunday, April 28, noon – 4 p.m., 75% off
Among the things for sale will be children’s clothing, baby gear, puzzles, books and games, costumes, sports gear and maternity items.

McEvoy remarked, “The Ree Play Sale is an experience! For the past 20 years, local families have generously donated their children’s items that have served them well but still have a good life left. We work with a crew of volunteers to sort, organize and quality check each item and sell in a massive tag sale. We have everything you could need from pregnancy & infancy essentials to

Continued on page 2

Two documentaries to spotlight mental health

By Kristine Coulter

“People are often not aware of how mental illness can deeply affect so many areas of a person’s life--the circumstances and challenges (physical, emotional, financial) of day-to-day living; they don’t often contemplate the impact on the friends and family--especially the children--of those suffering from what can often be a very crippling, yet very silent or invisible disease. And if we can’t see it, we can’t begin to help in the ways that are needed,” explained Dr. Hannah Brooks. Brooks and Shane Killoran are organizing the showings of two documentaries that shed a light on mental illness.

“HERE. IS. BETTER.” and “Charm Circle” can be seen at The Beacon, 445 Main St., in Beacon. “HERE. IS. BETTER.” will be shown on April 27, from 1 – 4 p.m. “Charm Circle,” can be seen on May 4, from 1 – 4 p.m. A panel discussion follows each of the documentaries. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by going to beaconmovietheater.com.

“These two documentaries offer viewers two very different perspectives on what goes on ‘behind the curtain’ when it comes to living with chronic mental health issues and managing the life stresses it creates,” said Dr. Brooks, founder of the Beacon LitFest.

Sian Edwards-Beal Sian award-winning producer of “HERE. IS. BETTER.,” will be one of the panelists for the April

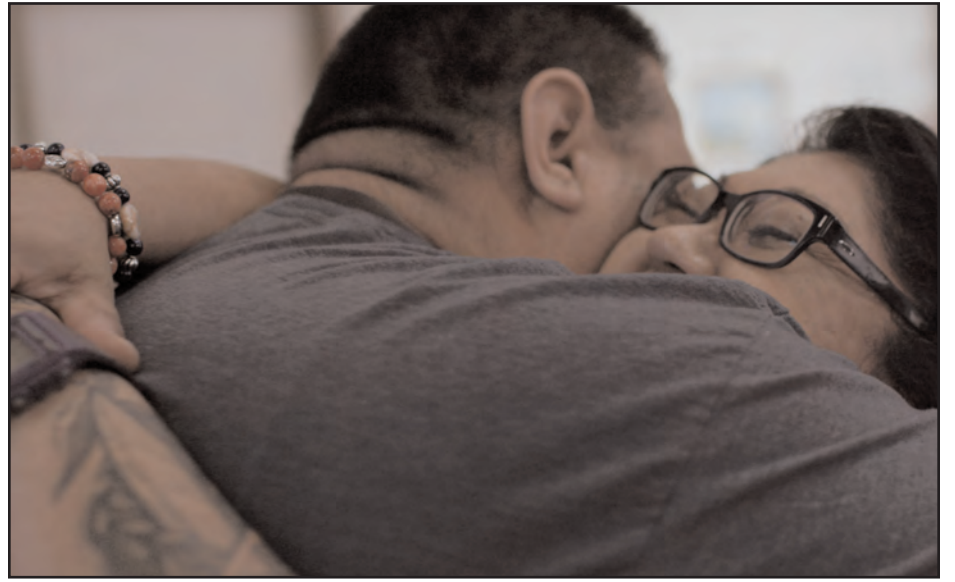
27th showing. Alyssa Carrion, Director of Veterans Programs for Mental Health America (MHA) of Dutchess County will also be on that panel, along with other special guests.

Nira Burstein, who is the producer and director of “Charm Circle,” Andrew O’Grady, CEO of MHA Dutchess County and Steve Miccio, CEO of People, USA, will be panelists on the May 4th panel.

Killoran, Hit House Creative CEO, said via email, “With “Here. Is. Better.” I’m hopeful that we can generate conversation & engagement with 2 populations that otherwise wouldn’t come together, let alone perhaps find common ground & alignment in perspectives & hopes for the future.”

Dr. Brooks remarked, “Charm Circle, in particular, is special to me because the filmmaker, Nira Burstein, created this notable documentary around her family who, like mine, contend with mental illness, and whose parents were college friends of mine. It is an intimate portrait of how one family struggles with an array of complex issues and helps us remember that people are much more than the labels society applies to them, and how, in the end, we all deal with the same challenges in life. (It may also be of interest to some viewers that Fred Armisen is Executive Director and the film has gained attention including being a NYT Critic’s Pick).”

As for what Dr. Brooks hopes attendees will get from the documentaries,



Two documentaries on mental health will be shown in Beacon on April 27 and May 4. Pictured is from “HERE.IS.BETTER.”

-Courtesy photo

“Our (my) greatest hope is that after seeing these films and hearing from the directors and leaders in the mental health support worlds, audience members reevaluate their preconceptions about people affected by these most difficult of illnesses. Like the filmmakers themselves, we hope to reduce the stigma and the fear our society carries and open their

hearts. For people to recognize that humans are complex and multidimensional, and, ultimately, we all live, love and suffer and are all deserving of compassion and grace and regard.”

It is also hoped by organizers that this message reaches people who may be in need of support services or even just an understanding friend to step forward without shame.

20 years of Ree Play Sales

Continued from cover

games, books, toys, shoes & clothes for your kids and teens! With tens of thousands of

wonderful items donated there really is something for everyone, it’s incredible.”

Wee Play Community Project has become an institution in Beacon, said Raquel Verdesi,

a former board member and director.

“We are often new parents’ first introduction to new friendships in our community—a kind of welcome party. Parents bring their children to Come & Play or Block Party, our regular, long run, children’s programs, or to the Wee Play Tot Park or Wee Woods and meet others with small children. These families often feel such a strong connection that they come together to volunteer with our board to sort through and help at our annual Ree Play Sale. The sale is another place where the community comes together year after year. We help our community by collecting gently used items families no longer need, getting these items into new homes, while making money for the parks and children’s programming in Beacon. After the sale, we work very hard to get what is left to those in our community who can use them.

A win for all!” Verdesi said.

Wee Play has also managed two mural projects in Beacon, one at Memorial Park and the other at Green St. Park, said Verdesi. “The first was paid for by earnings from the Ree Play Sale. We invited families to help mural artist, Joe Pimentel, “Make their Mark on the Park.” A way to beautify the restrooms, add art to the park, and to again, bring families together,” Verdesi explained. McEvoy said, “We have been partnering with Mark Price, Director of Parks & Recreation to entirely update the Tot Lot this year. Renovations will include a new entrance area layout, new fence, new benches and picnic tables & most excitingly a brand-new play structure with a beautiful, poured rubber surface! Weather is cooperating and work has begun, we anticipate a reopening in May- stay tuned.”

Five Poets: A Celebration of April Poetry Month

Five Poets: A Celebration of April Poetry Month will be held on Saturday, Apr 27, 7-9 p.m. at Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon.

Live Writing and Beacon Litfest present five distinguished poets sharing their

work. Includes multimedia performance and light hospitality. Curated by Poet and Live Writing founder, Ruth Danon PhD

For tickets: <https://donorbox.org/events/556735>.

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Sports Museum to open May 4

By Kristine Coulter

The Sports Museum of Dutchess County will hold its Opening Day on May 4. The day's events will be held from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. There will be music, games, crafts for kids, snacks, raffles, and tours of the museum.

