

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Spirit of Beacon Day set for Sept. 29

By Kristine Coulter

The Spirit of Beacon will take place on Sunday, Sept. 29 on Main St. The theme for 2024 is "Unity in the Community." This will be the 47th celebration.

"I think about the origins of this day and how it can serve as inspiration for leading by example and confronting intolerance towards differences. A reminder of the ways in which we can support one another and work towards healing divisions. We all share a common desire to be safe, healthy, and happy in Beacon. Let us continue to keep this in mind in how we show up for one another," said Spirit of Beacon's Secretary Jeana Pearl Fletcher in a statement on the Spirit of Beacon Day website, spiritofbeaconday.org.

The mission of Spirit of Beacon Day, since its start in 1977, has been "to connect the youth with the community, their neighbors, and local organizations that support them. The goal is to demonstrate there are ample opportunities for kids of all ages in Beacon. Our mission is to make sure the families of Beacon are informed of these positive outlets and knowledgeable of the ways to connect with them."

What will be new at this year's celebration?

According to organizers:

- Incorporating more cultural foods and vendors
- Introducing local Rock & Roll, Hip-Hop and R&B music
- Hosting a DJ cipher session
- To create a Spirit of Beacon collage to remember lost community members and share memories, reflecting on the significance of the day to you

This year, the chairperson for the annual event is former City of Beacon councilman Ali T. Muhammad, who had previously been a committee member.

The parade lineup will be on Main St. at Wolcott Ave. and goes to Tioronda Ave.

Vendor tables are between Brett St. and Teller Ave.

Muhammad told the Council at the Sept. 16 meeting at City Hall.

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Italian village honors Pleasant Valley WWII hero with monument on 80th anniversary of his death

By Jim Donick

Pleasant Valley, New York, and a small village, Migliandolo in the Piedmont region of Italy, are forever linked by the memory of a Pleasant Valley flier who died on a hillside above the town while the Americans were fighting to free the Italy from the Germans in World War II.

Lieutenant Edgar Nelson Peters - Eddie to his family - was flying a P-47 Thunderbolt on a mission to bomb a German controlled rail yard nearby. It was reported that he was struck by flak (anti-aircraft fire) on his second strafing run. Nursing the plane as best he could, he crashed on the hillside above the town.

Apparently trying to make sure the plane didn't hit any houses, he stayed in it too long. He did keep from hitting any houses before bailing out at what was likely too low an altitude anyway. Jumping from a stricken fighter in those days often resulted in the tail of the plane hitting the pilot as he abandoned the aircraft. Eddie Peters' head was hit by the P-47's tail as he bailed out. He managed to pull the rip cord but he was too low for a full deployment of the chute. The villagers found him in his parachute beside the wreckage. It's likely the wound to his head from jumping had killed him anyway.

The death of this brave young man made a lasting impression on the people of Migliandolo, and his memory became a moving part of the town's history. Over time with memories, some of the details get foggy. A year or so ago, a young college student from the village, Gaia Grisoglio, decided to research his story. She had heard of it countless times from her great-grandmother, who had been working in a vineyard when the aircraft crashed on the hill above.



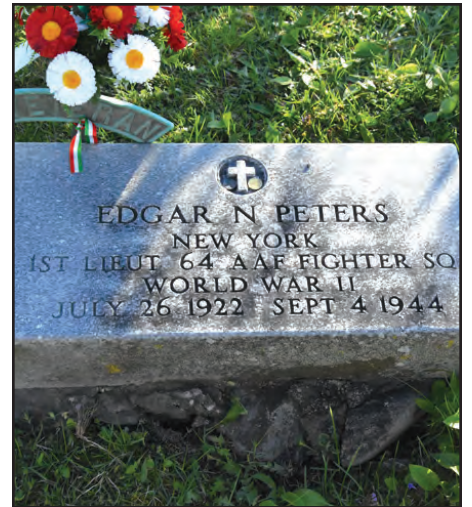
Lieutenant Edgar Nelson Peters from Pleasant Valley. He was known as Eddie to his family.

The local newspaper, La Nuova Provincia, in covering the memorial events, wrote:

"It is a piece of local history that has been handed down for 80 years and is still so anchored to the territory in which the event occurred that last Saturday it was also officially remembered with the unveiling of a commemorative stone.

"The story of that unfortunate American aviator itself became Migliandolo's story thanks also to the interest of a young university student, Gaia Grisoglio. 'I heard this story for the

Continued on page 2



Lieutenant Edgar Nelson Peters' headstone. He is buried in his hometown of Pleasant Valley.

-Photo by Jim Donick



This monument erected in Migliandolo, Italy honors the memory of Lieutenant Edgar Nelson Peters.

-Courtesy photos

Renegades come up short in three-game series

Bowling Green wins 4-1

By Rich Thomaselli

For the fifth time in eight years, the Hudson Valley Renegades Minor League Baseball team made the championship series of the respective league that they were in.

For the fifth time in eight years, the team came up just short.

The Renegades lost in the South Atlantic League championship, falling to the Bowling Green Hot Rods 4-1 in a deciding Game 3 at Heritage Financial Park and dropping the best-of-three series 2-1.

Bowling Green is an affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays.

Hudson Valley began its existence as an affiliate of the Texas Rangers, then Tampa Bay, and finally now with the New York Yankees. Hudson Valley lost the first game of the series on the road in Kentucky before coming home and winning Game 2.

Continued on page 8



The Renegades came up short in Game 3 against the Bowling Green Hot Rods, losing 4-1 at Heritage Financial Park in Fishkill.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

Italian village honors Pleasant Valley WWII hero



The dedication of the Peters memorial and flag poles for the Italian and American flags was well attended by many locals in Migliandolo, Italy. The story of the crash is one of the enduring memories the town has of the war. The two flags, flying side by side, are testimony to the enduring friendship between our two countries.

Continued from cover

first of many times from my great-grandmother, Mercolina Maria Valle, who died at the age of 101 a few months ago – says Gaia – ‘It has always intrigued me and so I did research in the military and municipal archives and collected the declarations of the eyewitnesses of the time.’ It all ended in a thesis among those awarded by the Astigiani Association in the name of Luciano Nattino. Luigi Raviola, Maria Peglia and Elia Badello, Fiorenzo and above all Paolo Vaccarino were precious witnesses in reconstructing what happened.”

Gaia’s boyfriend, Paolo Vaccarino, currently serving in the Italian army, also has a deep interest in World War II events in the area and had been covering much of the ground in search of clues where the P-47 actually went down. Together they made the perfect team to learn the story of 1st Lieutenant Edgar Nelson Peters in detail and protect his memory into the future. Their research covered both his background and family in the USA. They learned about his squadron’s action in the Italian campaign as well as that of the actual mission that proved to be Eddie Peters’ last. The resulting research led to the history award referenced above by La Nuova Provincia. The work also led to a profound tie to the memory of this brave young American.

In the spring of 2024 Gaia and her family came to lay flowers at the grave in the church yard of St. Paul’s Church in Pleasant Valley and to become better acquainted with his prewar life and with some of his surviving family. At the same time, she was planning the permanent memorial to be erected in the town where he died. The plans for that memorial came together and the dedication of it took place in Migliandolo on the 31st of August.

Two of Peters’ grand-nephews, Tim Moorhead and Mike Shroeder, journeyed to Italy. The events created a moving memory that these men will share with their entire family.

“It was truly, truly wonderful! They made us so welcome and the emotion and

care they showed for the memory of my uncle was just amazing,” says Shroeder.

There were two events. One, on the 31st of August, unveiled the town’s new monument to the memory of Peters. The other took place on September 4th, the 80th anniversary of his death.

Gaia Grisoglio arranged the ceremonies. The one in town, unveiling the monument, was attended by local dignitaries, including the local priest, Don Luigino; the Mayor, Allesandro Balliano; and Sergio Ebernabo, the Piedmont’s Councilor for the region of Asti. The monument, a base of brick, is topped with a P-47 in flight. It is flanked on either side by the flags of Italy and of the United States.

The memorial on September 4th included the placing of a cross at the site of the crash and Peters’ death. This event proved an emotional moment. On that day the cross was decorated, not with flowers, but with the laurel wreath of a hero. A local bugler added to the atmosphere with the haunting notes of Dan Butterfield’s moving music, “Taps.”

Gaia summed up her reactions to the events.

“They were beautiful and moving ceremonies. Having Mike and Tim here has been truly an amazing thing. Now the story of Edgar Peters is both remembered in the U.S. and in Italy, as he deserves.”



A simple cross was erected at the site of the crash and where Peters died.

-Courtesy photos



The Northern Dutchess News was on display at the memorial ceremony in Migliandolo, Italy.



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4 SETTEMBRE 1944

COMMEMORAZIONE 80° ANNIVERSARIO



MIGLIANDOLO

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IN RICORDO DEL PILOTA **EDGAR N. PETERS**
CADUTO A MIGLIANDOLO IL 4 SETTEMBRE
1944

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This broadside/poster was used in Italy to announce the events commemorating Lt. Peters.

-Courtesy image

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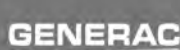


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Plans Revealed For New Medical Park In Fishkill





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See story, page 8

Council approves naming of ‘Peattie Square’ after WWII veteran

By Kristine Coulter

The Beacon City Council, during its Sept. 16 meeting at City Hall, named the Veterans Memorial Building Plaza as “First Lieutenant Francis G. Peattie Square” in honor and remembrance of Lt. Francis Gerard Peattie, a World War II veteran from Beacon. The resolution stated the honor is for “service and sacrifice on behalf of the City of Beacon and our nation.”

