

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Fjord Trail board appoints Peter Mullan as President and CEO

The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) Board of Directors announced that Peter Mullan has been appointed to the new role of President and Chief Executive Officer of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail. Mullan is a national nonprofit leader with extensive experience in public greenway design and operations. The President and CEO will have broad oversight of the nonprofit's operations as the organization grows its capacity and resources to meet its mission. Mullan will officially assume his post on January 1, 2025.

Trained as an architect, Mullan has already successfully shepherded other public-private partnership greenway projects, including the High Line in New York and the Waterloo Greenway in Austin, TX. Presently, he serves as the Executive Vice President and Chief of Architecture and Urban Design for the Austin Transit Partnership, overseeing the development of Austin's first light-rail system.

"This is an exciting time for the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, where we begin to move from concept and design to implementation," said HHFT Board Chair Chris Davis. "This organizational expansion will provide us additional leadership and capacity to shepherd the project through construction of the Breakneck Connector and the state environmental review process. With Peter's extensive experience in public space design and operations and Amy Kacala's deep experience with large scale project planning and the regulatory environment, we have the right team for the right moment."

Executive Director Amy Kacala will continue serving in her current role as part of an expanded leadership team, with particular focus on both the management of the capital project and all related regulatory matters. Kacala's leadership and experience as an urban planner has successfully moved the project forward for the last ten years.

"As HHFT moves from planning and design to construction and operations, Peter's experience and knowledge will be a terrific asset to the project and the organization. Deputy Executive Director MJ Martin and I are thrilled to have him join the Fjord Trail as a partner and leader. Peter's appointment is a meaningful expansion and strengthening of the HHFT team as we work to bring this long-awaited project into reality," said Amy Kacala.

With the appointment of a President and CEO, HHFT brings additional, full-time management to the project. Up until this point, Ned Sullivan, President of the Hudson Valley's largest environmental organization, Scenic Hudson, has been fulfilling some of these responsibilities. Mullan's appointment will allow Sullivan to fully focus on Scenic Hudson's other priorities across the region.

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Hocus Pocus Halloween Parade in Beacon on Oct. 26

By Kristine Coulter

Get ready for the annual Hocus Pocus Halloween Parade in Beacon. The event will take place on Saturday, October 26 at 2 p.m. All are welcome to dress up in costume and walk down Main St. said organizers.

"The start of the parade is at the traditional starting point of Bank Square on the corner of Main Street and South Avenue, but this year it will end at Veterans Place just past the post office as the city was concerned about safety going further than Teller Avenue," explained Charlotte Guernsey, organizer and with The Gate House Team at Compass.

How many people are expected for this 'spook-tacular' event?

"Depending on the weather we expect 500 to 1,000 people," said Guernsey.

On Friday, Oct. 25, from 3-6 p.m. there will be Main St. Trick or Treating and Black Cat Scavenger Hunt. Businesses with an orange pumpkin in the window will have a 'black cat' hidden in the store. Find the cat and have one's event passport stamped. One can win a grab bag prize for every 15 stamps collected. The grab bag locations are at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, 226 Main St., and The Gate House Team at Compass, 490 Main St.

Why is this event one you look forward to every year?

"It's a great community event where everyone is welcome to get dressed up



The annual Hocus Pocus Halloween Parade will take place on Main St. on Saturday, Oct. 26 in Beacon.

-Archive photo

and meet up with their friends and family and get into the Halloween spirit a little early. The black cat scavenger hunt is something we started two years ago and is a big hit with the kids and something they really look forward to," she stated.

The scavenger hunt continues on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The parade line up is at the corner of Main St. and South Ave. at 1:30 p.m. The parade will begin 30 minutes later.

So, what has been the feedback from businesses and attendees?

Guernsey replied, "Businesses have had parents come into their store who have never been in there before, find things they loved and come back later to make a purchase! The parade is a traditional event everyone looks forward to."

Organizers of the festivities "hope everyone comes out and enjoys the parade, trick or treating and scavenger hunt!" said Guernsey.

For more information, go to Facebook.com.

PSC cites 'apparent violations' by Central Hudson during investigation of WF explosion



The PSC recently released results from a preliminary investigation into the Nov. 2023 natural gas explosion on Brick Row in Wappingers Falls. Pictured is one of the injured being assisted by first responders after the explosion last year.

-Archive photo

By Kristine Coulter

The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) ordered Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation on Oct. 16 to show why a civil enforcement proceeding should not begin and why civil penalties or other remedies should not be imposed by the Commission "for apparent violations relating to a natural gas-related explosion that occurred in Wappingers Falls." The gas-related explosion,

in which multiple people were injured, occurred at 7 Brick Row on November 2, 2023. The utility has 30 days to provide a response. The Department of Public Service staff released a report describing the results of its preliminary investigation last week.

According to the report, Central Hudson in Nov. 2023 "was conducting natural gas distribution upgrades in the Wappingers Falls area as part of a distribution improvement project. These gas system upgrades included excavating gas facilities located under roadways and walkways to replace steel gas pipelines with new plastic pipelines, as well as installing new service lines to ratepayer residences." During operations, states the press release, "Central Hudson contractors struck an unmarked natural gas service line, causing a natural gas leak. Minutes later, the residence at 7 Brick Row exploded, severely injuring multiple individuals."

The Department, which is the staff arm of the Commission, investigated. According to the release, the Department determined that there appears to be "sufficiently credible evidence indicating that Central Hudson had prior knowledge of the residence's active natural gas service line. The residence contained an active natural gas meter that had

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Saturday, October 26th
From
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Free gift with purchase to the first 100 customers during our event.

Let's Celebrate!

Fjord Trail board appoints Peter Mullan as President, CEO

Continued from cover

“Ned has been a tremendous asset to HHFT over these last many years, providing us with exceptional counsel, operational guidance, and community leadership,” continued Davis. “We are grateful he intends to remain on the Board of Directors where we know we will be able to rely on his unrivaled expertise.”

From 2004-2015, Mullan served as Director of Planning and Design and Executive Vice President of Friends of the High Line, where he was responsible for working with the local community and the City of New York to preserve the High Line from demolition and develop it into one of New York’s most beloved parks. Since 2015, he has lived in Austin, Texas, where he served as the CEO of the Waterloo Greenway Conservancy, and then as Chief of Architecture and Urban Design for Austin Transit Partnership, where he brought a community-focused urban design perspective to the development of those public linear mobility and open space projects.

“The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is a visionary project that provides an opportunity to ensure equity and access to New York State Parks, enhance and protect the Hudson River and Highlands ecosystems, and better manage existing tourism to the region,” said Peter Mullan. “At its core, it is a resilience project that has untold benefits for the region. I couldn’t be more honored and excited to be a part of the Fjord Trail team and work with officials throughout the region and state to fulfill that vision from concept to detail.”

Richard Shea, an HHFT board member who served on the Search Committee, said, “Peter’s depth of experience and expertise makes him the right person for this moment in the evolution of the Fjord Trail, both as a project and an organization. The challenges of such a transformative project demand a team with both a broad range of perspectives and a connection



Peter Mullan has been appointed as president and CEO of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail.

-Courtesy photo by CCR Studios

to the surrounding communities and project partners. Peter brings his accomplished perspective to our outstanding leadership team, including Amy Kacala and MJ Martin, to assure the success of this visionary project.”