"The Sports Museum's mission is to highlight local sports heroes as well as those who contributed to their success, such as coaches. People visiting the museum will see the "Legends of Dutchess" walk-thru exhibition presenting the history of each local sport along with biographies of sports' famous athletes," explained Mary Sagar, member of the Sports Museum's board. "Some of the local athletes included are Poughkeepsie High School football legend Monty Stickles, Beacon's own Light Heavyweight Boxing Champion Melio Bettina, Wappinger soccer starter and 2022 FIFA World Cup Captain Tyler Adams, and celebrated athlete and long-time Dutchess Community College coach Patsy Zerbe. Several historic artifacts are on display, such as early 20th century boxing gloves, football helmets, golf clubs, ice skates, and skis. One of the most popular exhibits is a 1920s era iceboat, from an era when iceboat racing was a popular sport on the Hudson River."

The 2024 season will feature a completely renovated baseball room, which will display photographs, trophies, and artifacts from local athletes and teams, explained Sagar.

William "Bill" Ponte, with the Sports Museum, said, "The athletes we feature are local athletes. The idea is to instill a feeling of pride in sports in Dutchess County."

"The museum has purchased a new cataloging system which makes it easier to rotate items through the collection and provide visitors with something new to see every time they visit. A new space devoted to women in sports is also being developed, and the museum would welcome any donations on local women ath-

letes or sports teams," Sagar said.

Volunteers are needed.

"Volunteers can contribute in conducting tours, cataloging archives and providing clerical assistance. Teenagers to seniors, male/female are welcome," said Ponte. Volunteers can volunteer "as much time as their schedules allow," he added.

According to Sagar, "The highlight of the day will be a presentation from sports historian Robert Mayer on 'Early Hudson Valley Baseball.'" Mayer will discuss the history of baseball in our area, including minor league and semi-pro teams. He will also bring a collection of early baseball artifacts. Mayer has presented programs at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, and at various locations throughout the state, it was stated.

Mayer said he covers "some of the early roots of baseball," including earliest mentions of the game, and some of the earliest mentions of the game in the Hudson Valley. "Ball games have been played for approx. 1300 years, and it was brought to American in the colonial days from England, that had their own baseball game (before Rounders). It seems to have begun in New York City in the 1830s although there are earlier mentions of baseball and other names. It moved up the Hudson River and the earliest mention of teams was in Mount Vernon, Newburgh & Poughkeepsie in the mid-1850s," Mayer said.

He noted, "Professional baseball also began here with the Hudson River League in 1886. The league was active in 1888 then 1903-07. Other leagues were around at various times including the North Atlantic League and Colonial League which were both here in the late 1940s."

Dutchess is unique, said Mayer, "in that they produced two Hall of Famers: Dan Brouthers from Sylvan Lake and Eddie Collins from Millerton. It also had one of the earliest women's teams, the Vassar Resolutes, 1866-76. I will also cover some of the early African American teams that barnstormed through the Valley from 1887 until the Negro League began



The Sports Museum of Dutchess County will host its Opening Day on May 4 in the Town of Wappinger.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

in 1920." Saturday and Sunday, from May Sports Museum hours are 1-4 p.m., to October.

Spring Garage and Rummage Sale set

The Women's Parish Club of St. Joachim-St. John the Evangelist Church will be holding its Annual Spring Garage and Rummage Sale on Thursday, May 2, from

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to noon in the St. Joachim's School gymnasium, Leonard Street, in Beacon.

Free luncheon for veterans, guests on April 27

The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 is hosting a free Veterans Luncheon on Saturday, April 27 at noon.

The luncheon is free to all Veterans and their loved ones at the Beacon Elks, 900

Wolcott Ave., in Beacon. Guest speakers will talk about new and unknown Veterans Benefits.

RSVP 845-831-2426 or 845-654-4557.

Meet & Greet and an Open House on April 27

Fareground Food and Community will host a meet & greet and an open house on April 27, from 2-5 p.m. at 37 Lamplight St. in Beacon. Meet Fareground Operation

Manager Maritza Mendoza Luis.

For more information visit fareground.com

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Celebrate Pete Seeger's birthday May 4 in Beacon



A celebration of Pete Seeger's birthday is scheduled on Saturday, May 4, from 1:30 – 4 p.m. Celebrate the late folk singer and activist at the Beacon Sloop Club, by the Metro-North Railroad Station and join in for a circle of song.

-Courtesy photo

Libby Funeral Home recognized by City of Beacon



April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou recognized Libby Funeral Home for bringing awareness to The Center for Prevention of Child Abuse (CPCA) in Poughkeepsie. Every year Libby Funeral Home's front lawn gardens have been decorated with more than 200 blue pinwheels to bring awareness to the organization and efforts to prevent child abuse.

Kyriacou and the Beacon City Council for the last two years have recognized and acknowledged April to be Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in the City of Beacon.

-Courtesy photos

Beacon police: Burglary call leads to stolen car, police chase

A 54-year-old man from Beacon was charged with misdemeanors and felonies after allegedly fleeing from City of Beacon Police Department officers on April 16. According to a release from the police department, officers were called to Tompkins Terrace for a possible burglary. Workers there had stopped a suspect who had their property taken from one of the apartments being renovated. He returned the property and left the area.

While officers investigated that complaint, a detective sergeant was flagged down on Main St. by a victim who had her unoccupied, running, vehicle stolen from the area of Main St. and South Brett St. According to police, shortly after stealing the vehicle, the suspect crashed it into a light pole on Rt. 9D in the area of South Ave. Quickly after that crash, he was located by a Beacon Police officer on Rt. 9D in the area of I-84. As the officer attempted to stop the vehicle, the suspect allegedly started to flee and then very quickly crashed again into a guard rail on

I-84 just past the westbound on-ramp. Police stated that he then fled on foot and was pursued by officers who apprehended him and placed him into custody under the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. During the course of the foot pursuit, two officers suffered minor injuries from jumping fences, it was stated in the release. They were treated at St. Luke's Hospital and released.

According to the release, Edward Brabham, 54, of Beacon was charged with burglary in the third degree, grand larceny in the third degree (both Class D Felonies) as well as reckless endangerment in the second degree, fleeing an officer in a motor vehicle in the third degree, resisting arrest, obstructing governmental administration second degree and criminal mischief fourth degree (all Class A Misdemeanors). He was arraigned in Beacon City Court and remanded to Dutchess County Jail due to prior convictions, according to the release.

Police: Man arrested who allegedly threatened people on Main Street

The Beacon Police Department responded to a call of a white male, wearing grey sweatpants, a grey hoodie and sunglasses who was threatening to shoot people on Main St. on April 21, according to a press release from City of Beacon Police Department Lt. Thomas Figlia.

Reviewed body camera footage showed that an officer located the individual, deployed his patrol rifle, as is appropriate for a call where a firearm may be involved, and attempted to get him to put his hands on the wall, the release stated. He allegedly refused to comply multiple times until eventually putting his hands on the wall.

As other officers arrived and attempted to place handcuffs on him, the body camera footage showed that the suspect pulled his arm away from them and in front of his body, according to Figlia. Officers, still unsure if he was armed or not, forced the suspect to the ground. It appears, at this time, that they then utilized technique called "body segmenting" to control the suspect, it was stated by law enforcement. Body segmenting is a technique, which is taught in compliance with New York

State's Municipal Police Training Council standards, in which officers use pressure on the hips, head and legs (depending on the number of officers available) in order to control a combative suspect's movement while simultaneously avoiding putting pressure on any areas that would impact the suspect's ability to breath. The suspect was then placed into handcuffs without further incident. He was transported to Beacon PD HQ where he was offered, and refused medical treatment, explained Figlia.