On January 8, 1942, Peattie enlisted in the U.S. Army. Peattie, according to the Veterans Legacy Memorial website, was born on November 19, 1918, in Beacon. Peattie was an active member of Lewis Tompkins Hose Fire Co. in Beacon, before his enlistment.

According to the resolution, “First Lieutenant Francis G. Peattie was stationed in New Guinea, where he flew as a bombardier on missions throughout the region with the 43rd Bombardment Group and 65th Bomber Squadron” and “... on June 26, 1943, the First Lieutenant made the ultimate sacrifice for his country and was declared dead after being shot down during a mission over the Bismarck Sea.”

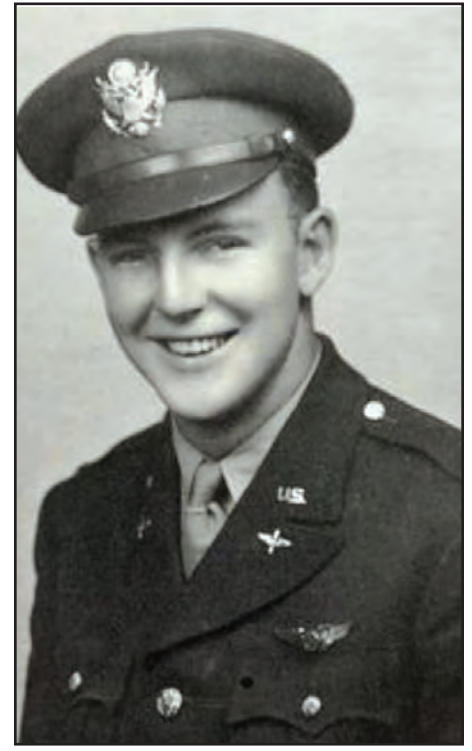
The Council adopted a Municipal Naming Policy, which provides a uniform policy for naming City-owned assets in a manner that enhances the values and heritage of the City of Beacon and which requires the Council to formally adopt the proposed name change by resolution in February 2020, according to the resolution.

Councilmember for Ward 1 Molly Rhodes asked if they had received any additional information on Peattie.



The Beacon City Council approved the naming of “First Lieutenant Francis G. Peattie Square” at the Veterans Memorial Building on Main St.

-Photo by Kristine Coulter



First Lieutenant Francis G. Peattie

-Courtesy photo

Mayor Lee Kyriacou then noted Peattie’s remains are buried in St. Joachim’s Cemetery on Washington Ave.

The announcement of the naming was made in May for the Memorial Day Service. The naming is now official..

“We Veterans are very grateful to the City Council for passing the resolution to

honor 1st Lt. Francis G. Peattie,” said Harold Delamater, who is the commander for the VFW Post 666. “Lt. Peattie was not only a heroic Airman during WWII but also a civic-minded individual who was a volunteer fireman at the Lewis Tompkins Hose Fire House. His deeds will be long remembered with a display

case at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 666 in Beacon.”

It was stated that First Lieutenant Peattie was posthumously awarded the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, and Purple Heart.

WCSD school bills must be paid by Oct. 15

Lee Anne Freno, Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Wappinger announces that the 2024 Wappinger Central School District school tax bills were mailed out on September 10. Payments may be made by mail, online or in

person at the tax office at Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Collection hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Taxpayers who have escrow accounts at

banks or other lending institutions are reminded that their bills are forwarded directly to those institutions. If one has not received one’s tax bill and has it sent directly to one’s home, please contact the

tax office. Bills must be paid by October 15, 2024 to avoid penalty.

For further information, please call the tax office at 845-297-4342 or visit the Town’s website at townofwappingerny.gov.

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Beacon Elks welcome 21 new members



The Beacon Elks Lodge #1493 initiated 21 new members into the national benevolent organization of Elks on Thursday, Sept. 12. Pictured with Exalted Ruler Michael Zanzarella are the new members .
Interested in learning more about the Elks, see Elks.org.

-Courtesy photo

County to offer free rabies clinic in October

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DOH), in partnership with the Dutchess County SPCA (DCSPCA), will offer a free rabies vaccination clinic on Sunday, October 20th 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 Friday, September 20th 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 or contact DCBH at ehs@dutchessny.gov.

Brazilian jazz musicians to perform in East Fishkill

Benji Kaplan and Rita Figueiredo are two well-respected Brazilian jazz musicians, though their approach is quite different. They will perform at the East Fishkill Community Library, 348 Route 376, on Oct. 6 at 4:30 p.m.

Kaplan, a New York native, is an inti-

mate songwriter who gently strums the guitar, sings poetic lyrics, and harmonizes gorgeously.

Figueiredo, who hails from São Paulo, Brazil, has similar traditional Brazilian music-meets-jazz influences, but with a much more theatrical approach.

American Legion Post 1758 donates to Castle Point VA Hospital



On September 11, members of American Legion Post 1758 in Hopewell Junction delivered \$500 worth of men's underwear and belts to the Castle Point VA Hospital. Also, with the delivery came \$1,500 in supermarket gift cards to be distributed to veterans who patronize the food pantry.

Members of Post 1758 reminds everyone that when they see American Legion Post 1758, and other American Legion posts, asking for donations, this is just a small example of what they support. They could not do it without the community's support and generosity.

-Courtesy photo

Beacon Police Blotter

The following is from the City of Beacon Police Department.

Sept. 3: Larceny-Main Street- Caller reported that a barricade was stolen from her property. Report taken. Investigation conducted. Barricade was located and returned.

Sept. 4: Harassment-South Avenue- Caller reported receiving threatening texts. Report taken. Investigation conducted. Caller wishes to have incident documented.

Sept. 4: Transport-Newburgh-Corey A. Jones, 55, of Beacon, was processed on an open Bench Warrant.

Sept. 5: Traffic Stop-Fishkill Avenue- Kevin M. O'Flaherty, 59, of Beacon, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 3rd & Miscellaneous V & T (vehicle & traffic) violations.

Sept. 5: Harassment- Simmons Avenue- Caller reported harassment from an individual known to her. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Sept. 8: Traffic Complaint- Main Street- Abigail N. Ruddy, 22, of Wappingers Falls, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 3rd & miscellaneous V & T violations.

Sept. 9: Larceny-Main Street- Caller reported an item stolen from his business.

Caller wants incident document documented.

Sept. 11: Larceny from Vehicle-Water Street- Caller reported her wallet missing from her unlocked vehicle. Report taken. Caller wants incident documented.

Sept. 11: Auto Accident- Hit & Run - Tompkins Terrace- Caller reported damage to her vehicle as a result of a hit-and-run accident. Report taken. Investigation conducted.

Sept. 12: Warrant-Newburgh-Markel L. Myles, 36, of Newburgh, Orange County, was processed on an open Bench Warrant and also charged with Bail Jumping 3rd.

Sept. 14: Unknown Problem- Jackson Street- Daniel F. Ryan, 31, of Beacon, was charged with Harassment 2nd, Resisting Arrest & Obstructing Governmental Administration 2nd.

Sept. 15: Welfare Check-South Avenue- Nicholas A. Anderson, 31, of Beacon, was charged with Disorderly Conduct/Violent Behavior & Open Container.

Sept. 15: Order of Protection-North Chestnut Street- Penelope J. Wendtlandt, 35, of Durham ME, was charged with Criminal Contempt 2nd.

Number of Calls- 295
Auto Accidents- 17
Domestics- 4.

BEACON FREE PRESS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Policy on letters:

- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- Letters that include personal attacks will not be published
- Letters written in response to other letter writers must address the issue at hand, rather than mentioning the writer by name and must refer to the headline and date the letter was published.
- Letters referring to news stories must mention the headline and date of publication.
- The 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.

#iRUNBEACON5K to take place at Memorial Park on Sunday

By Kristine Coulter

Ready to get your running/walking shoes on? The annual #iRUNBEACON 5K is set for Sunday, Sept. 29 at Memorial Park, Robert Cahill Drive (off Route 52). The run will start, at 9 a.m., and end at the park.

“Starting on Robert Cahill Dr participants go around the park first then weave through the adjacent side streets leading them to Matteawan Road, where they will head up towards the high school, where volunteers will be posted to indicate the turn around mark for them to head back down to Wilkes St. finishing at the pavilion back in the park,” explained Brooke Simmons. Simmons is the board president of I Am Beacon, the non-profit that hosts the annual 5K.

“I anticipate sign ups to reach 130-ish” participants, said Simmons.

What are the funds that will be raised going towards?

Simmons replied, “100% of registration goes toward I Am Beacon’s “Making A Difference” scholarship that was created in 2012. It has been awarded every year since to a graduating senior from the

Beacon community and to date, because of everyone who has ever participated or donated, we have awarded \$35,900 to over 40 youths in our community.”

Simmons remarked that participants “love the shirt giveaway. It has become a staple to the event.” She continued, “No matter how much advance notice we give, we can always count on someone asking if there is an extra shirt in their size.”

Simmons noted, “This is our 13th run/walk and it is a great community event for runners of all levels. No pets allowed but it is stroller friendly. Shout out to Jane Cervone and her crew ‘Beacon Endurance’ for all their help with the logistics on the day of the event.”

Organizers also thanked sponsors Lanc & Tully, Healey, Hudson Valley Credit Union, Key Food, The Roundhouse, Walden Savings Bank, United Rentals and Hudson Valley Brewery for their support in making this event possible.

Would-be participants are all can register to join in the run at <https://run-signup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/iRunBeacon5KRunWalk>.

Spirit of Beacon Day set for Sunday



The annual Spirit of Beacon Day will take place on Main St. in Beacon on Sunday, Sept. 29.

-Archive photo

Continued from cover

“There will be music from 11 a.m. to 4 o’clock. We have so many people that signed up as parade participants,” Muhammad said.