Mullan holds a B.A. from Princeton University, and a M.Arch from the Yale School of Architecture. He is the recipient of the Alan Yamato Taniguchi Award For Public Architecture from AIA Austin, and the Alpha Rho Chi medal for leadership from the Yale School of Architecture.

Mullan and his wife Melanie, both from the Metro New York area, are the proud parents of a 17-year-old daughter. They love hiking and being outdoors, and are excited to move to the Hudson Valley and be part of the vibrant communities that touch the Fjord Trail.

Sponsor a wreath and thank a veteran

Libby Funeral Home will be participating in Wreaths Across America on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, in Fishkill. Consider sponsoring a wreath to be placed on the grave of a veteran in our local Fishkill cemetery and supporting the goal

of sponsoring 600 wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

An Individual Sponsorship is \$17; 2 wreaths \$34; 5 wreaths \$85 and 10 wreaths \$170.

For more information, call 845-831-0179.

Wappingers Falls announces Halloween curfew

By an executive order of the Mayor of the Village of Wappingers Falls, during the evening hours of October 30 - November 1, between the hours of 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following day, it shall be unlawful for any minor, anyone under the age of 18, to congregate, loiter, wander, remain or play in or upon any public place, public park, public area, street, road or highway in the Village.

The terms “remain” and “loiter” mean: linger or stay, or fail to leave premises when requested to do so by a police officer, owner, operator or other person in control of the premises.



STORMVILLE AIRPORT

ANTIQUUE SHOW & FLEA MARKET

Christmas in November
Nov. 2nd Saturday Only

8am to 4pm
Rain or Shine • No Pets

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Free Admission & Parking
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As seen on HGTV Flea Market Flip

Now in its 54th Year!

Over 300 Exhibitors



IMPACT
PR & Communications

**The Yoga House flows into third location,
breaks ground on first Dutchess County studio**





**See story,
page 8**









PSC cites 'apparent violations' by Central Hudson during investigation of WF explosion

Continued from cover

been billed monthly. However, it appears that Central Hudson did not include this information in the project binder given to its utility locating contractors and construction contractors for the excavation project, and that the service line to the residence was not marked."

The release continues: "Thus, based on the information obtained thus far, Central Hudson's apparent failure to relay this information to its agents may have contributed to the explosion incident."

"The safety and wellbeing of our customers and communities will always be Central Hudson's top priority. We take our responsibility to provide safe and reliable service to our customers very seriously and have fully cooperated with the Department of Public Service as it conducted its investigation into the event in Wappingers Falls last year. We will continue to do so," Joseph Jenkins, spokesperson for Central Hudson, stated.

Wappingers Falls Mayor Kevin Huber said in a statement via email, "As mayor, I feel a sense of relief knowing that the Public Service Commission has taken formal action regarding the devastating gas explosion on Brick Row last November. It has been a long and difficult year for our community, and many lives have been changed forever by this tragic event."

"Utilities are required to provide safe and reliable service, and when they fail to provide this most basic protection, the Department and Commission will investigate and, where appropriate, take action," said Commission Chair Rory M. Christian in a press release. "Based upon staff's initial investigation, staff has identified information indicating that Central Hudson had knowledge of the residence's active natural gas service line, and that Central Hudson's contractors struck an unmarked natural gas service line, causing a natural gas leak that in turn led to an explosion. The Commission will start a process to receive the company's position, review the evidence, and determine whether or not any penalties or other remedies against Central Hudson are warranted."

Alleged violations by Central Hudson according to the report include:

- Central Hudson allegedly failed to provide safe and adequate service to customers residing at 7 Brick Row when Central Hudson's contractors and agents struck a natural gas service line, thereby causing an explosion and physical injury to customers.

- Central Hudson allegedly failed to provide safe and adequate service to customers residing at 5 Brick Row when Central Hudson's contractors and agents struck a

natural gas service line, thereby causing an explosion and physical injury to customers.

- From October 13, 2023, to November 2, 2023, Central Hudson allegedly failed to adequately maintain the maps and/or records of its service lines of 4 Brick Row, wherein Central Hudson failed to include maps and/or records of 4 Brick Row in the Distribution Improvement Project records communicated to its utility locating contractor and construction contractors.

- From October 13, 2023, to November 2, 2023, Central Hudson allegedly failed to adequately make available its maps and/or records of its service lines of 7 Brick Row to its third-party contractors, wherein Central Hudson failed to include maps and/or records of 7 10 CASE 24-G-0483 Brick Row in the Distribution Improvement Project records communicated to its utility locating contractor and construction contractors. This failure allegedly caused Central Hudson's contractors performing excavation work to strike 7 Brick Row's service line, thereby causing an explosion.

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- From October 13, 2023, to November 2, 2023, Central Hudson allegedly failed to adequately make available its maps and/or records of its service lines of 6 Brick Row to its third-party contractors, wherein Central Hudson failed to include maps and/or records of 6 Brick Row in the Distribution Improvement Project records communicated to its utility locating contractor and construction contractors. This alleged failure caused Central Hudson's contractors performing excavation work to be unaware of 6 Brick Row's service line.

- From October 13, 2023, to November 2, 2023, Central Hudson allegedly failed to adequately make available its maps and/or records of its service lines of 4 Brick Row to



The PSC recently released results from a preliminary investigation into the Nov. 2023 natural gas explosion in Wappingers Falls. Pictured, firefighters work to put out the fire on Brick Row in 2023.

-Archive photo

its third-party contractors, wherein Central Hudson is alleged to have failed to include maps and/or records of 4 Brick Row in the Distribution Improvement Project records communicated to its utility locating contractor and construction contractors.

The report alleges "... Central Hudson's process for compiling a project binder, or "DIP Book," is unorganized and informal. The report states, "From October 13, 2023, the date of the utility locating "mark out," to November 2, 2023, the date of excavation, Central Hudson had 20 days to remedy the information gaps in their project binder. The Department alleges that Central Hudson had these missing records within its custody and control, but failed to integrate that critical knowledge into its project plans for third-party contractors."

Last week's order commenced a proceeding. "This initial order does not constitute final legal conclusions or factual findings by the Commission. The apparent violations are merely accusations. The company will have an opportunity to respond to the Department staff's report and the apparent violations identified today (Oct. 16). Also, the Department may continue to review and investigate this incident," the release states.

"The assignment of a further investigation in seeking responsibility is a critical step forward, not only in understanding what happened but also in focusing on how we can

help our residents recover. Not only does the Village need direction in its recovery, but its time also to help those residents move forward, get the assistance they need, and rebuild their lives. We are committed to supporting those affected and advocating for them," said Huber.

"We understand the impacts this incident had on the residents of Brick Row and the surrounding community and will continue to work closely with regulators and all other stakeholders to support everyone involved," said Jenkins.

"In terms of next steps, the Commission will review Central Hudson's response to determine whether to proceed with an enforcement process and whether to impose any financial penalties or other remedies against the company or its shareholders," it was also stated in the release.

Jenkins remarked, "We will closely review the Commission's report and provide a comprehensive response to the allegations within the timeline requested by our regulators."

For anyone wanting to read the decision, one may obtain the decision by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission's Web site at www.dps.ny.gov. Once there, enter Case Number 24-G-0483 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number."