"While witnesses to the original incident confirmed that the suspect had threatened people on Main St. with shooting, the investigation into his actions, and his motivation, is still ongoing and charges are still pending at this time. A search of the area did not reveal any firearms. It is the Beacon Police Department's understanding that witness footage of the use of force incident exists and witnesses have been contacted. As is standard procedure, a thorough and complete investigation into the use of force is being conducted. Further information will be released when available," said Figlia,

Policy on letters:

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

Library budget, trustee vote April 25

The Howland Public Library Budget and Trustee Election is set for Thursday, April 25, from noon – 8 p.m.

"I hope the whole community will come out for the library's upcoming annual budget vote and trustee election. The budget vote and trustee election will be held in the Community Room at the Howland Public Library, 313 Main Street, Beacon, on Thursday, April 25, from noon - 8 p.m.," said Howland Public Library Director Gillian Murphy in a statement.

Absentee ballot applications can be obtained at the library or on the website at beaconlibrary.org. Absentee ballot applications must be returned to the library by 5 p.m. on April 24. The official completed ballot must be returned to the library no later than 5 p.m. on the day of the vote/election, Thursday, April 25.

The Board of Trustees has four open

seats, 1 one-year term, 1 two-year term, and 2 five-year terms. The five candidates are: David Lemon, Helen Lowery, Richard McGowan, Emily Murnane and Elizabeth Murphy. One may learn more about the five candidates on the Trustee Election information page at <https://www.howlandpubliclibrary.com/>.

The proposed operating budget reflects a 4% increase, according to Murphy. The extra funding will help offset increased costs of employee benefits, minimum wage increases, and additional staff to meet our users' needs, said Murphy. Also included in the 2024-25 operating budget are increases for electronic materials and programming, it was noted. The full budget and budget narrative can be review on the library's website at <https://www.howlandpubliclibrary.com/annual-vote>.

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Municipalities, schools can apply for Dutchess County 2024 Composting Grant

The Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management has launched a new grant program for municipalities to purchase and install composting equipment to provide local and convenient composting opportunities to residents. The County is offering matching grant funds, up to \$50,000 per project, to partner with towns, villages and cities – as well as public schools – that are looking to reduce food and organic waste through composting.

The new grant program will enable local municipalities to purchase and install “in-vessel aerobic composters” that will allow people to conveniently dispose of organic residuals, potentially including food scraps, close to home. The composting machines provide a controlled decomposition process to turn the organic materials into beneficial composted material,

which residents can then take home for use as rich soil additive or mulch for gardening and landscaping.

County Executive Sue Serino said, “We are excited to partner with local towns, cities, villages and schools through this new Composting Grant program – to get food scraps and other organics out of the garbage and put them to good use as compost – as part of our continuing efforts to protect our environment for generations to come.”

Increasing organic composting opportunities is one of the goals of Dutchess County’s Local Solid Waste Management Plan. With the support of the Dutchess County Legislature, the 2024 County Budget included \$200,000 to support the 2024 Composting Grant to empower local communities to take action against food waste and promote waste reduction.

Individual grant awards are available up to \$50,000, which would include the purchase of the in-vessel composting system; and the ancillary installation costs such as piping, electrical work, concrete slab and roofing material. All funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis. Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to funding the local 50 percent match of total eligible project costs, within 12 months of being awarded. Organizations awarded funding will be required to submit quarterly progress reports, and projects must be completed and operational by September 1, 2026.

Local schools are also eligible to apply for grant funding to install composting vessels. These systems would be for materials created by the school district’s cafeterias, etc. and would not be for public use.

The Commissioner of Dutchess County Planning & Development and Deputy

Commissioner of the Division of Solid Waste Management will review applications based on the quality of the work plan, and then make recommendations to the County Executive for final review and approval.

The 2024 Composting Grant application instructions and guidance are now available on the County’s Division of Solid Waste Management website. For inquiries or assistance with the application process, applicants can contact the Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management at 845-463-6020 or solid-wastemgmt@dutchessny.gov.

For residents interested in backyard composting, the Division of Solid Waste Management continues to offer backyard compost bins for purchase at reduced cost to residents. More information about purchasing a backyard compost bin is available online.

NY Medical College, WMCHHealth appoint new department head at Maria Fareri Hospital

Academic medical center partners New York Medical College (NYMC) and Westchester Medical Center have jointly announced the appointment of Erika Berman Rosenzweig, M.D., as Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at NYMC School of Medicine and Director, Department of Pediatrics at Westchester Medical Center, the flagship hospital in the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth).

Dr. Rosenzweig will also assume the role of William Russell McCurdy Physician-in-Chief at WMCHHealth’s Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Rosenzweig to New York Medical College as our next chair of the Department of Pediatrics,” said Neil W. Schluger, M.D., Dean, School of Medicine. “Dr. Rosenzweig is an internationally prominent physician in her field, with a reputation as an outstanding clinician, teacher, and researcher. We are confident that in working with our academic partners at WMCHHealth’s Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital, she will continue the tradition of excellence and leadership that has been established in pediatrics at NYMC and Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital over many years.”

Renee Garrick, M.D., Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of WMCHHealth, joined Dr. Schluger in welcoming Dr. Rosenzweig. “The appointment of Dr. Rosenzweig will assure the continued outstanding, nationally recognized work in children’s healthcare provided at Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital for the families of the Hudson Valley and beyond.”

Dr. Rosenzweig is an internationally recognized expert in the medical field of pulmonary hypertension who serves in leadership capacities for the Pulmonary Hypertension Association and for the Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Network of North America. She has authored or co-authored over 250 scientific publications and has been editor-in-chief of the journal *Advances in Pulmonary Hypertension*. Dr. Rosenzweig has led



Dr. Erika Berman Rosenzweig
-Courtesy photo

more than 50 clinical trials developing novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of pulmonary hypertension, a life-threatening condition that plagues both children and adults.

Board-certified in pediatric cardiology and adult congenital heart disease, Dr. Rosenzweig received her medical degree from Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, and completed her residency in pediatrics and fellowship in pediatric cardiology, with special training in pulmonary hypertension, at Columbia University Medical Center/New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Over her distinguished 24 year tenure as a faculty member at Columbia, Dr. Rosenzweig rose to the position of Professor and Vice Chairman for clinical and translational research of the Department of Pediatrics and director of the Adult and Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Comprehensive Care Center. Simultaneously, she continues to actively care for patients with pulmonary hypertension referred to her from around the world.

Attorneys to host educational meetings on Rail Trail Conversion in Dutchess, Putnam counties

Attorneys Lindsay S. C. Brinton and Meghan S. Largent from the Federal Takings & Rails to Trails practice of law firm Lewis Rice will host educational meetings in Fishkill and Yorktown Heights, Westchester County, on Wednesday, May 1. They will discuss the potential compensation claims of landowners who own property adjacent to a proposed rail-trail conversion that would turn 41.1 miles of an abandoned Metro-North railway section that runs from the Beacon waterfront to the Connecticut border into a hiking and biking trail. Hundreds of local landowners may be eligible for compensation from the federal government for the taking of their land.

At the informational meetings, the attorneys will explain why and how a claim can be made against the federal government, timing, how landowners will be represented in pursuing their takings claims, and how compensation will be determined, as well as answer questions. Each meeting below is free and open to the public.