There will be “lots of vendors lots of sponsors,” he noted.

“We have a memoriam award for people that have passed. [We’re] honoring some families and [former Beacon resident] Dennis Pavelock,” noted Muhammad.

He added: “We’re excited we just need people to show up.”

James Moseman Sr. Memorial Highway dedicated in Fishkill



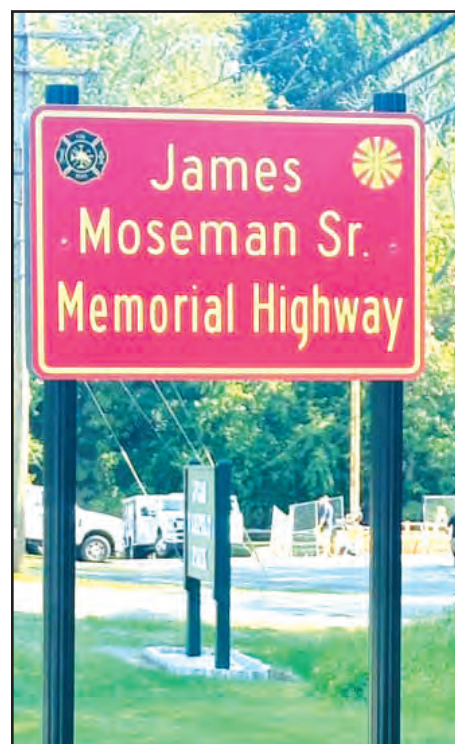
Members of the Moseman family during the recent dedication of the James Moseman Sr. Memorial Highway in Fishkill.

A ceremony was held to dedicate a portion of Washington Ave., between the Washington Ave. bridge and the City of Beacon line, as the James Moseman Sr. Memorial Highway, near Jean Van Pelt Park, on Saturday, Sept. 14.

Moseman Sr. was born in 1934 in Fishkill. He was a volunteer firefighter with the Slate Chemical Fire Department. He served as Chief of Department and as a fire district commissioner. He served as a volunteer firefighter from 1950-2018.

Moseman Sr. was a member of the National Guard from 1952 to 1960. He was a member of the 156th Field Artillery regiment. According to the resolution that was passed by the Fishkill Town Board in Oct. 2023, the dedication “would be an appropriate tribute” to Moseman Sr. “in recognition of his excellent life service.”

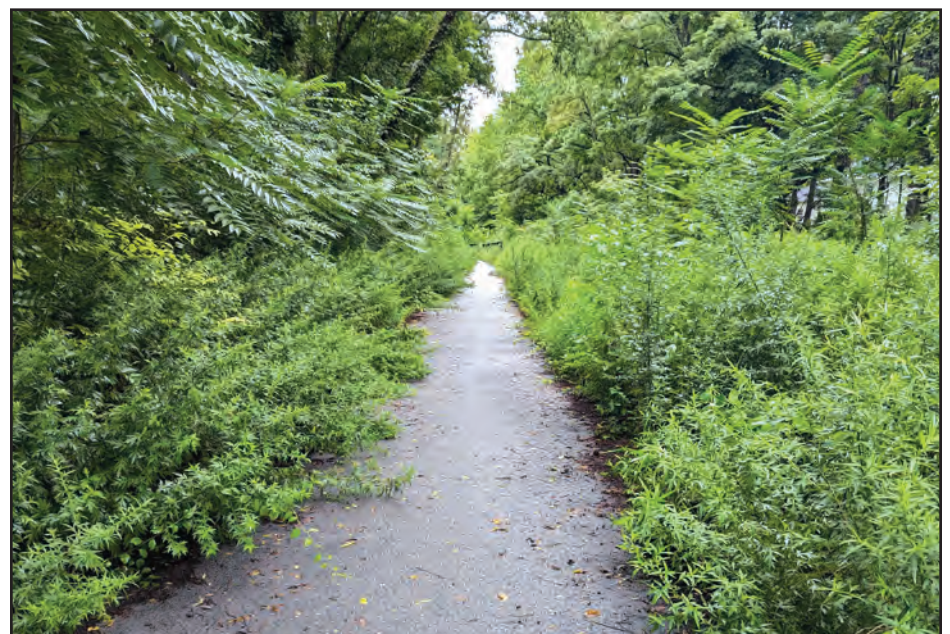
It was stated that Moseman, who retired after 41 years from the Texaco Research and Development Center in Glenham, served as Dutchess County Fire Advisory Board Chairman. He assisted in the design and construction of the Training Center. The Center was dedicated in 1973.



The James Moseman Sr. Memorial Highway was recently dedicated in the hamlet of Glenham in Fishkill.

-Courtesy photos

MTA, Dutchess County reach Maybrook Trail agreement



Fallen trees, overgrowth and brush were recently removed from the Maybrook Trail.

-Courtesy photo

A major development regarding the future of the Maybrook Trail. After months of steadfast advocacy, the MTA and Dutchess County have reached an interim agreement to ensure the trail's maintenance, providing continued public access to this recreational resource. The multiuse span runs from East Fishkill to Pawling with limited accessibility following a summer 2023 washout caused by heavy rains.

This agreement represents a step forward for the Maybrook Trail, as it guarantees that the trail will remain open and properly maintained for public use, according to a release from Assemblyman Anil Beephan Jr. While long-term matters, such as determining appropriate ownership, are still being addressed, this temporary solution allows the community to enjoy the trail without disruption.

“I am excited to share this important update,” said Beephan. “The interim agreement between MTA and Dutchess County ensures that the Maybrook Trail will be well-maintained and available for public use while we work toward a long-term resolution. I am thankful for the efforts of County Executive Serino & the MTA in rectifying this issue.”

According to a statement from Parks & Trails New York, “After months of grow-

ing public concern over poor trail condition, Dutchess County agreed to an interim agreement with MTA Metro-North to temporarily maintain the Maybrook Trailway. As of September 13, the Department of Public Works and Dutchess County Parks have removed fallen trees, overgrowth, and brush from the 15-mile trail. A permanent solution is still underway.”

State Senator Rob Rolison (39th District) applauded New York State and Dutchess County officials for reaching a deal to resolve an impasse affecting safe access to the Maybrook Rail Trail.

This section consists of a 2.5-mile trailway between Green Haven Road and Depot Hill Road in Stormville. Hikers and cyclists have expressed concerns about overgrown vegetation and blind turns resulting from unmanicured brush.

“Parks & Trails New York commends the local and state leaders who came together to ensure that this valuable recreation and transportation resource is safely and properly maintained,” said Parks & Trails New York Executive Director Paul Steely White.

Beephan noted he is committed to securing the trail’s future as a state-owned asset, ensuring that it continues to serve as a cherished recreational space for the community.

Grace Smith House, DCC partner to bring Clothesline Project to Mildred I. Washington Gallery

Grace Smith House, Inc. is partnering with the Dutchess Community College Mildred I. Washington Gallery on one of the largest exhibitions of the Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project is a visual display of t-shirts created by domestic violence victims and their loved ones. Every shirt is designed to represent each individual's domestic violence experience. This emotional expression is part of a national movement created to bear witness, help those impacted by the healing process, educate, and raise awareness of the extent of the domestic and sexual violence problem.

The exhibit opens September 30 and closes October 25 with an opening reception Wednesday, October 2 from 5 -7 p.m. There will be a tabling event in partnership with the DCC Counseling Center to contextualize the exhibit and raise awareness about on-campus services at 12:30 p.m. on October 3 in the Gallery.

The Gallery will display hundreds of T-shirts created over nearly 40 years. DCC Communications and Media Arts students produced an emotionally engaging video about the Clothesline Project that will be included in the exhibit. The video includes interviews with domestic violence survivors and

presents how the creative process can help survivors deal with a history of trauma.

"Through the Clothesline Project 2024, Grace Smith House is increasing awareness of the devastating impact of domestic violence on families, celebrating the strength and resiliency of survivors, and providing ways to break through the silence that often surrounds domestic violence. Thank you, Dutchess Community College, for hosting the Clothesline Project at the Mildred I. Washington Gallery. Together we are reaching more community members about the signs of abuse, creating a dialogue on how to stop domestic violence, and uplifting survivors. For details, www.gracesmithhouse.org," said Dr. Branka Bryan, Grace Smith House Executive Director.

Opening its doors in 1981, Grace Smith House has been serving the community for 43 years. For over four decades, courageous, compassionate, and empowered survivors have stepped across the threshold and received the support they needed to stop the cycle of domestic violence in their lives. Their door is open to every member of the community.

The Mildred I. Washington Gallery is



The Grace Smith House, Inc. and Dutchess Community College (DCC) are partnering to bring the annual Clothesline Project to DCC's Md I. Washington Gallery in October. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Clothesline Project is a national movement to raise awareness about domestic violence.

-Courtesy photo

open to the public Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Gallery is at 1 Gallery Circle,

Poughkeepsie, on the North side of the Dutchess Community College Campus.

\$100,000 awarded through Veterans Microgrant Program

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche have announced \$100,000 in one-time grants have been awarded to eight local programs through the Dutchess County Veterans Microgrant Program. The awards fund local projects and programs that honor and support the brave men and women who have served the nation in the armed forces.

Serino said, "Dutchess County is honored to provide these microgrants to groups and communities that support our nation's heroes. I have seen firsthand how these wonderful local programs enrich the lives of our veterans and their families, and I am thrilled we can help expand and enhance them. Our goal is to always show our gratitude and appreciation for our local veterans and provide services and programs to empower them to live life to the fullest in recognition of their selfless service and sacrifice."

Ranging from \$5,900 to the program-maximum \$15,000, the eight awards support a diverse array of programs for veterans, offered through local non-profit

organizations and municipalities.