MOUNT GULIAN HISTORIC SITE

Scary Stories in the Barn

Back by popular demand!
Seats fill quickly

Sunday ~ October 27 ~ 4:00 pm
Doors open at 3:15 pm



Outrageous, Chilling and Gripping Stories for Only the Brave by Lorraine Hartin Gelardi. Stories are geared towards adults, but there will be kid-friendly ones too. Performance is in the unheated barn. Dress warmly.

\$15 adults; \$8 children (5 thru 15)

Mount Gulian Historic Site 145 Sterling Street Beacon NY 12508
www.mountgulian.org 845.831.8172

All for One Gala set for Nov. 3 in Poughkeepsie

All for One will host its 2nd annual Gala on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 12:30-4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, South Road, in Poughkeepsie. Gala tickets are \$75 per person for luncheon.

All for One Unite will honor Gail Berger with the All for one United Community Award. NYS Senator Rob Rolison will be the guest of honor, as he is being presented with an award.

All for One www.allforoneunited.com was started in 2016 founded by American Muslim Platform to serve the community at large with respect and inclusiveness, regardless of religion, ethnicity or nationality to promote peace and solidarity. It is a 501 (C)(3) non-profit organization.

Since 2016, All for One has initiated

many humanitarian missions. In our local community, food drives were held during the COVID pandemic peak, support local refugee resettlement, provide medical/education assistance, and participate in free health Fairs, Older Adults Healthy Aging Coalition proposal project. Also host community and youth panel discussions on topics of significance. Ramadan Solidarity event, they feed people locally and in underdeveloped countries Their Global Health Initiatives include funds to a children's cancer hospital, orphanages, schools and medical care in dire need locally and globally.

Please RSVP by buying Gala Ticket through Zeffy <https://bit.ly/allforonegala> tickets.

Viewpoints

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 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.

GUIDELINES FOR POLITICAL LETTERS

- Maximum 200 words
- Must be sent via email
- Provide a phone number where we may reach you to confirm you have written the letter-writers

- We will run as many letters as possible, space permitting, in our Oct. 23 and Oct. 30 issues. Please note that we will NOT run negative letters against any candidate in the Oct. 30 issue; only letters endorsing candidates will be run in that issue.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We appreciate the passion that people feel for their candidates and their political parties, but encourage letter-writers to express support for their candidates in a positive and instructive manner. It is easy to criticize others, but at the local level, we know that great things can be accomplished through cooperation. We have faith that our readers, and our communities, can rise above the partisan fray in this election season, and emphasize the good that their candidates will do.

Prop 1 will not benefit a civil society

To the Editor:

As if this contentious Presidential election weren't enough, New Yorkers will vote on an initiative which will have ramifications way beyond who sits in the Oval Office for the next four years.

Proposition 1 - an amendment to the NYS Constitution - will add a hodgepodge of new characteristics as "protected" categories. Among these are "age, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression...reproductive healthcare & autonomy" (the sacrosanct code words for abortion.)

The Democratic Party is marketing Prop 1 as protecting abortion. This is disingenuous, as the repeal of abortion in New York is not about to happen. This approach is a tactical ruse to boost voter turnout for Democratic candidates.

Adding "age" alongside "autonomy" in anti-discrimination code will essentially make children de facto wards of the state while nullifying the role of parents. For exam-

ple, could children make medical decisions in defiance of parental knowledge? Could minors be allowed to obtain a driver's license or a marriage license? Could they purchase/possess/use tobacco, alcohol or cannabis? Would age-of-consent be eliminated? Would pedophilia be a protected "sexual orientation"? If "age" becomes a protected category, then the legality of being underage is in serious jeopardy.

Prop 1 puts women and girls at risk for loss of privacy and safety in rest rooms, changing rooms, locker rooms, crisis shelters and prisons. Female students are being cheated out of athletic scholarships. They are being injured on the field.

What more evidence is needed that "gender equity" is nothing but misogyny writ large?

New York State justices will have scant leeway when adjudicating ensuing cases. Prop 1 will be the proverbial thumb on the scale, tipping the balance in one direction.

There is nothing in Prop 1 to benefit a civil society. It's a social engineering project which will overhaul traditional norms and ingrain state dominion of human behavior into the framework of community.

In our town, many road and lawn signs are appearing that say "Choice is on the Ballot."

I agree. But, the "choice" before us is between normal and crazy.

Linda Cebrian

Dutchess County Conservative Committee

Come together as a community to support those affected by domestic violence

To the Editor:

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to shine a light on the challenges faced by survivors and to honor their strength and resilience. We must come together as a community to support those affected by domestic violence, raise awareness about its impact, and advocate for change. It's important to listen, believe, and empower survivors as they navigate their healing journeys.

Together, we can foster a culture of compassion and safety for all, which begins with immediate assistance in the aftermath of violence to begin to create a safe space for healing. Counseling and therapy, especially trauma-informed therapy, helps survivors process their experiences, develop coping strategies, and rebuild their lives. Also important are advocacy and support services to assist survivors in accessing legal aid, housing, and healthcare, ensuring they have the resources needed to regain independence. Finally, community education is important to raise awareness about domestic violence and promote prevention through workshops and outreach programs.

At Astor, we have the privilege of witnessing the incredible resilience and strength of our clients who have experienced domestic violence. Each journey is unique, but it is always inspiring to see clients begin to reclaim their sense of self and agency. Initially, many feel overwhelmed by fear and uncertainty, but with work they learn to set healthy boundaries, advocate for themselves, and make choices that prioritize their safety and well-being. Another key area of progress is in the development of healthy relationships. Clients often start by feeling distrustful or isolated, but as they heal, we've witnessed many begin to form supportive connections with friends, family, or community resources. These relationships can provide essential support and encouragement as they navigate their journey. Ultimately, the progress we witness is not just about overcoming past trauma; it's about cultivating resilience, hope, and a vision for a brighter future.

There is always hope and you are not alone. Please reach out to Astor Services or your local agency if you or a loved one is experiencing domestic violence.

Virginia Guerrero, Care Manager

Program Director of Trauma Recovery Center, Astor Services

Trump 'not one of the gang' in D.C.

To the Editor:

I must comment on the recent letter from Kevin Murphy re: Trump never being in the White House again that was in the Oct. 16th edition. First of all, many of the "wave of Republicans" not supporting Trump are the status quo BAU folks (you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours). You know, the ones who get nothing done? Basically, Deep Staters and RINOs (Republicans In Name Only). Remember, Trump is not one of them, yet "The Donald" was loved by all before entering politics and putting an "R" after his name (right, Oprah?). Others simply hate the man for various reasons, much of it based on lies, half-truths and exaggerations. Bigotry, antisemitism, inciting violence etc.? Just the usual projection from the Left.

Regarding a stolen election, anyone who cannot see the weird shenanigans that took place in 2020 has both hands over their eyes and their ears plugged. I'll leave it at that.

"Protecting democracy, our country and our Constitution." That's rich. Mark Zuckerberg admitted that the Biden administration pressured him to monitor COVID-related content, Russia, the "tape" and Hunter's laptop. We can only imagine what else our "pro-democracy" leaders monitor and mislead about. Hillary Clinton, John Kerry and Tim Walz have all stated their disdain for the First Amendment, but Trump is the real threat to democracy? Go figure.

NEWS FLASH! Trump already served 1 term, and our country is still here. We had a great economy, relative peace in the world, a decent border situation, and groceries were affordable. Currently we have no border and all the problems that stem from it, high prices and possibly on the verge of WWII.