9 a.m.: Residence Inn and SpringHill Suites by Marriott Fishkill, 500 Westage Business Center Dr., Fishkill

Noon: Crystal Hall at Somers Community, Center 34 Hillandale Rd, Yorktown Heights,

5:30 p.m.: Residence Inn and SpringHill Suites, 500 Westage Business Center Dr., Fishkill

Sign up for annual Riverkeeper Sweep

On Saturday, May 4, a workshop on Aquatic Invasive Species will be presented by George Jackman, PhD Habitat Restoration Director of Riverkeeper, at 9am before Riversweep cleanup.

Join the Beacon Sloop Club for a cleanup at Beacon Waterfront and Riverfront Park from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. for the 13th Annual Riverkeeper Sweep.

Volunteers will first meet at 9AM outside the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Red Flynn Drive. Doors will open for volunteers to join the workshop on Aquatic Invasive Species with George Jackman, PhD Habitat Restoration Director of Riverkeeper, from 9 -10 a.m. From 10

a.m. – noon, volunteers will be broken up into groups for the cleanup project. From no – 1 p.m., volunteers will sort glass, metal, and then it will be brought to the Beacon Transfer Station.

Parking is available at the riverside of the Beacon Metro North parking lot.

It is recommend that all Sweep volunteers bring a hat, sunscreen, a full reusable water bottle, insect repellent, work gloves and hand sanitizer. Please register in advance.

Info contact joycehanson@mac.com or <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dutchess-beacon-beacon-waterfront-and-riverfront-park-cleanup-registration-875442781927>.

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Renegades Extra!



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See story, page 8

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League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Wilmington WSH	11	4	.733	-	7-3	W4
Greensboro PIT	9	5	.643	1.5	7-3	W1
Hudson Valley NYN	9	5	.643	1.5	7-3	L1
Jersey Shore PHI	8	7	.533	3.0	5-5	L2
Brooklyn NYM	7	8	.467	4.0	6-4	W2
Aberdeen BAL	6	9	.400	5.0	4-6	W1

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Rome ATL	8	5	.615	-	5-5	W3
Bowling Green TB	9	6	.600	-	6-4	W1
Asheville HOU	6	8	.429	2.5	4-6	L3
Hickory TEX	5	9	.357	3.5	5-5	L1
Winston-Salem CWS	5	10	.333	4.0	3-7	L1
Greenville BOS	4	11	.267	5.0	3-7	L4



Riggio fields



Infielder Roc Riggio of the Renegades throws to first after fielding a ground ball during a game last week at Heritage Financial Park. Riggio has seven hits in 12 games for the Renegades so far in the young season, including two doubles and a homerun.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

Players Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	AVG	OBP	SLG	OPS
1 Omar Martinez DH	HV	11	39	5	13	0	1	3	7	9	9	0	0	.333	.458	.615	1.073
2 Jared Serna SS	HV	13	44	9	7	1	0	2	7	11	8	0	2	.159	.310	.318	.628
3 Rafael Flores 1B	HV	10	35	5	8	3	0	1	4	4	12	1	1	.229	.325	.400	.725
3 Josh Moylan 1B	HV	9	28	5	6	0	0	1	2	7	12	0	0	.214	.389	.321	.710
3 Roc Riggio 2B	HV	12	42	6	7	2	1	1	5	11	10	1	1	.167	.333	.333	.666
3 Jesus Rodriguez C	HV	12	48	6	13	2	0	1	5	3	10	0	1	.271	.327	.375	.702
3 Kiko Romero 3B	HV	9	26	4	5	0	0	1	4	4	17	1	0	.192	.344	.308	.652
8 Jace Avina CF	HV	5	14	3	4	1	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	.286	.500	.357	.857
8 Kyle Battle LF	HV	4	9	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	.111	.273	.222	.495
8 Beau Brewer 3B	HV	4	11	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	.182	.250	.182	.432
8 Cole Gabrielson LF	HV	6	19	2	2	0	0	0	1	4	8	2	1	.105	.292	.105	.397
8 Anthony Hall RF	HV	10	29	3	3	0	0	0	1	9	12	1	0	.103	.316	.103	.419
8 Garrett Martin RF	HV	12	40	7	9	4	1	0	9	3	12	4	1	.225	.354	.375	.729
8 Nelson Medina CF	HV	9	25	1	3	0	0	0	1	2	13	2	0	.120	.214	.120	.334
8 Alexander Vargas SS	HV	5	15	1	3	1	1	0	5	3	1	1	1	.200	.316	.400	.716

Pitcher Statistics

PLAYER	TEAM	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	SVO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WHIP	AVG
1 Cam Schittler P	HV	2	0	0.60	3	3	0	0	0	0	15.0	6	5	1	1	1	9	19	1.00	.118
2 Ben Shields P	HV	0	0	0.77	4	0	0	0	0	0	11.2	3	1	1	1	0	1	14	0.34	.081



Renegades Extra!



Renegades start home season with thrilling 3-2 victory over Ironbirds

By Rich Thomaselli

It never gets old.

"No matter how many times you do this, it always feels like the first time," said Hudson Valley Renegades manager Nick Ortiz last week after the franchise had its 30th straight home opener at sold out Heritage Financial Park.

"This is just pure Americana to me," said senior citizen William Scopa of Poughkeepsie, who added that this was his 26th home opener. "I'll take this over Major League Baseball on any day of the week and twice on Sundays."

And it didn't hurt that the Renegades won.

In stunning fashion, no less.

The Renegades and Aberdeen IronBirds played a competitive pitcher's duel. The game found its dramatic conclusion with a walk-off free pass to Omar Martinez, as the Renegades scored two runs in the ninth to beat the IronBirds 3-2 on Tuesday night, April 16.

The teams received excellent outings from their respective starting pitchers Baron Stuart and Zach Fruit. In his first appearance since pitching in the Arizona Fall League, Stuart was outstanding for Hudson Valley, going 5.1 innings, allowing just two hits, and one earned run with three strikeouts.

On the other side, Fruit matched nearly every punch from Stuart, pitching four innings and allowing just one



Minor League Baseball is alive and well at Heritage Financial Park in Wappingers Falls. Above, Renegades players Garrett Martin and Josh Moylan pose with a young fan prior to the home opening game on Tuesday, April 16.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

earned run while striking out four.

In the fourth inning, Hudson Valley broke a scoreless tie. A two-out walk from Josh Moylan brought Garrett Martin to the plate. He hit an RBI triple into the left-center gap to put the Renegades in front.

Aberdeen responded in the sixth after Enrique Bradfield doubled on a soft line drive down the left field line. Tavian Josenberger eventually knocked in Bradfield with a sacrifice fly to tie the game and forced Stuart out of the game.

In the seventh, Aberdeen took its first

lead, when Creed Willems hit a towering solo home run to lead off the frame against Ben Shields.

It looked as if this would be enough to earn the visitors a victory, but in the bottom of the ninth, the Renegades built a rally. IronBirds reliever Luis Sanchez had trouble commanding the zone, hitting two batters before walking Roc Riggio to load up the bases. Jared Serna tied the game with a second consecutive walk, and after some great takes, Martinez won the game with another base on balls.

But this night was as much about pump and circumstance and pageantry as it was about baseball.

"They did a beautiful job," Shields said.

And almost every player said it was good to be home after opening the season with eight consecutive games on the road. Ironically, the Renegades won their first ever home opener 30 years ago by the same 3-2 score.

Hudson Valley was the last of 120 minor league baseball teams to host a home opener in 2024. The team was set to continue a 12-game homestand on Tuesday, April 23.

"It's good to have them home," Scopa said.

This might be the 30th anniversary season of the Renegades in Hudson Valley. But it is only their fourth as an affiliate of the New York Yankees.