Projects funded through the 2024 Veterans Microgrant Program grant include:

Town of Wappinger, \$15,000
Schlathaus Park Building Improvements for Veterans' Use - Renovate building at Schlathaus Park to be more amenable to local veterans' uses while offering modern amenities.

Town of Clinton, \$8,000

Town of Clinton Hometown Heroes Veterans Banners - Defray costs for veterans or families to purchase banners - and hardware to hang them - honoring veterans from the Town of Clinton.

Hudson River Housing, Inc., \$15,000
Accessibility and Retrofit Project at Liberty Station - Improve accessibility at Liberty Station, Hudson River Housing's 26-unit veteran housing project in the City of Poughkeepsie.

Marine Corps League Detachment 861, \$15,000

Lift Chair for Beacon Veterans Memorial Building - Purchase lift chair to assist veterans with difficulties walking and climbing stairs gain access to upstairs meeting room at Beacon Veterans

Memorial Building.

New York Theatre Organ Society, \$5,900

"The Big Parade" Film Screening for Veterans and Families - Host free presentation of 1925 film "The Big Parade" at the Bardavon 1869 Opera House to honor local veterans for their service and sacrifices.

Harlem Valley VFW Post 5444, \$15,000

New Cooler and Ice Machine for Veteran's Club - Replace club's existing walk-in cooler, ice machine, well pump and fire doors.

Hidden Hollow Farm Riding, \$11,100
Therapeutic Horse Programmatic Improvements for Veterans - Invest in a horse round pen, run-in shed and solar generator, providing a controlled, safe environment for therapy sessions regardless of weather.

We Have Your 6, Inc., \$15,000

Update WHY6 workshop for veteran programs - Purchase tools to renovate shop, allowing program to accommodate its current veterans and take on more.

Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Will Truitt said, "Our American heroes

deserve to be recognized for their sacrifices, and my fellow legislators and I were proud to add funding for the 2024 Veterans Microgrants Program during the last budget process. These grants, and the projects they'll fund, will ensure our veterans receive the respect and quality of life they deserve, as we again show Dutchess County will never forget their selfless service."

The Veterans Microgrant Program is part of Dutchess County's ongoing commitment to honoring and assisting veterans. Since its inception in 2022, the program has provided critical funding to a variety of initiatives that have helped countless local veterans lead healthier, more fulfilling lives.

Veterans Affairs Director Adam Roche said, "These grants have a meaningful impact for veterans - expanding accessibility, providing vital connections with other veterans and providing community recognition that means the world to them. We have a great network of organizations working together to serve our local heroes and I am pleased our microgrant program can support that great work."

For more info on Dutchess County veterans at www.dutchessny.gov/veterans or call 845-486-2060.

Serino announces new fly car grant opportunity to help support EMS crisis

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino recently announced that applications are now being accepted for the county's new grant opportunity that would provide life-saving equipment to fire departments, rescue squads and ambulance corps for their "fly car" vehicles.

"When it comes to a medical emergency, seconds count, and as the communities across Dutchess County face challenges with emergency medical services, we're committed to creating out-of-the-box solutions to address this crisis," said Serino. "Fly cars are often the first to respond to an emergency scene and can provide life-saving medical services to

stabilize patients until an ambulance arrives, which can make the difference between life and death. I encourage our first responders to apply for this new initiative and look forward to continuing to work alongside them to grow our EMS resources."

Dutchess County fire departments, rescue squads, and ambulance corps will be eligible to apply for up to \$20,000 grant awards for life-saving equipment for their fly car vehicles. Eligible equipment expenses include equipment required by Title: Section 800.26 Emergency Ambulance Service Vehicles other than an ambulance. Other appropriate life saving equipment includes devices like

the Lucas Chest Compression System, a portable mechanical device that provides automated compressions to help manage cardiac arrest.

Grant applications are now available online via the Dutchess County's online grant portal and will be accepted until Friday, October 11. Award announcements are expected to be made in November 2024.

In exchange for the equipment, the fly cars will feature branded, unified recruitment messaging on portions of the vehicles to encourage residents to consider career and volunteer opportunities. The branding will also include a centralized

web address that will provide more information about the EMS field, including the paramedic program at Dutchess Community College.

Instructions and guidance for the grant application is available online: go to www.dutchessny.gov, select Government - All Departments - Emergency Response, and scroll down to EMS Fly Car Opportunity. Applicants must ensure compliance with Dutchess County's Procurement Policies and Procedures. For more information on the grant program and application process, contact the Department of Emergency Response at 845-486-2080.

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RENEGADES RAMBLINGS

Martinez grand slam 'helped lift' 'Gades

By Rich Thomaselli

Some tidbits from the notebook.

OUT FOR FOUR: The Renegades were looking for their fourth championship in team history, having won the New York-Penn League's Nader Cup three times: 1999, 2012 and 2017. Hudson Valley won the 1999 title over Mahoning Valley and the 2012 title over Tri-City at Heritage Financial Park, and the 2017 championship on the road at Vermont.

CHAMPIONSHIP CONNECTION: The last time the Renegades won the New York-Penn League in 2017, their manager was Craig Albernaz. The next season, Albernaz guided Bowling Green to its first Midwest League championship with a roster featuring 18 members of the 2017 Renegades. From 2020-23, Albernaz served as the Bullpen and catching coach for the San Francisco Giants, where he was joined on staff by current Renegades manager Nick Ortiz.

GRAND SLAMS: In a 2-2 game in the fifth on Tuesday, a grand slam by Omar Martinez helped lift the Renegades to a win in an elimination game. The Martinez blast was the fourth grand slam for the Renegades since August 13, after they had just one all season up until that point.

FOES FROM LONG AGO: The Renegades and Hot Rods played for the first time since late April. Hudson Valley played Bowling Green nine times in the first month of the season. Both teams won the second half in their respective divisions.



A grand slam by Omar Martinez helped lift the Renegades to a win in an elimination game.

-Photo by David Janosz

HOME BODIES: Hudson Valley completed their regular season with a 47-19 (.712) record at Heritage Financial Park this season, the best home record of any team in Minor League Baseball this season.

Broadcaster Jim Cerny is now the voice for the HV Venom

The Hudson Valley Venom, the area's hockey version of professional sports akin to minor league baseball's Hudson Valley Renegades, have a new voice.

Veteran broadcaster Jim Cerny has been named the official Voice of the Venom. Cerny, who brings three decades of professional hockey experience, will serve as the lead play-by-play broadcaster for the team's inaugural season.

In addition to his broadcasting duties, he will create exclusive content for the Venom's website and social media platforms, including interviews, insider blogs, and stories that will bring fans closer to the action.

The franchise is set to play its inaugural season as the Venom in Newburgh. They were known as the Vipers last year and played at the Civic Center in Poughkeepsie.

"As a New York kid, it's been an incredible experience working for both the Rangers and Islanders," said Cerny in a statement. "But to be able now to help build something brand new and special with my hometown hockey team in the Hudson Valley is an incredible opportunity, one that's got me fired up for our inaugural season. Venom fans can count on me to not only paint a clear, professional picture of the game action, but bring everyone closer to the players and coaches through storytelling, interviews, and content creation on our broadcasts, website, and social media channels. I'm super excited to get going and thank the Mannings for welcoming me into the Venom family. Let's drop the puck!"

The franchise is partly owned by former New York State Assemblyman Patrick Manning, who was instrumental in helping to bring the Hudson Valley Renegades here 30 years ago.



Jim Cerny

-Courtesy photo

Cerny's career includes notable roles as the radio play-by-play voice for the New York Islanders and digital content producer/in-house beat reporter for the New York Rangers. He also contributed to Rangers broadcasts alongside sportscaster Kenny Albert, covered hockey for The New York Times and Sporting News, and was managing editor for NHL.com.

Cerny co-hosted NHL Live on Sirius/XM with radio personality Don Lagreca. Currently, he serves as Executive Editor and lead content creator for Forever Blueshirts, a website covering the Rangers.

"We are building the Hudson Valley Venom into a championship team from the ground up, so it makes sense to bring aboard one of the best in the industry to be the Voice of the Venom," said Pat Manning, President. "Jim Cerny is the consummate professional, and we are proud to have him join the Venom family."

LOCAL SPORTS

By Rich Thomaselli

Spackenkill girls soccer victorious over Marlboro with 8-1 win

POUGHKEEPSIE - The Spackenkill High School girls soccer team exploded all over Marlboro in a Mid-Hudson Athletic League game last week.

The Spartans were victorious, 8-1.

Maia Viggiano had three goals in the first half for the winners.

Spackenkill needed only three saves from Bella Gilmore to improve to 3-1.

Millbrook beats Ticonderoga with seconds left

MILLBROOK - Put a victory in the win column for the Millbrook High School

football team for the first time in almost five years.

The Blazers won their first game since 2019 as Kole Tempestelli threw a 47-yard touchdown pass to Collin Hay with 41 seconds left to beat Ticonderoga, 46-38, last Friday.

It was the home opener for Millbrook.

The dry spell with no victories is a bit misleading. The Blazers did not return to the football field until 2023. Since 2020, the program experimented with eight-man football as well as a merger with Dover.

Tempestelli rushed for 120 yards Robert Smith ran for 177 yards and three touchdowns.

Schlittler, Sellers 'both deserving of honors'

By Rich Thomaselli

After a great second half, the postseason accolades should come rolling in.

Hudson Valley Renegades pitchers Trent Sellers and Cam Schlittler were named 2024 South Atlantic League All-Stars as starting pitchers. Schlittler was named Pitcher of the Year in the league, becoming the second straight Hudson Valley pitcher to garner that honor.