Donald Trump is one of the few people in Washington who actually cares about America and its people. He is not one of the gang, can't be bought, and the establishment can't stand it.

Kevin Wirsch
Fishkill

Halloween Dance Party set for Oct. 26

Night of the Living Dead Halloween Dance Party will be held on Saturday, October 26, 8 p.m. until midnight. Admission is \$40, \$50 or \$75 in advance, \$50, \$60, and \$85 at the door (includes drinks & snacks)

The party will be held at the University Settlement Camp in Beacon with DJs.

For more information, go to <https://site.corsizio.com/event/66f1b22e36fb002cd75fd080>.

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Viewpoints

Dutchess County should hire a Zero Waste Management Consultant

To the Editor:

Dutchess County burns all its trash in an incinerator at 96 Sand Dock Rd. near IBM, but incineration is a poor waste management option because it is polluting to the environment, unhealthy for residents and expensive for taxpayers. Solution: Dutchess should hire a Zero Waste Certified Consultant to help us transition to healthier and more sustainable materials management practices.

The Dutchess County incinerator is polluting our air and water. In 2019, the Tishman Environment and Design Center at The New School ranked our incinerator in the "dirty dozen" as one of the most polluting incinerators in the United States for emissions of mercury and carbon monoxide.

The incinerator emissions are bad for our lungs and unhealthy for our population. The American Lung Association estimates that 61% of Dutchess County residents are at high risk to air pollution. In 2023, Poughkeepsie was declared by the Asthma and Allergy Foundation as the #6 worst city to live in for people with asthma.

The incinerator is expensive for taxpayers. The Dutchess County incinerator is 35 years old and it needs constant costly repairs and maintenance. Across the nation, there are only 65 incinerators left because they are so outdated and expensive.

Our county needs a better system for our waste. We could turn trash into treasure! Over 50% of garbage we currently burn is organic material that can be turned into nutrient-rich compost for farms and gardens. We need to reduce, reuse, recycle, resell and other such waste minimizing practices. Dutchess could create hundreds of new jobs implementing new strategies, but we need a professional to audit our waste. Dutchess legislators should allocate money in the 2025 budget to hire a Zero Waste Certified Consultant so we can update and innovate the solutions for our ever-growing trash problem.

Caroline Fenner
Town of Poughkeepsie

Howland Center receives \$25,000 in funding



Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson, front second from right, was joined by, clockwise from top left, Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou, City Administrator Chris White, Councilmember Dan Aymar-Blair, Howland Vice President Thomas de Villiers, Howland President Theresa Kraft and Secretary/Acting Treasurer Craig Wolf.

-Courtesy photo

Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-104) recently announced a \$25,000 grant to fund educational programming at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

Housed in a historic building that was originally a public library, the Howland is a nonprofit organization that hosts cultural events and educational programming throughout the year.

"The Howland Cultural Center isn't just a local landmark. Since 1979, it's been a space for the arts, unique performances, and children's programs," said Jacobson. "When I can bring money to local nonprofits like this, taxpayers get the biggest bang for their buck. There's no bureaucracy and I know that Howland will put the money directly into its programs."

"We're always excited when Assemblyman Jacobson focuses atten-

tion on Beacon, because it results in good things," said Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou, who joined Jacobson for the announcement. "This \$25,000 will go a long way to helping Howland develop its programming."

Howland President Theresa Kraft agreed, thanking the Assemblymember for his commitment to the organization: "Thanks to his trust and generosity, we are making a positive impact in our community and beyond."

The funding will support several events at the Howland Cultural Center in the coming year, including children's concerts, a mural project with Joe Pimentel, theater productions, and a workshop with Clearwater, among others.

For more information, visit howlandculturalcenter.org.

Early voting starts Oct. 26

Information from <https://elections.dutchessny.gov/>

Early voting gets under way in New York State on Saturday, Oct. 26. In Dutchess County, voters may visit any of the poll sites listed below. Please be aware that your typical poll site is likely closed for early voting.

- Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive, Rhinebeck
- Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
- Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
- Cornell Cooperative Extension, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook
- Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
- Board of Elections Training Facility, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
- Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappingers Falls
- Senior Citizen Center, Tymor Park Barn Complex, 8 Tymor Park Road, Lagrangeville

Early Voting Dates and Hours

- Saturday, October 26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Sunday, October 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Monday, October 28, Noon-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 30, Noon-8 p.m.
- Thursday, October 31, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Friday, November 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday, November 2, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Sunday, November 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

A reminder from the New York State Board of Elections:

Early Voting is just like voting on Election Day. Early voters privately mark and scan their ballot. Early voting results are counted, tabulated and included in (unofficial) election night totals.

Drug Task Force: Beacon man arrested for alleged sale of fentanyl, cocaine

The Dutchess County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force reports an investigation into the sale of fentanyl and cocaine in the City of Beacon.

The investigation, according to law enforcement, resulted in the identification of George Cintron, 37, who allegedly sold fentanyl to Drug Task Force Agents during this investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation a search warrant was obtained by the Drug Task Force to search the home of Cintron located in the City of Beacon.

According to law enforcement, on the evening of Oct. 17, Drug Task Force Agents and the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Unit took Cintron into custody on Beekman Street in the City of Beacon then executed the search warrant at his residence located a short distance away. As a result of the search warrant being executed Cintron was allegedly found in possession of more than 16 ounces of cocaine, fentanyl, ecstasy, and an illegal "Ghost" handgun.

Cintron was charged with the felonies, one count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 1st degree and one count of Criminal Possession of a Firearm 3rd Degree.

Cintron, according to law enforcement, is being held at the City of Beacon Police Department pending his arraignment, which was scheduled for Oct. 18. The Drug Task Force was assisted by the City of Beacon Police Department with this investigation.

If anyone has information regarding



George Cintron

-Courtesy photo

this case or about any other individuals selling drugs in Dutchess County, you are urged to contact the Drug Task Force confidential tip line at 845-463-6040 or by sending an email to the following web address: DrugTaskForceTips@gmail.com As with any criminal case, the charges described above are merely an accusation and those individuals named in this release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

A night of comedy, storytelling Oct. 26 in Beacon

The Artichoke presents a night of comedy and storytelling featuring a single performer on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon. Kenice Mobley, who tore it up at the recent "regular" Artichoke show will perform.

Fresh from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, her piece is titled, "Don't Kill Yourself YET." The host is Jamie Mulligan.

Tickets are \$25, which you obtain directly from the Artichoke at Artichokeshow.com.

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Ceremony honors 2 new inductees into Sports Museum of Dutchess County



From left, Sports Museum President Bill Ponte, Wappinger Town Councilmember Angela Bettina, Sports Museum Board member John Flanagan, Hall of Fame Award recipient Steve Badgley, Sports Museum Vice President Anthony Marchese, and Wappinger Town Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini during the recent induction ceremony.



Pictured, from left, are Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, Wappinger Town Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini, Gus Siko Jr., Hall of Fame inductee Steve Badgley, and Dutchess County Legislator Robert Faust during the recent induction ceremony at the Knights of Columbus hall in Wappingers Falls.

-Courtesy photos

Two new members of the Sports Museum of Dutchess County were inducted into its Hall of Fame during a ceremony that was held on Sunday, October 6, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, in Wappingers Falls. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven Badgley (Ret.) was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Augustus Julius "Gus" Siko, Sr., a 2nd Lieutenant and a Poughkeepsie High School star athlete who was killed during World War II, was awarded a posthumous induction into the Sports Museum Hall of Fame. His son was on hand to receive the award.