Renegades set record with 3 consecutive walk-off wins

Continued from cover

After both teams struggled to find a clutch hit in the 10th, the Renegades found the breakthrough in the bottom of the 11th. After Rodriguez popped out, Moylan walked, setting up Medina to be the hero. In his first at-bat after coming on as a pinch runner in the ninth, he singled through the right side, scoring automatic runner Kyle Battle and capping off a heroic comeback.

A third straight walk-off would come the following night, 8-7, before ending the week with a 6-2 loss on Friday night.

But the excitement came right back on Saturday night. With a solo home run in the bottom of the eighth, Martinez lifted Hudson Valley to a 4-3 win over the IronBirds.

Kyle Carr got the start for the Renegades and maneuvered out of trouble in the second inning after Elio Prado tripled, but was thrown out at the plate attempting to score one batter later on a groundball. The left-hander threw 4.0-plus innings, allowing three runs on four hits, walking three and striking out two in his third professional start.

In the final game of the series between the Renegades and IronBirds on Sunday afternoon, Aberdeen came from behind with a four-run rally in the eighth and earned a 6-2 victory on Cider Donuts Day.

Both starting pitchers were on their game early. Cam Schlittler and Zach Fruit threw three scoreless innings each,

with neither starter allowing a hit during that period.

The offenses came alive in the fourth, with Aberdeen striking first to open the scoring. A walk to Mac Horvath was followed by an RBI double for Creed Willems, putting the IronBirds in front 1-0.

Hudson Valley responded with an outstanding bottom of the fourth inning. The home squad notched four consecutive hits to put together a three-run rally. Jared Serna led off the inning with a single, and Jace Avina followed with a double. Jesus Rodriguez then ripped a double to center, driving in Serna and Avina and giving Hudson Valley the lead. The fourth consecutive hit came from Omar Martinez, who singled home Rodriguez for a 3-1 lead.

In the top of the fifth, Aberdeen forced out Renegades starter Cam Schlittler after three consecutive baserunners reached. Matt Keating did a masterful job in relief, allowing just one run to come into score on a fielder's choice, and retiring all three batters he faced in the inning.

The score remained 3-2 into the eighth inning, when the IronBirds put together a long rally. After a pair of walks to Hudson Haskin and Mac Horvath to begin the inning, Matthew Etzel and Creed Willems were retired on strikes. However, Ryan Higgins lined a single to left, knocking in two runs and giving his team a 4-3 lead. After a wild pitch, Jalen Vasquez fol-



Jesus Rodriguez takes a swing for the Renegades during a game last week. He is hitting .271 with 13 hits, including two doubles and one homerun.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

lowed up with another single to score Higgins. The fourth run of the inning came across on an error by Roc Riggio, putting the IronBirds in front 6-3.

Aberdeen's bullpen secured the

final six outs for their second victory of the series.

Hudson Valley had an off day Monday before hosting the Bowling Green Hot Rods on Tuesday. The Renegades are now 9-5 on the young season.

Tompkins Community Bank names Roberto Lupi mortgage loan officer

Expanding its mortgage lending team, Tompkins Community Bank has appointed Roberto Lupi as mortgage loan officer. He will assist customers on their journey toward homeownership, sharing his expertise in mortgage lending and home equity.

“Roberto’s decades of experience in the mortgage industry will be a major asset to our Hudson Valley team,” said Vicki Ide, vice president and residential mortgage lending manager at Tompkins. “His commitment to personalized, local decision-making embodies our mission as a community bank and we look forward to seeing him succeed in this new role.”

“This position gives me the opportunity to make others’ dreams come true,” said Lupi. “There is nothing more rewarding than helping someone purchase a home.”

Lupi is a 25-year veteran of the banking industry and holds a business degree from Pace University.

Founded in 1836, Tompkins Community Bank serves the Central, Western, and Hudson Valley regions of New York, and the Southeastern region of Pennsylvania. Through their unique local decision-making model, the bank offers personalized service and exceptional responsiveness, while delivering a broad range of products and services for consumers and businesses. Insurance serv-



Roberto Lupi

-Courtesy photo

es are offered through Tompkins Insurance Agencies, and wealth management services are available through Tompkins Financial Advisors.

Further information is available at www.tompkinsbank.com.

Walk to raise funds for American Heart Association set for Saturday

Continued from cover

“I came home to change, and got really dizzy,” Cipollini said in a release. “I woke up on the bathroom floor and didn’t know how I had gotten there or how much time had elapsed. I asked my husband if he had heard something drop, and he said he hadn’t. This was Tommy’s time – it was the Highland-Marlboro game and he was the second baseman. He was so happy; I wasn’t going to ruin that.”

At a doctor’s appointment, two weeks later, Cipollini, according to the release, stated to her doctor she “might have passed out.” When he checked her defibrillator’s history, it showed that she had received a shock on the day of the game.

“The nurse practitioner came in and told me it proved that I had a working defibrillator,” Cipollini remarked. “If I’d been home and hadn’t had that device, I might not be here.”

Cipollini savors the things she’s been able to do as a result of her cardiac arrests.

“My daughter’s First Communion was pretty emotional,” she said. “And then I think about all the milestones – eighth-grade graduation, high school, seeing my children settle into their dorms, being here when my parents were sick. For a while, I couldn’t lift my two-year-old. When I could, I’d say, ‘Mommy picks you up because...’ and he’d say, ‘Because she can.’”

“I’ve been given a gift,” Cipollini said, explaining why she’ll share her story at the Hudson Valley Heart Walk. “I’ve got to pay it forward.”

Suddenly rushed into surgery

In March 2022, doctors diagnosed Karina Gonzabay, a resident of Ellenville, with an anomalous coronary artery – her right artery was on the left side – something she was born with, according to the American Heart Association.

“After living with this for 42 years, there was suddenly a rush for me to have surgery,” Gonzabay said in the release. After going

through several doctors and hospitals, Dr. Emile Bacha at Columbia Presbyterian in New York City, operated on Gonzabay in October 2022. While repairing the arteries, he also discovered a PFO, a hole between the left and right upper chambers of the heart. Everyone is born with a PFO, but unlike most, Gonzabay’s hadn’t closed, according to the release.

As a child in Ecuador, Gonzabay danced, biked and ran a marathon growing up in Ecuador. She held jobs that required physical activity when she moved to the Hudson Valley in the 1990s. She worked seven days a week.

Over time, before the operation, Gonzabay began to experience dizziness, shortness of breath, palpitations and even chest pains, it was stated in the release. Frequent tests – including wearing a heart monitor and having a loop monitor inserted – didn’t show anything. According to the American Heart Association, Gonzabay was advised to stop working the night shift at the hospital in favor of a day shift. It didn’t help.

“I began to worry that it was all in my head,” Gonzabay said.

Gonzabay, who is now 44, works per diem as a nursing assistant and on the cleaning staff. She has children who are 20 and nine years of age.

“I’m still working to get back on my feet and provide for my family, as I always did,” Gonzabay, said. “I’m recovering to my fullest to get as close to ‘back to normal’ as possible. I’m also very grateful to have overcome this huge obstacle in my life.”

Gonzabay sees her cardiologist every six months. She also admits to still getting a little short of breath when climbing stairs or doing laundry.

“We hope that people take away a sense of community and well-being; a sense that they invested in themselves and their health by walking that day; and a feeling of satisfaction knowing that their walk and the money they raise is helping to build a world of longer, healthier lives for themselves and everyone they know,” said Kelley.