"Cam and Trent are both extremely deserving of these honors," said Renegades pitching coach Spencer Medick. "Cam had an incredible sophomore campaign in pro ball. He really dedicated himself to training last offseason and put himself on the map as a prospect this year. He's got an MLB fastball with a ton of pitchability. I still think he's underrated as a prospect and his breakout this year is only the beginning. He didn't miss a beat after his promotion to Double-A

and has been dominant in Somerset as well."

Schlittler, 23, enjoyed a breakout season in 2024, vaulting into the ranks of the Yankees top pitching prospects with a fantastic season. In 17 starts with the Renegades, Schlittler went 6-4 with a 2.60 ERA in 86.2 innings, striking out 108 batters and holding opponents to a .191 batting average.

He joins Drew Thorpe, who was named 2023 South Atlantic League Pitcher of the Year, as Renegades pitchers to win a major postseason award in the Yankees era.

"Trent had one of the greatest stretches I've seen out of a pitcher," Medick said. "He was a part of as many no-hitters as he allowed runs in the second half - and from where he was to start the year to how he finished, he's really beginning to make a name for himself as a non-drafted free agent."

General Manager Q&A

'Many great successes,' need to address failures



Zach Betkowski

The Hudson Valley Renegades have a first-year general manager in Zach Betkowski. He sits down with reporter Rich Thomaselli every week to express his thoughts on the Renegades in particular and on minor league baseball in general.

The franchise took it as far as it could go in the South Atlantic League. Your thoughts?

I think that there is a lot to be proud of. From a business aspect, you just want to make sure that things are running smoothly, but I watched almost every pitch of the playoffs as a fan.

You said last week you guys might have to win it all to leverage a championship. But can you still promote and market successfully?

We just want to give the staff some free time. We'll probably dive into next year sometime in October. We'll take it department by department. We'll talk about best practices. We learned a lot this year. We had many great successes, but we also had a few failures we need to address.

Any early thoughts on next year and ideas to publicize the franchise without some of the things like the 30-year anniversary?

There's not necessarily going to be a theme for next season. At least there's not one right now unless we come up with one at our October meeting. I think we'll just look at each game as an opportunity to celebrate somebody's opening day. There's always going to be first-time fans in the ballpark on any given day.

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Plans revealed for new medical park in Fishkill

At a Town of Fishkill Planning Board meeting on September 12, Poughkeepsie-based Kirchhoff unveiled proposed plans for Fishkill Medical Park, a new, state-of-the-art, locally owned and managed general medical care center in southern Dutchess County.

If accepted following the Planning Board and Town Board approval process, Fishkill Medical Park will play an important role in addressing the growing demand for quality healthcare services in Dutchess County and the heightened desire to keep medical care accessible locally.

“Our firm deeply respects the need to undertake a thorough planning process and is committed to working closely with the Town and the community to make Fishkill Medical Park a leading healthcare destination that properly addresses the needs of Dutchess County residents while creating an attractive environment befitting of this unique location,” said Joseph Kirchhoff, founder and CEO of Kirchhoff. “We look forward to working collaboratively with the Town of Fishkill and other stakeholders to ensure that the project significantly enhances medical access locally so that area families receive the quality healthcare they deserve.”

Fishkill Medical Park will be located on Snook Road in Fishkill, immediately adjacent to Route 9 and Interstate 84, making it easily accessible from some of the County’s most well-traveled roadways and in proximity to public transportation hubs. Pending approval, the



The plans for a new medical facility in Fishkill were recently revealed.

-Courtesy photo

project will be set back more than 300 feet from Snook Road, minimizing visual impact.

Fishkill Medical Park will comprise two buildings on two lots upon completion; lot 1 will have one, two-story

building with a footprint of approximately 15,388 square feet, for a total of 30,776 square feet, and the second lot, a single-story, 11,310-square-foot building, totaling 42,086 square feet. The development will utilize 7 acres of

the 32-acre parcel, leaving 80% of the property undeveloped, and preserving the natural landscape.

To learn more about Fishkill Medical Park, visit FishkillMedicalPark.com.

Renegades come up short in three-game series

Continued from cover

In the deciding Game 3, both teams were held scoreless through the first three frames, but Bowling Green struck in the fourth. Mac Horvath singled and scored two batters later on an Aidan Smith RBI double. Smith came home in the next at-bat on a Noah Myers bunt single to make it 2-0 Hot Rods.

Trent Sellers finished his season with a career-high five innings, allowing two earned runs on six hits. The right-hander allowed two runs in the fourth but pitched a scoreless fifth to finish his outing. The Renegades cut the lead in half in the sixth. Brendan Jones led off the frame with a single, and with two outs George Lombard split the gap in left-center for a double, driving in Jones.

In the seventh Garrett Martin doubled to lead off the inning as the tying run. However, Owen Wild retired three straight Hudson Valley batters to keep Bowling Green in front. A Myers single and Tatum Levins double in the ninth put runners at second and third. The next batter, Raudelis Martinez, lined a two-run double to right to extend the Hot Rods advantage to 4-1. Drew

Sommers set down the Renegades with a 1-2-3 ninth, sealing Bowling Green’s third South Atlantic League Championship.

The ‘Gades lost the opener, 5-1. Roc Riggio started the game with a bang, cracking a leadoff solo home run off Brody Hopkins to put the Renegades in front 1-0. But that was all Hudson Valley could muster.

In the bottom of the first Bowling Green answered against Baron Stuart when Colton Ledbetter walked, stole second, and scored on a Horvath double to tie the game. Horvath touched up Stuart (0-1) for a solo home run in the bottom of the third to give the Hot Rods a 2-1 lead. The right-hander finished his day after 2.1 innings, allowing two runs on seven hits, walking two and striking out four, exiting after being struck on the hand by a comeback line drive from Noah Myers.

Bowling Green extended its lead to 4-1 in the fifth when Horvath tripled before Smith hit a pinch-hit two-run homer off Joel Valdez.

The Renegades won the middle game by the score of 6-2.

‘Stories of Hope’ to highlight People USA 4th annual breakfast on Oct. 4

People USA, a peer-run mental health non-profit located in the Hudson Valley, will host its 4th Annual Breakfast event on Friday, October 4 at 9 a.m. at Dutchess Community College, 95 Cottage Rd, Poughkeepsie. The event will include a live theatrical performance titled “Stories

of Hope in the Spotlight,” that showcases tales of resilience and triumph from People USA program participants and peer staff members.

Tickets for this event start at \$25 and can be purchased at: peopleusabreakfast.eventbrite.com.

Free screening of ‘The Father Who Stayed’ on September 28

There will be a free community screening of “The Father Who Stayed,” at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. There will also be a panel discussion. BYOPicnic from 4-7 p.m.

The screening will take place at University Settlement Camp, 250

Howland Ave., in Beacon.

The film is by Jeremy Schonfeld. The event is powered by Story Screen and Bonfire Works Foundation.

For more information, please visit the fatherwhostayed.com and bonfireworksfoundation.org.

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Big Read 2024 to honor 60th anniversary of Civil Rights Act

This year, the Big Read will run from Friday, Oct. 4 through Sunday, Nov. 3. Every year the Big Read program celebrates the power of literature and gathers the community around a book selection. This year's selection for the annual 2024 Big Read honors the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with "The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life, Freedom, and Justice" by Anthony Ray Hinton, the true story of a man who spent 30 years on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Hinton will speak about his book at the keynote event on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 2:30 p.m., at the Lateef Islam Auditorium.

"I believe that Anthony Ray Hinton, in his book, showed the power of change," said Ernest Henry, a Common Council Member of the First Ward of Poughkeepsie, and a panelist for "Let's Get Personal: Stories From Black Leaders in Our Community," who works with formerly incarcerated people and hosts the podcast "Voices Beyond the Wall," which highlights the views and opinions of the incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, and their families. "Even though he was incarcerated, he showed that he had the power to not be negative. As a result of making the best of what he had, he also changed the entire community there [in the prison], and that just shows the power of one person. One person's thinking can change an entire environment, and that's what he did. He supported those people. He let them know that there was love."

The first event in the Big Read series of programs is Friday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m., at Christ Episcopal Church (20 Carroll Street) where Tanisha Mitchell, founder of Opera Talks, will perform "Opera Talk & Performance: Marian Anderson, an American Icon." The performance and presentation will look at the cultural icon that is Marian Anderson, whose contralto voice broke through racial barriers in the operatic world, and ultimately, in American society. Her beautiful, illustrious voice is most memorable for her controversial recital on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1939, and her Metropolitan Opera debut in 1955. This presentation by the opera singer and arts librarian will include an audiovisual look at Marian Anderson's career, as well as a live aria.

Following the performance, the 2024 Big Read continues on Sunday, Oct. 5 at 4 p.m., with the annual Paul M. Sparrow Lecture hosted by the FDR Presidential Library, "Foundations of a Movement: Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts." The talk will be presented at the Henry A. Wallace Center by Basil Smikle, PhD, and will focus on the Roosevelt-era foundations of the Civil Rights Movement. Smikle is a political strategist and policy analyst, and a Professor of Practice at Columbia University School of Professional Studies, as well as a library trustee.

On Thursday, Oct. 10 at 6:30 p.m., Sadie

Peterson Delaney Library will host Dr. Jen Brown, Esq., where she will lead a discussion, "Redlining In Poughkeepsie," about the local history of redlining, the discriminatory practice of denying services like mortgages and loans based on race or ethnicity, the first in a series of "Thursdays at Sadie."