Badgley has always considered

Poughkeepsie his home. Badgley began to box in Beacon. Steve joined the military in 2002. He was a member of the US Army World Class Athlete Program boxing team in Fort Carlson, Colorado. In 2008, Badgley developed a boxing program. More than 100 soldiers have participated in the program. Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joseph Cavaccini presented a proclamation declaring October 6, 2024 as "Legends of Dutchess Day." For more information on the Sports Museum of Dutchess County, visit www.sportsmuseumofdutchesscounty.org.

'Spooky (but not too) Scary Stories' set for Oct. 30

For kids (and their families) "Spooky (but not too) Scary Stories!" will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon. Join legend of Sleepy Hollow storyteller Jonathan Kruk for Halloween tales. (This program is produced with the support of NYS Office of Children and Family Services upon the legislative

initiative of Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson. Any opinions or other content of the program are the responsibility of the Howland Cultural Center and do not necessarily represent the opinions, interpretations, or policy of the State.) This event is free, but reservations are required. Visit bit.ly/HCCspooky4kids to reserve seats.

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Dutchess County gains over \$3 million for public safety, criminal justice initiatives

Congressman Pat Ryan joined with Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi, Dutchess County Sheriff Kirk Imperati and Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino on Oct. 16 to announce that they have secured \$3,023,688 in federal funding to bolster public safety and criminal justice initiatives across Dutchess County.

This is in addition to the \$2,386,000 in federal Community Project Funding for Fiscal Year 2025 Congressman Ryan is fighting to secure for Dutchess County to create a state-of-the-art Analysis and Real Time Crime Intelligence Center and develop a consolidated two-way public safety radio system.

“Our local law enforcement officers are true public servants - grounded in the mission of keeping our neighbors safe around the clock. Their work isn’t partisan, and neither is our work in supporting them with the resources they need” said Ryan. “I’m proud that only two months after we joined here in August to announce our shared vision for safer communities in Dutchess County, we’re here again to announce over \$3 million in additional funding to keep criminals off the streets, to safeguard our communities from hate-fueled crimes, and to protect survivors of domestic violence and ensure they receive justice when their perpetrators are prosecuted. This wouldn’t be possible without trusted partners like District Attorney Parisi, Sheriff Imperati, and County Executive Serino – I’ll keep fighting for the federal funding to make Dutchess County a safe and thriving home for us all.”

“This funding represents a significant investment in our community’s safety and well-being,” said Parisi. “I have been committed to these critical issues since my campaign for District Attorney, and after taking office, my team and I actively sought solutions to tackle them head-on. Part of that was to seek financial assistance from the Department of Justice grant program. We are thankful to Congressman Ryan, Senator Gillibrand and all our partners in law enforcement and the community that supported my office’s efforts. My administration is dedicated to ensuring justice and promoting safety within our community through proactive measures and community collaboration, striving to address the chal-

lenges of domestic violence, sexual assault, hate crimes, and wrongful convictions.”

Serino said, “Public safety is at the heart of everything we do as a County government, and these new grants show a clear and significant investment in the safety and well-being of our community. The grant funds awarded to the District Attorney’s Office are not just about prevention and prosecution but ensuring that victims and survivors are supported throughout their journey towards justice and healing. I commend District Attorney Anthony Parisi, as well as Sheriff Kirk Imperati and all those involved, and I look forward to working to ensure that Dutchess County remains a place where residents feel safe and protected.”

“This federal funding will advance public safety and criminal justice efforts in Dutchess County, from preventing hate crimes to protecting survivors of domestic violence and expanding post-conviction DNA testing,” said U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. “I am proud to have helped secure over three million dollars in federal grants through the U.S. Department of Justice for the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office to undertake these critical projects. I will continue fighting to ensure that communities across New York have the resources they need to stay safe.”

Sheriff Imperati said “On behalf of the men and women at the Sheriff’s Office I am very thankful for the grant money that has been awarded and look forward to witnessing the positive effects it will have on law enforcement as a whole in Dutchess County. We anticipate that having this money available to enhance law enforcement efforts on numerous fronts, including the Real Time Crime Center at the Sheriff’s Office, will greatly benefit our ability to continue prioritizing public safety for all residents of Dutchess County. I would like to personally thank Congressman Pat Ryan and District Attorney Anthony Parisi for all of their efforts in working with the Sheriff’s Office to obtain these funds, as well as continuing to be tremendous advocates for law enforcement and public safety in Dutchess County.”

The Dutchess County DA’s Office secured the \$3,023,688 from United States Department of Justice (DOJ) grant programs



From left at last week’s press conference are, Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino, District Attorney Anthony Parisi, Sheriff Kirk Imperati and Congressman Pat Ryan.

-Courtesy photo

with the assistance of Congressman Ryan. The funding will be broken down to support the three following programs:

- \$1,000,000 from the DOJ’s Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program will fund the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office’s collaborative initiative to address, mitigate, and prevent hate crime and increase victim reporting. This project focuses on the education on and prevention of hate crime through community outreach and partnerships, crime analytics and data collection, and targeted resource distribution to improve hate crime reporting. The District Attorney’s Office will create two new positions- a Hate Crimes Analyst and an Assistant District Attorney - to aid in the education, prevention, and investigation of bias-related crimes, including those committed online.

- \$500,000 from the DOJ’s Enhancing Investigation and Prosecution of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking (EIP) Initiative will help expand and improve the Dutchess County DA’s capacity to effectively investigate and/or prosecute domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and in so doing, support victim safety and autonomy, hold offenders accountable, and pro-

mote agency trust within the community. The EIP project by the Office of the Dutchess County District Attorney will partner with Family Services to provide supportive services to survivors. Funding will help in hiring a Senior Assistant District Attorney to prosecute domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases.

- \$1,523,688 to bolster the capacity of DNA testing of evidence. This will allow for post-conviction evidence testing as well, ensuring that the perpetrator of a crime is correctly brought to justice. The funding will expand Dutchess County’s Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) by creating positions of Unit Chief, Assistant District Attorney and a full-time Investigator. The funding will help the CIU efficiently conduct thorough case reviews and investigations of violent felony convictions where a credible claim of actual innocence has been made; utilize DNA testing and analysis to provide conclusive evidence of innocence; and insights gleaned from CIU investigations will be applied to active prosecutions to help mitigate the risk of future wrongful convictions. This will ensure justice is finally and correctly served for the people of Dutchess County communities.

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The Yoga House flows into third location, breaks ground on first Dutchess County studio

Building on the success of its two Ulster County locations, Amy Reed and Joyce San Pedro, co-owners of The Yoga House, have announced that ground has been broken on what will be the studio's third, and first Dutchess County, home. The Yoga House's Poughkeepsie sanctuary, located at South Road Crossing on Route 9, will open in the spring of 2025, anchoring a variety of businesses, including Sleep Number, Buff City Soap, Jersey Mike's Subs, uBreakiFix, Smoothie King, Home 2 Suites by Hilton and more.

The approximately 1,400 square-foot space, developed by Cameron Group, LLC and designed by architect Jay Diesing, will welcome community members into its ambient entryway, intentionally constructed studio and commuter-friendly bathrooms, boasting showers. The site's thoughtful and welcoming interior, coupled with the co-owners' and instructors' unique perspectives, will invite everyone – from novices to experienced yogis – to graciously practice in harmony.