Slater Chemical Auxiliary to hold Craft Fair May 5

The Slater Chemical Auxiliary will hold a craft fair on May 5, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., 76 Old Glenham Rd., in the hamlet of Glenham in the town of Fishkill. There will be more than 30 local vendors. Browse collection of baked goods, homemade candles, jewelry, home décor, custom pens and more. There will also be raffles and food. Something for everyone – especially for mothers.

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Beacon resident looks back, to future as she turns 95

By Kristine Coulter

Anny Robinson turned 95 years old on April 24. The Beaconite immigrated to the United States of America from Belgium.

"I was born on April 24, 1929. My mother was a single mother," said Robinson earlier this month. "At the age of five, she put me in a boarding school, which is not unusual for Europeans. It was very beautiful. The food was good."

The beginning of war

"I just had my 10th birthday, and that's when the Germans started invading Poland," Robinson recalled. The nuns at the boarding said all the children had to go home, she noted.

"The Germans did some horrible things. They didn't do as much damage [to Belgium] as they did to Holland, England, France," Robinson remarked. She explained that the reason was King Leopold III made an arrangement with Germany.

According to Birtannica.com, "After the outbreak of World War II, Leopold assumed supreme command of the Belgian army. In May 1940, as the Allies undertook the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of troops from the French seaport of Dunkirk, Belgian forces at the Leie (Lys) River in Belgium battled the advancing Germans. Leopold was forced to surrender his encircled forces on May 28. The Belgian government's repudiation of his decision to remain with his troops, rather than join the London government in exile, laid the foundation for the postwar conflict over his claim to the throne. Leopold was held prisoner by the Germans at his royal chateau near Brussels until 1944 and then in Austria to the end of the war. His letter to Adolf Hitler in 1942 is credited with saving an estimated 500,000 Belgian women and children from deportation to munitions factories in Germany."

"A lot of Belgium was saved - cities, towns, houses," said Robinson. "There wasn't that much damage but not like Poland or anything like that."

Robinson remembered that when she was 11 years old, her mother "was going to move us back to England."

"We didn't hear much about the war itself. School was closed for a while," said Robinson, whose mother married in her 30s, giving Robinson 2 stepbrothers. She noted, "War being war - that's what it is. There wasn't that much food. You couldn't do much. You weren't allowed to do much. The Germans - if you were quiet, they would be quiet (the soldiers)."

Robinson remembers her family had to live on rations. "They give you stamps. With those stamps, you go to stores. You buy food for your family. You had to be careful, if they found out you were working on the black market you would go to jail. Jail was not necessarily good. They tortured [people] in jail," she said.

In 1942, Robinson said she and her family still lived in Antwerp, which had a diamond hall.

"Now, some Jews were leaving. Other Jews stayed. They (the Nazis) started rounding up all the Jews," said Robinson. "We had



Above: Anny Robinson look at photos in her dining room.



Right: Anny and Bill Robinson were married on Long Island in March of 1953.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter

-Courtesy photo

one Jewish ghetto." She said, "That was very sad. They did not look very good."

Robinson continued, "You would hear things. You would try to envision it. It's like 'how could this be? How could this be?'" she recalled.

Vitamin C shortage

"Belgian people are good cooks, if I do say so myself. So, we make things," said Robinson. "As children, we didn't have any vitamin C." It gets cold there, she noted, "in winter you were stricken with frostbite. One of the things Germans insisted was [children] had to take some kind of iodine to substitute for vitamin C. In Europe, oranges came from Spain. Spain wasn't close to send anything. The German army had the oranges, they didn't share."

Railroad station

Antwerp has a railroad station that is very large. The Germans did not bomb them because they needed the railroad. "You had to obey. If you obeyed, you could save yourself. You didn't look at German soldiers in the eyes," she said. She talked about Bastogne.

"The capture of Bastogne was one of the key goals of the Battle of the Bulge," according to history.com. "Bastogne provided a road junction in rough terrain where few roads existed; it would open up a valuable pathway further north for German expansion. The Belgian town was defended by the U.S. 101st Airborne Division, which had to be reinforced by troops who straggled in from other battlefields. Food, medical supplies, and other resources eroded as bad weather and relentless German assaults threatened the Americans' ability to hold out. Nevertheless, Brigadier General Anthony C. MacAuliffe met a German surrender demand with a typewritten response of a single word: "Nuts."

"When the Americans won the Battle of Bastogne, that was it: the war had ended,"

recalls Robinson.

"We were so happy," she said. The GIs would be walking, and people would be clapping."

Going to America

"My mother always wanted to go to the United States. She always was drawn to America. Her happiest years were in the United States," said Robinson. When the family first came to America, they lived on Long Island.

Robinson remembers meeting her husband, William James Robinson Jr. "Bill." "He was tall, jet black hair. What else was I going to do?" asked Robinson. She was

married in March of 1953 in Hempstead. Her husband served in World War II in the US Army from 1944-1946. He was a medical lab technician. Her husband also worked for NASA and then IBM.

The Robinsons moved to Dutchess County in the 1950s. The couple first established a home in Wappingers Falls with their family. In the early 1980s, just before the time of Bill's death, the family moved to Beacon where Robinson still lives.

Robinson's son, William James Robinson III died in 1998. "My boy died. Jamie was 39," she said. The Robinsons' eldest son, Steven, died in October, 2022 at the age of 67. Robinson's daughter, Leslie Louise, 61, has a close relationship with her mother and loves to create art.

It was noted that Robinson is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Beacon and has a great church family that has helped Joe Schuka of Libby Funeral Home with Robinson's sociability and transportations.

Robinson recalled working for a local facility for elderly and worked for a local bank. She was also a Girl Scout leader. "That was a lot of fun," she said.

"Beacon changed. It is expensive to buy houses," remarked Robinson.

Robinson said two of her great aunts lived to the ages of 92 and 93 respectively. She said she is in "good health," but getting up in the morning "sometimes hurts."

What is Robinson's advice for possibly living a long life? Robinson suggested: do not smoke; if one drinks, 1 glass a day; find good friends and have as much schooling as possible and "good manners will get you places."

As for America, she said, "It's America - you can do it."

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Obituaries

Eleanor Rose DiMarco



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Our precious mother, Eleanor Rose Mucci DiMarco, peacefully passed on April 18, 2024 in her home of 60 years. She was born in New Hamburg on October 31, 1932, and was a lifelong resident of Wappingers Falls. She was very proud of her Italian heritage and her childhood with her parents, Jean and Jerry Mucci and her grandparents, Donato and Nunciata along the Wappingers Crick. Eleanor's life was a testament to love, kindness, and her strong faith in God. She rejoins her beloved husband of 63 years, Andy, with whom she shared abundance in love and life, and also her precious son, Scott.

Eleanor will be deeply missed by loving children: Dave DiMarco, Rob and Jacqui DiMarco, Michele and Roman Escareno, and Barbara DiMarco. She shared a life bond of love with her brother, Michael and

Donna Mucci, and niece and nephew, Melissa LaBare, Drew Mucci and their families. Her devotion to her entire family was expressed with her gentle voice, grounding advice, delicious meatballs and sauce, hot bread from the oven, and her open arms.

Early in her life, she worked at the First National Bank, Central Hudson Gas and Electric, and later founded a "miniatures" business, "Liz-El's," with her dear friend, Liz Jermyn. They were proud to be interviewed for Women's Day Magazine. Eleanor belonged to the Third Order, Catholic Daughters, Home Bureau and many years of dedicated time as a volunteer for Mt. Alvernia. She cherished her lifelong friendships with Karlene Maresco and the "Just Us Girls," from the high school days.