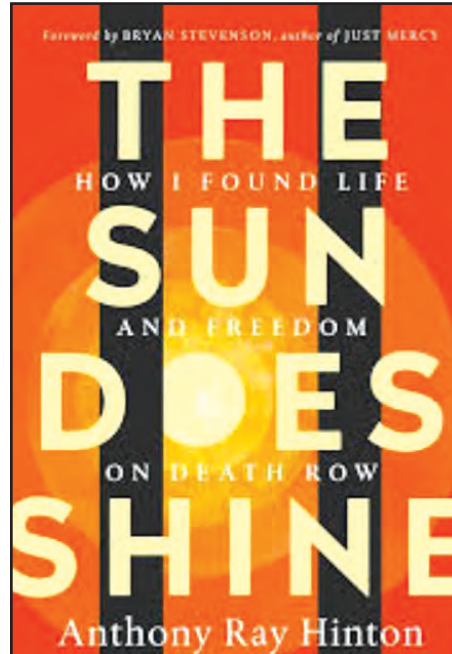
On Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 6:45 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host a screening of the documentary film "John Lewis: Good Trouble." Come and view an intimate account of legendary U.S. Representative John Lewis' life, legacy, and more than 60 years of extraordinary activism - from the bold teenager on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement to the legislative powerhouse he was throughout his career. All ages welcome.

On Thursday, Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m., Sadie Peterson Library will host "Let's Get Personal: Stories from Black Leaders in our Community." In this conversation, panelists Ernest Henry, a councilmember from the 1st Ward of the city of Poughkeepsie, and Dennis Woodbine, the Founder and Executive Director at Finish Strong Wellness Center, Inc., share their powerful stories that focus on social injustices and their breakthrough experiences.

On Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m., Boardman Road Branch Library will host "Activism-Inspired Art Workshop," where participants can enjoy an exciting workshop designed for teens, though all ages are welcome. Explore various forms of art as well as important issues. Experienced artists and activists will inspire and empower young minds to advocate for positive change through creative expression. No prior art experience is required, and all materials will be provided.

On Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m., Sadie Peterson Library will host "Eleanor Roosevelt and the Fight for Civil Rights," with historian Shannon Butler, in the Lateef Islam Auditorium, as she showcases the growth and wisdom of Eleanor Roosevelt and her desire to take part in the Civil Rights Movement, from its early beginnings during the Roosevelt administration up until her death in 1962. No registration required.

The Big Read concludes on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3 p.m., when the Bardavon 1869 Opera House will host "In Concert: Sweet Honey In the Rock," with a performance by the group, an all-woman, African-American a cappella performance ensemble rooted in history and culture. Founded in 1973, the American three-time Grammy Award-nominated troupe combines their contemporary rhythms and narratives with five-part harmony and a musical style rooted in Gospel music and spirituals. Sweet Honey expresses their history as Black women through song, dance, and sign language to educate, entertain, and empower audiences worldwide. Free tickets will be available at the Bardavon Opera House beginning Oct. 1.



This year's selection for the 2024 Big Read honors the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with "The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life, Freedom, and Justice" by Anthony Ray Hinton.

-Courtesy image

Registration is required for most Big Read programs to accommodate appropriate attendance guidelines and sharing of meeting links.

The library is working with local schools across the region to include students in the Big Read. Teens and middle readers can join the Big Read with "The Sun Does Shine: Young Readers Edition" by Anthony Ray

Hinton, Lara Love Hardin, and OluGbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich and "Run" by John Lewis & Andrew Aydin, as well as a Little Read selection, "Fighting With Love: The Legacy of John Lewis" by Lesa Cline-Ransome for younger students. Authors Andrew Aydin and Lesa Cline-Ransome will be visiting participating schools in October and November. Additional selections touching on the Civil Rights Movement that are being taught alongside the Little Read include: "Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry" by Mildred D. Taylor, "Love is Loud" by Sandra Neil Wallace, "A Song for the Unsung" by Carole Boston Weatherford, "One Crazy Summer" by Rita Williams-Garcia, "The Watsons Go to Birmingham" by Christopher Paul Curtis, "She Persisted: Ruby Bridges" by Kekla Magoon, "Preaching to the Chickens" by Jabari Asim and E.B. Lewis, and "Brown Girl Dreaming" by Jacqueline Woodson.

2024 is the seventeenth year that the Poughkeepsie Public Library District has coordinated the Big Read reading program. The Boardman Road Branch Library is located at 141 Boardman Road in Poughkeepsie. Adriance Memorial Library is located at 93 Market Street in Poughkeepsie. The Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library is located at 29 North Hamilton Street in the Family Partnership Center. For more information on these programs, follow the Library District on Facebook and Instagram, or pick up a brochure at any library location. Information is also available by calling 845-485-3445, ext. 3707 and on the website: <https://pok-lib.org/big-read/>.

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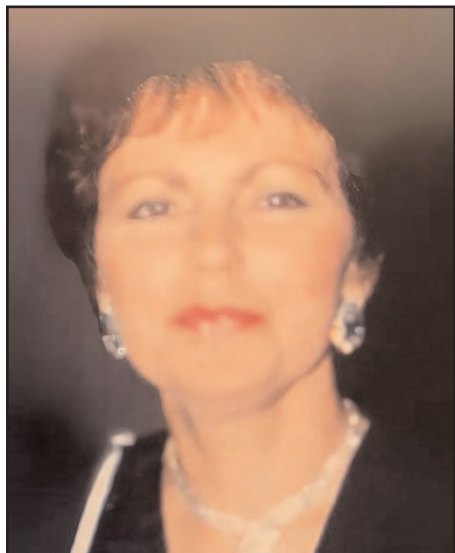
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Obituaries

Patricia A. Williams



WAPPINGERS FALLS - Beloved wife and mother Patricia (Pat) Ann Williams passed away peacefully at Vassar Brothers Medical Center on September 14, 2024 at the age of 80. She was born in Beaver Meadows, Pennsylvania to the late Anna and Michael Sturak. She is survived by her husband of almost 60 years, Maurice, her daughter Rachel Ann Koutsakos and son-in-law Michael Koutsakos. She is also survived by two grandchildren, Matthew and Tori Williams. She was predeceased by her son James in 2011.

Patricia loved her family dearly and was very active in her children's extracurricular activities, whether it be for her daughter's cheerleading team, serving as a chaperone for various field trips, or assisting with Boy Scouts, dance recitals/sports games. In her spare time Patricia was an avid reader and

loved to travel, accompanying her husband on business trips within the U.S. and abroad. She especially loved spending time at the ocean.

Anyone who knew Patricia knew her to be a beautiful, kind, warmhearted person who was also a loyal friend and a source of strength for those that loved her.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Aaron James Krakower



Retired Colonel Aaron James Krakower (September 28, 1934 - August 29, 2024) passed away peacefully at the age of 89. Aaron was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather. Aaron was born September 28, 1934 in Yonkers, New York to Abe Krakower and Theresa Pirintozzi Krakower.

Aaron, as a child of immigrants, wanted to serve his country from a young age. From the 7th grade through 12th grade he attended Manlius Military Academy. His college years were spent at the prestigious Citadel Military College of South Carolina graduating with Honors. His military career began as a commissioned 2nd LT in the US Army 101st Airborne. Aaron was always proud to be a Screaming Eagle. Aaron spent 25 years in the US Army and served his country proudly in the Vietnam War, where he was

awarded the Bronze Star and the Air Medal. Aaron retired as a Colonel. After his military career was over he moved his family back to Poughkeepsie NY to take over his family business. He spent his remaining years with his beloved wife Helen in Rancho Mirage CA.

Aaron is survived by his wife of 65 years, Helen, sons David and Robert, his daughter in law Loretta and his 5 grandchildren Jennifer, Samantha, Nicholas, Nicole, Caroline. He will be missed.

Mental Health Forums for Public Input set Sept. 26 in Dover Plains, Oct. 1 in Beacon

The Dutchess County Department of Mental Health (DMH) continues its series of public forums on mental health this fall to engage with residents and families affected by mental health and substance-use issues, gather their input and provide information on County resources. Each forum will offer residents the opportunity to share their experiences and give input to DMH about the services available and needed for:

- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities;
- Alcohol Substance Use Addiction and Recovery; and
- Mental Health Needs for Youth and Mental Health Needs for Adults.

County Executive Sue Serino said, "Our County's mental health department, together with community partners, offers a wide range of excellent mental health resources. Our aim, through these upcoming forums, is to share information about these important programs with residents to help those living with mental health issues – and their families – connect with the resources they need. These forums are also a valuable way for us to hear from residents about their thoughts on our existing services and areas for improvement."

The upcoming forums are scheduled for:

- Thursday, September 26 at 5:30 p.m.; Dover Middle School Gymnasium, 2368 Route 22, Dover Plains
- Tuesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m.; Beacon High School Cafeteria, 101

Matteawan Road, Beacon

Spanish and American Sign Language interpretation will be available at each forum. These forums are free and open to the public; families, caregivers and local stakeholders are encouraged to attend. All input received will help DMH shape its 2025 Local Services Plan, which establishes long-term goals and objectives consistent with statewide goals and objectives. Community partners will also have representatives and informational tables at each forum to connect directly with residents.

DMH Commissioner Jean-Marie Niebuhr said, "These public discussions are a valuable opportunity for the public to inform us about their needs, as well as for us to inform residents about our services and identify areas where we can enhance those offerings. The feedback we receive from users is essential for our future planning, and we invite all input."

To encourage even more attendance and increase accessibility for residents, the department has been hosting the annual forums at various locations across Dutchess County. The series began in the spring with forums held in Poughkeepsie and Pine Plains.

For those unable to attend, DMH welcomes written comments. Individuals may submit comments online at dutchessny.gov/forumcomments, fax comments to 845-486-2829 or mail them to: DMH Forum Comments; 230 North Road; Poughkeepsie, NY12601.