"Amy's and Joyce's dedication and incredible business model, combined with the regional draw of this location, will surely make The Yoga House's third studio a resounding success," said Kevin Langan, leasing and development partner at Cameron Group, LLC.

"Joyce and I first met in Poughkeepsie, so it's serendipitous to return to our roots," said Amy. "We've built such a strong community in Ulster County; people often tell us that coming to The Yoga House feels like coming home. We're both ready to thoughtfully cultivate a sim-

ilar 'family' in Dutchess County."

In addition to a full schedule of classes of various yoga disciplines, The Yoga House's Dutchess County studio will offer strength-building and conditioning – such as Pilates, Barre, and TRX (total resistance exercise) – further demonstrating Amy's and Joyce's commitment to tailoring the experience for each person that walks through the doors. With their combined teaching experience of over 20 years, Amy and Joyce not only offer a wide breadth of practices, but deeply understand the roots of yoga, and incorporate gratitude, mindfulness and other physiological and biomechanical components into their offerings.

"When we say yoga for every body, we mean it," said Joyce. "Our classes are not one-size-fits-all because we believe in encouraging each individual to find the practice that best suits them, at any particular moment or state of their yoga journey. If you have a shoulder injury, we'll offer variations of poses for you. If you're beginning your journey, we'll encourage you to find your own pace and comfort level. We want people to explore their bodies, quiet their minds, and, most importantly, connect to themselves. There's no one way to do that."

The Yoga House, which encourages customers to 'work in', rather than work out, emphasizes the importance of mindfulness and healing from within, in addition to establishing strength and flexibility. By encouraging patrons to live well, The Yoga House prepares them to age well, creating pathways for practice during any stage of life. As a result, those



Amy Reed and Joyce San Pedro, co-owners of The Yoga House, will open their new Dutchess County location in the spring of 2025.

-Courtesy photo

who live or work in Dutchess County can anticipate more than just a yoga studio, but a gateway to wellness.

To stay up to date on The Yoga House's new home in Poughkeepsie – and be noti-

fied of pre-opening discounts and deals – visit www.theyogahouseny.com/poughkeepsie and follow @TheYogaHouseNY on Facebook and @yogahouseny on Instagram.

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Tompkins Financial promotes Freije to marketing director

Demonstrating its commitment to fostering internal growth and professional development, Tompkins Financial Corporation (Tompkins) has promoted Erin Freije to director of marketing. Freije will oversee day-to-day operations across Tompkins' marketing communications, internal communications, product management and customer experience.

"Erin has been an integral member of our team since 2018," Charles Guarino, SVP and chief banking operations officer at Tompkins. "She has streamlined countless processes for us and, more importantly, spearheaded numerous initiatives to enhance our offerings to customers."

Previously, Freije was the retail loan product manager and associate vice president at Tompkins, where she spearheaded the launch of new products, system implementations and digitally focused initiatives. With nearly a decade of experience in product management, Freije has ample expertise in traditional and digital marketing, in addition to marketing communications as it relates to banking and financial institutions.

A graduate of SUNY Geneseo and Messiah University's MBA program with a focus in strategic leadership, Freije currently serves on United Way of Broome County's Board. She lives in Central New York with her husband and two daughters.

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Obituaries

Linda Yanarella-Olivo



FORMERLY OF BEACON - Linda Yanarella-Olivo, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away on October 17, 2024, at the age of 76. Born on May 29, 1948, in Beacon, NY, Linda dedicated over 40 years of her life to nursing, caring for countless patients with compassion and dedication.

Linda is survived by her five cherished children: Anna, Christina, Matthew, David, and Jeffrey, who loved her dearly. She was also a proud grandmother to Mya, Daniel, Nathaniel, and Angelina. Her loving spirit lives on through her sisters, Jean and Tina, and her brothers, Paul, Ernest, and Dan. She was preceded in death by her sister, Peg, and her parents, Ernest and Margaret.

A lover of simple pleasures, Linda

enjoyed sipping hot coffee and watching antique television shows, often accompanied by her beloved cat, Maggie. Her infectious laugh and warm spirit brought joy to everyone around her.

Linda cherished her time spent between her daughters in New York and her sons in Florida, creating lasting memories with family. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

To honor Linda's memory, calling hours will be held at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, 2 Beekman Street in Beacon, on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 from 5 to 7 p.m. On Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 11 a.m., a funeral ceremony will be held at Riverview Funeral Home by Halvey, followed by a burial at St. Joachim Cemetery. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date in Florida.

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

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

Shirley Gilmore Raffaele Poillucci

On Tuesday October 15, 2024, Shirley Gilmore Raffaele Poillucci passed peacefully at home. She was born October 12, 1934 the daughter of the late Russel and Leona Gilmore.

Having found love twice in her life. Shirley was predeceased by her loving husbands Joe Raffaele and Lou Poillucci, as well as her son Joey. She was also predeceased by her brother Russel Gilmore, brother and sister-in-law Donny and Jane Gilmore and sister Jean Gilmore Smith.

Shirley is survived by her children Jerry and Jude Raffaele and Aggie Poillucci, sister and brother-in-law Judy and James Downing, sisters-in-law Jean Gilmore and Charlotte Poillucci and many nieces and nephews.

Born in Pittsfield, MA, Shirley moved as a young child to Poughkeepsie, NY where she attended local schools. She had made Hughsonville, NY her home for most of her adult life becoming a well-known member of that community thanks in part to Shirley's Square Dance Shop which she operated out of her home until her retirement. As a business owner, Shirley served many years as a member of the Wappingers Chamber of Commerce. Shirley also loved to golf especially since it included an enjoyable lunch out with the girls.

A devout Catholic, Shirley was a member of St. Mary's Church in Wappingers Falls and loved attending religious study classes there. One of her fondest memories was a pilgrimage she made with her sister to honor Our Lady of Medjugorje in Bosnia.

Shirley's love of life, warm smile and sweet disposition will be missed by her family and friends alike. You are invited to join in a celebration of her life.

Visitation hours were Tuesday Oct.22 at the Delehanty Funeral Home, 64 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY. A mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Wednesday Oct. 23 at 10am at St. Mary's Church, Wappingers Falls. Inurnment will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Shirley's name to Hudson Valley Hospice of Dutchess County 374 Violet Ave. Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

NY Army National Guard announces promotions

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general for the state of New York, announced the promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

Jacob Berardo from Poughquag and assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment, received a promotion August 26, to the rank of sergeant.

David Cappuzzello from East Fishkill and assigned to the 206th Military Police Company, received a promotion September 28, to the rank of private 1st class.

Matthew Pannazzo from Poughkeepsie and assigned to the Company B, NY Army National Guard Recruiting & Retention Battalion, received a promotion September

9, to the rank of private 1st class.

Army National Guard promotions are based on a Soldier's overall performance, demonstrated leadership abilities, professionalism and future development potential.

These promotions recognize the best qualified Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

Army National Guard Citizen Soldiers who serve our state and nation are eligible for monthly pay, educational benefits (from the state and federal government), travel across the globe, technical and leadership training, health and dental insurance and contributions towards retirement programs similar to a 401(k).

For more information about the New York Army National Guard, visit www.1800go-guard.com.

Judith Miskovitz



WAPPINGERS FALLS - On October 16, 2024 Judith Miskovitz passed away at her home after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. She was born January 13, 1945 to the late Margaret and Raymond Ulrich.