Eleanor's family is a large and loving one, filled with nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, dozens of nieces, nephews, beloved sisters-in-law, and Godchildren, all of whom she appreciated being with while making sweet memories. She looked forward to the annual DiMarco Clam Bake, enjoying her loved ones and playing the "dollar game!"

Eleanor's presence in the lives of her family and community will be deeply missed, but her spirit of kindness, resilience, and love will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of all who knew her. She leaves behind a legacy of compassion and generosity that will be carried forward by those she held dear. Her devotion to God and her faith were the guiding forces that provided her with a calm strength throughout her life.

Family received their friends on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at Straub, Catalano and Halvey Funeral Home, 55 E. Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Monday, April 22, 2024 at St. Mary's Church, 11 Clinton Street in Wappingers Falls. Interment will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery, Wappingers Falls.

For directions or to send a personal condolence, please visit www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

Paul Kok



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Paul Kok, 84, an area resident since 1966 and formerly of the Netherlands, died on April 14, 2024 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Born in the Netherlands on August 2, 1939, he was the son of the late Cornelius and Rijkje (Schellevis) Kok. He graduated in Rotterdam with a master's degree in design, engineering, and precision instrument making. Paul was a long-time employee for IBM, East Fishkill where he helped develop many patents. He was a member of the Hopewell Reformed Church. He enjoyed working on clocks, cars and model trains.

On November 6, 1964, in the Netherlands, Paul married Leonora Jansen who survives at home. He is also

survived by his daughter, Eveline Dehn, (X John); his son, Roland Koke and his wife Debbie; his grandchildren, Daniel and David Dehn and twins, Brooke and Connor Koke; his brothers, Cees Kok and Johan Kok; and several nieces and nephews including Koert Kok. He was predeceased by his sister, Rijkje van Erkelens.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, April 19th at 11:00 am at the Hopewell Reformed Church, 143 Beekman Road, Hopewell Junction.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hopewell Reformed Church in lieu of flowers.

Bonnie Lu Possenti

EAST FISHKILL - Bonnie Lu Possenti (1943 - 2024), passed away on April 13, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love and laughter that will be forever cherished by her family. Born in Peekskill, NY on May 4, 1943 to her parents who predeceased her, Fred and Luqueer Turnbull. Bonnie graduated from Lakeland High School in 1961 and attended SUNY College at Brockport before owning Bonnie Possenti's Restaurant in Mohegan, NY where she met her surviving husband, Bob Possenti. Bob and Bonnie married in 1966 and raised their children in Hopewell Junction, NY. Bonnie taught countless students as a math support teacher at LaGrange Elementary School, Arlington Central School District for nearly 25 years. She loved traveling with her family, creating cherished memories that will endure for generations. Bonnie is survived by her brother, Ron (Barb) Turnbull; her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren, Troy (Jurgita), Lukas, and Emma Possenti; and her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren, Dina (Tod), Nathan, and Adele Ashley. Her wit, willfulness, culinary pursuit, and exceptional memory have each been passed to her children and grandchildren and will be carried forward throughout their lives. In loving memory of Bonnie Lu Possenti, may her legacy of love, happiness, and adventure continue to illuminate the lives of those she touched, now and always.

Albert E. Lattimore



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Albert E. Lattimore passed away on April 5, 2024, in the comfort of his home surrounded by his daughters and grandchildren. Albert was born in The Bronx, NY on March 5, 1937, to the late Albert F. Lattimore and Anna Hohmann Lattimore.

Albert was most proud of obtaining his GED, which enabled him to become an electrician with IBEW Local 363, retiring as a Foreman. He was a champion amateur weightlifter and body builder. Winning many competitions, one being the NYS Championship in the dead lift for his weight class. He enjoyed picnics with his family at Sylvan Lake, beach vacations in Maine, fishing, working in his yard, walks on the beach and Crab Fests with his grandchildren.

Albert married the love of his life,

Marjorie Sutton, on November 28, 1958. She predeceased him in 2007. They had been happily married 48 years. Albert is survived by his two daughters, Victoria Kolb and husband George and Cynthia Pek-Jornov and husband Robert. He leaves behind his loving grandchildren George Kolb III, Brian Kolb (Courtney), Karl Pek, JR. (Nicole), Albert Pek (Courtney) and Taylor Pek. Albert was also blessed with 8 great grandchildren: Carson, Leon, Olive and Jack Kolb, Olivia, KP, Abel and Aspen Pek. He is also survived by a sister and a brother and many nieces and nephews.

Special thanks to Albert's caregiver, Oxana, who treated him with kindness and compassion during his final days. She was an angel on earth.

Cremation was facilitated by Straub, Catalano and Halvey Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life Service was held at The Church of St. Nicholas on the Hudson, New Hamburg, NY.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Albert's memory to Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation www.hvhospice.org or Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. 845-485-2273

Albert will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all his family and friends.

Morris Glenn Gallo

BEACON - Morris Glenn Gallo, a resident of Beacon since 2018 and formerly of Tampa and Fort Myers, FL, died at Vassar Brothers Medical Center on April 9, 2024, at the age of 76. He passed away peacefully and painlessly the morning after the solar eclipse with Janis Joplin on the radio and family right by his side.

Born on February 16, 1948, in the vibrant community of Tampa's Ybor City, Florida, Morris was the son of Mario and Palmira (Diaz) Gallo. His pursuit of knowledge led him to the University of South Florida where he earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Chemistry and Physics, followed by the University of Washington where he earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Prosthetics and Orthotics.

Turning his knowledge into a profession, he established his own practice in Fort Myers, FL, where he provided prosthetics, orthotics & patient care for over 30 years. In later years, he worked as an adjunct professor at St. Petersburg College, School of Orthotics and Prosthetics, and as an expert witness and consultant for the Florida Attorney General's Office. He also served as President of the Florida Association of Orthotists & Prosthetists (FAOP), the Vice-Chair of the Florida Board of Orthotists and Prosthetists and legislative author for the majority of statutes and rules concerning Florida O&P.

Morris's impact and interests extended far beyond his professional endeavors. He was deeply involved in politics and philanthropy, serving as campaign manager for the successful election of a Florida House seat, and humanitarian project manager for Sister Cities International, coordinating their efforts and resources to establish and fund a free prosthetic and orthotic clinic for the 5,000 amputees and survivors of the Amero, Colombia mudslide. In addition, he volunteered his time, mentorship and consultation to many individuals and organizations including the Shriners Hospitals for Children and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Known for his quick-wit and intelligence, Morris was a thinker, a problem solver, a mentor, a know-it-all (knowing at least a little about a lot of things), a music lover, an avid reader and an award-winning competition shooter. He served as President of the Fort Myers Gun Club and was a proud member of the NRA.

On June 14, 1970, he married his high school sweetheart, Linda Helen Artiga, at Epiphany Catholic Church with a reception at Centro Español in Tampa (Ybor City), Florida. They enjoyed many years together raising their children and spending memorable summers in Sanibel, Captiva Island and Pass-a-Grille Beach. Following Linda's stroke, Morris devoted himself to caring for her full-time for 12 years until the time of her passing on May 4, 2018.

Morris leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter and curiosity revered by his daughters, Annette Gallo-Gangemi (Greg Gangemi) of Garrison, NY and Jacquelyn Gallo (Bobby Budimerovich) of New York, NY, his grandchildren, Rainer Gangemi and Ava Budimerovich, as well as his sister, Valerie Alvarez and brothers, John and Brad Gallo of Tampa, FL.