Ryan Jonathan Franolich



WINGDALE - Ryan Jonathan Franolich, 34, a lifelong area resident, died on September 17, 2024.

Born in Poughkeepsie on August 13, 1990, he was the son of Peter Franolich and Denise Randall Hill. Ryan was a skilled tradesman and had been employed as a welder and mechanic for Royal Carting. He was an all-around outdoorsman enjoying fishing, gardening, and boating. He was also very creative as an artist and poet. He also enjoyed cooking, Magic the Gathering and playing video games with friends.

Ryan is survived by his son, Myles Franolich; his father, Peter Franolich and his wife Candy; his mother, Denise Hill; his sister, Heidi Randall; his brother, Peter Franolich and his wife Alecia Rocker; his nephew, Owen Franolich; his sister,

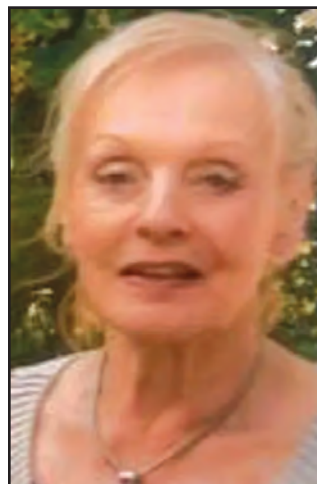
Angelica Franolich; his grandmother, Nadine Randall; his aunt, Missy Franolich and her husband James Cunliffe; his cousin, Michael Roeder; his aunt, Renate Frazier and family; his aunt; Therese Silicato and her husband Mark; his cousins Jeremy Wilcox; Sara Spritzer; and Mike Silicato; his uncle Jeff Randall and his wife Jennifer; his cousins Todd Randall; and Alicia Kuhn; his aunt Lauren Joy; his cousins Jason Joy, Brittney Stone and Brienne Brown; and all friends and extended family.

Ryan's sunshine was his heart that touched each person that he knew. For all of those who enjoyed his time and company got to experience his strengths, wisdom and his everlasting love. GO BRONCOS!!!

Calling hours were held at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc., 895 Route 82, Hopewell Junction.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Rita Ella Manca



POUGHKEEPSIE - Rita Ella Manca, 93, of Poughkeepsie, NY passed away on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at the Hudson Valley Hospice House in Hyde Park. She was born on March 19, 1931 in Munich, Germany, the daughter of Heinrich and Paula Raab Ruckdeschel. Rita grew up in Germany during World War II and immigrated to the United States at the age of 17.

Rita met her husband, the late Anthony Manca, at a dance in Brooklyn in September of 1949. Rita and Tony wed in January of 1950 and eventually settled in Wappingers Falls, NY. They had 69 wonderful years of marriage before Tony's passing in 2019.

She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother and dear friend. She absolutely loved to bake and was an excellent cook for her

family and friends. Rita was also highly skilled at knitting, crocheting and sewing. Rita loved attending regular aerobics classes with her friends, enjoyed traveling to Germany, Italy, Arizona and the Outer Banks of North Carolina. She worked in the men's tailor shop at Sears, Roebuck & Co., at the South Hills Mall in Poughkeepsie for 16 years. Rita was a resident of The Landing of Poughkeepsie for the last several years.

Rita is survived by her 4 children, Linda Manca of Poughkeepsie, NY, Leonard Manca of Chandler, Arizona, Ann Marie Kenny (Michael) of Poughkeepsie, NY and Judith Torre (Mark) of Beacon, NY, her 3 grandchildren, Michael Kenny Jr. (Jessica) of Highland, NY, Angela Manca of Mesa, Arizona and Susan Manca of Queen Creek, Arizona and 3 great-grandchildren, Alexandria Pfannkuch of Queen Creek, Arizona, Isla Kenny of Highland, NY and Leo Kenny III of Highland, NY.

She is also survived by her brother and sister-in-law Ted and Linda Howard of Piney Green, NC, sister-in-law Eleanor Camarda of Riverhead, NY, sister-in-law Alfina Manca of Little Neck, NY as well as several nieces and nephews.

Her sister Edith Altenburger predeceased her in 2020.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024 from 4PM-7PM at the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc., 371 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, September 20, 2024 at 10AM at St. Mary's Church, 11 Clinton St, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590. Burial will follow in the family plot at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery in Poughkeepsie.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wm. G. Miller & Son FH, Inc. If you wish to send an online condolence, please visit our website at www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com

Memorial donations may be made in Memory of Rita Manca to either Hudson Valley Hospice, hvhsopice.org or the Alzheimer's Association, alz.org.

Miles of Hope invites public to Community Walk for Breast Cancer

The Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation invites the community to join their 21st Annual Community Walk for Breast Cancer on Sunday, Oct. 6, at James Baird State Park in Pleasant Valley. The walk takes place on an internal road in the park and will begin at 9 a.m. rain or shine.

This year's walk is being held in honor of Tricia Miyoshi, a courageous breast cancer survivor who has inspired countless others with her strength and positive spirit.

"I am both surprised and honored to be this year's Honoree for the Miles of Hope 21st Annual Community Walk for Breast Cancer," said Miyoshi. "Miles of Hope is an incredible organization that continually supports those who have been affected by breast cancer. I have met many strong warriors and survivors while attending the various events held each year and it is inspiring to see how everyone supports one another."

The event promises a fun-filled day for the whole family. Participants can lace up their walking shoes, form a team, and

wear pink with pride! Live music, delicious food trucks, giveaways, and Miles of Hope merchandise will add to the festive atmosphere. There will be prizes for the team with the best name, the team which raises the most money, and the largest team (most walkers).

Since its inception in 2004, Miles of Hope has been a beacon of support for those affected by breast cancer in the Hudson Valley. Through fundraising events like the Community Walk, the Foundation has provided more than \$3.4 million to individuals and families.

"We are incredibly grateful for the community's unwavering support over the past 20 years," said Pari Forood, Executive Director of Miles of Hope. "The Walk is a powerful reminder that no one is alone in this fight. Together, we can make a significant impact on the lives of those touched by breast cancer."

For more information, to register to walk, or form a team, visit milessofhope.org.

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Spend some time at each site looking around and taking in its story.

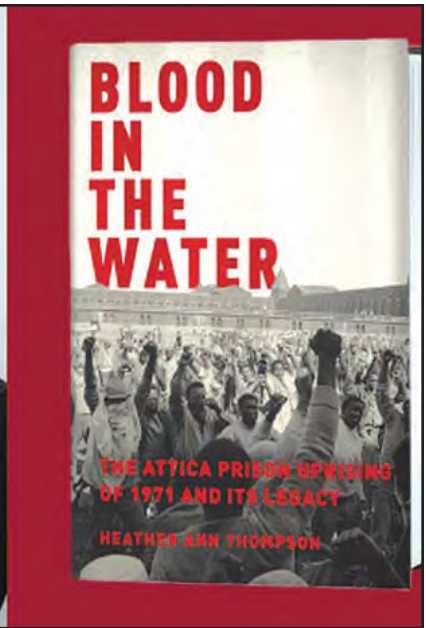
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 7. Rombout Rural Cemetery, 1571 Route 52
 8. Van Wyck Homestead, 504 Route 9
- For more information, visit <https://fishkillhistoricalsociety.org/historical-scavenger-hunt/>.

DCC to host lecture on 'The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Why It Matters Today'

Dutchess Community College will present the sixth event in the DCC Foundation's Dr. D. David Conklin Distinguished Lecture Series, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning author and University of Michigan Professor of History Dr. Heather Ann Thompson. The lecture, titled "The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Why It Matters Today" will take place on Thursday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in the James and Betty Hall Theatre on the College's main campus.

In September 1971, nearly 1,300 inmates at the Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York took control of the prison to protest against years of mistreatment. The state responded with a violent crackdown, deploying hundreds of heavily armed troopers and correctional officers to retake the prison. Despite the brutality, only the prisoners were prosecuted, with no charges brought against the officials involved.

Dr. Thompson, who has spent over a decade researching the uprising—the subject of her acclaimed book, "Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and its Legacy"—will discuss its lasting impact and its significance for today's ongoing discussions about criminal justice and civil rights.



Dutchess Community College will host a lecture on "The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Why It Matters Today" on October 3 with Dr. Heather Ann Thompson. *-Courtesy images*

Her lecture promises to offer valuable systemic injustice and the quest insights into the complex issues of for reform.

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Southern Dutchess News, 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Tribute to Vietnam veterans makes stop at Bowdoin Park



The Vietnam Veteran Traveling Memorial Wall Tribute was at Dutchess County's Bowdoin Park from Sept. 18-23. The tribute included a display of military vehicles, like this Sherman tank. There was also the POW/MIA Missing Man Table display. Gold Star Mothers were in attendance during a ceremony to welcome the Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial Wall to Bowdoin Park.

According to the Dutchess County Government social media post, "The Vietnam Veteran Traveling Memorial Wall Tribute at Dutchess County's Bowdoin Park [was] open 24 hours per day" through 8 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 23, "so veterans needing a moment of quiet contemplation can also visit overnight." County, state and municipal officials gathered at the tribute on Sept. 18 for a ceremony.

-Courtesy photos

this week's puzzle solutions

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

This week's answer
SUDOKU

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

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

Suguru solution

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-67-24

Transitional Housing Program
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 15th day of October 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-64-24
Maintenance, Repair

Legal Notices

and Inspection of Vehicle Lifts and Other Related Equipment
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 8th day of October 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on September 9, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not author-

Legal Notices

ized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.
A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.
Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, September 18, 2024.