Judith lived in Dutchess County for her entire life. She had two children, Jane and Steven, with her ex-husband, Richard Miskovitz, of Wellsboro, PA.

Judy had many passions: reading, knitting, quilting, arts and crafts, but was most passionate about serving as an oncology nurse at Vassar Brothers Hospital for 37 years. Judy received the NYS "Nurse of the Year" award twice. Judy's compassion for her patients during her long career was truly astounding. Her second true love was for her grandchild-

dren and great-grandchildren, Lindsay Miskovitz of New Paltz, and her children, Lincoln and Quinn. Although estranged, Judy also had three other grandchildren, Dia, Cassidy and Eliza of Austin, TX. Her hope always was to reconnect with them, but there was just not enough time.

In addition to her children, Jane of Highland and Steven (Celeste) of Hyde Park, Judy is survived by her loving sister, Midge Ulrich (David Kehoe) of Hyde Park, along with many nephews, cousins and close friends.

A special thanks to her caregivers, Linda and Karen; your kindness and care for Judith was truly wonderful, and your efforts will always be appreciated.

Most who knew mom also knew she was a consummate, never-ending worrier, fretting over anything and everything most of her life. Our hearts are filled with happiness that she was able to achieve her goal of dying with dignity at her home, which was always most important throughout her entire battle with her disease. That being said, her children had one last thought for the mother they loved: "Hey Mom! The worrying is over...you won the race and can relax in the peace and serenity of knowing you will be loved and missed by all, always and forever!"

Family will receive their friends on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Straub, Catalano & Halvey Funeral Home, 55 E. Main Street in Wappingers Falls.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Judy's name to Parkinson's Foundation, www.parkinson.org.

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

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Pies, boat rides and more at annual Pumpkin Festival



The annual Pumpkin Festival, hosted by the Beacon Sloop Club, took place on the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 20 at Pete & Toshi Riverfront Park in Beacon. The festivities kicked off at noon. The five-hour event, run and organized by volunteers, included pumpkins, pumpkin pie, vendors, activities, music and free rides on the sloop Woody Guthrie.

-Courtesy photos by Alan Thomas

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**DUTCHESS COUNTY 2024 GENERAL ELECTION
LEGAL NOTICE
ALL POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 5th, 2024
GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 4-120 of the New York State Election Law, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a General Election held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, in Dutchess County. The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

We, Erik J. Haight and Hannah Black, Commissioners of Elections for the County of Dutchess, State of New York, do hereby certify the following offices and propositions may be lawfully voted for in the said election.

The offices and propositions to be voted on are listed below:

- (1) **PRESIDENT**
- (1) **VICE PRESIDENT**
- (1) **UNITED STATES SENATOR**
- (5) **9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE**
- (1) **REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 17TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 18TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **STATE SENATOR 39TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **STATE SENATOR 41ST DISTRICT**
- (1) **MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 103RD DISTRICT**
- (1) **MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 104TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 105TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 106TH DISTRICT**
- (1) **DUTCHESS COUNTY COMPTROLLER**

CITY OF BEACON

- (1) **COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE- UNEXPIRED TERM**
- (1) **WARD 3 COUNCIL MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE

- (1) **LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

TOWN OF AMENIA

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF DOVER

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL

- (1) **TOWN JUSTICE**

TOWN OF FISHKILL

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF HYDE PARK

- (1) **TOWN CLERK- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF NORTH EAST

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE

- Ward 1, ED 2,3: Ward 2-All Districts; Ward 3, All Districts, Ward 4, All Districts; Ward 5-All Districts; Ward 6- All Districts.**

- (2) **LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

TOWN OF RHINEBECK

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF STANFORD

- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

TOWN OF UNION VALE

- (1) **TOWN JUSTICE**
- (1) **TOWN BOARD MEMBER- UNEXPIRED TERM**

VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK

- (1) **MAYOR**
- (2) **VILLAGE TRUSTEE**

PROPOSITIONS:

Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment

This proposal would protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity and pregnancy. It also protects against unequal treatment based on reproductive healthcare and autonomy.

CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE

Shall the 2025 Library District budget, as submitted by the Board of Trustees of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, be approved and SHALL the Board of Trustees authorize estimated expenditures of \$11,858,124 for Library District operations for the year January 1- December 31, 2025, which includes \$1,342,138 of previously authorized combined debt service for the year of January 1 - December 31, 2025 and, further, Shall the Board of Trustees be authorized to instruct the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie to collect taxes on its behalf for the financing of Library District operations and debt service as prescribed in the Library District's special legislation as amended in 1994, 1997, 2006, and 2016?

AMENIA

Proposition #2

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of Amenia for the operating budget of the Amenia Free Library be increased by Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars to the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand (\$245,000) Dollars annually?

BEEKMAN

Proposition #2

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of Beekman for the operating budget of the Beekman Library be at five hundred ninety thousand seven hundred twelve (\$599,712) dollars annually?

Proposition #3

Shall Local Law No. 1 of 2024 entitled 'A Local Law Abolishing the Elective Office of Town Superintendent of Highways and Creating a Department of Publicworks' in order to streamline town operations and reduce costs be approved?

CLINTON

Proposition #2

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of Clinton for the operating budget of the Clinton Community Library be at one hundred fifty four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$154,800) annually?

EAST FISHKILL

Proposition #2

Shall the Office of the Receiver of Taxes be merged with the Office of the Town Clerk and the Receiver of Taxes be thereafter appointed by the Town Board as set forth in Local Law C-2024?

FISHKILL

Proposition #2

Shall the Town of Fishkill offer at public sale a lot of approximately one (1) acre of surplus land located at 81 Route 82, Fishkill, New York?

NORTHEAST

Proposition #2

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of North East for the operating budget of the North East Public Library be increased by fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the sum of one hundred seventy-five thousand (\$175,000) annually?

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE

Proposition #2

Shall the 2025 Library District budget, as submitted by the Board of Trustees of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, be approved and SHALL the Board of Trustees authorize estimated expenditures of \$11,858,124 for Library District operations for the year January 1- December 31, 2025, which includes \$1,342,138 of previously authorized combined debt service for the year of January 1 - December 31, 2025 and, further, Shall the Board of Trustees be authorized to instruct the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie to collect taxes on its behalf for the financing of Library District operations and debt service as prescribed in the Library District's special legislation as amended in 1994, 1997, 2006, and 2016?

RHINEBECK

Proposition #2

Should the elected term of office for the Town of Rhinebeck Supervisor be increased from two (2) years to (4) years in accordance with town law §80 (1), and Town of Rhinebeck Resolution 2024-194 for Local Law X of 2024 approved March 25, 2024, effective for term commencing January 1, 2026 be approved?

Proposition #3

Shall the elected term of office for the Town of Rhinebeck Superintendent of Highways be increased from two (2) years to four (4) years in accordance Town Law §80 (1), and Town of Rhinebeck Resolution 2024-195 for Local Law X of 2024 approved March 25, 2024, effective for term commencing January 1, 2026 be approved?

UNION VALE

Proposition #2

Shall the Town of Union Vale own and operate a public library?

WASHINGTON

Proposition #2

Shall the annual contribution of the Town of Washington for the operating budget of the Millbrook Library be increased from one hundred and eighty-four thousand (\$184,000) dollars annually to three hundred forty-nine thousand (\$349,000) dollars annually?