For online tributes, you can visit Morris' Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Elaine D. Orts

NAPLES, FL - Elaine D. Orts, a resident of Naples, FL since 2020, formerly of New Rochelle, NY, Ossining, NY, Wappingers Falls, NY and Beacon, NY, passed away at home on Saturday, April 13, 2024. On March 13, 2024, she celebrated her 100th birthday with her family.

Daughter of the late Alva and Martha (Hayes) Coon, she was born in Elmira, NY on March 13, 1924. She graduated from Elmira Elementary School, Ossining High School, and Phelps Memorial School of Nursing (North Tarrytown, NY), where she was first in her class.

Prior to moving to Wappingers Falls, Elaine worked as office nurse for Dr. Harvey Hurwitz in Ossining. She continued her nursing career working for Dr. Clement Landanno in Fishkill, NY prior to her retirement in 1998.

She was a longtime member of the Fishkill United Methodist Church. She volunteered as a leader for Girls Scouts of America and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and American Sewing Guild.

She was an avid traveler who enjoyed many cross-country trips with her spouse, family, and pets. She supported many animal-related causes and volunteered for Castle Point V.A. Medical Center. Elaine also assisted elementary school children with reading. She enjoyed bowling and was the recipient of several league awards. She was always a true and loyal patriot who supported our Military and First Responders.

On December 2, 1942, she married Marion W. Orts in Baltimore, MD. Elaine was predeceased by her husband on February 8, 2000.

Survivors include her daughter, Elaine Dale Orts Siegel & her husband Peter of Moores, NY; her daughter, Pamela J. Orts Siegel & her husband James of Naples, FL; her son, Ronald W. Orts & his wife Susan of Highland; ten grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and several nieces & nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, Elaine was also predeceased by eight siblings, two grandsons, and two nephews.

Calling hours were held on Sunday, April 21 at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. A funeral service took place at the funeral home on Monday, April 22 followed by interment at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, 540 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow, NY.

For online tributes, you can visit Elaine's Book of Memories at www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

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Art club to meet at East Fishkill library on April 24

The EFCL Art Club will meet on Wednesday, April 24, at 1:30 p.m. This group meets two Wednesdays a month. Bring one's own supplies and work on a still life provided or work on one's own project. This program is for adults ages 18 and up. No registration required, drop-in and open to artists of all levels of experience and mediums. Call the library at 845-221-9943 for more information.

Latin Dance Night on April 25 in Beacon

Feel the Heat - A Night of Latin Dancing will be presented by Beacon Dance Beat on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at the Towne Crier Café, 379 Main Street in Beacon. The music includes exciting and sensuous rhythms, modern and traditional, of Salsa, Cha-Cha, Merengue, Bachata, Reggaeton and more. Song requests welcome. Full menu and bar service are available before and during the dance. Admission is \$10.00 and can be paid at the door. Or, for reservations, please call the Towne Crier at 845-831-5500. For further information about the music, or for a special Song Request, contact Rhoda at: 845-765-0667 | rhodaja@optonline.net.

Mindfulness Workshop set for April 28 in Wappingers Falls

Mindfulness Workshop set for Sunday, April 28, from 3-6 p.m. The workshop will take place at River Valley Arts Center, 9 South Mesier Ave., Wappingers Falls. Workshop Tuition is \$55 (\$45 for Workshop and \$10 for materials fee), paid by cash or check the day of the workshop. Register by at email Jessica Corcoran at missjessica37@yahoo.com to secure a spot or request additional information.

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	9			7				3
			2		3			
2				6				1
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	7	6					1	4
					4			

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

Suguru

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	2				2	
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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: NATIONAL PARKS

ACROSS

1. Rhymes with, and similar in meaning, to blob
5. Refrigerator sound
8. Action word
12. Left, in Russia
13. Departed
14. Locomotive hair
15. As opposed to St. in a city, pl.
16. French cordial flavoring
17. Type of lily, pl.
18. *Voyageurs National Park location
20. Like Andersen's duckling
21. Poacher's ware
22. Unit of pressure
23. *Volcanoes National Park location
26. Dionysus' female followers
30. U.N. labor agency
31. Camels' relatives
34. Pelvic bones
35. Smears
37. "_____ of the land"
38. Gertrude Stein's reception room
39. Sicilian rumbler
40. Strong influence
42. To sum
43. Blushes
45. *Utah national park
47. What blanket and landing have in common
48. State before birth
50. Eastern European
52. *Yosemite's famous monolith (2 words)
56. Cockamamie
57. Effect of pain?
58. First weekly news magazine in U.S.
59. South African currency, pl.
60. Tolstoy's Karenina
61. The 15th of March
62. King Kong and Koko, e.g.
63. Hot one in a bun
64. Copper coin

DOWN

1. Type of shot
2. Strauss of jeans fame
3. Often found under a range
4. Herzegovina's partner
5. Kind of roll, in school
6. Togetherness
7. *_____ Verde National Park
8. *Shenandoah National Park location
9. Twelfth month of Jewish civil year
10. Frost-covered
11. Like certain relief
13. _____ is a byproduct of _____ (2 3-letter words)
14. "_____ for alarm"
19. See nor hear this? pl.
22. Faux _____
23. Opposite of seeker
24. Winged
25. One of Florence Nightingale's concerns
26. American Indians of Yucatan
27. Islam's Supreme Being
28. D in LED
29. *White _____ National Park in New Mexico
32. Financial help
33. *Need one to navigate a National Park?
36. *The Lakota called it "Mako Sica"
38. Razor sharpener
40. *Old Faithful _____, lodging spot in Yellowstone
41. Poolside hut
44. Roof overhang
46. Rotten Tomatoes contributor
48. Latin American plain
49. Getting an A
50. Finger-produced sound
51. Muffin Man's Drury _____
52. "Goodness gracious!"
53. Ocean motion
54. Word of agreement
55. *Bald Eagle's home in Acadia or Olympic National Parks
56. One of the Gershwins

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19					20			
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43				44					45		46	
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	50	51				52				53	54	55
56						57				58		
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

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Isidore String Quartet to play in Beacon on May 5



The Howland Chamber Music Circle will present the Isidore String Quartet on Sunday, May 5 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo

The Howland Chamber Music Circle continues its spring series with the Isidore String Quartet on Sunday, May 5 at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. Following the concert, audience members can meet the musicians and enjoy complimentary refreshments. All ticket holders are invited to the reception. To purchase a ticket before they are gone, visit howlandmusic.org. The Howland Cultural Center is at 477 Main Street.

Winners of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant, the New York City-based Isidore String Quartet was formed in 2019 with a vision to revisit, rediscover, and reinvigorate the repertory. Their 2023-2024 season brings extensive tours of North America and Europe, and a two-year appointment as the Peak Fellowship Ensemble-in-Residence at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

The quartet also works as a resident ensemble with PROJECT: MUSIC HEALS US to provide encouragement, education, and healing to marginalized communities who may otherwise have limited access to high-quality live music performances.

They will perform works by Bach, Shirazi, Wijeratne, and Mendelssohn.

New to the 2023-2024 season, we are introducing a pricing structure 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.

'Fleece to Fiber' set for May 1

"Fleece To Fiber" will take place at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 Rte. 55, Lagrangeville. Skyllkill, a local chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America, presents an in-person presentation by Andrea Parent-Tibbetts who will explain the process of how fiber is made from fleece. Andrea is the owner of Clover Brooke Farm in Hyde Park - a homestead dating

back to 1850 on 25 bucolic pastured acres raising alpacas, llamas, sheep and goats. This program begins on May 1 at 12:30 p.m. Join other needleworkers for fun and learning beginning at 10 a.m. or, come for this program only beginning at 12:30 p.m.

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

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