LEIGH WAGER
Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2024147
BOND RESOLUTION DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 2024.
A RESOLUTION AU-

Legal Notices

THORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,360,370 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.
Classes of objects or purposes:
Purchase of equipment for construction, maintenance and snow removal purposes, each item of which costs \$30,000 or over
Period of probable usefulness:
15 years
Maximum estimated cost:
\$2,360,370
Amount of bonds to be issued:
\$2,360,370 serial bonds
SEQRA status: Type II Action

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed

Legal Notices

proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-63-24
Fare Collection System for Dutchess County Public Transit
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 1st day of November 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-51-24
Semi-Annual Preventive Maintenance of Overhead Doors, Openers, Fire Shutters and As Needed Related Services
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 26th

Legal Notices

day of September 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-58-24
Financial Advisory Services
Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 16th day of October 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, New York 12601. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>.

Legal Notices

gov, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-66-24
Tire Retreading Services for Dutchess County Public Transit
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 9th day of October 2024 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

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

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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

						4
3					3	
						4
	4		5			
				1		

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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: FALL'S IN THE AIR

ACROSS

1. Furry bamboo consumer
6. Cuban dance syllable
9. 100-meter race, e.g.
13. S-shaped moldings
14. Excessively theatrical actor
15. Chap
16. Will alternative
17. Sailor's affirmative
18. At full speed
19. *Cause for fall celebration
21. *Apple-related game
23. European Union, acr.
24. Hawaiian tuber
25. Pen on a farm
28. Color of a bruise
30. *Pumpkins and squash, e.g.
35. "Give me your tired, your _____"
37. "_____ Free," movie about lions
39. Disdain
40. Caribbean color
41. Shiny suit
43. Spaghetti aglio and _____
44. Peevish
46. Half a round, in golf
47. _____-do-well
48. Battles royale
50. Change for a twenty
52. Banned insecticide, acr.
53. *Back-to-School event
55. Hermy the Dentist
57. *Apple sauce
61. *_____ weather
65. Cell phone bill item
66. Bar association
68. Wombs
69. Begin, began, _____
70. Cut grass
71. Romanov rulers
72. Command with "at"
73. Stiff grass bristle
74. "Hobby" animal

DOWN

1. Beckham of "Spice Girls"
2. Turkish honorific
3. Not far
4. Look into
5. In the Land of Nod
6. Online conversation
7. *Cushion for certain seasonal ride
8. Naked protozoa
9. Obtuse, as in person
10. _____ bowl, frozen dish
11. Largest human organ
12. Precedes Kong
15. Hindi courtesy title, pl.
20. Modern-day aqua-lung, acr.
22. Domain
24. Wood-eating house hazard
25. Involuntary contraction
26. Chef's headgear
27. Phil Collins' "_____ Be in My Heart"
29. *Maze plant
31. Upward and onto
32. Wide-_____ notebook
33. *Like leaves in fall
34. Stall call
36. *Much-used fall garden tool
38. Not any
42. Extend subscription
45. Unquestioning ones
49. Fraternity house
51. Miss Marple, e.g.
54. "Is Your Mama a _____?"
56. Dom DeLuise in 1980 role
57. Rubik's puzzle
58. Away from port
59. The state before riches?
60. Malaria symptom
61. Saw, sawed, _____
62. Drop of sorrow
63. Makes a mistake
64. Precedes shine
67. Gift topper

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
65							66	67			68				
69							70				71				
72							73				74				

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The solutions to the Sudoku, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on the previous page.

Ceremony to honor 2 new inductees into Sports Museum of Dutchess County on Oct. 6

The Sports Museum of Dutchess County will induct two new members to its Hall of Fame at a ceremony to be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 6, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2660 E. Main St., Wappingers Falls. An admission ticket can be purchased with cash or check at the door and will include a buffet lunch. Immediately following the ceremony, attendees will be welcome to visit the museum, where board members will offer tours of the facility.

The Sports Museum, located within Carnwath Farms Historic Site & Park, provides visitors with an opportunity to experience the history of sports in Dutchess County. Due to the Covid pandemic, this will be the first time in five years that the Museum will host this once-annual event. "We are excited to be sponsoring this event once again, especially since we have two very deserving inductees," said Board President Bill Ponte.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven Badgley (Ret.), has lived in seven different states, but has always considered Poughkeepsie his home. Naming Beacon native boxer Melio Bettina, whom he once met, as his inspiration, Steve began to box in 1997 at 5 Star Boxing in Beacon. "The boxing gym was the first place that outside people embraced me," said Steve. "I guess I am trying to return the favor and be there to support the next generation as I was supported."

Steve joined the military in 2002, where he honed his skills as a member of the US Army World Class Athlete Program boxing team in Fort Carlson, Colorado.

In 2008, Steve was deployed to Kirkuk,



Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven Badgley (Ret.)

Iraq, where, in addition to his regular military duties, he developed a boxing program that more than 100 soldiers attended.

Back in the US, Steve chose to use his time and skills to give back to the youth of the community, volunteering thousands of hours at the Watertown, NY boxing club. Having achieved the final rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4, Steve retired from the military in June 2024. He is currently working as a government civilian for the US Army Corps of Engineers, where he continues to give back to the community.

State Senator Rob Rolison, a Poughkeepsie native who plans to attend the Hall of Fame event, had this to say about Steven Badgley:

"Steven Badgley has achieved great



Augustus Julius "Gus" Siko

-Courtesy photos

things with his life and beat the odds to reach hall-of-fame notoriety in the sweet science: it's no wonder he called Poughkeepsie home. I first met Steve when he was a teenager and I was a Town of Poughkeepsie police officer. Despite a few tough breaks, he never gave up, turned his life around, became a successful boxer and boxing instructor, served his country bravely and honorably, and most importantly, started a family. I am proud of Steve and all that he has accomplished. Now this hometown hero will forever have his name enshrined in our county's top sports museum. Thank you for your service to our country, Steve, and welcome to sporting immortality.:

Augustus Julius "Gus" Siko was a natural athlete, excelling at each sport he played at Poughkeepsie High School. Born in 1921, Gus began playing sports at a very young age. In high school, he earned his varsity letter in four different sports, and served as co-captain of the

basketball, baseball, and football teams. In addition to his leadership of these teams, Gus was also a popular student, serving in student government and on several school committees.

Football was Gus's true passion. He was Poughkeepsie High School's star player through their 1939 undefeated season, and led the Pioneers to victory as both a halfback and kicker.

Following graduation, Gus began working at the then new FDR Library in Hyde Park. As WWII escalated, Gus applied to the Elks War Commission's "Keep'em Flying" program. Gus was accepted to and was officially enlisted in the United States Army. The following year, he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant.

While on a training mission on October 14, 1943, the day before shipping out for the South Pacific Theatre, his B-24D aircraft tragically crashed, killing all on board. All of Poughkeepsie mourned his loss. After his death, Gus's wife gave birth to a son, named in honor of his father, who still resides in the area.

"After the death of my father weeks prior to my birth, I was limited to 'knowing' him through relatives, friends, and newspaper articles," said Gus Siko, Jr. "All those that I have spoken to over my life have nothing but high praises for him in every way possible. I am so honored for my father to be inducted . . . and I thank all who have made this happen."

Although Steve Badgley and Gus Siko lived in different eras, they exemplify the qualities of honor, courage, and love of country. All members of the community are welcome to join the Sports Museum of Dutchess County in honoring their service.

For further information on the October 6 induction ceremony, please contact Barbara Ponte at 845-473-0903.

*Appreciation is offered to the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, who provided information on the life and career of Gus Siko.

Sign up for free Bannerman Castle Trust tea event at Swann Inn

In conjunction with their 30th anniversary exhibition and celebration, the Bannerman Castle Trust (BCT) will present a special Tea Event at the Historic Swann Inn at 120 Howland Avenue in Beacon, on Sunday, September 29 from 3-5 p.m.

The public is invited to meet and enjoy tea with BCT Executive Director Neil Caplan and view the Swann Inn's extraordinary art collection, which features numerous paintings and drawings of Bannerman Island and Castle. There will be a short talk on the history of Bannerman Island and a discussion about upcoming island restoration projects and programming. Light refreshments will be served.

The BCT organization has now operated as a not-for-profit "Friends" group for 30 years. Working with the NY State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, the organization has made many advances on Bannerman Island, taking it from an abandoned island of historic ruins to the public tour destination it has become today.

The BCT continues to work hard to find resources to stabilize the island's historic structures and has made it their mission to educate the public on the value and histo-

ry of the island. Bannerman Island (originally Pollepel Island) was once owned by military antiques dealer and amateur architect Francis Bannerman who designed and built the Iconic warehouse castle and other structures on the island between 1900-1918.

Bannerman Island is open from May through October each year offering tours, theater events, concerts, film nights and other programming for people of all ages, promoting heritage tourism in the Hudson Valley. The BCT also maintains an office and gallery at 150 Main Street in Beacon, that is open to the public year-round.

A 30th Anniversary exhibition focusing on the history of Bannerman Island and the BCT organization opened at the Bannerman Island Gallery on Main Street earlier this month. The show will remain on view through January of 2025. Artwork, historic photographs and artifacts from Bannerman Island will all be on display.

The Swann Inn Tea event is free and open to the public, donations welcome! Spots are limited and reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, please call Executive Director Neil Caplan at 845-440-3318.

Silent Book Club to meet Sept. 26 in Beacon

The Silent Book Club will meet in the Howland Public Library, 313 Main Street, at 6 p.m. on Sept. 26 in Beacon.

What is the Silent Book Club? The Silent Book Club is about community! Everyone is welcome. It's a place to gather,

chat for a bit, and then spend about an hour silently reading one's book of choice in the company of others who love to read.

No registration required. Light refreshments will be served.

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