PLEASE NOTE THAT COMPLETE COPIES OF THE ABOVE PROPOSALS AND RELATED DOCUMENTATION ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, 112 DELAFIELD ST SUITE 200, POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK (845) 486-2473 www.dutchesselections.com

ERIK J. HAIGHT and HANNAH BLACK, Commissioners of Elections

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DUTCHESS COUNTY EARLY VOTING FOR THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION LEGAL NOTICE

POLLS ARE OPEN FOR EARLY VOTING AS FOLLOWS:

- Saturday, October 26: 9AM – 5PM
- Sunday, October 27: 9AM – 5PM
- Monday, October 28: Noon – 8PM
- Tuesday, October 29: 9AM – 5PM
- Wednesday, October 30: Noon – 8PM
- Thursday, October 31: 8AM – 4PM
- Friday, November 1: 9AM – 5PM
- Saturday, November 2: 9AM – 5PM
- Sunday, November 3: 9AM – 5PM

At any of the following locations:

- Pavilion at Brookmeade, 34 Brookmeade Drive, Rhinebeck
- Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52, Fishkill
- Boardman Road Library, 141 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie
- Cornell Cooperative Center, 2715 US-44, Millbrook
- Mid-Hudson Library Auditorium, 105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie
- Board of Election's Training Facility, 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
- Wappinger Town Hall, 20 Middlebush Road, Wappinger
- Tymor Park Senior Center, 8 Tymor Park Road, LaGrangeville

**HANNAH R. BLACK and ERIK J. HAIGHT, COMMISSIONERS
DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
112 DELAFIELD STREET, SUITE 200 POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601 845-486-2473**

www.elections.dutchessny.gov

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed proposals for: Bid #RFP-DCP-69-24 Senior Citizen Medical Transportation

Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 8th 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.

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**Pick up at: Southern Dutchess News
84 East Main Street • Wappingers Falls, 12590**

get growing!

by mark adams



Turkish silk

A different kind of vacation for Mark and Sue

Nobody robbed us. We didn't get lost. We didn't fall into a sink hole, get attacked by feral warthogs or stung by Amazonian hornets. Sue and I were on a cruise! After vacationing on our own for 50 years in 34 different countries, usually without detailed plans, we figured a 10 day cruise to Greek and Turkish islands would be a relaxing change of pace.

Relaxing? Ha! Exhausting was more to the point. To keep from getting bored, Sue and I had signed up for daily "excursions." The one we figured would give us some exercise - kayaking on the Mediterranean Sea - turned out to be the most relaxing day of the cruise. Every other day we clambered up miles of ancient paths and staircases, culminating in a trip to the Greek Island of Santorini, where 800 shiploads of tourists every season trudge through miles of souvenir shops and art galleries in order to take a photo of some white houses with blue domes and post it on Instagram.

In the Turkish city of Bodrum, we were herded into the Harem Carpet Factory, where owner Husohmettin gave us a lecture and demonstration about the Turkish silk industry. It turns out that Turkey is the third

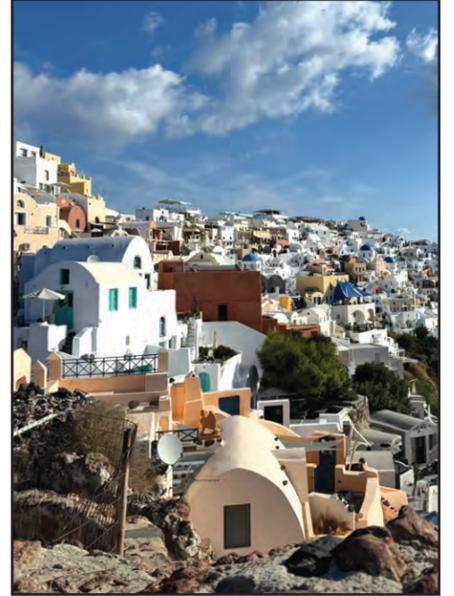
largest silk producing country, after China and India, exporting about four million dollars in silk rugs annually. Interesting facts:

- Silk was first produced in China more than 5,000 years ago.
- Sericulture, or silk production, began in Turkey in 552 AD. It turns out that the climate around the Black Sea is ideal for silkworms.
- Silk is produced by silkworm caterpillars; they feed exclusively on mulberry trees, spinning cocoons in hopes of emerging as a butterfly.
- Their hopes are dashed, as the cocoons are boiled, killing the larvae inside. If they were allowed to chew their way out of the cocoons, the long silk fiber would be cut into pieces.
- Each cocoon, when unraveled, stretches into a mile of silk.
- One Turkish silk rug takes a single weaver 36 months to complete, using the silk from 18,000 cocoons!
- Since the advent of synthetic fibers like satin and nylon, the Turkish silk industry has taken a nosedive, but still more than 100 tons of cocoons are grown and unraveled every year.
- Silk is the strongest natural fabric,



Above: making silk. Right: Santorini, land of a million Instagram posts.

-Photos by Mark and Sue Adams



used to make parachutes before nylon came along.

The silk making and weaving demonstration, as interesting as it was, turned out to be a prologue to a high pressure Turkish rug sales presentation. First we were plied with cups of Raki, a strong brandy made from distilled grapes. Then dozens of silk rugs were rolled out by a sales force that made used car sales people look like wimps. When the audience balked at the \$15,000 prices, wool, then cotton, and finally polyester rugs went on display. When Sue and I pleaded that we had no room in our house for more rugs, they brought out smaller and smaller ones, until we were finally shown a piece of plastic the size of a handkerchief. Once we found the door, we managed to stumble into the night with all our cash intact.

But I'm being harsh. The ten day Istanbul to Athens cruise, on Oceania, was wonderful in the truest sense of the word. Sue and I might even go on another cruise, to get some exercise.

Mark Adams is an agricultural advisor to the Dutchess County Executive, Dutchess County B.O.C.E.S. and Cornell University.



Silk rug from 18,000 cocoons. -Photo by Mark Adams

St. Mary School to hold annual Holiday Craft Vendor Fair

St. Mary Mother of the Church School in Fishkill, 106 Jackson St., will be holding the annual holiday craft fair on Saturday, November 2, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Get holiday shopping done while supporting St. Mary's students and local vendors!

New this year, free crafts and activities for kids to keep busy while parents/guardians shop! Enjoy hot breakfast/lunch or take a chance on a raffle prizes. There will be live music by DJ Ming. Even Santa will be there to take pictures with the children.

**Thank a Veteran
This December - Sponsor a
Hand-Crafted Wreath**

The brave veterans of our nation sacrificed to ensure our freedom. While we can never truly repay them for that gift, we can at least show our appreciation to them and their families with a meaningful gesture. Please consider sponsoring a wreath to be placed on the grave of a veteran in our local Fishkill cemetery and support us in our goal of sponsoring 600 wreaths for Wreaths Across America!

1 Wreath: Individual Sponsorship: \$17
2 Wreaths: \$34
5 Wreaths: \$85 *Most Popular
10 Wreaths: \$170

Coordinated by

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WREATH LAYING CEREMONY:

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 14, 2024
AT 2:00 PM**

Fishkill Rural Cemetery
801 ROUTE 9, FISHKILL, NY 12524

Scan this code with your phone for more information or to sponsor a wreath.

For more information please contact 845-831-0179